

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales · Charity number 1149115

Details

Other names	SHEERING ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2012-09-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Vicarage Broomfields Hatfield Heath Bishop's Stortford CM22 7EH
Phone	01279730288
Email	rev.sophie.weller@gmail.com
Website	https://www.thesixvillages.org/sheering.html

Activities

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

Activities: St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest in Charge, the Rev (Mrs) Sophie Helen Weller, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, Church Room and grounds.

Classification

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

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£36,650	£39,756	-	-
2023-12-31	£41,368	£38,205	-	-
2022-12-31	£29,447	£32,251	-	-
2021-12-31	£32,557	£33,880	-	-
2020-12-31	£34,122	£29,182	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Sophie Helen Weller	Chair	2024-09-23
Barbara Aylmer		2022-05-08
Dr Nandiran Ratnavel		2021-05-23
ELSIE JOAN BAKER		2016-04-17
FIONA MARGARET KLIMCKE		2017-04-01
MRS J A POTTER		2012-09-09

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales - Charity number 1149115

Accounts

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FOR

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149115

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

St Mary's Church is situated in Church Lane, Sheering. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Broomfields, Hatfield Heath, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7EH.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1149115).

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until the date this Report was approved are:

Incumbent: The Revd Sophie Weller (Since 23 September 2024)

Chair: The Revd Sophie Weller (Since 23 September 2024)

Vice Chair: Mrs Jane Potter

Wardens: Mrs Jane Potter

Treasurer: Mrs Jean Franks (Acting)

Secretary: Mrs Elsie Baker

Representatives on Deanery Synod: Mrs Jane Potter
Mrs Fiona Klimcke (from April 2024)

Elected members: Mrs Barbara Aylmer
Mrs Elsie Baker
Mrs Fiona Klimcke (until April 2024)
Dr Nandiran Ratnavel
Mrs Lydia Taylor (until November 2024)

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc
Leicester,
LE87 2BB

National Westminster Bank Plc
12 The Rows
Harlow
Essex. CM20 1BZ

Independent examiner: Rev Malcolm Green BA (Hons)
5 The Gowers
Harlow
Essex CM20 2JP.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Church is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation rules that came into force in 2020 and subsequent amendments.

Structure:

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities:

St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, Church Room and grounds.

Committees:

The PCC operates through committees, and also receives reports and advice from various groups which may meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Finance Committee:

Oversees the general finance dimension of the work of St Mary's by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the annual review of the Christian Stewardship of money through planned giving.

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to the stewardship of plant, such as the church buildings and fabric, the churchyard (including overseeing the implementation of the Diocesan churchyard regulations).

Church attendance: There are no new members on the Electoral Roll which now stands at 42, with 17 non-resident.

The Parish Count in October averaged 17 adults and 0 children per Sunday.

Review of the year

The full PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 79%.

In addition the PCC was convened twice for single-topic decisions.(re the Parish Profile and to consider options for the dissolution of the archdeaconry of Harlow.

Committees met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed.

The Church was used throughout the year for one wedding, one baptism and 3 funerals.

Harvest was celebrated over the weekend of 21/22 September 2024 with teas and stalls in the Church Room and a service in Church with harvest gifts donated to Harlow Foodbank and Streets2Homes. At that service bibles were presented to children from the Reception Class at Sheering School.

St Mary's Brass provided the music for A Christmas Singalong with Mulled Wine in the Village Hall on 6th December (£381 sent to Crisis at Christmas) and also played Christmas music at an event in The Cock Inn (£376 donated to Friends of St. Mary's funds).

A separate group of musicians led carol singing round the village (£87.44 collected and sent to TearFund and further funds were donated via a JustGiving web page), A Christmas card in Church raised £67 for Crisis at Christmas. The offering from the Christingle service (£51.65) was sent to The Children's Society. Friends of St. Mary's hosted one fund-raising event, a quiz in the Village Hall.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Financial review (detailed in the Financial Statements)

Income

Total Income for the year was £31,395 (unrestricted) and £5,255 (restricted).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £28,173 expended from general funds and £11,583 expended from restricted funds.

The accounts showed an excess of income over expenditure for the year of £3,222 in our unrestricted funds. This meant that the balance of our unrestricted funds increased from £9,117 at the end of the last financial year to £11,338 at the end of this financial year (including a transfer of £1,002 to a new restricted bureau costs fund).

The charitable giving for the year amounted to £139.

The ongoing Parish Share contribution (for Diocesan provision) represents a significant challenge, and the PCC continues in its endeavours to meet this in order that the work of spreading the good news of Jesus can continue to be effective and relevant in our Parish. Our Parish Share contribution during the year was £17,336 and we expect a small increase for 2025,

Public benefit statement

In shaping the Church's objectives and planning the activities, the PCC members have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A thank you to all.

Finally, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to express thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing financial support during 2024 which has been another very challenging year in both our Church and in the wider world due to continuing unease around the world and the financial pressures in the wider economy. I would also like to express thanks to everybody who helps with the smooth running of St. Mary's finances, particularly Philip Taylor who has supported me in my role, and whose invaluable help I greatly rely upon; Jane Potter who, together with Philip Taylor and myself, make up our finance committee; Philip Taylor helping with monitoring the accounts; Jane Potter faithfully dealing with reclaim of Gift Aid tax; Vernon Baker and Philip Taylor who help to look after collections; and Elsie Baker who oversees the finances for Friends of St. Mary's.

A special thanks is also extended to our Independent Examiner, the Reverend Malcolm Green who audits our accounts annually without charge. His generosity and support are very much appreciated.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 7th April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mrs Jane Potter
Vice Chair of the PCC

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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.

Signed.....

Date.....

Rev M Green
Independent Examiner

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	30,144	5,255	-	35,400	37,125
Income from charitable activities	669	-	-	669	3,671
Investments	581	-	-	581	572
Total income	31,395	5,255	-	36,650	41,368
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	20	-	20	237
Expenditure on charitable activities	27,674	11,563	-	39,238	37,521
Other expenditure	498	-	-	498	446
Total expenditure	28,173	11,583	-	39,756	38,205
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	3,221	(6,328)	-	(3,106)	3,162
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	1,001	-	1,001	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	(1,002)	-	-	(1,002)	-
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	479	479	1,814
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets,	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	2,220	(5,327)	479	(2,627)	4,976
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	9,117	3,760	20,932	33,810	28,834
Total funds carried forward	11,338	(1,566)	21,411	31,184	33,810

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Balance Sheet (Summary)

	As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Fixed assets		
Tangible Assets	21,411	20,932
	21,411	20,932
Current assets		
Debtors	664	1,136
Cash At Bank And In Hand	17,073	15,835
	17,738	16,971
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	7,965	4,092
	7,965	4,092
Net current assets less current liabilities	9,772	12,878
Total assets less current liabilities	31,184	33,810
Liabilities	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	31,184	33,810
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General Funds	11,338	9,117
Designated		
Restricted - Bureau Costs Reserve	1,001	-
Restricted - Flower Fund	159	169
Restricted - Friends Of St Mary's	(2,727)	3,591
Endowment		
Endowment - Scoones Bequest	8,948	8,748
Endowment - Williams Bequest	12,463	12,184
Fund Totals	31,184	33,810

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. Statutory Information

St Mary the Virgin is an unincorporated charity, registered in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sheering. The principal office is detailed on page 1 of the financial statements. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements comply with section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practises applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accurate basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the yearend date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Investments

Investments comprise a managed investment fund. Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities.

