

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BURGHFIELD ST MARY THE VIRGIN

England & Wales - Charity number 1167639

Details

Other names ST MARY'S CHUCH BURGHFIELD

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2016-06-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

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Activities

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

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Classification

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

Geography

- West Berkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£116,580	£110,923	-	-
2023-12-31	£102,122	£104,591	-	-
2022-12-31	£113,393	£115,237	-	-
2021-12-31	£87,972	£98,421	-	-
2020-12-31	£100,287	£89,714	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Glynn Lautenbach	Chair	2017-01-10
ALISON JANE EVES		2017-04-02
AMY ELIZABETH LEGG		2016-04-24
BRIAN GEORGE THATCHER		2018-04-22
Barbara Anne Pocock		2021-06-13
CAROL JAKSON-DOERGE		2017-04-02
COLIN THOMPSON		2014-04-27
Clive Russell Eatwell		2020-05-25
Iain Donald Buchanan		2021-06-13
Lesley Ann Brigden		2021-06-13
MICHAEL JOHN WOOD		2017-04-02
OLIVER LIONEL JAMES DILLON		2014-07-22

Accounts

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Annual Report 2024



Annual Church Meeting 27th April 2025 St Mary's Church

*Attached – Examined accounts and Report from the chair of the PCC as
required by the Charities Act 2011*

Contents

Agendas for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting	1
Clergy report	2
Churchwardens' report	5
Bradfield Deanery Synod	7
Prayer Life: Report on Prayer and Healing Team	7
Children's Work	8
- Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group	10
- Youth Club	10
Creation Matters	11
Outreach: Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer	13
Outreach: Outward giving	13
Outreach: Burghfield Parish Support Group for The Children's Society	14
Fund Raising Report	15
Burghfield St Mary Primary School	16
Buildings: Fabric report	17
Buildings: Parish Centre report	20

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGENDA

Opening Prayers

Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 28th April 2024

Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the APCM held on 28th April 2024
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of the New Electoral Roll
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Report from Churchwardens
6. Report from Deanery Synod
7. Annual Report Statement by Treasurer
8. Matters arising from the Annual Reports.
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Report on Safeguarding
11. Election of Members to serve on the PCC
12. Appointment of PCC Secretary
13. Vision for the Future
14. Any Other Business – *only items which have been notified in advance will be taken*
15. Closing Prayer

Clergy Report

The new year started really well, with a new venture for families, our weekly Bumps, Babies and Toddler Group. It came about through prayer and discussion in our PCC, and as we created our MAP (Mission Action Plan). In particular, we wanted to extend our outreach to the community by utilising our church building during term time, following the renovation to the Parish Centre in 2022. It has been a wonderful outreach to families, and along with the team resourcing the group, we have all found it really worthwhile as we have made contact with more families in Burghfield and wider afield.



Later in the year we also began a monthly Youth Club for Year 6&7 pupils, building a team to resource it and ably led by our ordinand Connor, making use of his gifts and experience as a former youth worker. Further details of other services and events for families and children, can be found in this booklet.

Services continued and our numbers stabilised, averaging a weekly attendance of 25 at our main 10am service. We still provide the option via Zoom to join in this service and we are very grateful to Iain and Clive who deal with all our technical challenges to do so. Though a small congregation, we have a wider worshipping congregation and attendance patterns have changed in modern times, as 'regular' worship may mean, weekly, fortnightly or even monthly. We also occasionally have Taizé services in the evening and mid-year we introduced an informal 'Sunday@6' service on the second Sunday of the month at 6pm. The service includes worship, scriptures, talk, prayer and of course refreshments. We usually have around 10 people attending and hope to build this service further.

Following updated guidance from the Bishop during the year, we no longer offer 'intinction' (the priest dipping the wafer in the chalice of wine) and people are welcome to receive the wafer and wine from the common cup or just the wafer as they prefer. Our Worship and Discipleship Committee met to plan our

services for each rota and along with myself and Alison Eves (who has 'Authorisation to Preach'), I am delighted to say that during the year Don Sinclair joined the preaching rota too. He has completed the initial requirements of the Diocese for 'Authorisation to Preach' with further still to do.

Connor Heath, our ordinand in training, continues his studies at Cuddesdon in his second year (3 days part-time), working part time in our parish (3 days) and participates in leading services along with preaching occasionally. No-one will forget his Christingle costume, as he participated in our annual Christingle services!



From September my husband, Wayne Lautenbach, retired from full time ministry and now worships in our congregation, occasionally leading and preaching. So, we have a wonderful breadth of personalities and styles to lead and preach and we also enjoyed hearing from several guest preachers during the year.

Our Worship group, Gill and Don Sinclair continue to lead our weekly services, with hymns carefully chosen by Gill and also occasionally by Brian and Eileen Thatcher when we use the 'Hymn Box' once a month, when Gill and Don have a break. Eileen continues as our sacristan and linen is always beautifully laundered and service preparation well conducted.

Our Prayer and Healing Team continue to offer faithful ministry, through weekly prayer in the Chancel during the service, and our three annual Healing Services. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Margaret Thomas as she steps down from leading the Prayer and Healing Team. Margaret has done so faithfully, for many years and while stepping down from a leadership position, I'm delighted to say that we will all continue to benefit from her gifting in prayer ministry. Our Prayer Chain are deeply committed to praying through the many requests which we receive for people and situations, and what a delight it is when we hear of answers to prayer from our faithful God.

Members of the flower team provide wonderful arrangements, and we appreciate their time and efforts along with the cleaning team, as they enable church to look so welcoming, not just on Sundays, but through the week for the many visitors to our beautiful church.

Our annual community Remembrance Sunday Service, around Burghfield war memorial in our churchyard, was once again well attended by all ages including all the uniformed organisations. The weather cooperated as we met together to remember and honour all those who have sacrificed their lives in the service of others in wars past and present.



Our administrator Jo continues to be a fantastic support to both me and our parish, often going above and beyond her duties. This year she organised our first ever Christmas Craft Market alongside our annual Christmas Tree Festival, involving her whole family in helping with the very successful event.

Our Fundraising Team exceeded all expectations this year, as they put on so many fundraising events, including our very successful Grand Auction in November. We are so grateful for the efforts of our small team who are so committed to improving our church finances, along with the many who have supported all these events from our congregation and the wider community.

So much more took place in the life of our church, and we are so thankful for our churchwardens Mike Wood and Alison Eves; members of our PCC and other subcommittees; as well as the many in the background who make such important contributions to the life of our parish. Thank you one and all, for everything you offer so willingly through your time, gifts and talents.

As we look back on 2024, I invite you to add your prayers to mine as we firstly give thanks for God's guidance, for his inspiration and encouragement through all we achieved together in his name. Secondly as we look ahead to 2025, we pray for discernment in the way forward, in not only worship provision to a changing society, but in continued mission, outreach and service to our community. May we all continue to witness to God's love and saving grace through Jesus Christ, understanding we can only do so through the power of the Holy Spirit, and join in together with what God is already blessing.

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Churchwardens' Report

Reflecting on a Year of Growth, Community, and Faith at St. Mary's Burghfield

As we look back on another fruitful year at St. Mary's, we reflect on the many ways our parish has grown and served both the congregation and the wider community. From the launch of new initiatives to a steadfast commitment to outreach and discipleship, 2024 was a year of vibrant activity and purpose.

Ministry Highlights

This year, we introduced **Sunday@6**, an informal monthly evening service designed to welcome all ages. Alongside this, the **Bumps, Babies, and Toddlers Group** started in January and has become a welcoming space for families, with weekly sessions hosting around 20 children, along with their carers. These initiatives reflect our vision of "Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others."

Our **Youth Club**, started in September, has already fostered connections among local young people with activities ranging from pizza-making to crafts. A dedicated team are building relationships with a small but steady group of y6/7 children- we pray that this work will flourish and more will join, as the Youth Club becomes established.

Discipleship opportunities abounded this year, with well-attended **Lent courses** and the continuation of the **Prayer and Discipleship courses**. Our community prayer days and Healing Services offered spaces for spiritual reflection and connection.

Community Engagement

We maintained a strong presence at local events, including the **May Fayre**. Our **Eco-Festival** saw enthusiastic participation and underscored our commitment to sustainability as we work towards achieving our **Silver Eco-Church Award**. Our Harvest Festival and Remembrance services also brought together the parish and community, with attendance numbers reflecting a growing interest in our outreach efforts.

Fundraising efforts, such as the **Grand Auction**, exceeded expectations thanks in no small measure to the tireless work of our fundraising team, and of course, all who support the various events. Our annual Christmas Tree festival was a great success, with the Christmas Craft fair running alongside acting as a further

attraction. We are very grateful to Jo for all the work put into organising the Craft Market, including last minute adjustments to cope with the inclement weather. These events have not only bolstered our financial stability but also deepened bonds within the parish.

Supporting Our Heritage

Thanks to Brian and the Fabric team we made significant strides in maintaining and upgrading our facilities, including refurbishments to the Parish Centre and enhancements to our energy efficiency through the **Diocesan Quick Wins Fund**. Efforts such as installing motion-sensor lights and improving insulation align with our eco-conscious goals while ensuring our spaces remain welcoming and functional.

Looking Ahead

As we prepare for the year ahead, we remain focused on our Mission Action Plan, continuously evaluating how we can better meet the needs of the community we serve, and show the love of God to all. From expanding youth ministry to exploring new ways of worship, we are excited about the opportunities to serve and grow together.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our congregation, community volunteers, and everyone who serves as part of the leadership team. It is humbling to see how God is working His purposes out in this place, and to be part of His plan. By the grace of God, the St Mary's church family continues to strive to be a beacon of faith and fellowship in Burghfield, committed to welcoming all, growing faith, and serving others.

*Alison Eves and Michael Wood
Churchwardens*

Bradfield Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod representatives serve for up to three years. Our current representatives are Carol Jackson-Doerge and Colin Thompson and elections will next be held in 2026. There are ongoing discussions as to the role of deanery synods but no proposals for change are currently on the table.

Synod met three times in 2024, in March, June and October. The Synod was able to fill the vacant posts of secretary, treasurer and lay chair and progress has been made in discussions with the diocese over Parish Share allocations although full agreement has not yet been reached. The diocese accepts that the deanery allocation is too high but could not agree the final transitional arrangement. It was ultimately agreed that in 2025 the deanery would pay £577,929.

Within the deanery there are similar problems between parishes. Our treasurer has been working closely with the Deanery treasurer who recognises our special circumstances, and we managed to pay the full agreed sum in 2024 and have undertaken to pay slightly more next year. We benefitted from a redistribution of some deanery held funds to the parishes.

Apart from finance other discussions included diocesan plans for youth workers and accounts of progress being made by various parishes in improving outreach to families.

Colin Thompson & Carol Jackson-Doerge

Report on Prayer Coordination & Prayer and Healing Team

Our Prayer Chain has continued to grow this year as more members of the congregation have joined in offering prayer support for those with special needs and requests.

All members of the congregation are very welcome to contact Revd Glynn or any member of the Prayer and Healing Team (contact details in Church Directory) and requests for urgent and on-going prayer will be circulated quickly to the team. Our Monthly Prayer Diary continues to be available in hard copy at the back of church or virtually through a link in the weekly news sheet. The people, places and organisations in the Prayer Diary feed into our weekly intercessions in church on Sundays.

The Prayer and Healing Team is available to pray with anyone who comes forward during our weekly Eucharist service. Team members also pray each Sunday over the requests for prayer written in the Prayer Request Book. This

book can be found by the candle stand near the font. 2024 saw a large increase in written prayer requests, both from visitors to St Mary's and members of the congregation alike.

Overall, it has been a challenging year for the Prayer and Healing Team. Several members have either had health issues of their own or have had to support family members who are ill, which meant the Team were often short-handed. Additionally, a member of the Team sadly stepped down during the year. The highlight of the year for The Prayer and Healing Team was being able to lead three Healing Services in April, June and November. However, we were unable to support the All Souls Service, due to a lack of members being available or fit enough to help. The 24-Hour Prayer Vigil and prayer walks which were scheduled to take place in late September had to be cancelled at short notice for similar reasons.

The end of 2024 was bitter-sweet for the Prayer and Healing Team. We were filled with joy to welcome Revd Wayne as a new member to the Team but deeply saddened to learn that Margaret Thomas would be stepping down as our brilliant Healing Team co-ordinator. Margaret has led our team wonderfully for so many years and in often challenging circumstances. I would like to thank Margaret on behalf of the Team for her leadership, wisdom and prayerfulness as well as her patience with us all. I am delighted to report that Margaret will be staying on as a member of the Prayer and Healing Team.

Nicky South-Klein

Children's Work

In the last year as Children's Ministry Leader, I am so happy to have become more confident in the role and happy to report that my supportive team and I have been busy putting on events for children and young people in the community.

Film Nights

In 2024 our film nights on a Friday night are still going strong and had lots of our regular young people and families attend. I am also happy to report that we are also gaining new families through these film nights. Each film night we try to have a theme to follow which we link all the activities, quizzes and films to. We also encourage



the children and young people to pick a film that they would like us to show.

In the last year the themes we picked included Animals, Easter and an Eco theme to link in with the Eco Festival weekend.

Crafty Church

In the last year we had a quiet time with our Crafty Church sessions with having one at Easter and having some craft activities at the Burghfield May Fayre. Our main Crafty Church event this year was an Easter themed morning. During the session families enjoyed taking part in fun filled activities such as making Easter cards, doing marble rolling painting, taking part in a food related activity of hot cross buns and getting creative with making an Easter Garden. The session then ended with an interactive talk about the Easter story and a song.



At the Burghfield May Fayre we had some free fun activities for children to do during their time at the May Fayre and these included wack a rat, finding bible animals in the sand and origami making.



On Sunday mornings before the service, I still offer age appropriate activity bags to children when they arrive on a Sunday morning for them to do during the service. We also offer our young children a matted area at the back of church with age appropriate games and activities for them to explore and play with during the service.

On Easter Sunday after the service, I ran an Easter Egg hunt for all families to enjoy. During our Christmas period we had families attend our Christingle and Christmas Day services. In these services the sermons were interactive.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who is a part of my supportive team in any shape or form. We are looking forward to putting on more events for the young people and families in the year to come. I pray that this next year goes well for families and young people in our community. If you feel a calling to be part of my supportive team then please feel free to get in touch with me.

Amy Legg

Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group



The Toddler Group was launched in January 2024 and after its first year is thriving. The Group runs from 9.30am to 11.00am on Mondays in term time. We started with a small grant and amazing donations of funds and toys from the Church community. Soon the name was changed to Bumps, Babies and Toddlers to provide an opportunity for Mums-to-be to meet.

Volunteers run the sessions on a rota basis, welcoming and signing in the attendees, running craft activities, leading the singing and making tea and coffees.

It is a real joy to see the children engaged in a craft activity, playing quietly or enjoying the freedom of being able to be more active in the wonderful space that the Church provides.

We welcome more volunteers and if you would like to join in, please get in touch.



Kate Bessant

Youth Club



In September 2024 we launched our new Youth Club which is led by Connor and supported by a small team. We run the club once a month and the young people enjoy a variety of activities including table football, card games, decorating cakes and

craft activities. At the end of the session, we have a short discussion and reflection time about their faith, finishing with a fun group game. Each month we have a steady number of young people, new and returning.

Card games

Pizza making



Amy Legg on behalf of Connor Heath

Creation Matters

The Creation Matters team at St. Mary's Burghfield has had a productive year, focusing on sustainability, eco-awareness, and community engagement. The team worked diligently to promote environmental stewardship within and beyond our church walls, and to implement initiatives aligned with our mission to achieve the **Silver Eco-Church Award**.

Key Highlights

Eco-Church Progress

The team made significant strides toward the **Silver Eco-Church Award**, with all categories except "Lifestyle" reaching silver status.

Notices highlighting our **Churchyard Management Plan** and a dedicated wildflower/wildlife area policy were displayed at the Lych gate. Hedgehog and bat boxes were installed as part of our commitment to local biodiversity.

Eco-Festival Success

The **Eco-Festival** held on October 5th was a cornerstone event, featuring:

A family-friendly screening of "Wall-E" on October 4th.

Engaging talks by speakers on topics ranging from Birds and Local Wildlife, Greening Reading's Buses to Space Debris!



Creative activities for children, including a churchyard treasure hunt, bird feeders, and eco-themed crafts.

Eco-friendly product raffles and stalls showcasing recycling, repair services, and environmental initiatives.

Refreshments with an eco-conscious menu, including dahl and pita bread, were provided by Café B.

Terracycling and Recycling Initiatives

The team maintained **terracycling stations** for items such as blister packs and dental products; many thanks to Margaret, Fiona and Glynn for delivering them to the next stage in the chain. A tidy-up of the recycling area was organized, with updates to information signage.

All **toilet twinning plaques** were successfully displayed in the church.

Creation-Themed Activities

The team continued to support eco-awareness by promoting "**No Mow May**", introducing a conservation area in the churchyard, and encouraging wildflower growth. Efforts were made to increase congregational awareness of personal carbon footprints through newsletters and Facebook tips.

Community Engagement

The festival included contributions from local schools such as St. Mary's, Garland, and Willink; we enjoyed the school displays.

Partnerships with local organisations, including Mortimer Methodist Church, further enriched the festival.

Sustainability and Fundraising

Sustainability-focused initiatives included raffles of eco-friendly products and encouragement for donations of recycled books for a bookstall.

Challenges and Plans for Improvement

The badger sett in the graveyard continues to be active, leading to the decision to designate the area as a conservation zone.

Efforts to enhance the lifestyle category of the Eco-Church Award will continue, with plans to integrate feedback and ideas from other local churches.

Looking Ahead

The Creation Matters team remains committed to raising eco-awareness and promoting sustainable practices at St. Mary's. In 2025, we aim to:

Achieve the **Silver Eco-Church Award**.

Expand community engagement through initiatives such as a carbon footprint campaign and more school collaborations.

Continue building on the success of the Eco-Festival with similar events and educational opportunities.

Through the work of the Creation Matters Committee and the support of the congregation, and the grace of God, we will continue to make a meaningful impact on our environment and community. We are so blessed and grateful for the beautiful world God has given us, and we want to do all that we can to be good stewards of our wonderful world.

Michael Wood

Outreach

Our Vision statement contains both the phrases *Welcoming all*, and *Serving others* and Outreach is very much a part of our mission at St Mary's and through the year we have been involved in various activities. Our congregation is exceedingly generous in supporting our local Foodbank and the need seems to have increased even more as so many families experience difficulties due to the rising cost of living and the energy crisis. Food parcels are in great need and supply cannot keep up with demand. Our congregation continue to donate supplies generously as well as supporting the Lent and Advent special appeals.

Our new initiative for outreach for 2024 was starting the Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Group, and more information is in this booklet. However, it provides a free, safe, warm and welcoming space for local families and those further afield.

Bucket List Wishes (a local charity granting end of life wishes to terminally ill adults and their families) used our premises for several months before moving to larger premises needed for storage.

Our congregation also provided amazing support with supplies for a convoy going to Ukraine during the year to help those in need.

At our annual 'Toy Service' in December we received very generous donations of new toys and other items for children, teenagers and parents, to support Berkshire Women's Aid.

Outward giving

For some years now we have donated a percentage of the Church's income to charities and mission agencies in accordance with the PCC decision made a few years ago to commit 10% of the church's planned giving income.

In choosing the charities to receive monies from us, the PCC has striven to maintain a balance between large and small charities, and domestic and overseas charities. We also favour charities where we have personal knowledge of the good that their work does. In line with our Eco-Church focus, we have made sure to include charities whose focus is the environment and providing assistance to people facing the challenges of the climate crisis.

At PCC on Monday 20th January 2025, we voted to make the following Outside Giving donations:

Flying Pigs (Willink Moldova link) £500

Miriam Dean Fund £500



Health Help International £500

Yeldall Manor £500



West Berks Foodbank £500



Home Start £500

Burghfield United Charities £400



A Rocha UK £400

Spotlight £400



Revd Glynn

Burghfield Support Group for The Children's Society



The group consists of Anne Burtenshaw, Hilary James, Pat Glover (our Treasurer), Janet Reed, Nicky South-Klein, Sheila Langston-Hopgood and Colin Thompson and met three times in the year in January, April and September. New members are always welcome and if you would like to join our little group please speak to any of its members.

We held our usual cake stalls on Mothering Sunday and at the Toy service raising £190 & £165 respectively. We made £160 from the sale of Christmas cards. The two Christingle services in Church raising £448 and the Church also agreed that the collection from Carols on the Hatch (£145) would be given to the Society. Our planned quiz evenings returned and were well supported raising £540 in May and £400 in October.

The fall in the general circulation of coins meant revenue from Boxes remained at a lower level with only £157.03 being received in 2024.

This represents a very pleasing 15% increase on the preceding calendar year.



Colin Thompson

Fund Raising Report

2024 has been another busy Fundraising year and we have raised a wonderful £9972.12 for Church Funds.

Thank you to everyone who has helped, supported and joined in with our Fundraising events; which have included very successful Whist Afternoons, Craft Evenings, A Barn Dance, Pudding Club, Games Night, Garden Parties, a collection of old, unwanted currencies (coins and paper) which raised £525.58, a Harvest Supper, a fantastic Grand Auction and a Music Wine and Canapes evening held in Church amongst the lovely Christmas Tree Festival trees.

As well as our Church Family having a lovely time, many of our Fundraising events also bring people from the wider community into our Church.

We also have ongoing fundraising from people using the Easyfundraising website or App when making online purchases, which has so far raised a fabulous £439.17.

Easter themed Craft Evening Summer Craft Evening - sun catchers being



painted

Woodwork craft evening demonstration



Auctioneers for the Grand Auction ready to start proceedings

Anne Pocock on behalf of the Fundraising Committee



Burghfield St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Burghfield St Mary's School vision is to create a caring Christian learning environment that inspires each individual in the school community to fulfil their unique potential and become a responsible, concerned and active member of God's world.

The school, founded in 1836, with a trust deed dated 1843, is a voluntary controlled school which means the Diocese appoints two of the Governors-known as Foundation Governors, (currently Revd Glynn Lautenbach and Deborah Marsden) but the staff are employed by the Local Authority.

Foundation Governors meet with the Head Teacher on a termly basis to discuss RE provision and collective worship within the school, as well as strengthening school-Church ties.

There are good links between school and church with the continuation of weekly Thursday Morning Collective Worship (assemblies) led by either Revd Glynn, Connor, our Ordinand in Training, or a member of the congregation. The school visits the church termly as part of their collective Worship cycle. A new 'Reflection Day' (afternoon in Church), for the Year 6's was introduced this year and was well received by staff and pupils.

Under the leadership of the Head Teacher Mrs Carmichael and Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Lappin, the school continues to have a culture of high expectation which has enabled pupils at our school to flourish. Exciting initiatives have been introduced, for example, a varied extra-curricular offering which includes gardening, Spanish, hockey, archery, computer and Lego clubs.

A diocese-led mental health well-being course, Space Makers has also been established in school, which was delivered to year 6 in the Summer term and will continue to be taught throughout the school in later terms, delivered with support from staff from the diocese.

Revd Glynn Lautenbach (Foundation Governor till September 2024)
Deborah Marsden (Foundation Governor)

Buildings - Fabric Report

Parish Centre (PC)

Downstairs Toilets

The major work carried out in the Parish Centre during 2024 was the refurbishment of the Ladies downstairs toilet.

Prior to refurbishment the cistern was not eco-friendly, discharging a full 9L of water every time it was flushed, and was extremely slow at refilling. In addition, the pipe work was exposed and difficult to keep clean.

It was hoped to obtain a grant from the Burghfield Residents association (BRA) towards the cost of the works which would also include refurbishment of the Gents and Disabled toilets.

However, the situation with the Ladies toilet deteriorated and a member of the church congregation made a generous donation to cover the cost of its refurbishment. The work was undertaken during the October half term, by Brian and Clive.

A grant was received from BRA towards the end of 2024 and it is intended to refurbish the Gents and Disabled toilet in the 2025 February half term.



Upstairs Ladies Toilet

An electric hand dryer has been professionally installed in the upstairs Ladies toilet, using a circuit that was installed when the PC was built. This has helped to reduce the number of paper towels the church is using.

Upgrade of PC Toilet Lights

All the toilet lights in the PC have now been upgraded to automatic. The cost of this was covered by a Diocesan 'Quick Wins Grant' which is targeted at small eco projects which were identified in an Eco Survey carried out last year.

Upstairs Hall

For some time there has been a need to improve the storage in the upstairs Hall. It is felt that the current fitted shelves should be removed and replaced by cupboards.

A structural drawing of what could be built, was accepted by the PCC. The proposal is to have, on each side of the room, a set of 3 x 8ft high cupboards, together with 1 x 3ft high cupboard. It is estimated that the total cost of both units would be less than £1000. The intention is to proceed with the installation when Church funds allow.



