

# The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston

England & Wales · Charity number 1143904

## Details

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<b>Other names</b>	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY'S CHURCH ACTON, Acton with Worleston PCC, Acton with Worleston Parochial Church Council, ST MARY'S ACTON PCC, St Mary's Church Acton, St Oswald's Church Worleston
<b>Status</b>	Registered
<b>Legal form</b>	Previously excepted
<b>Registered</b>	2011-09-22
<b>Register</b>	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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**Address** St Mary's Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
Nantwich  
CW5 8LG

**Phone** 01270 628864

**Email** [church@stmarysacton.org](mailto:church@stmarysacton.org)

**Website** [www.stmarysacton.org](http://www.stmarysacton.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH.

**Activities:** St Mary's Church Acton and St Oswald's Church Worleston provide Church of England services including baptisms weddings and funerals.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Cheshire East

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£91,078	£117,981	-	-
2023-12-31	£84,272	£113,275	-	-
2022-12-31	£88,393	£94,333	-	-
2021-12-31	£61,444	£118,462	-	-
2020-12-31	£53,043	£101,578	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>REV ANNE LAWSON</b>	Chair	2014-04-10
Ann Elizabeth Dale Williams		2019-04-02
Brian Neville Titterington		2026-03-02
<b>CHARLES HULL</b>		2022-04-25
Claire Elizabeth Lewis-Jones		2019-04-02
<b>DEANA JOAN EMERTON</b>		2011-09-13
Isobel Margaret Burnley		2023-12-03
<b>JOYCE MARGARET PERCIVAL</b>		2014-04-10
Jacqueline Dolores Hatton		2022-04-25
Linda Jones		2026-05-20
Mary Elizabeth Titterington		2025-05-12
Penni Jean Doyle		2026-05-20
Philip Charles Percival		2013-07-23
<b>ROSEMARY ELIZABETH SHAW</b>		2024-04-23
<b>STEPHEN ALBERT DAVIES</b>		2025-05-12
William Edward Emerton		2024-10-07

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143904

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# Accounts

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# The Parochial Church Council of Acton with Worleston



**Registered Charity Number 1143904**

## **Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements For Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

### **Aims and Purposes**

Acton with Worleston PCC co-operates with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the churches; for the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the churches and the goods and ornaments thereof; and for the care and maintenance of the churchyards. The PCC seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others and encourage them to share in this mission.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's Acton and St Oswald's, Worleston.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: offering church services, which we continue to update and change including adding 'Songs of Praise' providing family and children's ministry, including Messy Church, also bible study groups, and events which have brought together the local community and church including our regular Tea at the Tower.

This year we have developed continued with our vision, **Seeking to share the love of Jesus through word and deed.**

The Plough Service at Reaseheath College was well attended and brings together the students at the college and our roots as a rural, farming community.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's and St Oswald's, Worleston.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Worship and Prayer**

We continue to offer a variety of services, with Songs of Praise and Messy Church proving very popular and welcoming more families into church. The wednesday service Holy Communion at St Mary's, Acton continues and welcomes some of the year 5/6 primary school children, we are excited expand the scope of this going forward. St Oswald's, Worleston continues to offer services twice a month and special services.

As well as our regular service, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life, we had 10 baptisms, 4 marriages and 23 funerals in the year.

### **Deanery Synod**

Two members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

### **Churches Together in Nantwich**

Two members of the PCC along with members from six other Christian churches in Nantwich meet as "Pilgrims" visiting each other's churches for services and to share worries, problems and ideas.

### **Pastoral Care**

A few of the highlights were, continuing the Ladies Lunches every month, and for Holly Holy Day in January there was a talk about the battle of Nantwich amongst other things, The concerts continue to be well attended and Tea @ the Tower continues to attract many people every week where the monthly walks are very popular and we thank all the cake bakers and servers.

### **Safeguarding**

Our policy, which is in line with the House of Bishops' safeguarding policies and good practice guidance is reviewed annually and an updated reported at each PCC meeting. It is also displayed prominently in the Church building and on the website. This means the PCC of Acton with Worleston has complied with the requirement imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

At St Mary's Acton and St Oswald's Worleston we work hard to maintain a safe environment for all.

If you have any concerns or enquiries regarding safeguarding, please contact our safeguarding officer. Parish Safeguarding Officer: Tom Doyle

Email: **actonpso24@gmail.com**

Phone **01270 481548**

## Financial Review

The merger of two parishes resulted in the formation of the parish of Acton with Worleston on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023. These are the first full year's Financial Statements for the new Acton with Worleston PCC.

During the year total income was £91,078 and total expenditure was £117,981. At St Mary's the drainage grid for the toilet extension, and the chancel parapet repairs, resulted in expenditure of £3,159 and grant income of £526. Excluding these exceptional items the deficit was £24,270 which is an average of over £2,000 per month. The PCC has sought advice from the diocese and is considering options for reducing or eliminating the deficit on its routine work. Total fund balances decreased by £13,502 to £450,863.

The PCC reviewed its spending authority rules during the year.

## Reserves Policy

The PCC has adopted the Reserves Policy *'To keep a balance on unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds if possible), which equates to approximately six months' payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.'* Six months' normal payments (determined from these Financial Statements) are approximately £58,000; at the year end the balance of unrestricted undesignated funds was less than this at £19,924. The reserves policy is met with the inclusion of the designated funds.

## Structure Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England PCC (Powers) Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules and is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Charity registration number: 1143904. The PCC is governed by the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended, and the Church Representation Rules which originally came into effect in 1957 and have been revised since then, most recently in 2024.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be raised and spent.

The charity is governed by the PCC, which consists of around sixteen members plus clergy licensed to the church, who serve on the PCC ex-officio. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. The PCC met 11 times between 1st January and 31st December 2024 including 1 extraordinary meeting to approve the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for 1st June to 31st December 2023. In addition, a Standing Committee meets to consider matters arising between PCC meetings. Other specialist subcommittees support the work of the PCC.

PCC members are elected by vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by members of the electoral roll who are present at the meeting and in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members normally serve for a period of three years, with a third retiring each year according to Acton with Worleston constitution.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

The charity is affiliated to the Church of England, and as a result has representatives sitting on the local deanery and, potentially, diocese committees.

## Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The PCC believes that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, within the Ecclesiastical Parish, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the Church in, and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

## Administrative Information

St. Mary's Church is situated in Acton, Nr Nantwich. St Oswald's Church is in Worleston. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within The Church of England.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and is a charity registered with the Charity Commission.

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
NANTWICH CW5 8LG

e-mail: [treasurer@stmarysacton.org](mailto:treasurer@stmarysacton.org)

[secretary@stmarysacton.org](mailto:secretary@stmarysacton.org)

Website: [www.stmarysacton.org](http://www.stmarysacton.org)

Charity Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical  
Parish of Acton with Worleston

Registered Charity Number: 1143904

PCC members who have served any time from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Isobel Burnley	Stephan Davies	Penni Doyle	Deana Emerton
Will Emerton	Tracey Foster	Jackie Hatton	James Hickie
Charles Hull	Sue Hull	Rev. Anne Lawson	Claire Lewis-Jones
Joyce Percival	Phillip Percival	Rosemary Shaw	Carol Thayer
Mary Titterington	Ann Williams		

Trustees are either ex – officio, co-opted or elected by the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church representation rules.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the PCC on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025 and signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

# Acton with Worleston Parochial Church Council

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Acton with Worleston PCC

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Caroline Reade

Date: 10/10/25

# ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Statement of Financial Activities for 2024

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		Ben Lyon	<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total</b>	Total
		General	Worleston	fund	Acton	Acton	Gladys	<b>Jan - Dec</b>	Jun - Dec
		fund	fund		churtyard	flower	Lyon	<b>2024</b>	2023
		<i>undesignated</i>	<i>designated</i>	<i>designated</i>	fund	guild		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>									
Voluntary income									
Planned giving	1, 2	8,290	3,447			30		<b>11,767</b>	9,342
Other giving at regular services	2	8,877	1,577					<b>10,454</b>	2,262
Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals	3	4,710	700					<b>5,410</b>	3,060
Community events		11,365	644					<b>12,010</b>	7,255
Other donations	4	1,694	452		500	175		<b>2,821</b>	1,130
Gift Aid		7,769	1,176			52		<b>8,997</b>	5,114
Legacies	5	1,000	-					<b>1,000</b>	-
Fees and charges									
Weddings, Funerals and Monuments		14,423	1,653					<b>16,076</b>	7,773
Community events		9,689	1,572					<b>11,261</b>	8,547
Rent, hire and trading		2,621	541					<b>3,162</b>	1,065
Other income									
Grants & contracts	6	1,293	-		18			<b>1,311</b>	3,467
Investment income and bank interest	7	3,123	-		3,352	35		<b>6,510</b>	3,155
Insurance claim and compensation		240	60					<b>300</b>	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>75,095</b>	<b>11,821</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,870</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91,078</b>	<b>52,169</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>									
Costs of generating funds									
Costs of generating voluntary income		1,852	72					<b>1,924</b>	1,509
Costs of fundraising events		2,351	102					<b>2,453</b>	1,718
Costs of trading		264						<b>264</b>	-
Church activities									
Charitable giving	8	4,491	810					<b>5,301</b>	2,888
Parish Share		44,001	11,000					<b>55,001</b>	30,556
Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses		2,010	576			10		<b>2,596</b>	2,248
Retired clergy fees and expenses		146	-					<b>146</b>	40
Parish office costs	9	1,513	375					<b>1,889</b>	1,231
Magazine & website costs		448	518					<b>967</b>	410
Mission and outreach costs		258	204					<b>462</b>	964
Service costs		2,080	399			254		<b>2,733</b>	1,425
Insurance and Governance		6,039	1,578					<b>7,616</b>	4,910
Oil, gas and electricity		8,540	5,977					<b>14,518</b>	6,228
Building maintenance		4,957	1,667					<b>6,624</b>	1,331
Major building repairs and alterations	10	3,159	-					<b>3,159</b>	9,844
Churchyard maintenance			2,503		9,825			<b>12,328</b>	4,997
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>82,110</b>	<b>25,782</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,825</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>117,981</b>	<b>70,300</b>

# ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Statement of Financial Activities for 2024 (continued)

	Note	unrestricted			restricted		endowment	Total Jan - Dec 2024	Total Jun - Dec 2023
		General fund	Worleston fund	Ben Lyon fund	Acton churtyard fund	Acton flower guild	Gladys Lyon		
		undesignated £	designated £	designated £	£	£	£		
Net incoming resources before transfers and other recognised gains and losses		(7,014)	(13,961)		(5,955)	28	(26,903)	(18,130)	
Transfers between funds		(5,955)		-	5,955		-	-	
Gain (loss) on investment assets on revaluation and disposal	11		10,866	1,043			1,491	21,992	
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(12,969)</b>	<b>(3,095)</b>	<b>1,043</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1,491</b>	<b>3,862</b>	
<b>PARISH FUNDS B/F 1 JANUARY 2024</b>		<b>32,893</b>	<b>238,502</b>	<b>125,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>65,154</b>	<b>460,504</b>	
<b>PARISH FUNDS C/F 31 DECEMBER 2024</b>		<b>19,924</b>	<b>235,407</b>	<b>126,425</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,462</b>	<b>66,645</b>	<b>464,365</b>	

## Balance sheet at 31 December 2024

	Note	unrestricted			restricted		endowment	Total 31 Dec 2024	Total 31 Dec 2023
		General fund	Worleston fund	Ben Lyon fund	Acton churtyard fund	Acton flower guild	Gladys Lyon		
		undesignated £	designated £	designated £	£	£	£		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>									
Tangible	9	1,551	388				1,938	-	
Investments	11		238,704	46,620			66,645	346,239	
		1,551	239,092	46,620	-	-	66,645	346,239	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>									
Debtors and prepayments		12,264					12,264	10,386	
Short term deposits		3,434		79,806		2,462	85,702	116,852	
Cash at bank and in hand		14,111	(1,708)		540		12,944	3,294	
		29,810	(1,708)	79,806	540	2,462	-	110,910	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>									
Creditors		11,436	1,978		540		13,954	12,405	
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>19,924</b>	<b>235,407</b>	<b>126,425</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,462</b>	<b>66,645</b>	<b>464,365</b>	
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>		<b>19,924</b>	<b>235,407</b>	<b>126,425</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,462</b>	<b>66,645</b>	<b>464,365</b>	

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 6 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*      *James S Hickie*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

James S Hickie, PCC Treasurer

The accounting policies and notes form part of the financial statements.

# ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Accounting policies for 2024

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. These financial statements have been prepared: under the Charities Act 2011; in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' "true and fair" provisions; under FRS102 as the applicable accounting standard; and under the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The accruals basis has been used which means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year. Excluded are transactions where the PCC acts as a collection or payment agent for another party (such as wedding and funeral fees collected on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Finance, vergers, organists and bell ringers; and payments made on behalf of the other PCCs in the benefice). The historical cost convention has been used except for investment assets which are shown at market value.

### **Funds**

*Unrestricted funds* are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC. The PCC has designated parts of its unrestricted funds as the Ben Lyon fund and as the Worleston fund, further details of which are given in note 7.

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object. These funds must only be spent on the specific object for which they were given.

*Endowment capital* must be held permanently by the PCC with the income generated spent as determined by the donor. Further details of the Gladys Lyon endowment are given in note 7.

### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property (this includes the almshouses and the Hearse House) are not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). These assets are not included in the financial statements.

## Notes to the financial statements for 2024

- 1 Includes donations, recorded as unrestricted and spent during the year, of £2,447 given for Worleston churchyard maintenance.
- 2 Donations made at regular services in Gift Aid envelopes are recorded as Other giving at regular services. Prior to 2024 such donations were recorded as Planned giving. The figures for June - December 2023 are not restated.
- 3 Includes donations, recorded as unrestricted and spent during the year, of £786 given for the Acton fabric.
- 4 Includes donations, recorded as unrestricted and spent during the year, of £1,426 given for specific purposes. Breakdown: Acton west door mat well (£1,000); Acton altar cloth (£216); and Acton pew bibles (£210).
- 5 The PCC is grateful for a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of the late George Harding.
- 6 Breakdown: Listed Places of Worship VAT refund £1,067; Commonwealth War Graves £18; and Brindley & Faddiley Trust £226.
- 7 *Ben Lyon designated fund.* In 2019 the endowment bequeathed by the late Ben Lyon was wound up and the Ben Lyon designated fund was set up with the initial value of this bequest. Subsequently the Ben Lyon fund has financed project costs. The income is allocated in accordance with the late Ben Lyon's bequest: one half to the Acton churchyard fund and one half to the Acton fabric fund.  
*Worleston fund.* St Mary's Acton PCC and St Oswald's Worleston PCC merged on 1st June 2023 to form Acton with Worleston PCC. This fund was set up on the merger date with the assets of St Oswald's Worleston PCC; income and expenditure arising from activities at St Oswald's are charged to this fund.  
*Gladys Lyon endowment capital.* This endowment was bequeathed by the late Gladys Lyon. The income is allocated two thirds to the Acton churchyard fund and one third to the Acton church restoration fund.  
The income from the Ben Lyon fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment is shown in the Income statement. As separate Acton fabric and church restoration funds are not held the income of £2,749 due to these funds is consolidated in the General fund, with the income being allocated towards total costs of £2,827 for the chancel parapet repairs, the clock service, and the drainage grid for the new toilet extension.
- 8 Breakdown: Mary's Meals £1,851; Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £2,700; St Luke's Hospice £750.
- 9 A photocopier was purchased during the year to replace a leased machine. The cost was shared by the three parishes in the benefice. Depreciation of £646, representing 25% of Acton with Worleston PCC's share of the purchase cost, is included in the Parish Office costs. The remaining 75%, £1,938, is shown on the balance sheet as a Fixed Asset.
- 10 Breakdown: Chancel parapet repairs (final payments) £999; and Drainage grid for toilet extension £2,160.
- 11 All investments are held in CCLA Investment funds. The Worleston fund is invested in the CBF Church of England UK Equity fund and the Lyon funds are invested in the CBF Church of England Investment fund. One disposal for a consideration of £7,670 occurred during the year.
- 12 During the year there were no disclosable related party transactions. Excluding expenses paid to clergy in relation to the performance of their duties, during the year six trustees were reimbursed total expenses of £2,131 which were properly incurred to support the activities of the charity.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143904

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# Accounts

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**The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Acton**  
**Registered Charity Number 1143904**  
**Trustees Report**  
**For the period January 2023 until end May 2023**

**Aims and Purposes**

St Mary's PCC co-operates with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church; for the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the church and the goods and ornaments thereof; and for the care and maintenance of the churchyards. The PCC seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others and encourage them to share in this mission.

**Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit, and particularly the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: offering church services, which we continue to update and change including adding 'Songs of Praise' providing family and children's ministry, including Messy Church, and our new Forest Church also bible study groups, and events which have brought together the local community and church including our regular Tea at the Tower.

The Plough Service at Reaseheath College was well attended and brings together the students at the college and our roots as a rural, farming community.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's.

This period has also been a challenging time preparing for the merger of St Mary's, Acton with St Oswald's, Worleston.

**Achievements and Performance**

A few of the highlights were, continuing the Ladies Lunches every month, and for Holly Holy Day in January there was a talk about the battle of Nantwich amongst other things, The concerts continue to be well attended and we had a 'street party' in church for the King's coronation.

Tea @ the Tower continues to attract many people every week and the monthly walks are very popular and we thank all the cake bakers and servers.

These all add to the rich tapestry of our church.

## **Financial Review**

During the period January to May 2023 total income was £32,103 and total expenditure was £42,975. The nave roof repairs resulted in expenditure of £5,972 and grant income of £995. Excluding these items the deficit was £5,896. Average day to day expenditure per month was over £1,100 more than average income.

The sum of £4,042, towards the cost of the nave roof repairs, was transferred from the Ben Lyon designated fund to the General fund. Total fund balances decreased from £239,444 to £231,598.

## **Reserves Policy**

The PCC has adopted the Reserves Policy *'To keep a balance on unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds if possible), which equates to approximately six months' payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.'* Six months' payments (determined from the 2022 Financial Statements) are approximately £43,000; at the period end the balance of unrestricted undesignated funds was less than this at £38,559. The reserves policy is met with the inclusion of the Ben Lyon designated fund.

## **Structure Governance and Management**

The charity is governed by the PCC, which consists of around twenty members plus clergy licensed to the church, who serve on the PCC ex-officio. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. The PCC met 4 times between January 2023 and the end of May including the meeting after the APCM. In addition a Standing Committee meets to consider matters arising between PCC meetings. Other specialist subcommittees support the work of the PCC.

PCC members are elected by vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by members of the electoral roll who are present at the meeting and in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members normally serve for a period of three years.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

The charity is affiliated to the Church of England, and as a result has representatives sitting on the local deanery and, potentially, diocese committees.

## **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

## Administrative Information

St. Mary's Church is situated in Acton, Nr Nantwich. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within The Church of England.