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Analysis of income and expenditure

Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	General	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Gift Aid - Bank	3,166	1,925	5,091	4,290
Other planned giving	10,797	150	10,947	13,828
Loose plate collections	1,478	-	1,478	1,527
Giving through church boxes	154	-	154	-
One-off Gift Aid gifts	204	10	214	2,680
Donations appeals etc	6,181	1,687	7,868	5,761
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	1,522	501	2,023	5,836
Legacies	6,179	-	6,179	-
Non-recurring one-off grants	-	-	-	950
Other funds generated	460	981	1,442	2,251
Donations and legacies Totals	30,144	5,255	35,400	37,125
Income from charitable activities				
Fees for weddings and funerals	669	-	669	3,671
Income from charitable activities Totals	669	-	669	3,671
Investments				
Dividends	581	-	581	572
Investments Totals	581	-	581	572
Income and endowments Grand totals	31,395	5,255	36,650	41,368

The charity also receives fees for weddings, funerals and other related services, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance and other service providers. Neither these receipts nor their subsequent payments are recognised in income and expenditure.

(Expenditure appears on the next page)

Expenditure on:	General	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
Raising funds				
Fees paid to fund raisers	-	-	-	50
Costs of fetes & other events	-	20	20	187
Raising funds Totals	-	20	20	237
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Giving to missionary societies	0	-	0	938
Giving - relief and development agencies	139	-	139	-
Home mission	-	-	-	156
Secular charities	(67)	-	(67)	25
Ministry parish share etc	17,336	-	17,336	16,646
Assistant staff costs	6	-	6	-
Salary of parish administrator	2,358	-	2,358	2,401
Working expenses of incumbent	156	-	156	221
Vicar's telephone	52	-	52	-
Church running - insurance	3,059	-	3,059	2,926
Organ / piano tuning	-	-	-	20
Church maintenance	-	1,679	1,679	410
Upkeep of services	1,784	10	1,794	2,143
Upkeep of churchyard	-	33	33	30
Administration	601	81	682	1,976
Church running - electric	1,538	-	1,538	2,988
Church running - water	244	-	244	346
Hall running - electricity	463	-	463	1,474
Hall running - maintenance	-	9,760	9,760	4,395
Governance costs examination/audit fee	-	-	-	421
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	27,674	11,563	39,238	37,521
Other expenditure				
Payroll Bureau costs	498	-	498	446
Other expenditure Totals	498	-	498	446
Expenditure Grand totals	28,173	11,583	39,756	38,205
Grand Total (Income less Expenditure)	3,222	(6,328)	(3,106)	3,163

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by code)
As at: 31 December 2024

Class and nominal code	General (Unrestricted)	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2024	Last year 2023
Fixed Asset - Tangible Assets					
6430: Williams Bequest	-	-	12,463	12,463	12,184
6431: Scoones Bequest	-	-	8,948	8,948	8,748
Total	-	-	21,411	21,411	20,932
Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand					
6501: Bank current account	11,552	158	-	11,710	12,557
6505: Bank Friends account	103	5,100	-	5,204	3,109
6590: Cash in hand	-	159	-	159	169
Total	11,655	5,417	-	17,073	15,835
Current Asset - Debtors					
Z05: Accounts Receivable	(77)	741	-	664	1,136
Total	(77)	741	-	664	1,136
Liability - Agency Accounts					
6699: Agency collections	-	74	-	74	13
Total	-	74	-	74	13
Liability - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year					
6601: Loans received	-	7,650	-	7,650	-
Z04: Accounts Payable	240	-	-	240	4,079
Total	240	7,650	-	7,890	4,079
Net total assets	11,338	(1,566)	21,411	31,184	33,810

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
BureauFnd - Bureau Costs Reserve	-	-	-	1,001	-	1,001
Flower - Flower Fund	169	-	10	-	-	159
Friends - Friends Of St Mary's	3,591	5,255	11,573	-	-	(2,727)
Scoones - Scoones Bequest	8,748	-	-	-	200	8,948
Williams - Williams Bequest	12,184	-	-	-	278	12,463
General - General fund	9,117	31,395	28,173	(1,002)	-	11,338
Totals	33,810	36,650	39,756	-	479	31,184

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales - Charity number 1149115

Accounts

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FOR

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149115

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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

Incumbent:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Chair:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Vice Chair:	Mrs Jane Potter (since 7 May 2023)
Wardens:	Mrs Elsie Baker (until 7 May 2023) Mrs Fiona Klimcke
Treasurer:	Mrs Jean Franks
Secretary:	Mrs Elsie Baker
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Mrs Jane Potter
Elected members:	Mrs Barbara Aylmer Mr Nandiran Ratnavel Mr Stuart McCulloch (until 4 December 2023) Mrs Sarah McCulloch (until 4 December 2023) Mrs Lydia Taylor
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc 10 North Street Bishops Stortford Herts. CM23 2LH
	National Westminster Bank Plc 12 The Rows Harlow Essex. CM20 1BZ
Independent examiner:	Rev Malcolm Green BA (Hons) 5 The Gowers Harlow Essex CM20 2JP.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

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Finance Committee:

Oversees the general finance dimension of the work of St Mary's by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the annual review of the Christian Stewardship of money through planned giving.

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to the stewardship of plant, such as the church buildings and fabric, the churchyard (including overseeing the implementation of the Diocesan churchyard regulations).

Church attendance:

At the APCM 2023 there were 44 people on the Electoral Roll, 19 being non-resident. During the year 2 members moved away. There are no new members on the Roll which now stands at 42, with 17 non-resident.

The Parish Count in October averaged 20 adults and 0 children per Sunday.

Review of the year

The full PCC met 9 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. In addition the PCC was convened once by email for a single-topic decision. Committees met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed.

The Church was used throughout the year for 4 weddings, 0 baptisms and 6 funerals.

Harvest was celebrated over the weekend of 23/24 September 2023 with teas and stalls in the Church Room and a service in Church with harvest gifts donated to Harlow Foodbank and Streets2Homes. At that service bibles were presented to children from the Reception Class at Sheering School.

St Mary's Brass provided the music for Carols and Mulled Wine in the Village Hall in December (£351 sent to Crisis at Christmas) and also played Christmas music at an event in The Cock Inn (£62 donated to Friends of St. Mary's funds). A separate group of musicians led carol singing round the village (£136.11 sent to TearFund), A Christmas card in Church raised £151.08 for Crisis at Christmas.

Friends of St. Mary's hosted three fund-raising events: A quiz in the Village Hall, a concert in church with local musicians and a Wildlife talk in the Church Room. A moth-trapping evening in the churchyard identified over 120 species

The Bishop consecrated an extension to the churchyard on 15 November 2023.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Financial review (detailed in the Financial Statements)

Income

Total Income for the year was £35,469 (unrestricted) and £5,898 (restricted).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £32,811 expended from general funds and £5,394 expended from restricted funds.

