

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH NORTH WEST SWINDON AND LYDIARD MILLICENT

England & Wales - Charity number 1182788

Details

Other names	ALL SAINTS CHURCH LYDIARD MILLICENT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2019-04-04
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	49 Chestnut Springs Lydiard Millicent Swindon SN5 3NB
Phone	01793771989
Email	lydiardmillicent2020@gmail.com
Website	https://allsaints-online.org.uk/

Activities

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

Activities: All regular public worship is provided free of charge and open to all

Classification

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

Geography

- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£187,167	£405,525	-	-
2024-12-31	£221,585	£283,484	-	-
2023-12-31	£122,596	£102,738	-	-
2022-12-31	£129,055	£107,644	-	-
2021-12-31	£118,233	£78,701	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Barrington Roberts		2022-01-19
Beverley Louise Belcher		2018-03-18
Bryan Keith Hutchinson		2025-04-13
Christina Ann Wheeler		2018-02-01
Dr Julian Francis Wright		2025-04-13
John Arthur Lindsay		2022-04-24
John Linley Halstead		2018-03-18
Karen Elizabeth Johnson		2025-04-13
Lindsay Trentham Shaw		2025-04-13
Michael John Ganley		2025-04-13
Nichola -Jane Iddon		2018-02-01
Rev Francesca Agnes Youings		2026-03-19
Susan Jones		2026-05-10

Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of North West
Swindon and Lydiard Millicent
Trustees Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2025



The Vicarage

The Butts

Lydiard Millicent

Swindon

SN5 3LR

allsaints-online.org.uk

Tel 01793 772417

Reg. Charity no. 1182788

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 19th April 2026

1 Introduction from the Chairman of the PCC

When Tudor retired, I was voted on as Chairman of the Standing committee and PCC in his place. Shortly after he left, we commenced services in the church following the reordering and roof work and services in the Village Hall. I thank the Village Hall committee for allowing us to take services there FOC whilst work took place.

I had a lot of support as Project Manager while the work on the church was taking place and the PCC have supported me during my time as Chairman, especially Beverley Belcher as she took the prayers at PCC meeting as I am not comfortable with doing that.

Without naming anyone else I would like to thank all who have worked to make sure that the function of the church continued as normal during the interregnum. Many of whom have been named in the Church Wardens report. I believe that newcomers to the church during this period would not have found us lacking and I look forward to handing over responsibly to the new incumbent.
(Tina Wheeler)

2 Organisation and Trustees

PCC Member	Retirement	Reason	Note
Tina Wheeler (Treasurer)	March 2027	Elected Member	
Nicky Iddon (Vice -chair)	March 2026	Elected Member	
Bev Kauppinnen	March 2026	Elected Member/Deanery Synod	
Beverley Belcher (Secretary)	March 2027	Elected Member	
Heather Benn	March 2026	Elected Member	
John Lindsay	March 2025	Elected Member	
Lindsay Shaw	March 2028	Elected Member	
Bryan Hutchinson	March 2028	Elected Member	
Karen Johnson	March 2028	Elected Member	
Rev Tudor Robert (Chair)	Ex Officio	Incumbent	Retired from the Parish April 2025
Rev Tricia Roberts	Ex Officio	Minister Licensed to Parish	Left the Parish April 2025
John Halstead	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Andrew Roberts	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Julian Wright	Ex Officio (2025)	Deanery Synod	

- 2.1 The trustees of All Saints Church were the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which had the responsibility of cooperating with, and supporting, the Vicar in promoting the work of the Church within the parish.
- 2.2 A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer, met regularly, and as necessary, to conduct urgent business. Once Tudor retired the Vice Chair of the PCC attended these meetings. The Standing Committee also managed some of the day-to-day business which otherwise would take up time at PCC meetings. The Standing Committee reported on all its activities to subsequent PCC meetings.
- 2.3 The trustees are governed by the contents of Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 Jan 1957.
- 2.4 The trustees also have had a regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit as directed in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2.5 The trustees are elected for a term of 3 years at the AGM from the membership. At the end of this period the trustee may seek re-election if they so wish.
- 2.6 There are currently 8 trustees who have met 8 times during 2020 with good attendance at each meeting.

