

The Annual Report 2023

St Mary & St Laurence Parish Church Bolsover

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The PCC is to co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

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- To offer a warm, welcoming, hospitable, safe environment for all.
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2023

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(Number of Average attendances at the regular services in brackets) bold brackets 2022.

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NB. Some individuals may attend more than 1 service on Sundays.

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18th Dec New Bolsover school Christmas service, 18th Dec Bolsover school Christmas service.
20th Dec C of E Christmas service.

Visitors

No. of overall visitors to church in 2023: 3,519 adults and 1,273 children.

Compared with 2022: 3,198 adults and 1,179 children

2021: 228 adults and 408 children.

2020: 372 adults and 21 children.

2019: 4,250 adults and 958 children.

Fund raising and social events

The year began with a concert by Pete the Plonker aka Peter Gouldthorpe, entitled 'Covid, the Musical'. It well attended and enjoyed. This was followed by a 'Coronation' brass band concert in May by the Dronfield Brass Band. In May, the Phoenix singers performed their first concert since Covid and a concert arranged by the Chesterfield Guilbert and Sullivan Society singers was held in Church end of May. A return of the BeVox choir was held in June (always much anticipated and well attended and enjoyed!). This was followed by a concert by the Peak Wind Orchestra in July. We helped with the refreshments at the Fame, Fashion held in September and this was followed by a concert by the acapella and all female choir, 'Aurora'. In October we welcomed Rachel Abbott who gave a most enjoyable concert and much appreciated by the audience. The Winter Festival was held 2nd December where we had stalls selling various items and the entertainment was provided by youngsters from the North East Derbyshire Music Centre in Chesterfield and Rachel Abbott. The year concluded with a Christmas concert by the BeVox choir. Refreshments are served at all these events. We would like to say a huge thank you to Oven Door in Bolsover for kindly and generously providing hundreds of scones free of charge for our events over the last year. Their support and generosity have been very much appreciated!

During the year the Church is open (most) Saturday mornings for tea and coffee and for visitors to have a look around. Twice a month 'Make Do and Mend' meet. We were successful in obtaining from NE Derbyshire a grant for £1,000 for 'Warm Spaces' which has helped towards the heating costs for the Saturday meetings and towards the refreshments. The total amount raised by these events over the last year was just over £4,000 thank you all.

Any offers of help i.e., setting up, serving refreshments, washing up etc would be gratefully received, especially on Saturday mornings. Please speak to Rev Rachel G or one of the Church Wardens.

The organ restoration committee. The Winter festival enabled a stall selling jewellery and other gifts. The Coffee and More is held once a month in the parish rooms and is well attended and enables other items to be sold. Please visit and taste all that is on offer £6,055 was raised in 2023 towards the restoration fund. (Includes donations and a legacy of £300 from Edie Mitchell. The current fund stands at £92,065.

Financial review:

We use Receipts and Payments Accounting. Our current bank is TSB. We also have a reserve account which holds unrestricted funds. Our current reserve policy is to have at least 2 months average payments currently £7,000 but we are endeavouring to increase this to 3 months. Our reserve account currently has a value of £16,028. Our income is derived from weekly donations at services, other voluntary donations, fund raising events, reclaiming Gift Aid and VAT refunds in the year. We do receive interest on money invested by Derby Board of Finance with CCLA. This money is from the sale of Church property and is held as a charitable trust. This means that we can never have the capital sum only the annual interest. Current value £30,155 which generated £820.

2022 value £27,562 which generated £820.

2021 value £31,239 which generated £793.

2020 value £27,330 which generated £766

2019 value £25,571 which generated £743.

Covid had a major impact on our finances! I must thank all those who managed to add a little extra to their weekly envelopes and their one-off donations, this certainly helped. We also benefitted from reclaimed Gift Aid £6,208 and VAT refund of £950. With the tax reclaimed we managed to offset some of the loss of income from fundraising and the fees for weddings and funerals. These sums added together basically kept us on an even keel but meant that our monthly payments to the common fund were reduced. A PCC meeting agreed that we should pay 10% each month and more if we were able.

Total receipts from all sources £77,431 and total payments £73,390 in 2023

Compared to:	£73,531	£67,005 in 2022
	£35,078	£35,281 in 2021.
	£42,064	£46,454 in 2020
	£72,587	£46,454 in 2019

Total receipts include £19,926 a lottery grant for the Fame, Fashion, Fortune project and donations of £2,873 towards the disabled toilet project which is a restricted fund. Total payments also include £14,172 from the FFF project.

Income:	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Planned giving	£2,078	£15,885	£5,354	£10,361	£11,940
Other giving	£3,996	£3,440	£8,445	£3,830	£4,692
Gift aid	£13,871	£5,854	£2,819	£936	£2,188
Plate & other	£5,436	£4,363	£1,236	£1,171	£4,271
Gift Aid/VAT	£7,158				
Total:	£25,381	£29,541	£17,854	£16,298	£23,091
Total in Bank:	£26,825	£24,466	£15,531	£15,656	£20,045

Total in Bank includes: £2,873 Disabled Toilet fund, £9,906 Fame, Fortune, Fashion both of which are restricted funds and £1,216 unpresented cheques. Actual £12,830.