The accounts showed an excess of income over expenditure for the year of £2,658 in our unrestricted funds. This meant that the balance of our unrestricted funds increased from £6,459 at the end of the last financial year to £9,117 at the end of this financial year.

The charitable giving for the year amounted to £1,119

The ongoing Parish Share contribution (for Diocesan provision) represents a significant challenge, and the PCC continues in its endeavours to meet this in order that the work of spreading the good news of Jesus can continue to be effective and relevant in our Parish. Our Parish Share contribution has been fixed at £16,646 this year because, for the first time in many years, we share the cost equally with Holy Trinity, Hatfield Heath.

Public benefit statement

In shaping the Church's objectives and planning the activities, the PCC members have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A thank you to all.

Finally, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to express thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing financial support during 2023 which was another very challenging year in both our Church and in the wider world due to continuing unease around the world and the financial pressures in the wider economy. I would also like to express thanks to everybody who helps with the smooth running of St. Mary's finances, particularly Philip Taylor who has supported me in my role, and whose invaluable help I greatly rely upon; Jane Potter who, together with Philip Taylor and myself, make up our finance committee; Philip Taylor helping with monitoring the accounts and producing financial reports for PCC meetings and Jane Potter faithfully dealing with reclaim of Gift Aid tax; Vernon Baker and Philip Taylor who look after collections; and Elsie Baker who oversees the finances for Friends of St. Mary's.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mrs Jean Franks, Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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.

Signed.....

Date..... 23rd April 2024.....

Rev M Green
Independent Examiner

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>					
Donations and legacies	31,226	5,898	—	37,125	24,895
Income from charitable activities	3,671	—	—	3,671	2,451
Investments	572	—	—	572	569
Other income	—	—	—	—	1,532
Total income	35,469	5,898	—	41,368	29,447
<i>Expenditure on:</i>					
Raising funds	60	176	—	237	—
Expenditure on charitable activities	32,303	5,217	—	37,521	35,251
Other expenditure	446	—	—	446	—
Total expenditure	32,811	5,394	—	38,205	35,251
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	1,814	1,814	(2,537)
Net income / (expenditure) resources	2,658	503	1,814	4,976	(8,341)
<i>Transfers</i>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	0
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—	0
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>					
Net movement in funds	2,658	503	1,814	4,976	(8,341)
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
Total funds brought forward	6,459	3,256	19,118	28,834	37,176
Total funds carried forward	9,117	3,760	20,932	33,810	28,834
<i>There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown</i>					

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Balance sheet (Summary) As at: 31 December 2023

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	20,932	19,118
	<u>20,932</u>	<u>19,118</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	1,136	1,623
Cash at bank and in hand	15,835	10,493
	<u>16,971</u>	<u>12,116</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	4,092	2,400
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>12,878</u>	<u>9,716</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>33,810</u>	<u>28,834</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>33,810</u>	<u>28,834</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	9,117	6,459
Restricted		
Restricted - Flower Fund	169	169
Restricted - Friends Of St Marv's	3,591	3,087
Restricted - Len Gunn Bequest	—	—
Restricted - Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	—	—
Endowment		
Endowment - Scoones Bequest	8,748	7,989
Endowment - Williams Bequest	12,184	11,128
Funds of the church	<u>33,810</u>	<u>28,834</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1. Statutory Information

St Mary the Virgin is an unincorporated charity, registered in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sheering. The principle office is detailed on page 1 of the financial statements. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements comply with section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practises applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accurate basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the yearend date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Investments

Investments comprise a managed investment fund. Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities.

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income and endowments				
<i>Donations and legacies</i>				
Gift Aid - Bank	3,540	750	4,290	4,981
Other planned giving	13,753	75	13,828	10,595
Loose plate collections	1,527	—	1,527	2,000
One-off Gift Aid gifts	2,680	—	2,680	—
Donations appeals etc	3,269	2,492	5,761	2,411
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	4,888	947	5,836	3,932
Non-recurring one-off grants	950	—	950	—
Other funds generated	617	1,634	2,251	974
<i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	31,226	5,898	37,125	24,895
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>				
Fees for weddings and funerals	3,671	—	3,671	2,451
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	3,671	—	3,671	2,451
<i>Investments</i>				
Dividends	572	—	572	569
<i>Investments Totals</i>	572	—	572	569
<i>Other income</i>				
Insurance claims	—	—	—	1,532
<i>Other income Totals</i>	—	—	—	1,532
Income and endowments	35,469	5,898	41,368	29,447
Grand totals				

The charity also receives fees for weddings, funerals and other related services, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance and other service providers. Neither these receipts nor their subsequent payments are recognised in income and expenditure.

(Expenditure appears on the next page)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Expenditure				
<i>Raising funds</i>				
Fees paid to fund raisers	—	50	50	—
Costs of fetes & other events	60	126	187	—
<i>Raising funds Totals</i>	60	176	237	—
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Giving to missionary societies	938	—	938	—
Giving - relief and development agencies	—	—	—	386
Home mission	156	—	156	20
Secular charities	25	—	25	—
Ministry parish share etc	16,646	—	16,646	16,000
Salary of parish administrator	2,401	—	2,401	1,871
Working expenses of incumbent	221	—	221	184
Church running - insurance	2,926	—	2,926	2,476
Organ / piano tuning	20	—	20	440
Church maintenance	—	410	410	3,881
Upkeep of services	2,143	—	2,143	2,745
Upkeep of churchyard	—	30	30	3,894
Administration	1,976	—	1,976	419
Church running - electric	2,988	—	2,988	1,473
Church running - water	346	—	346	357
Hall running - electricity	1,474	—	1,474	811
Hall running - maintenance	—	4,395	4,395	250
Governance costs examination/audit fee	40	381	421	40
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	32,303	5,217	37,521	35,251
<i>Other expenditure</i>				
Payroll Bureau costs	446	—	446	—
<i>Other expenditure Totals</i>	446	—	446	—
Expenditure Grand totals	32,811	5,394	38,205	35,251
<i>There may be minor discrepancies in the totals as the pence are not being shown</i>				
GRAND TOTAL	2,658	504	3,163	(5,804)

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at: 31 December 2023

Class and nominal code	General	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2023	Last year 2022
Fixed assets - Tangible assets					
6430 : Williams Bequest	—	—	12,184	12,184	11,128
6431 : Scoones Bequest	—	—	8,748	8,748	7,990
Total	—	—	20,932	20,932	19,118
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand					
6501 : Bank current account	12,461	97	—	12,557	6,978
6505 : Bank Friends account	104	3,006	—	3,109	3,346
6590 : Cash in hand	—	169	—	169	169
Total	12,564	3,271	—	15,835	10,493
Current assets - Debtors					
Z05 : Accounts Receivable	(416)	1553	—	1136	1623
Total	(416)	1553	—	1136	1623
Liabilities - Agency accounts					
6699 : Agency collections	—	13	—	13	15
Total	—	13	—	13	15
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year					
Z04 : Accounts Payable	3,030	1,050	—	4,080	2,385
Total	3,030	1,050	—	4,080	2,385
Net total assets	9,118	3,761	20,932	33,811	28,834
Represented by					
Unrestricted - General	9,118	—	—	9,118	6,459
Restricted - Flower	—	169	—	169	169
Restricted - Friends	—	3,592	—	3,592	3,088
Endowment - Scoones	—	—	8,748	8,748	7,990
Endowment - Williams	—	—	12,184	12,184	11,128
Total	9,118	3,761	20,932	33,811	28,834

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Fund movement summary

Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
Flower - Flower Fund	169	—	—	—	169
Friends - Friends Of St Mary's	3,087	5,898	(5,394)	—	3,591
Scoones - Scoones Bequest	7,989	—	—	758	8,748
Williams - Williams Bequest	11,128	—	—	1,056	12,184
General - General fund	6,459	35,469	(32,811)	—	9,117
Totals	28,834	41,368	(38,205)	1,814	33,810

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales - Charity number 1149115

Accounts

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
FOR
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149115

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

St Mary's Church is situated in Church Lane, Sheering. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Broomfields, Hatfield Heath, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7EH.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1149115).

