



Trustees' Annual Report for 2024

Presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of St Mary's Church, Greasley

Sunday 27th April, 2025

Opening Prayers: Present / Apologies

1. Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners, held on 14th April 2024
 Meeting of Parishioners – Election of Churchwardens 2024
 Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, held on 14th April 2024
2. Election of PCC Members
3. Election of Deanery Synod Members
4. The appointment of an independent Examiner or Auditor
5. Achievements and Performance:

A	Vicar's Report	K	Greasley Christian Aid Report
B	Churchwardens' Report	L	Tower Captain's Report
C	PCC Secretary's Report	M	Friends of St Mary's Report
D	Electoral Roll	N	EcoChurch Report
E	Grants & Fundraising Group report	O	Social Committee Report
F	Financial Review	P	Parish Magazine
G	Buildings & Property Report	Q	Christmas Market Report
H	Choir Report	R	Safeguarding Report
I	B.L.A.S.T. Report	S	Pastoral Care/ Visiting
J	Deanery Synod Report	T	Parish Oven Report
		U	Art & Soul Group Report

6. Legacy Policy
7. Structure, Governance and Management
8. Risk Assessment
9. Administrative Information

Aim and purpose

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with any incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church -- pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Hall and Church House.

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church and to become part of our parish community at St Mary's. It maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;*
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;*
- Missionary and outreach work.*

To facilitate this work, it is imperative that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mary's, the Church Hall and Church House.

1. Minutes of 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

A. Welcome and Prayer:

Meeting was chaired by Revd Denise Dodd, who also led us in prayer.

B. Meeting of the parishioners:-

The minutes of the 2023 meeting were proposed as being a true and accurate account of the meeting by Rosemary Cooney and seconded by Derek Burnett

Election of churchwardens:-

There were two nominations:

Derek Fletcher – proposed by Neil Taylor seconded by Pauline Jackson.

John Timby – proposed by Ian Wheeler seconded by Graham Thorman.

There being only two candidates and two vacancies, both were duly elected. Denise gave thanks to Derek and John for all their work and to Sue and Win for all their support.

C. Minutes of the 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

The minutes of the 2023 APCM were proposed as being a true account of the meeting by Pauline Jackson and seconded by Katrine Hockenhull.

D. Election of PCC Members

There are seven vacancies (Edith Hawley and Lauren Howatson having stepped down following their three years. Thanks given for all their service)

Sue Fletcher — proposed by Neil Taylor, seconded by Pauline Jackson

Pauline Jackson — proposed by Barbara Coleman, seconded by Hilary James

Julie Stanton — proposed by Derek Burnett, seconded by Sonia Burnett

David Sawyer — proposed by John Timby, seconded by Barbara Coleman

Sandra Sawyer — proposed by John Timby, seconded by Barbara Coleman

David Bullock — proposed by John Timby, seconded by Bob Willimott

Neil Squires — proposed by Bob Willimott, seconded by John Timby

There being seven vacancies and seven candidates the aforementioned were duly elected. Denise gave thanks to those who have joined and those who were re-elected and who continue to serve.

Robert Carlin, as director of music, is to be asked if he will be willing to be co-opted onto the PCC

Denise gave thanks to Barbara as Reader for all her help supporting Denise and all that she gives to the Church.

E. Election of PCC Members

There are three vacancies to be filled. Barbara has agreed to continue her role meaning there are two further vacancies which remain unfilled. If anyone is interested. The annual report of the Deanery Synod is available.

F. Appointment of an independent Examiner or Advisor

Recommendations that we remain with Pell's accountants. unanimous agreement.

G. Reports from groups

Vicar's report – nothing to raise

Churchwardens – nothing to raise

PCC secretary report – nothing to raise

Electoral Roll – nothing to raise

Financial Review – Bob Willmot expressed that he appreciates that we are now setting a budget rather than in the past, but it is worrying to set a negative budget. Denise explained that we had been heading to a deficit of £18,000 and we don't have the income coming in. Thanks to Neil who has identified any wasted expenses to reduce it down to approx. £4,000. Moving forward, we need to look at doing a stewardship campaign. Denise explained that we are not paying the full Parish Share again this year but in due course we will have to start paying more. Thanks given to Neil for all he does as treasurer.

Building & Property – Update from John on building work. during the past year. The Terrier report which is a legal requirement and contains all the property within the curtilage of the church. This will be going onto a memory stick. The PCC and church wardens are currently trying to see what additional grants can be sought.

Derek Burnett queried when the headstones are examined to ensure they are safe. The closed graveyards are the responsibility of Broxtowe Borough Council. They have recently been and tested them. There is a meeting scheduled in a couple of weeks to discuss their reports. In the new graveyard there has been a lot of mole activity and settlement which the grave diggers and Anthony are refilling.

Choir – (amendment it's Fiona Edwards not Stanton). Nothing to raise. Thanks to the choir for coming together and the efforts using the CDs.

Blast – nothing to raise. Thanks to Julie for all she does.

Deanery Synod – nothing to raise. Denise and Barbara will continue to attend.

Christian Aid – nothing to raise. Katrine explained the team are grateful for all the support given by the congregation. Denise thanked everyone involved.

Tower Captain's report – correction it was the third bell not the tenor in page 8 of the report.

Friends of St Mary's – Nothing to raise.

Ecochurch – Nothing to raise. Thanks to Sheila for all she has done so far.

Social committee – Nothing to raise thanks to all that assist.

Open Door magazine – nothing to raise thanks to Ian for all his work on this.

Christmas Market – Nothing to raise. Always blessed for all that's done.

Safeguarding – Nothing to raise. Thanks to Barbara for this

Pastoral visiting/Care report – Thanks to Barbara who co-ordinates this. Pat offers her assistance in setting up the team and any training. Should be two people for each visit.

Parish Oven – No comments. thanks to all that volunteer and how they interact with visitors. It makes a real difference to people and is an essential part of the mission of this church.

Vicar's Round up

Denise expressed her thanks to everyone for attending. The children are a delight in this Church. Faith was asked to feed this back to them and the children must feel that they can come and talk of any ideas they have for the Church. They may be young "but your voices are as important as anyone else".

Meeting ended with a prayer at 12:26pm

2. Election of PCC members for 2025/6: No vacancies to be filled

3. Election of Deanery Synod members for 2025/6: Three vacancies to be filled

4. Appointment of an independent Examiner or Advisor: Proposal needed

5. Achievements and performance

a) Vicar's report

As we gather for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect on the past year and share the many blessings and challenges we have encountered as a community. This report aims to highlight key aspects of our parish life, our achievements, and the areas where we continue to grow and serve.

I would like to extend my ongoing gratitude to our churchwardens, Derek Fletcher and John Timby, Treasurer, Neil Taylor and PCC secretary Ian Wheeler. Their unwavering commitment, diligent work, and steadfast support have been instrumental in the mission of the church. Their efforts in ensuring the smooth operation of our parish, managing our resources wisely, and fostering a welcoming environment for all are deeply appreciated.

