



Serving the communities

of Mirfield and Hopton

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Please note that questions for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to be held on Sunday 28th April 2024, at St Mary's, following the 9.30am Service, are to be submitted in writing prior to the Meeting.

REVD HUGH BAKER
Vicar of Mirfield Team Parish
Report for the Year 2023

2023	St. Mary's	St. Paul's	St. John's	Crem	TOTAL
Baptisms	30	0	2		32
Weddings	13	0	1		14
Funerals	15	0	7	15	37
Confirmation	2	0	4		
Average Sunday attendance	52	0	27		79

VICAR'S REPORT Revd Hugh baker

Mirfield Team Parish is a busy place to be as you will be very aware as you read the various reports that have been brought together for this APCM. There are things that have been done by our individual churches, things by groups connected to the Parish and things that we as a church are involved with but which are connected more to the wider community around us. I commend each one of the following reports to you and I hope you will take the time to read them and feel heartened that so much is being done with and through God's church in this place.

I am of course deeply grateful for all that has been done and a general thank you goes to everyone contributing to this report and mentioned in it. I would just like to mention a few in more detail:

We are well blessed with clergy here in our Parish and my thanks goes to our SSM Assistant Priest Helen Butler whose contribution to the life of the Parish cannot be overstated, her ministry with us brings a wealth of local knowledge and her warmth, empathy and humour bring so much to the work she does among us. Chris Shedd who is retired but has happily taken on a very useful supportive role in the Parish has been busy covering some services on Sundays and midweek and has also taken a leading role with the book club and services like the Graveyard Service of remembrance at St. John's. We have been well served by our Curate Graeme Blackwell who joined us this year. It has been great to work alongside him as Deacon and we pray for him now as he moves towards his Priesting which should take place on 22nd June 2024. We also give thanks for the enthusiastic involvement in Parish life of his family: wife Sally, children Barny and Willow and Sally's mum Val. It has additionally been good to benefit from the input from various Ordinands over the year as they complete their Parish Placement with us from Mirfield College. This is an extremely busy Parish and it is wonderful that we are so well supported by the clergy we have.

A lot of pastoral work in the Parish is done by our 3 Lay Pastoral Ministers: Barry Hambling, Kath Crossley and Val Walker. They along, with the clergy and other members of the Pastoral Team have done much to make sure that contacts have been maintained with some of our most vulnerable members. Under Pastoral work I would also like to draw attention to and give thanks for the work that has been going on to provide a warm space in our community centre at this time of high energy bills and lower income. This has proven itself to be a very valuable and valued part of God's work. It is a huge commitment by those who run it but it has managed to provide warmth, food and friendship to numbers consistently around 20 every Saturday morning winter and summer. I am also grateful to Chris Shedd and Graeme for responding to a call for help with Sunday worship at Royds Court, we now have a regular monthly presence there on Sunday afternoons.

A very special word of thanks goes to our Church Wardens

Tim Grace at St Paul's

Chris Barker at St. Mary's

Anne Heeley and Stephen Butler at St. John's

As you read the reports from each of the churches you will begin to appreciate just how important the role of Church Warden is to the life and work of the Church and it has been good to see just how well this particular team of wardens have supported and encouraged one another in the tasks with each bringing their own skills and abilities to the benefit of the whole team. They have also worked very well with the Business Groups to ensure that the PCC are active on a day-to-day basis at each of our churches.

Of course, the Wardens are not alone in the work they are called to, they are supported fully by the clergy and surrounded by the PCC who again have brought many talents and abilities to the work of the church. I am very grateful for all that they do especially those who take on added responsibilities within the team:

- our Lay Chair Chris Breare, involved in so much in the Parish and at St. John's.
- David Brooke who works so hard to keep our books in order and when you consider that our turnover of money is in excess of £100,000 a year this is no small task;
- Staying with finance my thanks goes to Peter King for his continuing work as a trustee with the Vicar's Charity and helping greatly with the administration of it.
- Susan Smith had to step back from the work of PCC Secretary and we thank her for the many years of service that she so willingly provided there. However, this has meant we have been without an official Secretary for most of the year. This has not been easy to manage, and it is to be hoped that we appoint someone to this work as soon as possible. In the meantime, I am extremely grateful to Chris Breare for stepping up and in effect doing much of the work of the PCC Secretary alongside her many other rolls and duties. It is due to her hard work that the functions of the PCC have been enabled.
- Denise Cooper had to step back from the position of Safeguarding Officer due to ill health and our thanks go to her for the work that she did in the position. I am very grateful to Maggie Richardson for stepping quickly into the Role. Safeguarding is vital in the life of the church as it is in society generally and it has been good to know that Maggie is taking this matter well in hand. In this she is ably assisted by Kath Crossley who we are also much indebted to.
- Our Administrations Officer Lauren Montgomery-Bell has put in many hours over the year, we are lucky to have many weddings in the Parish and among other things Lauren is the one who makes sure that all the legal requirements are being met and arrangements are in place for such important days. Lauren also heads up the Community Centre management team. We are now beginning to return to something like the bookings that we need to support the centre and to carry forward the maintenance and upgrade programmes that are being planned.

The children's work in our Parish has been headed up by Kath Crossley working with the young church at St. Mary's and taking the lead on Baptism bookings and contacts. In this work she is joined by Anne Heeley at St. John's with the Sunday School team there. Our work with Crowlees School has continued to develop benefitting greatly from having both Helen Butler as Chair of Governors and Graeme Blackwell and myself as Governors. We have a church presence at their collective worship (assembly) sessions every Tuesday morning and work with them on a number of other things such as the outside spaces, visits, and the popular enacted weddings and Baptisms. We also have some visits over the year from Castle Hall School and an occasional input (Christmas and Easter) into Assemblies at Crossley Fields.

Music and choral work have always played an important part in the life of the church and we are very well led in this area by Scott Senogles our Organist and Choir Master. He has worked hard alongside the choir, and it is wonderful to see that steps are being taken to build up the young singers again. We have some lovely voices to listen to accompanied as always superbly by Scott. A huge thank you too for organising the Summer Organ recitals which seem to be going from strength to strength. We are also in the fortunate position of being able to call on a number of other very competent organists on those rare occasions that Scott is unable to be with us.

Staying in the area of worship it has been good to be able once again to use our teams of Servers and Assistants at St. Mary's and St. Johns. At St. Mary's we are fortunate in having Chris Barker who is extremely organised and hard working as Sacristan, making sure that everything we need for our worship is bought in, clean and in the right place and at the right time (including the servers). In addition, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Gordzeijko for the work that he has done with the series of meditations that he has been running. And, mention the prayer team that continue to provide a place for individual prayer in the side chapel at St. Mary's during communion.

Rachel Walker has continued to provide us with the ringing teams that we need at St. Mary's. She has now accepted the position of Tower Captain and has worked very hard to keep the group together and ringing for Sunday worship, High Days, holidays and weddings when able. The group is continuing to grow although training is being done at other towers as we have no resident ringing trainer. If you know of anyone please let us know.

Communication is very important in any Parish and here we are fortunate to have skills of Janice Barker working for us. She gathers information to put together and print the newsletters every week and it is Janice who produces the excellent Parish Magazine which often elicits praise for content and design. It is wonderful to have such a record of Parish Life which we can enjoy and share so readily with those who visit us. The value of the magazine goes far beyond any monetary considerations. Janice is also the person who makes sure that our weekly newsletter is produced to such a high standard every week with the readings other service details and announcements that we need.

This year we have also seen work being done on the new Web Site design by Inspiration Computers and in particular Alison Grant who, you will remember, was with us on Placement. We have also had an upgrade to the Weekly Newsletter Emailing which is now through a server called Mail Chimp. On line we continue to have a virtual presence on Facebook both as a Private Group and an open Page and our Sunday morning services are still streamed to the world in this way (technology willing).

Both St. Mary's and St. Johns are well served by their respective Friends groups. At St. John's the money that is both raised and released from investment means a huge amount in terms of day to day maintenance and upkeep of both church and grounds. The Friends at St. John's have supported many projects over the year and will continue to do so, the most important issue at the moment is the Church Tower which without some very expensive works will almost undoubtably begin to disintegrate in the not too distant future. At St. Mary's the Friends have now finally managed to get the wall alongside the Castle Moat rebuilt. This work predated my arrival and I am very grateful to them for sorting this out. I am also grateful that the Tablet of names of Benefactors is now in the church at St. Mary's and removed from the effects of weathering that has been taking its toll for many years.

Staying with buildings. St. Mary's continues to have vital work done to the Tower and Roof to prevent deterioration through water ingress. St. John's is facing the major problem of a Tower that is in urgent

need of repair. Unless it is dealt with soon there is a danger that the outer stonework will collapse away leaving the inner core still standing but rendering the building unusable. Work has already begun to ensure that this does not happen and the West stained-glass window has been removed and stored pending completion of the work.

The areas around our churches are well used by members of the public and they are well maintained. At St. John's this is taken care of by the Council of Friends and Hopton in Bloom but at St. Mary's the extensive work is undertaken by a dedicated group of volunteers under the careful management of Chris Barker. So many people comment on the well-kept nature of the Churchyards and the joy they get from visits to them.

I am indebted to Tim Grace for all the work he has put in at St. Paul's. Work has continued over the year to use St. Paul's as much as possible. He has managed to put together a series of events there that have gone a long way to meet the Insurance and other costs of the building over the year. As I write we are moving to a date for closure of St. Pauls in August 2024 with the hope that it might get a new lease of life through a charitable body that has successfully worked with other closed churches in the area.

There have been a number of new initiatives over the year which I would like to mention. We now have a band of Hand Bell ringers who meet regularly and have performed at our Christmas Carol Services. I am sure they will go from strength to strength and we can look forward to hearing more from them in the near future. Secondly, my thanks to Anne Heeley and Sally Blackwell for starting a Craft Group. This meets up at St. John's and is a busy little group who enjoy meeting and engaging in many productive craft activities. This I am sure does them all a power of good and the work they produce is then sold for church funds, a win win if ever there was one. Speaking of funds, a much-needed Fund Raising group has now been convened and is beginning the task of upping the Fundraising events and activities across the Parish. It has set itself a target of £10,000 to raise over 2024 and we wish it every success. This work is of vital importance especially since the increase in the cost of living, especially energy, has been so severe. One calculation estimated that simply to stand still with the cost of heating our churches over the year would take an extra £5 per person per week. This would be a good way if anyone is able to do it, alternatively, if everyone supports and advertises the Fundraising events this will also help immensely.