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this Report was approved are:

Incumbent:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Chair:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Vice Chair:	Mrs Jane Potter
Wardens:	Mrs Elsie Baker Mrs Fiona Klimcke
Treasurer:	Mrs Jean Franks
Secretary:	Mrs Elsie Baker
Representative on Deanery Synod:	Mrs Jane Potter
Elected members:	Mrs Barbara Aylmer Mr Nandiran Ratnavel Mrs Lydia Taylor
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc 10 North Street Bishops Stortford Herts. CM23 2LH
	National Westminster Bank Plc 12 The Rows Harlow Essex. CM20 1BZ
Independent examiner:	Rev Malcolm Green BA (Hons) 5 The Gowers Harlow Essex CM20 2JP.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The church is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation rules that came into force in 2020 and subsequent amendments.

Structure:

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities:

St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, the Rev Dawn Jewson, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, Church Room and grounds.

Committees

The PCC operates through committees, and also receives reports and advice from various groups which may meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Finance Committee:

Oversees the general finance dimension of the work of St Mary's by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the annual review of the Christian Stewardship of money through planned giving.

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to the stewardship of plant, such as the church buildings and fabric, the churchyard (including overseeing the implementation of the Diocesan churchyard regulations).

Church attendance:

At the APCM 2022 there were 41 people on the Electoral Roll, 18 being non-resident. During the year some members died. There are a number of new members on the Roll which now stands at 43, with 19 non-resident.

The Parish Count in October averaged 20 adults and 2 children per Sunday.

Review of the year

The full PCC met 7 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 73%. The first meeting was held via Zoom. Committees met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed.

The church was used throughout the year for 1 wedding, 0 baptisms and 5 funerals. St Mary's choir and friends sang Stainer's Crucifixion in the church on Good Friday. We welcomed visitors to the church and church room as part of the village celebrations of the Queen's Jubilee. We tolled the bells for the Queen's funeral in September as well as holding a special service in church. Harvest was celebrated over the weekend of 24/25 September with teas and stalls in the church room and a service in church with harvest gifts donated to Harlow Foodbank and Streets2Homes.

Friends of St. Mary's hosted two fundraising events: Carols and Mulled Wine at the village hall, and Brass Band with Carols at the local Inn.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Financial review (detailed in the Financial Statements)

Income

Total Income for the year was £27,595 (unrestricted) and £1,854 (restricted).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £28,702 expended from general funds and £6,550 expended from restricted funds.

The accounts showed a deficit for the year of £1,107 in our unrestricted funds, as our outgoing exceeded our incoming resources. This meant that the balance of our unrestricted funds decreased from £7,567 at the end of the last financial year to £6,459 at the end of this financial year.

The charitable giving for the year amounted to £406. (This included a special appeal for the Ukraine crisis).

The ongoing Parish Share contribution (for Diocesan provision) represents a significant challenge, and the PCC continues in its endeavours to meet this in order that the work of spreading the good news of Jesus can continue to be effective and relevant in our community. As the project to bring together the six parishes of Sheering, Hatfield Heath, Hatfield Broad Oak, Bush End and Little and Great Hallingbury into one Benefice continues, our Parish Share contribution has been reduced from £20,000 to £16,000.

Public benefit statement

In shaping the Church's objectives and planning the activities, the PCC members have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A thank you to all.

Finally, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to express thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing financial support during 2022 which was another very challenging year in both our church and in the wider world due to continuing unease around the Covid 19 pandemic and the financial pressures in the wider economy. I would also like to express thanks to everybody who helps with the smooth running of St. Mary's finances, particularly Philip Taylor who has supported me in my role, and whose invaluable help I greatly rely upon; Jane Potter who, together with Philip Taylor and myself, make up our finance committee; Philip Taylor helping with monitoring the accounts and producing financial reports for PCC meetings and Jane Potter faithfully dealing with reclaim of Gift Aid tax; Vernon Baker and Philip Taylor who look after collections; and Elsie Baker who oversees the finances for Friends of St. Mary's.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mrs Jean Franks, Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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.

Signed.....

Date.....*6th May 2023*

Rev M Green
Independent Examiner

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total Fund 2022	Total Fund 2021
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>					
Donations and legacies	23,072	1,822	—	24,895	27,811
Income from charitable activities	2,420	31	—	2,451	2,923
Investments	569	—	—	569	414
Other income	1,532	—	—	1,532	1,408
Total income	27,593	1,853	—	29,447	32,556
<i>Expenditure on:</i>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	28,702	6,549	—	35,251	33,880
Total expenditure	28,702	6,549	—	35,251	33,880
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	(2,537)	(2,537)	2,684
Net income/(expenditure) resources before transfer	(1,108)	(4,695)	(2,537)	(8,341)	1,361
<i>Transfers</i>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	0	—	—	0	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	0	—	0	—
<i>Other recognised gains / losses</i>					
Net movement in funds	(1,107)	(4,696)	(2,537)	(8,341)	1,361
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>					
Total funds brought forward	7,567	7,952	21,656	37,176	35,814
Total funds carried forward	6,459	3,256	19,118	28,834	37,176

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 31 December 2022

	As at 31/12/2022 £	As at 31/12/2021 £
Fixed assets		
Investments (Endowments)	19,118	21,656
	<u>19,118</u>	<u>21,656</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	1,623	1,439
Cash at bank and in hand	10,493	15,590
	<u>12,116</u>	<u>17,029</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,400	1,509
Net current assets less current liabilities	9,716	15,520
Total assets less current liabilities	28,834	37,176
Total net assets less liabilities	28,834	37,176
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	6,459	7,567
Restricted		
Restricted - Flower Fund	169	169
Restricted - Friends Of St Mary's	3,088	6,729
Restricted - Len Gunn Bequest	—	1,000
Restricted - Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	—	55
Endowment		
Endowment - Scoones Bequest	7,990	9,051
Endowment - Williams Bequest	11,128	12,605
Funds of the church	28,834	37,176

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

1. Statutory Information

St Mary the Virgin is an unincorporated charity, registered in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sheering. The principle office is detailed on page 1 of the financial statements. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements comply with section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practises applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accurate basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the yearend date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Investments

Investments comprise a managed investment fund. Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities.