Kitchen

A new Large Eco A-rated Fridge Freezer was installed in the kitchen replacing one that did not meet current Eco standards. The cost of this was also covered by the Diocesan 'Quick Wins Grant'.

Church

Church Roof

Early in 2024 a roofing contractor was engaged to replace a missing slate from the roof of the Nave which allowed rain to come into the church. Storm damage to the Parish Centre roof was also repaired at the same time.



Clergy Vestry Redecoration

The Clergy Vestry was redecorated using Distemper (a type of Lime Wash). The walls and ceiling were showing extensive damage and discolouration from a leak in the flat roof some years ago.



Mains Water supply into Clergy Vestry

When the Clergy Vestry was refurbished some years ago, a sink and waste was installed, but with no running water. Since that time a water supply had been installed as part of the underfloor heating project. It was agreed to tap into this supply to provide the sink with water. Members of the Fabric Team undertook this work.

Church Main Entrance frame and surround.

The plaster surround to the internal glass doorframe in the Nave had never been properly made good following work when the underfloor heating was installed. This was undertaken during June using lime putty and redecorated with white distemper.

Church Heating

During November the Church heating failed to heat the Church adequately. It was thought that the Church Nest heating control system had developed a fault resulting in the WIFI element of the system no longer connecting with the Church Broadband router. This was confirmed by JFK Heating who maintain the boilers and the Nest control unit was replaced by them.

The boilers in both the Church and PC were serviced with no issues found.

Church Quinquennial Inspection Survey

This was undertaken in late September by Dr David Pendery the Church Surveyor. The report will hopefully be received early in 2025.

A qualified Electrician (Bracknell Electrix Ltd) also undertook a survey of the Church hard wiring, which forms part of the Quinquennial Inspection Report. (No defects were identified).

Fire Extinguishers Service

The Fire Extinguishers in both the Parish Centre and the Church have been serviced by Fireline on 5th August 2024 and where out of date have been replaced.

Church Grounds

Badger Activity

The Badger Sett to the rear of the Church has grown over the last few years with tunnel openings appearing in various places around the Sett. Notices have now been erected around the Sett advising the public of hidden trip hazards within this area.

Lychgate Notice Board

Many thanks to Clive Eatwell for removing the notice board and refurbishing it and also replacing the transparent Perspex, so that the notices can now be read.



Carparks

During the year the Fabric Team have carried on maintaining both the gravel path from the Lych-gate up to the Church doors, making good the large carpark with Road Stone as well as filling in some of the potholes in the small car park with Tarmac.

Minor remedial works have also been carried out on the external car park lights.

A Big Thank you

A great many of the ongoing repair and maintenance tasks around the Church Estate have once again been tackled by the Fabric Committee team supported by other members of the Church when extra man/woman power is required. The enthusiasm and willingness to be literally “hands-on” is much appreciated and is a very important contribution to our ministry. Thank you one and all; the church would be a very different place without you.

Brian Thatcher, Chair Fabric Committee

Parish Centre



We have had a steady year with lots of adhoc bookings spread through the year including Children's birthday parties, our seasonal craft evenings which are always very popular, the Children's Society Quiz Nights and many fundraising events where the community came together to help raise funds for our Church &

culminating in an extremely busy November & December starting with our ever-popular Advent Wreath Making evening welcoming 100+ attendees. Our Christmas Tree Festival which was over a whole weekend, smashed our previous record for trees by having 26 trees all decorated by our local community. Alongside the Christmas Tree Festival we held our 1st Christmas Craft Market in the Parish Centre and welcomed 18 craft stalls to showcase their creative products. This event was a huge success and it was supported by our community, who came out in force to do some Christmas shopping despite the awful storm we had that weekend. We also hosted various concerts & gatherings being held jointly in the Church and Parish Centre.



We have managed to maintain our core long term bookings in the Parish Centre which include 3 x different Yoga groups, Pilates, Weight Watchers & Mini Oaks Preschool and all continue to be a real asset to the community. We help advertise these groups via our monthly newsletter and posters on our noticeboard in the centre. We have welcomed an additional Pilates class to our hirers list, Pilates4Life, and this

class is held twice a week and proving very popular. Sadly, Bucket List Wishes dress sales moved on to alternative premises in the local area, the space we could provide wasn't suited to their needs.

Having been successful in gaining a grant we are thrilled with the new sensor lights in all the toilets, air hand drier in the ladies upstairs toilet and a new larger Fridge Freezer in our kitchen available for all hirers to use. These items will certainly help us to save some pennies in our running costs. Having also experienced issues with the ladies downstairs toilet for some time we are thrilled with the new one installed.

Our hire charges for the parish centre are as of September 2024 £14.65 weekdays up to 6pm & £17.40 weekdays after 6pm and weekends.

Jo Dore, Parish Administrator

The PCC of St Mary's the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024



DIOCESE of OXFORD

A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Reference and administrative details

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is in the village and parish of Burghfield in the county of Berkshire.

All correspondence regarding the church should be addressed to: The Parish Office, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. This involves working with the Revd Glynn Lautenbach, the Rector, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the Parish Centre. The PCC is a charity Registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales and our number is: 1167639.

Furthermore, the PCC of St Mary the Virgin has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Parochial Church Meeting or are ex-officio in accordance with the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and may stand for election to the PCC.

As a resolution was made and accepted at APCM on 13th June 2020, there are no longer any limits on the number of terms of office for any office bearers for the PCC.

During the year 2024 the following people served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio Members

Clergy:

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Wardens:

Michael Wood

Alison Eves

PCC members as a result of Deanery Synod Membership

Colin Thompson and Carol Jackson-Doerge were re-elected to Deanery Synod at the APCM on 15th May 2023 for a 3 year term of office till 2026.

PCC Secretary

Brian Thatcher

PCC Treasurer

Michael Wood

Elected Members of the PCC

Name	Elected at APCM	Serve Until
Brian Thatcher	2022	2025
Amy Legg	2022	2025
Oliver Dillon	2023	2026
Marjorie McClure	2023	2026
Clive Eatwell	2023	2026
Anne Pocock	2023	2026
Lesley Brigden	2024	2027
Iain Buchanan	2024	2027

There was one vacancy following the APCM, which has not been filled.

Foundation Governors

The following have been appointed to serve on the school governing body of the church school as Foundation Governors from September 2024 – September 2028:

Mrs Deborah Marsden-Kwan

There is currently a vacancy for a second Foundation Governor

Structure, governance and management

Committees and Groups

The sub-committees of the PCC which continued through 2024 were the 'Finance Committee' dealing with parish share, accounts and general finances of the parish, the 'Fabric Committee' for care of the Fabric of the buildings and grounds, the 'Worship and Discipleship Committee' for matters relating to worship and discipleship and the 'Creation Matters Committee', focused on Eco Church, climate and environmental matters. In addition, we have a Fundraising Committee who provide fundraising events and opportunities to help address our financial challenges.

The Standing Committee comprising the Rector, Church Wardens, PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer, met regularly for decision making, support and Agenda planning.

PCC Vision Statement

Our vision statement for the church created in 2020 is as follows:

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

All aspects of the life, mission and ministry of our parish will be discerned and assessed in line with these three areas. During the year we reviewed and updated our Mission Action Plan (MAP)

In addition, we continue to work in accordance with the Diocesan 'Common Vision', to be a 'A more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world' becoming a more *Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous* Church.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll was updated for 2024 and the number on the electoral roll recorded at the APCM was 59 (2023:71).

There was a significant drop in the number on the Electoral Roll, as the new Church of England Representation Rules (2020) were applied, and people who had not attended in over a year were removed.

Weekly Attendance remained steady throughout the year and we continued to offer the opportunity to join in the 10.00am service via Zoom, denoting our main service as a 'Hybrid' service.

Hybrid Services 2024

	Attendance	Communicants
10.00am Parish Communion		
In Church	25	24
On Zoom	4	-

These numbers include a few children, some of whom have been admitted to Holy Communion according to Canon B15A. The average weekly attendance figures for the services are reached having taken an average attendance over several Sundays spaced across the year, when there are no 'special' Sundays:

During 2024 we celebrated 4 baptisms (2023:6), one Thanksgiving Service and 2 weddings (2023:1). We also conducted 8 funerals (2023:9) of which 5 took place in Church, followed by one burial into an existing grave in the Churchyard, along with 4 burials in Burghfield Parish Burial Ground. In addition 3 Funeral services took place at a local crematorium. Through the year, 9 Interment of Ashes either into existing graves or new plots took place.

Review of the year

A full report on the activities of the parish during 2024 is found in the Annual Report booklet accompanying this document.

Financial Review

This year we have achieved a small surplus, helped by a return of monies from the Deanery, lower energy bills and the sterling work of our fundraising team.

Voluntary income for General Expenditure, (excluding Gift Aid, Fundraising, Fees & Lettings), rose by 12.2% Which was primarily £4,984 distribution from the Deanery Quinquennial. Gift Aid fell 9.2%, partly due to a 3.2% fall in Standing Order giving. Parish Centre lettings income increased by 11.1% but was still 21% down on pre-pandemic levels.

The toilet refurbishment was supported by a £600 grant from the Burghfield Residents Association. New hardware was installed for internet access and a new laptop was purchased, using funds from an appeal to the congregation. There was no other major fabric expenditure in 2024. The Fabric Team undertook many minor maintenance tasks during the year.

Our major fundraising event was the Auction, which raised over £4,355, and there were many events which were very community oriented. The Christmas Tree Festival with the Christmas Market, the Barn Dance, Film Night, Games Night, Pudding Club, Harvest Supper, and a Craft Evening had income of £5,948. Other fundraising events included tea parties, soup lunches, Wood Turning, Whist Drives and many other activities. Congratulations are due to all involved.

The unprecedented fuel bills from 2023 eased (£7.3k vs £12.6k) due to a combination of easing of prices and lower usage.

We initially set out to pay the Parish Share in accordance with the new Diocesan calculation (without transitional allowance). Following discussions, and significant work by the Deanery treasurer, we increased this to pay our share of the Deanery-offered contribution to the transitional allowance as well.

These resulted in an overall surplus on our Unrestricted Funds of £6.2k.

The following are some of the financial and ministerial matters relating to the church:

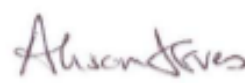
- The ministry of the church has continued through a wide range of services, occasional offices and outreach initiatives.
- Committed monthly giving and some one-off donations and fundraising have continued to provide the monies available for further reordering of our beautiful church.
- Major fabric expenditures are expected to continue. The septic tank will need replacement in the next few years.
- We have still received a substantial amount of additional income from the lettings of the Parish Centre. We are thankful for the work by past and present members of the congregation who had the insight and the commitment to provide this resource for us.



Oliver Dillon
PCC Accountant



Michael Wood
Churchwarden



Alison Eves
Churchwarden

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2024

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date:

24/02/2025

Ross Mackinnon

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Financial Statements

Financial Statements For the 12 Months Ended 31 Dec 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Receipts							
Direct Giving by standing order		43200	0	0	0	43200	44607
Giving by coloured and white envelopes		1402	0	0	0	1402	410
Open collections		1664	0	0	0	1664	2208
Gift aid claimed	1	10575	0	0	0	10575	11651
Other general donations	2	9341	0	0	0	9341	2332
TOTAL		66182	0	0	0	66182	61209
Receipts from activities for generating funds							
Fundraising	3	13450	0	0	0	13450	8888
TOTAL		13450	0	0	0	13450	8888
Receipts from church activities							
Fees	4	3670	0	0	0	3670	4090
Parish centre letting fees	5	28309	0	0	0	28309	25470
Other (rebates and donations)		0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		31979	0	0	0	31979	29560
Receipts from investments							
Interest on Bank Accounts		0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest on CCLA Account	6	139	0	0	146	285	167
		139	0	0	146	285	167
Total Receipts (Unrestricted)		111750	0	0	146	111896	99824
Receipts on Restricted Accounts							
Funds Collected for other charities	7	0	0	935	0	935	907
Gift aid claimed	1	0	0	601	0	601	199
Reordering Projects	7	0	0	1385	0	1385	780
Other restricted accounts (Church Use)	7	0	0	1762	0	1762	413
TOTAL Receipts (Restricted)		0	0	4684	0	4684	2298
TOTAL RECEIPTS		111750	0	4684	146	116580	102122
	Notes	2024 Unrestricted Fund	2024 Unrestricted Designated Fund	2024 Restricted Fund	2024 Endowment Fund	2024 Total 2024	2023 Total 2023
PAYMENTS							
Direct costs of church activities		1841	0	0	0	1841	2090
Building & churchyard maintenance & repairs	8	4621	0	12	146	4779	2167
Clergy expenses	8	1835	0	0	0	1835	1159
Utilities	8	8341	0	0	0	8341	16619
Cleaning	8	4283	0	0	0	4283	2067
Administration		13320	0	186	0	13506	12088
Insurance		4877	0	0	0	4877	4644
Parish Share	9	60772	0	0	0	60772	56348
Parish Share Rebate		0	0	0	0	0	0
Outreach & Youth Work	8	1463	0	0	0	1463	1104
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
Outward Giving	10	4200	0	0	0	4200	4500
Subscriptions		0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Donations Outward		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Unrestricted Payments		105554	0	198	146	105898	102786
Restricted Payments							
Reordering Account	7	0	0	382	0	382	0
Restricted (For Other Charities)	7	0	0	885	0	885	937
Other Restricted	7	0	0	3757	0	3757	868
Total Restricted Payments		0	0	5024	0	5024	1805
TOTAL PAYMENTS		105554	0	5223	146	110923	104591
Transfers Between Funds							
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year to Date	11	6196	0	-539	0	5657	-2469

MOVEMENT ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at January 1st	15328	0	7320	2000	24648	27117
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	6196	0	-539	0	5657	-2469
Balances at December 31st	21525	1	6780	2000	30306	24648
Surplus/(Deficit) for YTD Gen Funds	6196					

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2024

Bank Accounts	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooperative Current Account	11213		4174		15387	10608
Nat West Current	2984				2984	2452
Coop Mission Fund Account					0	0
Fees Account & Fees Cash in Hand	3670				3670	4090
Reordering Current Account			2606		2606	2126
CCLA Thursby	898			2000	2898	2752
CCLA Restoration	8	1			9	8
CCLA Reserve Fund	2751				2751	2612
Petty Cash Float	0				0	0
Total Funds	21525	1	6780	2000	30306	24648

Represented by:

	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	21525				21525	15328
Upkeep & Capital Improvement Fund		1			1	0
J Harvey Thursby Fund				2000	2000	2000
Reordering Fund			3624		3624	2421
Other Repairs & Fabric Appeals			2312		2312	3714
Mission Fund			0		0	0
Other Restricted Funds			727		727	1118
For Other Charities & Organisations			117		117	67
Total Funds	21525	1	6780	2000	30306	24648

Liabilities:

The closing Restricted Fund balance contains amounts which are due to be paid to their respective charities, as follows:

Other Organisations						
Ukraine DEC			67		67	67
Childrens Society			50		50	
	0	0	117	0	117	67

We would like to record our grateful thanks to Mr Oliver Dillon for preparing these accounts and both recognise and appreciate all the work and commitment, which have gone into so doing.



Oliver Dillon
PCC Accountant
pp. Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach
(Rector & PCC Chair)



Mr Michael Wood
(PCC Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 17th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by Oliver Dillon pp. Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach (PCC Chair) and Mr Michael Wood (PCC Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield are prepared on a Receipt and Payments basis.

1. Gift Aid was from the Parish Giving scheme throughout the year together with direct claims for 2023 and some Gift Aid envelopes from 2024.
2. Other General Donations include £1.1k of donations regarding the Bumps, Babies and Toddlers group and £4,984 from the redistribution of Deanery Quinquennial, among other donations for General funds.
3. The Fees Income is reported as the net amount payable to the PCC in accordance with C of E guidelines. Fees collected on behalf of the Diocese totalled £2,617. Transactions relating to payments for Bellringers, Vergers etc are also specifically excluded.
4. There were many Fundraising events of various sizes raising a total of £13,450 for General Funds. These included the Pudding Club, a Barn Dance, Harvest Supper, Craft Evening and the Festival of Trees with Christmas Market. There were many smaller events such as Soup Lunches, Whist Drives and Tea Parties which all made a valued contribution.
5. The Parish Centre Lettings income showed improvement but was still 22% below the 2019 level. Approximately 67% is from the Nursery.
6. Interest Income on the J Harvey Thursby Memorial fund was allocated to defray costs incurred in maintaining the churchyard.
7. Movements on Restricted Accounts:

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Gift Aid £	Resources expended £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
Bell Room, Access & Ropes (BRA £500, 6 Bells £250, Donation £2000)	2,750.00				2,750.00
Reordering (Heating Lighting Cross Tower etc)	2,420.67	1,385.00	201.08	(382.49)	3,624.26
Fabric & Repairs	0.00				0.00
EcoFund	244.72			(244.72)	0.00
Mission Fund (Parish Centre Restructure)	0.00				0.00
BRA 02nd Dec Parish Centre Reorg	0.00				0.00
Ukraine DEC	67.00				67.00
Kitchen Fund	44.98				44.98
Livestreaming	131.00				131.00
Software Fund	782.44			(186.48)	595.96
Vestry Roof (Englefield Trust) (Residual)	334.40			(117.87)	216.53
Disabled Ramp (BRA) (Residual)	24.00				24.00
Lych Gate & Notice Board	315.41			(25.80)	289.61
War Graves Commission	0.00	12.00		(12.00)	0.00
Childrens Society	0.00	785.44		(735.44)	50.00
Energy Grant	0.00			(1,013.15)	(1,013.15)
Technology	0.00	1,750.00	400.00	(2,150.00)	0.00
Launchpad Income Share	0.00	150.00		(150.00)	0.00
Mark Leaving Gift	205.00			(205.00)	0.00
	<u>7,319.62</u>	<u>4,082.44</u>	<u>601.08</u>	<u>(5,222.95)</u>	<u>6,780.19</u>
Designated Funds					
Upkeep and Capital Improvement (Designated)	0.39	0.44			0.83
	<u>0.39</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.83</u>
Endowment Funds					
J Harvey Thursby Fund	2,000.00	146.06		(146.06)	2,000.00
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>146.06</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(146.06)</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>

Interest of £146.06 was applied to the J Harvey Thursby Memorial Fund and the accumulated interest was applied to defray churchyard costs.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December **2024**

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date:

24/02/2025

Ross Mackinnon

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Accounts

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Annual Report 2023



Annual Church Meeting 28th April 2024 St Mary's Church

*Attached – Examined accounts and Report from the chair of the PCC as
required by the Charities Act 2011*

Contents

Agendas for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting	1
Clergy report	2
Churchwardens' report	4
Bradfield Deanery Synod	5
Prayer Life: Report on Prayer and Healing Team	6
Childrens Work	7
Creation Matters	9
Outreach: Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer	10
Outreach: Outward giving	10
Outreach: Burghfield Parish Support Group for The Children's Society	11
Fund Raising Report	11
Burghfield St Mary Primary School	12
Buildings: Fabric report	14
Buildings: Parish Centre report	15

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGENDA

Opening Prayers

Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 15th May 2023

Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the APCM held on 15th May 2023
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of the Updated Electoral Roll
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Report from Churchwardens
6. Report from Deanery Synod
7. Annual Report Statement by Treasurer
8. Matters arising from the Annual Reports.
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Report on Safeguarding
11. Election of Members to serve on the PCC
12. Appointment of PCC Secretary
13. Vision for the Future – Revd Glynn Lautenbach
14. Any Other Business – *only items which have been notified in advance will be taken*
15. Closing Prayer

Clergy Report

As we entered the new year it finally felt as if we were fully emerging from the effects of the pandemic. Our attendance at services began to stabilise and we have noticed that while our congregation has not increased significantly, our worshipping congregation attend more regularly than over the past few years. This period of stability has deepened relationships with one another and our faith in our loving God as we supported and encouraged one another in many ways throughout the year.

Our regular 10am 'hybrid' services continued with opportunity to attend in person or via Zoom, with members of the congregation joining in from home, around the country or even further afield occasionally, when away from home or on holiday. We enjoyed the ministry of both Alison Eves (who has 'Authorisation to preach') as well as our 'Ordinand in Training' Mark Rhodes Smith as they joined in the preaching rota. Through the year we had sermon series, themed services and also several guest speakers from some of the charities we support.

Our Worship and Discipleship Committee met regularly to plan services through the year and after guidance from the Diocese, prayer and several discussions, we returned to offering the 'common cup' during communion, for the first time since the start of the pandemic. Alongside which, we still offer the option of 'intincting' for those who prefer to receive communion in this manner.



Our main festivals had fair attendance and our annual community Remembrance service was very well attended again this year, taking place around the memorial in our churchyard.

In terms of Discipleship, the 'Emmaus' group who meet twice a month, continued together faithfully, and we also saw a good response to 'The Bible Course' earlier in the year during Lent and also to 'The Prayer Course' later on, both ably led by Don Sinclair. The Advent Course was also well attended and through these various courses we have learned together as well as been inspired and challenged by the content.

The ministry offered by our Prayer and Healing Team is always much appreciated, both through the prayers they offer weekly in the chancel during communion, as well as in participating in leading and preaching at our termly Healing Services. Our Prayer Chain has prayed faithfully for the many requests received and we have seen some wonderful answers to prayer.

A highlight this year, was the 24-hour Prayer we hosted in June to pray for all our local churches and communities in our 3 villages of Burghfield, Mortimer and Sulhamstead.

Prayer Collage created over the 24 hours.



We offered a variety of styles of prayer through the 24 hours (e.g. led meditations, quiet and creative prayer, prayer walks) and through the 24 hours we had 29 people who joined us at various times to make it a wonderful ecumenical event. We hope to make this an annual occurrence.

During June we also celebrated the ministry of Mark Rhodes-Smith over the past several years. St Mary's has been his 'home church', while he studied part-time for ordination. It has been lovely to see Mark grow and develop as he preached and participated in services and events over these last few years. We enjoyed a celebratory service and a farewell lunch together, as we gave thanks for all he has brought to our parish and wished him well for the future.



My husband and I were then privileged to attend Mark's Ordination as Deacon, on 1st July in Christchurch Cathedral, as he began the next step of his faith journey as a Curate in the Churn Benefice.

Mark (Middle) at his Ordination

In September, we welcomed Connor Heath and his wife Lois, as Connor began a full-time training course towards ordination. In effect this means Connor is at Cuddesdon College 3 days a week and 4 days in the parish. Though of the 4 days, one is a day off and the other a study day. We look forward to being part of his journey over these next few years.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been part of our journey together this last year, and you will see the rich variety of our ministry and outreach, services, events and so on in the pages to come. From the members of our PCC who have committed to serving our parish, and the many involved in both obvious and behind the scenes ministries and activities, who give of themselves, their gifts and time so selflessly, I want to thank you one and all! I do also want to single out our Parish Administrator Jo Dore, who has proved a real asset for us all, who goes above and beyond her role and who has made such a difference to the life of our parish. Thank you all and I give special thanks to God for gathering us all together into this loving community where we do see our vision statement in action, *Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others.*

As we look ahead to the future I pray that we will notice where God is at work among us, will be receptive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and walking in faith and trust together alongside our Saviour Jesus Christ, will be able to build on all we've achieved together so far, so that our light of love and witness will be seen in our community and draw others towards God's love, so they too can come to know and love him.

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Churchwardens' Report

In 2023 we have continued to offer "hybrid" services, with most of the congregation worshipping together in person, with a few joining in on Zoom. After much prayer and discussion, we re-introduced the common cup to our communion, whilst retaining the option of intinction for those not yet ready to take that step. Adding the altar rail as an alternative place to receive communion means we have what appears to be a complicated arrangement at services, but everyone has adapted well to it; even visiting clergy.

We bid a fond farewell to Mark Smith as he moved on to take up a curacy in a new parish. We welcomed Connor to our congregation, and more lately to leading services, as he starts out on his journey to priesthood.

Our 3rd Sunday Breakfast@Church events, prior to the 10am Service, have remained popular (especially the bacon butties!) and this is proving to be a great time of fellowship- all are welcome. It has been a pleasure to see a few more children at both the breakfasts and general Sunday services.

We are very grateful for all the work done by our Parish Administrator, Jo. She has been a great support to Rev Glynn, to us, and to the Parish at large. She keeps everything running smoothly in the background and has also taken the initiative to bring improvements to the way we work. She has kept us all well informed through the Pew Sheets each week. During the year she also started producing the monthly newsletters, providing a more detailed look at the events happening in and around church.

The Fundraising Team have gone from strength to strength. They've raised an amazing amount for church funds whilst, equally importantly, providing opportunities for fun and fellowship together. The Craft Evenings have been particularly successful in widening attendance beyond the regular congregation. Many events have been held in people's homes during the week, with soup lunches and coffee mornings in the winter months and cream teas in the summer.