Reserve account:	£16,028	£13,515	£14,003	£12,432	£11,281
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Common fund we made 3 payments of £227 which is 10% of the expected amount and 9 payments of £345 which is 15% of the expected amount.

Total payment for 2023 was £3,786

2022 was £1,589

2021 was £4,286

2020 was £2,018

2019 was £1,890

The request for: 2024 will be £26,696. This is £2,225 per month. (decrease of £49/month)

The PCC endeavours to pay as much as we can.

There are currently plans to install a new disabled toilet in the south west corner of the Church. This will cost in the region of £30,000. We will be pursuing any grants available. The hinges of the crypt cover are damaged beyond repair which is why the crypt is closed until further notice, estimated cost to replace the cover is approximately £1,000. We still have a problem with rain ingress above the south aisle this will be addressed when or if it stops raining, cost yet unknown.

We need more than £185,000 (a new estimate is required) to fully restore the organ.

Risk management:

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the PCC are physical and financial.

(a) Physical condition of the fabric of the Church.

A management plan for repairs is in place and overseen by M/S J Potter, Mrs S Abbott, and Mr A Johnson. Any repairs as highlighted in the quinquennial report are acted upon as per their priority in the report. All electrical systems and equipment are tested annually (PAT) also all fire extinguishers, the lightening conductor is tested every 2 years as required by law.

(b) The financial risks are reduced fundraising from the public, a decrease in the weekly voluntary donations and fluctuations in investment values.

The social and fund-raising committee have in place a varied programme to raise funds for the Church. An appeal by the treasurer for the congregation to increase their weekly donations was successful but the PCC have to be mindful that not everybody is in a position to keep increasing their donations. The monies invested with the CCLA are held in a fund of well diversified investments. The fund follows an ethical investment policy. (See Auditors report Jan 2020)

The PCC have given consideration to the major risks to which the PCC is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage these risks.

Structure, governance and management:

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representative Rules. Parish Safeguarding Officer Mrs Mo Coupe.

Currently we have the following policies: Health & Safety, safeguarding policy, electoral roll & GDPR, GDPR privacy notice, social media use, lone working, recruitment of ex-offenders, working from heights and a fire regulation.

In the last year the PCC met 5 times with a 95.6% possible attendance.

PCC membership – April 2023 *(for electoral roll between 50-100)*

PCC Membership (under Church Representation Rules 2020- part 9: section 2)
(9 members plus clergy, church wardens, treasurer, deanery synod reps)

Clergy

Rachel Gouldthorpe (Vicar)

Rachel Williams (Associate Priest)

Treasurer

Mike Joyce

Safeguarding Officer

Mo Coupe

Vice Chair

Andrew Yeomans

Church Wardens

Julie Potter, Sue Abbott

Deputy Wardens

Diana Newey.

Janice Tilly.

Pam Woodhouse

PCC Members

Pam Johnston

Sue Slatcher

Mary Revill

Diana Newey

Joan Taylor

Glen Hodkinson

Pamela Woodhouse

Andrew Yeomans

Andy Johnston

Deanery Synod

Janice Tilly

Mo Coupe

Standing Committee

Clergy, Vice Chair of PCC, Treasurer, Church Wardens, 2 PCC members.

Organist & Choirmaster & Lay Reader: Mr A Yeomans.

Sacristan: Mrs S Slatcher.

Verger: Mrs P Johnston.

Mothers Union: Mrs M Revill.

Tower Captain: Mrs C Roe.

Electoral Roll: Mrs D Newey.

Administration information:

Bolsover Parochial Church Council

St Mary & St Laurence Parish Church, Church Street, Bolsover, Derbyshire, S44 6HB.

PCC correspondence address: The Vicarage, Church Street, Bolsover, S44 6HB.

Telephone number: 01246 824888

Registered Charity number 1167268.

Bank: TSB Chesterfield, 27 Market Place, S40 1PN

Auditor: Mr R Tooth. Castle Lane, Bolsover.

MSG Joyce. Treasurer Jan 2024

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Mike Joyce

Safeguarding Officer

Mo Coupe

Vice Chair

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Pam Johnston

Sue Slatcher

Mary Revill

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Auditor: Mr R Tooth. Castle Lane, Bolsover.

MSG Joyce. Treasurer Jan 2024

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St Mary and St Laurence Church Accounts

Auditors Report February 2024

The Accounts presented are clear and indicate a true and fair position of the finances of the Church.

Like previous years, this again has been an extremely challenging year for all types of organisations and the Church has had to face and deal with rising energy costs

The Church has made very sensible efforts to manage and reduce its costs eg by using LED lights wherever feasible

Both the total income and payments for the year have increased

Church members have undertaken many social events in the year which have been very effective at increasing revenue and are also valued and enjoyed by many in the community eg The Bevox Choir very generously provides a number of concerts free of charge which are good fund raisers and very enjoyable

The Winter festival was also an effective fund raiser with very entertaining contributions from the North East Derbyshire Music Centre and Rachel Abbott

My thanks go as always to the Treasurer for providing me with all the relevant information in an easy to access format



Reg Tooth
Auditor
Feb 2024