Finally, over the year our PCC have been working closely with the PCC at Christ the King Battysford. This has involved exchange visits to share best practice and encourage one another in the work that we do. We are exploring ways in which we can be of mutual benefit to each other by supporting the worship and social life of all our churches as part of the overall Ministry and Mission to Mirfield. We hope that this collaboration will continue to grow and develop to the benefit of all.

The report to the APCM and this short introduction indicates just how many people are involved in the day to day running of the church and its life. There are far more than I have managed to thank individually and if I have not mentioned you by name my apologies, the contributions of all are of great value and very much appreciated.

With every blessing.

Hugh.

THE BUSINESS OF THE FULL PCC

Membership of the PCC

The PCC consists of:

Clergy	Revd Hugh Crispin Baker (Vicar and Chair) Revd Helen Butler Revd Graeme Blackwell Revd Chris Shedd (retired and stepping in on a regular basis)	
Wardens	From St Mary's	Christopher Barker
	From St John's	Anne Heeley Stephen Butler
	From St Paul's	Tim Grace
PCC Members	From St Mary's	Lauren Montgomery-Bell Ruth Edwards Susan Smith until APCM Helen Walker Rachel Copley
	From St John's	Chris Breare Susan Auckland Susan Young
	From St Paul's	David Brooke
Deanery Synod Reps	From St Mary's	Barry Hambling Ruth King
Ex Officio Child Protection Officer		Maggie Richardson
Co-opted Health & Safety Advisor		Stephen Butler

There were 6 PCC meetings and 6 Standing Committee Meetings held in 2023.

The officers to the PCC were:	Lay Chair	Chris Breare
	Secretary	Susan Smith until May 2023
	Treasurer	David Brooke

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT – Lauren Montgomery-Bell [Electoral Roll Officer]

Every 6 years the old Electoral Roll is discarded in favour of a new one and a new Roll was created for 2019 to be effective at the Annual Meeting in 2019.

At the 31st March 2019 the new Roll stands at 41 for St John's, 117 for St Mary's and 2 for St Paul's with a further 5 joint registrations, giving a total Roll of 165. These include 16 new enrolments for St Mary's and none for the other two churches.

As of April 2024, the Roll stands at 163 broken down as 45 for St John's, 111 for St Mary's, 2 for St Paul's with a further 5 joint registrations. There are 6 new enrolments.

The existing roll will need to be discarded next year (2025) in favour of a new roll. New forms will be available for you to take, at the back of church from the AGM.

Thanks to Lauren Montgomery-Bell [Electoral Roll Officer]

FINANCIAL REPORT – David Brooke

2023 was a 'challenging' year financially for the Parish. Income decreased by £10,000 on 2022 – but expenditure decreased by only £5,000.

There was an increase in income from planned giving, gift aid, collections and donations, etc of just over £1,200 and income from fundraising and fees also increased by £2,400. The Parish Centre contribution to general funds was £10,000 – and income received from the letting of St Paul's Church brought into general funds nearly £5,000 in the year.

In expenditure - there was an increase in upkeep of services by £1,000, running costs (gas, electricity, water and insurance) increased by over £6,000! - fortunately maintenance (repairs) costs charged to general funds decreased by £10,000. The parish share contribution was maintained at £64,200 for the year and donations of money collected for charities was £444.

All of this resulted in a deficit in general funds of £7.5k (2022: £2.2k)

Going forward - a fundraising group has now been formed and it is hoped that this will help generate about £10,000 of income to help offset the impact of the large increase in 2024 of the costs of utilities, insurance, etc. However, this alone will not cover the large expenditure to be incurred and a modest increase from giving would help.

As always, we are grateful to all the people who give regularly and generously to Mirfield Team Parish so that the work of Mirfield Team Parish can continue and our Churches can be open for all to be made welcome!

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT – ST MARY'S CHURCH – Chris Barker

Cindy Sheard moved to pastures new at St John's, Cleckheaton; as well as her stimulating and thought-provoking services, she instigated some new initiatives including Messy Church and Stations of the Cross in the churchyards at Saint Mary's and St John's. We had no idea what was waiting over the horizon! And then it hit us, the whirlwind that was the Blackwells, Graeme, Sally, Barney and Willow and Val Jasper, who very quickly settled into all aspects of parish life, immediately raising the profile of the team parish on social media, Facebook, Mirfield Matters and the much-improved Church website as well as taking an active part in many initiatives, including a Pancake party and Craft & Fellowship group.

COVID seemed a long way away, but many felt the aftereffects in long lasting coughs and colds. Nevertheless, it was highly encouraging to see the continuing rise in attendances and the number of events and activities encouraging visitors into our church. As always, we are indebted to our clergy for everything they do in all services, Baptisms, marriages, funerals, work in schools and the countless hours doing unlimited tasks behind the scenes which we don't hear about. Included in this are our Lay Ministers and Pastoral Team who do so much valuable, often unseen work visiting sick and housebound members. Church members continue to visit Wydale Hall for Cursillo weekends to strengthen their faith and grow in prayer, action and study. The prayer chain provides prayerful support for those in need. A team is always available to pray in the Side Chapel during the morning service with anyone who needs their support. A prayer tree and prayer board are also on hand.

Christingle, Live Nativity, Carol, Crib service and Midnight have been well supported as have All age and Uniformed Organisations. Holy Week and Easter services have been well supported, they have been inspirational, thought provoking and meaningful. Thank you to the clergy and to Scott for leading the beautifully executed music. We are lucky to have Scott (don't let on – but I think he knows!!) who quite apart from the music for hymns and anthems has

his work cut out with the choir, the Junior Singers, organising a programme of organ recitals and keeping our organ in tip-top condition and protecting it from the elements. Not to mention Compline on a Wednesday night.

At a PCC meeting, the Rev'd Jude Smith spoke to us about Barnabas, a scheme which sets out steps to potential funding and support to improve our church and Team Parish. This includes steps in prayer and mission, help with buildings, stewardship, help with governance and on-line technology. We seemed to be ahead in most areas.

We continue to hold meetings to look at ways in which we can become better at communicating our faith, connecting with our local communities and having the confidence to talk, witness and support in the community.

Outreach is very important at Saint Mary's, we want visitors to see, join us and discover what we do in our activities, events and services. It is very encouraging to note the increasing numbers who have come through our doors for special services concerts, events, Open Day, choirs and bands. The Roberttown Pop Choir gave three performances, The Honley Male Voice Choir, Black Dyke and Hammonds Brass Bands have all given entertaining evenings, all of which have inspired other choirs and bands to offer their services for the coming year. The Freddie Mercury and Céline Dion tribute evening, along with others, are always well supported. A team is already looking at organising events and activities to be spread throughout the year.

A very successful Open Day was held at St Mary's in early July. For the second successive year the weather was against us preventing most outdoor activities from taking place.

When we were organising the Open Day, we invited Dewsbury Minster Ringers to ring our lovely set of re-conditioned handbells donated by the late Margaret Richardson. Helen was quick to sign those interested. More ringers followed then thoroughly enjoyable practices leading to performances at the Christmas Carol Services. Practices are progressing well and more 'bookings' are hoped for during the year.

Ruth and Helen have worked hard with their teams to keep the very successful Warm Space, now Friendship Café going, such a lovely atmosphere; all involved can be proud of their efforts. Huge thanks must go to everyone who helped on Christmas Day to prepare the meal for those who might otherwise have been on their own. Sadly, the war in Ukraine is still continuing, collections of food and clothes organised by Ruth have been well supported and are desperately needed. Ruth is sponsoring a lorry to take donated supplies out to Ukraine and she needs sponsors. [If we could take Ruth out there everyone would be so organised there would be no energy left for fighting and there would be no litter, just Bloomers in every town!!] Ruth and her team also decorate the church for services, in Memory of, and weddings; the porch always looks stunning as do the pedestals.

The Parish Magazine is one of the ways we reach out and ours is widely read. A great many thanks must go to Janice for compiling such a first-class publication each month. Janice has been doing this for thirty years i.e. 300 issues. Our present, professionally printed publication goes a long way from the black and white Banda printed sheets collated and stapled by a small group of volunteers each month. Our magazine is much admired, distributed efficiently through the locality, to shops, libraries, nursing homes by a team of volunteers organised by Barry. Copies of the magazine are also posted to readers in other parts of the UK and can also be read online as a PDF file.

It is pleasing to see visiting groups of bellringers using our Tower. This year we have had Chapel Allerton, Bath Ringers, also East meets West Ringers, that included ringers from York, Norwich, St Paul's Cathedral and Derby Cathedral, who rang a peal lasting three and a half hours. Our own small group of bellringers ring for weddings and some regular services. Fraser Turner is trying hard to attract new members who want to learn how to ring and is desperately looking for an instructor to teach them.

A very dedicated band of church members attend monthly cleaning sessions after which energy reserves are replenished at a local hostelry afterwards. The smell of newly polished wood and the gleam of brass inspire a warm feeling of satisfaction.

We now have a Payaz machine, a contactless form of payment, to speed up donations and payments at services and especially events.

Team Parish lunches are very well attended and held regularly through the year; we must thank those who organise these.

Many thanks must also go to the many members of church who week in, week out, keep our services flowing – our welcomers, those who prepare and serve refreshments, those who read lessons, lead intercessions, the servers at the altar, those who administer the chalice, those who support people by prayer. We do really need people to volunteer to do these many tasks “many hands make light work” and spread the workload that often lands on the shoulders of the few.

Every Sunday for two hours, a team of volunteers are found welcoming visitors to St Mary’s, serving refreshments, talking about our church, services and activities. Visitors can spend time discovering our heritage, admire our awesome building and architecture or spend some time meditating in quiet thought or prayer. Thanks go to Margery Uttley-Talbot for organising this.