Community Churchyard tidy up working parties continued, and this great collaboration between church and community has resulted in our beautiful churchyard being well cared for: thank you to all who have taken part.

Our third Festival of Creation was held in June, with the theme of “Water of Life”. Highlights included a talk from Helen Hyde on the Lawrence’s Well Roundabout Appeal and a showing of the “Shark Water” film. Sadly, a clash with a Save the Children event limited numbers on the Sunday, although we raised enough money over the weekend to achieve our target of being able to “twin” our remaining five toilets in the Parish Centre.

We are grateful for the work of Brian and the fabric committee to maintain and enhance our buildings. We are starting to see the benefits of the improvements made to the layout of the parish centre in 2022. The new servery on the Parish Centre landing has made that a more welcoming space and we look forward to more use being made of it. The cost of gas and electricity had a major impact on our finances in the year and the installation of NEST control systems in both the Parish Centre and Church buildings should hopefully mean that we make the most efficient use of our fuel, benefitting both our finances and carbon footprint, whilst keeping them comfortable for use.

The Remembrance Day service was held entirely outside again. It was such a pleasure to welcome so many from the community. The weather was better than forecast and a large congregation, young and old, attending the open-air wreath-laying ceremony and service at the War Memorial.

The run up to Christmas is always busy, and we were pleased to host several events which reach far beyond our regular congregation: once again there was a full house for the Advent Wreath Making evening, the 9th annual Christmas Tree Festival had a record attendance and Carols on the Hatch had a good crowd despite the weather.

We would like to thank Rev Glynn, as well as all the faithful members of the PCC and all in our church family for all your great and much valued support throughout 2023. It is a privilege to be member of, and to play a part in leading, God’s family in this place.

*Alison Eves and Michael Wood
Churchwardens*

Bradfield Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod representatives serve for up to three years. Elections were held in 2023 and our current representatives are Carol Jackson Doerge and Colin Thompson.

The Synod met three times in 2023, in March, June and November, and has struggled for most of the year without lay officers. The positions of lay chair and secretary have been vacant since June and the Treasurer resigned in October with the vacancy continuing to the end of the year. The Area Dean also changed

in the year and is now the Revd Grant Fensome of Basildon. There was a view that the Deanery should be disbanded with Burghfield and Purley going to Reading Deanery, and the remainder to Newbury. There is little enthusiasm for any change, but the future of the Deanery is in doubt.

Most of the meetings were taken up with protracted debates over Parish share. The Diocese had accepted that changes needed to be made but was slow to come forward with suggestions. There is a current of concern that too much is being devoted to diocesan initiatives and insufficient given to parishes to use locally. Furthermore, within the Deanery there is a dispute over the impact of proposed changes on individual parishes. Everyone accepts that the most recent proposals were unduly severe on Burghfield.

The Treasurer will report that we were unable to pay our full Parish Share in 2023 and are unlikely to be able to do so in 2024. The deanery understands the reasons for this and have generally been supportive of our intentions.

A great deal of energy was spent on debating the extent to which different parishes in the same benefice should support one another financially. It was also agreed to reduce the amount of money held by the Deanery to £15k with the balance being distributed to parishes in proportion to contribution. The Deanery Quinquennial fund was also disbanded, and responsibility handed back to Parishes.

Colin Thompson & Carol Jackson-Doerge

Report on Prayer Coordination & Prayer and Healing Team

Our **Prayer Chain** has grown this year as more members of the congregation have joined in offering prayer support for those with special needs and requests. All members of the congregation are very welcome to contact Rev Glynn or any member **Prayer and Healing Team** (contact details in Church Directory) and your requests for urgent and on-going prayer will be circulated quickly to the team.

The **Monthly Prayer Diary**, available at the back of church or through a link in the weekly news sheet has been updated and the contents of this feed into our weekly Intercessions in church. Those wishing to have loved ones remembered in our weekly prayers in **The Year's Mind** now have a link to contact Margaret who is very happy to make sure we continue to remember our loved ones in our weekly prayers.

The Prayer and Healing Team is available to pray with you during our weekly Eucharist and also prays over the many requests left in the prayer request book by the candle stand by the font.

We were privileged to lead three **Healing Services** during the last year and again assisted at the beautiful **All Souls Service** in November.

A small number of us attended the **Festival of Prayer Day** at Ripon College, Cuddesdon which was held in July and are already looking forward to the next festival on July 5th 2025.

June 9th – 10th saw an exciting new initiative when we held a **24-Hour Prayer Vigil**. The vigil ran from 2.00 pm on Friday until 2.00 pm on Saturday, beginning and ending with a Eucharist. Four of us, Rev Glyn, Nicky, Carol and I stayed throughout the 24 hours and up to 20 people from our congregation, Burghfield and Mortimer Methodists and TIM joined us for various parts of the day. On the Saturday morning, we held 3 simultaneous prayer walks, covering Mortimer Village, Burghfield Common and Burghfield Village. This was an exciting chance to take prayer right into the streets, homes, businesses and schools in our communities. It was a period of immense richness and blessing for all who came and we look forward to repeating it this year.

Margaret Thomas

Childrens Work

In Summer 2023 Sara and Gary stepped down as Children's Ministry Leaders so with a wonderful team behind me I stepped up as Children's Ministry Leader. We have continued to lead film nights and Crafty Church events for the children and young people in the Community.

When families arrive on a Sunday Morning to our services, we provide age-appropriate bags containing books and colouring activities to do to welcome them to St Mary's Church and to help their parents to take part and be involved with the service.

We still have really good success with the film evenings, starting with a fun quiz as the children arrive and then showing a film with a break in between for hot food. The food is prepared by two volunteers from the community, and we are very grateful for their help! The quiz the children take part in is normally related to the film or the season we have chosen. In April we are having an Easter related film night, with an Easter quiz and film. At the end of their quiz the children have an opportunity to suggest the next film we show. We have lots of returning families and always have new families coming which is encouraging. It is also good to get to know the new families and catch up with the regular families

throughout the evening. Some parents/carers with older children do leave their children, and a few do join us for the evening.

Film Night



Crafty Church is an arts and crafts morning where families can come together and take part in bible themed activities, with a short reflection or talk about the theme. We organise Crafty Church once a term for Primary School aged children and young people. Near the end of the year, we provided Christmas activities at Burghfield St Mary's School Christmas Fair and at The Christmas Tree Festival, which were all greatly received by the children and their families.



Easter Crafty Church 2023



Christmas Tree Festival Crafts

With a very helpful and supportive team behind me and trusting in God with all decisions made, I have grown in so much confidence and this has also helped me to encourage others to get involved.

I would just like to thank everyone who has supported the Children's Ministry this year in all roles - providing refreshments, registration, talking to parents, preparing the food for our film nights, administration and preparing and helping with crafts. If you would like to be a part of this supportive and welcoming team, please get in touch with myself or Revd Glynn.

Amy Legg

Creation Matters

Creation Matters is the banner we use to cover our response to one of the Church of England five marks of mission, namely: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. The Creation Matters group is a sub-committee of the PCC.

We began 2023 by celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight from the latter part of February into March.

We held our Climate Sunday Service on 25th June as part of our “Festival of Creation” weekend event with the theme “The Water of Life”. We welcomed Helen Hyde, who told us about the Lawrence’s Roundabout Well Appeal. This was subsequently chosen as one of our outside giving charities for the year. The festival was well attended on the Saturday but Sunday clashed with a Save the Children event at one of our neighbours so there were fewer people, including for our showing of the “Shark Water” film. . To highlight the range of Green cleaning products that are readily available we held an Eco-Cleaning Tombola. This, along with a plant sale and other donations enabled us to reach our fundraising target to raise enough to “twin” our remaining toilets in the Parish Centre. We are grateful to all the stall holders who came to show off their wares and to the Mors Bags team who handed out lots of bags using repurposed material.

Our church porch recycling centre continues to keep many pill blister packs and milk bottle tops and various other items out of the general waste. We are grateful to Margaret Thomas and Fiona Jones for collecting them and moving them on the next stage of their recycling journey. We no longer have an outlet for confectionery wrappers so now collect old pens instead. We also started collecting used ink cartridges; as well as being eco-friendly, this is a funding source.

We have joined a Diocesan scheme to recycle old candle stubs, coordinated by Eileen and Brian.

We finally got round to putting up (thanks Brian!) our Eco-Church Bronze award from A Rocha UK. In 2024 we aim to upgrade to Silver; if you want to help, talk to Alison or Mike.



Michael Wood

Outreach

Outreach is very much a part of our mission at St Mary's and through the year we have been involved in various activities. Our congregation is exceedingly generous in supporting our local Foodbank and the need seems to have increased even more as so many families experience difficulties due to the rising cost of living and the energy crisis. Food parcels are in great need and supply cannot keep up with demand. Our congregation continue to donate supplies generously as well as supporting the Lent and Advent special appeals.



Towards the end of the year Bucket List Wishes (a local charity granting end of life wishes to terminally ill adults and their families, began to use our parish centre upper room for storage of the used wedding and prom dresses they sell to raise funds.

At our annual 'Toy Service' in December we received very generous donations of new toys and other items for children, teenagers and parents, to support two local charities, Berkshire Women's Aid as well as Spotlight UK.

Outward giving

For some years now we have donated a percentage of the Church's income to charities and mission agencies in accordance with the PCC decision made a few years ago to commit 10% of the church's planned giving income. In choosing the charities to receive monies from us, the PCC has striven to maintain a balance between large and small charities, and domestic and overseas charities. We also favour charities where we have personal knowledge of the good that their work does. This year in line with our Eco-Church focus, we have made sure to include two charities whose focus is the environment and providing assistance to people facing the challenges of the climate crisis.



Our Outward Giving figure for 2023 is £4,400. This year's beneficiaries are:



- | | |
|---|------|
| • Health Help International | £800 |
| • Farm Africa | £800 |
| • Lawrence's Roundabout Well Appeal | £500 |
| • Yeldall Manor | £500 |
| • The Trussell Trust
(West Berks Foodbank) | £500 |
| • Home Start | £500 |
| • Burghfield United Charities | £400 |
| • Spotlight | £400 |



Revd Glynn

Burghfield Support Group for The Children's Society



The group consists of Anne Burtenshaw, Hilary James, Pat Glover (our Treasurer), Janet Reed, Nicky South-Klein, Sheila Langston-Hopgood and Colin Thompson and met three times in the year in January, April and September.

New members are always welcome and if you would like to join our little group please speak to any of its members.

We held our usual cake stalls on Mothering Sunday and at the Toy service raising £156 & £230 respectively. We made £163.75 from the sale of Christmas cards. The two Christingle services in Church raising £437 and the Church also agreed that the collection from Carols on the Hatch (£96) would be given to the Society. Our planned quiz evenings returned and were well supported raising £475 in May and £340 in October. The fall in the general circulation of coins meant revenue from Boxes was substantially less, with only £129.80 being received in the year ending April 2023.

Overall, there was a small increase on the preceding year.

Colin Thompson

Fund Raising Report

During 2023 we raised £7396.25 for Church Funds, and we had a lot of fun, laughter and fellowship while doing so.



Spring Craft Evening



Summer Craft Evening



Christmas Craft evening

Our main Fundraising activities were a Games Night where we held a Beetle Drive and played Bingo, with much competitive fun and laughter, Sing a Long Film Nights with Pop Corn and Ice Cream, fabulous Craft Evenings in March, July and November which brought in many people from the wider community and produced some lovely pieces of work, including some by people who had never used a sewing machine, or threaded a needle before.



In May we held a joyous Kings Coronation Supper which was attended by 50+ people and really got us all into the spirit of the Nation's celebrations.



During the Creation Matters weekend in June, we held an Eco Tombola, Plant Sale, and Raffle and in August an Afternoon Tea was enjoyed in a beautiful garden with sunshine too! September gave us the opportunity to enjoy an Italian Themed Evening with all food, wine and music Italian. And in December during the Christmas Tree Festival, we had two wonderful Raffles of a huge Teddy Bear and a Christmas Hamper together with a successful Bring and Buy Sale.

Throughout the year our fundraising activities included numerous very popular Coffee Mornings and Soup Lunches, where smaller groups of us could get together and enjoy good company, homemade cakes and soup.

We also continued to receive filled Smartie Tubes that had been handed out in 2022 containing chocolate Smarties and were returned full of money!

Anne Pocock on behalf of the Fund raising Committee



Burghfield St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Burghfield St Mary's School vision is to create a caring Christian learning environment that inspires each individual in the school community to fulfil their unique potential and become a responsible, concerned and active member of God's world.

The school, founded in 1836, with a trust deed dated 1843, is a voluntary controlled school which means the Diocese appoints two of the Governors-known as Foundation Governors, (currently Revd Glynn Lautenbach and Deborah Marsden) but the staff are employed by the Local Authority.

Foundation Governors meet with the Head Teacher on a termly basis to discuss RE provision and collective worship within the school, as well as strengthening school Church ties.

There are good links between school and church and 2023 saw a return to pre-covid times of weekly Thursday Morning Collective Worship (assemblies) led by either Revd Glynn or a member of the congregation. In September Connor Heath our 'Ordinand in Training' joined us, attending weekly assemblies and taking turns to lead them as well.

While the weather did not always permit our scheduled school services in church, where possible these took place in church during the year, with parents able to attend several of these services (Easter, Year 6 Leavers and Nativity).

The two big events of 2023 were the Ofsted inspection and the retirement of Mr Gallagher as Head Teacher.

OFSTED

On behalf of the foundation governors, we should like to congratulate all staff and pupils on achieving an extremely good OFSTED Inspection Report.

The report provided many reasons to feel proud:

- The children's behaviour and attitudes are described as exceptional, they demonstrate very positive attitudes towards their learning and achieve well.
- Reading is prioritised and a rigorous and systematic approach is well embedded.
- Relationships between pupils are exceptional and the pastoral care ensures pupils receive the emotional and social support they need.
- The curriculum is ambitious, and assessment is used particularly well, ensuring leaders have an accurate oversight of pupil progress across the curriculum and teachers are able to continually adapt teaching to address gaps in knowledge.
- Leadership is a strength of this school and both leaders and governors work well together.

Head Teacher

At the end of the summer term, we said goodbye and a huge thank you to Mr Gallagher, who has been an excellent leader of BSM for 16 years, and welcomed Mrs Carmichael to the role, after a rigorous interview process led by an appointment panel made up of specialised governors. The school has also appointed a new Deputy Head teacher and look forward to the fresh leadership and new ideas that they both bring to their roles.

Revd Glynn Lautenbach (Foundation Governor)
Deborah Marsden (Foundation Governor)

Buildings - Fabric Report

Parish Centre

During 2022 the ground floor of the Parish Centre was reconfigured to enable the main hall, kitchen and two toilets to be separated from the entrance foyer, stairs, and the toilet suitable for people with disabilities. Following on from this, in 2023 a Servery was installed on the upstairs landing, to enable the main room on the first floor to have separate catering facilities. (Access to the downstairs kitchen is restricted to Mini-Oaks Preschool when it is in session.) This work was funded by a grant of £600 from Burghfield Residents Association.

The Parish Centre burglar alarm had failed a couple of times in 2022, and was in need of a new and updated control panel. After checking with our insurance company, who confirmed that we are not obliged to have a burglar alarm, the PCC took the decision to remove and disable the system.

During 2023 all the hard wiring in the Parish Centre has been checked and certified as safe.

Church

The NEST heating control system which was installed in the Parish Centre during 2022 has proved extremely beneficial in reducing the energy consumption, and so in 2023 the PCC agreed to invest in a similar system for the Church. This control system enables the heating system to respond more accurately to the external temperature, especially during autumn and spring. It also allows for remote control of the heating time periods and temperatures. During October JFK Heating undertook the yearly Servicing of the gas boilers in both the Church and Parish Centre. They had identified issues with one of the Church boilers and undertaken remedial work.

PAT testing was also carried out on all the portable electrical appliances in the Parish Centre and the Church.

Church Grounds

During June the Fabric Team undertook to level the gravel path from the Lych Gate up to the main doors of the Church with bags of Pea Shingle following a spell of very wet weather.

The large carpark surface was also showing signs of wear with potholes appearing in the surface, especially around the entrance. A large bulk bag of road stone was delivered and the team filled the holes and consolidated the surface with a Vibrating Compactor Plate.

Minor remedial works have also been carried out on the external car park lights.

Church Quinquennial Inspection Survey

The last survey was done in 2019, so 2024 will see the next five-year inspection of the church building by the Diocesan Architect, who is a qualified historic buildings surveyor.

As part of the Quinquennial, the Church's electrical hard wiring is also due for inspection by a qualified electrician.

As usual, although some large maintenance, repair and improvement projects have been carried out by professional contractors, a great many of the ongoing repair and maintenance tasks have once again been tackled by our wonderful Fabric Committee team (nobly backed up by their very supportive partners and friends.). Their enthusiasm and willingness to be literally "hands-on", and to keep smiling while getting dusty, paint-splattered and very often extremely wet is much appreciated and is a very important contribution to our ministry. Thank you one and all; the church would be a very different place without you.

Brian Thatcher, Chair Fabric Committee

Parish Centre

We have had a busy year with lots of adhoc bookings spread throughout the year including our seasonal craft evenings which are always very popular, the Childrens Society Quiz Nights and many fundraising events where the community comes together to help raise funds for our Church & cumulating in an extremely busy December starting with our ever-popular Advent Wreath Making evening welcoming 100 attendees, our Christmas Tree Festival which was over a whole weekend & had a record 25 trees from across our local community and then lots of various concerts & gatherings being held jointly in the Church and Parish Centre.



We have managed to maintain our core long term bookings in the Parish Centre which include 3 x different Yoga groups, Pilates, Weight Watchers & Mini Oaks Preschool, and all are a real asset to the community. We help advertise these groups via our monthly newsletter and posters on our noticeboard in the centre.

We have also welcomed the Dresses for Bucket List Wishes charity into the centre who have a space in the upper room for storing their beautiful dresses and they hold regular appointments throughout the week for people to try on and buy their dresses which vary in styles from Prom, Party and Wedding dresses. They also hold a big dress sale once a month and these are very popular and a much-needed help for people in our community as all dresses are very affordable and the money raised goes to their charity.



The kitchen servery (pictured above) located on the upper landing for use by hirers of the upstairs room is brilliant and a great asset to our offerings for hirers enabling use of the upper room during the week for lunch meetings & groups.

Our hire charges for the parish centre are as of September 2023 £14.20 weekdays up to 6pm & £16.85 weekdays after 6pm and weekends.

Jo Dore, Parish Administrator

The PCC of St Mary's the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

Reference and administrative details

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is in the village and parish of Burghfield in the county of Berkshire.

All correspondence regarding the church should be addressed to: The Parish Office, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. This involves working with the Revd Glynn Lautenbach the Rector, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the Parish Centre. The PCC is a charity Registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales and our number is: 1167639.

Furthermore, the PCC of St Mary the Virgin has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Parochial Church Meeting or are ex-officio in accordance with the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and may stand for election to the PCC.

As a resolution was made and accepted at APCM on 13th June 2020, there are no longer any limits on the number of terms of office for any office bearers for the PCC.

During the year 2023 the following people served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio Members

Clergy:

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Wardens:

Michael Wood

Alison Eves

PCC members as a result of Deanery Synod Membership

Colin Thompson and Carol Jackson-Doerge were re-elected to Deanery Synod at the APCM on 15th May 2023 for a 3 year term of office till 2026.

PCC Secretary

Brian Thatcher

PCC Treasurer

Michael Wood

Elected Members of the PCC

Name	Elected at APCM	Serve Until
Lesley Brigden	2021	2024
Iain Buchanan	2021	2024
Brian Thatcher	2022	2025
Amy Legg	2022	2025
Oliver Dillon	2023	2026
Marjorie McClure	2023	2026
Clive Eatwell	2023	2026
Anne Pocock	2023	2026

There was one vacancy following the APCM, which has not been filled.

Foundation Governors

The following have been appointed to serve on the school governing body of the church school as Foundation Governors from 23 September 2020 – 22 September 2024:

Mrs Deborah Marsden-Kwan

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Structure, governance and management

Committees and Groups

The sub-committees of the PCC which continued through 2023 were the 'Finance Committee' dealing with parish share, accounts and general finances of the parish, the 'Fabric Committee' for care of the Fabric of the buildings and grounds, the 'Worship and Discipleship Committee' for matters relating to worship and discipleship and the 'Creation Matters Committee', focused on Eco Church, climate and environmental matters. In addition, we have a Fundraising Committee who provide fundraising events and opportunities to help address our financial challenges.

The Standing Committee comprising the Rector, Church wardens, PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer, met regularly for decision making, support and Agenda planning.

PCC Vision Statement

Our vision statement for the church created in 2020 is as follows:

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

All aspects of the life, mission and ministry of our parish will be discerned and assessed in line with these three areas. During the year we began to work on our future Mission Action Plan (MAP)

In addition, we continue to work in accordance with the Diocesan 'Common Vision', to be a 'A more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world' becoming a more *Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous* Church.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll was updated for 2023 and the number on the electoral roll recorded at the APCM was 71 (2022:72).

Through 2023 attendance settled into a more regular pattern, and along with face-to-face attendance, we continued to offer the opportunity to join in the 10.00am service via zoom, denoting our main service as a 'Hybrid' service.

Hybrid Services 2023

	Attendance	Communicants
10.00am Parish Communion		
In Church	25	24
On Zoom	4	-

These numbers include a few children, some of whom have been admitted to Holy Communion according to Canon B15A. The average weekly attendance figures for the services are reached having taken an average attendance over several Sundays spaced across the year, when there are no 'special' Sundays:

During 2023 we celebrated 6 baptisms (2022:7) and 1 wedding (2022:3). We also conducted 9 funerals (2022:12) of which 6 took place in Church and 3 took place at a local crematorium. Through the year, 7 Interment of Ashes either into existing graves or new plots took place, and 2 burials were conducted into existing graves in the Churchyard, along with 2 burials in Burghfield Parish Burial Ground.

Review of the year

A full report on the activities of the parish during 2023 is found in the Annual Report booklet accompanying this document.

Financial Review

As attendances started to recover from the Covid-19 the war in Ukraine and other global uncertainties have had a major impact through high inflation especially fuel bills.

Voluntary income for General Expenditure, (excluding Gift Aid, Fundraising, Fees & Lettings), rose by 3.3% with the return of Collections offset by a fall in 'lump sum' donations. Gift Aid was steady, with an annual increase of 3.3%. Parish Centre lettings income increased by 11.5% but was still 25% down on pre-pandemic levels.

The final elements of the reorganisation of the Parish Centre were completed at the start of 2023 and there was no other major fabric expenditure in 2023. (We note the increase in Parish Centre Lettings.) The Fabric Team undertook many minor maintenance tasks during the year.

Although there was not a major fundraising event there were many events which were very community oriented. Advent Wreath making, the Festival of Creation, Film Night, Games Night, The Christmas Tree Festival and Italian Supper, the Coronation Supper, and a Craft Evening Club had income of £6,847. Other fundraising events included tea parties, soup lunches, Colin's Quiz and many other activities. Congratulations are due to all involved.

The unprecedented increase of £7,500 on our fuel bills (£12.5k vs £5.1k), along with a Deanery Synod decision to divide the Deanery Share by the number of stipendiary clergy, left us unable to pay the amount allocated by the Deanery without breaching our duties as Trustees. Instead, we paid the amount calculated by the new Diocese of Oxford Parish Share formula, excluding any transitional allowance. The Deanery and Diocesan Finance teams were informed of this approach early in the year. In 2024 we are aiming to pay according to the same calculation, uplifted by 3% to align with the general Oxford Parish Share increase.

These resulted in an overall deficit on our Unrestricted Funds of £2.6k.

A collection of £205 was made for a leaving gift for Mark.

The following are some of the financial and ministerial matters relating to the church:


- The ministry of the church has continued through a wide range of services, occasional offices and outreach initiatives.
- Committed monthly giving and some one-off donations and fundraising have continued to provide the monies available for further reordering of our beautiful church.
- Major fabric expenditures are expected to continue. The septic tank will need replacement in the next few years.

Despite it still being reduced by the current circumstances we have still received a substantial amount of additional income from the lettings of the Parish Centre. We are thankful for the work by past and present members of the congregation who had the insight and the commitment to provide this resource for us.



