

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Goudhurst  
c/o The Church Office, Back Lane, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1AN  
Registered Charity No 1175082  
Trustees' Annual Report**

**St Mary's Goudhurst Book of Reports : May 2023 - May 2024**

## **Introduction**

Our last annual report was from April 2022-May 2023. This report covers May 2023-May 2024 and includes:

1. The life of the parish generally and the activities of the PCC - prepared by Revd Rachel Robertson
2. Financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2023 prepared by Dave Lodge, approved by the PCC on 29 April 2024, and independently examined by Graham Langlay-Smith.
3. Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church prepared by Churchwardens Jo Alsop and Sam Davis
4. Changes in the electoral roll since the last APCM - prepared by Becky Addis
5. Deanery Synod proceedings prepared by Revd Rachel Robertson and Martin Loy.

*Thank you to Becky, Rachel, Dave, Graham, Jo, Sam and Martin for their contributions to these reports, and for anyone who in any way has served the Lord and encouraged others to do likewise.*

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## **1.**

### **The life of the parish generally and the activities of the PCC - Revd Rachel Robertson**

(a) The life of the parish in worship, prayer, understanding the bible, discipleship, pastoral care and mission

We are first called to love God with heart, mind, soul and strength, and then love our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 22: 37-40). The Church of England expresses its vocation as 'To proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in each generation to the people of England.'

Worship is about giving God honour, praise and glory for who He is. It can be offered in the day to day of our individual lives, but we are also called to build up the Body of Christ and so corporate worship is part of our calling and privilege. In it we adore God, are built up, and then sent out into the world equipped and renewed to love each other as God loves us. We worship in hard times and in times of plenty, through the ordinary and seasonal times of the year. It is *wonderful* to gather in worship together.

Our three main weekly services continued strongly in 2023/24 - the Thursday Morning 10am service, and Sunday services of said Holy Communion at 8 o'clock and the 10:45.

Complementing these is our 9.15 Sunday morning service of Holy Communion at Christ Church. We hold services of Holy Communion at St Mary's two or three times a week. Each service is served by a multitude of church family - with different and complementary gifts, and spanning the generations.

Prayer is to be the heart of church life. We have organised prayer in place including prayer ministry, liturgy and intercessions as part of church services, a monthly GK prayer meeting, calls to prayer including 24/7 prayer before Easter Day and the GK emergency prayer chain. We encourage one another to pray in our exchanges, and it is becoming more natural to start any gathering in prayer.

God reveals Himself to us through the bible, which is living and active (Hebrews 4:12) and so time in our services is spent reading the bible aloud, and preaching about how God may be understood through it. We encourage one another to read the bible for ourselves from an early age, and to learn from it in our small groups so that we deepen our understanding of God and how, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we use that understanding to live out our faith.

We are called not to merely believe in Jesus, but to follow Him as Lord. Supporting people to follow Jesus as His disciples includes the provision of Karen Gillett as our Youth & Children's Pastor from February 2024, Sunday groups for 0-18s where each can feel a sense of belonging on Sundays and during the week, sermons (preaching, recording and follow up notes for small groups), small groups (meeting regularly to prayer together, read the word and share fellowship) and the Marriage Course.

Pastoral care covers services such as baptisms, weddings and funerals, and the related care around them. Demand for these from the Church as provider (as opposed to a secular alternative) continues to be stable. Pastoral care also covers the very many ways in which we love as He first loved us, including practical service to the community. Expressions include caring for one another in small groups, consideration shown in fellowship over coffee, Sonja Drew's ministry as an Anna Chaplain (focusing on pastoral support to those of older age), the Meal Train (meals provided to those under particular pressure), Home Communion visits, Community Cupboard (a food bank serving the local community), Community Care Fund (providing temporary financial assistance to those in crisis or emergency need), Community Lunch (which celebrated its first birthday), Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Life Skills courses run in Staplehurst Free Church and East Sutton Women's Prison, Café Toddlers (weekly parent/carer and toddlers group) and Blend (weekly after-school pop-up café for children of years 7 to 10).

Many of these expressions of pastoral care would also be viewed as *mission*. The Anglican communion recognises Five Marks of Mission: to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom; to teach, baptise and nurture new believers; to respond to human need by loving service; to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation; and to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Areas of our mission includes the everyday sharing of who God is into the myriad of opportunities each of us has daily. Organised missional areas that we are excited by includes: fairwear, Lend With Care, Alpha, Café Toddlers, the Weald Family Hub, Collective Worship at Goudhurst and Kilndown Primary School, Crafty Mondays, the Goudhurst Fête and Dog Show.