The correspondence address is :

The Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
NANTWICH  
CW5 8LG.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The Registered Charity Number is 1143904

PCC members who have served any time from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Elizabeth Bull	Stephen Davies	Penni Doyle	Deana Emerton
Gillian Evans	Tracey Foster	Ena Furber	Jackie Hatton
James Hickie	Mike Houlston	Charles Hull	Sue Hull
Rev. Anne Lawson	Claire Lewis-Jones	Joyce Percival	Phillip Percival
Rosemary Shaw	Carol Thayer	Ann Williams	Helen Wood

Trustees are either ex – officio, co-opted or elected by the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church representation rules.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the PCC on

4 March 2024

And signed on its behalf by

S. Anne Lawson,

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

**Parochial Church Council of St Mary's, Acton, Nantwich**  
**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's, Acton.**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the period ended 31 May 2023.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robert Morris, Chartered Accountant

For DJH Mitten Clarke Nantwich Limited, 17 Alvaston Business Park, Nantwich, CW5 6PF.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

**Statement of Financial Activities for 1 January 2023 - 31 May 2023**

	Note	unrestricted		restricted		endowment	Total Jan - May 2023	Total Jan - Dec 2022
		General	Ben Lyon	Churchyard	Flower	Gladys		
		fund	fund	fund	guild	Lyon		
		undesignated	designated					
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>								
Voluntary income								
Planned giving		7,185				30	7,215	17,674
Other giving at regular services		695					695	1,617
Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals		1,271		373			1,644	3,344
Community events		4,385					4,385	12,693
Other donations		243		-		175	418	1,266
Gift Aid		2,964		93		51	3,108	8,042
Legacies		-					-	1,000
Fees and charges								
Weddings, Funerals and Monuments		7,123					7,123	16,558
Community events		2,216					2,216	7,489
Rent and trading		475					475	1,675
Magazine advertising		955					955	158
Other income								
Grants	1	1,572					1,572	4,756
Investment income and bank interest	2	1,055		1,232		10	2,297	3,536
Insurance claim and compensation		-					-	8,586
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>30,139</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,103</b>	<b>88,393</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>								
Costs of generating funds								
Costs of generating voluntary income		126				11	137	1,503
Costs of fundraising events		1,118					1,118	1,250
Church activities								
Charitable giving	3	500					500	2,824
Parish Share		17,341					17,341	40,407
Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses		892					892	1,966
Retired clergy fees and expenses		-					-	138
Parish office costs		631					631	1,085
Magazine & website costs		1,636					1,636	227
Mission and outreach costs		205					205	270
Service costs		925				309	1,234	1,967
Insurance and Governance		3,063					3,063	5,760
Oil and electricity		3,793					3,793	6,555
Building maintenance	4	2,488					2,488	5,614
Major building repairs and alterations	5	5,972					5,972	16,496
Churchyard maintenance				3,966			3,966	8,273
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>38,690</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,966</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,975</b>	<b>94,333</b>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

**Statement of Financial Activities for 1 January 2023 - 31 May 2023 (continued)**

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total Jan - May 2023</b>	Total Jan - Dec 2022
		General	Ben Lyon	Churchyard	Flower	Gladys		
		fund	fund	fund	guild	Lyon		
		<i>undesignated</i>	<i>designated</i>					
		£	£	£	£	£	£	
Net incoming resources before transfers and other recognised gains and losses		(8,551)		(2,269)	(53)		<b>(10,873)</b>	(5,940)
Transfers between funds	6	1,773	(4,042)	2,269			-	-
Gain (loss) on investment assets on revaluation			1,245			1,780	<b>3,026</b>	(13,503)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(6,778)</b>	<b>(2,797)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(53)</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>(7,847)</b>	<b>(19,443)</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS B/F 1 JANUARY</b>		<b>45,337</b>	<b>132,063</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494</b>	<b>59,551</b>	<b>239,444</b>	<b>258,888</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS C/F 31 MAY</b>		<b>38,559</b>	<b>129,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>61,331</b>	<b>231,598</b>	<b>239,444</b>

**Balance sheet at 31 May 2023**

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total 31 May 2023</b>	Total 31 Dec 2022
		General	Ben Lyon	Churchyard	Flower	Gladys		
		fund	fund	fund	guild	Lyon		
		<i>undesignated</i>	<i>designated</i>					
		£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>								
Tangible							-	-
Investments	6		42,903			61,331	<b>104,234</b>	101,208
		-	42,903	-	-	61,331	104,234	101,208
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>								
Debtors and prepayments		17,092					<b>17,092</b>	23,806
Short term deposits		36,052	86,364	839	2,441		<b>125,696</b>	128,446
Cash at bank and in hand		614					<b>614</b>	495
		<b>53,759</b>	<b>86,364</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>143,403</b>	152,747
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Creditors		15,200		839			<b>16,039</b>	14,511
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>38,559</b>	<b>129,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>61,331</b>	<b>231,598</b>	<b>239,444</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>		<b>38,559</b>	<b>129,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>61,331</b>	<b>231,598</b>	<b>239,444</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 4th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*

*James S Hickie*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

James S Hickie, PCC Treasurer

The accounting policies and notes form part of the financial statements.

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

## Accounting policies for 1 January 2023 - 31 May 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the 2019 version of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The accruals basis has been used which means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year. Excluded are transactions where the PCC acts as a collection or payment agent for another party (such as wedding and funeral fees collected on behalf of the Dioscean Board of Finance, vergers, organists and bell ringers; and payments made on behalf of the other PCCs in the benefice). The historical cost convention has been used except for investment assets which are shown at market value.

### **Funds**

*Unrestricted funds* are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC. The PCC has designated part of the unrestricted funds as the Ben Lyon fund, further details of which are given in note 2.

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object. These funds must only be spent on the specific object for which they were given.

*Endowment capital* must be held permanently by the PCC with the income generated spent as determined by the donor. Further details of the Gladys Lyon endowment are given in note 2.

### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property (this includes the almshouses and the Hearse House) are not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). These assets are not included in the financial statements.

## Notes to the financial statements for 1 January 2023 - 31 May 2023

- 1 Includes: VAT reclaim £1,539.
- 2 *Ben Lyon designated fund.* In 2019 the endowment bequeathed by the late Ben Lyon was wound up and the Ben Lyon designated fund was set up with the initial value of this bequest. The income is allocated in accordance with the late Ben Lyon's bequest: one half to the churchyard fund and one half to the fabric fund.  
*Gladys Lyon endowment capital.* This endowment was bequeathed by the late Gladys Lyon. The income is allocated two thirds to the churchyard fund and one third to the church restoration fund.  
The income from the Ben Lyon fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment is shown in the Income statement. As separate fabric and church restoration funds are not held the income of £935 due to these funds is consolidated in the General fund, with the income being allocated towards the £5,972 cost of the nave roof repairs.
- 3 Crewe community support £500. In addition collections of £153 for Tearfund's Syrian earthquake appeal, and of £273 for Christian Aid, were taken.
- 4 Includes: Boiler service & repairs £1,150; Lightning conductor test & update £1,056.
- 5 Nave roof repairs £5,972.
- 6 £4,042 has been transferred from the Ben Lyon fund to the General fund. This covers the cost of the nave roof repairs, excluding £935 income from the Ben Lyon fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment, and excluding reclaimed VAT.
- 7 All held in the CBF Investment fund - Anti inflation

# Acton with Worleston PCC

Trustees Report 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023



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*Seeking to share the love of Jesus through word and deed.*

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**The Parochial Church Council of  
St Mary's Church Acton St Oswald's Church Worleston  
Registered Charity Number 1143904  
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements  
For the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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# **Acton with Worleston PCC**

**St Mary's Church Acton    St Oswald's Church Worleston**  
**Registered Charity Number 1143904**  
**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**  
**For the period 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

## **Aims and Purposes**

Acton with Worleston PCC co-operates with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the churches; for the care, maintenance, preservation, and insurance of the fabric of the churches and the goods and ornaments thereof; and for the care and maintenance of the churchyards. The PCC seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others and encourage them to share in this mission.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's Acton and St Oswald's, Worleston.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: offering church services, which we continue to update and change including adding 'Songs of Praise' providing family and children's ministry, including Messy Church, and our new Forest Church also bible study groups, and events which have brought together the local community and church including our regular Tea at the Tower.

This year we have developed a new vision, **Seeking to share the love of Jesus through word and deed**. This included incorporating the headline into our several areas including: -

- The welcome we give to those who come into our churches, and through our actions in all works of life.

- Being prepared, in appropriate ways, to share our faith with those who come through the doors and our churches, and with those we meet on life's journey, and able to speak confidently of our own faith.
- Carrying out appropriate acts of service which meet the needs of the communities we serve.
- Supporting organisations, locally, nationally, and internationally, which seek to improve conditions for those at the edges of society, and work for peace.
- Caring for creation, not just through Forest Church, but by making decisions which take the needs of environment into account in every area of church life.

The Plough Service at Reaseheath College was well attended and brings together the students at the college and our roots as a rural, farming community.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's and St Oswald's, Worleston.

## **Achievements and Performance**

A few of the highlights were, continuing the Ladies Lunches every month, and for Holly Holy Day in January there was a talk about the battle of Nantwich amongst other things, The concerts continue to be well attended and Tea @ the Tower continues to attract many people every week where the monthly walks are very popular and we thank all the cake bakers and servers.

These all add to the rich tapestry of our church.

## **Financial Review**

During the period June to December 2023 total income was £52,169 and total expenditure was £70,300. At St Mary's the bell chamber scaffold and lighting, and the clock repairs resulted in expenditure of £9,844 and grant income of £2,641. Excluding these exceptional items the deficit was £10,927 which is an average of over £1,500 per month.

The PCC has established a Worleston fund from the parishes' merger date of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023. The initial value of this fund was the assets of St Oswald's PCC as at the merger date, with subsequent income and expenditure relating to St Oswald's being allocated to this fund. The sum of £6,558, representing the balance of the cost of the bell chamber scaffold and lighting, and the clock repairs, excluding contributions from other sources, has been transferred from the Ben Lyon fund to the General fund.

Total fund balances increased by £3,862 to £464,365.

## **Reserves Policy**

The PCC has adopted the Reserves Policy 'To keep a balance on unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds if possible), which equates to approximately six months' payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.' Six months' normal payments (determined from these Financial Statements) are approximately £52,000; at the period end the balance of unrestricted undesignated funds was less than this at £32,893. The reserves policy is met with the inclusion of the designated funds.

## **Structure Governance and Management**

The Parishes of St Mary's Acton and St Oswald's Worleston merged to form the parish of Acton with Worleston on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023. Acton with Worleston PCC has retained the registered charity number 1143904 of its predecessor St Mary's Acton PCC. The charity is governed by the PCC, which consists of around twenty members plus clergy licensed to the church, who serve on the PCC ex-officio. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. The PCC met 5 times between June 2023 and the end of December including the one after the EPCM where the new Acton with Worleston PCC was elected. In addition, a Standing Committee meets to consider matters arising between PCC meetings. Other specialist subcommittees support the work of the PCC.

PCC members are elected by vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by members of the electoral roll who are present at the meeting and in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members normally serve for a period of three years.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

The charity is affiliated to the Church of England, and as a result has representatives sitting on the local deanery and, potentially, diocese committees.

## **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

## Administrative Information

St. Mary's Church is situated in Acton, Nr Nantwich. St Oswald's Church is in Worleston. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within The Church of England.

The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
NANTWICH  
CW5 8LG.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006).

The Registered Charity Number is 1143904

PCC members who have served any time from 1 June 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Isobel Burnley	Penni Doyle	Deana Emerton	Will Emerton
Tracey Foster	Jackie Hatton	James Hickie	Mike Houlston
Charles Hull	Sue Hull	Rev. Anne Lawson	Claire Lewis-Jones
Joyce Percival	Phillip Percival	Rosemary Shaw	Carol Thayer
Ann Williams			

Trustees are either ex – officio, co-opted or elected by the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church representation rules.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the PCC on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024

And signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairperson

## Acton with Worleston Parochial Church Council

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Acton with Worleston PCC

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the period ended 31 December 2023.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robert Morris, Chartered Accountant

For DJH Nantwich Limited, 17 Alvaston Business Park, Nantwich, CW5 6PF.

Date: 22nd October 2024

## ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### Statement of Financial Activities for 1 June 2023 - 31 December 2023

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		Ben Lyon fund	<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	Total Jun - Dec 2023
		General fund	Worleston fund		Acton churchyard fund	Acton flower guild	Gladys Lyon	
		<i>undesigned</i> £	<i>designated</i> £		<i>designated</i> £	£	£	
<b>INCOME</b>								
Voluntary income								
Planned giving		8,332	1,010					9,342
Other giving at regular services		1,529	733					2,262
Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals		2,823	237					3,060
Community events		6,956	298					7,255
Other donations		531	599					1,130
Gift Aid		4,424	689					5,114
Legacies		-	-					-
Fees and charges								
Weddings, Funerals and Monuments		6,883	890					7,773
Community events		8,547	-					8,547
Rent and trading		839	226					1,065
Other income								
Grants	1	3,167	300					3,467
Investment income and bank interest	2	1,560	-		1,575	20		3,155
Insurance claim and compensation		-	-					-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>45,592</b>	<b>4,982</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,575</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52,169</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>								
Costs of generating funds								
Costs of generating voluntary income		1,509	-					1,509
Costs of fundraising events		1,718	-					1,718
Church activities								
Charitable giving	3	2,738	150					2,888
Parish Share		24,445	6,111					30,556
Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses		1,637	611					2,248
Retired clergy fees and expenses		40	-					40
Parish office costs		870	360					1,231
Magazine & website costs		240	170					410
Mission and outreach costs		382	581					964
Service costs		1,097	302			27		1,425
Insurance and Governance		3,819	1,091					4,910
Oil and electricity		4,792	1,437					6,228
Building maintenance		1,261	69					1,331
Major building repairs and alterations	4	9,844	-					9,844
Churchyard maintenance		-	-		4,997			4,997
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>54,393</b>	<b>10,882</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,997</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>70,300</b>

## ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL


### Statement of Financial Activities for 1 June 2023 - 31 December 2023 (continued)


	Note	unrestricted			restricted		endowment	Total Jun - Dec 2023
		General fund	Worleston fund	Ben Lyon fund	Acton churchyard fund	Acton flower guild	Gladys Lyon	
		undesignated £	designated £	designated £	£	£	£	
Net incoming resources before transfers and other recognised gains and losses		(8,801)	(5,900)		(3,422)	(7)		(18,130)
Transfers between funds	5	3,136		(6,558)	3,422			-
Gain (loss) on investment assets on revaluation and disposal	6		15,496	2,674			3,822	21,992
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(5,665)</b>	<b>9,596</b>	<b>(3,884)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>3,822</b>	<b>3,862</b>
<b>ACTON PARISH FUNDS B/F 1 JUNE</b>		<b>38,559</b>		<b>129,266</b>		<b>2,441</b>	<b>61,331</b>	<b>231,598</b>
<b>WORLESTON PARISH FUNDS B/F 1 JUNE</b>			<b>228,906</b>					<b>228,906</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS C/F 31 DECEMBER</b>		<b>32,893</b>	<b>238,502</b>	<b>125,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>65,154</b>	<b>464,365</b>

### Balance sheet at 31 December 2023

	Note	unrestricted			restricted		endowment	Total 31 Dec 2023
		General fund	Worleston fund	Ben Lyon fund	Acton churchyard fund	Acton flower guild	Gladys Lyon	
		undesignated £	designated £	designated £	£	£	£	
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>								
Tangible								
Investments	6		235,508	45,576			65,154	346,239
			235,508	45,576			65,154	346,239
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>								
Debtors and prepayments		9,696	689					10,386
Short term deposits		34,097		79,806	515	2,435		116,852
Cash at bank and in hand		589	2,705					3,294
		44,382	3,394	79,806	515	2,435		130,531
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Creditors		11,489	401		515			12,405
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>32,893</b>	<b>238,502</b>	<b>125,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>65,154</b>	<b>464,365</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>		<b>32,893</b>	<b>238,502</b>	<b>125,382</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>65,154</b>	<b>464,365</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20th October 2024 and signed on its behalf by

  
Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

  
James S Hickie, PCC Treasurer

The accounting policies and notes form part of the financial statements.

## ACTON WITH WORLESTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### Accounting policies for 1 June 2023 - 31 December 2023

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. These financial statements have been prepared: under the Charities Act 2011; in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' "true and fair" provisions; under FRS102 as the applicable accounting standard; and under the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The accruals basis has been used which means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year. Excluded are transactions where the PCC acts as a collection or payment agent for another party (such as wedding and funeral fees collected on behalf of the Dioscean Board of Finance, vergers, organists and bell ringers; and payments made on behalf of the other PCCs in the benefice). The historical cost convention has been used except for investment assets which are shown at market value.

#### **Funds**

*Unrestricted funds* are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC. The PCC has designated parts of the unrestricted funds as the Ben Lyon fund and as the Worleston fund, further details of which are given in note 2.

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object. These funds must only be spent on the specific object for which they were given.

*Endowment capital* must be held permanently by the PCC with the income generated spent as determined by the donor. Further details of the Gladys Lyon endowment are given in note 2.

#### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property (this includes the almshouses and the Hearse House) are not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). These assets are not included in the financial statements.

### Notes to the financial statements for 1 June 2023 - 31 December 2023

- 1 Breakdown: Listed Places of Worship VAT refund £1,753; Brindley & Faddiley Trust £414; Burland and Acton Parish Council £1,000; and Worleston School Trust £300.
- 2 *Ben Lyon designated fund.* In 2019 the endowment bequeathed by the late Ben Lyon was wound up and the Ben Lyon designated fund was set up with the initial value of this bequest. Subsequently the Ben Lyon fund has financed project costs (see note 5). The income is allocated in accordance with the late Ben Lyon's bequest: one half to the Acton churchyard fund and one half to the Acton fabric fund.  
*Worleston fund.* St Mary's Acton PCC and St Oswald's Worleston PCC merged on 1st June 2023 to form Acton with Worleston PCC. This fund was set up on the merger date with the assets of St Oswald's Worleston PCC; income and expenditure arising from activities at St Oswald's are charged to this fund.  
*Gladys Lyon endowment capital.* This endowment was bequeathed by the late Gladys Lyon. The income is allocated two thirds to the Acton churchyard fund and one third to the Acton church restoration fund.  
The income from the Ben Lyon fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment is shown in the Income statement. As separate Acton fabric and church restoration funds are not held the income of £1,279 due to these funds is consolidated in the General fund, with the income being allocated towards the £2,527 cost of the clock repairs.
- 3 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £2,888.
- 4 Breakdown: Bell chamber scaffold and lighting £7,316; Clock repairs £2,527 (final payment).
- 5 £6,558 has been transferred from the Ben Lyon fund to the General fund. This covers the balance of the cost of the bell chamber scaffold and lighting, and the clock repairs, excluding contributions from other sources.
- 6 All investments are held in CCLA Investment funds. The Worleston fund is invested in the CBF Church of England UK Equity fund; 1,000 shares were sold in the period for proceeds of £3,437. The Lyon funds are invested in the CBF Church of England Investment fund; no disposals occurred in the period.
- 7 During the period there were no disclosable related party transactions. Excluding expenses paid to clergy in relation to the performance of their duties, during the period eight trustees were reimbursed total expenses of £2,973 which were properly incurred to support the activities of the charity.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143904

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# Accounts

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St Mary's Acton

# Annual Report 2022



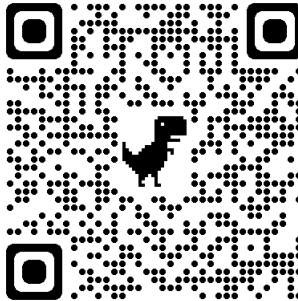
**The Parochial Church Council of St Mary's, Acton  
Registered Charity Number 1143904  
Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements  
For the year end 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

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## Activities at St Mary's

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# Aims and Purposes

St Mary's PCC co-operates with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church; for the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the church and the goods and ornaments thereof; and for the care and maintenance of the churchyards. The PCC seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others, and encourage them to share in this mission.

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: offering a church services, and family and childrens ministry, including Messy Church, and our new Forest Church also bible study groups, and events which have brought together the local community and church including our regular Tea at the Tower.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's.

## Achievements and Performance

Church services and activities have returned to in person although we have continued to offer some online services.

A few of the highlights were, the Platinum Jubilee when we had a fantastic 'Street Party' in the church, where all the community was welcomed.

Later in June Forest Church was represented at the Cheshire show, and St Mary's was also at the Nantwich show as part of Churches Together in Nantwich.

Tea @ the Tower continues to attract many people every week and we thank all the cake bakers and servers.

Ladies lunches, concerts and trips all add to the rich tapestry of our church.

## Financial Review

During 2022 income included an insurance claim of £8,556 towards £8,610 expenditure to repair damage to the boundary wall. Excluding these items total income was £79,837 and total expenditure was £85,723. This expenditure included £7,886 on major building repairs and alterations. During the year total fund balances decreased from £258,888 to £239,444.

The fund balances at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 have been restated to correctly account for the Ben Lyon designated fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment capital.

## Reserves Policy

The PCC has adopted the Reserves Policy *'To keep a balance on unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds if possible), which equates to approximately six months' payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.'* Six months' payments (excluding the boundary wall repair cost) are approximately £43,000; at the year end the balance of unrestricted undesignated funds was slightly more at £45,337.

# Structure Governance and Management

The charity is governed by the PCC, which consists of around twenty members plus clergy licensed to the church, who serve on the PCC ex-officio. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. The PCC meets at least six times a year. In addition a Standing Committee meets to consider matters arising between PCC meetings. Other specialist subcommittees support the work of the PCC.

PCC members are elected by vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by members of the electoral roll who are present at the meeting and in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members normally serve for a period of three years.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

The charity is affiliated to the Church of England, and as a result has representatives sitting on the local deanery and, potentially, diocese committees.

## Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

## Administrative Information

St. Mary's Church is situated in Acton, Nr Nantwich. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within The Church of England.

The correspondence address is :

The Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
NANTWICH  
CW5 8LG.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The Registered Charity Number is 1143904

PCC members who have served any time from 1 January 2022 until the date of this report was approved are :

Elizabeth Bull  
Penni Doyle  
Gillian Evans  
Ena Furber  
James Hickie  
Sue Hull  
Claire Lewis-Jones  
Phillip Percival  
Sue Stott  
Ann Williams

Stephen Davies  
Deana Emerton  
Tracey Foster  
Jackie Hatton  
Mike Houlston  
Rev. Anne Lawson  
Joyce Percival  
Rosemary Shaw  
Carol Thayer  
Helen Wood

Trustees are either ex – officio, co-opted or elected by the annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church representation rules.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on

*19 October 2023*

And signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

## Parochial Church Council of St Mary's, Acton, Nantwich

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's, Acton.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robert Morris, Chartered Accountant

For Lyon Griffiths Limited, 17 Alvaston Business Park, Nantwich, CW5 6PF.

