

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
*for the*  
Fiscal Year  
1<sup>st</sup> January  
to  
31<sup>st</sup> December  
2023**

**The Parochial  
Church Council  
of the  
Ecclesiastical  
Parish  
of  
Chagford**

***Registered  
Charity  
1172274***



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

The obvious place to start this Annual Review, is with an ending(!) ... that of Revd. Paul Seaton-Burn's incumbency – although Paul's leaving 'do' and final service were actually documented in the previous Annual Review.

The church and all that it is, is coping without him.

Many things he instigated, or welcomed, have stayed the same, and even blossomed: The Well, Taizé Chanting and Church Family Breakfast services continue to attract new people, with one member of the Taizé Chanting group stating (with pride and a certain degree of surprise); *'we're developing our own little congregation!'*

Congregation numbers for our regular services are pretty stable and the weekly, Celtic-themed, Prayer Services for a New Rector have a small, but loyal, following.

In March, we welcomed Bishop James & Archdeacon Douglas to a meeting with representatives from all the North Dartmoor Parishes. This was a positive evening with much discussion between those attending.

The Archdeacon stated that he was optimistic that we could have someone *'by the summer'* and, while Bishop James described the role as the *'crème de la crème'* of jobs, he also counselled that it is *'better to have a year's vacancy than the wrong person, quickly'*.

However, despite the post being advertised several times now, at the end of 2023, we are little closer to finding anyone to even apply for the rôle. This is both frustrating and it continues to pile an even bigger workload onto our retired Clergy and Lay Ministry Teams, although the promise of an Interim Priest is an exciting prospect.

It must be noted that we are **unceasingly** grateful to Harriet, Noël, Nick and Edwina – as well as the Lay Team – for working so hard to keep our services going. It is perfectly clear that we simply could not have survived without them.

Two other people without whom the church simply would not function are, of course, Rosemary and Terry Bleakman.

Rosemary has carried the Churchwarden's Staff on her own for the whole year and really must be aided by a second Warden from the Annual

Parochial Church Meeting. Despite assistance from several quarters, particularly Margaret Jeffreys and Tony Milton, it is too big a responsibility for one person to carry on their own for long.

That Terry was honoured with a St Boniface Award by the Bishop of Exeter this year, is testament to his enormously hard work and dedication to St Michael the Archangel.

From late Spring until late Autumn, we discovered just how much Elinor d'Albiac does for our church, when she was indisposed following an accident. It is so good to have her 'back in harness again' now.

Under other major *thank you's*, we must include Jon Bint for his unswerving dedication to the church bells. His skill at both making the bells 'sing' and encouraging new ringers, is second to none.

We are very fortunate that Roger Clevedon continues as organist for Sung Holy Communion and Choral Evensong services and delighted that Lisa Millett (and, more recently, Tom Fynn) are willing to play the piano for other services each month.

In early March, Tom also directed Tymesythe Theatre Company's rousing production of Shakespeare's Henry V, transforming the church into the Royal Courts of early 15<sup>th</sup> century England and France, not to mention the battlefield of Agincourt.

With a cast of around 30, plus musicians, technicians and an energetic back-stage crew, the four performances played to sold-out houses.

Then, almost as if by Shakespearian magic, ('though, actually, a brilliant working team!'), the church returned to its quiet and spiritual space, albeit with the regular, but very varied, schedule of services, toddler group, youth drama, bell-ringing, coffee mornings, choir practice, concerts and other events organised by cross-community, cross-generational groups.

Two months after Henry V, we celebrated Charles III, when the church was 'dressed overall' with hundreds of red, white & blue paper pompoms and flowers, strung across the aisle. These had been made by all sorts of people throughout the community and were Chagford's way of honouring the King and Queen on their Coronation, in May.

Another stand-out of the year was the donation, by artist Philippa O'Brien, of her sculpture of the Holy Family. Constructed from paper and card, and

originally designed to be placed in the Market House, Philippa needed a new home for the figures and we were delighted to receive them into the church. Throughout Advent and until after Epiphany, they resided by the font and delighted all visitors who entered the church. We are very privileged to be the custodians of these figures, which will be enjoyed for many years.

The forecast heavy rain meant the planned outdoor Carol Service had to be in the church again, but the shoehorns were out(!) and the church full to bursting for a wonderful service. It was quieter, but no less meaningful, for both the Midnight Eucharist and Christmas Day Family Communion.