We are blessed to have the opportunity to work with several partners and value these relationships highly including: Lunch Club, Weald Deanery churches and their Vicars, Sacred Heart church and Father Ethelbert, Goudhurst Parish Council, Goudhurst Pre-school, Goudhurst, Kilndown & Lamberhurst bellringers, the Goudhurst branch of the Royal British Legion, Goudhurst Scouts, the Old Parsonage Surgery, Friends of St Mary's

(FOSM) and many others. Goodwill extended by Lindsay Roberts & staff at the school, the Quarry Centre, Ladysden, the Star & Eagle, Weeks Bakery, Burgess Stores and many other businesses and individuals is most humbling.

### **Reflecting and giving thanks**

We notice that reporting 'activity' does not adequately capture all the ways in which God is moving and calling us to follow Him. Neither do our actions fit neatly into categories of 'pastoral' or 'missional.' We spend time reflecting alone and together asking: What went well, what improvements do we need to capture, and crucially *where can we see God at work?* Often we try and reflect using the five pictures God has given us to stir our holy imaginations: Who is our God? / Going deeper with God / Campfire / Beacons of Christ's light (one of many) / one by one saying, 'I am the Lord's.'

### **(b) The activities of the PCC**

To follow God and seek His heart, the PCC carries out some of this reflection and planning work and between May 2023 and May 2024 has met formally in June, September, October, November, January, February, March and April. The Standing Committee has delegated authority to help further PCC priorities between meetings and met regularly.

The PCC is, more or less, the governing body of the church. It contains the Vicar, the church wardens, the representative(s) to the Deanery Synod, and about 12 others who are elected by the church family. We meet, we pray, and we discuss and decide on anything major that needs a decision.

The idea is to seek God's will, and to try to translate that into what the church does. That covers a wide range of topics, starting with the church's vision, and how to encourage and enable every aspect of its mission and ministry from services, to young people's groups, to the Community Cupboard, to the CAP life skills work and dozens of other initiatives. It also includes the church's income and spending, buildings, safeguarding, training, relationship with the wider church, community events, and future plans.

During the past year, the PCC has included the following members. My thanks to them for their service and commitment:

Rachel Robertson (Vicar)  
Joanne Alsop (Church Warden)  
Simon (Sam) Davis (Church Warden)  
Martin Loy (Deanery Synod representative)  
Claire Cooke  
Emma-Louise (Huthrie) Copplestone  
Karen Gillett  
Wes Hinsley  
Catherine Lloyd  
Dave Lodge  
James (Barney) Mayhew  
Richard Vinton

Gill Wallis-Hosken  
James Wickham  
Ali Williams  
Phil Wright

Thank you to Becky Addis who stepped down from being our Church Administrator after serving the church and wider community in this role for over nine years.

**Safeguarding:** The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In line with Diocesan guidelines the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults is an agenda item at every PCC meeting, and PCC members are aware of their need to undertake regular training including the minimum of Basic, Foundation and Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse. Thank you to Andrea Kirkby our Safeguarding Officer for keeping the PCC and Church aware of our safeguarding responsibilities, keeping up to date with her professional development in this area, and providing training opportunities for those who find in person training preferable to on line training.

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Our calling is to love God and love our neighbour as we love ourselves. Thank you for your contributions to our common goal. As we give thanks, reflect, and commit ourselves afresh to His Kingdom work, let us be encouraged, taking hold of Hebrews 12: 28 :

'since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.'

2.

**Financial statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2023  
prepared by Dave Lodge, approved by the PCC on 29 May 2024,  
independently examined by Graham Langlay-Smith**

- see attached report.

3.