It is very noteworthy how many who work or attend our activities don’t actually worship here but thoroughly enjoy what they do, taking pride in being part of the heritage and churchyard of St Mary’s. We are lucky to have a churchyard so rich in history and wildlife, an area to sit in, enjoy, meditate, walk through, work in a calm, quiet environment. The Graveyard Gang is a small group who maintain the nine-acre site. We are supported by Open Country, a group who work with those who have learning difficulties, and the Payback Team. We are also well supported by Mirfield in Bloom who donate funds for machinery, skips, equipment, noticeboards, bird boxes. Ruth entered us in Mirfield in Bloom – Heritage Site Competition; we achieved “Outstanding”, a notable achievement. Areas for development included wildflower planting and a wildlife trail with noticeboards. Also tackling bracken on the motte, which we’ve already done. Bernard Walker was appointed as Conservation Officer. Two of our team visited St Stephen’s Church, Bowling, for a day’s course to look at aspects of churchyard care, use and maintenance.

Repair and maintenance unfortunately occupy our thoughts, time and finance a lot more than they should. The thought of finding funds for all the works and projects is quite mind-blowing and a fundraising team is already forming a list of events and activities spread throughout the year. Priority areas for repair and maintenance include repairing the vestry roof and leaks in other areas, eradication of dry rot; improved lighting; heating improvement; toilet area improvement; the graveyard will need extending over the next ten years. All this before many seemingly less important projects. Work on the vestry roof and treatment of dry rot in the same area should go ahead during the drier summer months. Improved lighting is to be carried out in two phases, the first being to replace existing bulbs with brighter energy efficient ones. We have investigated alternative forms of energy, also making the present boiler more powerful and efficient. Several of us went to Leeds Beckett University to look at fans that would prevent the warm air from escaping into the roof and circulate it downwards. Funds will need to be raised and grants found to fund these projects.

Our sound system has been completely upgraded with retuned frequencies, new antennae to ensure strong signals, new media system and the induction loop has also been repaired.

A block of stone from a window jamb in the Old Tower has been refixed.

The Dunbottle Lane wall has been at long last repaired thanks to the Friends of St Mary’s; the wall near the stocks has been repaired after a police car crashed into it whilst in pursuit, filmed on our CCTV.

The cause of a pool of water on the North side of church threw up many theories - blocked drainage channels, soak-aways, wells, spring. An excavation supervised by our architect and an archaeologist proved inconclusive. An exploratory investigation by the Water Board revealed a stopcock, which when turned off caused the pond to disappear. Local houses were not affected.

A defunct, above ground gas governor kiosk needs to be removed and changed for one below ground and sited in the paddock behind the church halls.

Congratulations to Hugh who was made an Honorary Canon of Wakefield Cathedral; his installation took place in October.

The Coronation of King Charles III was celebrated over a long weekend in early May. A vigil was held at St John's on the Friday evening, the service from Westminster Abbey was streamed at St Paul's on the Saturday, a celebration service and street party were held at St Mary's on the Sunday and a Volunteering Day for members of the community led to many different projects on the Monday.

It is the tenth anniversary of the Mirfield Team Parish Health Walks which take place on two Saturdays each month exploring the local footpath network around St Paul's, St Mary's and St John's churches. Money for refreshments after the walks totalled £1250, which goes into Team Parish funds.

Peter Gordziejko continued his Stop the Month Meditation sessions; these culminated in our visiting the Community of the Resurrection to join with them in Evening Prayer.

Sadly, we have lost some stalwart members of our congregation – Graham Lamming, Pat Marhsall, 'Ted' Pugh and more recently, Margaret Prentice. They will be greatly missed.

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT – ST JOHN'S CHURCH January to December 2023

From January 2023, until May, Anne Healey and Linda Hutchinson were our wardens. At the APCM, Linda retired and Stephen Butler was elected in her place. We are grateful to all the work Linda carried out in her term as warden. She now devotes her time as our Sacristan and compiling excellent quiz sheets for our Tower fund.

The Business Team, consisting of Revd Hugh Baker (Chair), Rev Graeme Blackwell, , Anne Heeley, Stephen Butler, Sue Auckland, Chris Breare, Linda Hutchinson, John Sykes, and Sue Young met on six occasions in 2023, one meeting by Zoom and then at St John's.

OUTREACH INTO THE COMMUNITY

Pre-school staff and some of the parents and children came to St John's church on Monday 27th March at 9.30 when Hugh told them the Easter story, followed by an Easter egg hunt in Church. Preschool also came to services of Harvest festival and to celebrate the Christmas story.

CORONATION

On Friday May 5th Vigil Service at was held at St John's St John's followed a Special Service on Sunday May 5th Garden Trail St John's was open for the Garden Trail and we organised a rota of helpers to steward the church July 1st 10-4 pm.

On Good Friday, visitors of all denominations participated and much appreciated the outdoor readings for the Stations of the Cross which were placed through the churchyard, culminating at the Easter Garden.

Prayer Station in a Gazebo at the Village Fete on July 29th was great success and will be held again this year. UHCA have donated £250 from money raised at the Fete

Harvest Songs of Praise.

Harvest Songs of Praise and Harvest Hail was held in a packed room at the Club at 3pm and Scott accompanied the hymn singing on his keyboard

November 5th at 2.30pm Service to "Remember those we have Loved and Lost" was attended by over 40 people. Roses were given out the place on the memorials to loved ones.

Posada

In a new initiative on Advent Sunday, a Posada with 30 knitted sheep for the families to keep, was sent round the village and then it was brought to the Crib Service on Sunday December 24th at 6pm. After a slow start there was a waiting list for people wanting to have the Posada as it gave a feeling of Joy and peace, so next year we plan to have two Posadas with Anne and Sally making 60 sheep.

Carol Service was held on Sunday December 10th at 3pm with members of the Community reading the lessons and the newly formed Handbell ringers entertaining us beautifully in their first engagement

Carols Round the Tree

Hugh led the carols round the tree, a joint event hosted by Upper Hopton Community Association and St Johns, on Saturday December 16th 6 pm. Thanks to Richard Haigh who provided the Christmas Tree, Clifton and Lightcliffe Band for leading the carols, members of both UHCA and St John's who provided the mulled wine and mince pies and to Roger for setting it all up.

On 19th December at 6pm Quiet Christmas for those who do not look forward to Christmas was not as successful as it clashed with several other events. An afternoon service may be tried next year.

The meeting room at St John's with its independent heating is an asset to both the parish and the community, for group meetings, namely the bi-monthly meetings of the Pastoral Team, Ministry and Mission Team, the quarterly meetings of the Council of Friends and the Croft House Rooms Management Committee and the weekly coffee breaks of the Hopton in Bloom Team. It will be the venue for our newly formed Craft and Fellowship group.

On occasions, St John's is the venue for the Cursillo Services on a Saturday.

CONFIRMATION

Four (three children and one adult) candidates were confirmation on at a wonderful interactive service on Sunday January 29th at 3.30p.m by Bishop Tony at Wakefield Cathedral.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL

We celebrated our dedication Festival in October and thanks to Guest preacher, Revd Dr Janet Williams from St. Hild's College for a wonderful thought-provoking sermon, and following the service everyone enjoyed the buffet lunch in church.

BOOK GROUP

Chris Shedd hosted 2 Book Discussion groups at St John's for Lent Book, September on Monday afternoons 2pm for refreshment and 2.30-3.30 to share discussion.

FOOD BANK at St John's is still going and food donated to the Salvation Army and to Ukraine..

OPEN CHURCH

Each Wednesday 2-4 pm, the church is open for tea and cakes and we regularly have 14+ visitors

TOWER RESTORATION PROJECT.

The business team held a meeting with our architect on Monday January 9th at 10.30a.m.

The bulging of the tower walls have increased and the repair has become urgent and has occupied a large amount of time at our business meeting this year. We formed a Tower Project Group Revd Hugh Baker, Revd Graeme Blackwell, Stephen Butler, Mike Hewson, James Northing Stone Mason, of Monolith, (contractor), Tim Grace and Chris Breare. James proposed to repair the Tower in a Design and Build Project in 2 stages

1. Immediate stabilisation of the lower part of the Tower by placing the strengthening 20mm bars on three sides of the tower.
2. Restoration in Sections of the outer wall of the tower, removing the rubble infill and replacing with a stable mortar.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

To monitor our energy consumption more efficiently, a smart meter for Electricity was fitted. We already have one for the gas.

The Annual Boiler Service was completed in March

Headstone inspection was completed by John Sykes. Notices have been attached to the unsafe headstones.

The four heaters were serviced by DelSol on November 1st and are still running okay.

Fire extinguishers were serviced by FlamStop on Friday 15 December at 1.30p.m.

Parking for those with a Disability. We are grateful to Eric Wainwright who liaised with Kirklees to install 2 disabled parking spaces on Hopton Hall Lane.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Following the granting of an Interim Faculty the West Window the stained glass panels and polycarbonate protection of the West Window were removed by Adam Goodyear and stored in secure storage in the mezzanine at St John's at a cost of £2850.00. This invoice, together with £950 for the architect fees for preparing the paper work for the DAC, were paid by a former member of the Council of Friends

Adam also cleaned the Millennium Window, Vicar's Vestry window, the Spider window and the two porch windows on August 25th. We are again grateful to the Friends for paying this invoice of £691.50. V.A.T. is not applicable.

Churchyard

We were grateful for a bequest of £1000 from the estate of the late Karin Brook and it was decided that this money should go towards the upkeep of the churchyard as Karin was a stickler for keeping the area round her parents' grave tidy

Regular Gardening and Grass cutting. Lewis Wroe regularly cuts the grass and the invoices paid by the Friends.

We are grateful to Paul Green and John Sykes who cut the hedge between the lower and upper churchyard so that it is now half the height easy to maintenance.

PROJECTS IN HAND.

Adam Goodyear mentioned that the pointing of the millennium window is starting to fail and whilst the window is secure and the Polycarbonate will keep the rain away it is something that you should consider replacing either in the autumn or spring as both frost and hot weather are detrimental to fresh lime mortar.

Sloping slab in path in Churchyard. Haigh's Tarmac quoted for removing the concrete by breaking it up and replacing with concrete leaving a 4" gap for the adjacent poplar tree to grow. Quote received £950 +. Stephen Craven has confirmed that this is a List A project and we can get on with it. We are waiting for dry weather.