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2022	Total 2021
Income and endowments					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Gift Aid - Bank	4,551	430	—	4,981	3,393
Other planned giving	10,496	100	—	10,596	12,424
Loose plate collections	2,001	—	—	2,001	908
One-off Gift Aid gifts	—	—	—	—	1,668
Donations appeals etc	1,599	812	—	2,411	3,957
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	3,815	118	—	3,932	5,149
Other funds generated	612	363	—	975	312
<i>Donations and legacies Totals</i>	23,074	1,823	—	24,896	27,811
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>					
Fees for weddings and funerals	2,420	31	—	2,451	2,923
<i>Income from charitable activities Totals</i>	2,420	31	—	2,451	2,923
<i>Investments</i>					
Dividends	569	—	—	569	—
Bank and building society interest	—	—	—	—	414
<i>Investments Totals</i>	569	—	—	569	414
Insurance claims	1,532	—	—	1,532	1,409
	1,532	—	—	1,532	1,409
Income and endowments Grand totals	27,595	1,854	—	29,448	32,557

The charity also receives fees for weddings, funerals and other related services, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance and other service providers. Neither these receipts nor their subsequent payments are recognised in income and expenditure.

(Expenditure appears on the next page)

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2022	Total 2021
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>					
Giving to missionary societies	—	—	—	—	20
Giving - relief and development agencies	20	366	—	386	—
Home mission	20	—	—	20	—
Secular charities	—	—	—	—	20
Ministry parish share etc	16,000	—	—	16,000	20,000
Salary of parish administrator	1,872	—	—	1,872	1,798
Working expenses of incumbent	184	—	—	184	74
Church running - insurance	2,476	—	—	2,476	2,167
Organ / piano tuning	440	—	—	440	220
Church maintenance	1,843	2,039	—	3,881	478
Upkeep of services	2,745	—	—	2,745	3,443
Upkeep of churchyard	—	3,895	—	3,895	297
Administration	419	—	—	419	846
Church running - electric	1,474	—	—	1,474	1,523
Church running - water	357	—	—	357	98
Hall running - electricity	812	—	—	812	—
Hall running - maintenance	—	250	—	250	625
Governance costs examination/audit fee	40	—	—	40	—
Hall + major repairs - structure	—	—	—	—	780
Other PCC property upkeep	—	—	—	—	1,492
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	28,702	6,550	—	35,251	33,881
Expenditure Grand totals	28,702	6,550	—	35,251	33,881
Income Less Expenditure					
GRAND TOTAL	(1,107)	(4,696)		(5,803)	(1,324)

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at: 31 December 2022

	General	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2022	Total 2021
Fixed assets - Tangible assets					
Williams Bequest	—	—	11,128	11,128	12,605
Scoones Bequest	—	—	7,990	7,990	9,051
Total	—	—	19,118	19,118	21,656
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand					
Bank current account	6,875	104	—	6,978	7,487
Bank Friends account	104	3,243	—	3,346	7,934
Cash in hand	—	169	—	169	169
Total	6,978	3,515	—	10,493	15,590
Current assets - Debtors					
Accounts Receivable	1,501	123	—	1,623	1,439
Total	1,501	123	—	1,623	1,439
Liabilities - Agency accounts					
Agency collections	—	15	—	15	31
Total	—	15	—	15	31
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year					
Accounts Payable	2,019	366	—	2,385	1,478
Total	2,019	366	—	2,385	1,478
Net total assets	6,459	3,257	19,118	28,834	37,176

The PCC of Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Sheering

Fund movement summary

Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Fund	Type	2021				2022
		Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
Flower - Flower Fund	Restricted	169	—	—	—	169
Friends - Friends Of St Mary's	Restricted	6,729	1,854	(5,495)	—	3,088
LenGunn - Len Gunn Bequest	Restricted	1,000	—	(1,000)	—	—
PamGunn - Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	Restricted	55	—	(55)	—	—
Scoones - Scoones Bequest	Endowment	9,051	—	—	(1,061)	7,990
Williams - Williams Bequest	Endowment	12,605	—	—	(1,477)	11,128
General - General fund	Unrestricted	7,567	27,594	(28,702)	—	6,459
Totals		37,176	29,447	(35,251)	(2,538)	28,834

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales - Charity number 1149115

Accounts

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

Registered Charity Number 1149115

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
FOR
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

St Mary's Church is situated in Church Lane, Sheering. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Broomfields, Hatfield Heath, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7EH.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity number 1149115).

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date this Report was approved are:

Incumbent:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Chair:	The Revd Dawn Jewson
Vice Chair:	Mrs Jane Potter
Wardens:	Mrs Elsie Baker Mrs Fiona Klimcke
Treasurer:	Mrs Niki Fletcher (until May 2021) Mrs Jean Franks (from May 2021)
Secretary:	Mrs Elsie Baker
Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mrs Jane Potter
Elected members:	Mrs Niki Fletcher Mrs Lydia Taylor Mr Nandiran Ratnavel
Bankers:	Barclays Bank UK Plc Leicester LE87 2BB National Westminster Bank Plc 12 The Rows Stone Cross HARLOW CM20 1BZ
Independent examiner:	Malcolm Green BA (Hons) 5, The Gowers Harlow CM20 2JP

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The church is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation rules that came into force on 2nd January 1957.

Structure

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

St. Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent, the Revd Dawn Jewson, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, Church Room and grounds.

Committees

The PCC operates through committees, and also receives reports and advice from various groups which may meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Finance Committee:

Oversees the general finance dimension of the work of St Mary's by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the annual review of the Christian Stewardship of money through planned giving.

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to the stewardship of plant, such as the church buildings and fabric, the churchyard (including overseeing the implementation of the Diocesan churchyard regulations).

Worship Committee: Plans services and oversees the musical life of the Church.

Church attendance

At the beginning of 2021 there were 42 parishioners on the Roll, 21 of them were not resident within the parish. During the period (January to December) 3 names were removed and 2 added. The Electoral Roll at the end of 2021 stands at 41 members, 18 non-resident.

The Parish Count figure in October averaged 13 adults per Sunday. However at least four more people were regularly attending via Zoom rather than in person due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Review of the year

The full PCC met 8 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 78.6%. Committees met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed. Where necessary meetings were held via Zoom. An EPCM was held on 28 February to agree the Financial Statements for the year ending December 2020 and to appoint an Independent Examiner

The Church was used throughout the year for 2 weddings, 0 baptisms and 3 funerals. There were unfortunately no concerts or festivals due to lockdown and restrictions, but school usage did resume in October.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Financial review (detailed in the Financial Statements)

Income

Total Income for the year was £29,403 (unrestricted) and £3,154 (restricted).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £30,228 expended from general funds and £3,652 expended from restricted funds.

The accounts showed a deficit for the year of £825 in our unrestricted funds, as our outgoing exceeded our incoming resources. This meant that the balance of our unrestricted funds decreased from £8,392 at the end of the last financial year to £7,567 at the end of this financial year.

The charitable giving for the year amounted to £40 and supported, international charities and organisations.