Date: 19th October 2023

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2022

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total</b>	Restated
		General fund	Ben Lyon fund	Churchyard fund	Flower guild	Gladys Lyon	<b>Total</b> <b>2022</b>	Total 2021
		<i>undesignated</i>	<i>designated</i>					
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>								
Voluntary income								
Planned giving		17,644			30		<b>17,674</b>	17,243
Other giving at regular services		1,617					<b>1,617</b>	1,432
Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals		3,344					<b>3,344</b>	5,210
Community events		12,693					<b>12,693</b>	6,816
Other donations		466		800	-		<b>1,266</b>	736
Gift Aid	1	7,960		75	8		<b>8,042</b>	6,716
Legacies	2	1,000					<b>1,000</b>	3,201
Fees and charges								
Weddings, Funerals and Monuments		16,558					<b>16,558</b>	13,254
Community events		7,489					<b>7,489</b>	3,056
Rent and trading		1,675					<b>1,675</b>	1,178
Magazine advertising		158					<b>158</b>	-
Other income								
Grants	1, 3	4,756					<b>4,756</b>	13,969
Investment income and bank interest	4	1,505		2,025	6		<b>3,536</b>	2,930
Insurance claim and compensation	5	8,586					<b>8,586</b>	500
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>85,450</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>88,393</b>	<b>76,241</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>								
Costs of generating funds								
Costs of generating voluntary income		1,503					<b>1,503</b>	987
Costs of fundraising events		1,250					<b>1,250</b>	64
Church activities								
Charitable giving	6	2,824					<b>2,824</b>	25
Parish Share		40,407					<b>40,407</b>	39,556
Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses		1,966					<b>1,966</b>	1,697
Parish Secretary's pay							<b>-</b>	1,115
Retired clergy fees and expenses		138					<b>138</b>	496
Parish office costs		1,085					<b>1,085</b>	1,749
Magazine costs		227					<b>227</b>	-
Mission and outreach costs		270					<b>270</b>	-
Service costs		1,937			30		<b>1,967</b>	1,996
Insurance and Governance		5,760					<b>5,760</b>	5,385
Oil and electricity		6,555					<b>6,555</b>	4,256
Building maintenance	7	5,614					<b>5,614</b>	2,282
Major building repairs and alterations	8	16,496					<b>16,496</b>	59,238
Churchyard maintenance				8,273			<b>8,273</b>	7,357
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>86,030</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,273</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>94,333</b>	<b>126,203</b>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2022 (continued)**

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total 2022</b>	Restated Total 2021
		General fund	Ben Lyon fund	Churchyard fund	Flower guild	Gladys Lyon		
		<i>undesignated</i> £	<i>designated</i> £	£	£	£		
Net incoming resources before transfers and other recognised gains and losses	1	(580)		(5,373)	14		<b>(5,940)</b>	(49,962)
Transfers between funds		(5,373)		5,373			-	-
Gain (loss) on investment assets on revaluation			(5,558)			(7,945)	<b>(13,503)</b>	14,356
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	1	<b>(5,954)</b>	<b>(5,558)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>(7,945)</b>	<b>(19,443)</b>	<b>(35,606)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS B/F 1 JANUARY</b>	9	<b>51,290</b>	<b>137,621</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>67,496</b>	<b>258,888</b>	<b>294,494</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS C/F 31 DECEMBER</b>	1	<b>45,337</b>	<b>132,063</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494</b>	<b>59,551</b>	<b>239,444</b>	<b>258,888</b>

**Balance sheet at 31 December 2022**

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i>		<i>restricted</i>		<i>endowment</i>	<b>Total 2022</b>	Restated Total 2021
		General fund	Ben Lyon fund	Churchyard fund	Flower guild	Gladys Lyon		
		<i>undesignated</i> £	<i>designated</i> £	£	£	£		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>								
Tangible							-	-
Investments	10	-	41,657	-	-	59,551	<b>101,208</b>	114,712
			41,657			59,551	101,208	114,712
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>								
Debtors and prepayments	1	23,596		75	135		<b>23,806</b>	18,792
Short term deposits		26,521	90,406	(75)	2,359		<b>119,210</b>	138,543
Cash at bank and in hand		495					<b>495</b>	569
	1	<b>50,612</b>	<b>90,406</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>143,511</b>	<b>157,904</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Creditors			5,275				<b>5,275</b>	13,728
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	1	<b>45,337</b>	<b>132,063</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494</b>	<b>59,551</b>	<b>239,444</b>	<b>258,888</b>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>	1	<b>45,337</b>	<b>132,063</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,494</b>	<b>59,551</b>	<b>239,444</b>	<b>258,888</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by

S. Anne Lawson. James S Hickie

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

James S Hickie, PCC Treasurer

The accounting policies and notes form part of the financial statements.

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

### Accounting policies for the year ending 31 December 2022

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the 2019 version of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The accruals basis has been used which means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year. Excluded are transactions where the PCC acts as a collection or payment agent for another party (such as wedding and funeral fees collected on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Finance, vergers, organists and bell ringers; and payments made on behalf of the other PCCs in the benefice). The historical cost convention has been used except for investment assets which are shown at market value.

#### **Funds**

*Unrestricted funds* are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC. The PCC has designated part of the unrestricted funds as the Ben Lyon fund, further details of which are given in note 4.

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object. These funds must only be spent on the specific object for which they were given.

*Endowment capital* must be held permanently by the PCC with the income generated spent as determined by the donor. Further details of the Gladys Lyon endowment are given in note 4.

#### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property (this includes the almshouses and the Hearse House) are not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). These assets are not included in the financial statements.

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2022

- 1 The 2021 figures have been restated to include VAT reclaim grants of £7,543 and Gift Aid of £6,716.
- 2 We are grateful to have received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of the late Norman Philips.
- 3 Breakdown: VAT reclaim £1,689; Diocesan Energy Grant £986; Brindley & Faddiley Trust £2,081.
- 4 *Ben Lyon designated fund.* In 2019 the endowment bequeathed by the late Ben Lyon was wound up and the Ben Lyon designated fund was set up with the initial value of this bequest. The income is allocated in accordance with the late Ben Lyon's bequest: one half to the churchyard fund and one half to the fabric fund.  
*Gladys Lyon endowment capital.* This endowment was bequeathed by the late Gladys Lyon. The income is allocated two thirds to the churchyard fund and one third to the church restoration fund.  
The income from the Ben Lyon fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment is shown in the Income statement. As separate fabric and church restoration funds are not held the income of £1,434 due to these funds is consolidated in the General fund, with the income being allocated towards the £3,791 cost of the clock repairs.
- 5 Includes: Claim re Boundary wall repairs £8,556.
- 6 Breakdown: DEC - Ukraine £507; Royal British Legion £2,317. In addition a collection of £142 was taken for the Children's Society.
- 7 Includes: Pulpit handrail £1,097; Sound system upgrade £1,968.
- 8 Breakdown: Glass west doors £4,095; Boundary wall repairs £8,610; Clock repairs £3,791 (for deposit and progress payments - a further £2,527 will become due by completion).
- 9 Restated to correctly account for the Ben Lyon designated fund and the Gladys Lyon endowment capital.
- 10 All held in the CBF Investment fund - Anti inflation

# Services at St Marys



## Sunday Services

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

**11am** *Holy Communion*

**6-30pm** These services, usually *Evening Prayer*, offer a calm and reflective end to Sunday's.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

**8am** *Holy Communion* - Everyone is welcome to join our regular cohort – the more the merrier. It is a spoken service, quiet and contemplative, much enjoyed by our regular congregation.

**11am** *Morning Prayer*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

*Messy Church* - A service for **all** the family with- songs, crafts, drama, an informal study group ... and lots of toast!

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

*A Combined Service in the CrossCountry Parishes*

## Wednesday

**10-30am** A Service of *Holy Communion*. This is followed by fellowship with tea/coffee and cakes/biscuits and a glass of sherry on special occasions.

*Please check our Website or Newsletter for details of different or special Services and times of worship that take place regularly during the course of the year. For details of other activities please see our website.*

***Growing closer to God, each other and the community we serve.***

St. Mary's Church, Monks Lane, Acton, Cheshire CW5 8LE  
01270 628864

[crosscountryparishes@outlook.com](mailto:crosscountryparishes@outlook.com)

# Vicar's Report

It is hard to remember that at the beginning of 2022, we were still experiencing restrictions as we continued to attempt to limit the spread of Covid. Whilst Covid has not disappeared, it was good to see a growing sense of normality and a return to confidence, ending the year with all the usual activities taking place in ways which were entirely normal pre-pandemic. I want to record my thanks again to all those who enabled worship and other activities to continue to operate safely during an extended period of ever-changing restrictions.



As always, I wish to thank our Churchwardens, Penni Doyle and Joyce Percival, without whose support and wisdom, my task would be considerably harder. I wish to thank, too, the myriad of volunteers who support the life of St Mary's; from cleaning to bell ringing, Tea at the Tower to leading worship, serving tea and coffee to preparing for worship, and undertaking many other tasks which enable church life to run smoothly, let alone those who plan and deliver special events such as concerts, Platinum Jubilee celebrations and the Christmas Festival, our life together would be significantly poorer, and would run a great deal less smoothly.

Of particular note in 2022 were the celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, which we marked not only in worship, but in displays and a 'Street Party' in the church in early June. Later, in September 2022, we also held services to mark the death of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Locally, a major focus for the PCC this year has been the exploration of a possible merger of Acton Parish with Worleston Parish, as it became clear that it was no longer possible to find churchwardens and PCC members to enable Worleston to remain an independent Parish. The care and concern expressed towards Worleston as these discussions began and progressed was heartening and greatly appreciated by the worshipping congregation at Worleston. Due diligence has been carried out at every stage, to ensure that the proposed merger does not negatively impact Acton in anyway. At the time of compiling this report, a Public Consultation is currently open to enable anyone who wishes to comment on the proposed merger to do so.

Another welcome achievement has been the re-uniting of Acton into the Worleston and Wettenhall magazine, and thanks are due to the enthusiasm of those who continue to contribute and edit this as part of a team from the other parishes.

Finally, but certainly not least, I wish to express gratitude to God for his faithfulness in continuing to bless the life of St Mary's Acton over the past year.



S Anne Lawson  
Vicar

# Churchwarden's Report

Another busy year where many of us saw our Christian lives return to a welcome fellowship of activity in and around the church.

Statistics for Mission were completed early in the year demonstrating that our worshipping community had marginally increased last year to an average 121 worshippers. We had a slight increase in baptisms (9); a decrease in weddings (10); and a decrease in funerals (20).

Mike Holston will give an update regarding the Church Building in his Fabric report. Once again, many thanks to Mike for the huge amount of time and effort given to taking care of our church building. Further thanks go to Sandra and her team of industrious cleaners who keep our beautiful church spick and span throughout the year.

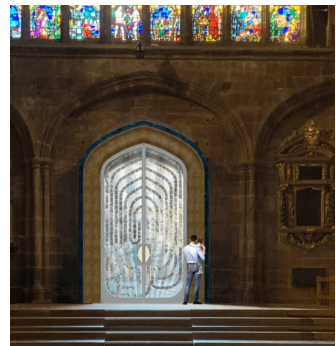
Once again Acton United Charity were able to distribute the annual financial gratuity to those eligible in the parish – thank you to Gill Evans for helping me with this task. There is still an opportunity to receive this gratuity if applicable.

Thank you to Charles Hull who continued to coordinate the Brindley and Faddiley Trust which supported, amongst others, Messy Church, Ukrainian Refugees and Acton C of E Primary Academy.

The newly appointed safeguarding officer, Tom Doyle, attended the Safeguarding Leadership training sessions on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Tom has now visited all four parishes in his safeguarding role. The Archdeacon conducted his inspection on the 26<sup>th</sup> June; he found all goods and documentation in good order.

As parishioners we voted the Saxon Stones to be the most popular choice for the Chester Cathedral Pilgrim Porch project to mark the Queen's jubilee; the beautiful glass doors are now in place in the Cathedral and create quite a challenge in finding our choice!



We continued to encourage links with Acton C of E Primary Academy offering the popular Advent Trail early on in the year which was well attended – thanks to Tracey and Joyce who organised and set up this important opportunity for our younger community to explore the true meaning of Christmas. The school held their Harvest Festival in our church bringing together parents and the community in an uplifting celebration of God's gifts.

And talking of Harvest.....! Rev Anne achieved an incredible feat of organisation and faith in coordinating the National Harvest Festival in Chester Cathedral on the 25<sup>th</sup> September. Thanks to Claire Lewis-Jones for organising the car share to transport our parishioners to the Cathedral where we could celebrate in worship on this wonderful occasion.

The sun shone on our church tent at the Cheshire Show in June where we had a steady stream of visitors joining in with prayer, hymn singing and tea and cake! We are showcasing our Forest Church at the Cheshire Show this year so please put 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June in your diaries.

Throughout the year Forest Church continued to prepare for its launch in the Spring of 2023. It has been a truly enjoyable experience working with Sue Hull and such a positive and enthusiastic group preparing and trying out activities to explore this fresh expression of worship.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> September a small group set off to the Everyday Faith workshop in Elworth Church Hall; it was a very enjoyable and constructive evening reflecting on how Christians are called to follow Jesus every day, wherever we are – in our homes, workplaces and neighbourhoods, as well as in church and we hope to implement some of the practical activities in our own congregations next year.

During 2022 Carol Thayer introduced Cursillo to our parish, "a space to explore what being a Christian means in a modern world and specifically what it means to me." Personally, it has given me the opportunity to ask questions about my faith and its relevance in my life. Carol runs two Cursillo groups and would welcome newcomers if you feel you may be interested.



November saw St. Mary's, Acton, team up with The Cross Country Parishes joint magazine with St. David's Wettenhall, and St. Oswald's Worleston. This venture has been well received with positive comments and feedback from a number of people across the country parishes. Thank you to those who have submitted articles.

Thank you to Philip Percival for overseeing Dave and Scott in their excellent management of the churchyard, it is often complimented upon. We must also thank Philip for organising the bulb planting day in November and look forward to seeing 'a host, of golden daffodils' this autumn!

The Social Committee report will cover the many wonderful and uplifting events that took place in 2022 but a huge thank you must be given to all those who tirelessly work behind the scenes to welcome people into our church community.

On a personal note I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all those who stepped in last year when I was unavoidably detained in Cumbria; and a huge welcome to Joyce!!



*Penni Doyle*

# Safeguarding

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Thomas M. Doyle (Tom Doyle)**

Please see below the various requirements for Safeguarding; Best Practice

The Safeguarding Officer should know (and does):

\* The current law and guidance of safeguarding practice for children and young adults and vulnerable people.

\*The common types of abuse which may occur and the signs to look for to recognize abuse.

\*How to build and ensure a safe space for all members of the parish/parishes based upon mutual respect and Christian Principles.

\* How to build a safe space for children and young and vulnerable people so that they feel safe, looked after, and willing to share any concerns they may have.

\* How to recruit new staff members in a safe way and prevent future safeguarding issues.

\* Excellent listening and empathy skills to properly listen to and support anyone expresses a concern.

\*Exploring the barriers to disclosure and the recognition of any safeguarding concerns.

It's important to recognize that the role of a Safeguarding Officer is constantly changing, and it's vital to keep up to date with the latest developments in safeguarding rules and regulations.

The Safeguarding Officer is required by law and best practice to inform the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor regarding any matters relating to a Safeguarding Issue.

As of April 20,2023, any safeguarding issues/matters have been directed &/or reported to the appropriate person/persons or managing body related to the Cross Country Parishes (Diocese of Chester).

As well as attending safeguarding training, it is my responsibility as the Safeguarding Officer to ensure everyone in our organization is up to date on the latest safeguarding information and are fully aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.

It is also my responsibility to recommend the different training sessions that everyone needs to attend and why each training session is vital to their job. The Safeguarding Officer will also oversee keeping abreast of any changes in law or regulations to ensure that our community has the knowledge and is updated as soon as possible. In this regard I have recently completed the Lead Safeguarding Training to be able to provide the necessary/required/recommended training/updates for our parishioners who play a significant role within the parishes or act as a volunteer for any of the many activities that occur within the parishes.

I have been liaising with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor with a plan to update all those interested and involved in the Cross Country Parishes in an effort to update and upskill our training needs and certifications.

On Monday, May 15, 2023 I shall be meeting/Zooming with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team in an effort to ensure that all relevant Safeguarding Training will be delivered for all those parishioners who have responsibilities across the Cross Country Parishes. Many may prefer and welcome the return of face- to- face training. It is our intention to provide the style of training preferred by individuals and/or small groups. As soon as the decision/opportunity arises I shall communicate the outcome via email and specific PCC meetings.

Thank you!

Thomas M. Doyle (Safeguarding Officer, Cross Country Parishes)

*Tom Doyle*



# Electoral Roll

The numbers on St. Mary's Electoral Role, as at the end of 2022, were 120. This includes zero additions and 2 deletions from the 2021 total of 122.

*Charles Hull*

# Secretary's Report

In 2022 there were 10 PCC meetings this included 3 extraordinary meetings that were solely concerned with the merger of St Mary's Acton and St Oswald's Worleston parishes. The main other topics were looking at the viability of our services, the platinum jubilees and the ongoing possibility of installing Wi-Fi into the church.

Ann Williams

# Fabric Report

The programme of repair continues, notably with repairs to the leadwork on the nave roof. The clock has been removed and is being repaired prior to reinstallation.

The repair to the stonework and other work on the tower top are however presently on hold pending results of grant applications.



Michael Houlston.

# Churchyard Report

The Churchyard continues to be loved and looked after by Dave Whitmarsh and some help painting by Scott.

Mr Brookfield returned the South Gates, now beautifully cleaned and painted. He has used a powder coating process which will make the gates weather proof for many years to come. We all appreciate his generous gift of the refurbishment of all the gates on the south side of the church.



No new machinery has been required this year but a new mower will be needed next year.

The Parish Council has 10 small trees for us to plant around the churchyard in the new year.

With Rosemary Shaw's help and support there has been a bulb planting day, at the far end of the old graveyard, when 2000 Snowdrops and Daffodil bulbs were planted in heart shapes. These will look beautiful in the spring and for many years to come.

As in other reports it is good to be able to report many positive and appreciative comments on the way the church yard is kept and looked after.

*Phillip Percival*

# Deanery Synod

Brief highlights from the meetings held in 2022 are as follows and further details can be obtained from Sue Hull :-

## ***February 2022 at St. Mary's, Wistaston***

Members spent time talking with each other about their hopes and plans for the Deanery Synod in the future. Members also talked with each other for a short while on developing a Deanery Prayer along the lines of thanksgiving and asking.

Revd. Alison Fulford spoke about "Everyday Faith".

## ***June 2022 at St. Bartholomew's, Church Minshull***

The MP for Crewe and Nantwich, Dr Kieran Mullen talked about his life and path to becoming an MP. He made it clear that he didn't have a faith but that he recognised the importance of the Church's role in bringing people together and in demonstrating practical care for others in their community. He spoke about his involvement in education and highlighted the Lifetime Skills Guarantee to support adults to upskill and retrain. He didn't support food voucher for children from families that struggle to feed their children in school holidays, but preferred to see children having access to groups that could enable them and parents to learn to cook. He did support more sustainable funding for social care.

## ***September 2022 at St. Peter's, Elworth***

"Everyday Faith" was discussed which is a project to encourage all to evangelise through the challenge of daily discipleship in the places where we, as ordinary Christians operate: workplaces, local community groups, our recreation, our clubs and groups. There were opportunities to discuss in parish groups the practical outworking of this challenge. Parishes and their life, spirituality and worship should support and fuel the individual to do this.

## ***November 2022 at St. Peter's, Minshull Vernon***

Revd. Sarah Fenby talked about "Growing Vocations" and how the Diocese sought to nurture vocations by encouraging stepping outside our comfort zones. She encouraged us all to listen to ourselves, to offer what we have to God, so that we test out our own or other's vocations. There are many vocations – so not all with dog collars - and possibly more than one vocation for some.

### ***Crewe Community Development Worker Becky Hurst***

The Deanery continues to support our Crewe Community Worker. The initial project ended in June 2022. The Deanery will cover Becky's salary until May 2023 when the Project will be taken on by Caritas, the Catholic charity. Becky will be employed as an Ecumenical Worker for four days per week.

*Sue Hull/Brenda Brockbank*

## **Churches Together in Nantwich**

The Churches together in Nantwich meet 4 or 5 times a year to build relationships between the Christian church communities in our town and area. We are involved with some of these but being part of the Cross Country parishes group and just out of town we do not benefit from all the planned events.

For the last two years we have not paid any subscriptions to the CTinN due to COVID and this last year they were given a generous donation from the Nantwich Show Charity.

The activities we are involved in are the Foodbank, 698 food parcels have recently been needed, feeding 1935 people. 500 Christmas hampers were put together.

The Christmas Day lunches which this year fed 36 elderly or lonely people, who enjoyed the hospitality, company and entertainment.