Michael Wood

Treasurer & Churchwarden



Alison Eves

Churchwarden

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date:

15/03/2024

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Financial Statements

Financial Statements For the 12 Months Ended 31 Dec 2023

		Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts						
Direct Giving by standing order		44607	0	0	0	44607
Giving by coloured and white envelopes		410	0	0	0	410
Open collections		2208	0	0	0	2208
Gift aid claimed	1	11651	0	0	0	11651
Other general donations	2	2332	0	0	0	2332
TOTAL		61209	0	0	0	61209
Receipts from activities for generating funds						
Fundraising	3	8888	0	0	0	8888
TOTAL		8888	0	0	0	8888
Receipts from church activities						
Fees	4	4090	0	0	0	4090
Parish centre letting fees	5	25470	0	0	0	25470
Other (rebates and donations)		0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		29560	0	0	0	29560
Receipts from investments						
Interest on Bank Accounts		0	0	0	0	0
Interest on CCLA Account	6	81	0	0	85	167
		81	0	0	85	167
Total Receipts (Unrestricted)		99738	0	0	85	99824
Receipts on Restricted Accounts						
Funds Collected for other charities	7	0	0	907	0	907
Gift aid claimed	1	0	0	199	0	199
Reordering Projects	7	0	0	780	0	780
Other restricted accounts (Church Use)	7	0	0	413	0	413
TOTAL Receipts (Restricted)		0	0	2298	0	2298
TOTAL RECEIPTS		99738	0	2298	85	102122
	Note:	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
		Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2023
PAYMENTS						
Direct costs of church activities		2090	0	0	0	2090
Building & churchyard maintenance & rep.	8	1952	0	130	85	2167
Clergy expenses	8	1159	0	0	0	1159
Utilities	8	16569	0	50	0	16619
Cleaning	8	2067	0	0	0	2067
Administration		11902	0	186	0	12088
Insurance		4644	0	0	0	4644
Parish Share	9	56348	0	0	0	56348
Parish Share Rebate		0	0	0	0	0
Outreach & Youth Work	8	1104	0	0	0	1104
Other		0	0	0	0	0
Outward Giving	10	4500	0	0	0	4500
Subscriptions		0	0	0	0	0
Other Donations Outward		0	0	0	0	0
Total Unrestricted Payments		102334	0	366	85	102786
Restricted Payments						
Reordering Account	7	0	0	0	0	0
Restricted (For Other Charities)	7	0	0	937	0	937
Other Restricted	7	0	0	868	0	868
Total Restricted Payments		0	0	1805	0	1805
TOTAL PAYMENTS		102334	0	2171	85	104591
Transfers Between Funds						
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year to Date	11	-2596	0	127	0	-2469

MOVEMENT ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at January 1st	17925	0	7192	2000	27117	28961
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	-2596	0	127	0	-2469	-1844
Balances at December 31st	15328	0	7320	2000	24648	27117
Surplus/(Deficit) for YTD Gen Funds	-2596					

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2023

Bank Accounts	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooperative Current Account	5414		5194		10608	14221
Nat West Current	2452				2452	1920
Coop Mission Fund Account					0	0
Fees Account & Fees Cash in Hand	4090				4090	4124
Reordering Current Account			2126		2126	1646
CCLA Thursby	752			2000	2752	2666
CCLA Restoration	8	0			8	8
CCLA Reserve Fund	2612				2612	2531
Petty Cash Float	0				0	0
Total Funds	15328	0	7320	2000	24648	27117

Represented by:

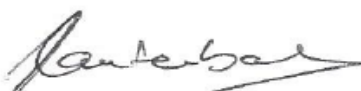
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	15328				15328	17925
Upkeep & Capital Improvement Fund		0			0	0
J Harvey Thursby Fund				2000	2000	2000
Reordering Fund			2421		2421	1710
Other Repairs & Fabric Appeals			3714		3714	4417
Mission Fund			0		0	0
Other Restricted Funds			1118		1118	969
For Other Charities & Organisations			67		67	97
Total Funds	15328	0	7320	2000	24648	27117
	0	0	0	0		

Liabilities:

The closing Restricted Fund balance contains amounts from collections which are due to be paid to their respective charities, as follows:

Other Organisations						
Ukraine DEC			67		67	
Children In Need						
	0	0	67	0	67	5

We would like to record our grateful thanks to Mr Oliver Dillon for preparing these accounts and both recognise and appreciate all the work and commitment, which have gone in to doing so.



Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach
(Rector & PCC Chair)



Mr Michael Wood
(PCC Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 18th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach (PCC Chair) and Mr Michael Wood (PCC Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield are prepared on a Receipt and Payments basis.

1. Gift Aid was from the Parish Giving scheme throughout the year together with direct claims for 2022 and some Gift Aid envelopes from 2023.
2. Other General Donations include private Gift Aided donations of £100 and £500 from parishioners, among other donations for General funds.
3. The Fees Income is reported as the net amount payable to the PCC in accordance with C of E guidelines. Fees collected on behalf of the Diocese totalled £2,098. Transactions relating to payments for Bellingers, Vergers etc are also specifically excluded.
4. There were many Fundraising events of various sizes raising a total of almost £8,900 for General Funds. These included the Festival of Creation, an Italian Supper, a Craft Evening, Advent Wreath Making and the Christmas Tree Festival. There were many smaller events such as Soup Lunches and Tea Parties which all made a valued contribution.
5. The Parish Centre Lettings income showed some improvement but was still 30% below the 2019 level. Approximately 69% is from the Nursery.
6. Interest Income on the J Harvey Thursby Memorial fund was allocated to defray costs incurred in maintaining the churchyard.
7. Movements on Restricted Accounts:

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Gift Aid £	Resources expended £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
Bell Room, Access & Ropes (BRA £500, 6 Bells £250, Donation £2000)	2,750.00				2,750.00
Reordering (Heating Lighting Cross Tower etc)	1,709.63	780.00	199.16	(268.12)	2,420.67
Fabric & Repairs	0.00				0.00
EcoFund	217.08	145.50		(117.86)	244.72
Mission Fund (Parish Centre Restructure)	0.00				0.00
BRA 02nd Dec Parish Centre Reorg	600.00			(600.00)	0.00
Ukraine DEC	67.00				67.00
Kitchen Fund	44.98				44.98
Livestreaming	131.00				131.00
Software Fund	968.92			(186.48)	782.44
Vestry Roof (Englefield Trust) (Residual)	334.40				334.40
Disabled Ramp (BRA) (Residual)	24.00				24.00
Lych Gate & Notice Board	315.41				315.41
Berkshire Clergy Charity	0.00	529.50		(529.50)	0.00
War Graves Commission	0.00	12.00		(12.00)	0.00
Childrens Society	30.00	203.00		(233.00)	0.00
Christian Aid	0.00	174.00		(174.00)	0.00
Heating Controls	0.00	50.00		(50.00)	0.00
Mark Leaving Gift	0.00	205.00			205.00
	<u>7,192.42</u>	<u>2,099.00</u>	<u>199.16</u>	<u>(2,170.96)</u>	<u>7,319.62</u>
Designated Funds					
Upkeep and Capital Improvement (Designated) F	0.14	0.25			0.39
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.25</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.39</u>
Endowment Funds					
J Harvey Thursby Fund	2,000.00	85.46		(85.46)	2,000.00
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>85.46</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(85.46)</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>

Interest of £85.46 was applied to the J Harvey Thursby Memorial Fund and the accumulated interest was applied to defray churchyard costs.

Activity on Restricted funds was quieter this year with the completion of the Parish Centre Served. Income on the Restricted funds included Monthly pledges of £780 and a collection at the Bishop's visitation.

8. High fuel bills had a negative impact, being £7k higher at 247% of the previous year.
9. Parish Share was paid for 11 months.
10. Our Outward Giving figure for 2023 is £4,400. This year's beneficiaries are:

Health Help International	£800
Farm Africa	£800
Burghfield United Charities	£400
Spotlight	£400
Yeldall Manor	£500
Lawrence's Roundabout	£500
The Trussell Trust (WB Foodbank)	£500
Home Start	£500

11. A deficit of £2,596 is reported on the unrestricted funds statutory accounts.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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


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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed: 

Date: 15/03/2024

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Accounts

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Annual Report 2022



Annual Church Meeting **15th May 2023** **St Mary's Church**

Attached – Examined accounts and Report from the chair of the PCC as required by the Charities Act 2011

Contents

Agendas for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting	1
Clergy report	2
Churchwardens' report	6
Bradfield Deanery Synod	8
Prayer Life: Report on Prayer and Healing Team	9
Childrens Work	10
Creation Matters	11
Outreach: Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer	12
Outreach: Outward giving	13
Outreach: Burghfield Parish Support Group for The Children's Society	13
Burghfield St Mary Primary School	14
Buildings: Fabric report	15
Buildings: Parish Centre report	17

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGENDA

Opening Prayers

Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 24th May 2022

Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the APCM held on 24th May 2022
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of the Updated Electoral Roll
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Report from Churchwardens
6. Report from Deanery Synod
7. Annual Report Statement by Treasurer
8. Matters arising from the Annual Reports.
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Report on Safeguarding
11. Election of Members to serve on the PCC
 - a. Election of Members
 - b. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives
12. Appointment of PCC Secretary
13. Vision for the Future – Revd Glynn Lautenbach
14. Any Other Business – *only items which have been notified in advance will be taken*
15. Closing Prayer

Clergy Report

As we began to emerge more fully from the pandemic in 2022, it was wonderful to return to many of the functions and events we had enjoyed prior to the pandemic. On 20th March we held a special service to Commemorate the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic, which included thanksgiving to God our heavenly Father for bringing us through it to that point. We also gave thanks for all who had played their roles in so many different ways through the pandemic, to support, encourage and keep one another's hope burning bright.

It felt good to have a special focus during the year as we looked ahead to celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of our Queen. We had our own special service on the Jubilee weekend on Pentecost Sunday (5th June) to mark the occasion and in line with Her Majesty's 'Green Canopy' initiative to encourage the planting of trees, we blessed seven new roses planted along the pathway. The roses were especially chosen with significant names (Grace, Remembrance, Peace, Blessing, Bride and Groom, Loving Memory and of course the new rose 'The Queen Elizabeth II Rose'). They were all donated by individuals or local organisations, often in memory of loved ones.



Thankfully we had the opportunity for all these celebrations to take place in June, as later in September, we joined with the whole nation along with many around the world, as we mourned the loss of our Queen, a woman of deep faith who led by example and reigned for 70 years.

Our children's outreach got underway, ably led by our three Childrens' Leaders, Sara and Gary Fantham and Amy Legg, please see the separate report for all the activities which took place.

For the first time since 2019, many of our special services and events were able to take place in church, though we remained cautious in the way we conducted services, wearing masks and still receiving communion in one kind, for much of the year. Later in the year the wearing of masks became optional, and we were able to offer communion with bread and wine through intinction (a drop of wine added to the wafer).

As we travelled through Lent together several participated in our Lent Course, 'Come and See', a resource provided by the Diocese, which we conducted via Zoom, and we really enjoyed the wonderful service on Easter Sunday as we were able to celebrate it properly for the first time in several years.

Our local May Fayre returned after a gap of several years due to the pandemic, and it was a great opportunity for the whole community to join together to facilitate it. Once again, we had our church tent in place and conducted a short informal service before the May Fayre began. Through the day we provided free crafts for children to participate in and we had many families coming to enjoy these.



Occasional services began to pick up and we had seven Baptisms and three weddings which took place during the year. Funeral services though somewhat restricted near the beginning of the year, were able to take place as normal through the year.

We continued our commitment to the environment, recycling and promoting products and ways to care for the environment. Our 'Creation Matters' group worked hard behind the scenes, and you can see further details in the Creation Matters Report.

As we approached the autumn term it began to feel much more of a return to life as we knew it before the pandemic. Having made the decision to hold our community Remembrance Sunday Service fully outdoors once again, we made

provision to do so. We were blessed with dry weather and the service was well attended.

We enjoyed a busy Advent and Christmas season as we first held our Advent Wreath making evening, and then enjoyed our community 'Carol's on the Hatch' once again at the beginning of December.



Carols on the Hatch (*above*)

Advent Wreath making evening (*left*)

Our Christmas Tree Festival this year took the Theme of 'Royalty' and was well supported by local schools and organisations with good attendance through the weekend, and the opportunity to listen to both our St Mary's School Choirs (Infant's and Juniors) as well as the Hurst Singers.



Christmas was very special this year as we were finally able to celebrate it in Church for the first time since December 2019. Still being cautious we limited our numbers and invited families to book though Eventbrite for our

two Christingle services on Christmas Eve, to spread numbers equally over both services. It was really good to be able to worship together in Church, as we celebrated again the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ.

The year has indeed been fruitful, and for that I give grateful thanks to our Lord who has continued to shepherd and guide us through these challenging times as well as times of opportunity. In our services we have enjoyed the preaching of Alison Eves (who has 'Authorisation to Preach') and who always manages to find a place or analogy for her passion for maths at some point in her sermon. Mark Rhodes-Smith has continued his part-time training for ordination, and it has been wonderful to see him grow and flourish through his 2nd year as we have supported him as his 'home church'. We have enjoyed his preaching too and both Alison and Mark are always well prepared, their words uplifting, challenging and applicable to our lives.

The ministry of our Prayer and Healing Team is always much appreciated through prayer ministry during our services and faithful prayer through the week, as well as in the services they have helped lead, especially our Healing Services which we have returned to holding three times a year.

It has also been a year of 'goodbyes' and 'hellos'. At the end of January, we held a farewell and thanksgiving service for all the wonderful ministry we have experienced through our Associate Minister Revd Lorraine, as she moved on to new beginnings. I have so appreciated having a colleague and enjoying the support, encouragement and work we have done together in ministry and wish her every blessing for the future.

In November, it was also time to say goodbye to our Parish Administrator Jane Cleary, who has been a wonderful support to me personally, as well as to our congregation and community, over the last almost four years. Nothing was too much trouble, and we particularly appreciated her efforts through the pandemic in keeping communication going, as well as the adjustments she made to her working life. She put many procedures in place to make administration and organisation more effective and we are very grateful for all she did, often over and beyond her role as our Parish Administrator.

In December we welcomed Jo Dore as our new Administrator, and she was quite literally thrown in at the deep end as we moved into one of the busiest times of the year. She coped admirably then, has settled well into her role and we look forward to working with her for a long time to come.

I want to thank each and every member of our PCC for their commitment and hard work through the year, who give of their time so generously, it has been a

pleasure to work together this past year, despite the financial challenges we have faced. I also continue to give thanks for the support from our wonderful congregation as well as the wider community.

However, chiefly I want to give grateful thanks to our faithful God who has brought us all this far as we have emerged almost into a 'new world'. A world where we wonder at the future of the Church, where we have prayed and sought discernment through our Mission Action Plan (MAP) as to our place in our community as a Christian presence, a place of faith and worship, a place of prayer, mission and outreach. All this is a work in progress, we don't know what the future holds and though a small faithful congregation we can still achieve much in His name. I offer to you one of my favourite scriptures as we face the future together, moving forward in trust and faith only in the strength and encouragement of our God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
(Proverbs 3. 5&6)*

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Churchwardens' Report

2022 was a year of "business" much more as usual, as we continued the process of slowly returning to some sort of normality after the pandemic. It was a relief to be able to offer worship together in person, while still being cautious. Most services are now "hybrid"- we have continued to share our weekly service on Zoom, a useful legacy of the COVID-19 experience. It has also been a time of reflection and consolidation of our goals, with the new MAP (Mission Action Plan) much discussed throughout the year and finally agreed upon. We are looking forward to seeing how God's plan for us all unfolds as we unfold our MAP for Burghfield!

Early in the year we bid a fond farewell to Revd Lorraine Colam as she moved to pastures new. She was a wonderful member of the Ministry Team (officially since 2018 but of course also informally for many years before as a member of the church family), and we miss her and thank her for all those years of service, fun and fellowship. It has been a pleasure to welcome Mark Rhodes-Smith (an ordinand in training) to our congregation and have him help in leading services. We wish him well as he moves on to take up a curacy in a new parish later in 2023.

Throughout the year our weekly worship has focused on the hybrid services at 10:00am on a Sunday morning, and of course we have enjoyed special services for particular occasions. We have begun meeting monthly (on the 3rd Sunday) for Breakfast@Church (thank you for the bacon butties, Don and Gary!) and this is proving to be a great time of fellowship - all are welcome.

We were sad to say goodbye towards the end of 2022 to our amazing Parish Administrator, Janey. Throughout her years at St Mary's Janey has been a fantastic support to Revd Glynn, to us, and to the Parish at large. Nothing was ever too much trouble; we really benefitted from her "can-do" approach to life. We welcomed Jo Dore as our new administrator in December and she has made a great start.

We have held several social events with the aim of fostering both fun and fundraising - as a result we have had many more opportunities to work and play together, enjoying increasing fellowship, and our financial situation looks less worrying than it might have done. Highlights included the return of the Pudding Club and a series of delicious cream tea events during the hot summer weather.

Community Churchyard tidy up working parties have continued, and this great collaboration between church and community has resulted in our beautiful churchyard being well cared for: thank you to all who have taken part.

Our second Festival of Creation was held in September, with the theme of "All Creatures Great and Small". The Creation Matters group worked very hard to arrange a weekend which celebrated all God's creatures, and focused on how we can care better for the world we share. Highlights included a talk from "Big Paws 4 Thought" photography and stalls from local and national organisations.

We made an application to the Diocese's Development Fund and were successful in obtaining funds which enabled us, with some money of our own, to alter the layout of the ground floor of the Parish Centre. This now means we have three separate spaces which can be hired out or used by ourselves and we are excited about the possibilities this arrangement brings for new mission and social outreach.

After the success of the 2021 event, it was decided to once again hold the Remembrance Day service entirely outside. It was such a pleasure to welcome so many from the community again. The weather was kind, attendance was

better than ever, with around 600-700 villagers, young and old attending the open-air wreath-laying ceremony and service at the War Memorial.

The run up to Christmas is always busy, and we were pleased to host several events which reach far beyond our regular congregation: the Advent Wreath Making evening, with a record attendance of well over 100 people, the 8th annual Christmas Tree Festival and Carols on the Hatch among them.

We would like to thank Revd Glynn, as well as all the faithful members of the PCC and all in our Church family for all your great and much valued support throughout 2022. It is a privilege to be member of, and to play a part in leading, God's family in this place.

*Alison Eves and Michael Wood
Churchwardens*

Bradfield Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod representatives serve for up to three years. Elections were held in 2020 and our current representatives are Carol Jackson-Doerge and Colin Thompson. New elections will be held at this year's Annual Church Parochial Meeting.

The Synod meets three times in the year, in February, July and October with the October meeting being held in Burghfield.

As we reported last year the March meeting was a particularly lively affair, as the Area Dean shared a brief video and then invited comments from the floor. There is real concern that we need fundamental change to address dwindling numbers and perceived irrelevance, but no clear agreement on the way forward.

The rest of the year was largely taken up by the regular source of conflict, parish share. The Diocese changed the formula it uses to determine Deanery Share, in a way that will ultimately benefit our Deanery, but as it operates a 2% cap/collar to changes it will be some time before the full benefit is achieved.

Within the deanery each parish's share is calculated by a complicated formula which was varied slightly in respect of house for duty priests. There was also a change in the way the Area Dean is funded. A great deal of work was put in by

Parish treasurers and by a working party which included our own Michael Wood to try to find a compromise position as the revised formula had significant impact on some benefices. October Synod approved an alternative method of allocation for one year only, proposed by the Area Dean, which divided the Deanery Share by the number of priests (with house for duty counting as 0.4) with no allowance for the other factors (reserves, ability to pay, equity etc.) that had been discussed.

It is perhaps useful to recall that in the Deanery we have 20 parishes, 10 benefices and only 8 full time priests.

It was also announced at the October meeting that the Deanery Treasurer had chosen to stand down.

The result is that in a year when the Diocese sought changes to ease the burden on rural parishes our share has increased by 9% to £68068. We managed to pay our full share in 2022 but have advised the Deanery that whilst we will make every effort to meet the full amount in 2023, we may not be able to do so.

Colin Thompson & Carol Jackson-Doerge

Report on Prayer Coordination & Prayer and Healing Team for 2021

The Prayer Chain of Intercessors and Prayer and Healing Team members continue to keep in touch on a very regular email basis about prayer needs and requests in the parish.

The Monthly prayer diary, available at the back of Church has been updated and the contents of this feed into our weekly Intercessions in Church. Those wishing to have loved ones remembered in our weekly prayers in The Year's mind now have a link to contact Margaret who is very happy to make sure these important names are included in our prayers.

We have continued to offer prayers in the chancel during communion and to pray for those leaving requests in the book by the candle stand at the back of Church. These written prayer requests are prayed over and acknowledged in the book by the team members on duty, for a period of a month.

We have undertaken a couple of training updates via TEAMS thanks to Nicky's technical skills, reminding us of some of the core teaching concerning the ministry of prayer and healing. It is always good to stay refreshed. A number of us from the Healing Team and Prayer Chain were able to attend the Festival of Prayer Day at Ripon College, Cuddesdon which was held in July 2022, after a

gap of two years due to Covid. It was immensely stimulating and enjoyed by all who attended.

It was lovely to be able to resume our Healing Services in 2022, with three services held in Spring, Summer, and Autumn.

Several team members made themselves available for the very moving All Souls Service in Church in November and were on hand to chat with those who stayed for the lovely tea afterwards. We look forward to the coming year with all it has to offer and teach us in the prayer life of St Mary's.

Margaret Thomas

Childrens Work

In September 2021 as things started to return to normal after lockdown, Gary, Sara and Amy started hosting events for children and young teens with the aim of building and re-establishing links with young people and families in the community, and ultimately sharing the good news of Christ. The events have included social events such as film nights for 8–14-year-olds, and events with gospel input such as Crafty Church and Children's Church.

Children's church was run on the third Sunday of each month following on from breakfast church. The children went out of the main service after the first hymn and returned for communion. The format was normally around a bible story with related activities, crafts, and a short talk. Attendance was very limited and unfortunately between April and September no children attended so we made the decision to discontinue Children's Church.

We run Crafty Church each term where we have themed crafts suitable for ages 4-11 based around a bible story or Christian festival. Attendance has been sporadic with numbers ranging from 2 children to 25+ last Easter. Despite the unpredictable numbers we have received positive feedback from both children and parents.

Our greatest success has been the film and food nights. Since February '22 we have been holding film evenings alternate months, aimed at children between the ages of 8 and 13. They run on a Friday evening and have been a great opportunity to build relationships with young people and their parents. Some have never been in a church before, so this has been a great way to welcome them into our beautiful building in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We normally organise a quiz related to the film that the children answer when they arrive, and we try to bring in a few bible related questions. Answers and prizes are given out at the end of the film before the children are collected by their

parents. We also have time halfway through the film to chat with the children when they are enjoying hotdogs or pizza. The children normally have a say in the choice of film for the next event. Numbers average 30 children and feedback has been for more film and food evenings. It would be great if this children's work could be built on in the future, as a Friday evening seems to be the best time for this age group to meet.

We have been grateful for the support of all the children's work including supplying materials, catering, helping in person, networking, managing tech, sharing ideas, praying and so much more from the Church family.

Gary and Sara will be stepping back from children's work from the summer 2023 so please pray for this work. Young people will be our future Church, so pray specifically for someone to work alongside Amy so that this work can be continued.

Sara, Gary & Amy

Creation Matters

Creation Matters is the banner we use to cover our response to one of the Church of England five marks of mission, namely: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. The Creation Matters group is a sub-committee of the PCC.

We began 2022 with the purchase, planting and blessing of the new rose trees along the path to the main door, generously funded by donations from parishioners. We selected the roses from their names, so we have standard rose bushes for Grace, Loving Memory, Bride + Groom, Remembrance, Blessing and Peace, plus a Queen's Platinum Jubilee rose. They are thriving in the tender care of Eileen.

We held our Climate Sunday Service on 10th July and welcomed Revd Dr Darrell Hannah, who told us all about Operation Noah.

Our Church porch recycling centre continues to keep many pill blister packs and milk bottle tops and various other items out of the general waste. We are grateful to Margaret Thomas and Fiona Jones for collecting them and moving them on the next stage of their recycling journey.

The response to our appeal for Fair Trade items for a raffle to both raise funds and demonstrate the range of Fair Trade goods that are available in our shops

was so generous that we had enough to fill three hampers; each of which raised a tidy sum.

We opened our “bug hotel” to encourage insect life in the churchyard. The children from the preschool and St Mary’s School Environment Club, helped to fill it with nesting materials. It’s around the back of church by the old boiler steps if you’d like to take a look.

Our Festival of Creation was held over the weekend of 24/25th September with the theme “All Creatures Great and Small”. We are grateful to all the stall holders who came to show off their creativity and especially to “Big Paws 4 Thought” for the fascinating talk on using wildlife photography to help preserve big cats.

Thanks to all these activities, plus the work of the fabric team on the lights in church, we were able to apply for an Eco-Church award from A Rocha UK, a Christian charity dedicated to helping care for God’s earth. In June it was confirmed that we had achieved a Bronze award.



Michael Wood

Outreach

Outreach is very much a part of our mission at St Mary’s and through the year we have been involved in various activities. Our congregation is exceedingly generous in supporting our local Foodbank and the need seems to have increased even more so as we emerged from the pandemic and with the cost-of-living crisis. Food parcels are being requested more so than normal, and supply cannot keep up with demand. Our congregation continue to give supplies generously as well as supporting the Lent and Advent special appeals.