This is also alongside the commitment and dedication from members of the Standing Committee and PCC who together have been a supportive sounding board for many key decisions of the church business. Patience has also been sought when items have dragged our meetings on much later than expected on some occasions. I encourage you to pray for those on the PCC as we continue to discuss and think about the more practical aspects of our church life, as well as seeking to get a sense of the spiritual direction the Holy Spirit is wanting us to travel in and how we might make that happen.

Worship and Spiritual Life

This year, our worship services have continued to be a cornerstone of our community. We have seen steady attendance at our Sunday services, with an increase in participation at both Sunday, midweek services and special liturgical events.

Our choir and music ministry have flourished, providing uplifting music that enhances our worship each week. All of this could not have been achieved without the skills of Robert Carlin as the church's Director of Music. His dedication, leadership and talent has been pivotal in providing uplifting music in all worship services and the direction of our choir.

In the background preparation of church services, the production of the PowerPoint presentations each Sunday and the use of the AV system by Fiona Edwards and those who help to project the service each week. The ongoing commitment and service from Anthony Kirby is always appreciated in his duties as vergers and maintaining the churchyard.

As a church, collective thanks were given to Barbara Coleman for her ministry at St Mary's as Reader. It was a delight to see this further recognised by the Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham in the recognition of Reader Emeritus.

Church and Community Engagement

St Mary's has been actively engaged in serving the wider community. Outreach programs have expanded, with initiatives such as the on-going donations given to Eastwood Food Bank, Church Open Day's; it was wonderful to see all the baptism gowns displayed throughout the decades! And of course, the wonderful cakes made by various congregational members, refreshments and hospitality given at the Parish Oven Tearooms, all served by outstanding volunteers proving to be invaluable for those who seek solace in the unique setting of the church.

We have also strengthened our partnerships with the local Greasley Beauvale Nursery and Primary school, to which I am School Governor and have the delight in taking school assemblies, teaching in the classrooms, as well as welcoming the children to church for various school concerts.

The church has also fostered an ongoing place of welcome and support to people who attend the Art and Soul Group and now the Parish Room serves as a new meeting place for a small Dementia group for carers. Such engagements foster a spirit of collaboration and mutual support. All the above builds up a sense of community and belonging of locals to their parish church.

As always it was a privilege throughout the year to take all the funerals and interment of ashes here at the church (43 in total). The joy of celebrating weddings, and baptisms – I continue to pray that they continue their own journey of faith in the years to come. Alongside this, when possible, to take home communion or visits to members of the church who sadly cannot join in worship, this remains to be an important aspect of pastoral care.

I acknowledge that the past year has been difficult for many as we have encountered various illnesses, bereavement, and personal challenges. It has been especially heartbreaking to say goodbye to beloved members of our church. We miss them dearly and continue to pray for their peace and for the comfort of their families.

I have been truly moved by how people have been praying for one another, looking out for each other, and finding quiet ways to support one another along this sometimes rocky journey of life. Thank you to all who offer pastoral support to those in need of friendship and compassion to help them along the way.

The confirmation of Alan Newton and Frank Sisson at St James church in Porchester was a wonderful occasion and a privilege to witness in their personal commitment in faith. A further highlight of the year was to see so many people enjoying the church social barbeque, thank you to all members of the PCC who helped behind the scenes to provide an afternoon of fellowship. We hope to make this an annual event! I want to express my gratitude to all the bell ringers who provide the wonderful sound of church bells throughout the year while also taking care of their maintenance. They are an essential part of the church's ongoing mission.

Discipleship

This remains a vital part of our mission. Our children's ministry in BLAST has been a blessing. Julie Stanton's commitment as a leader is very much valued. It has been wonderful to see the children grow in faith and form good friendships amongst each other. To see the young people actively involved in the services is an important aspect of their faith formation.

However, I would like to thank everyone who entered the Stewardship Campaign in practical and prayerful expression. Your financial contributions have alleviated some of the burden caused by a loss of income due to various challenging circumstances. It has given much-needed assistance in meeting our financial commitments. While we still have a deficit within the budget (as indicated in the treasurer's reports) it is less than what was initially predicted. Thank you once again for your continued generosity.

Thanksgiving....

Firstly for everyone who meet in the week or on a Friday to maintain the building and fabric of the church. We have been blessed with people from the community who come and volunteer their time to maintain the upkeep of the church, community hall and cottage.

- ❖ Everyone who continues to support St Mary's as a church building and church family at the centre of its community, seeking to bring hospitality, welcome and love to all.
- ❖ To all the Readers, Intercessors, Sides people who continue to do a wonderful job all year round.
- ❖ Working hard to keep the Eco church agenda at the forefront of what it means to be stewards of God's world.
- ❖ For the work undertaken by members of the new fundraising team seeking ways to secure funding for new initiatives or repair work to the church.

- Members of the social team led by Ian Wheeler working to find ways to fundraise and to offer social gatherings that people thoroughly enjoy!.
 - The wonderful events and financial support received from Friends of St Mary's.
 - The longstanding Christian Aid committee who tirelessly campaign for the mission of the worldwide church and raising the poverty and justice agenda for our worldwide brothers and sisters.
 - For the 'flower ladies' who bring beauty to the church with all the lovely flowers (the most beautiful ones being from people's own gardens) for Sunday services and festivals throughout the year.
 - For the time given in the production of the *Open Door* magazine, which visitors at the tearoom enjoy reading! Alongside the production of the Sunday news sheet and rotas.
 - Those who volunteer to clean the church, from the vacuuming, washing linen, monitoring all the busy 'church mice' who help as and when, to emptying bins – we are really grateful as the list is endless!
 - For those who co-ordinate the Foodbank donations.
 - If I've missed anyone from this list, it's unintentional. This is just a little summary of all the wonderful tasks we have going on in the life of our church. Thank you for all your contributions!
- Please do consider if you can be part of any committees or working parties, your contribution will be very much appreciated.

Future Vision

As we look to the future, we remain hopeful and prayerful for the growth of our church. I am committed to discovering effective ways for all of us to contribute to this growth — deepening our faith, strengthening our community connections, and welcoming new individuals to faith. This is an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on what God is calling us to do next, clarify our priorities for the coming years, and identify how we can best serve those around us through the love of Christ.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your dedication, support, and prayers throughout the year. Together, we have made great progress, and I am confident that we will continue to grow and thrive as a parish family.

**With every blessing in Christ,
Revd Denise, Vicar**

b) Churchwardens report

We can safely report that over the past year of our term of office the church and associated buildings have steadily improved in almost all aspects.

Our intention has been to ensure the smooth and efficient running of our place of worship and we believe we have worked hard to make this possible.

It is however a joint effort which includes all church officials, the incumbent, the PCC, and, without exception, all members of our regular congregation. Without all their combined efforts our work would be almost impossible, and we give them our grateful thanks along with the fervent wish, that the spirit they show in all they do, will help us to achieve much more in the forthcoming year. We ask God to bless us all and give us the strength of our faith in him to help us achieve what we set out to do.

Derek Fletcher & John Timby, Churchwardens

c) PCC Secretary Report

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is elected to represent the whole church.

In a normal year the PCC meets for six regular meetings, with additional extraordinary ones being held where necessary.