In accordance with the PCC's resolution, collections from the Christmas services were distributed equally to the Chagford Pantry and St Petrock's (Exeter). As these totalled £1352.16, each benefited from £676.08.

We must also thank the bellringers, flower arrangers, intercessors, lesson-readers, cleaners, lay worship leaders, Pantry helpers, Little Angel organisers ... in fact, everyone and anyone else who has contributed to the festivals and the needs, the pleasures and the worries of our beautiful and ancient church these past twelve months.

The Church Family was deeply saddened by the deaths, during 2023, of five men who, each in their own way, gave so much to the life of our church. Tim Garratt, Kit Cooper, John Haws, Tony Dunn and Tony McCrum will never be forgotten.



*Lucy Shields,  
Lay Chairman Chagford Parochial Church Council*

## **AIMS AND PURPOSE**

St Michael the Archangel Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the Grade I listed church building and associated churchyard.

## MINISTRY & MISSION

During 2023, despite having no Rector, church services continued under the pattern established by Revd Paul Seaton-Burn.

Congregational numbers not only remained steady but, on many occasions, actually increased - thus bucking the trend in the Church of England throughout the country.

Each month, on first Sundays, the morning Holy Communion (usually accompanied by recorded hymn tunes) maintained a steady number of attendees, whilst numbers at Choral Evensong increased.

Numbers at Family Breakfast services (in the Jubilee Hall) on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays, have fluctuated a bit. Occasionally, several families have attended but, on some months, there have been few young people. For the service in July, we were honoured and delighted to welcome Bishop James, who seemed to enjoy what he saw. In December, the hall was full to bursting for a special Christingle Family Breakfast with special contributions from many children from Chagford Primary School.

We are very grateful to Roger Cleverdon and the choir for leading us both at the monthly Choral Evensong, and for the Sung Holy Communion services on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays.

Celtic Morning Prayer services (on 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) have been lay-led by several different people, which allows us to view things from a new perspective at times.

By contrast to the morning services, The Well (on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>) and Taizé Chanting (on 3<sup>rd</sup>) Sunday evenings, offer a time of quieter, more contemplative, worship.

Among other, special, extra services during the year, were Compline each evening throughout Holy Week, Words & Music for the Passion on Good Friday, the sunrise service on Nattadon, on Easter Morning, Remembrance Day Commemorations, and the Christmas Eve Carol Service.

In June, a weekly service of Celtic Prayer for a New Rector began. Continuing every Monday evening (apart from Christmas Day) for 33 weeks, this was a source of solace and hope and, with the assurance of an Interim Priest-in-Charge, our prayers were answered (albeit not exactly as we had imagined).

The church also welcomes the regular 'Celebrating the Earth' events most months, for an offering of 'nature-inspired art, music, talk, and mediation'.

This is all proof that our Ministry and Mission is alive and flourishing.

## **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **LITTLE ANGELS**

Little Angels, our toddler group in church, is a joy.

Numbers attending fluctuate as we lose a percentage when they are old enough, to the Montessori and Church schools, but most are babes in arms when they start and it is a delight to see them taking their first steps, forming their first words and learning to socialise.

The majority are too young to listen to Bible stories but we always have some worship music and action songs and close with the 'Wiggle Song'!

Everyone is welcome.

We are open on Friday mornings between 9.30 and approximately 11.00 am. The toddlers play beautifully together and their carers (mums, dads and grandparents), enjoy coffee, tea and biscuits and, most importantly, a chat.

### **SEEDLINGS**

This small group changed at the start of the year as several members moved on, for very good reasons. Instead, we were joined by some younger folk with new talents.

With the departure of the Rector, the group has concentrated on meeting monthly to plan our regular informal Family Breakfast Service in the Jubilee Hall.

While we have missed our shared suppers and Bible discussions, we have grown new skills: public speaking, worship through music, children's activities, Service planning and breakfast (coffee, tea, croissants and jam and fruit) preparation.

Many of the attendees are regular members of the congregation but everyone is welcome and the service has attracted some new families and

visitors, notably the Christingle Service that was packed.

We are grateful to have the support of our musicians and sound technician.

## **CHURCH LIFE**

### **WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY**

#### **CHAGFORD COMMUNITY & MEMORY CAFE**

Attendance at the cafe has increased this year from an average of 26 people per session in 2022 to 38 pps in 2023.