Trip hazard and disabled access to meeting room.

A plan to reduce the front pew panel section to allow wheelchair access past the column and staining/polishing and shorten the trip hazards and put a floor fixing on the inside pew seat side, and to include staining the effected trimmed areas

Path to vicar's vestry is a health and safety hazard.

We plan to dig it out to find the original stone pathway and to add more pebbles.

The Upper Hopton Mothers Union Banner needs some repair work to the gold thread and other embroidery. It is proposed that we frame it and display it on the wall in the north aisle.

Toy and resources cupboard Anne Heeley has raised £2063.00 by knitting toys and wishes this to be placed in a restricted fund in the Friends to pay for the cupboard.

Cleaning the Paintings in the Sanctuary

The humidity in the Sanctuary is being monitored and recorded.

Air grates mesh grids to be installed in the spring.

Need to clear all the vegetation growing round the church building.

It has been suggested that we need a Post box at church.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

A coffee morning May 13th in St John's was a great success socially with lots of people saying how much they had enjoyed it. We raised £557 for the Tower fund.

UHCA have donated £250 for the Tower fund from money raised at the Fete in July

Linda's Yorkshire Day Quiz Sheets drawn on August 1st, with a Yorkshire themed hamper as the prize, raised over £600. A Harvest flower Quiz raised £302 Linda's Flowers Quiz and a Christmas sweets Quiz

Organ recital. Owen organised the recital with Gordon Stewart for September 16th 7.30pm and an entertaining evening was enjoyed by all. £897 was raised for the Tower fund

New2You Gail, Sandra, Kath and Anita from Hopton in Bloom raised £904 for the Tower Fund by holding a New2You Sale in Croft House

Quiz compiled by James Taylor on October 13th was a great social evening and we are grateful to all who provided the refreshments at no cost to us. £585 was raised for the tower fund

Church Stall at UHCA Autumn Fair on October 21st when £500 was raised for the tower fund.

A Fundraising letter was circulated to all houses in the village and further afield outlining our urgent problem with The Tower and directly requesting donations. A Poster has been placed on the Herras fencing displaying the QR code and hoping for donations too.

Sales of Helen's Jam and Honey have raised valuable funds for our Tower fund.

THANKS We are grateful to Rev'd Hugh Baker, Rev'd Helen Butler, Rev'd Graeme Blackwell and retired priest Christine Shedd for ministering to us in Upper Hopton; and to Scott and the choir, our Sacristan Linda and all assistants, readers and sides-people, who contribute to our Sunday worship and to all who have supported us with regular giving.

Chris Breare. Secretary to St John's Business Team

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT – ST PAUL'S CHURCH – Tim Grace

The Diocese are in the process of closing St Paul's and we are awaiting confirmation of the final date of closure from the Church Commissioners.

St Paul's is now scheduled to hold its final Church Service in Autumn 2024.

During the year the Church has supported the Community by holding a number of events; the Makers Markets were held throughout the year, and the pre-Christmas Markets being a great success.

Once again the Hammonds Band and the Bradford Youth Orchestra held their annual concert in October, they will miss St Paul's, as other than Town Halls, there are very few venues that can accommodate a 70 piece orchestra.

We had a wedding reception in June and of course we had a lovely day on Saturday 6th May celebrating the Coronation of King Charles at St Paul's with afternoon tea and a live Steaming of the grand occasion on a large screen .

The Beer festival was held in August

and the walking group and old rockers group continue to use the downstairs room on a weekly basis.

I am pleased to confirm that the revenue from all these events met the required budget in 2023.

It is a great sadness that we are no longer holding regular weekly services of worship at St Paul's, but once again we held an afternoon service on Good Friday, to mark the 'Last Hour at the Cross'.

It was a great delight to hold what may be the last Christmas Eve Christingle at St Paul's.

As usual it was attended by more than 100 people, thanks go to Kath Crossley and Val Warner for making the Christingles.

I would like to thank everybody for supporting the events at St Paul's during the last year.

Tim Grace, Churchwarden, St Paul's Eastthorpe.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2023

Maggie Richardson was appointed as Safeguarding Officer in September. Kath Crossley is to work alongside her. Both meet regularly to discuss the enormity of Safeguarding documentation that now exists, discuss next steps and urgent issues. Both have completely updated their training: Basic Awareness; Foundations; Safer Recruitment and People Management; Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse; Parish Safeguarding Officer Induction; and Leadership 2. The Safeguarding Dashboard and Safeguarding Hub is a programme that helps to inform the Safeguarding Officers of actions that need to be taken, especially those that are urgent. Safer recruitment is now included in the dashboard and this helps and informs of actions needed including the Safer Recruitment of volunteers, and people management. Reports can be generated from the information on the dashboard.

An example of the Action plan summary printed off in November 2023 indicated the following: that some Churchwardens and PCC officers urgently needed to complete Safeguarding training; a Safeguarding report needed to be made at the APCM; Church activities listed on the dashboard needed to be confirmed and updated; those activities listed should all be authorised by the PCC, have adequate insurance, volunteers should be safely recruited and trained and Risk assessments should be completed. Accurate role descriptions need to be written to inform Safer Recruitment procedures.

Links for the completion of Safeguarding training have been provided. Group training is to be offered at a later date. Members of the PCC have now reviewed and approved the Safeguarding policy, Action Plan, Policy Promotion and the Procedure for dealing with Safeguarding allegations or concerns.

Safe storage of documents has been discussed and a Safe allocated at St John's is to be used purely for the storage of Safeguarding documents.

We should like to express our thanks for the patience of all those who wait for us to understand and tackle the complexity of all that needs to be sorted.

Maggie Richardson, Safeguarding Officer

BUDGET AND STRATEGY GROUP REPORT – Chris Breare

THE BUDGET AND STRATEGY REPORT APCM 2023

The Budget and Strategy Team consisting of Hugh, David, Chris, Helen, Peter, Tim and Graeme, met by Zoom at monthly intervals except for May, August and September, to review the financial situation of the Parish at each meeting.

A Forecast Budget was compiled at the beginning of the year aiming to pay £ 64,200 towards our Parish Share and actual budget reviewed at each meeting, along with the income and expenditure each month for each church.

We have made regular monthly payments to the Diocese and we were pleased to have been able to achieve the £64,200 realistic contribution for 2023. However, we ended the year with a deficit the year of £7,533.

To offset this deficit a Fundraising Committee has been gathered with a fundraising target of £10k per annum would be a good starting point for the committee. This should be regularly reviewed and, if necessary, a stretch goal should be set if fundraising is going well.

Event Ideas

Several new ideas for fundraising events were discussed, along with existing events:

- 100 Club
- Murder Mystery evening
- Brass Band Programme
- Tribute Concerts (Elvis, Dolly etc.)

- Summer Open Day
- Beer Festival (Planned for 28th-29th June 2024 at St.Paul's)
- Makers Markets (Planned for 9/3, 13/4, 11/5, 8/6 and 13/7 at St.P)
- St. Patrick's Day Event (Pencilled in for w/c 3/3 at St.P)
- Art Festival
- Football Events
- Burns Night

During the coming year there are more planned events and we hope that all our congregations will support them.

In order to speed up electronic donations at Payaz machine has been purchased and was in use at St Mary's in time for Christmas and a QR Code is displayed alongside it and wherever else we can display it.

The energy bills increased significantly due to increased tariffs and Standing charges and every effort was made to reduce the numbers of hours the heating was on in our churches.

The PCC is grateful for the contribution of £10,000 from the Parish Centre; to those who give regularly by Planned Giving, standing orders and envelopes.

There was a good profit for of £1,402 from our excellent Magazine this year and thanks are due to Janice.

We must thank David Brooke and Peter King for their excellent accounts and budgets and for keeping us on track and hopefully a better year in 2024.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORT – Kath Crossley.

There are two Ministry Teams which assist in determining parish vision and planning for the future as well as striving to provide the best possible pastoral care.

Ministry and Mission Team.

The team has met six times. The team has discussed future planning and submits a calendar of services and events, as well as any actions needed, to the PCC for discussion and approval.

The team have discussed Action '23 and noted the importance of sharing thoughts and plans with members of the congregation. Three groups: Communication, Connection and Confidence have met from early in the year. The Communication group concentrated initially on setting up a new website and investigating the use of social media. The Confidence group decided their focus needed to be on the Christian faith: what it means; why it is important; and how we can encourage ourselves and the wider congregation to think about sharing our faith by making it visible and accessible to all. A lending library has been established at St Mary's containing faith-based books and colourful leaflets are displayed covering information about occasional offices such as baptism and marriage; sacraments; meditation; prayer and forgiveness. Similar changes have taken place at St John's. The Connections group has listed the many organisations and contacts that the Team Parish currently has good connections with. They also identified actions that would help support the Team Parish's visions and priorities: Friendship Café; Tea and a Chat at St John's; Pet services for St John's and St Mary's; and posada at St John's.

As Covid restrictions were lessened, sharing of the common cup was implemented, as soon and as safely possible, on Easter Sunday. Initially a second chalice was also used for those who wished their wafer to be intincted. The team has also supported the introduction of meditations, reflective services and healing prayer.

House groups:

No Enquirer's groups have been held. Confirmation preparation meetings were held. Study groups: Lent, Book and Bible study meet regularly at St John's and a Bible study group met as a House group from St Mary's.

Community links and ways of strengthening links between 'fringe' and 'mainstream':

Children:

Details are covered under the report of Our Work with Children.

Baptisms:

Thirty one baptisms were held in the Team Parish during 2023 with twenty nine of those being at St Mary's and two at St John's. There was also a blessing at St Mary's.

Confirmation:

Two candidates came forward for Confirmation. They were confirmed on November 5th by Bishop Smitha.

Healthy Walkers:

Healthy Walks have continued successfully with walks starting from each of the three churches. Each walk has some regulars including walk leaders and then a different group from those registered each time. Numbers taking part vary.

Men's Group:

A small group have taken part in the quiz at the Old Colonial when they have been able.