**Fabric, goods and ornaments of the church  
prepared by Churchwardens Jo Alsop and Sam Davis**

One of the various responsibilities of being a Church Warden is the care and maintenance of the church buildings, goods and ornaments. This report will focus mainly on the fabric of our buildings where there has been the majority of activity. As many of you will be aware, we are required to appoint an architect authorised by the Diocese to carry out a review every five years (Quinquennial) to establish what repairs and maintenance are needed, typically split into urgent (within 1-2 years), less urgent (2-5 years) and nice-to-have (further out). We

appointed Clague LLP as architects in 2023 and they conducted the Quinquennial Review in August 2023. Ancient buildings like St Mary's will always need some maintenance work so it is unsurprising that the review produced a list of "to-dos". However, with the exception of works needed to remedy damp affecting the North wall of the kitchen and the sacristy/loo walls, there is little in the urgent category and the architect commented that St Mary's is one of the best maintained churches he has seen. Much thanks must therefore go to Ali Williams for her work on overseeing the significant works arising from the 2018 Quinquennial and all others involved in that, not least The Friends of St Mary's who provided significant funding, as those works have put the fabric of the church in a generally robust position. We are awaiting further input from the architect on the kitchen and sacristy wall works which will proceed in due course.

Other highlights from a fabric perspective include the following:

1. Hopefully, by the time of the APCM, five of the existing under-powered fan convectors will have been replaced by larger, more powerful units and two more reconditioned using parts from the four removed. We are expecting this to have a material effect on church warmth, especially in the lobby area, when external temperatures drop again. These convectors will circulate the heat generated from the existing piped hot water system which is fired by an ancient oil-fired boiler. We continue to consider options to convert our principal energy source to a "greener" option whether that is Air Source Heat Pumps, Green Kerosene or replacement with a more efficient conventional boiler.
2. The Churchyard Wall – as you will hopefully all know, we have received permission from the relevant authorities to repair the much-damaged churchyard wall on the S-bend towards the Star & Eagle with a new design from Clague incorporating a lowered wall section. This should, we believe, prevent further damage from HGVs catching the wall as they turn and takes into account the longer lorry lengths now permitted. Contractors have been appointed and repair work will begin later in the summer.
3. The Culpepper Effigies – fundraising for and organisation of preservation work to these important artefacts and replacement of the glazing above them with protective glass incorporating a new stained-glass design has been led by the Friends of St Mary's with much involvement from Ali so we can claim no credit for this but it is worth noting here and extending thanks again.

As regards the Churchyard, this is maintained by the Goudhurst Parish Council (GPC), who, over recent years have been making efforts to encourage biodiversity through rewilding areas under their control and reduction of pesticides. Jo, Richard Vinton, James Wickham and Gill Wallis-Hosken have been working with Geoff Mason of GPC (with input from Caring For God's Acre) to come up with a mutually agreed plan on how to reflect this across our churchyards in a way that achieves a balance between respect for those wanting loved-ones' graves to be well tended and the pressing needs of the environment. Many thanks to all those involved in this important initiative.

Special mention must also be made of the Church Office refit led by Dave and Val Lodge. Many thanks to them for making such huge improvements to this important space, transforming a rather tired, cramped workspace into an administrative hub that is bright and inviting and to Becky, Karen and Rachel for all the related sorting-out required.

There are a variety of other fabric-related activities that have taken place during the period under review but these are, we believe, the highlights. It only remains for us to extend special thanks to James Wickham who works tirelessly behind the scenes to deal with many of the

day-to-day issues that arise both with the St Mary's church building but also the Church Rooms and also to Don Sargeant who takes an active role in a variety of maintenance activities.

4.

#### **Changes in the electoral roll since the last APCM**

The Electoral Roll should be revised annually. Since the APCM in May 2023 the Electoral Roll has changed from 225 to 208 members. Every sixth year the preparation of new Church Electoral Rolls takes place, which means that everyone must re-apply to included on the Electoral Roll of their church. The next occasion for the preparation of new rolls is 2025.

The number of people in the community served by the church is much greater than the number on the electoral roll, for example through ministries such as the Community Cupboard, Community Lunch, Crafty Mondays, the CAP Life Skills course, Café Toddlers, Blend, the Community Care Fund, and activities with Goudhurst and Kilndown Primary School, among others.

We have a vacancy for an Electoral Roll officer. Thank you to Becky Addis for her work in this area and for preparing this year's Electoral Roll.

5.

#### **Deanery Synod proceedings prepared by Revd Rachel Robertson and Martin Loy**

St Mary's is part of the Canterbury Diocese in the Church of England. The Church of England has 42 Dioceses. Our Bishops are The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby who became the Archbishop of Canterbury in 2013, and the Rt Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin who is the Bishop of Dover and the Bishop in Canterbury and was consecrated in 2019.