Plus 12 lunches delivered to those who could not get to the Chapel venue. There are usually lots of volunteers for this event, and the volunteers benefit as much as the guests. A co-ordinator of drivers, chauffeuring people into the Chapel is needed!

The Easter and Christmas services are advertised in The Link, for all the member Churches. We do not partake in the Good Friday service on the square as we have our own service, but we could!

The Acton team came a close second at the Tearfund quiz last Autumn, the date this year is 7th of October.

Unfortunately the group of Street Pastors could not find enough manpower to continue the wonderful work they did amongst the nightlife youngsters in the town, and disbanded two years ago, there is now the chance a group of Street Angels will serve the town in a similar way.

Probably we take the biggest interest in the CTinN presence at Nantwich Show, newly relaunched last year we helped with litter picking and a baby changing area on the showground. The volunteers, who were not all sure if this was the best way to show God's love on the showground, all had a great experience as they chatted to people and everyone appreciated the service we gave. Plus the free entry to the show.

The Chairman is Andrew Spiers who worships at St Mary's Nantwich, Treasurer Jackie Holland who is a member of the Methodist Church and after 12 years of service to the CTinN Simon Bowen, from the Baptist Church, Simon stood down as Secretary. Please consider whether you would be interested in this secretarial role, come to a meeting with Rev Anne or I to see if you could serve the churches in this way.

The meetings start and finish with prayer and as well as the meeting agenda each Church reports of their hopes and concerns, events and activities.

*Joyce Percival*

St Mary's Church,  
Acton

25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

7pm

# Annual Meeting of Parishioners



Opening Reading John 20: 19-31

Prayers

Present

Rev Anne Lawson AL

Penni Doyle PD

Gill Evans GE

Ena Furber EF

Joyce Percival JP

Ann Williams AW

Elizabeth Bull EB

Deana Emerton DE

Peter Foster PF

Mike Houlston MH

Phillip Percival PP

Helen Wood HW

Stephan Davies SD

Clive Evans CE

Tracey Foster TF

Miriam Harvey MHa

Carol Thayer CT

Apologies

Kath Edwards

Charles Hull

Rosemary Shaw

Jackie Hatton

Sue Hull

Sue Stott

James Hickie

Claire Lewis-Jones

## Minutes of Annual Meetings 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Motion to accept the minutes; Proposed DE, seconded MH. All agreed.

### Matters Arising

No matters arising

### Election of Churchwardens

PD was thanked for her service for past year especially in the continuing difficult circumstances and as our only Church warden. PD thanked all those who had helped her.

Nominations for Church Warden:

Penni Doyle            Proposed PP            Seconded GE

Joyce Percival        Proposed DE            Seconded SD

All in favour, PD and JP were elected.

The Archdeacon Visitation Services to swear Churchwardens into post this year are on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Christchurch, Alsager.

Meeting Closed

St Mary's Church,  
Acton  
25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting



### Opening Prayers Present

Rev Anne Lawson AL  
Penni Doyle PD  
Gill Evans GE  
Ena Furber EF  
Joyce Percival JP  
Ann Williams AW

Elizabeth Bull EB  
Deana Emerton DE  
Peter Foster PF  
Mike Houlston MH  
Phillip Percival PP  
Helen Wood HW

Stephan Davies SD  
Clive Evans CE  
Tracey Foster TF  
Miriam Harvey MHa  
Carol Thayer CT

### Apologies

Kath Edwards  
Charles Hull  
Rosemary Shaw

Jackie Hatton  
Sue Hull  
Sue Stott

James Hickie  
Claire Lewis-Jones

### **Minutes of Annual Meetings 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

Motion to accept the minutes; Proposed TF, seconded GE. All agreed

### **Matters Arising**

No matters arising

### **Report of changes in the Electoral Roll**

There are 122 on the electoral roll. CH was thanked for his continuing work.

### **Report on the Proceedings of the PCC and other activities in the parish.**

The annual report has been widely available, and 45 have been printed. AL thanked everyone who submitted, contributed reports and did things in 2020 and especially Miriam Harvey for assembling the booklet.

AL also commented that there was a lot of content in the annual report, and St Mary's was sustaining and even growing in areas such as Church cleaning and Tea at the tower. It is heartening that so much is going on.

### **Report on Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

St Mary's Acton PCC has complied with the duty under section 5

of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Tom Doyle was thanked for his dedication to a very complex role. AL reminded the PCC that they all must have a DBS check at some point.

### **Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

JH was thanked for taking over the treasurer post in such difficult circumstance. He has an incredible eye for detail and is getting everything in order. The accounts for this year are still ongoing, the Diocese have given St Mary's time to get their accounts in order and audited. When they are ready the PCC will accept the, and they will be posted on the website. They are already available on the charity commission website.

### **Report on the Fabric of the Church.**

AL thanked MH for his hard work during the year. MH had nothing to add to the annual report.

PD read the churchwardens statement on the fabric of the church. "The goods, ornaments and fabric of the church is in good condition."

### **Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod.**

AL said there was nothing to add to the Annual Report.

AL thanked DE, SH and EB for serving the past year on the deanery synod.

### **Elections**

The deanery representatives were elected for 3 years in 2020

#### **PCC members**

There are 4 spaces on the PCC.

	Standing	Proposed	Seconded	
3 years	Jackie Hatton	PD	EB	Elected
3 years	Claire Lewis Jones	JP	GE	Elected

PP, MH agreed to be co-opted onto the PCC again. Sue Stott and Charles Hull were also co-opted.

### **Appointment of the Independent Examiner**

AL proposed to remain with Lyon Griffith as the Independent Examiner

GE proposed, HW seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Any Other Business**

## Worship Leaders

Leaders: Charles, Elizabeth, Tracy and Peter, Stephan, Miriam and Gill.

Some of our services continue to be led by our group of Worship Leaders. The response and feedback after the services, is very positive. The congregation seem to enjoy the different content that the leaders put into their talks.

Altogether I would say that these services are successful and very well received.

Thank you to all those who contribute.

*Gill Evans*

## Bible Readers

I say this every year!! Generally, the system we have works well. This, of course, is thanks to the people who are committed and who read so well. I am indebted to my list of readers, who mostly read at the morning services, but I seem to be asking the same people over and over to read for these services. I hope they don't mind too much.

If anyone has any new names to suggest to me, please let me have them (+ phone numbers) and I shall be pleased to get in touch. I would especially like to recruit some young readers. If any of you have any youngsters in your family, who would be prepared to read or you think would do so with a bit of encouragement, it would be good to hear from you. I am happy to show them the ropes and put them at their ease.

The Readers' list is always at the back of the Church and I try to encourage people to put their names down fairly well in advance. I also try to share readings around for special services.

May I take this opportunity to say a very big 'thank you' to all involved. I feel privileged to have worked with them for many years and am, and have been, extremely grateful for their support throughout this time.

*Ena Furber*



# Acton

## CE Primary Academy

Developing the learners of tomorrow and equipping them with the skills to flourish and succeed, for "Nothing is impossible with God." (Luke 1:37)

'We are all very proud of our wonderful school, ensuring that we provide a curriculum that upholds our strong vision and values that every child achieves and succeeds. We have a strong Christian ethos, which allows us to carry out our Christian vision and values throughout all we do.'



Acton School has a new head teacher called Chris Priddey. He has worked in schools for over 25 years in a mixture of rural and town schools in Cheshire West & Chester and Cheshire East. He is now proud to be part of the team at Acton CE Primary Academy.

Chris says, 'During the course of this year we have been looking at our curriculum, making sure that the children receive an exciting and relevant curriculum that is special to them as a child at Acton CE Primary Academy. We have been focusing on high expectations from the children, taking pride in their work and doing their very best: this closely links with our vision that '...nothing is impossible with God'. Our collective worship this year has followed a number of themes, including bravery, forgiveness and friendship. We would like our children to follow these examples in their work in and around school. We have enjoyed celebrating harvest, Christmas and Easter in Church where we were joined by many of our parents and members of the school community.'

There are 172 children in school.

Reception	19	8 girls	11 boys
Year 1	21	8 girls	14 boys
Year 2	30	11 girls	19 boys
Year 3	26	11 girls	15 boys
Year 4	18	8 girls	10 boys
Year 5	26	13 girls	13 boys
Year 6	31	17 girls	14 boys

Acton has been awarded a decarbonisation bid from the Government. Work will be undertaken to install a ground source heat pump and insulation upgrades through the coming months. Ultimately, this will mean that the school no longer relies on oil for heating, having a positive impact environmentally, and should also lead to costs savings for the school in the longer term. This is an exciting project for the school to be involved in – with the children being able to see, first-hand, some of the technology that will be used. It is planned for the work to start in the middle of this summer term, so it will only disrupt the latter part of the year.

My final comment has to be that I really love visiting the school; every time I go there all the children and staff are very friendly and welcoming.

*Lesley Latronico*



# Bellringers Report

Hello Report time is here again

There have been changes again this year in the belfry but unfortunately due to lack of numbers we have not been able to ring for Sunday services. However, due to the new ringers Vicki and John Batchelor from the parish we are hopeful that ringing on a Sunday morning will recommence in the near future.

Practice night on a Tuesday 8pm to 9pm has helped the new ringers improvement and excellent help of David Allman which is much appreciated. Ringers from Nantwich and Wrenbury and occasionally other towers come to help which is very helpful to us all.

If there is anyone interested in learning to ring or just coming to see us ring please feel free to join us on a Tuesday evening.

There was an increase in weddings this year which we were able to ring for with the help of Nantwich, Wrenbury and various ringers from other towers which I'd like to thank for their help.

We were pleased to welcome visiting bell ringers in February from Pickering and surrounding areas. In June ringers from Shropshire came, which included Mike Carding who was a ringer at Acton in 1997/98. In August Christleton ringers made their usual annual visit and in November a number of roving ringers came from around Yorkshire, Sussex and Ruthin

We were honoured to ring for the Queens Platinum Jubilee in June and made it to front cover of the Ringing World the band of lady ringers being, Leona Edge, Heather Newton, Marian Moulton, Chris Owen-Roberts, Carole Sturgess all from Acton and Fanny Wiess from Nantwich.

On the morning of 30 July there was a 6 bell practice with approximately 22 ringers from the South Cheshire Branch of the Guild and a savory buffet was served which was greatly appreciated by the ringers.

Sadly our next ring in September for the Queen was her funeral another great honour, the ringers on this sad occasion

Chris Owen-Roberts, Carole Sturgess, Leona Edge from Acton and David Allman, Denis Taylor and Fanny Wiess helped us out from Nantwich.

Remembrance Day in November was rung for which is always a privilege. The ringers were Carole Sturgess, Chris Owen-Roberts, Leona Edge and Marian Moulton from Acton Denis Taylor from Nantwich and Steve Pugh a visiting ringer who was passing on a canal boat.

The Christmas tree festival was a success and we again enjoyed decorating our tree, it was lovely to see so many trees and visitors in church, the theme was a challenge! !!

Christmas morning ringing was a first for John and Vicki Batchelor our newest ringers who live in the parish. Other ringers that morning were Carole Sturgess, Leona Edge, Heather Newton from Acton, Denis Taylor and David Allman from Nantwich, Bill Humphries a roaming ringer in Guild and Paul Lucas a visiting ringer from Oxford who was on a canal boat and wanted a Christmas Day ring.

David Allman did his utmost to the keep the clock going for the parishioners of Acton but unfortunately it gave up and has been taken away for repair. Hopefully it will be back in the not too distant future.

Once again many thanks to the PCC for payment of the bell-ringers subscriptions.

Lastly, I'd personally like to thank all the ringers who have helped us out over the year, your assistance is greatly appreciated and it has managed to keep the bells ringing in Acton.



*Carole Sturgess*

# Thursday Bible Study

This year our group has held three sessions, meeting in the home of Deana and Gerald Emerton, to whom we are very grateful for their hospitality and warm welcome.

The first session was held in September/October when we started looking at the Psalms. We continued the theme in January/February and then went on to look at St Paul's letter to the Colossians - four chapters in four weeks in March. It was interesting to note how Paul used teaching about the Person of Jesus Christ as the basis for Christian conduct. The session on human relationships provided much food for thought

Our group consists of 14 or 15 who attend whenever possible, and by popular demand have asked for more studies in the coming months. Therefore we are pleased to say that on 18<sup>th</sup> May we shall begin our next session, looking at the Gospel and Epistle for the following Sunday. Everyone is welcome at 10am at Glebe House, Acton.

We begin with tea, coffee and chat, then have a study of the subject with much interaction, questions and laughter. Please come and join us.

*John Malbon*

## Church Cleaning

This year 25 ladies have helped to clean the church. They are Jennifer Bolton, Elizabeth Bull, Julie Cope, Chris Cundall, Jan Dobson, Penni Doyle, Kath Edwards, Gill Evans, Liz Ford, Tracy Foster, Ena Furber, Angela Gray, Sandra Houlston, Sue Hull, Lesley Latronico, Janet Malbon, Ann McMillan, Judith Merrin, Sarah Potts, Mary Rees, Rosemary Shaw, Vivienne Turner, Brenda Wilson, Helen Wood and Jill Wright.



Sadly, Maggie Harper left in 2021 and Wendy Coxhill in February 2022, moving to Surrey, both after many years of service for which I thank them. However Rosemary kindly joined us in November 2022 and Sarah, who was helping occasionally due to work commitments, has since August 2022 been able to come more regularly. Both are very welcome additions.

We still clean fortnightly with Monday and Tuesday teams and still have an annual social get-together, now held in the summer months as the preference is to travel in day light. I thank everyone for their hard work and dedication as we endeavour to keep St. Mary's a clean and welcoming church.

*Sandra Houlston.*

## Messy Church

The effects of the pandemic were still in evidence during the early months of 2022 as families succumbed once more to Covid (and chicken pox but that's a given!). The Christingle in January was particularly subdued but as spring moved on we invariably had children to act out whatever story we had chosen and we can always rely on our "older children" to do their bit. We had a new start with Noah filling the beautifully knitted ark on loan from St Mary's Nantwich, celebrated at a wedding in Cana for Mothering Sunday and were "on a special journey" at Easter. We explored Jesus as the water of life and Christian Aid in May as well as planting sunflowers for the Sustainable Nantwich project which later made a lovely show round the Ukraine "flag" outside despite the hot weather and the determined efforts of a mole!



Crowns made for Christ the King came in handy for our display for Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee in June. Over the summer we acted and sang our way through the epic saga of Joseph who really had a multicoloured coat to wear courtesy of Janet!

We made peg dolls, Egyptian headdresses, bread and a frieze of the whole story to be displayed in Church. We had the "word of the Lord planted in our hearts" in September, felt sorry for Zacchaeus in October and saw Jesus as a light in the darkness as we made sparkly lanterns for our Messy Church Christmas tree. In December there was a Christmas "tree" of shiny parcels containing the whole cast of the nativity story knitted by Janet so we could all be involved in the telling of the story - a lovely friendly morning together.

It has been great to welcome families new to the area and to Acton School, and the poster on the corner has done its job on occasion which is good to know. We keep in touch via email and remember the children's birthdays - we know it is appreciated.

The team includes Pete and Tracey Foster, Janet and John Malbon, Miriam Harvey, Lesley Latronico, Sarah Thomas, Grace Tripp, Kath Edwards and the tea and toast team, with Emily Davies playing in the band when available and Simon Davies happy to do the tech stuff or be Jesus if asked! Thanks to Gill Evans who is always there to welcome everyone and support the team. All our thanks as always to our friends in the congregation who get involved with a will and support the discussion at the "top end".



# Sidespeople

The PCC agreed in 2022 to changes to the frequency of the Evening Services to one a month and further agreed that, as a result of the low attendance at these Services, nominated Sidespersons would no longer be required. The duties of the Sidespersons for these evening services would thus be carried out by the appropriate Churchwarden as is done for the Wednesday Communion Service.

The names of those who served on the Sidesperson's Rota in 2022 for the 11.00 o'clock service are listed below. Each and everyone of you is thanked for the splendid service that you have given to St. Mary's throughout the years, always giving a warm welcome to those attending our Services.

Our church has a fine reputation for being a "friendly one" and the job you all do forms a major part of this. Thank you all and keep up the good work!

Chris & Christine Barratt  
Kitty Boot  
Elizabeth Bull  
Robert Darlington  
Stephan Davies  
Kath Edwards  
Gill Evans  
Poppy Emery  
Ena Furber  
Peter & Tracey Foster

Mike & Sandra Houlston  
Charles & Susan Hull  
Stephen & Linda Jones  
Peter & Lesley Latronico  
Lewis-Jones Family  
Philip & Joyce Percival  
Ricky & Charles Roundell  
Fred West  
Miriam Harvey

# Social Committee

I am pleased to report that the social committee continues to be a strong team of ladies and gentleman who are a powerhouse behind many of the activities that happen at St Mary's, Acton. Our aim is to promote Christian fellowship amongst our congregation and encourage and welcome newcomers.

As an overview, during the last the year we have continued to not only be involved in leading large annual events such as the Christmas Tree Festival,



but also providing support to regular services by providing refreshments and fellowship encouraging all services to be times when visitors and regulars can be guaranteed Christian Community Warmth; something much needed and brought to the fore after many people's lonely experiences during COVID times.

We have hosted many fabulous concerts organised by Stephan Davies. Stephan's involvement is thorough, from finding and booking musicians and choirs, helping them choose a suitable programme, organising their rehearsals, designing and promoting ticket sales and promotion to organising refreshments and draw prizes.



Stephan also compares the shows. Could we ask for anything more from one person – a huge thank you.

Nantwich Band and Jessica Thayer both performed at The Last Night of the Proms in Acton in November, proceeds from this concert went to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The Christmas concert was one of the final performances of our good friends the FunkyChoir.com. We are very grateful for their support over the last few years and we wish Brent a happy retirement. The Spring Concert is on 13<sup>th</sup> May and will be performed by Acton Operatic Society who are performing a selection of songs from Westend shows.

The mainstay of our social contribution to Christian life in our community is our weekly Tea@Tower event lead by Stephan Davies and Deana Emerton. Together with a dedicated team of bakers and servers, this service provides a warm welcome to so many every week which is a huge commitment. This event has been recognised across the diocese and we are proud and grateful to all involved. This year we even opened our doors on Christmas Day.



Each month we have held a ladies lunches lead by Joyce Percival who organises venues and often organises lifts. Joyce also coordinates the summer lunches that are held in the gardens of different parishioners across the four parishes.

This year we have started a new activity, providing trips out to places of interest. So far, we have visited Chester Cathedral where we enjoyed a tour and light lunch. Further trips will be organised in the autumn.

*Claire Lewis-Jones*  
*Chair Social Committee*

## Sunday Refreshments

'Sunday morning refreshments runs like clockwork' is the official view of the Social Committee, so that's good enough for me. But like everything that runs well it relies on good team work and enthusiasm and we certainly have that. The opportunity to chat and enjoy a hot drink and biscuits following the 11 o'clock service is very much appreciated and the children particularly enjoy the endless supply of toast at Messy Church.

Many thanks to all who help to provide the fellowship, friendship and fun, as well as the refreshments and doing the washing up.

New recruits always welcome.

*Kath Edwards*

## Tea at the Tower

### **Tea at the Tower - A reflection of the past year!**

Tea at the tower was set up in March 2017 with the aim to establish a weekly café facility - providing an opportunity for people to come together and enjoy some refreshments within a caring community environment. We called our café 'Tea at The Tower'. Our purpose was simply to establish a vehicle for outreach and pastoral care and an environment whereby a compassionate community could grow.



We had no idea that we would still be serving tea today! As you would expect - we don't take this success lightly, we continue to work hard to remain relevant and wanted by the community we serve.

Our monthly walks continue to be a great success - and we love to meet the many new people who decide to stretch their walking boots in our direction!

We are proud to say, that we were able to serve a special 'Platinum - Tea at the Tower' to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's remarkable achievement (We even received an acknowledgement to our 'best wishes letter' from Buckingham Palace!).

Recently, we held a 'Royal Afternoon Tea at the Tower' to mark the coronation of King Charles. A band played at both occasions and Jessica Thayer treated us to an impromptu performance which made the occasion even more special.

Our treasurer informs us that 'Tea at the Tower' makes an impressive impact upon the finances of Acton Church. Indeed, £11,517.40 was raised in 2022; £4512.05 has been raised so far in 2023.

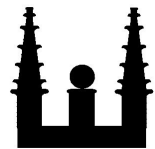
Non of this could have been achieved without the selfless support from our many helpers - who have contributed so much to make Tea at the Tower what it is today. We extend a heartfelt 'thank you'.

*Stephan & Deana*



## Website Report

The website continues to be maintained by Ann and David Williams.



Thank you to all our regular contributors especially Tracey Foster for the monthly Messy Church report and Stephan Davies for regular copy, we do rely on the material sent to keep it up to date and informative.