Any matters which members of the congregation wish to raise, or which cause concern, should be brought to the attention of a member of the PCC. Members of the PCC, as of December 31st, 2024, are as follows: Denise Dodd (Chair), Derek Fletcher (churchwarden), John Timby (churchwarden), Ian Wheeler (secretary), David Bullock, Sue Fletcher, Pat Higham, Pauline Jackson, Anthony Kirby, Dennis Pickworth, David Sawyer, Sandra Sawyer, Neil Squires, Julie Stanton, Peter Stanton, Robert Carlin (co-opted), and Barbara Coleman (Deanery Synod rep).

Ian Wheeler, PCC Secretary

d) Electoral Roll Report

A brand-new Electoral Roll was compiled between Sunday, February 23rd and Sunday March 23rd, in line with Church of England regulations which dictate that a completely new Roll must be compiled every six years, the last one having been done in 2019 (but with annual minor revisions). The next completely new Roll is due in 2031.

The total number on the new Roll is 115 (previous 114) with 17 names removed (4 deaths, 11 non-attendance and two forms not returned). There are 18 new names for 2025 with 79 people resident in the Parish (36 non-residents), 76 females and 39 males.

Ian Wheeler, Electoral Roll Officer

e) Grants and fundraising group

The Grants & Fundraising Group was set up during the autumn of 2024 and had an initial meeting in November 2024.

The group's remit is to investigate grants that may be available for specific projects in and around the church, and to assist with fundraising initiatives. The group is currently exploring various grants that may be available as projects for funding are identified.

Neil Squires, Dave & Sandra Sawyer

f) Financial Review

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

St Mary's, Greasley is a registered charity, ref 1172273. Neil Taylor, PCC Treasurer, manages and monitors its financial accounts along with administering Gift Aid in conjunction with Southwell. A summary of the accounts is regularly presented to the PCC which includes a forecast for the year ahead.

Pells Chartered Accountants provided an independent examination of our accounts. Their report is attached herewith.

2024 saw an increase of 12% in our regular giving by Gift Aid, including tax refund, and Pledges. This remains the main source of income source. The year also saw a drop of 6% in cash receipts.

The Parish Share paid to Southwell for 2024 was set at £49,992, and we managed to pay £43 440.

The Parish Share is St Mary's contribution to Southwell Diocese to pay towards the running of the Diocese, which then gives the church, at present, a full-time stipendiary minister. It also pays towards the training of future incumbents within the Diocese.

For 2025 we have been requested to pay £51,984 towards parish share. The PCC agreed that we would pay £45,600 (£3,800 per month) with a review after the third quarter of the year.

The income and expenditure of the fees account (weddings, funerals, and monuments) has been shown on a separate page and not incorporated in main accounts.

We have been successful in receiving a VAT rebate on the gas used in the Church and Hall for the period January 2020 to October 2022.

Thanks go to all those who contribute time and talents, which are not shown in the accounts, which benefit our church so much.

New social events, including tabletop sales and concerts in church, have complimented the Christmas market, Spring Open Day and church illumination as being an important source of income. They represent 13% of our general income.

Should anyone have any questions about our finances or gift aiding then please feel free to speak or e-mail me.

Neil Taylor, Treasurer



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
ST MARY'S CHURCH GREASLEY

On accounts for the year
ended

31 DECEMBER 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1172273

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

10/03/2025

Name:

MISS GEORGINA DEAKIN

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACCA

Address:

PELLS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

1 DERBY ROAD

EASTWOOD

NG16 3PA

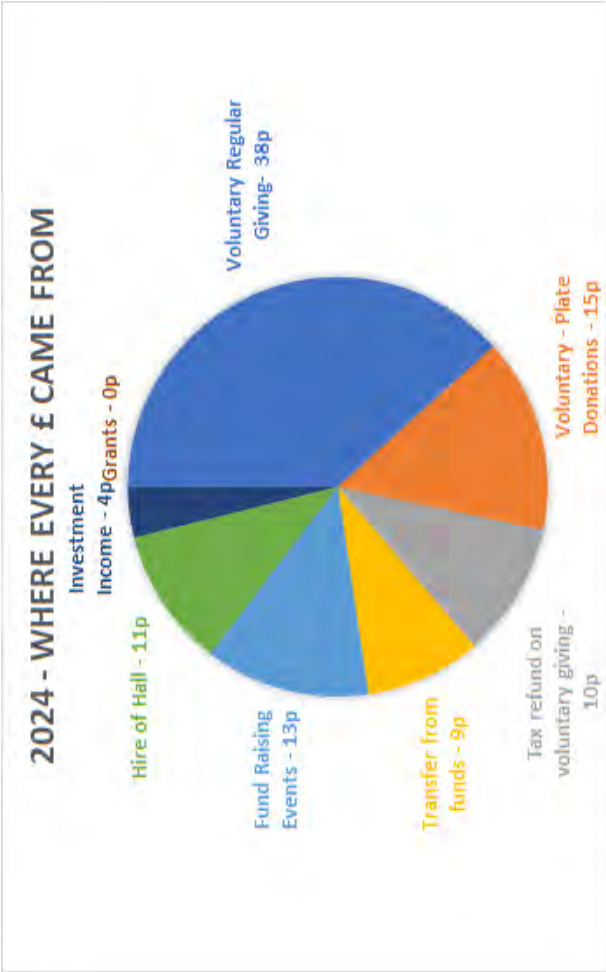
Section B

Disclosure

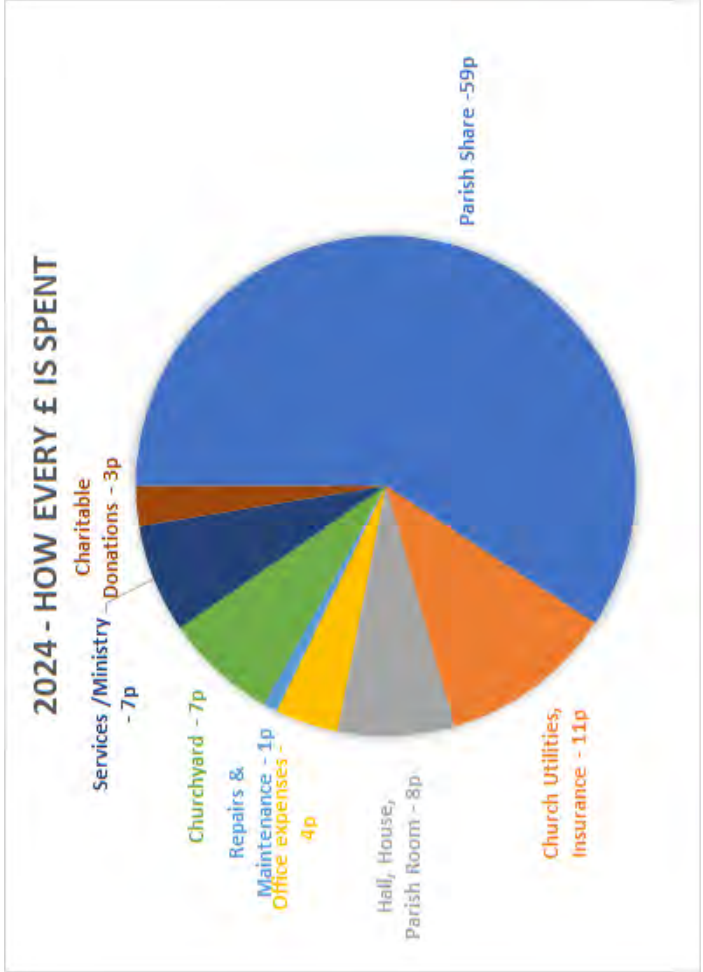
Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

I CAN CONFIRM THAT I HAVE NOT COME ACROSS ANY MATTERS FOR CONCERN WHEN REVIEWING THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024.
ON RECEIPT OF THE FIRST DRAFTS FROM THE CLIENT THERE WERE A FEW ERRORS WITH FORMULA, HOWEVER THE CLIENT WORKED WITH US TO AMEND THE FORMULA AND UPDATE THE ACCOUNTS ACCORDINGLY.
THE FINAL DRAFTS HAVE BEEN RE REVIEWED AND CONFIRMED TO BE CORRECT.