CAP (Christians against Poverty):

There has not been a CAP course as there have been changes to the course and this would have involved individuals re-training.

Social lunches:

These have been enjoyed at Dewsbury District Golf Club.

Community groups:

Team members continue to report on other community groups, such as Mirfield in Bloom, so that the Team Parish can inform their members of services and events in the Team Parish. It has been hoped to hold a Volunteers' service in 2023 but this is now planned for 2024.

PASTORAL TEAM. Kath Crossley

Members of the Pastoral Team have met six times. In the months when there has not been a meeting, members have submitted interim reports for circulation to the team.

With the lessening of restrictions pastoral visiting and home communions recommenced. Members of the team wear name badges for identification and carry visiting cards so that details for the Team Parish are readily available. Support to members of our congregations has also continued via phone calls.

Members of the congregation at St Mary's have continued to give food and monetary donations to the Welcome Centre, supporting those in need in the wider community. Harvest donations, have been taken to the warehouse in Huddersfield where all our contributions are most gratefully received. Goods have also been donated to be taken to those in need in Ukraine.

Members of the congregation at St John's continue to take donations of food to the Salvation Army.

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHILDREN'S CHURCH – Kath Crossley and SUNDAY SCHOOL – Anne Heeley

2023 has seen the continuation of Children's Church at St Mary's and Sunday School at St John's. Both of these take place during the Sunday morning service at the individual churches.

Themes are based on the lectionary supported by materials from the Roots series as well as the Young Church Mag colouring pages and puzzle booklet. Our story and activities are based on the Gospel reading for that Sunday.

We follow the main elements of the service starting with a welcome, lighting candles and prayers. We say sorry for the things we have done wrong and try to do this in the most inventive ways we can think of. Show and Tell is one of the highlights for the children as they are able to share what they have been doing with the rest of the congregation and are rewarded by loud applause. We round off the session with prayers.

The numbers at St John's Sunday School fluctuate between 0 and six with four more or less regular attendees. Sadly, towards the end of 2023 at St Mary's, numbers of attendees have dwindled.

COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL LINKS – Revd Helen Butler

It has been a year of challenge for us- however, we have had some significant successes.

What went well;

- Lots of Christmas attendance from families; Live Nativity, Crib services & Christingles
- Re-establishing Mirfield Junior Singers
- Connections with Crowlees School- Hugh & Graeme are on the Governing Body and Helen is Chair of Governors
- Weekly assemblies at Crowlees
- Crowlees school visits to church to support their curriculum eg EYFS
- RE curriculum support by clergy to Crowlees school- for example, leading mock weddings, baptisms, enacting the Christmas story
- Connections with Church House and Croft House Play schools
- Links to St Mary's Pantomime and Gang show
- Links to Uniformed organisations- Church parade at Mothering Sunday & Harvest, Helen's Lent talk at Brownies
- Regular Young Church provision at St Mary's and St John's
- Open Day at St Mary's attracted lots of families
- 1 young person confirmed
- Baptism numbers steady- although now fewer than pre-Covid; good preparation and pastoral care in both churches
- MFG, Castle Hall, Crowlees & Crossley Fields all had school Christmas concerts in church

What could have been better;

- Declining number of families attending church regularly
- Fewer and fewer leaders available to draw upon to plan, recruit and lead children's activities
- No follow up activities for baptism families

Potential ways forward?

- Grow a pool of children and families leaders (ensure safeguarding protocols)
- Continue consideration of 'Bubble church' (a national initiative to attract families) with a view to starting in September 2024
- Appoint a (non-clergy) Children & Families Coordinator for the parish
- Regular activity days and events planned 12 months ahead
- Better communication with potential attendees – especially digitally
- Produce and have readily available a regularly updated leaflet to give out to baptism families outlining forthcoming events & activities
- Plan families events at alternative times to Sunday worship
- Presence at Mirfield Show

- Forest Church at Crowlees
 - Share resources with CtK
-

MTP CHOIR & JUNIOR SINGERS – Scott C Senogles BMus(hons) M.A [Director of Music]

This is my 19th report for the PCC and as I look back over those years it is interesting to see how much has changed in both national CofE worship and here, within the Mirfield Team Parish. The main topic of universal worry, nationally and locally, must be that of dwindling congregations, resulting in far fewer people available from congregations to commit to singing, voluntarily, each week at both of our churches.

That said, the choirs of St. Mary's and St. John's are still going strong, even if smaller than I would like. Overall attendance by choir members is good but could be improved further. We have several choristers who robe on Sundays to sing, who unfortunately do not commit to choir practices on a Wed evening, which reduces the available options for repertoire and choral development at rehearsals. I'm very pleased that we finish most choir practices with that most ancient liturgy of sung Compline. The choir know this very well now, which is great to hear. Many current choir members are now living with long term medical conditions, which also means regular attendance has become increasingly difficult for them; both for rehearsal and for worship. However, their continued presence, effort and support is highly valued.

Some members of the choir have suggested combining the midweek rehearsal with a sung Eucharist, as weekends can be an incredibly busy time for young families with conflicting priorities. This has been discussed loosely in the past, and I believe it may be worth trialling. This could be beneficial, not just for the spiritual enrichment of these choir members, but may also provide an alternative, accessible worship time for other young families in the parish. The Mirfield Junior Singers' choir is now much healthier in numbers, with 7- 10 members now regularly practicing on Wed evenings around the piano. They joyfully performed at the St. Mary's carol service and more recently had an Easter showcase; where children performed solo's and sang a medley of recently refined songs. One of the members, who receives a free piano lesson prior to the choir, performed on the piano. We finished the spring term performance with a presentation of 'Real' Easter Eggs for the children, kindly gifted by the MTP Music Guild. It is such a privilege and joy to see children so at ease in church, enjoying its warmth and expressing themselves through music and fellowship. It is hoped, with more focused planning, to invite MJS to the sorts of services where uniformed organisations and the church school would normally be invited. Planning and vision will be key if we are to make the most of the opportunity to grow our weekly congregation, when non-regular church attendees are present on these such occasions.

We are still in dangerous territory with the active dry rot in both the choir vestry roof and now the organ chamber wall. We currently have scaffolding up but are still waiting for the roof to be watertight, to allow the walls to dry out enough, to treat the dry rot. I pray we can overcome the many roof issues quickly so that the dry rot can be removed before it gets any closer to devouring our magnificent organ.

The recital series continues to bring in strong numbers, with most recitals having an attendance of between 30 and 40 people, who come to for a cultured hour of professional music making, finished off with lashings of tea and cake. I'm very grateful to the recitalists who commit to the annual series - and play with such talent and finesse! – and equally grateful to Bronwyn and Jenny, who kindly prepare and serve the much loved tea and cake!

I am exceedingly grateful to Chris Shedd for her tireless commitment as MJS chaperone. Rev'd Shedd has been a great blessing and asset to the whole team parish since she became a regular communicant at St. Johns.

Finally, thanks of course go to all choir members, who assist in the making of music for divine worship, across Mirfield Team Parish.

Scott Senogles, BMus(Hons), MA
Director of Music, Mirfield Team Parish

The Synod has held three meetings in the past year and have been held in various churches in the Deanery. For those who are not aware, the Deanery Synod is the third tier of government in the churches system of government. It enables church members to discuss both local and other matters as they arise. The first meeting of the year took place at St Philips & St James church Scholes, Cleckheaton, on the 31st January

2023. The Rev Hugh Baker and the lay chair David Ashton opened the meeting after which prayers were conducted by the Rev Sally Wallace Jones. After prayers she gave a short talk about the Parish of St James of which she is Vicar and some details about herself including the time she spent as a minister in Norfolk. Our main speaker was the Archdeacon of Halifax the Venerable Bill Braviner who started his talk by saying he had been in post for nearly a year and the time had flown, this was mainly due to the area Bishop (Jonathan Gibbs) leaving almost at the same time he had started, so a lot of his time is spent carrying out the Bishop's duties. He did announce that a new Bishop was in the process of being appointed, but no name could be given yet due to the process of the appointment. It is to be hoped that June 22nd would see the appointment announced.

Bill started by saying how beautiful this part of the world is, he also said the culture of this area was great with the choirs and bands and other activities. He talked about how the diocese was still working out the best way to operate as it is still a young diocese. One of his main aims is to be a missionary/ connector for people and churches to resources and to take an overview of the Episcopal area. Bill said he wanted to encourage our churches to use the dioceses resources a lot more for mission. The diocese had a lot to offer along with the people who could help us use these resources. He talked about wanting to get around and meet as many people as possible, including church wardens and others as we were all in this drive for mission as God calls us to travel together for the benefit of us all. The meeting finished at 9.10pm after discussing any other business and saying the Grace.

Our second meeting of the year was held on the 8th June at St Saviours Church Batley. The Rev Canon Hugh Baker welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Mark Mattocks a licenced Lay Minister who led prayers and gave information about the church and the activities which took place there. The main speaker was Janet Edmund who is the stewardship officer for the diocese, she spoke at length about the parish giving scheme and the advantages it can give to parishes. The main advantages being all the administration would be done by the diocese, this would include collection of monies, arranging direct debits amongst many other things.

It would also encourage people to increase giving each year by the inflation rate, so income would rise for the church in line with the inflation. Members asked a number of questions about the scheme which were answered to peoples satisfaction.