We do appeal for future event dates and reports of those past, to include and keep the site relevant. Please send any information and good quality pictures to [church@stmarysacton.org](mailto:church@stmarysacton.org)

*Ann and David Williams*



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143904

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# Accounts

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# St. Mary's, Acton



# Annual Report 2021

**The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Acton**  
**Registered Charity Number 1143904**  
**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements**  
**For the year end 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

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Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

*A-Z(ish) Activities at St. Mary's:*

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Bell Ringers  
Bible Readers  
Bible Study Group  
Church Cleaning  
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Kingsbourne Housing Estate Visiting  
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Music  
Sidespeople  
Praise & Play  
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## **Aims and Purposes**

St Mary's PCC co-operates with the incumbent, Revd Anne Lawson, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church; for the care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the church and the goods and ornaments thereof; and for the care and maintenance of the churchyards. The PCC seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others, and encourage them to share in this mission.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: offering church services, and family and children's ministry, including Messy Church, also bible study groups, and events which have brought together the local community and church including our regular Tea at the Tower. To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's.

## **Achievements and Performance**

All church activities were impacted by the coronavirus crisis during 2021. Church services and activities continued to take place where allowed under national guidance with social distancing and all sanitisation measures. Some Church services took place online rather than face to face.

## **Financial Review**

For the unrestricted (general) fund income was £61,444 and expenditure was £118,462. This expenditure included £59,238 on major building repairs and alterations. The balance of the unrestricted fund at the year-end was £197,373. During the year total fund balances decreased from £294,494 to £244,629.

The sad passing of the PCC Treasurer during 2021 resulted in a difficult task for the new PCC Treasurer and a delay in the production of the Financial Statements.

The PCC intends to agree a Reserves Policy during 2023.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The charity is governed by the PCC, which consists of around twenty members plus the incumbent who serves on the PCC ex-officio. All members of the PCC are trustees of the charity. The PCC meets at least six times a year. In addition a Standing Committee meets to consider matters arising between PCC meetings. Other specialist subcommittees support the work of the PCC.

PCC members are elected by vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by members of the electoral roll who are present at the meeting and in accordance with Church Representation Rules. PCC members normally serve for a period of three years.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

The charity is affiliated to the Church of England, and as a result has representatives sitting on the local deanery and, potentially, diocese committees.

### Administrative Information

St. Mary's Church is situated in Acton, Nr Nantwich. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is

The Vicarage  
Chester Road  
Acton  
NANTWICH  
CW5 8LG.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity with Registered Charity Number 1143904.

PCC members who have served any time from 1 January 2021 until the date of this report was approved are:

Elizabeth Bull

Penni Doyle

Gillian Evans

Tracey Foster

James Hickie

Sue Hull

Claire Lewis-Jones

Phillip Percival

Ann Williams

Stephen Davies

Deana Emerton

Peter Foster

Ena Furber

Mike Houlston

Revd. Anne Lawson

Joyce Percival

Rosemary Shaw

Helen Wood

Trustees are either ex – officio, co-opted or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church representation rules.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC on 23 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

# Parochial Church Council of St Mary's, Acton, Nantwich

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's, Acton.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

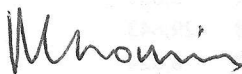
I report in respect of my examination of the accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robert Morris, Chartered Accountant

For Lyon Griffiths Limited, 17 Alvaston Business Park, Nantwich, CW5 6PF.

Date: 26/10/2022

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2021

	Note	<i>unrestricted</i> General fund	<i>restricted</i> Churchyard fund	<i>restricted</i> Flower guild	<b>Total 2021</b>	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income						
Planned giving		17,213		30	17,243	15,727
Other giving at regular services		1,432			1,432	1,481
Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals		5,210			5,210	1,372
Community events		6,816			6,816	5,725
Other donations		227		509	736	
Gift aid		-			-	4,719
Legacies	1	3,201			3,201	-
Fees and charges						
Weddings, Funerals and Monuments		13,254			13,254	9,826
Community events		3,056			3,056	3,404
Rent and hire charges		1,178			1,178	-
Magazine advertising					-	30
Other income						
Grants	2	6,426			6,426	149
Investment income and bank interest		2,930			2,930	3,452
Contribution from sister parishes	3	-			-	5,975
Compensation - RBS		500			500	-
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>61,444</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>61,983</b>	<b>51,860</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Costs of generating funds						
Costs of generating voluntary income		987			987	791
Costs of fundraising events held		44		20	64	
Church activities						
Charitable giving	4	25			25	235
Parish Share		39,556			39,556	39,222
Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses	3	1,697			1,697	2,447
Parish Secretary's pay	3	1,115			1,115	1,550
Retired clergy fees and expenses		496			496	688
Parish office costs	3	1,749			1,749	2,164
Magazine printing costs					-	1,886
Service costs	3	1,632		364	1,996	1,860
Insurance and Governance		5,385			5,385	8,711
Oil and electricity		4,256			4,256	
Building maintenance	3	2,282			2,282	3,035
Major building repairs and alterations	5	59,238			59,238	29,643
Churchyard maintenance			7,357		7,357	6,624
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>118,462</b>	<b>7,357</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>126,203</b>	<b>98,855</b>

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

### Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2021 (continued)

<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS &amp; LOSSES</b>	(57,018)	(7,357)	155	<b>(64,220)</b>	(46,995)
Gain (loss) on investment assets on revaluation	14,356			<b>14,356</b>	6,457
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	(42,662)	(7,357)	155	<b>(49,864)</b>	(40,538)
<b>BALANCES B/F 1 JANUARY</b>	240,035	52,261	2,198	<b>294,494</b>	335,032
<b>BALANCES C/F 31 DECEMBER</b>	197,373	44,904	2,353	<b>244,629</b>	294,494

### Balance sheet at 31 December 2021

	<i>unrestricted</i>	<i>restricted</i>	<i>restricted</i>		
	Note	General fund	Churchyard fund	Flower guild	Total
		£	£	£	2021
					Total
					2020
					£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible					-
Investments	6	114,712			<b>114,712</b>
		114,712	-	-	100,355
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors and prepayments		4,534			4,534
Short term deposits		91,286	44,904	2,353	<b>138,543</b>
Cash at bank and in hand		569			569
		96,389	44,904	2,353	<b>143,646</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors		13,728			<b>13,728</b>
		13,728	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		197,373	44,904	2,353	<b>244,629</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by

*S. Anne Lawson*

Revd S Anne Lawson, PCC Chairman

*James S Hickie*

James S Hickie, PCC Treasurer

The Accounting policies and notes form part of the financial statements.

# PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S ACTON, CHESHIRE

## Accounting policies for the year ending 31 December 2021

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the 2019 version of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS 102).

The accruals basis has been used which means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year. Excluded are transactions where the PCC acts as a collection or payment agent for another party (such as wedding and funeral fees collected on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Finance, vergers, organists and bell ringers; and payments made on behalf of the other PCCs in the benefice). The historical cost convention has been used except for investment assets which are shown at market value.

### Funds

*Restricted funds* represent donations or grants received for a specific object. These funds must only be spent on the specific object for which they were given.

*Unrestricted funds* are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property (this includes the almshouses and the Hearse House) are not included in the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). These assets are not included in the financial statements.

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2021

- 1 John D Milner £3,201.
- 2 Breakdown: VAT reclaim £6,167; Brindley & Faddiley Trust £242; Commonwealth War Graves £18.
- 3 Due to a change in accounting policy the 2021 figures exclude expenditure charged to sister parishes whilst the 2020 figures include this expenditure. A total of £3,390 was charged to sister parishes in 2021. Including this expenditure the 2021 figures are: Vicarage costs and vicar's expenses £2,861; Parish Secretary's pay £1,923; Parish Office costs £2,924; Service costs £2,221; Building maintenance £2,299.
- 4 Royal British Legion £25.
- 5 Breakdown: New toilet £5,059; South aisle roof repairs £3,540; Chancel parapet repairs £38,990; Mainwaring tomb repairs £725; Repointing £1,577; Hearse House repairs £8,312; New glass west doors £1,035.
- 6 All held in the CBF Investment fund - Anti inflation

# Services at St. Mary's

We hope that the pattern of Services below will reflect the regular worship in St. Mary's as we move beyond the pandemic. Please check our website or Newsletter for any changes which may need to be made.

## Sundays

**8.00am**

A reflective start to the day with said **Holy Communion** on the **2nd** and **4th Sundays** of the month.

**10.00am**

**Messy Church** Service for **all** the family on the **3rd Sunday** of the month - songs, crafts, drama, informal study group ... and lots of toast!

**11.00am**

**Holy Communion** on the **1st Sunday** of the month.

**Morning Prayer** on the **2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays** of the month.

**5.00pm**

Contemplative Service of **BCP Evensong** on **1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays** of each month.

## Wednesdays

**10.30am**

A Service of **Holy Communion** every Wednesday. This is followed by fellowship with tea/coffee and cakes/biscuits and a glass of sherry on special occasions.

*Please check our Website or Newsletter for details of different or special Services and times of worship that take place regularly during the course of the year. For details of other activities please see our website.*

*Growing closer to God, each other and the community we serve.*

St. Mary's Church, Monks Lane, Acton, Cheshire CW5 8LE 01270 628864

[crosscountryparishes@outlook.com](mailto:crosscountryparishes@outlook.com)

[www.stmarysacton.org](http://www.stmarysacton.org)

# Vicar's Report



2021 began in yet another full-lockdown as the Covid Delta variant took hold across the country. As I look back on 2021, it is encouraging to see just how much "normality" returned during the course of the year, despite considerable uncertainty and disruption at various points in the year.

Against this background of uncertainty, I want to say thank you to all those who enabled worship, and later other activities such as Tea at the Tower to take place, especially when an avalanche of ever-changing regulations and advice had to be absorbed and put into place at short notice. It is credit to them that it was never obvious that pages of advice were typically received late on Friday evening for implementation by the coming Sunday. We all owe those involved a great deal of gratitude as they enabled us to stay safe, whilst enabling as many activities as possible to take place at the same time.

In saying "Thank you" there is always the risk of missing someone, but I must say "Thank you" on behalf of all of us to Penni Doyle as she has cheerfully acted as Churchwarden alone, and also to all those who have helped Penni to fulfil this task. Thank you, too, to Stephan Davies, Deana Emerton and the large team who ensure that Tea at the Tower was able to return in late August. It is a great achievement to be able to offer such a warm welcome to all-comers week by week and would not be possible without every person involved playing their part.

Thank you, too, to Deana Emerton, Claire Lewis-Jones, Joyce Percival, Stephan Davies and all those who enabled a successful Christmas Festival and Christmas Concert to take place safely against the challenge of Covid at the end of the year.

Further thanks are due to Tracey Foster, Janet Malbon, Miriam Harvey, Peter Foster and all those who have enabled Messy Church to re-start this year. It is credit to the communication with families, together with the provision of high quality materials throughout lockdown that the momentum on Messy Church has been maintained despite happening "at home" instead of "in-person" over so many months. Attempts to re-start Praise and Play began towards the end of the year but, despite interest from families, has yet to bear fruit.

Thank you to all those who enable worship to happen, Sunday by Sunday and at midweek. Without Peter Foster playing the organ and piano, other musicians leading our worship, people willing to read and act as sidespeople, prepare the church, and attend worship, none of the other activities so familiar to this church, would be able to happen.

One of the highlights of 2021 has been the growing links with Acton CE Primary Academy. As restrictions eased, it was a great joy to welcome every child in the school into church for the Advent Trail, and thanks are due to Joyce Percival for organising a team to enable this event over several days at the end of the Autumn term. It was also a joy to hold a number of performances of the Early Years and Key Stage One nativity, enabling small numbers of parents to attend each time. I continue to meet regularly with Head of School, Rachael McKinlay and Lesley Latronico and Philip Percival continue to support the school in their role as Governors. A number of opportunities to further strengthen links are now becoming clear as Covid restrictions continue to ease.

Another thank you is due to all of you for enabling me to take my delayed sabbatical in the Autumn, especially to those who ensured that parish life continued as usual in my absence. It was very much appreciated and enabled me to gather a great deal of data which I continue to process in my rare moments of free time. A paper was written during my sabbatical, due for publication any day now, and another is well on the way, but there is much more to be written when time allows.

I cannot finish this report by noting the loss of a number of faithful, regular worshippers during the year. The sudden death of Tony Mathie left a large and noticeable hole in the shape of our Treasurer, but each of those who have died have been loved and we feel their loss.

It is in this context that I wish to say thank you to James Hickie for his diligent work in, quite literally, picking up the role of Treasurer from scratch, with very little guidance available as he has done this. It is tribute to James that the income and expenditure of the church continued with very little disruption in a challenging situation.

Finally, and most certainly by no means least, a very big thank you to God for his continued faithfulness to us. Without the work of the Holy Spirit, none of the above ministry, and a great deal more would be possible. In a church as ancient as St. Mary's, it is possible to see God's faithfulness to this community down the centuries, and we should be equally thankful for that on-going faithfulness to us today.

*S Anne Lawson, Vicar*

# Churchwarden's Report

Looking back on 2021, for me as a churchwarden who was appointed immediately prior the pandemic, this has been an odd period of time and although we have been closed for much of that time, it has been a more hopeful year in which St. Mary's and her congregation are beginning to return to much loved services and festivals to mark God's presence in our community. During this time new skills and ways of working were explored - although I think most of the congregation heaved a sigh of relief when we could meet once again in person for our services and not via Zoom - having said that the sight of Rev. Anne's Shadow "cat bombing" the screen was always a cheerful moment! The phone support system was a great success and appreciated by all concerned, thank you to those involved.

The Fabric report will give an update regarding the Church Building but it is worth noting that repairs identified in the Quinquennial review are being steadily addressed including ongoing repairs to the chancel roof and ridge, and the cleaning and repairs to the west window. Many thanks to Mike Houlston for the huge amount of time and effort given to taking care of our beautiful church building. Further thanks go to Sandra and her team of industrious cleaners who once again have banished cobwebs and mice droppings as they sweep and polish our historic building throughout the year.

Rev. Anne took sabbatical leave for three months in the autumn to continue her invaluable research into the Fragile Rural Church; this is a significant though unsettling analysis of the rural church's current situation and future. We were pleased to welcome her back!

In December the Rev. Canon John Malbon officially opened the newly installed glass doors to the west entrance of the church, so kindly provided by the late John Milner. The doors have been widely and favourably commented on, allowing light to pour in and inviting people into the church.

As parishioners we voted the Saxon Stones to be the most popular choice for the Chester Cathedral Pilgrim Porch project to mark the Queen's Jubilee and we look forward to seeing our image engraved within the labyrinth design.

As requested by the PCC at the meeting held in November Stephan Davies, Penni Doyle and Joyce Percival met with John Headon (Health &

Safety Officer) to discuss what measures could be taken to reduce the risk of injury regarding the Dorfold Chapel steps; with appropriate signage and a rope restricting access the matter is now satisfactorily resolved. Access to the pulpit has been made safer by the installation of a handrail.

It has been a sad year where several members of our congregation have died or been seriously ill. Visiting and the funerals were restricted because of the pandemic rules, but we hold them in our hearts and prayers.

We have had several goodbyes and hellos this year - namely goodbye to Helen Harper, our parish secretary, who resigned after long service in the role and we thank her for her time and effort over the years. We say hello to James Hickie, our newly appointed Treasurer, who has made an enthusiastic and rigorous start to the post; and a thank you to Chris Barratt for helping with the weekly counting. Many thanks also go to Deanna and Gill who meticulously counted and banked the finances during the absence of a treasurer. Many thanks also go to Janet Malbon for her past commitment to the role of Safeguarding Officer and we welcome Tom Doyle into the post.

Sue Hull has made an excellent start in establishing Forest Church - a fresh expression of worship drawing on and incorporating ancient Christian practices. We have met twice and each time has been a delightful exploration of our faith in a new context amidst a new environment; the plan is to widen the circle of Forest Church in the spring of 2023.

Peter Foster, Sue Stott and Ann Williams continue to explore the possibility of Internet and Wi-fi in the church and we thank them for their time and effort on this important project.

Links with Acton Church of England Primary Academy School continued during the lockdowns and, as churchwarden in Rev. Anne's sabbatical absence, I was honoured to be asked to deliver the opening and closing prayers for the school's zoom Remembrance service and Harvest Festival; the two services demonstrated the dedication of both the teachers and learners as they created thoughtful and spiritual performances. The Advent Trail, once again, was a success with many of the children participating with enthusiasm and delight - thank you for all those involved in organising and delivering the workshops. We hope to revive the popular After School club in the church in the future.

As a testimony to our perseverance in the face of adversity many wonderful social events and activities took place this year allowing people the much-needed opportunity to come together in fellowship. The Social Committee report will cover the year's social activities in detail but it is worth noting that the Acton Operatic Society concert and the Christmas Tree Festival were two happy events this year, and of course the ever popular and successful Tea in the Tower continues to attract a large and diverse number of people into our community. Thank you to all those involved in making St. Mary's, Acton, such a welcome and cheerful place to be.

And on that note I would like to extend a personal thank you to all those who have shown such patience, kindness and friendship in helping me with the role and responsibilities of the churchwarden in such extraordinary times.

*Penni Doyle*

## **Electoral Roll**

The numbers on St. Mary's Electoral Roll, as at the end of 2021, were 122. This includes 5 additions and 7 deletions from the 2020 total of 124.

*Charles Hull*

## **PCC Secretary's Report**

There were 6 meetings in 2021. The main topics of discussion were about building repairs, how our worship should look like after Covid, technology use during worship and other uses for the building. The other main topics were to discontinue the magazine and design a new website: [www.stmarysacton.org](http://www.stmarysacton.org)

*Ann Williams*

St. Mary's Church, Acton  
18th May 2021  
7-30pm

# Annual Parochial Church Meeting



## Opening Prayers

### 1. Present

Rev. Anne Lawson AL	Penni Doyle PD	Deana Emerton DE
Clive Evans CE	Gill Evans GE	Peter Foster PF
Tracey Foster TF	Mike Houlston MH	Charles Hull CH
Sue Hull SH	Claire Lewis-Jones CLJ	Joyce Percival JP
Phillip Percival PP	Rosemary Shaw RS	Ann Williams AW
Helen Wood HW		

### 2. Apologies

Elizabeth Bull	Stephan Davies
Ena Furber	Sue Stott

### 3. Minutes of Annual Meetings 2nd April 2019

Motion to accept the minutes; Proposed DE, seconded PD. All agreed

### 4. Minutes of Annual Meetings 22nd October 2020

Motion to accept the minutes; proposed GE, seconded JP. All Agreed

### 5. Matters Arising

No matters arising

### 6. Report of changes in the Electoral Roll

There are 124 on the electoral roll. CH has agreed to continue as Electoral Officer.

### 7. Report on the Proceedings of the PCC and other activities in the parish

The annual report has been widely available, and 40 have been printed. AL thanked everyone who submitted, contributed reports and did things in 2020 and Miriam Harvey for assembling the booklet.

### 8. Report on Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

St. Mary's Acton PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due

regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Janet Malbon wishes to stand back from safeguarding Officer. Training is available. This is one job the incumbent cannot do.

## **9. Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2020**

AL led a moments silence and prayers to remember Tony Mathie our Treasurer.

The main thing to note is the deficit. In a normal year the balance would be different. There is a general downward trend in income across all churches.

The repairs and upkeep of the building will require substantial money over the next year. English heritage is not interested because the amount is too small for them. Perhaps local MPs could be lobbied for more help.

We do apply a voluntary contribution to weddings and funeral invoices, but AL did not know how many were actually paid.

The good news is that James Hickie has agreed to become treasurer.

## **10. Report on the Fabric of the Church**

MH reported there are some hard decisions for the PCC over the next few years regarding the fabric. The PCC will be consulted, and grants officers will be asked to look for any grants that may be available.

AL thanked MH for his hard work during the year.

PD read the churchwardens statement on the fabric of the church. "The goods, ornaments and fabric of the church is in good condition."

## **11. Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod**

SH said there was nothing to add to the Annual Report.

AL thanked DE, SH and EB for serving the past year on the Deanery Synod.

## **12. Elections**

The deanery representatives were elected for 3 years in 2020

### **a) PCC members**

There are 4 spaces on the PCC, 3 for 3 years and 1 for 1 year.

	<b>Standing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>	
3 years	James Hickie JH	RS	AW	Elected
3 years	Helen Wood HW	AW	DE	Elected
3 years	Tracey Foster	GE	Kath Edwards	Elected
1 year	Peter Foster	GE	Kath Edwards	Elected

JP and PP agreed to be co-opted onto the PCC again.

### **13. Appointment of the Independent Examiner**

AL proposed to remain with Bob Maurice as the Independent Examiner  
MH proposed, PP seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **14. Any Other Business**

#### a) Trees for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The national tree initiative - named the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) - aims to protect ancient woodlands and forests, as well as encouraging the planting of new trees. There are 3 million trees to apply for from the Woodland Trust. The trees will be distributed on a first come first served basis.

PP proposed we should apply; SH will fill in the paperwork

AL thanked everyone especially CH for his work this year.