Some of the highlights of 2023 have been:

- A day trip to Sidmouth in July with coffee, lunch and afternoon tea at the Belmont Hotel and a chance to walk along the promenade and take in the sea air or chat with friends while enjoying the sea view.
- A Coronation themed trip on the Seaton tramway in May with afternoon tea.
- A trip on the Wetlands Explorer Tram in September led by dementia experts who led relaxing and enjoyable sensory activities immersed in nature.
- A trip to the Museum of Dartmoor Life in Okehampton in October to see our Memory blanket, followed by lunch at Farmer Luxtons
- A coronation tea at Chagford Primary School and a coronation party in Jubilee Hall.
- A Christmas lunch at the Fingle Bridge Inn.
- A collaboration with Camilla Rooney from Wellmoor to support unpaid carers.
- A visit from the Dartmoor Shepherd in April with lambs and Moss the collie.
- Singing for the Brain in August.
- 2 craft workshops sponsored by Proper Job.

Other sessions have included music, quizzes, singing, games and craft  
We secured a grant of £300 from the Chagford Community Trust.





# SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, CHAGFORD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Financial Statement For the Period 01 January to 31 December 2023

### Section A Receipts and Payments

	Notes	unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Designated Funds to the nearest £	Church Fabric Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Churchyard Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Employment Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Managed Funds Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>									
<b>A1.1 Voluntary Income</b>									
Planned Giving (Tax efficient)		22,068						22,068	20,087
Planned Giving (Other)		1,010						1,010	2,466
Collections	1	7,621	1,137				1,558	10,316	8,260
All other giving		5,508					-	5,508	5,521
Donations & Gifts	2	1,237	10,061	-	1,400			12,699	9,756
Grants from other bodies	3	-		-	-	25,448	17,819	43,267	40,647
Legacies		-		-	-			-	-
Tax recovered through Gift Aid		9,029	48	-	-	113		9,189	8,913
<b>A1.1 Sub total</b>		<b>46,473</b>	<b>11,246</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>25,561</b>	<b>19,377</b>	<b>104,056</b>	<b>95,651</b>
<b>A1.2 Fundraising</b>	4	<b>13,800</b>	<b>1,591</b>				<b>2,001</b>	<b>17,392</b>	<b>30,056</b>
<b>A1.3 Income from Investments</b>	5	<b>5,625</b>	<b>3,895</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>1,843</b>		<b>117</b>	<b>13,247</b>	<b>9,953</b>
<b>A1.4 Church Activities</b>									
Statutory Fees retained by PCC		7,268					1,170	8,438	7,358
Trading Activities	6	1,671		-			17,094	18,766	8,773
Transaction Charge Refund	7	405		-				405	-
<b>A1.4 Sub total</b>		<b>9,344</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,264</b>	<b>27,609</b>	<b>16,131</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>			<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>75,243</b>	<b>16,732</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>3,243</b>	<b>25,561</b>	<b>39,759</b>	<b>162,304</b>	<b>151,792</b>

# SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, CHAGFORD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Financial Statement For the Period 01 January to 31 December 2023

### Section A Receipts and Payments

	Notes	unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Designated Funds to the nearest £	Church Fabric Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Churchyard Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Employment Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Managed Funds (Restricted) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A3 Payments</b>									
A3.1 Cost of Generating Funds	8	4,030					-	4,030	15,634
A3.2 Mission Giving And Donation	9	3,012	9,635				6,824	19,471	11,050
<b>A3.3 Church Activities</b>									
Diocesan Parish Share	10	40,030						40,030	36,659
Payments to Deanery/Mission Community		5,037						5,037	5,822
Salary/honoraria		3,012				20,561		23,573	26,352
Mission/evangelism costs		3,113	-					3,113	2,331
Church running Expenses	11	18,092	1,456	4,667	310		25,749	50,275	39,013
Utility costs	12	5,077						5,077	5,516
<b>A3.3 Sub total</b>		<b>74,360</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>4,667</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>20,561</b>	<b>25,749</b>	<b>127,104</b>	<b>115,692</b>
<b>A3.4 Major Capital Expenditure</b>									
Major Church Repairs/Replacements		-		-				-	-
New Building Works		-						-	-
<b>A3.4 Sub total</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc.		1,626	632	-	-	-	-	2,258	2,040
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>83,027</b>	<b>11,724</b>	<b>4,667</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>20,561</b>	<b>32,573</b>	<b>152,863</b>	<b>144,415</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>		<b>-(7,784)</b>	<b>5,008</b>	<b>-(2,900)</b>	<b>2,932</b>	<b>4,999</b>	<b>7,187</b>	<b>9,441</b>	<b>7,376</b>
A5 Transfers between funds	13	6895.04	-6895.04	2420.23	-2420.23	0	0	0	-
A6 Cash funds last year end		3,679	17,246	930	3,192	-(831)	18,457	42,673	35,297
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>		<b>2,790</b>	<b>15,359</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>3,704</b>	<b>4,168</b>	<b>25,643</b>	<b>52,114</b>	<b>42,673</b>

# SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, CHAGFORD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Financial Statement

For the Period 01 January to 31 December 2023

### Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Designated Funds (Rector, Choir & Little Angels) to the nearest £	Church Fabric Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Churchyard Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Employment Fund (Restricted) to the nearest £	Managed Funds (Restricted) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>									
NatWest Current Account		2,521	0	(570)	0	0	2,785	4,735	4,952
Lloyds Current Account		0	0	0	0	1,470	6,427	7,898	2,261
Lloyds Deposit account		3,405	7,639	0	98	2,169	12,961	26,273	20,029
NDP Fees							308	308	0
CBF Deposit Reserves		740	0	0	0	0	0	740	717
CBF Deposit Restricted Use Fabric		0	0	1,020	0	0	0	1,020	912
CBF Deposit Restricted Use Churchyard		0	5,820	0	3,147	0	0	8,968	7,125
Cash		360	1,900	0	458	529	3,162	6,409	7,503
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,026</b>	<b>15,359</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>3,704</b>	<b>4,168</b>	<b>25,643</b>	<b>56,350</b>	<b>23,470</b>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>									
Gift Aid recoverable		6,405	447	-	100	128	926	8,006	6,770
Debtors		477	-	-	-	-	-	477	0
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>									
Hawksmoor Investment Mgrs Capital Fund		5,795	6	4,436	57	-	-	10,294	7,080
Investment Assets @ market value (31.12.2022)	18	115,643	117,122	35,168	2,431	-	-	270,363	275,013
<b>B4 Endowment Trust Assets</b> (held by Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance) A. (held by Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance)									
Investment Assets @ market value (31.12.2021)				2839	58375			61214	55908
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>									
Creditors Various		4713	0	0	0	0	0	4713	2
<b>Section C Net present Value</b>									
Cash and Investment Assets		130,633	132,933	42,893	64,667	4,296	26,569	401,991	361,469

# SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, CHAGFORD PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## Financial Statement For the Period 01 January to 31 December 2023

### Section D Approvals

Signed by two trustees on behalf of all the PCC

L.A. Chairman of PCC

Signature



Name

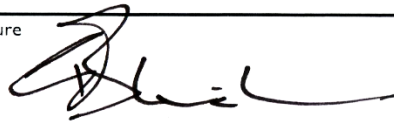
L.A. SHIELDS

Date

FEBRUARY  
28<sup>th</sup> 2024

Hon Treasurer

Signature



Name

T.C. BREAKMAN

Date

28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Signed by Independent examiner

Signature



Name

J.B. WILLIAMS

Date

14-3-2024

# Independent Examiner's Report

to the Trustees of

## Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel, Chagford

Registered Charity No: 1172274

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which are set out on 3 pages referenced 2023-1 to 2022-3 inclusive attached.

### Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedure laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with the records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matters have come to my attention other than those detailed overleaf

1. which give us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
  - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met, or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.

Full Name

*John B. Williams*  
John B. Williams

Address.

10 Hares Close  
Chagford  
TQ8 8FG.

Date.

14-3-2024



I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which are set out on 3 pages referenced 2023-1 to 2022-3 inclusive attached.

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### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

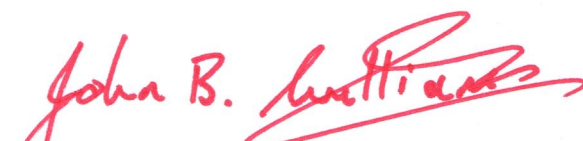
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2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.

Full Name

Address.

  
John B. Williams

10 H. Rd.