The ongoing Parish Share contribution (for Diocesan provision) represents a significant challenge, and the PCC continues in its endeavours to meet this in order that the work of spreading the good news of Jesus can continue to be effective and relevant in our community. Looking forward the Diocese are requesting a reduced Parish Share contribution (from £20,000 to £16,000) and hopefully this will ease the financial burden and help us to be more outward focused.

Public benefit statement

In shaping the Church's objectives and planning the activities, the PCC members have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A thank you to all

Finally, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to express thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing financial support during 2021 which was another very challenging year in both our Church and in the wider world due to the Covid 19 pandemic. I would also like to express thanks to everybody who helps with the smooth running of St. Mary's finances, particularly Philip Taylor who has supported me in my role, and whose invaluable help I greatly rely upon; Jane Potter who, together with Philip Taylor and myself, make up our finance committee; Philip Taylor helping with monitoring the accounts and producing financial reports for PCC meetings and Jane Potter faithfully dealing with reclaim of Gift Aid tax; Vernon Baker and Philip Taylor who look after collections; and Elsie Baker who looks after the finances for Friends of St. Mary's.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 5th May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

J E Franks
Mrs Jean Franks, Treasurer

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary the Virgin, Sheering (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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.

Signed.....


Date 30th April 2022

M Green
Independent Examiner

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 December 2021**


	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	26,066	1,745	—	27,811	31,952
Income from charitable activities	2,923	—	—	2,923	1,640
Investments	414	—	—	414	531
Other income	—	1,409	—	1,409	—
Total income	29,403	3,154	—	32,557	34,124
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	30,228	3,652	—	33,880	29,184
Total expenditure	30,228	3,652	—	33,880	29,184
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	2,685	2,685	5,001
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(825)	(498)	2,685	1,362	9,942
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	9,446
Gross transfers between funds – out	—	—	—	—	(9,446)
Other recognised gains / losses	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	(825)	(498)	2,685	1,362	9,942
Total funds brought forward	8,392	8,451	18,971	35,814	25,873
Total funds carried forward	7,567	7,953	21,656	37,176	35,814

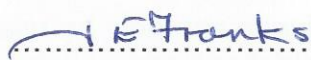
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**Balance sheet
31 December 2021**

	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
Fixed assets		
Investments	21,656	18,971
	21,656	18,971
Current assets		
Debtors	1,439	2,040
Cash at bank and in hand	15,590	15,959
	17,029	17,999
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	1,509	1,156
	1,509	1,156
Net current assets less current liabilities	15,520	16,843
Total assets less current liabilities	37,176	35,814
Total net assets less liabilities	37,176	35,814
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General fund	7,567	8,392
Restricted		
Flower Fund	169	169
Friends Of St Mary's	6,729	7,227
Len Gunn Bequest	1,000	1,000
Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	55	55
Endowment		
Scoones Bequest	9,051	7,929
Williams Bequest	12,605	11,043
Funds of the church	37,176	35,814

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 5th May 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
Rev Dawn Jewson (Chair) -Trustee


.....
Mrs Jean Franks (Treasurer)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. Statutory Information

St Mary the Virgin is an unincorporated charity, registered in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sheering. The principal office is detailed on page 1 of the financial statements. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements comply with section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

2. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP(FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accurate basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements

Investments

Investments comprise a managed investment fund. Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

Analysis of income and expenditure

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>This year</u>	<u>Last year</u>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
	General	Restricted	Endowment	2021	2020
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Gift Aid – Bank	3,353	40	—	3,393	9,154
Other planned giving	12,114	310	—	12,424	10,245
Loose plate collections	908	—	—	908	189
One-off Gift Aid gifts	1,658	10	—	1,668	100
Donations appeals etc	3,782	176	—	3,957	2,844
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	4,030	1,119	—	5,149	3,758
Non-recurring one-off grants	—	—	—	—	3,000
Other funds generated	221	90	—	312	2,663
Total	26,066	1,745	—	27,811	31,952
<i>Income from charitable activities</i>					
Fees for weddings and funerals	2,923	—	—	2,923	1,640
Salary of administrator reimbursement	—	—	—	—	0
Total	2,923	—	—	2,923	1,640
<i>Investments</i>					
Bank and building society interest	414	—	—	414	531
Total	414	—	—	414	531
<i>Other income</i>					
Insurance claims	—	1,409	—	1,409	—
Total	—	1,409	—	1,409	—
INCOME TOTAL	29,403	3,154	—	32,557	34,124

The charity also receives fees for weddings, funerals and other related services, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Finance and other service providers. Neither these receipts nor their subsequent payments is recognised in income and expenditure. For the year under review, such fees amounted to £ 1,400 which have been paid over to those service providers by the balance sheet date.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure on charitable activities

	General	Restricted	Endowment	2021	2020
Giving to missionary societies	20	—	—	20	—
Secular charities	20	—	—	20	—
Ministry parish share etc	20,000	—	—	20,000	16,000
Assistant staff costs	—	—	—	—	3,106
Salary of parish administrator	1,798	—	—	1,798	1,946
Working expenses of incumbent	74	—	—	74	—
Church running - insurance	2,167	—	—	2,167	2,772
Organ / piano tuning	220	—	—	220	—
Church maintenance	—	478	—	478	—
Upkeep of services	3,443	—	—	3,443	836
Upkeep of churchyard	20	278	—	297	50
Administration	846	—	—	846	71
Church running – electric	1,523	—	—	1,523	1,483
Church running – water	98	—	—	98	11
Hall running - maintenance	—	625	—	625	906
Hall + major repairs – structure	—	780	—	780	2,074
Hall + major repairs – installation	—	—	—	—	157
Other PCC property upkeep	—	1,492	—	1,492	(228)
Total	30,228	3,652	—	33,880	29,184
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	30,228	3,652	—	33,880	29,184

INCOME less EXPENDITURE

GRAND TOTAL	(825)	(498)	—	(1,323)	4,940
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There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Restricted	Endowment	2021	2020
Fixed assets - Tangible assets					
Williams Bequest -	—	—	12,605	12,605	11,043
Scoones Bequest -	—	—	9,051	9,051	7,929
Totals	—	—	21,656	21,656	18,971
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand					
Bank current account -	7,398	89	—	7,487	7,405
Bank Friends account -	103	7,831	—	7,934	8,385
Cash in hand -	—	169	—	169	169
Totals	7,502	8,089	—	15,590	15,959
Current assets – Debtors					
Accounts Receivable -	1,344	95	—	1,439	2,040
Totals	1,344	95	—	1,439	2,040
Liabilities - Agency accounts					
Agency collections -	—	31	—	31	(143)
Totals	—	31	—	31	(143)
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year					
Accounts Payable -	1,278	200	—	1,478	1,299
Totals	1,278	200	—	1,478	1,299
Grand total	7,567	7,953	21,656	37,176	35,814