Meeting Closed

## **Fabric**

Since the last report progress has been made with essential maintenance including re-pointing of large areas of stonework and repairing and re-fixing the parapet on the north side of the chancel roof. The cracked stonework of the Mainwaring monument has been repaired with epoxy resin and is now secure. The sundial in the churchyard has also been repaired.

Improvements have been made in the church with the installation of glass doors inside the west door, replacing the former wood and wire mesh. A hand rail has been added to the pulpit steps as a safety measure.

*Michael Houlston*

## **Churchyard**

The churchyard continues to be used and appreciated by many parishioners and bereaved, there have been 11 new graves commissioned in 2021, the largest number of new graves for many years.

Dave Whitmarsh has continued to keep the Church grounds and graveyard looking neat and tidy, trimming hedges, mowing grass and brushing up leaves. Scott has continued to paint and look after metal work and gates. Mr. Brookfield has kindly cleaned and powder coat painted the lyche gates and has now taken away the main south gates for the same treatment, they should not need touching again for a generation.

No new machinery or capital spending has been required this year.

At last the Diocese has agreed to a plaque for the Lyon gift, this will be made and installed.

We are looking at planting some trees to mark the Queen's Jubilee in the gaps in the graveyard extension hedge, this will hopefully fit in with tree planting in the village.

*Philip Percival*

## **Deanery Synod**

Highlights from the Deanery Synod meetings held in 2021 are as follows:

### **23rd February 2021 - Zoom Meeting**

Many church members have enjoyed being together for on-line services. Phone worship has also gone well. Discussion took place on the many interactive technological services available.

New clergy, Rev. Catherine Cleghorn, new incumbent for Leighton-cum-Minshull Vernon & Warmingham and Rev. Oliver Iqwe new incumbent for St. Andrew's, were warmly welcomed.

### **17th June 2021 at St. Mary's Nantwich**

The meeting took the form of Evening Prayer on the theme of "Encouragement" and was led by Rev. Alison Fulford.

### **8th November 2021 at St. Chad's Wybunbury**

Julie Withers gave a talk on Pastoral Principles for living well together. These Principles were developed to encourage better inclusion of the LGBT community and also can be applied to other differences within our church communities.

We were split into small groups for a discussion time.

*Sue Hull*

# Churches Together In Nantwich

The six Church groups from in and around Nantwich only met once during 2021, finding it difficult to plan events together but supportive of the Covid restrictions each Church was facing. *Joyce Percival*

## Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Officer: Thomas M. Doyle (Tom Doyle)

Please see below the various requirements for Safeguarding; Best Practice

The Safeguarding Officer should know (& does)

- The current law and guidance of safeguarding practice for children and young people.
- The common types of abuse you may come across and the signs you should look for to recognize abuse.
- How to build a safe space for children and young people so that they feel safe, looked after, and willing to share any concerns they may have with you.
- How to recruit new staff members in a safe way and prevent future safeguarding issues.
- Excellent listening and empathy skills so you can properly listen to and support anyone who comes to you with a concern.
- Exploring the barriers to disclosure and the recognition of any safeguarding concerns.

It's important to recognize that the role of a Safeguarding Officer is constantly changing, and it's vital to keep up to date with the latest developments in safeguarding rules and regulations.

As of 20th April 2022 any safeguarding issues/matters have been directed &/or reported to the appropriate person/persons or managing body related to St. Mary's Church, Acton (Diocese of Chester).

As well as attending safeguarding training, it is my responsibility as the Safeguarding Officer to ensure everyone in our organisation is up to date on the latest safeguarding information and are fully aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.

It is also my responsibility to recommend the different training sessions that everyone needs to attend and why each training session is vital to their job. The Safeguarding Officer will also be in charge of keeping abreast of any changes in law or regulations to ensure that our community has the knowledge and is updated as soon as possible.

The responsibilities as a Safeguarding Officer:

- Understand the importance of promoting children's rights, safety, and wellbeing within your organisation.
- A look at the laws and guidance surrounding safeguarding which you will need to follow as a Safeguarding Officer.
- A deeper look at child abuse and child sexual exploitation so you can recognise the signs that there may be a safeguarding issues which needs addressing.
- Understand how to respond to safeguarding issues which are brought to your attention.
- How to properly report on safeguarding issues to ensure you follow the policies and procedures of your organisation.
- Look at how to recognise safeguarding risks and identify children at risk.
- Learn how to carry out safeguarding risk assessments.
- Learn about advising others on child protection issues.
- Understand what you need to do after a referral to ensure safeguarding issues are dealt with properly.
- A look at record keeping and how to ensure your records are accurate and secure.
- Understand how to write safeguarding reports in a non-judgmental way.
- Discover how to write care plans and arrange proper support for vulnerable children.
- Understand how to stay calm in stressful situations.
- Look at providing evidence in court if necessary.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

*Thomas M. Doyle (Tom Doyle)*

# Acton C of E Primary Academy

*To develop the learners of tomorrow and equip them with the skills to flourish and succeed for "nothing is impossible with God" Luke 1:37*

I asked Rachael, the head of school at Acton to give me a quote about this school year and she said *"Acton have continued to show true resilience and determination over another turbulent term of Covid complications. Being able to open up more has enabled us to enjoy wonderful events such as the spring fair and residential. We are so pleased we can visit the church as a community once again."*



The children's last visit to St. Mary's was for their Mothering Sunday Service on 23rd March. Their service was beautiful and it was lovely to see them all at church with a very supportive audience of parents, grandparents and friends. They are looking forward to being back at church for their Easter service on 21st April.



On 1st September 2021 Acton School joined NWAT (North West Academies Trust) and RLLAT (Real Life Learning Academy Trust) ceased to exist. NWAT now assumes all responsibility for both Acton and Calveley under the executive leadership of Steve Docking, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and local governing boards at each school.

NWAT is a very strong, effective and established Trust.

There has been a lot of building work taking place in school due to a very bad leak! It's the Year 1 classroom that has been completely revamped. Children are so excited and pleased with the completed classroom; they love that they have new lockers and lovely new furniture. There is also a new roof over the hall and Yrs 3&4 classrooms.

There are presently 171 children on role and 26 staff in total:

Reception - 21 children Year 3 - 18 children Year 5 - 30 children  
Year 1 - 30 children Year 4 - 25 children Year 6 - 27 children  
Year 2 - 20 children

Our governing body meetings have mainly been Zoom sessions for a couple of years so I'm really looking forward to seeing lots of happy, smiling faces in school once again.

*Lesley Latronico*

# Acton After-School Club

Due to the pandemic and strict ruling for school groups the After School Club never came to the Church for their monthly visit. We look forward to welcoming them back in the Summer Term of 2022.

## Bell Ringers

Hello again Report time is here and what another disrupted year it's been!!!

There have been changes this year in the belfry with three regular ringers now unable to ring leaving us in short supply. We still have ringers coming from Nantwich and Shavington to ring the bells when numbers will allow for Sunday morning service.

Practice night on a Tuesday, 8-9pm, has now resumed and we have 3 local parishioners learning to ring with instruction from David Allman which is much appreciated. Ringers from Nantwich and Wrenbury come to help which is very welcome.

If there is anyone else interested in learning to ring or just coming to see us ring please feel free to join us on a Tuesday evening.

Weddings have now resumed and again we are helped out by ringers from Nantwich and Wrenbury for which we are extremely grateful.

The Christmas tree festival resumed and we again enjoyed decorating our tree, it was lovely to see so many trees again in church.

We were pleased to welcome visiting bell ringers in late February from Pickering who were pleased to be able to ring after not being able to tour for a couple of years, hopefully more will follow later in the year.

David Allman is still keeping the clock running in excellent order and maintaining it for the people of Acton.

Once again many thanks to the PCC for payment of the bellringers subscriptions.

I hope that things can improve in the belfry in the not too distant future and that the bells will be ringing out in Acton on a more regular basis.

*Carole Sturgess*

# Bible Readers

I say this every year!! Generally, the system we have works well. This, of course, is thanks to the people who are committed and who read so well. I am indebted to my list of readers, who mostly read at the morning services, but I seem to be asking the same people over and over to read for these services. I hope they don't mind too much. Readers for the evening services are few and far between, unfortunately.

If anyone has any new names to suggest to me, please let me have them (+ phone numbers) and I shall be pleased to get in touch. I would especially like to recruit some young readers. If any of you have any youngsters in your family, who would be prepared to read or you think would do so with a bit of encouragement, it would be good to hear from you. I am happy to show them the ropes and put them at their ease.

The Readers' list is always at the back of the Church and I try to encourage people to put their names down fairly well in advance. I also try to share readings around for special services.

May I take this opportunity to say a very big "thank you" to all involved. I feel privileged to have worked with them for many years and am, and have been, extremely grateful for their support throughout this time.

*Ena Furber*

## Bible Study Group

Like many organisations, both church and secular, our Bible Study meetings had to be cancelled during the pandemic. However, we were able to keep in touch during the lockdown by sending weekly e-mails to our Bible Study members and other interested people from our church, and we hope that they were enjoyable.

After many enquiries from our regular members, we are very pleased to report that on 28th April 2022 we will once again be meeting at the home of Deana and Gerald Emerton to commence our short series of Bible Studies. This time we will be looking at the Acts of the Apostles and learning how the early church put into practice their new-found faith - an exciting time.

Later in the year we will have another session so please look out for more information. Everyone is welcome to come and join in the informal meetings when no view is prohibited and every question of value.

*John & Janet Malbon*

## Church Cleaning

Lockdown due to Covid was not "a friend of Church Cleaning". Although the church may have appeared as clean as usual, much cleaning was unable to be done. However we are now slowly getting back to normal, and cleaning and polishing as thoroughly as we can.

Unfortunately due to Covid, we were unable to have our usual Christmas party - in fact two were missed. This year we are having a summer party instead, hopefully in July.

There are still two teams of ladies cleaning the church, and there are still 24 of us. There have been some changes. Maggie Harper retired for health reasons and Wendy Coxhill recently left Acton to be nearer her family in the South East, both after many years of service. However, Brenda Wilson and Vivienne Turner have joined the Tuesday team and are very welcome additions. Jennifer Bolton, Elizabeth Bull, Julie Cope, Chris Cundall, Jan Dobson, Penni Doyle, Kath Edwards, Gill Evans, Liz Ford, Tracy Foster, Ena Furber, Angela Gray, Sue Hull, Leslie Latronico, Janet Malbon, Ann McMillan, Judith Merrin, Sarah Potts, Mary Rees, Helen Wood and Jill Wright are still stalwart cleaners. Many have been helping for many, many years and I'm still discovering hidden talents!

They all do a wonderful job and I would like to thank them for all their help and support. It's not always easy cleaning an ancient sandstone church, but hopefully our efforts are appreciated. In a good month, with full attendance, we can clock up over seventy hours of cleaning! We hope the church is a warm and welcoming place helped by our labours.

*Sandra Houlston*

# Flower Guild

Throughout the year flowers have been placed on the main altar, except during Advent and Lent. To abide by the COVID rules artificial silk flowers have been used when necessary. These flowers were paid for by donations and we thank the donors for their generosity.



At Easter during Lockdown, we took the Church to the people by building a tomb and garden at the east end of the church. The graveyard was filled with butterflies and we had them flying up the wall on either side of the east window. Three crosses were put up against the rail tomb facing Chester Road.



At Harvest we had displays of produce inside and outside of the church building.

Similarly, at Armistice we had displays of poppies inside and outside of the church building.

At Christmas the inside of the church was decorated with around thirty Christmas trees. These trees were sponsored by businesses and individuals who decorated the trees with the theme of Christmas music. At the east end of the church a crib was built with Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, with the Shepherds and the Three Kings nearby in the churchyard. The Alms-houses were lit with coloured lights as were many of the trees in the churchyard. Bringing the whole together was a sea of white stars. Unfortunately, on Boxing Day night some unknown individuals vandalised the crib and scattered the remains down Monks'



Lane, but the damage was quickly repaired. This was a sad interlude to a joyous festival.

The following people should be thanked for helping to create both the Christmas and Easter scenes (sponsored by Emerton Roofing), also Armistice and Harvest which were much appreciated by many people who passed by, giving a presence of the church into the community: Will & Ellie Emerton, Andrew & James Emerton, Claire Lewis-Jones, Sue & James Stott, Mike Houlston, Charles Hull, Philip & Joyce Percival, Jill Evans and Ena Furber. Thanks must also be extended to those who helped in taking the displays apart.

*Deana J Emerton*

## **Kingsbourne Housing Estate Visiting**

Once again the visiting of the new houses on the Kingsbourne Estate was hit by the pandemic when we were not allowed to visit any family and friends, let alone strangers, to welcome them into their new homes and give out invitations to services and other events held at their parish church.

The pandemic has not dimmed the sale of the homes as they continued to be built and the extent of the housing is now widespread. We have yet to decide when and how we can resume delivery of our welcome packs - minus the magazine of course. If anyone has any view or offers of help, please let us know.

*John & Janet Malbon*

# Messy Church



Messy Church @ Home started its second year with a bumper edition of activities for Holy Week but to keep some "face-to-face" contact, brightly coloured bags made by Janet and filled with chocolate and craft activities were delivered to our MC families for Easter.

We thought about Jesus the Good Shepherd in April and in May and were encouraged to think about how we can care for God's creation and especially the need for water. An e-envelope set up raised over £250 for Christian Aid.

June was Father's Day so we looked at the story of the prodigal son - cue piggy things to make and do and in July we read the story of Zacchaeus to remind us to say sorry and learn how to put things right.

August and we were back in Church for our Messy Olympics. With individually bagged food crafts, small tables and lots of fresh air we managed to have the MC we know and love (no toast yet though)! Harvest in September, all about the Bible in October and in November we celebrated Christ the King and made sparkling crowns for our Christmas festival display.

The Messy Nativity went with a BOOM! as we discovered the impossible things God made happen when Jesus was born. The Christingle in January was a bit more subdued with fewer there than usual. It was a fitting end to a stormy week in February when we filled Noah's Ark (complete with animal sound effects) and made rainbows of various sorts to remember God's promises. In March Jesus came to the rescue at the wedding in Cana and gifts were made for Mothering Sunday. We sowed sunflower seeds for the Sustainable Nantwich challenge to be planted in the churchyard.

The number attending Messy Church has fluctuated this year as there is no doubt that Covid has not yet relinquished its grip on us. As we look forward to Easter we wish all our families good health and good times together.

Family and work commitments have meant that Cathy Tripp has been unable to take on a regular role although she can be counted on to prompt the projector whenever she is with us! Rachel Percival's family moved to Shropshire and we thank Becky Edwards for her contribution last year and look forward to seeing her again when work commitments allow. We especially thank our older congregation who faithfully support us at this service and who willingly join in with whatever we ask of them! We know that they appreciate the discussion group as well.

*Tracey Foster, Janet Malbon, Miriam Harvey, Peter Foster*

## Music



Music for Church services is mostly played on the organ, a late Victorian instrument with strong bellows and mechanical action, looked after by our organ tuner Jim Molyneux of Blythe Bridge who visits 3 times a year.

There is also an upright piano for smaller services and for the worship songs for Messy Church. Thanks go to Miriam for her cornet playing for these lively sessions.

An instrument group has been formed after the Covid-enforced lull, with no particularly aim at the moment other than encouragement, fun and getting together (outside when weather permits!). Thanks to Hilary, Wendy, Miriam, Jonathan and John for rising to the challenge.

Jess Thayer has kindly helped with her beautiful solos at festival services as her work commitments allow. We are also grateful to Acton Operatic Society for staging concerts for the essential fundraising for our Church.

If anyone is interested in playing an instrument or singing please do contact Peter Foster (01270 626802). We'd be very pleased to hear from you.

*Peter Foster*

# Sidespeople

The names of those who served on the Sidespersons' Rota in 2021 are listed below. Each and every one of you is thanked for the splendid service that you have given to St. Mary's throughout the years, always giving a warm welcome to those attending our Services.

Since February 2020 normal services no longer took place in the church and distancing and safety rules have been in force for all services during 2021. This has resulted in different responsibilities for the Sidespersons and thanks are given to all those who participated during this difficult period.

Our church has a fine reputation for being a friendly one and the job you all do forms a major part of this. Thank you all and keep up the good work!

Our current Sidespeople are:

Chris & Christine Barratt  
Kitty Boot  
Elizabeth Bull  
Charles Cannon  
Pam Chadderton-Poole  
Joan Darlington  
Robert Darlington  
Stephan Davies  
Kath Edwards  
Poppy Emery  
Gill Evans  
Peter & Tracey Foster  
Ena Furber

Miriam Harvey  
Sheila Healy  
Mike & Sandra Houlston  
Charles & Susan Hull  
Stephen & Linda Jones  
Peter & Lesley Latronico  
Lewis-Jones Family  
Mary McMath  
June Moss  
Philip & Joyce Percival  
Ricky & Charles Roundell  
Fred West

*Charles Hull*

# Praise & Play



Praise and Play hasn't attracted anyone this year due indirectly to Covid, to other health issues and to work commitments. We continue to engage with baptism families and hope that circumstances will change and allow them to come and enjoy a chat and a cup of tea, as important as the simple Bible message and songs we share with the babies and children.

Thanks to Jackie to faithfully turning up to help every other Wednesday (we have had some good discussions though!) *Tracey and Janet*

## Social Committee

The year began with a further lockdown due to the pandemic and although we did not meet or worship in the Church building for many weeks I hope that we as a Church were seen to cope with the pandemic in a Christian way.

I know many of us had a list of people who we regularly rung, shopped for or met their needs. In 2021 we certainly have learned to reach out in new ways and with extra acts of kindness.

The VE day celebration afternoon teas delivered to those alone in June 20, were so well received we followed up by providing Primroses for all the school children's mothers and teachers on Mothering Sunday and "Hugs in Mugs" to isolated and housebound members of the Church last Easter.

We did go to Llandudno, but this event was not well supported, was it the pandemic or has it run its time?

Tea at the Tower started again at the end of August 2021 and continues to prove its popularity and the service it gives to the community.

This year we were able to celebrate Harvest in a more traditional way and the Songs of Praise service which involved the farming community was well received and supported.

Again at Remembrance, the Poppy display and our new "tommy" soldier added to this special day.

Two table top stalls at the Civic Hall have helped clear our store and raise funds for the Church and support other local charities.

The Ladies Lunches started again in the summer with three garden meetings, one in my garden, one at Deana's and one in Wettenhall. We were then able to meet in the Farmers Arms and The Barbridge and at Christmas at Cheerbrook Farm Shop.

The two day Christmas Festival this year was a great success again, despite all the Covid rules, risk assessments and general hesitation to commit. Faithfully we made all the arrangements, and abided by all the rules, and the results were a beautiful church decorated with Christmas trees, twinkling lights, lovely music and a great atmosphere for all the visitors. Everyone played their part, too many to thank here. The Concert given by Acton Operatic was quickly sold out due to a restricted amount of tickets, but still a special evening. The Christmas walk was very popular and brought even more people into Church at the end of their walk.

The next day the Acton School Children had their Advent Trail through the Church, probably due to fatigue after the Festival, it was not well facilitated by the Church but the children had a wonderful time, heard again the Christmas message and did memorable activities at each point of the Trail. The feedback from the school staff was very favourable too.

As with all things, 2021 will be memorable for very different reasons. I think we have done well in maintaining a loving friendly supportive Church.

*Joyce Percival*

## **Sunday Morning Refreshments**

Refreshments following the 11 o'clock service made a welcome return in September last year. At first we were serving hot drinks and biscuits to people remaining seated in the pews in order to reduce close contact and, hopefully, minimize risks around covid. Recently, I'm very pleased to say, we have returned to everyone coming to collect them from under the tower which is easier and much more sociable, fellowship being a very important part of enjoying refreshments together.

Messy Church has also returned to the provision of hot buttered toast, as popular as ever and still difficult to judge timing and quantity!

There are a few vacancies on the refreshments rota due to several people not able to continue, so if you would like to help out please get your name down quickly to avoid disappointment. It really is good fun.

*Kath Edwards*

## Tea at the Tower



The Covid pandemic lockdown led to Tea at the Tower closing its doors for the best part of 18 months. As the restrictions were lifted, we were thrilled to be opening our doors once again on 29th August 2021. Naturally, we put in place special measures to keep our visitors safe. Indeed, our visitors have frequently praised our team for the care we have shown for their wellbeing.

Our volunteers and visitors have gone out of their way to tell us how delighted they are to be back! Attendance records have been high; Yes, most Sundays, we are flat out with our tea pots, cakes and serving trays. Our monthly walks have continued to be extremely popular with attendance records peaking at 140 one Sunday afternoon! It is lovely to see people forming new friendships; we have received telephone calls subsequently, from grateful visitors telling us how much their visit has meant. Indeed, one visitor stated, "I'm not a church goer by any means ... yet oddly, I now seem to be a regular!"