The good news is that MTP already use this system and it works well. Reports on the latest meetings of the General Synod and diocesan Synods were presented and a member asked a question why the Linda Box situation which is still ongoing

The meeting finished at 9.00pm with prayers and the Grace

The third meeting of the year was held on the 10th October at Mirfield Parish Church at 7.15pm and was well attended. The main items on the agenda were to elect people for the various officer posts connected with the synod, officers for both for the house of laity and the house for Clergy were required. The meeting split up so that the Laity could elect their officers and the Clergy could elect theirs. Mr David Ashton was re-elected to the post of lay chairman for the house of laity and Mr Richard Bland (Battysford) and Janice Dawson (Carlinghow) were re-elected to the standing committee for the house of laity. In the house of Clergy, the Rev Canon Hugh Baker, who is the Area Dean, was elected as the house of clergy chairman. After the voting both houses came together to elect both a Deanery Secretary and a Deanery Treasurer. Both the existing post holders were re-elected, Mr John Ferret as secretary and Mr David Ashton as treasurer. Afterwards David said that due to the change of name of the Synod, he had had a problem with starting a new bank account, but this had now been resolved. The main speaker was the new Bishop of Huddersfield the Right Revd Smitha Prasad, who made an immediate good impression by saying, with a laugh, she had been told to speak for 45 minutes which had no chance of doing! This was her first deanery meeting she had attended and it was good to be here. She went on to speak about her background. She was born into the church in southern India and had a Christian upbringing, Bishop Smitha (Please call me Smitha) went on to say that she had lived in many places in the UK but for the last five years had worked in Copenhagen working as the Chaplain of St Alban's in Copenhagen

She had studied Literature and Linguistics at the Collage of Ripon and York St John (Leeds University). She went on to say we are all called to God's way and walk with Christ, we have to tell the truth about what we see around us and feel able to tell the truth. We need to have compassion for those around us for the needs of others, the message is Christ is here. She then asked what this deanery was doing to bring God's message to the people? Many examples of

the work churches were doing in the deanery were given. The area dean thanked the Bishop for coming and for her talk and then spoke briefly about the closure of St Paul's church in Mirfield. The meeting concluded with prayers at 9.00pm.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MIRFIELD MODERATOR'S REPORT Adrian Roberts, Pastor, Zion Baptist Church

- Adrian Roberts said that one of the highlights of his first year as Moderator was the prayers that were held with Marc Voase at the beginning of his Discernment Process. He said that Churches TOGETHER was about coming together and supporting the body; and those praying for Marc demonstrated that. He wished him well on his journey to Ordination.
 - The Walk of Witness through the town on Good Friday with distribution of Hot Cross Buns was well received. Thanks to Kenneth Evans & Marc Voase for organising it. This was followed by a short service at St Paul's.
 - Christmas Angels continued its previous success. Kenneth Evans said that they had hoped to have a get-together in the Residents' Lounge but no-one was in there, so they were invited to meet the staff.
 - The World Day of Prayer Preparation 2024 is well under way. This is an important date on the calendar.
 - Church on the Green is going from strength to strength. The support for this project is appreciated. An alternative to Hallowe'en resulted in 60 pizzas and 60 toasties being distributed. Most came and took the food; but stayed. They had a Christmas Tree again; and various activities took place over Christmas. The Moderator requested prayers for the residents of London Park Estate; and particularly for the people living in the Mews, a supported housing complex which was in jeopardy because of KMC's closure policy.
 - The Savile Arms collected 27 bags of food and gifts, which were given out in the neighbourhood. It was a privilege to pray with the customers, even though some were 'over the eight'.
-

MARA/TANZANIAN LINK REPORT – No report.

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S CHURCH 2023 Chris Breare

The Council of Friends met on three occasions in 2023, in January by Zoom and then in May at the Lawn and the AGM in September at St John's.

The officers elected at the AGM in September were

President	Sue Young
Vice President	
Chairman	Rev Hugh Baker
Hon Secretary,	
Hon Treasurer	Mr John McMullan
Assistant Secretary + Membership Sec	Chris Breare.
Wardens	Anne Heeley
Wardens	Stephen Butler
Members of the Council	
	Owen Ryder
	Linda Hutchinson
	Julie McMullan
	John Sykes
	Tim Grace
	Sue Auckland

Last year our President, James, was very proactive in encouraging the business team to look afresh at the many challenges we have in maintaining the fabric of the church and churchyard, particularly the tower and the paths.

In January, a new Kestrel 400 Super Economy Heater was fitted by DelSol to replace the condemned heater near the lectern and the invoice for £3,108 and was paid by the Friends.

Churchyard Lewis Wroe continues to maintain our churchyard and worked hard with regular gardening and grass cutting and has sent an invoice for the summer 2022 for £2810.00 and this was paid by the Friends. In May 2023 we paid £280.00 for cutting the churchyard twice and for cutting the hedge.

Tower Restoration. The West Window was under stress and there were fears that it may collapse. Adam Goodyear, who installed the Millennium Window, was asked to quote for its removal and storage. He quoted £2850.00 and the architect quoted £950 for preparing the paper work for the DAC and move to obtaining an Interim Faculty. The Council of Friends agreed to pay for this work, which went extremely smoothly and the window is awaiting restoration when the tower is restored. A former member of the Council very kindly paid £4,000 for this work to be done.

Church Sound System. We are grateful to one of the Council for providing and synchronising three new microphones and transmitters. This has allowed speakers to be at various places at once rather having to be at the lectern.

Fundraising. A Coffee Morning was held in St John's church on May 13th was a great community event and enjoyed by all who attended and raised the £557 for the tower fund.

Linda compiled a Yorkshire Quiz for £1 per sheet and a Yorkshire themed hamper as prize on Yorkshire day, August 1st, and raised £600 for the Tower Fund. This was followed by Harvest Flower Quiz, which was deemed rather difficult and raised £302

The Organ Recital on September 16th 7.30pm with Gordon Stewart was a wonderful evening and raised £897 for the Tower Appeal.

Four ladies from Hopton in Bloom held a *NewToYou* evening in Croft House on Friday September 29th 7 pm and raised £900

A Quiz with James on Friday October 13th was a great fun evening and raised £585. Thanks and a couple of bottles of wine have been sent to James.

We had a church stall at UHCA Autumn Fair on October 21st and raised £500, thank to Anne for organising and to everyone who donated to the stall

Thanks to Sandra who made Holly posies and raised £260.

Membership. At present we have 57 active members of the Friends with several new members being recruited this year.

Future projects. The tower is a massive project for a small group to undertake so a committee from Friends, and the business team was formed to explore all possibilities. This has proved to be successful and we are exploring a more cost effective solution to the restoration.

The dangerous slab which is on an incline due to pressure from the poplar trees is to be replaced. Haigh's Tarmac quoted for removing the concrete by breaking it up and replacing with concrete leaving a gap for the poplar tree to grow. Quote received £950 + VAT

The Friends are extremely grateful to all the members who subscribe regularly and support our beautiful church building.

Chris Breare Assistant Secretary.

CROFT HOUSE ROOMS CHARITY – Roger Leedham

January to December 2023

At the formation of the Team Parish in 2007 a document was drawn up to ensure Croft House continues to be managed effectively and the new PCC proposed that the Managing Trustees of Croft House Rooms Charity be the Croft House Rooms Management Committee, the eight members of which are determined as follows:

1. The two Wardens of St John's shall be members.
 2. Four UHCA members which includes the Treasurer of the UHCA. Two UHCA members are elected on alternate years, and each serve for two years.
 3. The PCC of the Mirfield Team Parish shall elect two representatives.
- A quorum for any meeting shall comprise two members representing the UHCA, two representing the PCC and one other member.

The Management Committee of Croft House Rooms Charity, the Managing Trustees, is responsible for letting the Rooms and for the recurrent expenditure involved in running the Rooms. The UHCA have free tenure of the Rooms and are responsible for the maintenance of the building and grounds and for capital expenditure.

The membership of the Management Committee of Croft House Rooms Charity is as follows:

1. Christine Breare - co-opted as Chair (Trustee)
2. Anne Heeley - elected Church Warden by PCC
3. Stephen Butler - elected Church Warden by PCC
4. Sue Young - elected by PCC.
5. Sue Auckland - elected by PCC.
6. Roger Leedham - (Secretary) (Trustee) UHCA
7. Kathryn Cockerill - Treasurer of UHCA
8. Gail Auty - (Trustee) elected by UHCA.
9. Joan Hemmingway - (Trustee) elected by UHCA.
10. Andrea Leedham - co-opted as Booking Secretary
11. Peter Crane - co-opted as Treasurer.

The impact of the energy costs has very slowly reduced in 2023 but still at a high level as we enter 2024. At the latter end of 2022 detailed investigations into our future energy costs were undertaken and were reviewed at the CHRMC meeting on the 10 January 2023. A decision was made to increase all the charge rates for room hire at Croft House.

The accounts for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023, were approved at the committee meeting in January 2024. These showed an income of £15,220 against an expenditure of £13,900. Included in this expenditure was a donation of £5000 to the UHCA to help with essential maintenance.

The net result of the decision to increase room hire rates was an increase in the income for Croft House of approximately 30%, which has matched the increased costs.

The opening cash balance on the 1 September 2022 was £25,389 and the closing balance on 31 August 2023 was £26,722. Details of the accounts were submitted to the Charity Commission in December 2023.

During 2023 the following major items of maintenance to Croft House were carried out:

Annual routine safety checks: were carried out e.g. gas, PAT, fire equipment

June – The 5 yearly electrical hard wire checks were carried out for a cost of £594. As requested, the report following the checks was sent to our insurer.

August – The kitchen was completely refurbished including new windows and flooring for a total cost of £13,608.

August – All lighting was converted to LED type.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S COMMUNITY HERITAGE SITE – Helen Walker

The committee - 'Steve Bell (Chair), Helen Walker (Secretary), Lauren Montgomery-Bell (Treasurer), Ruth Edwards, Tim Grace and Diana Brown' of FSMCHS met for the final time on 26 March 2024. The group was formed approx. 12 years ago in response to the need to fundraise for the rebuild of the collapsed Dunbottle Lane wall boundary wall of St Mary's graveyard. A constitution was established. In addition to the rebuild of the wall, the group supported work on the historic Castle Hall mound and within St Mary's graveyard.

The original Chair of the group, John Daniels, passed away approx. two years ago, he was instrumental to lead the group towards their goal. Members of the group supported fundraising and along with the benefit of a financial legacy, enough money was raised to pay for the rebuild of the wall. The wall was rebuilt in 2023 at a cost of £42,000.

Having achieved the aims of the group, it was decided the group would cease in accordance with the constitution.

Thank you to all the Friends and people who have supported the aims of the group over the last 12 years.

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTRE – Lauren Montgomery-Bell

St Mary's Community Centre continues to provide the church and the community with a comfortable space for events and weekly classes.