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gain/loss	Closing
Flower - Flower Fund						
Restricted	169	—	—	—	—	169
Sub-total for Flower	169	—	—	—	—	169
Friends - Friends of St Mary's						
Restricted	7,227	3,154	3,652	—	—	6,729
Sub-total for Friends	7,227	3,154	3,652	—	—	6,729
LenGunn - Len Gunn Bequest						
Restricted	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
Sub-total for LenGunn	1,000	—	—	—	—	1,000
PamGunn - Pam Gunn Memorial Fund						
Restricted	55	—	—	—	—	55
Sub-total for PamGunn	55	—	—	—	—	55
Scoones - Scoones Bequest						
Endowment	7,929	—	—	—	1,122	9,051
Sub-total for Scoones	7,929	—	—	—	1,122	9,051
Williams - Williams Bequest						
Endowment	11,043	—	—	—	1,563	12,605
Sub-total for Williams	11,043	—	—	—	1,563	12,605
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	8,392	29,403	30,228	—	—	7,567
Sub-total for General	8,392	29,403	30,228	—	—	7,567
Grand total	35,814	32,557	33,880	—	2,685	37,176

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SHEERING

England & Wales - Charity number 1149115

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1149115

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
FOR
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Haslers
Chartered Accountants
Old Station Road
Loughton
Essex
IG10 4PL

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

St. Mary's Church is situated in Church Lane, Sheering. It is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Broomfields, Hatfield Heath, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7EH.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Charity number 1149115).

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date this Report was approved are:

Incumbent:	The Revd Dawn Jewson	Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mrs Jane Potter
Chair:	The Revd Dawn Jewson	Elected members:	Mrs Jay Harding *
Vice Chair:	Mrs Jane Potter		Mrs Lydia Taylor
Wardens:	Mrs Elsie Baker Mrs Fiona Klimcke		Mr Nandiran Ratnavel **
Treasurer:	Mrs Niki Fletcher		
Secretary:	Mrs Elsie Baker		

* Until October 2020**
From October 2020

Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc 28 Knight Street Sawbridgeworth
	National Westminster Bank Plc 12 The Rows Harlow

Independent examiner:	Haslers Chartered Accountants Old Station Road Loughton Essex IG10 4PL
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The church is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation rules that came into force on 2nd January 1957.

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Objectives and activities

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Committees

The PCC operates through committees, and also receives reports and advice from various groups which may meet between full meetings of the PCC.

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Worship Committee: Plans services and oversees the musical life of the Church.

Church attendance

At the beginning of 2020 there were 44 parishioners on the Roll, 21 of them were not resident within the parish. During the period (January to December) 2 people were removed.

The Parish Count figure in October averaged 13 adults per Sunday. However some regulars were attending via Zoom rather than in person due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Review of the year

The full PCC met 7 times during the year with an average level of attendance of 86%. Committees met between meetings, and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary via Zoom. 3 extra single meetings were held via Zoom for 1.) Graveyard extension, 2.) Parish share, 3.) EPCM

The Church was used throughout the year for 1 wedding, no baptisms and 5 funerals. There were unfortunately no concerts, festivals or school usage due to lockdown and restrictions. There was one event just prior to the first lockdown run by Friends of St Marys in February 2020 by Waterways Chaplain.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Financial review (detailed in the Financial Statements)

Income

Total Income for the year was £27,900 (unrestricted) and £6,223 (restricted).

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £25,907 expended from general funds and £3,276 expended from restricted funds.

The accounts showed a surplus for the year of £1,479 in our unrestricted funds, as our incoming exceeded our outgoing resources. This meant that the balance of our unrestricted funds increased from £6,912 at the end of the last financial year to £8,391 at the end of this financial year.

The charitable giving for the year amounted to £70 and supported missionary work, local charities, and international charities and organisations.

The ongoing costs for St. Mary's ministry continue to represent a significant challenge and the PCC continues in its endeavours to meet this challenge in order that the work of spreading the good news of Jesus can continue to be effective and relevant in our community.

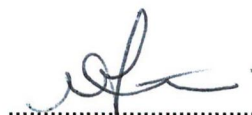
Public benefit statement

In shaping the Church's objectives and planning the activities, the PCC members have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

A thank you to all

Finally, on behalf of the PCC, I would like to express thanks once again to the congregation for their continuing financial support during 2020 which was another very challenging year in both our Church and in the wider world due to the Covid 19 pandemic.. I would also like to express thanks to everybody who helps with the smooth running of St. Mary's finances, particularly Jane Potter who has faithfully looked after the envelope scheme whilst also dealing with the recovery of Gift Aid tax. Whilst co-ordinating together with her team, Jay Harding, Vernon Baker and Philip Taylor whom all looked after collections prior to March 2020; Elsie Baker who looks after the finances for Friends of St. Mary's; and Philip Taylor who has continued to support me in my role for the past year and also my predecessor Jean Franks, without whose invaluable help I would not have been able to fulfil my responsibilities as Treasurer.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on *6th May 2021* and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mrs Niki Fletcher - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Mary The Virgin, Sheering

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mary The Virgin, Sheering (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust 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.



P Thain
BA (Hons) FCCA
Haslers
Chartered Accountants
Old Station Road
Loughton
Essex
IG10 4PL

Date: 4th May 2021

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies	3	23,262	2,910	-	26,172	34,503
Charitable activities						
Ministry	6	1,640	-	-	1,640	2,593
Other trading activities	4	2,466	3,313	-	5,779	11,314
Investment income	5	531	-	-	531	516
Total		<u>27,899</u>	<u>6,223</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,122</u>	<u>48,926</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	7	-	-	-	-	84
Ministry		16,000	-	-	16,000	19,000
Church running expenses		9,906	3,276	-	13,182	31,301
Management and admin		-	-	-	-	431
Total		<u>25,906</u>	<u>3,276</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,182</u>	<u>50,816</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	5,002	5,002	(983)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>1,993</u>	<u>2,947</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>9,942</u>	<u>(2,873)</u>
Transfers between funds	14	(514)	514	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>1,479</u>	<u>3,461</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>9,942</u>	<u>(2,873)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		6,912	4,991	13,970	25,873	28,746
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>8,391</u>	<u>8,452</u>	<u>18,972</u>	<u>35,815</u>	<u>25,873</u>

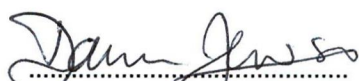
The notes form part of these financial statements

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Investments	11	-	-	18,972	18,972	13,970
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	12	2,183	-	-	2,183	5,753
Cash at bank and in hand		7,507	8,452	-	15,959	32,218
		<u>9,690</u>	<u>8,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,142</u>	<u>37,971</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,299)	-	-	(1,299)	(26,068)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>8,391</u>	<u>8,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,843</u>	<u>11,903</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>8,391</u>	<u>8,452</u>	<u>18,972</u>	<u>35,815</u>	<u>25,873</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>8,391</u>	<u>8,452</u>	<u>18,972</u>	<u>35,815</u>	<u>25,873</u>
FUNDS	14					
Unrestricted funds					8,391	6,912
Restricted funds					8,452	4,991
Endowment funds					18,972	13,970
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>35,815</u>	<u>25,873</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on*6th May 2021*..... and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
Rev Dawn Jewson [Chair] - Trustee


.....
Mrs Niki Fletcher - Trustee

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

St. Mary The Virgin, Sheering is an unincorporated charity, registered in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sheering. The principal office is detailed on page 1 of the financial statements. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements comply with section 1A of Financial Reporting Standard 102.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Investments