Canterbury Diocese stretches from Maidstone southwards and includes the Weald, Romney Marsh, Ashford, Dover, Thanet, Faversham, Sittingbourne and the Isle of Sheppey.

We are part of the Weald Deanery, and meet as Deanery Synod (clergy and lay representatives) throughout the year. Martin Loy is our representative and we have one vacancy. Revd Rachel also attends.

Meetings between May 2023 and April 2024 rotated between different churches, and were held on 17 May, 7 September, 12 October, 22 November 2023 and 13 March 2024. Highlights from the year include:

- an open synod meeting to hear from two General Synod representatives on the General Synod Living in Love and Faith discussions
- presentations from the central Diocesan teams including Bishop Rose at a Deanery Roadshow
- Understanding Vocations - with Jon Marlow

- an excellent presentation from Louise Vickerman on the Weald Family Hub
- hospitality from host churches and a chance to hear from them how other church families are, increasing our ability to work well together for God's Kingdom in this area.

## **Administrative information**

Bankers:

CAF Bank  
15 Kings Hill Avenue  
Kings Hill  
West Malling  
Kent ME19 4JQ

Nat West Bank  
58 High St  
Tenterden  
Kent  
TN30 6AX

Independent examiner: Graham Langlay-Smith

Architects:

Clague Architects  
62 Burgate  
Canterbury  
Kent, CT1 2BH

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Signed: Rev Rachel Robertson

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

St Mary's Parochial Church Council, Goudhurst

Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023



St Mary's Church PCC Goudhurst  
Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

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		2023	2022
GENERAL FUND Receipts and Payments Account	Notes		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Incoming Resources From Donors			
Planned Giving		99,150	101,338
Collections and other giving		11,483	10,264
Card Machine - General Donations		446	329
Card Machine - Building Donations		583	527
Donation transferred from Projects Account		5,000	-
Income Tax recovered	1	<u>37,137</u>	<u>26,737</u>
		153,800	139,194
Other Voluntary Income			
Restricted Donations & Legacies	2	210	1,747
Unrestricted Donations & Legacies	3	<u>9,899</u>	<u>17,039</u>
		10,109	18,785
Income From Investments			
Income from CBF Deposits and Investment Funds	4	<u>2,173</u>	<u>954</u>
		2,173	954
Income from Operating Activities			
Sales of Parish Magazine		1,112	1,890
Magazine Advertisement Fees		4,146	3,871
Café Toddlers - donations / Wreath Making workshop etc.		690	493
Fees from Weddings and Funerals etc.		10,575	8,524
Fairware Clothing		279	661
Fund Raising	5	<u>4,398</u>	<u>6,964</u>
		21,201	22,404
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b><u>187,283</u></b>	<b><u>181,338</u></b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Grants & Donations			
Contribution to Weald Family Hub		6,000	6,000
Local, UK and Overseas Mission Giving	6	<u>8,458</u>	<u>8,816</u>
		14,458	14,816
Activities relating to the Work of the Church			
Diocesan and Deanery Parish Share		76,300	74,875
Music including Organ and Organist		2,209	1,954
Service Consumables - printing, coffee, communion		3,470	2,527
Weddings & Funerals (including Diocesan share)		6,284	5,776
Clergy Expenses		609	1,064
Alpha, CAP, Marriage Course etc		1,236	1,125
Sunday Groups and Childrens/Youth work		1,615	957
Magazine Printing		<u>3,200</u>	<u>3,338</u>
		94,923	91,617
Church Running and Fabric Expenses			
Heating & Utilities		7,412	4,123
Insurance		8,779	8,530
Church Cleaning & Supplies		4,862	6,187
Repairs and Maintenance	7	3,824	2,971
QI Works to Tower and Stonework	8	456	3,213
Enhancements	9	<u>-</u>	<u>1,013</u>
		25,332	26,037
Church Management and Administration			
Church Office - Salaries, Printing Stationery, Telephone etc.		27,144	23,825
Safety Deposit Box at bank		637	45
IT and Social Media costs		<u>1,874</u>	<u>1,087</u>
		29,656	24,956
Costs of Operating Voluntary Income			
Fund Raising Events	5	<u>935</u>	<u>336</u>
		935	336
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b><u>165,302</u></b>	<b><u>157,763</u></b>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>		<b><u>21,981</u></b>	<b><u>23,575</u></b>
General Fund Balance at 1st January		<u>18,963</u>	<u>(4,612)</u>
<b>General Fund Balance at 31st December</b>		<b><u>40,943</u></b>	<b><u>18,963</u></b>