We continue to be the home of:

- Pre school
- Two Pilates groups
- Yoga
- Dog training classes
- Baby massage
- Brownies, Rainbows and Guides
- Beavers, Cubs and Scouts
- Painting classes
- Karate
- Dancing schools
- Ballroom dancing classes
- Church Pantomime
- Mirfield in Boom
- Men's Probus
- Saturday Friendship group
- Hypnobirthing classes
- Elections
- Church Fundraising/ Church meetings

New Groups.

- o Crochet group.
- o Postnatal baby Yoga
- o Prenatal baby yoga
- o Hand Bell ringers
- o Power hoops

Lost Groups

- Line Dancing
- Disco Fit
- Circuit Training

Improvements made this year.

- New flooring in the meeting room
- New flooring in the kitchen
- The Car Park has been totally resurfaced and white lined.
- Small Hall has been redecorated and new blinds added.
- New website up and running.
- Just received planning permission for renovations to the area between the halls.

Planned improvements.

- o Have a lower service area created between the Main Hall and the catering kitchen, for serving hot and cold drinks.
- o Pantomime Costume storage Area in the hall car park.
- o New flooring to the Small hall.

Regular maintenance:

- Fire procedures/ and testing.
- Risk assessments.
- Maintenance of 5 starts rating in both kitchen areas.

Going forward

We need to continue updating the centre, so we can offer quality facilities to our ever-growing user groups.

The Hall Management Team

PANTOMIME COMMITTEE – Laura Brown

Three Musketeers panto report 2023

Back in full swing after the Covid pandemic "The Three Musketeers" enjoyed 5 nearly sell-out performances with many familiar faces returning to a cast of 15 and 16 chorus members.

We were pleased that we were able to keep the French theme alive throughout the production in terms of the costumes, scenery and music choices. In fact, this was another year when we had a variety of musical genres with contemporary numbers and traditional songs/dances as well.

After our successful closing night we were well on our way to preparing for our 75th year of Cinderella.

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

8TH MIRFIELD SCOUT GROUP – Chris Wilding

Those who attended the recent gangshow and read the programme or listened to Hugh's words will know that 2024 sees 8th Mirfield celebrate our 50th anniversary. Though this report is looking back on the past year, we are only here because of the efforts put into our group by many people over the last 50 years so it only seems right to say thank you to each and every person who has helped, lead, supported or attended 8th Mirfield – St Mary's over this period.

The past 12 months have been busy for us down at 8th Mirfield – St Mary's. One of the main changes is that we have added an Explorer section for those leaving Scouts (typically ~14½). It is already following in the footsteps of all our other sections in that it is now full of youngsters having fun, but means we now cater for ages 6-18

Across all 3 of our existing sections and our new Explorers, normal scouting activities have continued to take place and those members that joined us as Beavers following our restart after Covid restrictions continue their journey through the sections as some now approach Scout age. All sections have taken part in camps, parades, community activities, badge work and as has already said, having fun. Most notably over recent months this culminated in our gangshow that we put on in March in the church hall. We all had a fabulous time practicing for it and performing it and it was wonderful to see so many people come to watch. Especially seeing some of the former leaders who came back to support us.

In a little more detail our Cubs have taken part in district camps as well as our own summer camp which our Beavers joined them at to get a taste of what is to come for them as they move on through the sections. Scouts have done summer camps, winter camps and expedition camps as the older members completed their expedition requirements for their Chief Scouts Gold Award. Many of our Beavers have completed their Chief Scouts Bronze and likewise in Cubs we are proud to have a number who completed their Silver Award. In March we also had our first Cub complete

every single Cub activity badge available and we were delighted to welcome our County Commissioner as he came along to present an award to Xander in recognition of this achievement.

As previously mentioned, we have taken part in a number of parades and these include the Mirfield Remembrance Parade as well as some of the St Mary's church parades and though our gangshow interfered with some of the spring Church parades, we attend where we can

Last summer we had members from all the sections attend the Run for Jo event at Oakwell Hall, helping run the event as well as taking part in the run itself as a fundraiser for both the Group as well as for Daisy who was at the time, shortly heading off to Korea for the World Scout Jamboree and it wasn't just Daisy that has been jet-setting though as Jack has just returned from an international scouting trip to Canada after also doing lots of fundraising for it.

Last November we awarded our "Derek Hoyle" award for the second time to 1 member from each section for outstanding participation, attitude, enthusiasm and all round "Scouting Values". Well done to all our recipients

This brings me onto my final comments – as I mentioned last year (and every other year), 8th Mirfield continues to be a large group – certainly one of the largest in the district and county. We rely on our leaders to be able to provide these activities and at the moment would really benefit from a few extra pairs of hands. Since starting in the 1970s, 8th Mirfield has seen so many people pass through their doors and it would be great to see some old (or young) faces come back down and help continue the tradition, but even if you have never been involved, don't let that put you off – everyone is welcome and we provide everything you need for the role – all we ask for is a little time.

If you think you may fancy it or know someone who might then please pop down or get in touch with us (all contact details are in the Church Magazine) as we'd love to have you on board.

2ND & 14TH MIRFIELD BROWNIES – Tracey Riley.

We've had a fantastic year here at St Mary's Brownies and continue to grow with a thriving unit, we have a fantastic team of leaders all giving what they can to help provide the girls with a fun environment to make new friends, learn skills and most importantly have fun.

Like previous years, we wore up our uniform to school on Thinking Day, to think about the organisation we belong and those all over the world. All the schools in Mirfield and around were so supportive welcoming us in uniform and one school even did a huge presentation. The girls were so proud to wear the uniform and the online joining went crazy with a mass of girls wanting to join girlguiding which was fantastic.

We've travelled around the world tasting different foods to tie in with Thinking day and learning fun facts and activities from fellow countries

We loved attending the pantomime here at St Mary's, and love that we got to take over on the Friday night; it's so special to have all members of guiding from rainbows to guides together to enjoy the pantomime.

Our unit here celebrated 50 years, Christ the King brownies also celebrated 50 years and 1st Mirfield a staggering 100 years. We held a very special birthday party for all Mirfield brownies in February with Bricktopia, Louise's art, the clay people and mini professors joining us for a mammoth celebration.

After Christmas we held a glow in the dark night, it looked amazing, with the dark nights we made fimo glow people, used glow in the dark wasabi tape to make patterns, we also used UV torches to go in an outside treasure hunt, painted ourselves in UV Paint and made owl glow pictures it was great fun

The autumn sees us focus in our only fundraiser of the year our craft fair, girls worked so hard making things and manning the stalls on the night, it was a very busy night but in just 45 minutes we made over £935 which was incredible.

We had a super turn out on a very wet November Sunday for the town's annual Remembrance parade. Despite the weather the girls were fantastic and did us proud.

We attended the Division Event with over 200 other guiding members, the theme was from little acorns to giant oaks, it was so lovely with a range of nature crafts, activities and a super badge to go along .

Tie dying, scone making and the ice cream badge we're on the cards for a few weeks as we rotated round and tried our hands at them all.

Visitors

We've had some fantastic visitors in, from Andy Booth at Huddersfield Town impressing us with his career and inspiring everyone girls included to follow their dreams whatever they may be. We had a local petting farm visit one night for an Easter treats, with Guinea pigs, rabbit galore and a duck as well, the girls loved handling and cuddling them.

Tom from the martial arts method came in early in the year to teach us all about martial arts, the girls loved it and it was something a little different.

On the lead up to Christmas we invited Alex along; Alex worked with us showing us how to make beautiful decorations from glass, these were taken to be fired in the kiln before returning to hang in our trees for years to come.

Jayny visited to teach us some yoga at the start of the year, it was a very chilled night and good for our wellbeing and mental health.

Badges We tried a new badge this year by taking part in parliament week, the results of putting brownies in charge were quite interesting and we learnt lots about voting and different views.

Sarah decided she fancied a badge with a difference so the Wallace and Grommet badge it was, tasking cheese, designing jumper keyrings, make catapults to fire peas were just a few challenges we tackled. The girls even came in their own odd trousers to get in the mood which looked fantastic.

The archaeology badge was something a bit different we tackled, making time capsules, thinking if things to put in , matching treasures with their owners and exploring the local area were a few of the items we completed.

One of the vital skills we learnt was first aid, Virginia did a super first aid session, learning bags first aid, who to call, keeping safe, basic first aid skills as well as making thermometer biscuits and hear5 best cookies. We also had a visit from Sarah who has run fake wound sessions so there were a lot of gory looking wounds going home that night.

It was team work as its best when we completed the task mistress badge, from stacking cheerios to balance in spoons on our nose; we cracked it!

Professor Emma visited to teach us physics as part of our I'm a physicist badge, we made zip lines, experiments and elephants toothpaste which was a great fun and a lot of slime.

Parties

We invited nutty ness along for our Christmas party, games, dance moves, disco we did it all and finished the year off with a bang

We finished the summer with an arty party; Gio came and showed us all sorts of techniques, we decorated our own sunglasses, made kites and finished off with a visit ice cream van.

This year we celebrated our 50th birthday, along with going to Skyfall for a party we also received a grant to enable us all to visit a forensic workshop, we donned white coats, took fingerprints, foot castings, looked for clues and finally solved the crime.

We had a lovely visit from Reverend Helen to celebrate the Kings Coronation, with crown making, traditional trifle making competitions and games. It was a lovely night.

We got out and about on the canal boats as we visited on several weeks to ensure we could all get on the boats and enjoyed some beautiful evenings floating down the water

We enjoyed a fantastic Pack Holiday to Fan Wood with a Roald Dahl theme, from baking to painting, slime making to face painting, grass sledging, bouldering and archery; we did it all, it was fantastic. We've another pack holiday shortly and hoping to squeeze a sleepover in too.

We've had a fantastic year, there's really not enough weeks to squeeze all we want to do in and the above is only a snapshot; we've done so much more.

We are so grateful to the fantastic team we have and the amazing girls we have.
Want to join the fun? <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk>

Tracey

2ND & 3RD MIRFIELD RAINBOWS – Wendy Banks

2023 saw our unit grow and a year full of fun and laughter as well as achieving lots of badges.

In February we went with the rest of Mirfield Guiding to the Mirfield Parish Pantomime to see the Three Musketeers and we had a lovely night. In March we joined in on an activity with Mirfield Coop and had some of our Fair-Trade artwork displayed in the store. We also created personal Mother's Day boxes full of all our girls favourite things.