The pandemic has challenged our community: physically, psychologically and socially. Tea at the Tower appears to have provided a platform for people to come together in a safe environment and show care towards one another - a compassionate community, indeed. We remember with love, our Tea at the Tower friends who have died during the pandemic months.

We are grateful for the support and enthusiasm our visitors have shown. We are particularly, grateful to our team of volunteers who form the bedrock of the Tea at the Tower rota - each volunteer, a bright shining jewel in the crown of Acton Church.

We are delighted to report that donations between our re-opening on 29th August 2021 and 13th March 2022 have amounted to £6,656.

Looking forward, we are very pleased to be welcoming Bishop Sam - who will be popping in for an informal cuppa and some cake on Sunday afternoon, 12th June 2022.

*Stephan & Deana*

## Website

St. Mary's Acton put together a small group to redesign the website. Thanks to David Williams who constructed the site and all the other contributors that helped with content, and design.

If anyone would like to contribute anything onto the website, or have reports, notices or events publicised please send them to [church@stmarysacton.org](mailto:church@stmarysacton.org)

*Ann Williams*

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Acton with Worleston**

England & Wales - Charity number 1143904

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# Accounts

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# St. Mary's, Acton



# Annual Report 2020

# Services at St. Mary's

We hope that the pattern of Services below will reflect the regular worship in St. Mary's as we move beyond the pandemic. Please check our website or Newsletter for any changes which may need to be made.

## Sundays

### 8.00am

A reflective start to the day with said **Holy Communion** on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

### 10.00am

**Messy Church** Service for **all** the family on the 3rd Sunday of the month - songs, crafts, drama, informal study group ... and lots of toast! For now we continue with "Messy Church @ Home". Keep watching for news of a return to meeting together

### 11.00am

**Holy Communion** on the 1st Sunday of the month.

**Morning Prayer** on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays of the month.

### 5.00pm

Contemplative Service of **BCP Evensong** on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month.

## Wednesdays

### 10.30am

A Service of **Holy Communion** every Wednesday. This is followed by fellowship with tea/coffee and cakes/biscuits and a glass of sherry on special occasions.

*Please check our Website or Newsletter for details of different or special Services and times of worship that take place regularly during the course of the year. For details of other activities please see our website.*

***Growing closer to God, each other and the community we serve.***

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## Vicar's Report



It would be tempting, easy and entirely inaccurate simply to write that "nothing happened in 2020".

The burst of activity in January 2020 when we welcomed people into church for a talk about the Civil War from Mike Lea, walks around the Battlefield and tea and toast on the morning of Holly Holy Day and followed it up with a church bursting at the scenes the same evening for a concert by Acton Operatic may feel as if they belong to a far-gone age, but they did happen before life changed dramatically on 23rd March. So too did Sunday afternoon Tea at the Tower which was able to operate for the first 12 weeks or so of 2020. Also fitted into this busy start to the year was the sung Evensong by the St Christopher Chorale.

The necessary survey of all church records as part of the PCR2 enquiry into Safeguarding was also carried out and successfully completed by the deadline in February.

And then COVID-19 became a reality in our daily lives, but even then, church life did not entirely stop. I am grateful to those who have kept telephone contact with church members, to those who delivered shopping and prescriptions to people who couldn't get out, whether as good neighbours or as part of what developed into Nantwich Buddies.

Over Easter we were able to display a prominent and much appreciated cross on the corner of Monk's Lane, first draped in red and a crown of thorns on Good Friday, and later proclaiming the resurrection draped in NHS blue and decked with butterflies. It became a much-photographed feature as people passed it during their daily exercise on foot and on bike.

Prayers, sermons and other resources to enable us to continue to worship "together" apart was e-mailed regularly, together with information about how to obtain various kinds of help, and details of deliveries by local businesses who provided delivery services during lockdown.

Messy Church has continued "at home" throughout the pandemic with extremely high-quality material being prepared by the Messy Church team and e-mailed to our Messy Church families each month.

Late June saw a hesitant return to the church building for private prayer appreciated by the handful of people who ventured out each week, and more came as public worship, albeit in a restricted form, was able to resume again in July.

Remembrance Sunday took the form of a brief, simple Act of Remembrance outside at the start of the second lockdown, when a number of people gathered and the brightly painted wooden poppies in the churchyard ensured that passers-by knew we were remembering the sacrifice of those who had given their lives in the service of their country.

The year ended with another return to public worship in time for Christmas, and celebrations in the form of a Service of Words and Music, Midnight Communion and Christmas Day were possible, not least because of the team of people who thoroughly cleaned the church after the Midnight Service to ensure the building was COVID-secure for Christmas Day. Congregational singing wasn't possible, but the Communions were enhanced by Jessica Thayer singing during the distribution of Communion.

The main feature of Christmas, of course, was the magnificent Nativity Scene outside the east end of the church which was the central focus for the Follow the Star Walk through Dorfold Park and gardens as well as 4 extremely chilly All Age services on Christmas Eve afternoon, which at least enabled us to sing some carols together.

Thank you to everyone who has enabled church life to continue, even if it has looked very different to "normal". Not least our Churchwardens, Stephan Davies, who retired at the delayed 2020 Annual Meeting in October, and Penni Doyle who ably assisted Stephan until her appointment as Churchwarden in October. Thank you, too to the Sidespeople whose role has been much changed, but nonetheless essential, especially at the larger services, and to those who have worked hard to decorate the church, often in very different ways, for our Festivals. There are many jobs which have continued unseen, including the work carried out by Tony Mathie as Treasurer, and Tracey Foster who has cleaned, sometimes very extensively, to ensure that the church remained "COVID-secure" and safe to be used.

Different much of 2020 may have been, but quiet would probably not be the right word to use. Thank you to all of you who have done so much to enable the life of St. Mary's to adapt and continue, sometimes in radically different ways.

*S Anne Lawson*

# Electoral Roll

The numbers on St. Mary's Electoral Roll as at the end of 2020 were 124.  
*Charles Hull*

## PCC Secretary's Report



St. Mary's Acton

We have had only 4 meetings in 2020, including the one after the delayed APCM in October, the latter 2 were over Zoom, all have been well attended. Apart from reports from all the very active areas within the church community included in the other sections of the annual report our main focuses for 2020 were.

Firstly we have understandably been talking about how to worship during lockdown and the restrictions. We have also taken the opportunity to look forward and discuss what worship will look like in the future.

Secondly, the fabric of the church both repairs and new works have been discussed. The maintenance and repairs don't wait for the pandemic to end.

Third and finally we have been reviewing communication. This is an ongoing discussion on both the new ways to keep everyone informed whilst not able to attend church and the future.  
*Ann Williams*

## Churchyard

2020 has been a quiet year in the Churchyard, with no new schemes of work being carried out to alter the church grounds.

Dave Whitmarsh has again maintained the Graveyard and Church surrounds to a high standard, something which is commented on regularly by visitors to the church.

Scott has continued to come and rub down and paint the gates facing the vicarage. Scott has helped Dave with the flower borders around the sides of the Church building.



With us not being able to use the inside of the building it has been important that we could present an open air church at Harvest, Armistice and Christmas in our well cared for churchyard.

No new machinery has been purchased this year and costs have been kept to a minimum in this difficult year.

The churchyard was a beneficiary of Parish Council generosity with a £1,000 grant to support the upkeep of the Churchyard, on top of their normal support. We also received a further £500 towards the lighting of the Christmas Stable, which will result in some further permanent lighting on the paths. We are very grateful for their continued support as the week by week giving will not support the level of excellent upkeep that we have become accustomed to, and I would urge all to consider mentioning the church in Wills and at other times, as the cost of upkeep is more than the church finances can bear with no beneficial gifts being made in the last 3 years.

I will finish where I started by thanking Dave Whitmarsh and Scott for all their hard work keeping the Churchyard looking so well.

*Philip Percival*

## Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults

This last year has seen a request from our Diocese for the completion of details about historical problems with clergy and others regarding the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Each Vicar and retired vicar was asked to search records and memories in order to seek out any cases of misdemeanors from clergy or other members of our congregations so that no abuse would go unnoticed or unacknowledged. The request was not just for the present time but historically, back to the 1940s. This meant a great deal of work for our Vicar and others who helped in this process. Notices were published as best we could during the time before lockdown and all the relevant papers were completed on time.

As you will be aware, the pandemic has meant that children's work has not been able to take place for over a year. There have been no problems reported.

*Janet Malbon*

# Safeguarding and Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016

During the year 2020 I can give assurance that the Parochial Church Council has fully complied with their duty under Section 6 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure as laid down by the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Signed Janet Malbon  
Safeguarding Officer

## Deanery Synod

Only one Deanery Synod Meetings took place in 2020 due to the Coronavirus restrictions. A brief report follows:-

### **3rd February - St. Michael's, Coppenhall**

After being welcomed by Rev. Fr. John Leal, St. Mary's Nantwich Lay Rep. asked for our prayers for their new venture namely a Service of Blessing for same-sex couples, followed by a celebration.

St. Mary's Acton Lay Rep. asked for prayers for their new ventures with Acton Primary School, "The Advent Trail & Easter Journey" and the "After School Club" and for the Bereavement Club.

We enjoyed an interesting talk from Becky Hurst, Crewe Community Development Worker. She spoke about her work with immigrants at St. Andrew's, a "Conversation Café" which helps to improve their English and promotes growth in faith and builds on their talents and connections.

A discussion group followed and we were split into small groups. We talked about connecting with our local community and what resources were needed. Secondly we talked about what is not visible in our church activities and why?

The Synod will decide what to allocate and to whom in the way of surplus funds to local causes, included those represented by speakers at the previous three Synod meetings.

*Sue Hull*

# Churches Together In Nantwich

The first meeting of the year was on 8th January, 2020 when an exciting agenda of initiatives were planned for the year including "Turning Nantwich Blue": a week in May to highlight Dementia, the needs of the patients and carers and how the Churches can support them.

The Annual United Service was on 26th January, a celebration in St. Mary's, Nantwich of what we, the Churches, do together.

The Food bank is well established in Nantwich and has recently appointed a new manger, but the pandemic has highlighted the need for this facility in our midst.

The Refugee family have had a new baby and are embracing the opportunity of a new life in Nantwich.

The Street Pastors continually look for new recruits as Street or Prayer Pastors. We admire the excellent supportive role they give and show to young people "out" in the town at night.

Outreach, is a new supportive group for the students at Reaseheath College.

The Annual Meeting in February elected Gary Wareham, the Baptist minister, as our new Chairperson. Gary has suffered poor health during the year but now seems much better.

Then the Pandemic hit and most of the plans and activities were put on hold, with various forms of worship, outreach and pastoral care led by the different Churches as the lockdowns came and went.

We have had one zoom meeting in the new year. There will be no Nantwich Show but we look forward to meeting to plan other events.

*Joyce Percival*

# Acton C.E. Primary Academy

*To develop the learners of tomorrow and equip them with the skills to flourish and succeed for "nothing is impossible with God" Luke 1:37*



Acton School has experienced a very strange year, as have we all, however the education of its pupils has been paramount throughout. During the most recent lockdown, beginning on 5th January, the number of pupils in school has ranged from 30 to 45 each day and those learning at home has ranged from 138 to 123.

Families who were in need of technology at home have been sent chrome books or lap tops to enable the children to access the remote classroom lessons. Also some data cards were provided to help with broadband issues.

There are currently 168 children on roll, about to rise to 171. There are 10 teachers and 12 support staff. The head of school is Rachael McKinley who told me, "The staff at Acton have worked tirelessly through this very worrying time to ensure that children are provided with the best education and care that we can offer. Staff have ensured that face to face and remote learning continues to be at a high standard and children's well-being and mental health is supported. The staff have really shown their dedication and commitment to their role and should be very proud of what they have done for the community."



The staff are looking forward to the return of all the children on 8th March, and I've heard a few parental comments stating this too! The children will be experiencing a curriculum that offers specific topics and objectives that their teachers feel are most important. I've also been asked to mention that there is a mid-day position available at the moment which school is finding difficult to fill. Please get in touch with the school office if you're interested.



I'll end with a lovely moment in school - apparently one day several take away pizzas arrived! No, it wasn't a mistaken delivery. They were for the staff from a very grateful parent who appreciated all they were doing.

*Lesley Latronico*

## Bell Ringers



Hello again Report time is here and what a year it's been!!!

There hasn't been a lot of change this year in the belfry with ringers still coming from Willaston, Nantwich, Shavington and Crewe to ring the bells for Sunday morning service until sadly Covid struck and we had to stop in mid-March.

Practice night on a Tuesday, 8-9pm was doing very well with ringers from Nantwich and Wrenbury again, sadly, this had to stop.

In mid-March we were due to hold the annual 6 bell striking competition for the region. Obviously this had to be postponed but hopefully we may be able to hold it in 2021, fingers crossed.

Weddings, unfortunately, we were not allowed to ring for.

Christmas came and went, again no ringing and no Christmas tree to dress.

On a brighter note, we must give a huge thank you to David Allman for keeping the clock running and generally keeping his eye on the belfry throughout the various lockdowns and the rest of the year. He has walked from Nantwich every week to ensure that the clock is in excellent running order and maintaining it for the people of Acton.

Once again many thanks to the PCC for payment of the bellringers' subscriptions.

Let's hope that the future is better and that we can all be back ringing the bells in the not too distant future.

*Zoe Sutton*

## Bible Readers

There have certainly been some differences since my last report. Where services have been possible during parts of the Covid Pandemic, Rev. Anne has mostly arranged Bible Readers. Thank you, Anne.

During the last few weeks of April services have started again in Church and we are trying to get back to some sort of normality. I am grateful that readers have come forward now that restrictions are lifting. Here is hoping it stays that way for 2021.



I feel that, generally, the system we have works well. This, of course, is thanks to the people who are committed and who read so well. I do not have difficulty getting readers for the morning services but readers for the evening services are few and far between, unfortunately. I seem to be asking the same people over and over to read for these services. I hope they don't mind too much. If anyone has any new names to suggest to me, please let me have them (+ phone numbers) and I shall be pleased to get in touch. I would especially like to recruit some young readers. If any of you have any youngsters in your family, who would be prepared to read or you think would do so with a bit of encouragement, it would be good to hear from you. I am happy to show them the ropes and put them at their ease.

The Readers' list is always at the back of the Church and I try to encourage people to put their names down fairly well in advance. I also try to share readings around for special services.

May I take this opportunity to say a very big "thank you" to all who are on my list. I feel privileged to work with them and am, and have been, extremely grateful for their support throughout the years.

*Ena Furber*

## (Thursday) Bible Study Group



During early 2020 the group met five times to discuss the Epistles set to be read in the Sunday services. This led us on a trek through some of the writings of Paul and Peter and whoever wrote Hebrews.

Then came the Covid19 crisis and the necessary restrictions on meeting together meant that we did not meet in the Autumn of 2020 nor the Spring of 2021.

However, at the beginning of the lockdown we invited the group (and other friends) to join in the Celtic prayers used each week with the Bible Study, to participate in their own homes, at 10am each day. This meant that the group could be together in Spirit. Also a weekly e-mail has been sent to all members and other friends - 60 in all.

We are grateful to Deana and Gerald Emerton for their hospitality to the group and hope to meet again in the coming 12 months when the restrictions are lifted.

*John & Janet Malbon*

# Flower Guild

As will have been said many times the year 2020 has been different. For the Flower Guild the Altar Flower Rota has been largely suspended and the various church festival displays within the church have had to be scaled down, all due to the Pandemic, which has affected so much of every day affairs and church life. However, if the people cannot come into the church it is incumbent on the church to go to the people. This has been manifest at the church festivals by people coming together and helping to present the Christian year as best it can.

From Lent 2020 till Harvest there were no flowers on the altar, but since then, various silk flowers have decorated the altars. On VE and VJ days poppies were displayed at the memorial commemorating 75 years. For Harvest modest displays were placed in the church and Joyce and Philip Percival formed displays outside the church.

At November Armistice Claire Lewis-Jones organised for the church ladies, the Women's Institute, and ladies from Tea at the Tower, and especially a group organised by Eileen Allwood, to knit a huge number of woolly poppies which were subsequently sown onto hessian and used to form decorations at the memorial and across the churchyard trees. This theme of poppies was extended to a display of scores of red wooden poppies on canes spread around the churchyard roadsides. These were made and painted by James Stott and Charles Hull and will be available for future displays. A group of church people should be thanked for subsequently taking down and storing this superb display which had been commented upon widely by the many who pass-by.

The next effort came together at Christmas to show that the Church was still very much part of our community and maintained an impressive presence to brighten what was otherwise a festival with a difference for many people. It started with many of the churchyard trees being illuminated by festive lights. These had been given by various sponsors



(see list below) arranged by James & Sue Stott, with a power provision from the church sponsored by the Parish (civil) Council.

Deana Emerton inspired us all with a theme "Follow that Star" based on a Nativity Scene at the east end of the church complete with Crib; Mary and Joseph with the Holy Child, Kings and Shepherds, together with a donkey

and some sheep. Around the churchyard was displayed a veritable "milky-way" of white stars on canes (echoing the poppies).

A special stable was constructed by William Emerton, assisted by his brothers and their partners and the stars were made by Mike Houlston, Paul Griffiths, James Stott, Deana Emerton and Charles Hull. Philip Percival provided "The Star" over the crib scene and with Joyce also decorated the alms-houses. Joyce took up the theme "Follow that Star"



with an organised walk around the village. The children at the school each provided a Star with a message which Claire Lewis-Jones garlanded and formed an attraction along the church paths which the school parents and others all enjoyed reading.



Inside Church Gill Evans decorated the Altar. Four Christmas trees were given and decorated by Sandra Houlston, Claire Lewis-Jones, Sue Hull and Deana Emerton who along with Jill Wright, Liz Ford, and Linda Jones, placed Garlands outside on the main church doors. Deana creates the Nativity in church in normal years but this year it was there outside for all to see and will be remembered widely, not least by the people who helped in the creation. We're not sure how many people had a near miss on Monks' Lane corner, but they could not help being aware of the fact that in this Covid Pandemic Year this Church has reached out to the people.

The sets of lights on twelve churchyard trees were sponsored by: Becky Johnson, The Whittingham Family, Jo Thomas, Sarah Pochin, Sarah & Roger Mills, Ruth & Paul Robinson, Haughton & Faddiley WI, Elizabeth Ford, The Cheshire Cat, Rosemary Shaw, Philippa & Mike Heler, Winsford.

The crib structure was sponsored by Emerton Roofing.

For Easter 2021 we anticipate creating a similar display with the Tomb and a profusion of butterflies to represent resurrection. The lilies and flowers for the garden will be paid for using donations (including those from last Easter) and the names presented will be shown on a memorial board by the Tomb. Any surplus will be retained in church funds for future dedications.

*Deana Emerton, Chair*

# (New) Kingsbourne Housing Estate

Due to Covid 19 restrictions - lockdown and no visiting allowed - all visiting to new residents was unfortunately postponed for the time being. We are grateful for those who visited when this was allowed and we need to think of how and when we resume. *John & Janet Malbon*



## Messy Church

Our celebration of Christingle in January was extra special this year as it was also our 5th birthday ... and birthdays mean cake! We sent over £200 to the Children's Society.

It was all about temptation of a different sort in February when we dramatized Jesus in the wilderness and thought about training our



*Christingle Cake*

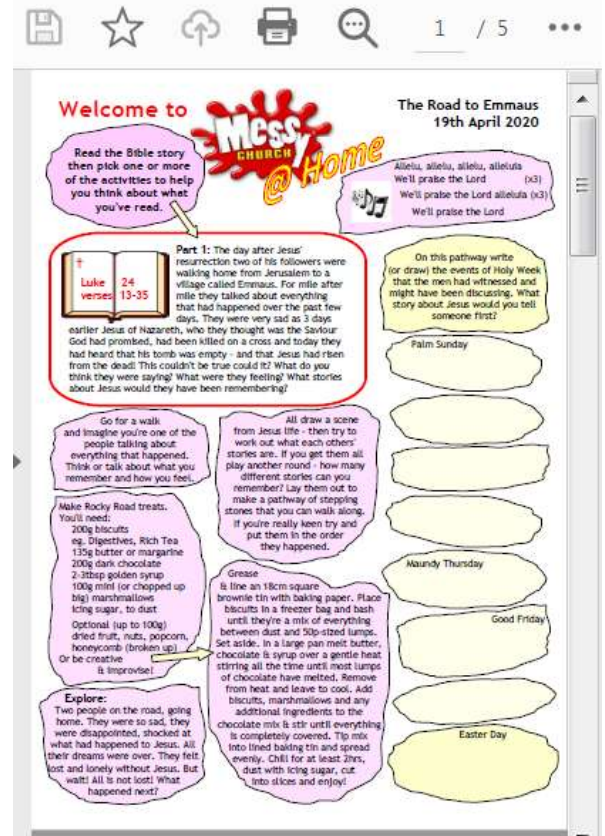
"spiritual muscles" in the upcoming season of Lent.