In May our Local Alternative Quilter’s Group created and displayed (at the May Fayre) the beautiful ‘Ukraine Quilt’ Together we raised funds through a raffle to send an amazing donation of £1715.00 to the ‘Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) – Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal’ .



The ‘Shoebox’ workshop returned in November, where 75 boxes were wrapped, stocked, and sent off for distribution through the charity ‘Samaritan’s Purse’ for ‘Operation Christmas Child’.

At our annual 'Toy Service' in December we received very generous donations of new toys and other items for children, teenagers and parents, to support two local charities, Berkshire Women's Aid as well as Spotlight UK.

Outward giving

For some years now we have donated a percentage of the Church's income to charities and mission agencies in accordance with the PCC decision made a few years ago to commit 10% of the church's planned giving income. In choosing the charities to receive monies from us, the PCC has striven to maintain a balance between large and small charities, and domestic and overseas charities. We also favour charities where we have personal knowledge of the good that their work does.



Our Outward Giving figure for 2021 is £4,300. This year's beneficiaries are:

- Health Help International £1,500
- Burghfield United Charities £400
- Spotlight £400
- Yeldall Manor £500
- Sightsavers £500
- The Trussell Trust £500
- Home Start £500



Revd Glynn

Burghfield Support Group for The Children's Society



The group consists of Anne Burtenshaw, Hilary James, Pat Glover (our Treasurer), Janet Reed, Nicky South-Klein, Sheila Langston-Hopgood and Colin Thompson and met three times in the year in January, April and September. New members are always welcome and if you would like to join our little group please speak to any of its members.

We held our usual cake stalls on Mothering Sunday and at the Toy service raising £317, with a further £67 coming from the toy service raffle and £113 from the sale of Christmas cards. We reverted to two Christingle services in Church raising £437 and the Church also agreed that the collection from Carols on the

Hatch (£166.26) would be given to the Society. Sadly we were not able to hold either of our planned quiz evenings, but we did sell an Easter Quiz which raised £125. The fall in the general circulation of coins meant revenue from Boxes was substantially less, but £345.77 was received from eleven boxes in the year ending April 2022.

Overall, therefore we raised £1571 still down on our pre-Covid figure, but a significant increase on last year.

Colin Thompson



Burghfield St Mary's Church of England Primary School



Burghfield St Mary's School vision is to create a caring Christian learning environment that inspires each individual in the school community to fulfil their unique potential and become a responsible, concerned and active member of God's world.

The school vision is underpinned by their aims to:

- Provide a religious education encompassing the Christian foundation of the school and understanding, recognising, and celebrating other faiths.
- Enable every child to learn to understand their responsibilities and rights within the wider community and become a responsible world citizen.
- Provide an education that gives equal value to the academic, creative, physical and spiritual well-being of every person within the school community.
- Enable each pupil to develop spiritual awareness and aesthetic appreciation of, and respect for the environment.
- Provide a safe, supportive and stimulating environment that enables every child to reach their full potential.

The school, founded in 1836, with a trust deed dated 1843, is a voluntary controlled school which means the Diocese appoints two of the Governors- known as Foundation Governors, (currently Revd Glynn Lautenbach and Deborah Marsden) but the staff are employed by the Local Authority. Foundation Governors meet with the Head Teacher on a termly basis to discuss RE provision and collective worship within the school, as well as strengthening school Church ties.

During the Year we were able to return to regular Thursday Morning Collective Worship (assemblies) led by either Revd Glynn or a member of the congregation. Through 2022 we took a cautious attitude towards whole school services down at Church, however the Year 6 Leavers Assembly, the Harvest and Christmas Services began to feel like a return to the normal termly services with whole school attendance along with parents too.

The termly 'themes' continued through the year with an enormous amount of planning from the staff, keen anticipation and enthusiasm from the children and wider community engagement as well. Each term there was a 'Stunning Start', a 'Marvellous Middle' and a 'Fabulous Finish'.

The anticipated Ofsted Inspection had still not taken place by the end of the year and no doubt would take place the following year as the inspections teams caught up after the pandemic.

Environmental awareness has been highlighted in the school ethos, tying in with our Church's environmental stance. The school raised funds from the local community to build an outdoor classroom which has now been installed. The school has a thriving Environment Club (with a wait list), which has visited the Church and helped us 'house' the new 'Premier InnSect Bug Hotel' with leaves, pinecones, sticks and other items collected in the Churchyard. The school also has many green projects in school such as recycling, building and maintaining bug hotels, and a living hedge.

St Mary's School continues to be a place where children can experience a variety of learning styles and where staff enable pupils to grow and flourish as individuals as well as members of the school. The school has an important place in our community as it also works collaboratively with other local schools.

Revd Glynn Lautenbach (Foundation Governor)
Deborah Marsden (Foundation Governor)

Buildings -Fabric Report

This year the activities in the Parish Centre & the Church have almost returned to their pre-covid levels. As reported in last year's APCM Fabric Report, work has continued during the year upgrading the remaining non-energy efficient lamps with LED lamps, helping towards the Church achieving its Eco awards.

It was also reported that a Faculty had been granted to install a Live Streaming system in the Church. An application was made for a grant via The Good Exchange, but after a year the response was minimal, and the PCC decided not to pursue such an installation whilst there were so many other financial calls on people's giving.

2022 was very much focused on improving the access to the Parish Centre (PC) & giving easier access to the PC toilets both for those using the upstairs room and those using the Church whilst the Preschool is in session in the downstairs room. This it is hoped will help the mission of St Mary's Church to be more effective in the community.

The Diocesan Architect was consulted along with the Diocesan Advisory Committee and a building plan was drawn up. A Faculty was approved together with Planning permission from the Local Authority, as some of the works would take effect just outside the PC kitchen.

A grant was also sought for the majority of the funds from the Diocesan Development Fund, this was also granted.

A builder was appointed with the works taking place during August, whilst the Preschool was not in session. A new emergency external door was installed in the kitchen and a new internal door installed from the downstairs hall into the toilet corridor. A door at the end of the corridor, leading into the main PC lobby was reinstated, having been removed to comply with fire regulations when the hall was originally opened.

A new steel fire escape was installed by members of the Church Fabric Team. Following the completion of the alterations various members of Church undertook to redecorate the kitchen together with the toilet corridor.

To enable the upstairs room to be more effectively used and hired out to other groups it was agreed that a Servedy with a sink should be installed on the landing, allowing groups using the upstairs room to make tea and coffee. (Access to the kitchen is restricted to the Pre-school only when it is in session downstairs.)

A request was made to Burghfield Residents Association for a grant towards the cost of the installation and we are very grateful that we received the full sum requested. The installation works were begun in early 2023.

During the August summer break, work was done to repair and rehang the main PC doors which resulted in them closing properly and eliminating the drafts. The doors and porch frame were then rubbed down and given a couple of coats of paint. This work was undertaken by a small group from the Fabric Team and friends.

During the year other small repair tasks were undertaken, for example repairing holes in the carpark tarmac, and rehangng one of the large carpark gates which had dropped and was proving difficult to open and close.

During the year the PCC accepted a quotation from JFK Heating to install a "Nest" heating control system in the PC to allow more efficient control of the heating in the building both from a cost saving and helping the church to be more Eco friendly. This was undertaken during September.

Brian Thatcher, Chair Fabric Committee

Parish Centre

The Parish Centre is now fully open and welcoming many groups and clubs back in person, though still not as utilised as it was before the pandemic things are certainly improving.

We currently have regular booking of Pilates, 3 different Yoga groups, Weight Watchers & the full time (term time) Mini Oaks Preschool. We understand that numbers at the Preschool have increased, and it is starting to gain a very positive reputation in the community which is great.

We have welcomed some lovely events into the Church too including choir concerts and the very popular Advent Wreath making evening which saw 100+ participants.

We have had building work completed on the internal doors leading from the lower room into the corridor in front of the toilets to enable the preschool to access the toilets and enabling the main internal lower room doors to be locked to remove the worry of children wandering out the front door and still have toilet access and this then enables the main entrance door to be unlocked for groups to access the upstairs room and giving events in the Church access to toilets.





There is a new fire exit door in the kitchen which adds another level of safety to all our users.



We are in the process of installing a kitchen servery on the upstairs landing area, this is still work in progress but will give another string to our bow allowing a wider range of booking options for the upstairs room whilst the preschool utilises the downstairs kitchen Mon-Fri.

We are advertising the Parish Centre regularly in our monthly newsletter to make the local community aware of our presence and have had a few birthday & baptism party bookings.

Fees are now charged at Mon-Fri before 6pm £13.50 & after 6pm & weekends £16.05 per hour.

As the new Parish Administrator, I am looking forward to boosting bookings for the Parish Centre and welcoming our community into our lovely buildings.

Jo Dore, Parish Administrator

The PCC of St Mary's the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Reference and Administrative details

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is in the village and parish of Burghfield in the county of Berkshire.

All correspondence regarding the church should be addressed to: The Parish Office, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. This involves working with the Revd Glynn Lautenbach the Rector, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the Parish Centre. The PCC is a charity Registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales and our number is: 1167639.

Furthermore, the PCC of St Mary the Virgin has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Parochial Church Meeting or are ex-officio in accordance with the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and may stand for election to the PCC.

As a resolution was made and accepted at APCM on 13th June 2021, there are no longer any limits on the number of terms of office for any office bearers for the PCC.

During the year 2022 the following people served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio Members

Clergy:

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Revd Lorraine Colam – Resigned and moved Parish from 1st February 2022

Wardens:

Michael Wood

Alison Eves

PCC members as a result of Deanery Synod Membership

Colin Thompson and Carol Jackson-Doerge were elected to Deanery Synod at the APCM on 18th October 2020 for a 3 year term of office till 2023.

PCC Secretary

Brian Thatcher

PCC Treasurer

Oliver Dillon

Elected Members of the PCC

Name	Elected at APCM	Serve Until
Brian Thatcher	2022	2025
Amy Legg	2022	2025
Lesley Brigden	2021	2024
Iain Buchanan	2021	2024
Oliver Dillon	2020	2023
Margaret Thomas	2020	2023
Sara Fantham	2020	2023
Clive Eatwell	2020	2023
Anne Pocock	2020	2023

There are no vacancies currently on the PCC.

Foundation Governors

The following have been appointed to serve on the school governing body of the church school as Foundation Governors from September 2020:

Mrs Deborah Marsden-Kwan

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Structure, governance and management

Committees and Groups

The sub-committees of the PCC which continued through 2022 were the 'Finance Committee' dealing with parish share, accounts and general finances of the parish, the 'Fabric Committee' for care of the Fabric of the buildings and grounds, the 'Worship and Discipleship Committee' for matters relating to worship and discipleship and the 'Creation Matters Committee', focused on Eco Church, climate and environmental matters.

The Standing Committee comprising the Rector, Church wardens, PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer, met regularly for decision making, support and Agenda planning.

PCC Vision Statement

Our vision statement for the church created in 2020 is as follows:

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

All aspects of the life, mission and ministry of our parish will be discerned and assessed in line with these three areas. During the year we began to work on our future Mission Action Plan (MAP)

In addition, we continue to work in accordance with the Diocesan 'Common Vision', to be a 'A more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world' becoming a more *Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous* Church.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll was updated for 2022 and the number on the electoral roll recorded at the APCM was 72 (2021:76) .

Through 2022 services began to return to normal as we emerged more fully from the Covid-19 Pandemic and along with face to face attendance we continued to offer the opportunity to join in the 10.00am service via zoom denoting our main service as a 'Hybrid' service.

Hybrid Services 2022

	Attendance	Communicants
10.00am Parish Communion		
In Church	25	24
On Zoom	4	-

These numbers include a few children, some of whom have been admitted to Holy Communion according to Canon B15A. The average weekly attendance figures for the services are reached having taken an average attendance over several Sundays spaced across the year, when there are no 'special' Sundays: Numbers attending church services in person have remained low due to the aftermath of the pandemic.

All major Festivals took place in church for the first time since 2019.

During 2022 we celebrated 7 baptisms (2021:2) and 3 weddings (2021:1). We also conducted 12 funerals (2021:14) of which 5 took place in Church and 7 took place at a local crematorium. 15 Interment of Ashes and 2 burials were conducted into existing graves in the Churchyard, along with 1 burial and 1 Interment of Ashes in Burghfield Parish Burial Ground.

Review of the year

A full report on the activities of the parish during 2022 is found in the Annual Report booklet accompanying this document.

Financial Review

As with every other part of life the Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on St Mary's finances. This has continued to affect us in 2022.

Voluntary income for General Expenditure, (excluding Gift Aid, Fundraising, Fees & Lettings), rose by 4.7% mainly due to a 4.8% increase in Planned Giving but also a modest return of Collections. Gift Aid was steady, with an annual increase of 2%. Parish Centre lettings income was almost flat and was still 37% down on pre-pandemic levels.

The reorganisation of the Parish Centre has been the major fabric expenditure of 2022. A £10,290 grant was received from the Oxford Diocese towards the building project and £600 from the Burghfield Residents towards the catering facility. This should enable the community to make better use of the Parish Centre and provide some additional income.

Although there was not a major fundraising event there were several events which were very community oriented. Advent Wreath making, the Festival of Creation, the Christmas Tree Festival and the Pudding Club had income of £3683. Other fundraising events included tea parties, soup lunches, Colin's Quiz and many other activities. Congratulations are due to all involved.

Our allocated Parish Share was 1% lower than that allocated for the previous year. This was paid in full.

A Grant of £1791 was received from the Diocese to help with the high energy bills.

These resulted in an overall deficit on our Unrestricted Funds of £4.3k.

Appeals, including the Quilt Raffle, were made in favour of the DEC Ukraine appeal. These raised a total of £1715.

For the Platinum Jubilee, 7 new roses were placed along the pathway at almost no cost to the church, as they were donated by members of the congregation and community.

A collection of £295 was made for a leaving gift for Rev Lorraine, who was at the centre of St Mary's church life for many years.

The following are some of the financial and ministerial matters relating to the church:

- The ministry of the church has continued through a wide range of services, occasional offices and outreach initiatives.
- Committed monthly giving and some one-off donations and fundraising have continued to provide the monies available for further reordering of our beautiful church.
- Major fabric expenditures are expected to continue. The septic tank will need replacement in the next few years.
- Despite it being much reduced by the current circumstances we have still received a substantial amount of additional income from the lettings of the Parish Centre. We are thankful for the work by past and present members of the congregation who had the insight and the commitment to provide this resource for us.



Oliver Dillon
Treasurer



Michael Wood
Churchwarden



Alison Eves
Churchwarden

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed: 

Date: 8th May, 2023

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Financial Statements

Financial Statements For the 12 Months Ended 31 Dec 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Receipts							
Direct Giving by standing order		43154	0	0	0	43154	41164
Giving by coloured and white envelopes		214	0	0	0	214	873
Open collections		1053	0	0	0	1053	182
Gift aid claimed	1	11280	0	0	0	11280	11060
Other general donations	2	3546	0	0	0	3546	3659
TOTAL		59246	0	0	0	59246	56938
Receipts from activities for generating funds							
Fundraising	3	6857	0	0	0	6857	1576
TOTAL		6857	0	0	0	6857	1576
Receipts from church activities							
Fees	4	4100	0	0	0	4100	4005
Parish centre letting fees	5	22847	0	0	0	22847	22514
Other (rebates and donations)		0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		26947	0	0	0	26947	26519
Receipts from investments							
Interest on Bank Accounts		0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest on CCLA Account	6	33	0	0	35	68	3
		33	0	0	35	68	3
Total Receipts (Unrestricted)		93082	0	0	35	93117	85035
Receipts on Restricted Accounts							
Funds Collected for other charities	7	0	0	1740	0	1740	115
Gift aid claimed	1	0	0	307	0	307	195
Reordering Projects	7	0	0	911	0	911	780
Other restricted accounts (Church Use)	7	0	0	17317	0	17317	1847
TOTAL Receipts (Restricted)		0	0	20276	0	20276	2937
TOTAL RECEIPTS		93082	0	20276	35	113393	87973

Notes	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021	
	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2022	Total 2021	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
PAYMENTS							
Direct costs of church activities	1131	0	0	0	1131	1817	
Building & churchyard maintenance & repairs	8	3005	0	33	3094	7811	
Clergy expenses	8	898	0	0	898	1106	
Utilities	8	6547	0	1791	8338	8689	
Cleaning	8	2789	0	0	2789	1582	
Administration		11737	0	112	11850	12698	
Insurance		4329	0	0	4329	4163	
Parish Share	9	61572	0	0	61572	53194	
Parish Share Rebate		0	0	0	0	0	
Outreach & Youth Work	8	1024	0	0	1024	171	
Other		0	0	0	0	0	
Outward Giving	10	4300	0	0	4300	4100	
Subscriptions		0	0	0	0	0	
Other Donations Outward		0	0	0	0	0	
Total Unrestricted Payments		97334	0	1957	35	99326	95331
Restricted Payments							
Reordering Account	7	0	0	3137	0	3137	2470
Restricted (For Other Charities)	7	0	0	1648	0	1648	385
Other Restricted	7	0	0	11126	0	11126	235
Total Restricted Payments		0	0	15911	0	15911	3090
TOTAL PAYMENTS		97334	0	17868	35	115237	98421
Transfers Between Funds							
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year to Date	11	-4252	0	2408	0	-1844	-10448

MOVEMENT ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at January 1st	22177	0	4785	2000	28961	39410
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	-4252	0	2408	0	-1844	-10448
Balances at December 31st	17925	0	7192	2000	27117	28961
Surplus/(Deficit) for YTD Gen Funds	-4252					

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2022

Bank Accounts	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Fund	Designated	Fund	Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooperative Current Account	8675		5546		14221	16647
Net West Current	1920	0			1920	1388
Coop Mission Fund Account					0	0
Fees Account & Fees Cash in Hand	4124				4124	4724
Reordering Current Account			1646		1646	1064
CCLA Thursby	666			2000	2666	2632
CCLA Restoration	8				8	8
CCLA Reserve Fund	2531				2531	2498
Petty Cash Float	0				0	0
Total Funds	17925	0	7192	2000	27117	28961

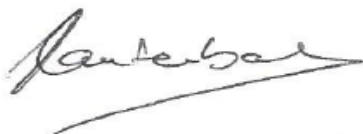
Represented by:

	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	17925				17925	22177
Upkeep & Capital Improvement Fund		0			0	0
J Harvey Thursby Fund				2000	2000	2000
Reordering Fund			1710		1710	759
Other Repairs & Fabric Appeals			4417		4417	1291
Mission Fund			0		0	2730
Other Restricted Funds			969		969	0
For Other Charities & Organisations			97		97	5
Total Funds	17925	0	7192	2000	27117	28961
	0	0	0	0		

Liabilities:

The closing Restricted Fund balance contains amounts from collections which are due to be paid to their respective charities, as follows:

DEC Ukraine			67		0	0
Children's Society			30		5	5
Children in Need						
	0	0	97	0	5	5



Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach
(Rector & PCC Chair)



Mr Oliver Dillon
(PCC Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 20th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach (PCC Chair) and Mr Oliver Dillon (PCC Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield are prepared on a Receipt and Payments basis.

1. Gift Aid was from the Parish Giving scheme throughout the year together with direct claims for 2021.
2. Other General Donations includes £656 of online donations for General funds.
3. The Fees Income is reported as the net amount payable to the PCC in accordance with C of E guidelines. Fees collected on behalf of the Diocese totalled £2,796. Transactions relating to payments for Bellringers, Vergers etc are also specifically excluded.
4. There were many Fundraising events of various sizes raising a total of over £6,800. These included the Festival of Creation, Advent Wreath Making and the Christmas Tree Festival. The Pudding Club made a welcome return and raised £900. There were many smaller events such as Soup Lunches and Tea Parties which all made a valued contribution.
5. The Parish Centre Lettings income has still not recovered being £14k down compared to pre-pandemic levels. Approximately 71% is from the Nursery.
6. Interest Income on the J Harvey Thursby Memorial fund was allocated to defray costs incurred in maintaining the churchyard.
7. Movements on Restricted Accounts:

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Gift Aid	Resources expended	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Bell Room, Access & Ropes (BRA £500, 6 Bell Reordering (Heating Lighting Cross Tower etc) Fabric & Repairs	500.00	2,250.00			2,750.00
EcoFund	20.00	287.00		(89.92)	217.08
Mission Fund (Parish Centre Restructure)	2,729.83	10,690.00	100.00	(13,519.83)	0.00
Ukraine DEC	0.00	1,715.00		(1,648.00)	67.00
Diocese Energy Support Grant	0.00	1,791.00		(1,791.00)	0.00
Kitchen Fund	76.44			(31.46)	44.98
Card Reader	0.00	59.00	11.80	(70.80)	0.00
Livestreaming	0.00	131.00			131.00
BRA 02nd Dec	0.00	600.00			600.00
Software Fund	0.00	1,000.00		(31.08)	968.92
Vestry Roof (Englefield Trust) (Residual)	334.40				334.40
Disabled Ramp (BRA) (Residual)	24.00				24.00
Lych Gate & Notice Board	315.41				315.41
Fence & Gates (BRA)	20.46			(20.46)	0.00
War Graves Commission	0.00	12.00		(12.00)	0.00
Childrens Society	5.00	25.00			30.00
Rev Lorraine Leaving	0.00	295.00		(295.00)	0.00
Roses	0.00	333.40		(333.40)	0.00
	<u>4,784.64</u>	<u>19,968.40</u>	<u>307.33</u>	<u>(17,867.95)</u>	<u>7,192.42</u>
Designated Funds					
Upkeep and Capital Improvement (Designated)	0.00				0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Endowment Funds					
J Harvey Thursby Fund	2,000.00	34.62		(34.62)	2,000.00
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>34.62</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(34.62)</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Thursby Memorial Fund and the accumulated interest was applied to defray churchyard costs.					

Income on the Restricted funds included Monthly pledges of £780. Further Grants and Donations were made towards the Bells. £1715 was raised for the DEC Ukraine Appeal. A grant of £10,290 was received from the Diocese and £600 from the Burghfield Residents Association towards the

reorganisation of the Parish Centre. A Deanery Grant of £1.8k helped reduce the impact of higher fuel bills.

8. Many costs have resurged as services have started to follow a more normal pattern.
9. Parish Share was paid in full.
10. Our Outward Giving figure for 2022 is £4,300. This year's beneficiaries are:

Health Help International	£1,500
Burghfield United Charities	£400
Spotlight	£400
Yeldall Manor	£500
Sightsavers	£500
The Trussell Trust	£500
Home Start	£500

11. A deficit of £4,252 is reported on the unrestricted funds statutory accounts.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date: 8th May, 2023

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Accounts

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Annual Report 2021



ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

24th May 2022

7.30pm St Mary's Church

Attached – Examined accounts and Report from the chair of the PCC as required by the Charities Act 2011

Contents

Agendas for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting	1
Clergy report	2
Churchwardens' report	5
Bradfield Deanery Synod	7
Prayer Life: Report on Prayer and Healing Team	9
Outreach: Outward giving	10
Outreach: Burghfield Parish Support Group for The Children's Society	11
Outreach: Flying Solo & Holiday @ Home	11
Outreach: Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer	12
Burghfield St Mary Primary School	12
Buildings: Fabric report	13
Buildings: Parish Centre report	15

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGENDA

Opening Prayers

Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 13th June 2021

Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the APCM held on 13th June 2021
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of the Updated Electoral Roll
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Report from Churchwardens
6. Report from Deanery Synod
7. Annual Report Statement by Treasurer
8. Matters arising from the Annual Reports.
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Report on Safeguarding
11. Election of Members to serve on the PCC
12. Appointment of PCC Secretary
13. Vision for the Future – Revd Glynn Lautenbach
14. Any Other Business – *only items which have been notified in advance will be taken*
15. Closing Prayer

Clergy Report

Life in 2021 was still very much concerned with the Covid-19 pandemic and Church life was no different. While 2020 might have been categorised as 'confusing and bewildering' as we came to grips with the reality of a pandemic, 2021, could be classed as a year of 'persevering' as we continued through a pandemic, seemingly without end. We had times when we were able to worship in church and others when we were back in various lockdowns, sometimes imposed and at other times we chose not to worship in church due to the high numbers of local Covid-19 cases.

The year began in a continued lockdown from the end of December 2020, and we journeyed through Lent on Zoom together, trying out several different services and options.

During Holy week, we tried an Easter Wreath workshop on Zoom (following the success of our Advent Wreath workshop via Zoom) which was well attended.



On Maundy Thursday night we experimented with an online Passover meal and though participants were few in number they literally joined in from around England and even further afield.

Afterwards, along with Revd Lorraine, myself and some members of our Prayer and Healing Team, we held a very moving three-hour vigil.