Summer saw us celebrating the Coronation with lots of different themed activities including putting up a display in the church hall of the mall parade. We finished before the summer holidays with an ice cream themed night.

September was the 25th anniversary of 3rd Mirfield Rainbows and we celebrated with a Silver themed party night and a specially commissioned badge.

The rainbows joined others from across the Division to attend the Calder Division event, enjoying activities and crafts around the theme of acorns and trees.

November we were visited by Mirfield's foodbank and as well as learning more about what they do in the community the girls donated lots of food to them.

We finished the year with a disco and bounce party at Royds Mill in Lower Hopton, a night full of Christmas fun.

2ND MIRFIELD GUIDES – Wendy Banks

In 2023, we have continued following the Guides programme and girls have been working on their Take Action.

We went to St Mary's Parish Pantomime again to see The Three Musketeers with other guiding groups in Mirfield, which the girls loved.

At Easter we went roller blading with another of the guide groups.

We visited Bradley Woods for an evening, where girls learnt to put up a tent and enjoyed a campfire supper. The guides also enjoyed going Bowling with another of the guide units and doing a treasure hunt around the Church grounds.

In the summer, we joined the other Mirfield guide groups for a District camping trip. The guides visited the Coal Mining Museum for a day trip and enjoyed lots of outdoor activities.

The guides joined others from across the Division to attend the Calder Division event, enjoying activities and crafts around the theme of acorns and trees.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u> £	<u>Restricted Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u> £
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>					
Voluntary Income	2	92,229	38,424	130,653	100,992
Activities for Generating Funds	3	62,500	13,605	76,105	62,724
Investment Income	4	-	3,373	3,373	716
Other Incoming Resources	5	360	12,395	12,755	9,937
<u>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</u>		<u>155,089</u>	<u>67,797</u>	<u>222,886</u>	<u>174,369</u>
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
Fundraising Costs	6	-	8,655	8,655	490
Charitable Activities	7	107,156	86,235	193,391	103,810
Governance Costs	8	72,534	199	72,733	73,341
<u>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>		<u>179,690</u>	<u>95,089</u>	<u>274,779</u>	<u>177,641</u>
<u>NET INCOMING RESOURCES</u> <u>BEFORE TRANSFERS</u>		(24,601)	(27,292)	(51,893)	(3,272)
<u>TRANSFERS</u>					
Gross Transfers Between Funds		-	-	-	-
<u>NET INCOMING RESOURCES</u> <u>BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS</u>		(24,601)	(27,292)	(51,893)	(3,272)
<u>OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS (LOSSES)</u>					
Gain(Loss) on Investment Assets	11	-	85	85	(221)
<u>NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS</u>		(24,601)	(27,207)	(51,808)	(3,493)
<u>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</u>					
Total Funds at 1st January 2023		80,073	446,432	526,505	529,998
<u>Total Funds at 31st December 2023</u>		<u>55,472</u>	<u>419,225</u>	<u>474,697</u>	<u>526,505</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>			
Investments	12	1,530	1,412
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>			
Debtors	13	14,317	12,701
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>462,650</u>	<u>517,953</u>
		476,967	530,654
CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	14	<u>(3,800)</u>	<u>(5,561)</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>473,167</u>	<u>525,093</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		474,697	526,505
CREDITORS: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year		-	-
		<u>474,697</u>	<u>526,505</u>
<u>The Funds of the Charity:</u>			
<u>RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS</u>	16	419,225	446,432
<u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>			
General Funds	16	55,472	80,073
		<u>55,472</u>	<u>80,073</u>
		<u>474,697</u>	<u>526,505</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

<u>2. VOLUNTARY INCOME</u>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gifts, Donations and Legacies	10,439	23,022	33,461	16,493
Gift Aid and Planned Giving	46,844	12,082	58,926	47,161
Income Tax Recoverable	12,560	3,020	15,580	14,879
Collections	6,868	-	6,868	6,970
Fees, etc	15,518	300	15,818	15,489
	<u>92,229</u>	<u>38,424</u>	<u>130,653</u>	<u>100,992</u>
<u>3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS</u>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fund-raising	4,423	225	4,648	2,347
St Paul's Events	4,928	-	4,928	10,826
Parish Centre and Room Hire	43,834	-	43,834	43,301
Flat Rent	6,800	-	6,800	6,250
Pantomime	-	13,380	13,380	-
Parish Centre Donations and Grants	2,515	-	2,515	-
	<u>62,500</u>	<u>13,605</u>	<u>76,105</u>	<u>62,724</u>
<u>4. INVESTMENT INCOME</u>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank and Building Society Interest	-	3,340	3,340	676
Dividends Received	-	33	33	40
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,373</u>	<u>3,373</u>	<u>716</u>
<u>5. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Insurance Claims	360	12,395	12,755	4,525
Energy Grant	-	-	-	2,550
VAT Claim	-	-	-	2,862
	<u>360</u>	<u>12,395</u>	<u>12,755</u>	<u>9,937</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

<u>6. FUNDRAISING COSTS</u>	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted <u>Funds</u> £	Total <u>2023</u> £	Total <u>2022</u> £
Sundry Events	-	-	-	490
Pantomime	-	8,655	8,655	-
	-	8,655	8,655	490

<u>7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</u>	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted <u>Funds</u> £	Total <u>2023</u> £	Total <u>2022</u> £
Upkeep of Services	9,572	267	9,839	9,061
Church Running Expenses	33,049	-	33,049	31,172
Church Maintenance	2,687	-	2,687	11,489
Charities	444	-	444	2,590
Parish Centre Expenses	31,365	-	31,365	24,939
Flat Expenses	759	-	759	360
Repairs (SM)	-	8,406	8,406	3,116
Organ Repairs (SJ)	-	-	-	17,171
Organ Repairs (SM)	-	1,304	1,304	3,912
Audio System (SM)	-	6,859	6,859	-
Tablet Relocation (SM)	-	11,982	11,982	-
Dunbottle Wall Repairs	-	42,281	42,281	-
Stocks Wall Repairs	-	12,395	12,395	-
CCTV and Nest (SM)	-	2,741	2,741	-
Car Park Resurfacing	29,280	-	29,280	-
	107,156	86,235	193,391	103,810

<u>8. GOVERNANCE COSTS</u>	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted <u>Funds</u> £	Total <u>2023</u> £	Total <u>2022</u> £
Parish Share	64,200	-	64,200	64,200
Clergy Costs	595	-	595	1,062
Administration Costs	7,739	199	7,938	8,079
	72,534	199	72,733	73,341

<u>9. STAFF COSTS</u>	<u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £
Musical Director	6,000	6,000
Office	2,834	2,574
	8,834	8,574

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.
The Musical Director and Office Staff are engaged on a self-employed basis.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

10. FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

The PCC hold an endowment property at Church House, Church Lane, Mirfield, it consists of a first floor flat and a ground floor meeting room, office and storage. There are also small and large halls. The property has an insurance value of over £1,000,000.

11. GAIN (LOSS) ON
INVESTMENT ASSETS

Gain (Loss) on investments from:
Change in Market Value
Disposals

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
£	£	£	£
-	85	85	(221)
-	-	-	-
-	85	85	(221)

12. INVESTMENTS

All the investments are quoted investments listed on a recognised stock exchange.
All the investments are held primarily to provide an investment return for the charity.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2,022</u>
	£	£
Market Value at 1st January 2023	1,412	1,593
Additions at Cost	33	40
Disposals	-	-
Gain (loss) on Investment Assets	85	(221)
<u>Market Value at 31st December 2023</u>	<u>1,530</u>	<u>1,412</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

13. DEBTORS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Income Tax Recoverable	13,433	12,701
Prepayments	884	-
	<u>14,317</u>	<u>12,701</u>

14. CREDITORS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Accruals and Deferred Income	3,800	5,561
	<u>3,800</u>	<u>5,561</u>

15. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS
BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>General</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>
	£	£	£
Investments	-	1,530	1,530
Current Assets	59,272	417,695	476,967
Current Liabilities	(3,800)	-	(3,800)
<u>Net Assets at 31st December 2023</u>	<u>55,472</u>	<u>419,225</u>	<u>474,697</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
MIRFIELD TEAM PARISH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1st Jan 2023	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	At 31st Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Restricted Funds</u>						
Choir Guild	5,113	797	(466)	-	85	5,529
Bells	1,110	133	-	-	-	1,243
Charity	408	-	-	-	-	408
Pantomime	8,738	13,380	(8,655)	-	-	13,463
Richardson Legacy	402,452	3,321	(17,697)	-	-	388,076
CCTV (St Mary's)	2,741	-	(2,741)	-	-	-
Sutcliffe Legacy	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-	-
Flags (St Mary's)	5,870	-	-	-	-	5,870
St John's Tower	-	4,118	-	-	-	4,118
Tablet at St Mary's	-	12,500	(11,982)	-	-	518
Dunbottle Wall	-	21,153	(21,153)	-	-	-
Stocks Wall	-	12,395	(12,395)	-	-	-
	<u>446,432</u>	<u>67,797</u>	<u>(95,089)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>419,225</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>						
General Funds	80,073	155,089	(179,690)	-	-	55,472
	<u>80,073</u>	<u>155,089</u>	<u>(179,690)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,472</u>
<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	<u>526,505</u>	<u>222,886</u>	<u>(274,779)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>474,697</u>

Restrictions Imposed and Purposes of Restricted Funds

Choir Guild	Expenditure on Choir and Music
Bells	Maintenance of St Mary's Bells
Charity	For Gifts to Charities
Pantomime	Pantomime Costs
Richardson Legacy	Repair Work at St Mary's Church
CCTV (St Mary's)	For provision of CCTV equipment for St Mary's Church
Sutcliffe Legacy	For expenditure at St Mary's Church
Flags (St Mary's)	Fund for stolen flags at St Mary's Church
St John's Tower	Repairs to the Tower at St John's
Tablet at St Mary's	Relocation of Tablet to inside of Church
Dunbottle Wall	Repair of Wall in Dunbottle Lane
Stocks Wall	Repair of Wall near Stocks