INCOME			
Voluntary Regular Giving - 38p	£28,099	38%	Standing Orders, Gift Aid envelopes and Pledges
Voluntary - Plate Donations - 15p	£11,002	15%	
Tax refund on voluntary giving - 10p	£7,616	10%	
Transfer from funds - 9p	£6,558	9%	Fees. R&M, Organ, Roof
Fund Raising Events - 13p	£9,322	13%	Christmas Market, Open day, Lights, Other Social events
Hire of Hall - 11p	£7,855	11%	
Investment Income - 4p	£2,864	4%	Bank Interest, Dividends
Grants - 0p	£0	0%	
	£73,316	100%	



EXPENDITURE			
Parish Share - 59p	£43,440	59%	
Church Utilities, Insurance - 11p	£8,304	11%	Gas, Electric Insurance
Hall, House, Parish Room - 8p	£5,527	8%	Gas, Electric, Insurance, Repairs, Effluent collection
Office expenses - 4p	£2,995	4%	Copier, Phone, Stationery, Postages
Repairs & Maintenance - 1p	£673	1%	Minor & Major
Churchyard - 7p	£5,331	7%	
Services /Ministry - 7p	£5,156	7%	Reader Exp, Organ, Licences, Candle
Charitable Donations - 3p	£1,890	3%	
	£73,316	100%	

St. Mary's Greasley (Charity No: 1172273)						
Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024						
Receipts and Payments Account						
RECEIPTS			<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
			<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
			£	£	£	£
	note					
Donations and gifts	1		46,714	10,000	56,714	43,463
Trading Income	2		37,462	0	37,462	37,777
Investment income	3		2,864	0	2,864	1,427
Other income	4		5	0	5	0
Grants received	5		0	0	0	489
Missionary giving	6		0	0	0	37
Total Receipts			<u>87,045</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>97,045</u>	<u>83,193</u>
PAYMENTS						
Donations	8		0	1,890	1,890	1,102
Church activities	9		71,426	0	71,426	67,966
Total Payments			<u>71,426</u>	<u>1,890</u>	<u>73,316</u>	<u>69,068</u>
NET RECEIPTS/ (PAYMENTS)			15,619	8,110	23,729	14,125
Balances:	B/F		45,103	45,262	90,365	76,240
Funds transfers						0
Balances:	C/F	11	<u>60,722</u>	<u>53,372</u>	<u>114,094</u>	<u>90,365</u>

Greasley Parish Church (Charity No: 1172273)						
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024						
Receipts and Payments Account						
Receipts December 2024						
note						
1	Donations and gifts				2024	2023
					Total	Total
		Unrestricted	Restricted			
		Funds	Funds			
		£	£			
	Gift Aid	24555			24555	21,201
	Pledges	3544			3544	3,198
	Plate	4508			4508	5,601
	Donations	6494			6494	6,089
	Bequest		10000		10000	0
	Tax credits	7614			7614	7,374
		46714	10000		56714	43463
2	Activities for generating funds					
	Hire of Hall	7855			7855	5,715
	Oher Social	2954			2954	2,065
	Christmas Market	4166			4166	4,100
	Open Day	1627			1627	2,185
	Parish Oven	20285			20285	22,987
	Church Lights	575			575	725
		37462	0		37462	37,777
3	Investment income					
	Funds from CBF	0	0		0	0
	Bank interest	2864	0		2864	1,427
		2864	0		2864	1,427
4	Other income					
	Insurance claims	0			0	0
	Interregnum claim	0			0	0
	Other	5			5	0
		5	0		5	0
5	Grants received					
		0			0	489
		0	0		0	489
6	Missionary giving					
	Mission Covenants	0	0		0	0
	Other Mission	0	0		0	37
		0	0		0	37

St. Mary's Church Greasley (Charity No: 1172273)						
Receipts and Payments Account						
Payments December 2024						
					2024	2023
note		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>		Total	Total
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>			
		£	£			
	Charitable payments					
8	Donations and grants					
	Other Mission	0	0		0	63
	The Royal British Legion	0	0		0	202
	Emmanuel House	0	0		0	219
	Children's Society	0	343		343	200
	Eastwood Memory Café	0	437		437	0
	Christian Aid	0	547		547	418
	Love Burundi	0	563		563	0
		0	1890		1890	1102
9	Church activities					
	Parish share	43440	0		43440	37440
	Clergy expenses	376	0		376	480
	Administration	16	0		16	38
	Churchyard	5331	0		5331	2747
	Printing & stationery	1667	0		1667	1909
	Light & heat	2820	0		2820	4820
	Insurance	5484	0		5484	5416
	Repairs and Refurbishment	673	0		673	1955
	Professional fees	600	0		600	1320
	Telephone	712	0		712	1103
	Organist	1949	0		1949	945
	Service Expenses	1730	0		1730	499
	Licences	816	0		816	613
	Church House Expenses	1292	0		1292	2970
	Parish Room Expenses	272	0		272	560
	Hall Running Costs	3963	0		3963	3927
	Social Event	198	0		198	0
	Pastoral Care	0	0		0	0
	Major Repairs & Refurbishments	0	0		0	1224
	BLAST	88	0		88	0
		71426	0		71426	67966

Greasley Parish Church (Charity No: 1172273)						
Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024						
FEES ACCOUNT						
OPENING BALANCE			£7,256.92			
RECE FEES						
	Monuments	£3,113.00				
	Funerals	£21,121.30				
	Weddings	£2,269.00	£26,503.30			
			£33,760.22			
PAYMENTS				PAYMENTS		
	Funerals	£7,753.36			SNDBF	£6,036.00
	Monuments	£690.00			Veger	£2,253.06
	Weddings	£933.00			Organist	£980.00
	Transfer to PCC	£11,936.97			Visiting Clergy	£107.30
			£21,313.33		Transfer to PCC	£11,936.97
						£21,313.33
	Cash in Bank		£12,446.89		Cash in Bank	£12,446.89
			£33,760.22			£33,760.22

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY'S GREASLEY (Charity No: 1172273)
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 December 2024