	2023	2022
COMMUNITY CUPBOARD	<u>Notes</u>	
RECEIPTS		
Donations received	6,103	9,342
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>6,103</u>	<u>9,342</u>
PAYMENTS		
Cost of produce purchased	9,259	6,275
Purchase of storage cupboards	-	-
Support payments to Community	<u>-</u>	<u>40</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>9,259</u>	<u>6,315</u>
<b>(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>(3,156)</b>	<b>3,027</b>
Community Cupboard Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>4,584</u>	<u>1,556</u>
<b>Community Cupboard Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>1,428</u></b>	<b><u>4,584</u></b>

This fund is being ring-fenced for the Community Cupboard - there are a number of regular and one-off donors. The number of clients supported in 2023 increased over previous years, reflecting the general national trend

This fund continues to support a number of local families with provision of basic food and household items. A loyal group of helpers collect, purchase and deliver on a weekly basis, together with some additional support for a number of these clients.

	2023	2022
BEACON FUND (Restricted Fund)	<u>Notes</u>	
RECEIPTS		
Lay Family Worker Donations	7,952	12,952
	<u>7,952</u>	<u>12,952</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u><b>7,952</b></u>	<u><b>12,952</b></u>
PAYMENTS		
Lay Minister Costs (including expenses)	-	14,973
Other Costs	<u>200</u>	<u>-</u>
	200	14,973
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u><b>200</b></u>	<u><b>14,973</b></u>
<b>EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>7,752</b>	<b>(2,021)</b>
Beacon Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>26,292</u>	<u>28,313</u>
<b>Beacon Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<u><b>34,044</b></u>	<u><b>26,292</b></u>

The Beacon Fund is a Restricted Fund. It was set up in 2017 to fund and support the appointment of a Lay Minister to develop work with local children and young people.

We employed Kat Ogden as Youth and Childrens Pastor in 2022 before she started Ordinand training. The PCC agreed to seek a replacement and an advert was published in late 2023. An appointment was made in early 2024. Part funding has been granted by the Diocese to support this role for 5 years

		2023	2022
WEALD FAMILY HUB	<u>Notes</u>		
RECEIPTS			
Donations received		23,570	62,985
Fund Raising - 50% St Mary's Charity Ball		-	4,235
Fete stall takings	5	496	-
St Mary's Goudhurst Contribution		6,000	6,000
		30,066	73,220
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<b>30,066</b>	<b>73,220</b>
PAYMENTS			
Spurgeons / Fegans Costs		27,887	24,963
Coordinator Salary and Expenses		10,658	10,646
Other Expenses		60	24
		38,604	35,634
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<b>38,604</b>	<b>35,634</b>
<b>(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>		<b>(8,538)</b>	<b>37,586</b>
Weald Family Hub Fund Balance at 1st January		66,265	28,679
<b>Weald Family Hub Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	10	<b>57,727</b>	<b>66,265</b>

The Weald Family Hub was set up in 2018 to provide funding for Mental Health counselling in local schools and parent support, working through the Fegans charitable organisation (now part of Spurgeons). St Mary's employs the coordinator on a 2 days per week basis and acts as a centre for support in partnership with other churches in the Deanery and a number of local schools

	2023	2022
PROJECTS FUND	<u>Notes</u>	
RECEIPTS		
Community Care Fund - donations received	-	30,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>
PAYMENTS		
Transfer to Care Fund	30,000	-
Donation released to General Funds	5,000	
Released to Canterbury for Ordinand training	-	8,000
Costs re Wall Repairs Project	2,093	656
Paid to Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	-	4,608
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>37,093</u>	<u>- 13,264</u>
<b>(SHORTFALL) / EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>(37,093)</b>	<b>16,736</b>
Projects Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>61,980</u>	<u>45,244</u>
<b>Projects Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>24,887</u></b>	<b><u>61,980</u></b>

In 2020 a settlement claim of £30,000 was reached regarding the repeated damage to the church wall. Work is ongoing to establish the most appropriate action to avoid further damage, for which this fund will be used. Architect costs have been paid in both 2023 and 2022 in respect of this project.