3 Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 All Saints Church's objective is Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the Whole Mission of the Church.
- 3.2 All Saints Church aims to make known and share the love of God within our communities
"Be Family, Make Disciples, Serve Others" means that we seek:

1. To be an integrated church family united through our faith in Jesus.
2. To encourage people into discipleship by demonstrating our relationship with Jesus.
3. To express our love for God in the service of others.

4. Activities and Achievements

4.1 Church Membership

The electoral roll had a full revision in April 2025 and ended the year with 60 members *(Beverley Belcher)*

4.2 Worship

From January until the end of April 2025 we continued to offer an 8am Holy Communion Service along with a 10.30am service with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. However, once Tudor retired the 8am service was stopped and the congregation invited to join the 8am service at Purton Church. We continued to offer a 10.30am service with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Service of the month although on the odd occasion this was not possible due to the lack of availability of minister to take a Communion Service. On these occasions Morning Prayer was offered. The monthly Communion service was also stopped.

4.3 Annual Sunday Attendance

Year Service Attendance	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
8.00 Adult Ave	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5	5	5
8.00 Adult Norm	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5	5	5
9.30 Adult Ave	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	11	9	2					
9.30 Adult Norm	-	-	-	-	14	11	13	10	10	2					
9.30 Child Ave	-	-	-	-	12	9	10	11	6	1					
9.30 Child Norm	-	-	-	-	12	9	11	12	6	1					
10.30 Adult Ave	59	54	52	52	52	50	47	47	45	28	25	25	26	26	35
10.30 Adult Norm	57	49	47	45	43	48	49	50	41	30	23	25	26	25	36
10.30 Child Ave	21	19	17	15	12	10	9	5	4	1	1	2	5	4	4
10.30 Child Norm	20	17	16	14	13	11	7	6	2	1	1	2	5	3	3
6.30 Adult Ave	19	13	15	5	-	-	-	15	9	-					
6.30 Adult Norm	8	6	5	5	-	-	-	15	0	-					
6.30 Child Ave									0	-					
6.30 Child Norm									0	-					
Thurs Com Adult										4	7	8	7	6	3
Thurs Com child										4	7	8	2	6	
YouTube*										3195	1281				

Total number of views																	
YouTube* average weekly view											80	53					

The figures for 2009 to 2014 6:30 services include large figures at Partnership services. The 6:30pm began to be reintroduced in 2019 but due to low numbers stopped again mid-2019.

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2021. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

The Monthly Communion Service was stopped completely in March 2020 and did not restart until mid-2021 due to Covid restrictions.

The 8am Holy Communion Service did not take place during 2021 due to Covid restrictions and restarted in February 2022.

Due to the start of the interregnum both the 8am Holy Communion and the Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion Services stopped after the 20th April 2025.

4.4 Christmas Services

Service Attendance	Year															
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022		2023	2024	2025
Christingle	87	85	60	81	92	121	150	75*	27	-		Jan 28	Dec 3	n/a	86	N/A
Children	55	31	29	57	53	63	75	30*	18	-		Jan 22	Dec 3	n/a	40	N/A
Carols	121	113	119	134	128	109	109	128	100	-	57	51		54	27	58
Children	23	21	25	34	69	19	37	12	7	-	6	5		2	1	2
Christmas Eve	146	65	85	81	92	121	150	146*	92	-	42	95		100	73	84
Children	48	15	35	57	53	63	75	40*	44	-	16	50		40	35	31
Midnight Comm	57	62	48	52	60	55	55	50	54	22		20		29	20	0
Children	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	5	0		1		0	0	0
Christmas Day	74	52	73	60	35	54	66	54	45	17	26	26		22	27	20
Children	26	17	18	7	12	15	9	5	9	2	1	3		2	2	2
Youtube Carol Service										59						
Youtube Christmas Day										51						

* NOTE: In previous years the Christingle and Crib Services have been the same service held on Christmas Eve. From 2018 there were two separate services so the attendances should be added together for each year;

In 2021 we did not hold a Christingle Service in December but it was held on 3rd January 2022. In 2023 we did not hold a Christingle Service in church but facilitated this to be held at Lydiard Millicent School as part of a school assembly.