Investments comprise a managed investment fund. Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of financial activities.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Parish Giving Scheme	9,154	50	-	9,204	11,353
Regular giving	-	-	-	-	6,247
Gift aid	7,819	295	-	8,114	4,940
Non-gift aid giving	5,937	-	-	5,937	407
Collections (open plate) at all services	189	-	-	189	5,329
Flower Arrangers donations	-	-	-	-	15
Sundry donations	163	2,565	-	2,728	6,212
	<u>23,262</u>	<u>2,910</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,172</u>	<u>34,503</u>

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Fundraising events	2,466	313	-	2,779	3,156
Shop income	-	-	-	-	1,149
Grants	-	3,000	-	3,000	7,009
	<u>2,466</u>	<u>3,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,779</u>	<u>11,314</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Dividends	531	-	-	531	516
	<u>531</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>516</u>

6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2020 £	2019 £
Fees	Ministry	<u>1,640</u>	<u>2,593</u>

The charity also receives fees for weddings, funerals and other related services, in its capacity as agent, on behalf of the Diocesan Board of Finance and other service providers. Neither these receipts nor their subsequent payments are recognised in income and expenditure. For the year under review, such fees amounted to £2,114. Of these fees, £1,971 has been fully paid over to those service providers by the balance sheet date. The balance of £143 is included within creditors and was paid over to the service providers after the balance sheet date and prior to the signing of these accounts.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Support costs (see note 8)
	£
Ministry	16,000
Church running expenses	13,182
	<u>29,182</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Activities directly relating to the work of the church
	£
Ministry	16,000
Church running expenses	13,182
	<u>29,182</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

Activities directly relating to the work of the church

	Ministry	Church running expenses	2020 Total activities	2019 Total activities
	£	£	£	£
Wages	-	1,945	1,945	2,240
Diocesan Quota	16,000	-	16,000	19,000
Electricity	-	1,483	1,483	2,784
Insurance	-	2,772	2,772	2,533
Services	-	3,106	3,106	3,379
Repairs (Church)	-	3,795	3,795	1,625
Sundries	-	81	81	18,639
Flowers	-	-	-	90
Sunday school	-	-	-	10
Stationery, publications, photocopying	-	-	-	132
Independent examination	-	-	-	300
	<u>16,000</u>	<u>13,182</u>	<u>29,182</u>	<u>50,732</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	31,948	2,555	-	34,503
Charitable activities				
Ministry	2,593	-	-	2,593
Other trading activities	1,913	9,401	-	11,314
Investment income	516	-	-	516
Total	36,970	11,956	-	48,926
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Missionary and charitable giving	84	-	-	84
Ministry	19,000	-	-	19,000
Church running expenses	13,765	17,536	-	31,301
Management and admin	431	-	-	431
Total	33,280	17,536	-	50,816
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	(983)	(983)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	3,690	(5,580)	(983)	(2,873)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	3,222	10,571	14,953	28,746
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	6,912	4,991	13,970	25,873

These are the comparative figures for the year ended 31 December 2020.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1 January 2020	13,970
Revaluations	5,002
At 31 December 2020	<u>18,972</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2020	<u>18,972</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>13,970</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	<u>2,183</u>	<u>5,753</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 £	2019 £
Other creditors	<u>1,299</u>	<u>26,068</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	6,912	1,993	(514)	8,391
Restricted funds				
Flower Fund	104	65	-	169
Friends of St Mary's	3,832	2,882	514	7,228
Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	55	-	-	55
Len Gunn bequest	1,000	-	-	1,000
	<u>4,991</u>	<u>2,947</u>	<u>514</u>	<u>8,452</u>
Endowment funds				
Williams bequest	8,207	2,836	-	11,043
Scoones bequest	5,763	2,166	-	7,929
	<u>13,970</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,972</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>25,873</u>	<u>9,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,815</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	27,899	(25,906)	-	1,993
Restricted funds				
Flower Fund	65	-	-	65
Friends of St Mary's	6,158	(3,276)	-	2,882
	<u>6,223</u>	<u>(3,276)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,947</u>
Endowment funds				
Williams bequest	-	-	2,836	2,836
Scoones bequest	-	-	2,166	2,166
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,002</u>	<u>5,002</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>34,122</u></u>	<u><u>(29,182)</u></u>	<u><u>5,002</u></u>	<u><u>9,942</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,222	3,690	6,912
Restricted funds			
Flower Fund	179	(75)	104
Friends of St Mary's	9,337	(5,505)	3,832
Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	55	-	55
Len Gunn bequest	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>10,571</u>	<u>(5,580)</u>	<u>4,991</u>
Endowment funds			
Williams bequest	8,704	(497)	8,207
Scoones bequest	6,249	(486)	5,763
	<u>14,953</u>	<u>(983)</u>	<u>13,970</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>28,746</u></u>	<u><u>(2,873)</u></u>	<u><u>25,873</u></u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	36,970	(33,280)	-	3,690
Restricted funds				
Flower Fund	15	(90)	-	(75)
Friends of St Mary's	11,941	(17,446)	-	(5,505)
	<u>11,956</u>	<u>(17,536)</u>	-	<u>(5,580)</u>
Endowment funds				
Williams bequest	-	-	(497)	(497)
Scoones bequest	-	-	(486)	(486)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(983)</u>	<u>(983)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>48,926</u>	<u>(50,816)</u>	<u>(983)</u>	<u>(2,873)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	3,222	5,683	(514)	8,391
Restricted funds				
Flower Fund	179	(10)	-	169
Friends of St Mary's	9,337	(2,623)	514	7,228
Pam Gunn Memorial Fund	55	-	-	55
Len Gunn bequest	1,000	-	-	1,000
	<u>10,571</u>	<u>(2,633)</u>	<u>514</u>	<u>8,452</u>
Endowment funds				
Williams bequest	8,704	2,339	-	11,043
Scoones bequest	6,249	1,680	-	7,929
	<u>14,953</u>	<u>4,019</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,972</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,746</u>	<u>7,069</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,815</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, SHEERING

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	64,869	(59,186)	-	5,683
Restricted funds				
Flower Fund	80	(90)	-	(10)
Friends of St Mary's	18,099	(20,722)	-	(2,623)
	<u>18,179</u>	<u>(20,812)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,633)</u>
Endowment funds				
Williams bequest	-	-	2,339	2,339
Scoones bequest	-	-	1,680	1,680
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,019</u>	<u>4,019</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>83,048</u></u>	<u><u>(79,998)</u></u>	<u><u>4,019</u></u>	<u><u>7,069</u></u>

a) The Williams bequest is a permanent endowment fund provided for the care and maintenance of the family graves in the churchyard.

b) The Scoones bequest is a permanent endowment provided for the care and maintenance of the family graves in the churchyard..

c) The Friends of St Mary's fund raises money from the congregation and the public to fund the maintenance of the church buildings and grounds.

d) The Pam Gunn memorial fund and Len Gunn bequest were left to the church on the death of two members of the congregation.

e) The flower fund receives donations in memoria for flowers in memory of a loved one, together with donations for flower displays at Sheering Church.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020.