Account No	Account Name	31/12/2024			31/12/2023
		Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	
	Current Account	10,202.85		10,202.85	6,661.17
	Deposit Account - NatWest - General and Social	136,304.28	129,878.12	6,426.16	103,116.37
	Fees Account - Barclays	8.71	8.71		336.68
	Fees Account - Lloyds	5.99	5.99		1914.65
	Deposit Account - Lloyds	12,432.19	12,432.19		5005.59
	Petty Cash	41.72		41.72	48.92
	Social Committee / Community Centre Dev	790.20	790.20		2,291.34
	Friends of St Mary's	1,224.05	1,224.05		1,010.75
	Smith Bequest Fund	5,913.54	5,913.54		5,282.91
	Hill Top Mission	8.84		8.84	8.84
	Rolleston Mansell Charities	173.32	173.32		224.49
CB3035736-001	336	29.32	29.32		27.85
CB3035738-001	431	77.31	77.31		73.42
CB3035740-001	Barber Fund	200.00	200.00		200.00
CB3035742-001	Lucy Lowe	237.38	237.38		225.42
CB3035746-001	E Harwood	375.00	375.00		375.00
CB3035748-001	J Hartshorn	150.00	150.00		150.00
CB3035752-001	M Hancock	3,064.62	3,064.62		3,064.62
CB3035754-001	Dorothy Elizabeth Wain	12.48	12.48		11.86
CB3035832-001	Hill Top Mission Church	26,849.11	26,849.11		25,495.84
CB3035735-001	R G Hanson	2,068.64	2,068.64		1,968.17
CB3035737-001	Church Expenses	416.21	416.21		406.90
CB3035739-001	I Fryer Trust for Grave Maintenance	508.70	508.70		497.32
CB3035741-001	Lindley Bequest Church Yard	369.96	369.96		361.68
CB3035743-001	M Fryer Hill- Top Mission	323.72	323.72		316.47
CB3035744-001	General Purpose J T Gilbert	323.72	323.72		316.47
CB3035745-001	General Purpose Miss Pearson	601.19	601.19		587.74
CB3035747-001	Hill Top Mission Church E Andrews	416.21	416.21		406.90
CB3035749-001	Sunday School Fund	416.21	416.21		406.90
CB3035750-001	Miss W A Leck Bequest	323.72	323.72		316.47
CB3035751-001	Mrs Hilda Smith	416.21	416.21		406.90
CB3035753-001	Mrs S E Wagstaff	855.54	855.54		836.40
CB3035755-001	Rowley Bequest	648.59	648.59		634.08
CB3040215-001	Rolleston & Mansell Educational	3,052.20	3,052.20		2,983.90
CB3016496-001	SNDBF - Worrell	20,024.26	20,024.26		19,576.19
CB3016509-001	SNDBF - Chancel Fund	4,855.77	4,855.77		4,747.11
CB3016708-001	SNDBF - Chancel Fund	9,272.62	9,272.62		9,124.72
CB3016465-001	SNDBF - Smith (Poor & aged fund- income to be distributed at Christmas)	23,238.31	23,238.31		22,718.33
		266,232.69	249,553.12	16,679.57	222,138.37
FUNDS		Total	Restricted	Unrestricted	31/12/2023
	Bell Tower Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00		19,998.00
	Bequest	10,000.00	10,000.00		
	Chancel Fund	14,128.39	14,128.39		13,871.83
	Churchyard	878.66	878.66		859.00
	Community Centre Dev. Fund	82,526.28	82,526.28		54,070.54
	Fabric Fund	12,440.17	12,440.17		10,017.07
	Fees	12,446.89	12,446.89		7,256.92
	Flower Fund	5.05	5.05		2.00
	Friends of St Mary's	1,224.05	1,224.05		1,010.75
	General Fund	16,314.16		16,314.16	20,637.50
	Hall Keyboard Fund	200.00	200.00		
	Hill Top Mission Fund	26,857.95	26,849.11	8.84	25,504.68
	Investments Funds	30,980.33	30,980.33		30,307.76
	Junior Church Fund	385.17	385.17		385.17
	Minor Repairs & Maintenance	966.00	966.00		478.84
	Mission	125.77	125.77		464.42
	Organ Fund	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Parish Oven	790.20	790.20		2,291.34
	Pastoral Care Fund	488.17	488.17		488.17
	Rolleston & Mansell Educational	3,225.52	3,225.52		3,208.39
	Roof Repair Fund	0.00	0.00		0.00
	Smith (Poor & Aged Fund)	23,238.31	23,238.31		22,718.33
	Smith Bequest Fund	5,913.54	5,913.54		5,282.91
	Social Committee Fund	2,519.77	2,519.77		2,747.60
	Sunday Tea Donations Fund	578.31	578.31		537.15
		266,232.69	249,909.69	16,323.00	222,138.37

Property - Insurance Valuation

Church - Building and Contents	10,000,000	91.2%
Church Hall - Building and Contents	612,931	5.6%
Church House - Building and Parish Room Contents	346,662	3.2%
	10,959,593	100.0%

Approved by the PCC on 17 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd D.K. Dodd
Chair

Mr N.R. Taylor
Treasurer

		ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
1- OVERALL	EXPENDITURE	80,953	89,443	
1- OVERALL	INCOME	81,133	85,854	
1- OVERALL	SURPLUS / SHORTFALL	181	-3,589	
2- CHURCH	EXPENDITURE			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Parish share	43,440	45,600	2024 plus 5%
	Heat - Light	2,820	5,302	As 2024 budget
	Insurance	5,484	5,646	As advised by insurance company
	Printing Stationery Admin Phone	2,395	2,467	2024 actual + 3%
	Organist	1,949	2,000	
	Minor Repairs/ Maintenance	673	1,000	
	Other	1,207	1,000	
	Clergy/Ministry Expenses	376	1,070	As 2024 budget
	Service Exp	359	370	2024 + 3%
	Licenses	816	840	2024 + 3%
	Professional Fees	600	618	2024 + 3%
	Churchyard	5,331	2,801	As 2024 (Less mower)
	Donation/Mission	2,055	1,157	As 2024
	Web Site Dev	0	750	Estimate
	Major Repairs / Maintenance	0	5,000	Tower repair £3K
	BLAST	58	60	As 2024
	Transfer to funds	8,104	7,000	
	2- TOTAL EXPENDITURE	75,665	82,681	

2- CHURCH	INCOME				
	ACTIVITY		ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Gift Aid		24,555	30,000	Actual 2024 plus extra recently pledged.
	Tax credit		7,614	10,000	Actual 2024 plus extra recently pledged.
	Pledges		3,544	4,000	Actual 2024 plus extra recently pledged.
	Plate		4,508	4,508	As 2024
	Christmas market		4,166	4,166	As 2024
	Open Day		1,627	1,627	As 2024
	Other social events		2,954	2,954	As 2024
	Donations		6,499	6,499	As 2024
	Other			55	As 2024
	Interest		2,864	2,950	As 2024 plus 3%
	Bequest		0	0	
	Church Lights		575	725	As 2024 budget
	Missionary		0	0	
	Grants		0	515	VAT re-claim on Tower repairs
	Transfer from funds		14,373	10,000	Includes £3K transfer from Bell Fund for Tower repairs. Plus £3K for Fees a/c for church yard upkeep. Plus £2.5K from Fees a/c for weddings & funerals held in church
	2- TOTAL INCOME		73,278	77,999	
2- CHURCH	SURPLUS / SHORTFALL		-2,387	-4,682	