Our Good Friday service of Stations of the Cross was very beautifully led by several members of the Prayer and Healing team.



We finally returned to worship in Church again, on Easter Sunday (4th April) which began outside as we sang a wonderful resurrection hymn together, before moving into church for the rest of our service.

We continued to wear masks for our services throughout the year, communion was in one kind only, and social distancing was simply the norm. Whole congregation singing in church, only became possible later in the year when restrictions lifted a little. All decisions made concerning our services and how to implement restrictions in our context, were taken together between myself and our PCC.

Numbers at our services remained low but steady throughout the year, with the continuation of Zoom provision enabling hybrid services for those unable to attend church to, join in online.

Occasional services were few in number, with only two baptisms and one wedding in 2021. Though some funerals were able to take place in church, the majority took place at the crematoriums, especially with the opportunity for attendance through live streaming for family and friends of the deceased, as numbers attending Funerals remained restricted for a large part of the year.

PCC continued to meet mostly on Zoom though occasionally in Church, socially distanced of course.

With COP26 looming in November 2021, our PCC discussed making a deeper and renewed commitment to caring for God's beautiful Creation. A small committee was formed in April 'Creation Matters', whose remit was to focus on ways we could make a difference to the climate crisis, how we could raise awareness of the crisis and how we could be better informed.

We raised awareness through a Sermon Series, as well as a Study Course with a small number of participants. We committed to having an annual 'Climate Sunday' and +Olivia Graham (Bishop of Reading) led and preached at our first Climate Sunday service on 11th July 2021. We also updated our registration with the Fairtrade Foundation, renewing our commitment to be a 'Fairtrade Church'.

In our Creation Matters meetings, we planned for a 'Festival of Creation' which we worked towards, and which took place in October. While numbers were low in attendance, we managed to raise some awareness in our local community as we had a number of participants from local organisations displaying various aspects of creation and our need to care for the environment.



Furthermore, we committed to 'Terracycling' as much as we could. To this end we placed bins in the church entrance to collect some items which could not be recycled through the local council, and which could be delivered to 'Ali's Recycling' for recycling. This project continues to be well supported by church and wider community alike.

As December came around we returned to the Hatch for our annual 'Carols on the Hatch' raising funds for 'The Children's Society'. We also hosted our annual Christmas Tree Festival weekend once again, this time unlike 2020, with actual attendees. We even had the wonderful Hurst Singers providing entertainment on the Saturday as they raised our spirits with their Christmas songs.



As the year came to a close we found numbers of covid cases rising locally once again, and so we took the decision to go online for our Christmas services for a second year in a row. Our Christingle Zoom service was again well supported by The Children's Society Committee who provided the bags for collection, to make the Christingles at home during the service, as well as the many families who attended online.

I give thanks for the support of our Churchwardens Mike and Alison, along with my colleague Revd Lorraine; for the prayer support of our Prayer and Healing Team and Prayer Chain, for the dedication and commitment of our PCC members; for our administrator Jane Cleary; and for so many others who have contributed in various ways to the life and witness of our parish. Throughout the year we worked together to support and encourage one another, relying on God's faithfulness and grace to bring us through another difficult year. It is in the trying times that our faith is most tested and yet in that testing, we somehow find strength, encouragement and a deeper trust and faith in our loving God.

As we emerge from the pandemic, I pray that we will all know the blessing and peace of our heavenly Father, as we deal with the fallout from the last two years and the long term effects the pandemic has had on us all. I pray too for new life in the Holy Spirit, courage, and encouragement, as we venture with renewed hope, into a changed world with new opportunities for life and growth, faith, and witness to the glorious message of the Gospel our Saviour Jesus Christ came to bring. I commend the following passage to you as we look ahead to 2022. ^{2b} ..And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:2b-5

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Churchwardens' Report

We entered 2021 full of hope that, despite the turmoil of the disrupted 2020 Christmas plans and the latest lockdown, 2021 would turn out to be a more predictable and peaceful year. Well, it seems we are learning the hard way to rely on our Father God, and to trust in Him rather than our own plans.....

We endured the second period of lockdown and church closure and then rejoiced as Easter brought about the chance to meet in person again, albeit with many precautions in place to protect one another. Christmas however found us back online, but at least we were well practised and knew how to do virtual Christingles, complete with kits! We have continued to worship together, whether on Zoom, socially distanced or masked in church; we have learnt what is important and what is not, and we give thanks for the technology and the resilience of our clergy, Rev Glynn, and Rev Lorraine, as they led us through this period.

Throughout the year our weekly worship has been the on-line and hybrid services at 10:00am on a Sunday morning, and of course we have enjoyed special services for particular occasions. Taizé services have been introduced on an occasional basis too. Unfortunately, we were not able to restart any hospitality/shared meals during the year, we have greatly missed these occasions, and the outreach and fellowship opportunities they bring.

Our Parish Administrator, Janey, has continued to be a fantastic support to Rev Glynn, to us, and to the Parish at large. Nothing is too much trouble, and we thank her particularly for both her patience and her initiative, and her hard work, always done with good cheer. The newsletter, produced mainly by Janey and Glynn continues to be the "go to" place for information and updates, and represents a great deal of effort, but so valuable

During 2021 the nursery changed hands, and "Little Footprints" became "Mini Oaks", run by a well-established community company (Oaks Childcare). We have enjoyed continuing to work with the leaders and the children. One of the first things they took part in was our Festival of Creation in October 2021, of which more below

We were delighted to expand again the community focused events and activities that we organise or join. Highlights included:

- We shared a wonderful online Seder meal, with people joining from literally all over the world. What an unexpected joy and result of our enforced virtual marking of Holy Week

- We held our first ever Easter Wreath making workshop, run online as we had learnt how to do the previous Advent. Thanks again to Kat Josey for leading and making and delivering 20+ kits
- Community Churchyard tidy up working parties have resulted in our beautiful churchyard being well cared for: thank you to all who have taken part, a wonderful cooperation between the Parish Council, parishioners, and the church family
- We have established a Terracycling collection point and have contributed to various collections of items which would otherwise go to landfill
- Our first Festival of Creation was held in the run up to COP 26. The church was filled with beautiful creations made by local individuals and groups as we celebrated God's wonderful creation and pondered how we could steward it better. Café B kindly provided refreshments. The Festival is part of our increased focus on the fifth mark of mission (To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth), and we have also established a "Creation Matters" group to promote this work.
- It was a joy to hold a full Remembrance Day service once again, albeit outside. It was such a pleasure to welcome so many from the community again. The weather was kind, attendance was better than ever, with around 600-700 villagers, young and old, attending the open-air wreath-laying ceremony and service at the War Memorial. This message of thanks from a parishioner sums it up: "We have never been before so didn't really know what to expect but it was so well organised and really good to see so many people had made the effort. Very emotional when the Chinook flew over very low as a mark of respect. The kids were brilliant."
- Thanks to a wonderful team of people, spearheaded by the marvellous, professional florist (and at that point very new Mum!) Kat Josey, we joyfully held the Advent Wreath making evening in person once again. This is a very valued event in the community
- The Advent Window Trail ran again: some innovations due to the pandemic are worth keeping!
- The seventh annual Christmas Tree Festival was once again in person but with covid precautions in place of course. Sadly, a resurgence of the virus at the time meant we were only able to host one of the planned choirs, the Hurst Singers- they were fantastic- and hopefully in 2022 the school choirs can return. Café B again provided refreshments, which we all appreciated.
- The Christmas tree on the Hatch (kindly donated by Englefield Estate) duly lit, was the venue for the Big Sing once again accompanied by the wonderful Tadley Brass Band and enjoyed by many from the community.

We would like to thank our clergy colleagues (Glynn and Lorraine), as well as all the faithful members of the PCC and all in our church family for all your great and much valued support throughout 2021. We have edged our way back towards a new normal, grateful for our Father's loving hand guiding us as we all seek to live out His will and to be faithful, welcoming witnesses here in Burghfield.

*Alison Eves and Michael Wood
Churchwardens*

Bradfield Deanery Synod

What is Deanery Synod?

The Deanery Synod is part of the way the Church of England gives people at different levels a chance to discuss key issues and organise the church's ministry and mission. It sits between the parishes with their Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) and the diocese with the Diocesan Synod.

What does it do?

- Considers matters concerning the Church of England
- Brings together the views of the parishes of the deanery
- Acts as a channel of communication between parishes and Diocesan Synod
- Implements decisions made by General Synod
- Raises matters with Diocesan Synod
- Elects' representatives to Diocesan Synod and General Synod

Deanery Synod representatives serve for up to three years. Elections were held in 2020 and our current representatives for St Mary's are Carol Jackson' Doerge and Colin Thompson.

During the year Synod welcomed Revd Grant Fensome from Aldworth, Ashampstead and Basildon and Revd Mark Hopkins, Priest in charge of Pangbourne, Sulham and Tidmarsh, as well as Revd Aidan Jones, Curate in Purley.

Appointments were made to the Deanery Synod Standing Committee for the 3-year cycle.

Lay chair – Chris Newman; Secretary – Debbie Corrigan; Treasurer – Chris Goodchild; Lay member - Jenny Peabody; Area Dean – Revd David Archer; Clergy representative – Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Appointments were also made to Diocesan Synod: Chris Newman for one of the lay posts and Revd Mark Hopkins for one of the clergy posts.

The Synod meets three times in the year and whilst the July meeting was held by Zoom, the October and March meetings were held in the flesh. The principal topic of discussion (other than the perennial favourite parish share) has been the draft Deanery plan. It is generally agreed that the current draft is too general and needs to have a sharper focus. It briefly touches on changes to Deanery boundaries with differing views as to the best structure.

The March meeting was a particularly lively affair, as the Area Dean shared a brief video and then invited comments from the floor. In a nutshell the producer of the video pointed out that the percentage of the population answering the census question as to religion with 'None' had risen from 5% in the 1940's to over 30% with the figure being even higher amongst the under 30's. This suggests we have a forthcoming existential crisis which requires more than tinkering.

Responses from the floor were varied but broadly accepted the premise, and we must now work to turn recognition of the problem into potential solutions. It is going to be an interesting year!

Safeguarding and Financial matters are a standing item on all agendas. Deanery Synod has noted the challenges being faced in both areas and is reporting these up to the Diocese.

Meetings have been a source of encouragement. Synod has considered the opportunities for leading the post-pandemic church. Synod has been challenged to consider the different preferences for church services (digital gatherings, physical gatherings, or a hybrid, or neither) of churched people by various categories of ages. It showed that older people (over 60) much prefer the physical gatherings, but that all other groupings much prefer a mixture of digital and physical gatherings

Bradfield Deanery hosted Bishop Steven in December, through several events and services during the day and evening.

Colin Thompson

Report on Prayer Coordination & Prayer and Healing Team for 2021

Prayer Chain of Intercessors and Prayer and Healing Team members continued to be informed of urgent prayer requests by email.

The Monthly prayer diary was updated.

During Holy week the team took part in the Maundy Thursday Service on Zoom leading a series of half hour reflection including readings, prayers, and reflection on paintings.

On Good Friday the team led the last hour at the cross, a service of readings, prayers, and music, using the Turvey Abbey images of the stations of the cross. Both these services were well received by those who attended via Zoom, although sadly attendance was low.

After our return to church at Easter, prayers in the chancel were resumed and with further loosening of restrictions we were able to resume the use of the Prayer request Book. We were not able to hold Circle of Prayer or undertake any training.



We assisted with one Reflective service and again helped with the All-Souls Service.

We welcomed Sara to the team. Sadly, some of the team have not returned to church since services resumed so filling the rota for prayers in the chancel is often a struggle and it means that only 6 members of the team fulfil most of the slots.

Hopefully we will have a fuller team next year and others may feel the call to join this much valued aspect of mutual prayer support.

Margaret Thomas and Anne Greaves

Outreach

Outreach is very much a part of our mission at St Mary's and through the year we have been involved in various activities. Our congregation is exceedingly generous in supporting our local Foodbank and the need seems to have increased even more so through the pandemic. Food donations are at an all-time high and we participated in both the Lent and Advent appeals' along with providing general food donations.

This year we had our first 'Shoebox' workshop in November, where over 100 boxes were prepared for distribution through the charity 'Samaritan's Purse' for 'Operation Christmas Child'.



We support two local charities through our annual 'Toy Service' where new toys and other items are brought to our service and then donated to Berkshire Women's Aid as well as Spotlight UK.

Outward giving

For some years now we have donated a percentage of the church's income to charities and mission agencies in accordance with the PCC decision made a few years ago to commit 10% of the church's planned giving income.



In choosing the charities to receive monies from us, the PCC has striven to maintain a balance between large and small charities, and domestic and overseas charities. We also favour charities where we have personal knowledge of the good that their work does.



Our Outward Giving figure for 2021 is £4,100. This year's beneficiaries are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| • Health Help International | £1,500 |
| • Farm Africa | £ 500 |
| • The Trussell Trust | £ 500 |
| • Burghfield Utd Charities | £ 400 |
| • Spotlight UK | £ 400 |
| • Yeldall Manor | £ 400 |
| • Home Start | £ 400 |



Burghfield Support Group for The Children's Society



The group consists of Anne Burtenshaw, Hilary James, Pat Glover (our Treasurer), Janet Reed, Nicky South-Klein, Sheila Langston-Hopgood and Colin Thompson and met three times in the year in September, October, and January. New members are always welcome and if you would like to join our little group please speak to any of its members.

Activities were again curtailed because of covid, but we were able to hold cake stalls on Toy Sunday in December and Mothering Sunday in March. The Christingle service was once again held in Church, and the Church also agreed that the collection from Carols on the Hatch would be given to the Society. The fall in the general circulation of coins meant revenue from Boxes was substantially less, but £346.77 was received from eleven boxes.

Sales of Christmas cards produced £117.50, the Toy service raffle £36, the collection from Carols on the Hatch £174 and the Christingle service £187.38. The toy service cake stall yielded £255.10 (including donations) and the Mothering Sunday £136.70.

Overall, therefore we raised £1253.45, well down on our pre-Covid figure, but still very gratifying in the circumstances. Hopefully 2022 will continue the return to normality and we are looking forward to resuming events in the Autumn

Colin Thompson

Flying Solo & Holiday at Home

Due to the Pandemic, Lockdowns and Social Distancing we were unable to resume our meetings. Anne has been able to make some visits to people at home and keep telephone contact with others.

Some people also managed to meet during the summer outside at Cafe B and inside when restrictions allowed.

We do have a problem with volunteers who are no longer able to help.

This will be kept under review, and we hope started again when possible.

Anne Burtenshaw & Revd Lorraine Colam.

Churches Together Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer (CTBSM)



Unfortunately, due to the pandemic no meetings have taken place for our local Churches' Together Group. As we emerge properly from the pandemic, we will need to meet to assess the way forward together.

Revd Glynn



Burghfield St Mary's Church of England Primary School



The school's vision is to create a caring Christian learning environment that inspires everyone in the school community to fulfil their unique potential and become a responsible, concerned, and active member of God's world. The Governing Body includes two Foundation Governors, appointed by the Diocese (currently Revd Glynn Lautenbach and Deborah Marsden). They meet with the Head Teacher on a termly basis to discuss RE provision and collective worship within the school, as well as strengthening school church ties.

The school has continued to teach in bubbles for the autumn term and the first half of the spring term, alongside a significant number of staff and pupil absences. The Senior Leadership team, teachers and support staff have worked hard to ensure consistency and have implemented a catch-up programme following the severe disruptions to the school curriculum from COVID 19. On a recent visit to the school our Foundation Governors found pupils to be demonstrating thoughtful behaviour, supportive of each other in lessons, and an enthusiasm for their schoolwork and school life. In our conversations with the pupils, they showed a positive school ethos and that they are proud of their progress in their schoolwork.

Revd Glynn and her team were able to return to weekly Thursday assemblies from September, though with a spike in local covid-19 cases this was unfortunately stopped again. For the first time since the pandemic began, a few of the classes came down to church in October to lead a Harvest service. Due to the possibilities of zoom, the rest of the school and also some of the parents were able to participate virtually. We look forward to a time when the whole school can be together for our special services in church.

For the past few years, our school has been raising funds to develop an environmental science area with an outside classroom on the school field. Thanks to the support of our local community, we have been able to have a classroom installed.

The school monitors pupil performance and are proud of the pupils' positive attitudes. The governors would again like to place on record their gratitude to and admiration of all the staff of the school who worked so flexibly throughout the year in exceptional circumstances.

Reverend Glynn Lautenbach (Foundation Governor)
Deborah Marsden (Foundation Governor)

Buildings -Fabric Report

We are pleased to report that during the latter part of 2021 most of the regular users of the Parish Centre have resumed their usage of the building following the lifting of the Covid restrictions.



Part of the 2019 Quinquennial Inspection Report was to overhaul the Church roof. After several delays this was finally done in June.

As mentioned in the previous APCM Fabric report, concerns had been raised regarding a roof level "Sleeper Stone" which appeared to have moved. A Structural

Engineer visited site and advised that he felt that it was currently safe and should be re-pointed and then monitored for any sign of movement. This repair was also undertaken by the roofing contractor and would appear to be stable. I am glad to say that the storms of the past few months do not appear to have had any negative effects on the roof.

Concerns about a possible slow leak in the church underfloor heating system were mentioned in the last APCM report. However, since the church heating came back into use in the Autumn of 2021 the pressure seems to be stable, and

no further action has been taken, other than keeping a regular eye on the pressure gauge.

During May the PCC accepted a quote for the installation of "Live Streaming" equipment in the Church. Video cameras in the church would enable a permanent set up for the Zooming & Live Streaming of services, rather than the current ad hoc arrangement using several webcams. Not only would such a system enable our Sunday Services to be broadcast, but it would also allow the broadcasting of occasional services such as funerals, weddings, and baptisms to anywhere in the world. The system would not need setting up for each service & would be simple to operate.

A Faculty has been granted by the Diocese for the Installation of the equipment. An application for grant funding for the installation was made via the "Good Exchange" towards the end of 2021.

Meanwhile the Fabric team consisting of Anne, Clive, Mike, Colin, Iain, Gary, and Brian have been undertaking various projects around the Church & Parish Centre:

- The uneven paving slabs immediately outside the main church doors and the path round to the Parish Centre were lifted and re-laid.
- The Storage porch was becoming very untidy and restricting access to the boiler house. The Fabric Team emptied the porch and disposed of items that were no longer required, most of these were taken to the recycling centre.
- The long pews, stored at the back of church since the installation of the underfloor heating in 2012, were cut in half.
- A survey of both the Church & the Parish Centre has identified all the non-energy efficient lighting. As part of making the site eco-friendlier, the team will be replacing this lighting with LEDs over the next few months.

I am very grateful to my fellow Fabric Committee members for their enthusiasm and willingness to tackle the various jobs that crop up in what sometimes feels like a never-ending stream: thank you all for your support during the past year.

For many years concerns have been raised regarding multiple occupancy of the Parish Centre. The current layout of the building raises child protection issues when the Pre-school is in session, and it is very difficult to give free access to any organisations wishing to use the upstairs hall and facilities, or to provide access from the church to the toilets via the link door. This was felt to be inhibiting the Mission of the Church within the community.

A plan to modify the down-stairs hall and kitchen was put to the PCC. This plan would allow the Pre-school to isolate themselves to the hall, kitchen and two toilets, whilst allowing free access to the upper floor and the disabled toilet. The PCC has agreed to this.

Following discussions with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) & the Diocesan Architect, Building Plans have been drawn up for a faculty application. Local Authority Planning Permission has been requested, and we should hear within a few weeks whether this has been granted. We will then be able to finalise and submit the faculty application to the Diocese. The Diocesan Development Fund has also been approached for a grant towards the work, and we hope this request will be viewed favourably.

Finally, the Church will need to seek grants and fund raise to allow the completion of the repairs to the church buildings as identified in the 2019 Quinquennial report, together with raising funds to replace the septic tank as identified in the 2020 Fabric Report. Recently a problem has also been identified with the Parish Centre kitchen window which has extensive rot and is currently filled with expanding foam to prevent the entrance of vermin into the kitchen.

The Church needs to give a big thankyou to those who clean and maintain this wonderful church. We are very blessed to have such a building for our worship and for use by the whole community of Burghfield.

Brian Thatcher, Chair Fabric Committee

Parish Centre report

As we entered 2021 and restrictions began to be lifted, we started to see people returning to the parish centre for bookings which has been wonderful to see.

The exercise classes are back in person although their class numbers are not back to 2019 capacity. These are currently taking place with a hybrid of zoom and class for those who are still uncomfortable in socialising with others. The new extra width on our broadband has allowed us to offer this service.



We had a big push of publicity to ensure people in the village were aware we hired out our hall. We have continued to push this, and we seem to be getting more enquiries coming through which is great as the church has lost a lot of revenue due to the pandemic.

Our church has been booked so many times by choirs which have been open to the public. We have assisted them in publicity through our website, Facebook, and A church near you. The church has received some wonderful donations due to these concerts and the participants have already started to look at booking for 2022.

The Nursery was taken over by 'The Oaks Childcare – Community Interest Company' and rebranded as Mini Oaks Pre-school, in the summer of 2021 and started their first term in the September. Mini Oaks are full time in the parish centre and utilising our downstairs room Monday – Friday. Although numbers have been low, we have maintained an agreement of a reduced rate for them. We are hoping that in 2022 their intake will increase and our income will improve.

Due to all the restrictions with Covid-19, we have not increased the Parish Centre fees they still stood at: £12.75 per hour per room on weekdays until 6pm, or £15.30 per hour per room thereafter and at weekends.

Jane Cleary Parish Administrator

The PCC of St Mary's the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Reference and Administrative details

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is in the village and parish of Burghfield in the county of Berkshire.

All correspondence regarding the church should be addressed to: The Parish Office, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. This involves working with the Revd Glynn Lautenbach the Rector, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the Parish Centre. The PCC is a charity Registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales and our number is: 1167639.

Furthermore the PCC of St Mary the Virgin has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Parochial Church Meeting or are ex-officio in accordance with the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and may stand for election to the PCC.

During the year 2021 the following people served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio Members

Clergy:

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Revd Lorraine Colam

Wardens:

Michael Wood

Alison Eves

PCC members as a result of Deanery Synod Membership

Colin Thompson and Carol Jackson-Doerge were elected to Deanery Synod at the APCM on 18th October 2020 for a 3 year term of office till 2023.

PCC Secretary

Brian Thatcher

PCC Treasurer

Oliver Dillon

Elected Members of the PCC

Name	Elected at APCM	Serve Until	Term
Brian Thatcher	2019	2022	1 st
Amy Legg	2019	2022	2 nd
Oliver Dillon	2020	2023	3 rd
Margaret Thomas	2020	2023	2 nd
Sara Fantham	2020	2023	1 st
Clive Eatwell	2020	2023	1 st
Anne Pocock	2020	2023	1 st
Lesley Brigden	2021	2024	1 st
Iain Buchanan	2021	2024	1 st

There were no vacancies currently on the PCC.

Foundation Governors

The following have been appointed to serve on the school governing body of the church school as Foundation Governors from September 2020:

Mrs Deborah Marsden-Kwan

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Structure, governance and management

Committees and Groups

The sub-committees of the PCC which continued through 2021 were the Finance and Stewardship committee, the Fabric Committee for care of the Fabric of the buildings and grounds and the Worship and Discipleship Committee for matters relating to worship and discipleship. The Standing Committee met regularly for decision making, support and Agenda planning. In addition a new sub-committee of the PCC was created in April 2021 'Creation Matters Committee', following the PCC's renewed commitment to caring for God's creation and in order to assess and follow up on how we can play our part to make a difference to the climate crisis we are all facing.

The Ministry Team comprising Revd Glynn Lautenbach (Rector), Revd Lorraine Colam (Part time Non Stipendiary Associate Minister), Alison Eves (Churchwarden) and Michael Wood (Churchwarden) met regularly to plan and co-ordinate the ongoing ministry of the parish.

PCC Vision Statement

Our vision statement for the church created in 2020 is as follows:

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

All aspects of the life, mission and ministry of our parish will be discerned and assessed in line with these three areas. During the year we began to work on our future Mission Action Plan (MAP)

In addition, we continue to work in accordance with the Diocesan 'Common Vision', to be a 'A more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world' becoming a more *Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous* Church.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll was updated for 2021 and the number on the electoral roll recorded at the APCM was 76.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic another government lockdown was imposed in late December 2020 which continued into 2021 and we did not return to worship in the church building until Easter Sunday 4th April 2021. Services in the first few months of the year continued online through Zoom and otherwise members of the congregation were encouraged to join in the diocesan provision for online services.

Zoom service attendance between 3rd January 2021 to 28th March 2021:

Average **online** attendance 32
(including a few children only occasionally)

From Easter Sunday we returned to church with a zoom option to join in and they became hybrid services.