In 2022 we received two significant donations totalling £60,000 for use within the local community. Working with the donors, we agreed to use half of this for Weald Family Hub support and the remaining £30,000 to set up a Care Fund for the local community, providing crisis and emergency support. This was launched in early 2023

Balance of funds at 31st December	2023	2,022
Wall Repairs Project	24,887	26,980
Community Care Fund	-	30,000
One-Off Donation (not Restricted)	-	5,000
	<u>24,887</u>	<u>61,980</u>

St Mary's Church PCC Goudhurst  
Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
CHURCH ROOM FUND (Designated Fund)	<u>Notes</u>	
RECEIPTS		
Contributions to the use of Church Room	9,141	9,152
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>9,141</u>	<u>9,152</u>
PAYMENTS		
Repairs and Maintenance	4,456	8,103
Insurance	956	903
Utilities	2,723	3,101
Cleaning	<u>1,319</u>	<u>686</u>
	9,453	12,794
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>9,453</u>	<u>12,794</u>
<b>(SHORTFALL) OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>(312)</b>	<b>(3,642)</b>
Church Room Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>38,206</u>	<u>41,848</u>
<b>Church Room Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>37,894</u></b>	<b><u>38,206</u></b>

The Church Room Fund is a Designated Fund, held to ensure the ongoing maintainance and repair of the Church Rooms. Drainage works in 2023 amounted to £3,480 to rectify a previously unknown issue

St Mary's Church PCC Goudhurst  
Accounts for the 12 Months Ended 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
CARE FUND Receipts and Payments Account	<u>Notes</u>	
RECEIPTS		
Transferred from Projects Fund	30,000	-
Restricted Donations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	30,000	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>30,000</u>	<u>-</u>
PAYMENTS		
Donations paid	3,234	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>3,234</u>	<u>-</u>
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	26,766	-
Bank Balances at 1st January	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Bank Balances at 31st December	<u>26,766</u>	<u>-</u>

The Care Fund was launched in 2023 to support local families with emergency support. This was funded by 2 significant donations received in late 2022. During 2023 we paid out 12 donations ranging from new kitchen appliances and oil supplies to home security systems



	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND (Restricted Fund)		
RECEIPTS		
Restricted Donations	13,750	7,330
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>13,750</u>	<u>7,330</u>
PAYMENTS		
Support Payments made	11,350	7,330
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>11,350</u>	<u>7,330</u>
<b>SHORTFALL OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>	<b>2,400</b>	-
Local Community Fund Balance at 1st January	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Local Community Fund Balance at 31st December</b>	<b><u>2,400</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>

The transactions included in this account are where donations are received through the church account to support specific needs and love gifts. They are not part of our normal church outreach.

One donation for £2,400 was received in the final week of December 2023 and was paid out in early January 2024

	Notes	2023	2022
<b>SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS</b>			
General Fund		21,981	23,575
Community Cupboard		(3,156)	3,027
Beacon Fund		7,752	(2,021)
Weald Family Hub	10	(8,538)	37,586
Projects Fund		(37,093)	16,736
Church Room Fund		(312)	(3,642)
Care Fund		26,766	-
Local Community Fund		2,400	-
Sri Lanka Fund		-	(7,933)
Mustard Seed Project Fund		-	(2,437)
		<b>9,799</b>	<b>64,890</b>
<b>BALANCE SHEET - SUMMARY OF BALANCES</b>			
General Fund		40,943	18,963
Church Room Fund (Designated)		37,894	38,206
Projects Fund (Designated)		24,887	61,980
Community Cupboard (Restricted)		1,428	4,584
Beacon Fund (Restricted)		34,044	26,292
Weald Family Hub (Restricted)	10	57,727	66,265
Care Fund (Restricted)		26,766	-
Local Community Fund (Restricted)		2,400	-
		<b>226,089</b>	<b>216,289</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
Bank Balances - NatWest		55,263	50,721
Bank Balances - CAF Bank		89,620	93,292
Bank Balances - CAF Bank Deposit Account		10,344	10,294
Bank Balances - MetroBank		6,863	-
CCLA Deposit Account		62,401	60,464
CCLA Investment Account - cost	11	1,597	1,518
		<b>226,089</b>	<b>216,289</b>

The accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis - no provision is made for items that do not fall within the year. There are no significant items that were outstanding at 31st December 2023 nor 2022