In 2022 we held a Christingle Service in January and again in December.

In 2021 there was no Midnight Communion Service. YouTube services were stopped mid-2021.

Due to the interregnum, we did not hold a Midnight Communion Service or Christingle Service in 2025.

4.5 Easter Services

Year \ Service Attendance	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
*YouTube Maundy Thursday	42				
*YouTube Good Friday	43				
Good Friday Service	18	7	49	35	No figures available
Children	6	2	27	71	
Last hour at the cross		15	8	10	14
Children		0	0	0	0
Easter Day	42	41	47	56	84
Children	3	4	13	15	16
*YouTube Easter Day	61				

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2022. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

In 2020 there were no Easter Services in Church due to Covid.

Due to Covid there was no Service on Maundy Thursday in 2021. Once again this was available on YouTube. In 2021 a Good Friday service was held outside church along with a YouTube pre-recorded service.

In 2024 and 2025 the Good Friday 10.30am service was planned and run by Bev Kauppinen (Schools and Children’s Worker) and the young people.

Occasional Offices

During the year, there was 1 wedding, 3 baptisms, 2 Funerals and a Memorial Service.

4.6 PCC Secretary

During 2025 the PCC continued to meet regularly and once the vicarage was no longer available have made use of the space provided by the reordering and meet in church. During the year we held 8 meetings and a small group met separately to work on producing the Parish Profile ahead of advertising for a new incumbent. Each meeting continued to follow the pattern of opening with a Bible reading and a prayer, a more focused section for prayer at the end. Once again, I am pleased to report that attendance has been good.

This year we have, continued to work, ensuring that reordering was completed, the recruitment process for a new incumbent as well as working with St Mary’s, Purton to appoint Bev Kauppinnen as Faith Chaplin.

Once again, I am grateful to Tina Wheeler who kindly proofreads for me and to all those who prepare reports ahead of the meeting. As always, we work on behalf of the church members so please speak to any of us about any concerns or ideas.

(Beverley Belcher)

4.7 Deanery Synod Report

There were four meetings in 2025 and the two notable items discussed were ‘Pioneering Parishes’ and ‘Public Consultation on the appointment of Our next Diocesan Bishop’.

Pioneering Parishes or Releasing Parishes to Reach Others February 2025.

This came at an appropriate time in the life of All Saints because we were about to face the loss of our vicar through the retirement of Tudor and grief will undoubtedly follow this. We discussed the:

- Ecocycle of change – Birth-Maturity-Rigidity trap-Creative destruction-Renewal-Poverty trap. ‘You have to break eggs to make an omelet’.
- Culture Shift – understand people’s resistance to change. Change is a sign of health, life and positivity. Often change brings grief.

Culture is how we do things, making sense of identity and continuity. How does a church deal with grief: acknowledge it, share about it and don’t get stuck in the past. Grief frees the space for new things.

85-95% of our parish will never come to church. Recognize and understand other people’s culture and go out to them, not wait for them to come to you.

- Values – How do we become who we aspire to be. Go on an adventure with God- young and old. Genesis 12. ‘Come with me’.
Ask big things of people, collaborate with local business, schools and the community but, before you do first identify **Agreed shared values and principles** (max 3) by asking: ‘What do you love about this church?’ and ‘What do you want this church to be known for in the community?’ Listen to what those currently outside the church tell you they need.
- An Abundant Mindset – Look at people’s uniqueness and let that flourish. Use what God has given you. Do not try putting a square peg in a round hole. Do we have capacity to do or continue something eg. finance, resources, personnel? How attractive will it be to those we wish to engage with? If both these are abundant then invest in it, if poor then consider TOGETHER to stop that activity.
- What does this mean for All Saints – Revd. Rosy Ashley, from the Diocesan Pioneering Parishes Team, met the PCC on 26th February to help us through the process of advertising for Tudor’s replacement.