3- HALL	EXPENDITURE			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Gas	746	1,323	As 2024 budget
	Electric	1,317	1,449	As 2024 plus 10%
	Insurance	368	372	As advised by insurance company
	Maintenance	888	890	As 2024
	Caretaker	0	0	
	Effluent disposal	196	206	As 2024 plus 5%
	Water	208	228	As 2024 Plus 10%
	Sundries	0	70	As 2024
	3- TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3,723	4,538	
3- HALL	INCOME			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Hire	7,855	7,855	As 2024
	TOTAL INCOME	7,855	7,855	
3- HALL	SURPLUS / SHORTFALL	4,132	3,317	
4- HOUSE	EXPENDITURE			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Gas/Electric	811	892	2024 + 10%
	Insurance	182	186	As advised by insurance company
	Water	219	346	As advised by Severn Trent
	Maintenance	80	500	Includes £492 for boiler repairs
	4 -TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,292	1,924	
4- HOUSE	INCOME			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	
	TOTAL INCOME		0	
4- HOUSE	SURPLUS / SHORTFALL	-1,468	-1,924	
5- PARISH ROOM	EXPENDITURE			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	NOTES
	Electric	272	300	2024 + 10%
	5 -TOTAL EXPENDITURE	272	300	
5- PARISH ROOM	INCOME			
	ACTIVITY	ACTUAL 2024	BUDGET 2025	
	5- TOTAL INCOME	0	0	
5 - PARISH ROOM	SURPLUS / SHORTFALL	-272	-300	

g) Buildings & Property report

Maintenance of the church and its surroundings is an ongoing task, with issues cropping up on what seems to be a daily basis. The past year has been no exception.

To put it into context, think of your own domestic situations and multiply it several times, then add in the fact that the church and its surroundings are unoccupied most of the time and very often problems which arise are only noticed some time after they appear.

It pays us all to be vigilant and to address situations as they arise. Prevention is better than cure and it's the P&M group's responsibility to respond with appropriate action when necessary. Where possible we work on issues which have been flagged up in the five-year diocesan Quinquennial inspection report. The next inspection is due in October 2027, and we are making steady progress in the areas highlighted by the last report.

It's essential that we keep good records of completed and ongoing work, and I can say with some satisfaction that, in this respect, we are now in a better place. I keep a weekly log of completed maintenance work, the main points of which are written up in the church log book and a more detailed account is also included. This log book and the accompanying Terrior, (a record of church land including gardens and graveyards, etc), and much of the fabric of the church building, furniture, vestments, robes, books, etc, is inspected by the PCC before the APCM and signed off by the incumbent and church wardens before those assembled. Please note that these records can be viewed by church members on request.

Over this past year we have concentrated on improving storage facilities, disposing of the unwanted stuff and generally making more space for the storage of essential items. We were given permission to remove all the items and property of the now disbanded Greasley Players, a job which we have now almost completed. The loft over the Parish Oven has been cleared and cleaned out and storage racks have been installed using much of the material left behind by the Players group. The under-stage area is still in the process of being cleared. Almost all of this work has been completed using already available material at minimum cost to the church.

All of the lighting in the community hall has now been converted to LEDs, and we are working hard to improve lighting in all other areas, including the main church. This work is essential to reduce costs and cut down on the maintenance of an ageing lighting system. When funds allow we will also replace the old radiators in the hall, two new ones have been installed over the past year making a noticeable difference for hall users.

Continuing work is underway to improve the choir vestry area, rear church door, and this should be completed shortly, as funds allow.

Last October, after a scare when some bell chamber louvres, (slats), on the church tower became detached during high winds it was decided that for safety reasons these should be made more secure. They have now been netted and should provide that security for many years. A comprehensive report submitted by the steeplejack firm, re, the condition of the timber work and aperture masonry in that area is now on record, for the benefit of any future restoration work.

I said in my last year's report how much we rely on volunteer help for essential maintenance. Most of this work is carried out, almost unnoticed, by a dedicated few and they deserve our thanks. I feel I must make a special mention and give our grateful thanks to several people who are not regular worshippers at our church but have become an essential part of a hardworking team.

We can speculate to our hearts content about motives and what drives people to do volunteer work of any kind, but whether they would agree or not, I believe that God is at the centre of everything we do, and that includes helping to keep our church here at St Mary's in a safe and sustainable condition and enable it to carry on as a beacon and symbol of our Christian faith for many years to come.

John Timby

h) Choir report

I took over the job as Organist & Choirmaster at St Mary's early in 2024. A handover was arranged with Alan Wilson, and my first Service was on 25th February, so this APCM marks my first full year in post.

Since then, we have had a full and exciting time. Regular Services usually feature the choir alone, mainly during the administration of Holy Communion, while occasional Services, such as Remembrance Sunday, Mothering Sunday, and bigger celebrations, as at Easter and Christmas, have all featured very successful performances by the Choir, not to mention by some of our resident instrumentalists. I feel very much that there has been a steady growth in what we can do and achieve, with evidence of a real desire to explore and expand our repertoire.

I was also keen to instigate a concert series if at all possible, especially to encourage the congregation to invite local people, particularly non-churchgoers, in, and this we have managed to do, with the blessing and help of the Revd. Denise, and, I must say, the Parish Oven staff. I organised a solo concert, 'With a Song in my Heart,' in August, and a 'Christmas Quartet Concert' in December.

We are extremely fortunate in having talented and local professional singers, including from within the congregation, who have appeared; I cannot overstate how blessed we are in this.

To cover costs, it is necessary to charge for these events, but that has enabled us to make a useful contribution to church funds - £500 from the first two - which will be added to with each event – and which also allowed us to set-up a 'Keyboard Fund' with the assistance of the Treasurer; money was set aside to purchase a decent, portable keyboard, enabling us to be flexible and have some Choir rehearsals in the Parish Room, which is warmer and cheaper to heat in the winter; it also gives us the option of having live music in the Church Hall.

The Fund attracted some generous donations from individuals – not least from Choir members – whom I would like to thank, and has enabled the purchase of a very good, second-hand keyboard.

There are a number of people to thank, not least the Revd. Denise for her continued support, and Fe Edwards for her always useful help and advice, in preparing the Sunday Services each week; many times, Fe has rescued me from making errors in programming or drawn my attention to something I've missed.

Thanks, are also due to Ian Wheeler, for tirelessly organising and providing refreshments for our concerts, as well as in selling tickets through the Tea Room.

Last, but by no means least, thanks go to our individual choir members, who have battled wind, rain and snow to rehearse week-by-week – and who always give of their best each Sunday; a number of illnesses, operations and unforeseen events have assailed us, but the Choir goes on, regardless!

Robert Carlin

i) BLAST Report

BLAST group (Bible Learning and Sharing Together), for our younger members of the congregation, continues to meet on the first Sunday of every month under the guidance of our vicar Denise and Julie.