Hybrid Services between 4th April – 12th December

	Attendance	Communicants
10.00am Parish Communion		
In Church	22	20
On Zoom	6	-

These numbers include a few children, some of whom have been admitted to Holy Communion according to Canon B15A. The average weekly attendance figures for the services are reached having taken an average attendance over several Sundays spaced across the year, when there are no 'special' Sundays: Numbers attending church services in person have remained low due to the pandemic.

Easter, Pentecost and Harvest were the major festivals which took place this year. Christmas services were once again online due to the high number of local Covid-19 cases.

Services from 19th December to the end of the year, were on Zoom only

	Attendance
On Zoom	25

During 2021 we celebrated 2 baptisms (2020:1); 1 wedding (2020 no weddings) and 14 funerals (2020: also 14) were conducted

Review of the year

A full report on the activities of the parish during 2021 is found in the Annual Report booklet accompanying this document.

Financial Review

As with every other part of life the Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on St Mary's finances. This will continue to affect us in 2022.

Voluntary income for General Expenditure, (excluding Gift Aid, Fundraising, Fees & Lettings), fell back by 4% due to a fall in large individual donations outweighing a 3.3% increase in Planned Giving. Gift Aid was steady, with an annual increase of 2.5%. As other activities have been able to restart we have seen some recovery in regular Parish Centre lettings income (+18%).

Although there was not a major fundraising event there were several events which were very community oriented. Advent Wreath making, Easter Wreath making, Festival of Creation and the Christmas Tree Festival had income of £1510 of which £255 went as direct costs. Congratulations are due to all involved. Amazon Smile contributed an improved £55.88 and has scope to be much greater given that it is at no cost to the parishioner.

Our allocated Parish Share was the same as that allocated for the previous year. It was clear that the pandemic would make the projected figures unattainable. In discussions with the Deanery Treasurer it was decided to reduce the final three months by a total of £9k which was an improvement on the £11.1k reduction in the previous year.

These resulted in an overall deficit on our Unrestricted Funds of £3.5k.

Roof repairs cost £6691.50 towards which a Deanery Grant of £1500 was received, £5k donated in 2020 was also used leaving £191 to be met from General Funds. The Retention Fee for the Tower Project was also paid.

A collection was made in memoria of Jacqui Fudge, who was at the centre of St Mary's church life for many years. She will continue to be remembered by many of those who knew her.

The following are some of the financial and ministerial matters relating to the church:

- The ministry of the church has continued through a wide range of services, occasional offices and outreach initiatives.
- Committed monthly giving and some one-off donations and fundraising have continued to provide the monies available for further reordering of our beautiful church.
- Major fabric expenditures expected for 2022 are repairs to the Parish Centre windows, a Live Streaming project and reorganising the Parish Centre to enable fuller use. We plan to continue our efforts to be a greener church and there will be costs involved. The septic tank will need replacement in the next few years.
- Despite it being much reduced by the current circumstances we have still received a substantial amount of additional income from the lettings of the Parish Centre. We are thankful for the work by past and present members of the congregation who had the insight and the commitment to provide this resource for us.



5

Parochial Church Council of
St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:  Date: 9/5/2022

Ross Mackinnon
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Financial Statements

Financial Statements For the 12 Months Ended 31 Dec 2021

		Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary Receipts							
Direct Giving by standing order		41164	0	0	0	41164	39817
Giving by coloured and white envelopes		873	0	0	0	873	813
Open collections		182	0	0	0	182	497
Gift aid claimed	1	11060	0	0	0	11060	10788
Other general donations	2	3659	0	0	0	3659	6734
TOTAL		56938	0	0	0	56938	58649
Receipts from activities for generating funds							
Fundraising	3	1576	0	0	0	1576	6157
TOTAL		1576	0	0	0	1576	6157
Receipts from church activities							
Fees	4	4005	0	0	0	4005	4432
Parish centre letting fees	5	22514	0	0	0	22514	19032
Other (rebates and donations)		0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		26519	0	0	0	26519	23464
Receipts from investments							
Interest on Bank Accounts		0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest on CCLA Account	6	1	0	0	1	3	22
		1	0	0	1	3	22
Total Receipts (Unrestricted)		85034	0	0	1	85035	88292
Receipts on Restricted Accounts							
Funds Collected for other charities	7	0	0	115	0	115	220
Gift aid claimed	1	0	0	195	0	195	529
Reordering Project	7	0	0	780	0	780	780
Other restricted accounts (Church Use)	7	0	0	1847	0	1847	10467
TOTAL Receipts (Restricted)		0	0	2937	0	2937	11995
TOTAL RECEIPTS		85034	0	2937	1	87973	100287
	Notes	2021 Unrestricted Fund	2021 Unrestricted Designated Fund	2021 Restricted Fund	2021 Endowment Fund	2021 Total 2021	2020 Total 2020
PAYMENTS							
Direct costs of church activities		1738	0	80	0	1817	1129
Building & churchyard maintenance & repairs	8	1212	0	6597	1	7811	3288
Clergy expenses	8	1106	0	0	0	1106	957
Utilities	8	8689	0	0	0	8689	8425
Cleaning	8	1582	0	0	0	1582	1198
Administration		12628	0	70	0	12698	10734
Insurance		4163	0	0	0	4163	4187
Parish Share	9	53194	0	0	0	53194	51325
Parish Share Rebate		0	0	0	0	0	-1744
Outreach & Youth Work	8	171	0	0	0	171	164
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
Outward Giving	10	4100	0	0	0	4100	4000
Subscriptions		0	0	0	0	0	20
Other Donations Outward		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Unrestricted Payments		88582	0	6747	1	95331	83684
Restricted Payments							
Reordering Account	7	0	0	2470	0	2470	5285
Restricted(For Other Charities)	7	0	0	385	0	385	746
Other Restricted	7	0	0	235	0	235	0
Total Restricted Payments		0	0	3090	0	3090	6030
TOTAL PAYMENTS		88582	0	9837	1	98421	89714
Transfers Between Funds							
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year to Date	11	-3548	0	-6900	0	-10448	10573

MOVEMENT ON FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at January 1st	25725	0	11685	2000	39410	28836
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	-3548	0	-6900	0	-10448	10573
Balances at December 31st	22177	0	4785	2000	28961	39410
Surplus/(Deficit) for YTD Gen Funds	-3548					

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2021

Bank Accounts	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooperative Current Account	12926		3721		16647	25418
Nat West Current	1388	0			1388	456
Coop Mission Fund Account					0	0
Fees Account & Fees Cash in Hand	4724				4724	7719
Reordering Current Account			1064		1064	680
CCLA Thursby	632			2000	2632	2630
CCLA Restoration	8				8	8
CCLA Reserve Fund	2498				2498	2497
Petty Cash Float	0				0	0
Total Funds	22177	0	4785	2000	28961	39410

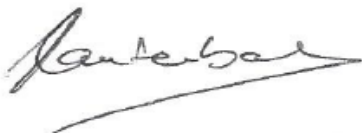
Represented by:

	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	22177				22177	25725
Upkeep & Capital Improvement Fund		0			0	0
J Harvey Thursby Fund				2000	2000	2000
Reordering Fund			759		759	2254
Other Repairs & Fabric Appeals			1291		1291	6356
Mission Fund			2730		2730	2730
Training Fund			0		0	0
For Other Charities & Organisations			5		5	345
Total Funds	22177	0	4785	2000	28961	39410
	0	0	0	0		

Liabilities:

The closing Restricted Fund balance contains amounts from collections which are due to be paid to their respective charities, as follows:

Other Organisations				0	70
Children's Society			5	5	275
Children In Need					
	0	0	5	0	345



Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach
(Rector & PCC Chair)



Mr Oliver Dillon
(PCC Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 17th January 2022 and signed on their behalf by Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach (PCC Chair) and Mr Oliver Dillon (PCC Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield are prepared on a Receipt and Payments basis.

1. Gift Aid was from the Parish Giving scheme throughout the year together with direct claims for 2020.
2. Other General Donations includes £2,776 of online donations for General funds.
3. The Fees Income is reported as the net amount payable to the PCC in accordance with C of E guidelines. Fees collected on behalf of the Diocese totalled £3,071. Transactions relating to payments for Bellingers, Vergers etc are also specifically excluded.
4. Fundraising events were Easter & Advent Wreaths The Festival of Creation and the Festival of Trees. Gross incomes were £1520 and expenses charged were £260. Donations from the Amazon Smile program improved to £56.
5. The pandemic restrictions and a lower level of income from the Nursery continue to have an impact on Parish Centre Lettings income, which is still £14k down compared to pre-pandemic levels.
6. Interest Income on the J Harvey Thursby Memorial fund was allocated to defray costs incurred in maintaining the churchyard.
7. Movements on Restricted Accounts:

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Gift Aid	Resources expended	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
Bell Room & Access (BRA)	500.00				500.00
Reordering (Heating Lighting Cross Tower etc)	2,254.15	780.00	195.42	(2,470.32)	759.25
Fabric & Repairs	5,000.00			(5,000.00)	0.00
EcoFund	0.00	20.00			20.00
Roof Repairs (Deanery Grant)	0.00	1,500.00		(1,500.00)	0.00
Mission Fund	2,729.83				2,729.83
Kitchen Fund	128.43			(51.99)	76.44
Vestry Roof (Englefield Trust) (Residual)	334.40				334.40
Disabled Ramp (BRA) (Residual)	24.00				24.00
Lych Gate & Notice Board	315.41				315.41
Fence & Gates (BRA)	53.82			(33.36)	20.46
War Graves Commission	0.00	12.00		(12.00)	0.00
Advent Wreath Making Donation to Kat	70.00			(70.00)	0.00
Childrens Society	275.00	115.00		(385.00)	5.00
In Memoria Jacqui Fudge	0.00	235.00		(235.00)	0.00
Cruet Set	0.00	79.70		(79.70)	0.00
	<u>11,685.04</u>	<u>2,741.70</u>	<u>195.42</u>	<u>(9,837.37)</u>	<u>4,784.79</u>
Designated Funds					
Upkeep and Capital Improvement (Designated) Ft	0.00				0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Endowment Funds					
J Harvey Thursby Fund	2,000.00	1.38		(1.38)	2,000.00
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>1.38</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(1.38)</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>

Interest of £1.38 was applied to the J Harvey Thursby Memorial Fund and the accumulated interest was applied to defray churchyard costs.

Income on the Restricted funds included Monthly pledges of £780. A Deanery Grant of £1.5k and £5k donated for Fabric Repairs were used towards Roof Repairs totalling £6.7k. The Christingle service raised £110 for the Childrens Society. A Parishioner kindly donated the funds for a new Liturgy Cruet Set. A collection was taken for donations in memory of Jacqui Fudge, former Church Warden at St. Mary's.

8. Due to the lockdowns and restrictions on services a number of costs were significantly suppressed.

9. Parish Share was initially set at the same level as last year. In discussions with the Deanery Treasurer, it was agreed to reduce the final 3 months by a total of £9,000.

10. Our Outward Giving figure for 2021 is £4,100. This year's beneficiaries are:

Health Help International	£1,500
Burghfield United Charities	£400
Spotlight	£400
Yeldall Manor	£400
Farm Africa	£500
The Trussell Trust	£500
Home Start	£400

11. A deficit of £3,548 is reported on the unrestricted funds statutory accounts.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:  Date: 9/5/2022

Ross Mackinnon
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Accounts

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Annual Report 2020



ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

13th June 2021

St Mary's Church

(following the 10am Service)

Attached – Examined accounts and Report from the chair of the PCC as required by the Charities Act 2011

Contents

Agendas for the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting	1
Clergy report	2
Churchwardens' report	8
Bradfield Deanery Synod	11
Prayer Life: Report on Prayer and Healing Team	11
Outreach: Outward giving	12
Outreach: Burghfield Parish Support Group for The Children's Society	13
Outreach: Flying Solo	14
Outreach: Holiday at Home	14
Outreach: Churches Together in Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer	14
Burghfield St Mary Primary School	15
Buildings: Fabric report	16
Buildings: Parish Centre report	18

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

AGENDA

Opening Prayers

Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 18th October 2020

Election of Churchwardens

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Minutes of the APCM held on 18th October 2020
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Presentation of the Updated Electoral Roll
4. Presentation of the Annual Report
5. Report from Churchwardens
6. Report from Deanery Synod
7. Annual Report Statement by Treasurer
8. Matters arising from the annual reports.
9. Appointment of Independent Examiner
10. Report on Safeguarding
11. Election of Members to serve on the PCC
12. Appointment of PCC Secretary
13. Vision for the Future – Revd Glynn Lautenbach
14. Any Other Business – *only items which have been notified in advance will be taken*
15. Closing Prayer

Clergy Report

What can be said about 2020, except that it was a unique year where we lived through the Covid-19 Pandemic which will surely be an experience to share with generations to come. While the year began with some signs of upheaval no-one could possibly have foreseen the way our lives were changed, and the church was impacted too in a unique historical manner. At no time in history have churches ever been forced to close for worship, which was what took place between 23rd March through to the end of June.

With worship in church suspended, we discovered new ways of being church, really living out the words from Paul's second letter to the Corinthian's, *'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body (2 Corinthians 4.7-10)*

We discovered that God really is in every situation and can work through them to open new opportunities. While initially we found it bewildering as we tried to adjust to the enormity of the situation, we began with recording services and 'short Reflections' uploaded to our website, Facebook, and progressed to discovering the opportunities presented through 'Zoom'. After Easter Sunday we offered a weekly Zoom Communion Service and we got to know more about one another (even more so than we might have done had we been in church), as we 'socialised' after the service or tried out 'breakout room's'.

Zoom offerings continued as 'Hybrid' services once we were able to return to worship in church from the beginning of August. This gave everyone the opportunity to join in worship together, whether face to face or virtually. It will continue to be offered long after the pandemic ends since we have discovered the possibilities of 'virtual church', something really positive which has come out of this past year. We are also exploring other possibilities of technology to expand our outreach in various ways.

When we were able to return to church for services, it was under very different circumstance to our worshipping life prior to Covid-19. The layout was different, 'social distancing', wording we'd become so familiar with, even transferred to the church



furniture as it too was arranged to accommodate new guidelines. Singing was no longer permitted though Gill Sinclair continued to lead us as we listened and later on a small choir was permitted to lead singing. Though we long for the day when singing and so many other aspects of our worship will return to normal, we have learned to appreciate our worship, as we have deepened our relationship with God and one another.

Through 2020 we found that holding meetings via zoom, though no replacement for meeting in person, gave us a platform to continue to meet and plan through the different guidelines and regulations and we became very adept at planning for 'Plan A', 'Plan B' and at times even adapting to 'Plan C' or further to 'Plan D'!

We continued to meet as a PCC on zoom and used the time and opportunity through the year to discuss, discern and finally create our new vision statement – *'Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others.'* As we continue to be led and guided by God in our planning for mission and ministry, we will keep checking that our plans reflect our vision statement.

'Welcoming all' took on new meaning as some of our annual services and events went online particularly towards the end of the year. The annual Advent Wreath making was a wonderful event on Zoom with Kat Josey of 'Georgie's Florist' going above and beyond to make it possible by personally delivering our 'wreath kits'.

The Auction was another example of what could be achieved virtually and so much time and effort went into the planning and organisation and I want to give particular thanks to Margaret Thomas, Alison Eves, and the rest of the planning team along with our auctioneers, Mike Wood and Colin Thompson who did such a great job on the night.

Even our Christmas Tree Festival went online though our wonderful community organisations still produced the festive trees for church. However, as church was only open for private prayer with limited foot traffic, photos of the trees were posted daily on our Facebook page. Somehow seeing an empty church with the beautiful display of Christmas trees, really brought home the true meaning of the birth of our Saviour, a saviour born to rescue and redeem us, to bring light into a dark world.



Another service which has been such a mainstay of our community, 'Christingle', also went online with the Children's Society Committee taking turns to make the kits and enabling them to be collected prior to the service on Christmas Eve -all socially distanced of course! Our grateful thanks to them for making it all possible.

We organised an 'Advent Windows Trail' around Burghfield for a second year running and I'm sure it will become a fixture for our community. Many thanks to the team who organised it all and those who supplied the 'windows' for the trail.





As the Carols on the Hatch could not take place, we became creative and hosted not one but two 'Carols in the Car park, wonderfully led by Gill Sinclair once again and ably assisted by Tadley Brass Band who gave their time freely as we raised funds for the Children's Society.

We also started a new study group (via zoom of course) to encourage '*growing faith*' and held an Advent Course as well with several members of our congregation attending. Our weekly Monday Morning Prayer went online, and our small group continued faithfully praying together through the year.

'*Serving others*' has been reflected right through the year as members of our church have joined support groups, made scrubs bags, delivered groceries, collected medications, kept in touch with one another and generally shown kindness in ways too numerous to list. We saw the extraordinary generosity displayed by our congregation throughout this past year from food donations to our local foodbank, as the severity of the pandemic increased the need for food parcels drastically. We doubled our efforts for our annual donations of toys as we supported not just Berkshire Women's Aid but also Spotlight UK.



These are only a few examples of how the pandemic has brought out the best in us, as we have felt moved to show care and compassion for our neighbours, friends and even strangers.

Unfortunately, not everyone has been able to join us in online worship and meetings, though we have tried our best to keep in contact through our email group and our new newsletter ably created by our wonderful administrator Janey Cleary. We could not have managed without her as she adapted and adjusted to working from home and kept our communications going throughout the year and who has been a huge support to me.

Not everyone is on email and pastoral support was also offered by telephone and I want to extend our appreciation to two people in particular, who gave much time to keeping in contact with those who would have attended our monthly 'Flying Solo' meals and our 'Holiday at Home' events. Many thanks to Anne Burtenshaw and Revd Lorraine for all their time and efforts to maintain contact and we look forward to a time when these events can be reinstated.

So much was cancelled this year, due to the pandemic, though one community event which will remain in my memory, was the extraordinary contrast of Remembrance Sunday 2020. Where normally we would have had literally hundreds of members of uniformed organisations and members of our community attending, 30 of us met together in a very small, yet somehow poignantly special service to represent our community on Remembrance Sunday.



Our grateful thanks to Paul and Hellen Baird of the 'Village Eye' who livestreamed and recorded the service to enable our community to join in virtually. We also had another opportunity to show our community support, as we placed our poppies in the new 'Remembrance Cross' created by Brian Thatcher and Clive Eatwell, many thanks to them for their efforts.



I do want to give my special thanks for all the support offered to me personally as well as to our church family, by our wardens Mike and Alison, my colleague Revd Lorraine, and the members of our PCC. I give thanks too for the faithful prayer support of the Prayer and Healing Team who have continued to pray for those in need or for prayer requests as they have been passed on.

There are so many others I could mention, who have supported and encouraged throughout this year, in unnoticed and often unseen ways and I want to say thank you to you as well. This year has been a year of challenge and testing, and as we have been stretched, as we have mourned the loss of so many, as we have wrestled with mixed emotions and many questions, we have supported one another and grown together in faith. Overall, I give thanks to our faithful God who has brought us this far together and that together we have managed to keep that flame of hope burning brightly as we have learned to trust in our heavenly Father, our Saviour Jesus Christ and rely evermore deeply on the Holy Spirit.

To misquote a well-known hymn...

*Lord for **this** year, your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way, sought us and saved us, pardoned, and provided, Lord of **this** year, we bring our thanks today.*

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Churchwardens' Report

Last year we described 2019 as a year of reflection where the pace of change in our parish life had been gentle and considered. In comparison 2020 can only be described as having been a year of turmoil where the pace of change in our parish life has been turbulent and rapid.

The Ministry Team of Rev. Glynn, Rev. Lorraine and ourselves have, like all the other committees, been meeting via Zoom to try to keep up with the changing situation and rules as we moved between lockdowns, tiers, and other restrictions on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis. Revd Glynn in particular did sterling work wading through the plethora of guidance (or sometimes frustrating lack of guidance) coming from the Diocese, the national Church of England authorities and the Government.



In the case of the first lockdown this meant closing the church completely, even for private prayer, a decision that we were unhappy about but had to comply with. Fortunately, through the skills and dedication of a 'number 'of members of the congregation we were soon able to hold our Services remotely via Zoom and this was embraced by many parishioners. During the easing of restrictions in early autumn we chose, with the approval of the PCC, to continue our Services in a hybrid fashion so that those still shielding could continue to take part. The hybrid services even allowed those not in the Burghfield area to take part, with people "Zooming in" from as far afield as Portugal, Leicester, Devon, and Yorkshire, with Gill and Don leading our singing from Wales! What a blessing it has been to be able to continue to meet and worship in this way. Sometimes it felt like a blessing in disguise (!), but the skills we have acquired and honed will bring lasting benefits. In late autumn as covid19 case numbers rose again and West Berkshire moved up the tiers we decided to revert to fully on-line Services in order to minimise the risk to the congregation, many of whom are in the more vulnerable categories, even though this time we could have continued in church (with suitable precautions). However, we were pleased to be able to keep the church open for private prayer and this continued with daily cleaning (thank you to the locking and unlocking team!) ensuring it remained a safe space.

Our Parish Administrator, Janey, has had to adapt to working from home rather than the Parish Office but this hasn't stopped her continuing to be an invaluable source of help to Revd Glynn (and to us). The newsletter, now an on-line publication, has gone from strength to strength as she's been able to put her energies into reporting all that has happened, and is due to happen, rather than having to work on fitting it onto two sides of A4.

The Little Footprints nursery, which meets in the Parish Centre, gained a good OFSTED report early in 2020. Unfortunately, they were also forced to close during the first lockdown, which made it a challenging year for them financially, and for the PCC as we lost associated lettings income from both the nursery and other hirers. Little Footprints have adapted well to providing a covid19-secure environment for their charges and are happily now beginning to grow again.



Whilst we were able to continue our on-line and hybrid services at 10:00am on a Sunday morning we had to suspend the other services that we were trialling: First Sunday 8am Breakfast Church, Second Sunday Taste Service and Third Sunday Church4U not least because we were unable to provide the refreshments that supplement each service. We will consider these afresh in the autumn of 2021 if conditions permit. Closing the building did at least mean that cleaning could also be suspended. As we open again, we have reflected on how incredibly grateful we are for our dedicated group of regular cleaners. There's always room to come and join in, we usually clean one Friday night and one Saturday morning each month.

Other community focused events that we organise, or join, also had to adapt in 2020:

- "Flying Solo", which provides a monthly opportunity for (mainly older) people who live alone to eat together and share fellowship and friendship had to be suspended from March. We look forward to the time when we can offer this ministry once again.
- The Remembrance Day parade was severely limited, with a packed church being replaced by a short open-air wreath-laying ceremony and prayers at the War Memorial. The Royal British Legion arranged for the event to be live streamed to allow the rest of the community to be there in spirit. Many thanks to Clive and Brian for producing the large cross trough into which many parishioners were able to plant their poppy crosses in memory of those who died.

- Our finances were badly impacted for various reasons by the pandemic. In November we held a Grand Auction to raise some extra funds. Parishioners and supporters gave very generously to make a fabulous catalogue (lots of lovely lots!) and then the bidders on the night dug very deep in support of the cause. The amazing result was over £5000 and many happy people who have purchased items that normally money can't buy. The auction represents an enormous amount of work and we would particularly like to thank Margaret Thomas who masterminded much of the event, drawing on her invaluable past experiences.
- The marvellous Kat Josey (of Georgies the Florist) took the Advent Wreath making evening on-line, with over 50 people ordering their kits beforehand and then following the Zoom instructions to produce their wreaths. We had people joining us from far flung parts of the country, something not possible with a physical event, of course.
- The sixth annual Christmas Tree Festival was hosted in church but needed to be visited via our website or Facebook page. Once again, we had many wonderful trees, decorated in the theme of Christmas Carols.
- Although we arranged the provision of the Christmas tree on the Hatch (kindly donated by Englefield Estate) and the installation of the lights again, we were unable to host the Big Sing around it due to the restrictions. The replacement was two drive-in Carol Services, held in the larger church car park. We are incredibly grateful to Tadley Brass Band for turning out again (and donating their fee to charity) and to Gill Sinclair for leading the singing. A wonderful time was had by all who attended.

We would like to thank our clergy colleagues (Glynn and Lorraine), as well as the members of the PCC and all the unsung heroes of our congregations, for all their wonderful support throughout 2020. The year might not have turned out as expected, but with God's help we have come through it having learnt a lot, adapted well, and found ways to continue serving and worshipping together. Thank you.

*Alison Eves and Michael Wood
Churchwardens*

Bradfield Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod representatives serve for up to three years. Elections were held in 2020 and our current representatives are Carol Jackson Doerge and Colin Thompson.



The Synod meets three times in the year but this year the March meeting was cancelled and those in June and October were held by Zoom. Following the retirement of the Revd Heather Parbury, the Revd David Archer of Purley has been appointed Area Dean.