*Building a Tall Tower*

We used the story of Moses to explore love and care for children by parents and others at an early Mothering Sunday service. Restrictions due to the Covid threat led to some quick thinking on Rachel Percival's part - out went moulding of fondants for Mum's present and in came a chain and large pendant all made with wrapped toffees and chocolates! Tea and toast was out, but wrapped biscuits and juice, and coffee from flasks meant we could have our usual social time together at the end.

By April we were already in lockdown and the decision to start a monthly Messy Church @ Home led to the first of our monthly sessions sent out by e-mail to the regular MC members; they would also be added as a download on the Church website. We just didn't think it would be for so long! Each session has the Bible story or passage with activities and things to think about, Miriam's inspirational active prayers and Peter's thoughts on and around the topic. We have covered the Road to Emmaus, the celebration of Pentecost and the Lord's Prayer. Over the summer we did a series on St. Paul (we could *imagine* sailing round the Mediterranean even if we



"Thanksgiving Pizza" - "We Belong to God" (October 2020)

couldn't go ourselves). In October we explored belonging to God (paying taxes to Caesar or God) and it was Sainly Allsorts the following month.

In December we were invited to "Follow the Star", a walk through Dorfold ending at the Church to view the manger scene. On a freezing Christmas Eve about 120 people attended the four outdoor nativity services in front of the manager. Singing was permitted! and Peter was joined by Hilary &

Emily Howell and Emily Davies to play the music. It was good to see so many of the Messy Church families there in some great costumes.

Until it is safe to meet together again, probably outdoors, we will continue with Messy Church @ Home. It has been well received. It's a team effort but we especially thank Miriam for her brilliant presentations - she's a wonder!



Tracey & Peter Foster, Janet & John Malbon, Miriam Harvey, Lesley Latronico.

## Music



2020 started as usual with most services played on the organ. The instrument group provided music for the Plough Service at Reasheath and music for Messy Church until March (thanks Miriam Harvey, Emily Davies, Hilary and Jonathan Howell).

After then, under the restrictions to prevent the spread of coronavirus, there has been no live congregational music in the Church. Instead CDs have been used in services when held to provide a range of music.

Exceptionally at Christmas a solo singer, Jess Thayer sang carols during communion on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Outdoors rules being slightly different it was possible to provide to form a small music group (thanks to Emily Davies, Hilary and Emily Howell) to lead carol singing as part of a "rolling nativity" on Christmas Eve afternoon.

The organ continues to be tuned regularly for when some form of live music returns.

*Peter Foster*

## Parish Magazine

The production and distribution of the magazine "Insight" ceased in February as a result of the first Coronavirus lockdown. The opportunity was taken during the 2020 lockdowns to decide upon the future format of the magazine as part of the overall review into the form of communications that will be required for St. Mary's post lockdowns.

As a result of this review it was decided that St. Mary's would no longer produce a colour magazine 8 times a year being distributed free of charge to all houses in the parish primarily because it had become impossible, with the resources available, to hand deliver the magazine.

It was decided that, instead, a Newsletter would be produced monthly, put on the web-site and distributed by e-mail to all those who have subscribed to the St. Mary's e-mail directory. Hard copies would also be available in the church and in the leaflet holder on the Lyche Gate once the lockdowns have been lifted.

Currently the Vicar is producing this Newsletter and we need to locate a volunteer who is prepared to take over this task. Would anyone who is interested please contact the Vicar.

*Charles Hull*

## Sidesmen

The names of those who served on the Sidesperson's Rota in 2020 are listed below. Each and every one of you is thanked for the splendid service that you have given to St. Mary's throughout the years, always giving a warm welcome to those attending our Services.

From February onwards normal services were no longer permitted in the church and during the periods between lockdowns strict distancing and safety rules were in force for the services. This resulted in different responsibilities for the Sidespersons and thanks are given to all those who participated during these difficult periods.

Our church has a fine reputation for being a friendly one and the job you all do forms a major part of this. Thank you all and keep up the good work!

Our current Sidesmen are:

Chris & Christine Barratt  
Kitty Boot  
Elizabeth Bull  
Charles Cannon  
Pam Chadderton-Poole  
Joan Darlington  
Robert Darlington  
Stephan Davies  
Kath Edwards  
Poppy Emery  
Gill Evans  
Peter & Tracey Foster  
Ena Furber

Miriam Harvey  
Sheila Healy  
Mike & Sandra Houlston  
Charles & Susan Hull  
Stephen & Linda Jones  
Lewis-Jones Family  
Tony Mathie  
Mary McMath  
June Moss  
Philip & Joyce Percival  
Norman Phillips  
Ricky & Charles Roundell  
Fred West

*Charles Hull*

## Social Committee

At the beginning of the year our AGM planned a number of events including Table Top Sales at the Civic Hall, Concerts, our 10th annual outing to Llandudno and a celebration for the 75th VE Day Anniversary weekend.

We did start well, with a full church for the morning lecture about the Battle of Nantwich on Saturday, 25th January, when we were able to serve refreshments as people took trips up the Tower, or to the Battle site. Later that day an even larger crowd came to a lovely Rogers and Hammerstein concert given by Acton Operatic Society, more customers than cups, but a very successful evening, financially £700 for both the Church and the Operatic Society but more importantly a good link established with a long standing society in our midst.

The January and February Ladies Luncheons were enjoyed at The Badger and The Tollmache Arms.

Plans were being made for another School initiative, similar to the Advent Trail, this time telling the Easter Story through workshops and drama, but Covid 19 hit the country and all Church events came to a standstill.

The ladies of the WI, Social Committee and Tea at the Tower regulars were all knitting poppies, and we had planted 75 Red Tulips at the base of the Tower but our planned weekend had to be cancelled.

Clare Lewis Jones organized a list and members of the Social Committee rang members of the Church who were isolated, sick and housebound on a regular basis. This is still in operation and a vital part of the pastoral care we can share in the community. We were also able to support and benefit from an initiative by members of the Burland Parish Council who organized afternoon teas for the more elderly parishioners on Friday, 8th May at the start of the VE Day Anniversary weekend, which was still marked nationally.

We are lucky to have such a well placed Church in the heart of the village and, despite few services in the Church building during the Autumn, we were able to mark the festivals by decorating the outside of the Church and the Churchyard at Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas, you can read more about these in Deana's Flower Guild report.



We were grateful to Charles and Candice Roundel who allowed us access to the Dorfold Hall grounds for our "Follow the Star" walk on Sunday, 20th December. Almost 80 walkers took part despite a wet start, Father Christmas brightened their day and the weather, as they followed the Star signs and biblical texts through Dorfold Park. Many thanks to the stewards who helped on the day.

I am grateful to all the Social Committee who helped and supported the few things we were able to achieve last year and we look forward to a better 2021.

*Joyce Percival*

## Sunday Morning Refreshments



I'm very positive that we will be back to "business as usual" fairly soon and I'm always trying to recruit new helpers for when that happens.

*Kath Edwards*

## Website

The website ([www.stmarysacton.com](http://www.stmarysacton.com)) continues to be updated weekly to reflect the planned events. The Messy Church page is also updated direct regularly by the leaders. The national "A Church Near You" website is updated as necessary. Thank you to those who have provided material. The website will change appearance in May 2021 due to a forced change by Google but will continue to be updated.

*Clive Evans*

**St Mary's Church, Acton**

**Financial Statements  
of the  
Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

**Incumbent from 1st April 2014:**

The Reverend S Anne Lawson  
St Mary's Vicarage  
15 Chester Road  
Acton  
Nantwich  
Cheshire CW5 8LG

**Bank:**

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc  
Drummond House (J) Branch  
1 Redheughs Avenue  
Edinburgh EH12 9JN

**Independent examiner:**

Lyon Griffiths Ltd.  
17 Alvaston Business Park  
Middlewich Road  
Nantwich  
Cheshire CW5 6PF

**Charity Registration Number: 1143904**

## Parochial Church Council of St Mary's, Acton, Nantwich

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Mary's, Acton.

Page 1

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 2 to 7.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examiner's work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the charity, the charity's members as a body and the charity's trustees as a body for my independent examiner's work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act)

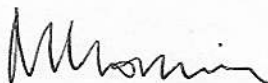
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view', which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Robert Morris, Chartered Accountant

For Lyon Griffiths Limited, 17 Alvaston Business Park, Nantwich, CW5 6PF.

Date: 2nd June 2021

**SOFA - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 December 2020**

Note		unrestricted	restricted	restricted	designated	Total	Total
		General	Churchyard	Fabric	Flower		
		Fund	Fund	Fund	Guild	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>							
1	Voluntary Income	28,905	4,223	1,399	30	34,557	40,155
2	Fees, advertising and fund-raising	10,360	-	-	-	10,360	30,247
3	Income from investments	3,452	-	-	-	3,452	5,224
4	Other income	4,674	-	-	-	4,674	15,370
5	Legacies	-	-	-	-	0	0
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>47,392</b>	<b>4,223</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>53,043</b>	<b>90,995</b>
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
6	Chester Diocese & Deanery	40,520	-	-	-	40,520	40,994
7	Costs of church work	4,386	-	-	-	4,386	11,427
8	Administration & Outreach Projects	6,766	-	-	-	6,766	8,963
9	Churchyard maintenance	-	6,624	-	-	6,624	8,653
10	Church fabric maintenance	-	-	9,606	-	9,606	8,208
11	Other costs	4,033	-	-	-	4,033	12,989
12	Major expenditure	-	-	29,643	-	29,643	35,333
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>55,705</b>	<b>6,624</b>	<b>39,249</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,578</b>	<b>126,568</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS &amp; LOSSES</b>		<b>(8,314)</b>	<b>(2,401)</b>	<b>(37,850)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(48,535)</b>	<b>(35,572)</b>
Gains/(losses) on investment assets:							
	on disposal	-	-	-	-	0	8,155
*	on revaluation	6,457	-	-	-	6,457	14,796
	on acquisition	-	-	-	-	0	0
	on transfer between funds	(37,850)	-	37,850	-	0	0
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(39,707)</b>	<b>(2,401)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(42,078)</b>	<b>(12,621)</b>
<b>BALANCES B/F 1 JANUARY</b>		<b>278,202</b>	<b>54,662</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>335,032</b>	<b>347,653</b>
<b>BALANCES C/F 31 DECEMBER</b>		<b>238,495</b>	<b>52,261</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,198</b>	<b>292,954</b>	<b>335,032</b>
Percentage change in reserves year on year		-14.3%	-4.4%	0.0%	1.4%	-12.6%	-3.6%
Checks:		0	0	0	0	(0)	0

The notes referred to by number on the left hand side above, relate to pages 4 to 7 which follow this page and form part of these accounts.

\* This revaluation applies to the holdings in the CBF Investment funds.

Please note: These financial statements have been prepared on the 'Accruals' basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005. The historical cost convention is used except for the valuation of investment assets which are shown at market value.

## Balance sheet at 31 December 2020

	<i>unrestricted</i> General Fund £	<i>restricted</i> Churchyard Fund £	<i>restricted</i> Fabric Fund £	<i>designated</i> Flower Guild £	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
* Tangible	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	142,355	-	-	-	142,355	135,898
	<u>142,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>142,355</u>	<u>135,898</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-term deposits	95,487	52,261	-	2,198	149,946	198,196
Cash at bank and in hand	653	-	-	-	653	938
	<u>96,140</u>	<u>52,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,198</u>	<u>150,599</u>	<u>199,134</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Creditors	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<u>238,495</u>	<u>52,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,198</u>	<u>292,954</u>	<u>335,032</u>
Checks:	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	0	0

The notes referred to on the left hand side above, relate to pages 4 to 7 which follow this page and form part of these accounts.

**FIXED ASSETS - Tangible**

Consecrated land or buildings and other property within the bounds of the church do not require a valuation where reliable cost information is not available and conventional valuation approaches (such as current cost of construction) lack sufficient reliability. This applies to the almshouses and the HearseHouse.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are 'inalienable' property, listed in the church's inventory.

Assets acquired prior to 2007 were not valued in the financial statements.

Items costing less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

The purchase of land for an additional graveyard area in 2010 cost £37,500; the value of this land has not currently been included in the valuation of Fixed Assets in the above schedule.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on: 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

and signed on its behalf by the PCC chairman:

S. Anne Lawson.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ending 31st December 2020

GENERAL FUND INCOME (unrestricted)	12 months			12 months
	Actual 2020	Plus or minus	Budget 2020	2019
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>1 Voluntary Income:</b>				
Planned giving - includes envelopes and standing orders	15,697.39	-2%	16,000	19,435.00
Income tax recovered	4,718.91	-41%	8,000	8,558.15
Loose cash in collections	1,480.74	-41%	2,500	3,997.81
Collections & Donations at Weddings & Funerals	1,372.00	-54%	3,000	2,054.49
Random donations	5,636.43	88%	3,000	651.40
	<b>28,905.47</b>	<b>-11%</b>	<b>32,500</b>	<b>34,696.85</b>
<b>2 Fees, advertising and fund-raising:</b>				
Proportion of Wedding & Funeral fees	6,926.30	-8%	7,500	7,142
a) Magazine advertising revenue and donations	30.00	-100%	7,500	8,140
Community Events (Social Committee)	3,404.06	-72%	12,000	14,965
	<b>10,360.36</b>	<b>-62%</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>30,247</b>
<b>3 Income from investments:</b>				
Interest from investments	3,452.11	58%	2,181	1,439
<b>4 Other income:</b>				
b) Contribution from sister parishes	4,435.64	30%	3,402	4,223
b) Youth related income	148.99	-89%	1,348	1,329
Sundry income	89.00	-64%	250	2,789
	<b>4,673.63</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>8,341</b>
Recovery of VAT				
<b>5 Legacies</b>	0.00		0	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>47,391.57</b>	<b>-29%</b>	<b>66,681</b>	<b>74,723</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND - exc. Legacies &amp; Major Projects</b>	<b>47,391.57</b>	<b>-29%</b>	<b>66,681</b>	<b>74,723</b>
a) Magazine advertising revenue:				
Net cost of magazine after advertising income and donations:	1,856		44	596
of which amount payable by St Mary's Acton was:	1,429		34	(459)

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ending 31st December 2020

continued

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES (unrestricted)	12 months			12 months
	Actual 2020	Plus or minus	Budget 2020	2019
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
<b>6 Chester Diocese &amp; Deanery:</b>				
Parish share	39,222.12	5%	37,332	38,265
Misc. (mainly DBF fees)	1,298.00	-57%	3,000	2,729
	<b>40,520.12</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>40,332</b>	<b>40,994</b>
<b>7 Costs of church work:</b>				
Magazine printing costs	1,886.00	-75%	7,544	7,544
Organist & Verger at weddings etc.	1,425.50	-29%	2,000	1,390
Clergy fees and lay workers' expenses	687.55	-54%	1,500	1,700
Vestments (candles, bread and wine)	119.95	-60%	300	340
Organ and piano servicing	195.00	-3%	200	240
Membership fees	72.00	-54%	155	213
	<b>4,386.00</b>	<b>-63%</b>	<b>11,699</b>	<b>11,427</b>
<b>8 Administration:</b>				
Vicarage running costs (tel., water and council tax)	2,446.90	2%	2,400	2,474
Stationery and photocopying	2,163.56	31%	1,650	2,729
Secretary	1,549.50	-48%	3,000	2,687
Copyright licence	325.98	2%	320	313
Subscriptions	212.00	112%	100	216
	<b>6,697.94</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>7,470</b>	<b>8,418</b>
<b>8 Outreach Projects:</b>				
Youth Work expenses	68.29	-93%	1,000	545
Misc: including Life Skill expenses	0.00		0	0
	<b>68.29</b>	<b>-93%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>545</b>
<b>11 Other costs:</b>				
Contribution to Oil & Electricity costs	2,140.44	-62%	5,600	5,762
a) Charitable giving	235.00	-91%	2,500	3,040
Sundry expenses ( <i>inc music</i> )	866.62	-13%	1,000	2,825
b) Community Events (Social Committee) expenses	790.72	-21%	1,000	1,197
	<b>4,032.78</b>	<b>-60%</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>12,823</b>
c) Major repairs and alterations	0.00	-100%	25,000	5,339
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>55,705.13</b>	<b>-42%</b>	<b>95,601</b>	<b>79,547</b>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED exc Legacies & Major Projects	55,705.13	-21%	70,601	74,208
<b>GENERAL FUND SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(8,313.56)</b>	<b>20,607</b>	<b>(28,920)</b>	<b>(4,823)</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND SURPLUS excluding Legacies &amp; Major Projects</b>	<b>(8,313.56)</b>	<b>(4,393)</b>	<b>(3,920)</b>	<b>516</b>
a) Charitable giving:		Percentage:		
		calculated in relation to total Voluntary income of:		
		0.8%	7.7%	8.8%
		26,905	32,500	34,697
b) Community Events (Social Committee) - calculated net fund-raising	2,613		11,000	13,769

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ending 31st December 2020

continued

CHURCHYARD FUND (restricted)	12 months			12 months
	Actual 2020	Plus or minus	Budget 2020	2019
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>1 Voluntary Income:</b>				
Funeral & Burial fees, donations etc.	4,223.40	-47%	8,000	3,430
<b>3 Income from investments:</b>				
Interest from all investments	0.00	-100%	2,000	2,474
<b>5 Legacies:</b>	0.00		0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,223.40</b>	<b>-58%</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>5,904</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>12 Major expenditure:</b>				
Lychgate retention	0.00		0	3,810
<b>9 Churchyard maintenance etc:</b>				
Labour	6,250.00	-5%	6,600	6,400
General repairs and maintenance	0.00	-100%	500	210
Contribution to Insurance	0.00	-100%	1,400	1,361
Machinery, fuel, repairs and hire	374.26	-70%	1,250	681
DBF fees	0.00		0	0
Misc. inc. Organist & Verger at funerals	0.00		0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6,624.26</b>	<b>-32%</b>	<b>9,750</b>	<b>12,463</b>
<b>CHURCHYARD FUND SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(2,400.86)</b>	<b>(2,651)</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>(6,558)</b>
<b>CHURCHYARD FUND SURPLUS excl. Legacies &amp; Major Projects</b>	<b>(2,400.86)</b>	<b>(2,651)</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>(2,748)</b>

FABRIC FUND (restricted)	12 months			12 months
	Actual 2020	Plus or minus	Budget 2020	2019
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>1 Voluntary Income:</b>				
Proportion of Wedding & Funeral fees + donations	1,399.30	-48%	2,700	1,777
<b>3 Income from investments:</b>				
Interest from all investments	0.00	-100%	2,000	1,311
<b>4 Other income:</b>				
Net VAT claim	0.00	-9%	5,000	4,529
Grant	0.00		0	2,500
Misc. income	0.00	-100%	150	0
<b>5 Legacies:</b>	0.00		0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,399.30</b>	<b>-86%</b>	<b>9,850</b>	<b>10,117</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>12 Major expenditure:</b>				
a) Major repairs and alterations	29,643.07	5%	25,000	26,184
<b>10 Church fabric maintenance:</b>				
Running costs - inc. share of Electricity, Oil & Insurance	6,570.49	46%	4,500	3,484
b) General repairs and maintenance	3,035.46	21%	2,500	4,724
<b>Total:</b>	<b>39,249.02</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>34,392</b>
<b>FABRIC FUND SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(37,849.72)</b>	<b>(15,700)</b>	<b>(22,150)</b>	<b>(24,275)</b>
<b>FABRIC FUND SURPLUS excluding Legacies &amp; Major projects</b>	<b>(8,206.65)</b>	<b>(11,057)</b>	<b>2,850</b>	<b>1,909</b>

a) Major Projects: Works carried out by Mallett Stonemasonry Ltd £23,376, Architect (stonework repairs) £575, Roofing (lead flashings) £1,686, Toilet £4,006

b) General repairs and maintenance: Audio equipment £208, Roof repairs £600, Trees £650, Lighting £553, Alarm £1,024

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ending 31st December 2020

continued

FLOWER GUILD (designated)	12 months			12 months
	Actual 2020	Plus or minus	Budget 2020	2019
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
<b>1 Voluntary Income:</b>				
Easter Lily surplus	30.00		120	250
General donations	0.00		0	0
<b>3 Income from investments:</b>				
Bank interest	0.00		0	0
	<u>30.00</u>		<u>120</u>	<u>250</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
<b>11 Other costs:</b>				
Easter Lily purchases	0.00		0	166
General Flower & Oasis purchases	0.00		0	0
Flower festival payments	0.00		0	0
	<u>0.00</u>		<u>0</u>	<u>166</u>
<b>FLOWER GUILD SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>(90)</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>84</b>
<small>Flower Guild balances transferred to PCC Account April 2018</small>				
<b>ALL FUNDS SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(48,534.14)</b>	<b>2,166</b>	<b>(50,700)</b>	<b>(35,573)</b>
<b>ALL FUNDS SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)</b> <b>excluding Legacies &amp; Major projects</b>	<b>(18,891.07)</b>	<b>(18,191)</b>	<b>(700)</b>	<b>(239)</b>