Our numbers remain steady, at around five or seven, occasionally with other attendees, and all are very enthusiastic. Our meetings are held in the church hall at 10am, where we usually start with a song and dance followed by a prayer and an activity or a prayer and an activity of some sort, with colouring and work sheets for the younger ones.

During the meeting we have the weekly Bible reading, usually read by one of the members, in line with the Bible treading in church for that day.

During 2024 we were also involved with various activities such as a well-attended BBQ and bird, bugs and hedgehog box-making with John Timby, a Light evening with games and goodies as an alternative to Halloween and the Crib Service, culminating in a rather wild and fun dance session. We hope to continue with our successful group doing more fun activities this year also.

Julie Stanton

j) Deanery Synod

There is one member of the laity on Deanery Synod, that being Barbara Coleman. Revd Denise Dodd as the Vicar is the clergy representative.

This provides a link between the parish and the wider church. The Synod met three times during the year and important parish news was shared between the churches plus news from the General Synod.

The expected Parish Share was outlined to parish treasurers at one of the meetings followed by a discussion. Oral reports were given to the PCC as necessary.

Barbara Coleman

k) Greasley Christian Aid Group Report

This report, as usual, starts with Christian Aid Week 2024 which ran from 12th to 18th May and raised £3,250 in total, which was £200 more than in 2023. We were again very grateful to Morrison's Eastwood for giving us two days collecting in their store, just prior to Christian Aid Week, resulting in £577.54 raised. We had envelopes in Church and with our friends at Newthorpe Baptist Church which raised £443.65. These, together with other individual donations, the profit from our Afternoon Tea and a very small donation from Fair Trade, resulted in our final total of £3,250.

The Chair and Treasurer attended a Christian Aid Week 2024 Celebration Event in June at Meynell Langley Hall, near Derby.

The Church service held in support of the Week reminded us all of the real need to continue with our work. We are so thankful for the very real support of Denise our Vicar, the PCC and our Church Family, who make all this possible.

In addition to Christian Aid Week, we were able to support the Christmas Appeal for those who become refugees through warfare sending £350.

In June, we held a very successful Afternoon Tea for the first time. A good time was had by all and £615 was raised. Jeremy Gowers-Cromie, our local Christian Aid officer, came and met with supporters informally. We are very grateful to Joyce Widdowson and her subcommittee for working on the event, to all the cake makers and to everyone who came. The musical entertainment provided by our Musical Director Robert Carlin and soloist Alexandra Hazard set the atmosphere and was very much enjoyed. The whole committee worked very hard to make it a successful and friendly occasion.

In October, we had our Annual Fair Trade Day at Watnall WI Hall which was very well supported. £389.55 worth of goods were sold and £265.60 was raised for Christian Aid by the Raffle and Refreshments. It was good to see people enjoying themselves with their friends, and buying goods from producers and artisans who received a fair payment for their work.

Now we are near Christian Aid Week 2025 from 11th to 17th May when the emphasis will be on Christian Aid's partner Congcoop, and the support it gives to farmers in Guatemala to cope with climate change.

We cannot thank you enough for your faithful support, which really does make a difference in practical ways.

Janet Hedderly
Secretary, Greasley Christian Aid Group

I) Tower Captain Report

During 2024 we aimed to keep the bells ringing on Sunday mornings & for special services such as Remembrance Sunday & Christmas Day. Inevitably, there were some occasions due to holidays, illnesses, & work commitments, when this was not possible. For the first time, we took a break from ringing during August to ease the problem. But every cloud has a silver lining, and we are now quite proficient at ringing Plain Bob Minimus & Grandsire Minimus, both methods that can be rung on fewer bells.

Practices on Wednesday evenings went well, due to the support from ringers at local towers, namely Eastwood, Nuthall & Selston. This was reciprocated by some of our ringers supporting their practices. Everyone benefits from greater connection between neighbouring towers & the opportunities to learn new ringing methods. In addition to our own practice, the Mansfield District held monthly events some of which focus on the new methods we are learning. One of these practices was held at Greasley in September, & then, in December, we hosted the District Christmas practice plus fuddle. To round off the year, ringers from Eastwood & Greasley enjoyed a joint Christmas meal at the Horse & Groom.

There were one or two ringing highlights for Greasley band in 2024, starting with entering a team for the Crawford Cup in March. It has been a few years since Greasley has entered a band for this Southwell & Nottingham guild competition. We didn't get beyond the heats, which were held at Edwinstowe, but may try again in 2025. We also entered a new Mansfield District striking competition one set up in memory of our much-missed friend, Alison Loydall. We hope this will become an annual event, held at St Mary's Greasley. I'm sure she would be pleased to see Greasley ringers focusing on improving their striking skills. Good striking was in evidence when we rang a quarter peal of Grandsire doubles in July.

This was rung in memory of Graham's mother, who died earlier in the year, and to celebrate several recent events of other band members. Weddings always bring out the best of ringing, although there were fewer at Greasley this year, and only two requiring bells. We hope for more next year.

Another ringing highlight was the Church Open Day/Greasley Gathering, in May. We rang for the opening of the event, then took the opportunity to recruit new ringers. Visitors to the tower were given a ringing demonstration, chance to have a go at ringing a bell & a trip up to the bell chamber to see the bells in action. It was a successful venture; we now have two new learners, Libby and Derek. Through the Summer, they had one-to-one bell handling tuition from the District Ringing Master, & are now able to ring a bell independently. Both of them were nominated to become members of the Southwell & Nottingham Guild of Church Bell Ringers by the end of 2024.

Maintenance of the bells and a thorough cleaning of the tower from top to bottom was carried out in Spring & Autumn by a team of band members. At the same time, checks on the bells, ropes & clappers was carried out, by Graham, and as needed throughout the year.

The problem of flies in the ringing room & bell chamber was much milder during the Autumn, requiring only one smoke bomb to prevent a serious infestation. In 2024, as often happens, we had requests from visiting bands wanting to ring at Greasley. There were four quarter peals rung during the year and one peal on 28th November, which was a new method composed by one of the ringers, and named Greasley Castle Surprise Delight Major. Quite an honour to have a new method attributed to the area!

Emmi Checkley, Tower Captain

m) Friends of St Mary's Report

2024 was another good year for FoSM the strawberry tea was a complete success, realising £419 for Church Funds. We always have a meeting to discuss what we could do better and what we got right. One comment heard was 'it was the best one yet. We all gave ourselves a round of applause. If you missed it this year, please ensure you have a ticket for 2025.

A disappointment was when people ring for a ticket for gluten-free food and don't turn up or make any donation.

Martin Perry always gives his support and our thanks always go to him.

The Police gave an interesting talk on scams which was very helpful.

We are very short of committee members so please consider joining us as help is always needed.

At the AGM the treasurer decided to keep the subscriptions the same which makes it very reasonable to enjoy an afternoon whilst raising funds for our beautiful Church.

Pauline Jackson

n) EcoChurch report

The work in order to achieve our EcoChurch accreditation continued throughout 2024, until the questionnaire was finally updated in August resulting in enough points gained in order to apply for the granting of a Silver Award. We were awarded a certificate, a plaque and the logo that is put on all correspondence from St Marys. The work is still ongoing with the areas highlighted in the application being maintained.