The year has been very challenging for all parishes as a result of Covid-19 and the Deanery Treasurer has been at the forefront of negotiations with the Diocese with regard to inability to pay Parish Share. A Deanery Strategy Paper has been prepared by a working party and is awaiting final adoption.

Colin Thompson

Prayer Life

Report on Prayer Coordination & Prayer and Healing Team for 2020

2020 impacted hugely on the ministry of prayer and healing. The **Prayer Chain of Intercessors and Prayer and Healing Team members** have been informed of urgent prayer requests by e mail. The Monthly prayer diary has been updated. Prayers in the chancel were offered when we were able to hold services in church, but of course for much of the year our services have been held on Zoom, so this aspect of ministry has not been available. We have also had to suspend the use of the prayer request book, due to Covid protocols. Only one circle of prayer meeting was held, very early in 2020 and we have been unable to undertake any training this year.

We were able to assist with one Reflective service early in the year and several team members made themselves available for the All-Souls Service in church in November to assist Rev Lorraine.

We were delighted to welcome Hilary James to the team, and she has been able to assist on a number of the few occasions when services in church were possible.

Margaret Thomas and Anne Greaves

Outreach



PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER



Outward giving

For some years now we have donated a percentage of the church's income to charities and mission agencies in accordance with the PCC decision made a few years ago to commit 10% of the church's planned giving income.

In choosing the charities to receive monies from us, the PCC has striven to maintain a balance between large and small charities, and domestic and overseas charities. We also favour charities where we have personal knowledge of the good that their work does.

Our Outward Giving figure for 2020 is £4,000. This year's beneficiaries are:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| • Health Help International | £1,200 |
| • Burghfield Utd Charities | £ 400 |
| • Spotlight UK | £ 500 |
| • Yeldall Manor | £ 500 |
| • PACT | £ 500 |
| • The Trussell Trust | £ 900 |

Burghfield Support Group for The Children's Society

This exceptional year has been unlike any other for the parish Support Group as for everyone else. The group consisting of Anne Burtenshaw, Hilary James, Pat Glover (our Treasurer), Janet Reed, Nicky South-Klein, and Colin Thompson were delighted to welcome a new member, Sheila Langston-Hopgood in July at a meeting held in a garden to comply with the then current Covid regulations, and only met on one further occasion (in October in church).



Most of our proposed fundraising events were cancelled and we had no cake stalls, but in total we raised £1534.87 plus a little more which will come from gift aid. This is £340 less than last year, but still very gratifying in the circumstances. The Annual Christingle service is always our biggest event and this year it was held online and raised £439.40. Furthermore, the Church generously agreed to donate the collection from the Drive-in Carol services (£436.50), and we did manage one remote quiz (£210) and made £147.75 from the sale of Christmas cards. Income from Boxes (£261.22) was also greatly reduced as at one stage they could not be collected, and people generally had less coinage to put in them!

Looking forward to 2021 we have already lost our traditional Feb quiz and Mothering Sunday cake stall, but we are hopeful the autumn will see some return to normality. If you think you would like to join our little group please speak to any of its members.

Colin Thompson

Flying Solo & Holiday at Home

We were able to hold Flying Solo meals in January and February which were attended by our usual guests, sadly we had to cancel in March at the beginning of lockdown and were unable to resume due to social distancing. We will discuss future meetings when the road map out of lockdown allows. We were able to meet with a few people socially distanced outside at Cafe B whilst weather permitted.

Lorraine maintained contact with Holiday at Home participants and Anne has continued to contact approx. thirty people by weekly telephone calls and had contact and discussion with people after T.V. Church services.

No Holiday at Home events were possible this year.



Anne Burtenshaw & Revd Lorraine Colam.

Churches Together Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Mortimer (CTBSM)



Due to the Pandemic, only one meeting of Churches Together in our area took place in January 2020

Revd Glynn

Burghfield St Mary's Primary School



Burghfield St Mary's Church of England Primary School



The school's vision is to create a caring Christian learning environment that inspires each individual in the school community to fulfil their unique potential and become a responsible, concerned, and active member of God's world. The Governing Body includes two Foundation Governors, appointed by the Diocese (currently Revd Glynn Lautenbach and Deborah Marsden-Kwan). They meet with the Head Teacher on a termly basis to discuss RE provision and collective worship within the school, as well as strengthening school church ties.

The school remained open throughout the year for keyworker and vulnerable children, however many children were unable to attend school for long periods. In advance of the first lockdown the school had identified the need to make laptops for use at home more readily available and a significant number of devices were made available to children. Weekly assemblies were recorded and accessed by the children at home and at school. This included assemblies recorded by Mr Gallagher and Revd Glynn which were based on Christian themes. Children's assemblies continued, with photos or videos being sent in of children's activities and achievements, these all began with the lighting of the 3 candles to represent the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It was much appreciated by the children and parents to have this continuity and sense of community that these provided in lockdown.

Many annual events were cancelled, and no exams or statutory tests were held. The school monitors pupil performance and are proud of the pupils' positive attitudes. The governors would like to place on record their gratitude to and admiration of all the staff of the school who worked so flexibly throughout the year in exceptional circumstances.

Deborah Marsden-Kwan (Foundation Governor)
Colin Thompson (Vice-Chair, Governing Body)

Buildings -Fabric Report

Regular use of our Church building and Parish Centre has been much less than usual over the past year, but I am glad to say that it did not stop completely. The church has as usual been open during the day for private prayer, even though most of the building has been screened off during the various periods of lockdown, and I want to thank the dedicated team who have carried out all the preparation and cleaning procedures each day to ensure that we complied with Government regulations whilst providing a safe space for individuals to spend time in God's house.

Although most of the regular users of the Parish Centre have not been able to meet, Little Footprints has, throughout most of the pandemic, managed to remain open to provide childcare for key workers; the PCC granted them sole occupancy of the building and they have undertaken their own cleaning procedures. We know that having Little Footprints still there has been much appreciated by the children's parents, and we are glad that our building has been there to help the community in this way.

At the end of 2019, a Quinquennial Inspection (QI) of the Church was undertaken by Dr David Pendery of Pendery Architecture & Heritage. The majority of the report raised concerns regarding the Church roof. The Fabric Committee studied the report and sought quotations from roofing contractors. The Committee then recommended to the PCC that Moran Roofing Specialists Ltd be appointed to overhaul the roof and rainwater goods. They are intending to undertake the works from a Cherry Picker which will save a huge amount on scaffolding around the church. A List B Faculty was obtained for the works. Unfortunately, due to the weather in recent months, the contractor has been delayed & it is hoped the works will now be undertaken at the end of April 2021. Towards the end of 2020 the Church received a very generous donation from a resident of Burghfield Village specifically for the maintenance of the Church building; this, together with a generous grant from the Archdeacon's Discretionary Fund, will cover the costs of the works.

Also raised in the QI report was a concern for a Sleeper Stone situated at roof level on the corner of one of the Transepts. This is no longer in alignment with the wall and the surrounding brickwork is cracking. The Architect advised that the church appoint a Structural Engineer to assess the situation. The Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) was approached to suggest a suitable Engineer.

With the agreement of the roofing contractor, it is hoped that whilst they are on site, the engineer will be able to make a close inspection of the stone from the Cherry Picker.

During March 2020 just before the 1st lockdown a Digital Projector & Screen were installed in the Church. This has proved invaluable during the times between lockdowns when we have been able to meet in church for worship, whilst also inviting people to join us via Zoom. The system is still playing a vital role as we continue with our current hybrid services. Of course, however good an audio-visual system is, it cannot function without people who know how to use it, and we are very blessed at St Mary's in our technical team who week by week are faithfully connecting the right cables and pressing the correct keys. Being something of a dinosaur myself when it comes to 21st century technology, I am extremely glad that you are there. Thank you on behalf of everyone who has benefited from this important new aspect of our ministry.

We have been aware for some time that there is possibly a slow leak in the Church underfloor heating system. It is intended that JFK Heating, the company that maintain the system, will carry out a pressure test during the summer and attempt to isolate where the leak is so that repairs may be undertaken.

Just before the February Half Term, Little Footprints reported that the Parish Centre had no hot water. JFK Heating investigated and found that the main hot water storage tank was corroding and was leaking. Repairs were undertaken during the half-term holiday.

As reported last year there are major problems with the Septic Tank. The soakaway is failing, and a quotation for its replacement & the installation of a water treatment plant has been provisionally accepted by the PCC. Currently we are waiting on the Diocesan Advisory Committee to agree in principle a Faculty for its replacement. We will then need to obtain Planning Permission from the Local Authority. It is anticipated that the cost of these works will be between £16,000 & £20,000. We hope to obtain grants for some of this, but a major fund-raising effort will be needed to provide the balance of funds needed.

Brian Thatcher, Chair Fabric Committee

Parish Centre report

2020 has impacted The Parish Centre heavily with the restrictions of Covid-19. The first part of the year our bookings were as normal. Once March came along and restrictions were put in place, we had no bookings. Little Footprints also closed their doors at this time.



The regulations then changed and Early Years for keyworkers reopened. Little Footprints identified that a percentage of their children were keyworkers and opened to look after them. Little footprints continued to be the only income the Parish Centre was receiving. Unfortunately, due to the covid regulations our usual bookings with Yoga and Pilates, Burghfield Art Group, and meetings for the Burghfield Residents association (BRA) were unable to take place. All other reservations which may have been booked for our church meetings, community events and concerts to raise money for charity also had to be cancelled.

In 2019 the nursery was sold and taken over, this year after their good Ofsted rating and the hard work that the family and team had done we started to see an increase in numbers. Once covid hit and they had to close, conversations between the church and owners took place and an agreed figure was confirmed and capped for the nursery to pay. This gave the church some form of income during an uncertain time. It also assisted Little Footprints as they were only receiving a limited income due to the number of children attending.

Due to all the restrictions with Covid-19, we have not increased the Parish Centre fees they still stood at: £12.75 per hour per room on weekdays until 6pm, or £15.30 per hour per room thereafter and at weekends.

Jane Cleary Parish Administrator

The PCC of St Mary's the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020



DIOCESE of OXFORD

A Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Reference and Administrative details

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin is in the village and parish of Burghfield in the county of Berkshire.

All correspondence regarding the church should be addressed to: The Parish Office, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. This involves working with the Revd Glynn Lautenbach the Rector, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the Parish Centre. The PCC is a charity Registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales and our number is: 1167639.

Furthermore the PCC of St Mary the Virgin has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either elected by the Parochial Church Meeting or are ex-officio in accordance with the Church Representation rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and may stand for election to the PCC.

During the year 2020 the following people served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio Members

Clergy:

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Revd Lorraine Colam

Wardens:

Michael Wood

Alison Eves

PCC members as a result of Deanery Synod Membership

Colin Thompson and Carol Jackson-Doerge were elected to Deanery Synod at the APCM on 18th October 2020 for a 3 year term of office till 2023.

PCC Secretary

Brian Thatcher

PCC Treasurer

Oliver Dillon

Elected Members of the PCC

Name	Elected at APCM	Serve Until	Term
Brian Thatcher	2019	2022	1 st
Amy Legg	2019	2022	2 nd
Oliver Dillon	2020	2023	3 rd
Margaret Thomas	2020	2023	2 nd
Sara Fantham	2020	2023	1 st
Clive Eatwell	2020	2023	1 st
Anne Pocock	2020	2023	1 st

There are 2 vacancies currently

Foundation Governors

The following have been appointed to serve on the school governing body of the church school as Foundation Governors:

Mrs Deborah Marsden-Kwan

Revd Glynn Lautenbach

Structure, governance and management

Committees and Groups

The sub-committees of the PCC which continued through 2020 were the Finance and Stewardship committee, the Fabric Committee for care of the Fabric of the buildings and grounds and the Worship and Discipleship committee for matters relating to worship and discipleship. The Standing Committee met regularly for decision making, support and Agenda planning.

The Ministry Team comprising Revd Glynn Lautenbach (Rector), Revd Lorraine Colam (Part time Non Stipendiary Associate Minister), Alison Eves (Churchwarden) and Michael Wood (Churchwarden) met regularly to plan and co-ordinate the ongoing ministry of the parish.

PCC Vision Statement

The new vision statement for the church created in 2020 is as follows:

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

Going forward, all aspects of the life, mission and ministry of our parish will be discerned and assessed in line with these three areas.

In addition, we continue to work in accordance with the Diocesan 'Common Vision', to be a 'A more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world' becoming a more *Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous* Church.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

The electoral roll was updated for 2020 and the number on the electoral roll recorded at the APCM was 73.

Due to the regulations during the pandemic and church closures from 23rd March no services took place in the building till Sunday 2nd August 2020. Between March and up to Easter Sunday, members of the congregation were encouraged to join in the diocesan provision for online services, along with some recorded services uploaded to our website and Facebook page.

From 'Low Sunday' (19th April) we tried a 'Zoom' gathering for the first time and thereafter provided a Zoom service every Sunday at 10.00am. Since returning to church services in the summer (beginning of August) we moved to a pattern of 'hybrid' services, whereby the congregation could join in via Zoom or face to face in church for the same service. When Covid rates continued to rise in late December after the 2nd Lockdown in November we took the decision to remain online for all our Christmas services and events.

Only the 10.00am service continued through most of the year as other occasional services were paused as we were evaluating them prior to the Pandemic.

January – March 22nd 2020	Attendance	Communicants
10.00am Parish Communion	30	29

These numbers include children, some of whom have been admitted to Holy Communion according to Canon B15A.

No major festivals took place in church in 2020 except for Harvest Sunday in October.

Zoom service attendance between 19th April to end July, between 8th - 29th November and between 20th to end of December 2020:

Average online attendance (including a few children only occasionally)	34
--	----

Hybrid Services between 2nd August to end October, 6th and 13th December 2020

In Church	20	18
On Zoom	10	

During 2020 we celebrated 1 baptism (2019:16); No weddings took place (2019: 4) and 14 funerals (2019:8) were conducted

Review of the year

A full report on the activities of the parish during 2020 is found in the Annual Report booklet accompanying this document.

Financial Review

As with every other part of life the Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on St Mary's finances. This will continue to affect us in 2021.

Voluntary income for General Expenditure, (excluding Gift Aid, Fundraising, Fees & Lettings), was up by 9% due to online giving. Gift Aid was lower this year as 2019 contained some catch-up from prior years. (Outstanding Gift Aid claims for 2020 and the Small Donations claim for 2019/20 are estimated to total approximately £5k.) The Montessori nursery school was severely affected by the pandemic and with other bookings limited, income from Parish Centre Lettings was down by 48% (£17.5k). We will continue to support the Nursery so that they are in the best possible position to achieve success.

Fundraising was very successful this year. £5,116 was raised by the auctions, £455 through sponsorship of Amy's Haircut and Quizzes brought in £250. Advent Wreath making had income of £327.50 and after costs we retain £67.50. Congratulations are due to all involved. Amazon Smile contributed a rather meagre £8 given that it is at no cost to the parishioner.

We had been allocated a large increase in Parish Share compared to the previous year. It was clear that the pandemic would make the projected figures unattainable. In discussions with the Deanery Treasurer it was decided to reduce the final three months by a total of £11,100.

The PCC removed the Designated status of £6.2k which it had previously set aside for Fabric in case the funds were needed to be immediately available.

These resulted in an overall surplus on our Unrestricted Funds of £4.8k.

A projector, screen and sound system which were paid for by donation were installed prior to the start of the outbreak. A separate donation of £5k was received to help with future repairs and maintenance.

The following are some of the financial and ministerial matters relating to the church:

- The ministry of the church has continued through a wide range of services, occasional offices and outreach initiatives.
- Committed monthly giving and some one-off donations and fundraising have continued to increase the monies available for further reordering of our beautiful church.
- Major repair expenditures expected for 2021 are roof repairs and repairs to the Parish Centre windows. The septic tank will need replacement in the next few years. A retention payment of £2.4k will be due regarding the Tower Project.
- Despite it being much reduced by the current circumstances we have still received a substantial amount of additional income from the lettings of the Parish Centre. We are thankful for the work by past and present members of the congregation who had the insight and the commitment to provide this resource for us.



Oliver Dillon
Treasurer



Michael Wood
Churchwarden



Alison Eves
Churchwarden

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date:

15/03/2021

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE

Financial Statements

Financial Statements For the 12 Months Ended 31 Dec 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019	Total 2018
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS								
Voluntary Receipts								
Direct Giving by standing order		39817	0	0	0	39817	37464	35363
Giving by coloured and white envelopes		813	0	0	0	813	1823	2348
Open collections		497	0	0	0	497	3389	3687
Gift aid claimed	1	10788	0	0	0	10788	21220	738
Other general donations	2	6734	0	0	0	6734	1233	723
TOTAL		58649	0	0	0	58649	65129	42859
Receipts from activities for generating funds								
Fundraising	3	6157	0	0	0	6157	206	189
TOTAL		6157	0	0	0	6157	206	189
Receipts from church activities								
Fees	4	4432	0	0	0	4432	3218	5066
Parish centre letting fees	5	19032	0	0	0	19032	36519	35843
Other (rebates and donations)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		23464	0	0	0	23464	39737	40909
Receipts from investments								
Interest on Bank Accounts		0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Interest on CCLA Account	6	11	0	0	11	22	38	13
		11	0	0	11	22	38	25
Total Receipts (Unrestricted)		88281	0	0	11	88292	105110	83982
Receipts on Restricted Accounts								
Funds Collected for other charities	7	0	0	220	0	220	1251	1092
Gift aid claimed	1	0	0	529	0	529	5260	909
Reordering Project	7	0	0	780	0	780	26051	6818
Other restricted accounts (Church Use)	7	0	0	10467	0	10467	12397	412
TOTAL Receipts (Restricted)		0	0	11995	0	11995	44958	9231
TOTAL RECEIPTS		88281	0	11995	11	100287	150069	93214

Notes	2020 Unrestricted Fund	2020 Unrestricted Designated Fund	2020 Restricted Fund	2020 Endowment Fund	2020 Total 2020	2019 Total 2019	2018 Total 2018
PAYMENTS							
Direct costs of church activities	1129	0	0	0	1129	1459	1131
Building & churchyard maintenance & repairs	8 3158	0	119	11	3288	18963	9605
Clergy expenses	8 957	0	0	0	957	2307	2803
Utilities	8 8425	0	0	0	8425	14021	6496
Cleaning	8 1198	0	0	0	1198	2808	2542
Administration	10634	0	100	0	10734	11872	10020
Insurance	4187	0	0	0	4187	4195	4070
Parish Share	9 51325	0	0	0	51325	57816	56132
Parish Share Rebate	-1744	0	0	0	-1744	-1134	0
Outreach & Youth Work	8 164	0	0	0	164	226	426
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outward Giving	10 4000	0	0	0	4000	3800	3500
Subscriptions	20	0	0	0	20	20	40
Other Donations Outward	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Total Unrestricted Payments	83454	0	219	11	83684	116353	96788
Restricted Payments							
Reordering Account	7 0	0	5285	0	5285	103044	8880
Restricted (For Other Charities)	7 0	0	746	0	746	597	1640
Other Restricted	7 0	0	0	0	0	97	0
Total Restricted Payments	0	0	6030	0	6030	103737	10520
TOTAL PAYMENTS	83454	0	6249	11	89714	220091	107308
Transfers Between Funds	6203	-6203					
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year to Date	11031	-6203	5746	0	10573	-70022	-14095

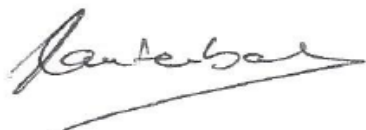
	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019	Total 2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
MOVEMENT ON FUNDS							
Balances at January 1st	14694	6203	5939	2000	28836	98858	112953
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	11031	-6203	5746	0	10573	-70022	-14095
Balances at December 31st	25725	0	11685	2000	39410	28836	98858
Surplus/(Deficit) for YTD Gen Funds	4827						

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 December 2020

Bank Accounts	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total	Total
	Fund	Designated Fund	Fund	Fund	2020	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cooperative Current Account	14414		11004		25418	11947	7010
Nat West Current	456	0			456	8319	7758
Coop Mission Fund Account					0	0	128
Fees Account & Fees Cash in Hand	7719				7719	3287	13069
Reordering Current Account			680		680	169	65818
CCLA Thursby	630			2000	2630	2619	2600
CCLA Restoration	8				8	8	8
CCLA Reserve Fund	2497				2497	2486	2468
Petty Cash Float	0				0	0	0
Total Funds	25725	0	11685	2000	39410	28836	98858

Represented by:

	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Funds	25725				25725	14694	11327
Upkeep & Capital Improvement Fund		0			0	6203	6203
J Harvey Thursby Fund				2000	2000	2000	2000
Reordering Fund			2254		2254	1000	75557
Other Repairs & Fabric Appeals			6356		6356	1463	957
Mission Fund			2730		2730	2730	2730
Training Fund			0		0	0	0
For Other Charities & Organisations			345		345	746	85
Total Funds	25725	0	11685	2000	39410	28836	98858



Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach
(Rector & PCC Chair)



Mr Oliver Dillon
(PCC Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 18th January 2021 and signed on their behalf by Rev'd Glynn Lautenbach (PCC Chair) and Mr Oliver Dillon (PCC Treasurer)

Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial statements for the Parochial Church Council of St Mary the Virgin, Burghfield are prepared on a Receipt and Payments basis.

1. Gift Aid was from the Parish Giving scheme throughout the year together with claims for 2019 & the small claim for 2018/19.
2. Other General Donations includes £1,850 of online donations for General funds.
3. The Fees Income is reported as the net amount payable to the PCC in accordance with C of E guidelines. Fees collected on behalf of the Diocese totalled £2,551. Transactions relating to payments for Bellringers, Vergers etc are also specifically excluded.
4. Fundraising was significant with £5,116 raised by the auctions, £455 through sponsorships of Amy's Haircut and Quizzes brought in £250. The Advent Wreath making had income of £327.50 and after costs we retain £67.50. Amazon Smile contributed a rather disappointing £8.
5. The pandemic restrictions had a major impact on Parish Centre Lettings which were £17,487 down compared to last year.
6. Interest Income on the J Harvey Thursby Memorial fund was allocated to defray costs incurred in maintaining the churchyard.
7. Movements on Restricted Accounts:

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Gift Aid £	Resources expended £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
Bell Room & Access (BRA)	500.00				500.00
Reordering (Heating Lighting Cross Tower etc)	1,000.34	780.00	473.81		2,254.15
Fabric & Repairs	0.00	5,000.00			5,000.00
Mission Fund	2,729.83				2,729.83
Kitchen Fund	128.43				128.43
Vestry Roof (Englefield Trust) (Residual)	334.40				334.40
Disabled Ramp (BRA) (Residual)	24.00				24.00
Lych Gate & Notice Board	411.41			(96.00)	315.41
Fence & Gates (BRA)	64.82			(11.00)	53.82
Projector & Sound System	0.00	5,284.66		(5,284.66)	0.00
IT Provision	0.00	100.00		(100.00)	0.00
War Graves Commission	0.00	12.00		(12.00)	0.00
Advent Wreath Making Donation to Kat	0.00	70.00			70.00
Childrens Society	661.00	220.00	55.00	(661.00)	275.00
Christian Aid	81.71			(81.71)	0.00
Children in Need	3.00			(3.00)	0.00
	<u>5,938.94</u>	<u>11,466.66</u>	<u>528.81</u>	<u>(6,249.37)</u>	<u>11,685.04</u>
Designated Funds					
Upkeep and Capital Improvement (Designated) Ft	6,203.16			(6,203.16)	0.00
	<u>6,203.16</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(6,203.16)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Endowment Funds					
J Harvey Thursby Fund	2,000.00	11.12		(11.12)	2,000.00
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>11.12</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(11.12)</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Interest of £11.12 was applied to the J Harvey Thursby Memorial Fund and the accumulated interest was applied to defray churchyard costs.					

Income on the Restricted funds included Monthly pledges of £780. A donation of £5,000 towards Fabric and Repairs was received. A Projector, Screen & Sound System was installed and this was paid for by donation. The Christingle and Carol services raised £275 for the Childrens Society. Donations of £100 were received to help offset the higher IT costs which have been incurred in the current pandemic. A £2.4k retention on the Tower project remains payable in 2021.

8. Due to the lockdowns and restrictions on services a number of costs were significantly suppressed.

9. We had been allocated a large increase in Parish Share compared to the previous year. In discussions with the Deanery Treasurer, it was agreed to reduce the final 3 months by a total of £11,100.

10. Our Outward Giving figure for 2020 is £4,000. This year's beneficiaries are:

Health Help International	£1,200
Burghfield United Charities	£400
Spotlight	£500
Yeldall Manor	£500
PACT	£500
The Trussell Trust	£900

11. A surplus of £4,827 is reported on the unrestricted funds statutory accounts.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St. Mary the Virgin, Burghfield, for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date:

15/03/2021

Ross Mackinnon

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

17 Hanningtons Way
Burghfield Common
RG7 3BE