Note

- 1 Income Tax recovered Income Tax is recovered on a monthly basis, through the Diocese. This has changed in 2023 when the Diocese collection scheme ended. We are now making claims direct to HMRC - this has reduced the time limit for receiving Gift Aid significantly
- 2 Restricted Donations & Legacies These were mainly specific donations to be paid onto third party charities
- 3 Unrestricted Donations & Legacies Three donations of over £1,000 were received during the year; none of these contained any restrictions on use
- 4 Income from CBF Deposits and Investment Funds Income represents deposit account interest and dividend income received during the year, It is allocated between the funds on the basis of the balances at 1st January
- 5 Fund Raising The Goudhurst Fete is run by 4 local groups: St Mary's Church, Scouts, Parish Hall and Primary School who take it in turn to lead - in 2023 it was St Mary's turn. This means that we deal with all of the finances, pay the costs, and then divide the profit between the other parties. The General Fund only shows our share of income and costs.

The full details are as follows:

	Income	Costs	Net
Shared fete takings and Advert revenue	6,136	1,598	4,538
Paid to the other groups			(3,403)
Balance: quarter share for St Mary's			1,134
St Mary's stalls (including BBQ)	4,302	935	
Fairware stall	301		
Weald Family Hub Stall	496		
Total St Mary's stalls	5,099	935	
<i>General Fund Reconciliation:</i>			
St Mary's stalls (including BBQ)	4,302	935	
St Mary's Quarter Share	1,134		
Less: Advert revenue not received until 2024	(1,075)		
Other fund raising	37		
Per General Fund	4,398	935	3,463

- 6 Local, UK and Overseas Mission Giving

The list of charities supported during the year is as follows:

	2023	2022
Lisell Mukola Community School - Rose's Project	100	1,400
Porchlight	1,200	1,200
Goudhurst Scouts	1,200	1,200
Lend With Care	1,200	1,200
Maidstone Samaritans	1,200	1,200
TearFund	1,200	1,200
Kent Kindness	500	-
Bibles for GK Primary School & Preschool leavers	482	516
Lunch Club - Hire of Parish Hall	512	895
Earthquake Appeals	859	-
Other	5	5
Total Payments	8,458	8,816

		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
7	Repairs and Maintenance		
	Heating System Repairs & Servicing	529	557
	Electrical Maintenance and Repairs	1,732	775
	Fire Safety Maintenance	446	546
	Lightning Conductor Maintenance	114	-
	Roof Repairs	-	300
	Audio Visual System	518	-
	Other	485	793
		<u>3,824</u>	<u>2,971</u>
8	Quinquennial Report		
	The previous inspection was carried out in November 2017 with the report issued in January 2018. The subsequent work on the tower stones was completed in 2022. The next inspection was carried out in mid-2022 and highlighted works to be carried out within the next 5 years - these have not yet been started		
	Architects Fees	991	-
	Traditional Stone - Tower and other stone work	-	3,213
	Less: VAT reclaims under Government Scheme	(535)	-
		<u>456</u>	<u>3,213</u>
9	Enhancements		
	CCTV installation	-	90
	TV Monitors	-	923
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,013</u>
10	Weald Family Hub Fund		
	The Weald Family Hub (WFH) was set up in 2018 to provide support for young people and their families who are struggling with issues of mental health across the Wealden villages, working with the Fegans charitable organisation. St Mary's employs the coordinator on a 2 days per week basis and acts as a centre for support in partnership with other churches in the Deanery and local Primary schools. There are a number of regular donors to the Fund, together with donations from local fund raising events and charitable trusts. St Mary's has committed to continue financial support for this project		
11	CCLA Investment Account		
	The market value of the CBF Investment Fund was as follows:	31-Dec	31-Dec
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Number of shares held	129.76	126.12
	Value per share (pence)	2,260.53	2,106.60
	Market Value	£2,933.21	£2,656.84
	Original Cost of Shares plus dividend reinvestments	£1,596.74	£1,518.04
12	Physical Assets		
	The PCC is responsible for certain physical assets in St Mary's Church both fixed and movable which are not detailed in the financial statements, but are covered by insurance		

**Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Goudhurst**

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 11

**Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Independent Examiner**

The members of the PCC 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:

- a. Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- b. Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145 (5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- c. State whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of this report**

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 PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records, It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- a. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - i) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - ii) to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- b. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Mr Graham Langlay-Smith  
Chartered Accountant  
Waller Hill Farmhouse  
Grandshore Lane  
Frittenden  
Kent TN17 2DB

18 April 2024

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18 April 2024