The bees were put in situ in June of and thrived during the summer months with weekly inspections being carried out. In October, a supplement feed was put into the hives to keep the bees fed during the colder months and the hives shut up until April 2025. A beekeeping course was completed and followed up by regular visits to the Hucknall Apiary in order to gain practical experience.

The work on the tea room garden resulted in colourful displays throughout the summer and autumn. Spring bulbs were planted to extend the flowering season into 2025.

The bird feeders were replenished at three-day intervals throughout the winter ensuring there was always food available.

Further training in beekeeping is being undertaken and honey should be available next year.

Sheila Over

o) Social Committee Report

The social committee meets throughout the year to plan events which not only help raise money for our church but, also provide ways in which church members and their friends and families can meet in an informal setting, as well as extending a welcome to members of the wider community.

The committee is currently made up of only four core members, with extra helpers pitching in for major events such as the spring Open Day, Christmas Market and Carols by Candlelight, at all of which the committee provides refreshments. Additional members are always welcome!

Any profit raised from our events is normally set aside from general church funds, to be used at a time and for a purpose chosen by the members of the committee.

AS well as our popular Fish&Chip Quiz Night, held in February, 2024 saw us branch out into other activities with a successful Table Top Sale held in September and concerts held in church in June and August, performed by the Nottingham Bluecoat Singers and the Blackwood Clarinet Orchestra.

Ian Wheeler, Social Committee Secretary

p) Parish Magazine 'Open Door'

Our church magazine, Open Door, switched to being online-only at the start of the Covid pandemic and is available by visiting the church website. Given the cost involved, it is unlikely that it will ever fully return to being a printed magazine, though I do run off a handful of copies for customers at the Parish Oven and they are proving to be very popular, with most of them being taken away by visitors.

Members of our Facebook group will know that I flag up when new edition is ready and ask that, where possible, people consider printing off a copy for friends or neighbours who they think might enjoy reading it.

I am grateful to those regular contributors who continue to come up with the goods every two months. Anyone else who feels that they might be able to contribute in any way is more than welcome to send in articles or photographs.

Ian Wheeler, Editor

q) Christmas Market report

Our annual Christmas Market, which is held on the last Saturday in November, continues to be our single major fund-raising event of the year and in 2024 raised an impressive £4,110 for St Mary's.

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who in any way helps to make this event continue to be such a success. It wouldn't happen without you!

Ian Wheeler, Organiser

r) Safeguarding report

No safeguarding issues were reported under the Code of Safer Working Practice. Safeguarding training for people holding positions of responsibility were carried out as required.

DBS. and safeguarding updates continue to be sent from the church nationally and from South well and Nottingham Diocese.

Thank you to all for keeping up to date with requirements.

Barbara Coleman stood down during November and the Revd Denise Dodd took over on a temporary basis.

s) Pastoral visiting/care report

During the year those unable to attend church, either temporary or long term were visited by Revd Denise, Barbara or a member of the congregation.

Holy Communion was offered and given to those who requested it by Revd Denise or Barbara. Some members of the church family were happy to receive phone calls only.

Many pastoral care issues were discussed with Revd Denise or Barbara either in church or the Parish Oven.

This is an important Christian ministry with the church family.

Barbara Coleman, Pastoral Visiting Lead

t) Parish Oven Report

The Parish Oven continues to grow from strength-to-strength and has become very much a part of both church and community life, being a safe place where people can visit for refreshments, a warm space and a chat .

Our varied customers are confirmed regulars, cyclists, walking groups, visitors from other churches, funeral attendees, DH Lawrence devotees, passing trade and, of course, a dedicated section of our church community.

All income from the Parish Oven is ring-fenced for future use on redevelopment of the Sexton's Cottage and is shown on the church accounts under the heading "Community Centre Development". This is supported by detailed accounts which show all income and expenditure on a weekly basis and are available for inspection on request.

Thanks, as ever, go to our enthusiastic volunteer staff and bakers for their tireless efforts over the last 12 months together with all those within our church and wider community who have supported us with their custom.

Ian Wheeler

u) Art and Soul Group

It will be three years in May since the Art & Soul Group was launched and it is continuing to develop in terms of membership, friendship and artistic endeavour. The group became so well attended over the first two years, that we made the decision to extend the day into the afternoon as well. We now meet in the mornings from 11am to 1pm, and the afternoon session runs from 1pm to 3pm. Membership is now fairly steady at 22 people. The morning session continues to be pretty full, but we do still have some spaces available in the afternoon session.

Several of the group are members of our congregation, but by no means all. Some have seen the notices in the Parish Oven, whilst others know people who are already members and who have spoken very positively about the group to friends. We are very conscious of the 'Soul' part of the group and in this respect we do have several people who have been looking for company and an outlet having suffered a bereavement, and they do appear to benefit from a couple of hours out of their normal routine.

The group runs on an informal basis, but we do have a weekly theme of suggested subjects for people to try if they would like to. Among the themes covered are portraits, machines, rusty objects, landscapes etc. And, although the sessions are not structured classes, there is always help and advice available for anyone who needs it.

Most of the works are produced using water colours or acrylics, though we have also used pencil, coloured pencils, soft pastels and oil pastels. The only medium not used in such a short session is oil paint.

We had an exhibition in Hucknall Library in May 2024, and we always have some of the group's work on display in the Parish Oven as well. In addition, we took part in the Christmas Market and had a very successful and enjoyable day.

Group members give a voluntary donation every week, and by unanimous consent we donate £100 to the church every few weeks. Over the course of a year, the donations we are able to give along with the gift aid claimed amounts to approximately £1,500. Several paintings have also been sold – either having been on display in the Parish Oven or in a local library – and this has also contributed to the church's income.

Dave & Sandra Sawyer

6. Legacy Policy

It is the PCC's policy to record any legacies received and, if given without any restriction, to use them in such a way that – wherever possible – reflects the person who has given the legacy. Restricted legacies will be used in accordance with the restriction.

7. Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure. St Mary's is a Registered Charity. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, Churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Church.

All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

Individual PCC members receive training as and when deemed appropriate by the PCC. Training may include trustee responsibility training, basic health and safety, risk assessment and management, child protection procedures and safeguarding vulnerable adults.

St Mary's has one paid member of staff. PAYE payroll and a workplace pension scheme are also in place.

8. Risk Assessments

The PCC undertakes assessments to identify major risks as required. Procedures are then put in place to manage those risks and minimise their impact on the life of the Church.

9. Administrative Information

St Mary's Church is situated in Greasley, Nottinghamshire. It is part of the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Church Office, Church Road, Greasley, Nottinghamshire NG16 2AB.

Names of advisors:

1. Architect: Allan Joyce Architects
2. Independent Examiner: Pells Chartered Accountants

Name and address of Bankers and Investment companies:

1. Nat West Bank Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8HF
2. Barclays Bank Northwich, Cheshire CW9 7RB
3. Lloyd's Bank PLC, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT
4. CCLA 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4ET
5. CBF Church of England Funds Jubilee House, Westgate, Southwell NG25 0JH