Our Next Diocesan Bishop – held on 16th July 2025

This was an informal meeting at The Well Church where we were treated to a sumptuous BBQ and during which we were asked to answer, in writing, the following 5 questions:

1. What do you believe are the key strengths of the Church in the D of Bristol and how will these benefit the wider community?
2. What opportunities do you see for the Church in the D of Bristol and how might these be used to better serve the community?
3. What are the main challenges facing the Church in the D of Bristol and how might the bishop address these?
4. What specific gifts, skills and qualities should the new bishop possess?
5. If you could choose anyone, fictional or non-fictional, or someone you look up to within the Church, to be the next Bishop who would you choose and why?

Prior to this we were told that Diocesan Bishops serve all people, communities and CofE churches in their diocese. Therefore, our input is crucial and together, we can ensure the role profile for our new Bishop reflects the hopes and needs of our diverse diocese.

We passed on to our PCC that they could, as a whole or individually, answer these questions and submit them to the Diocese of Bristol. To date we have heard nothing more about the role profile being used to select a new bishop for the Diocese of Bristol.

Bev and Julian are in the last year of their 3-year tenure, which ends in May 2026, and the next Annual Church Meeting is where our Deanery Synod Reps, old or new, will need electing.

(Julian Wright)

4.8 Worship and Music Team

2025 was a year of transition and change for All Saints. We began the year, as we ended the last meeting for Sunday worship in the Parish Hall while work continued on the church building. Chairs, tables, screen, projector and musical instruments all had to be set up each Sunday and then put away again after the service. We had no sound system and Anne coped stoically with the idiosyncrasies of the old church keyboard. In March Tudor had surgery on his knee and was unable to lead our services, but fortunately Tricia was able to step into the breach and take this on.

We were delighted to be able to return to All Saints in time for Easter, our first service in our newly re-ordered but not quite finished church building being on Palm Sunday. We were also pleased that the first phase of the organ refurbishment, involving an overhaul of the pedal board, was successfully completed during the months that we were away from the church. The second phase in May/early June involved more significant work that included cleaning of the pipes and other parts of the instrument, installation of better lighting, tuning of certain stops to create a better sound and restoration of some original features. We were delighted at the result once all the work had been completed with several people commenting that they are able to hear the difference this has made to the sound of the organ when it is played.

With Tudor’s retirement at the end of April and Tudor and Tricia moving away, we were then into a time of interregnum without a regular minister to lead our worship. We were grateful to everyone who agreed to lead services for us during the rest of the year, ministers from across the diocese and elsewhere, including Bishop Neil, some old friends, and members of the congregation who bravely took this on and blessed us with their gifts.

During this time of change we tried to maintain our regular mix of traditional hymns played on the organ and more modern songs played on piano and guitar. We also continued to use Worship Lyric Videos when musicians were unavailable. Bev and the young people from Bash led All-Age services on Good Friday and Christmas Eve and also sang when we hosted a joint service with St Mary's Purton on Advent Sunday when Bev was commissioned as Faith Chaplain to our local schools. We were pleased to be able to hold several baptism services during our morning services which was as always, a privilege and a joy.

We ended the year looking forward to more changes in 2026 when we hope to welcome a new vicar to All Saints.

(Anne Dwight and Ginnie Heads)

4.9 Open the Book Assemblies in Primary Schools

Overview: Open the Book is a bible story telling programme in primary schools and part of Bible Society. Stories sit within a whole school act of collective worship which is scripted and inclusive of all faiths and none. Children watching actively participate and see their peers help the Open the Book team present the story.

In 2025 we were blessed with a team of 17 active people from different churches who took a total of 63 assemblies fortnightly into Shaw Ridge, Westlea, Tregoze and Peatmoor Community Primary Schools on Wednesdays. Having increased provision in Shaw Ridge to fortnightly last year in line with our other schools Sept 25 found us returning to monthly assemblies due to competing hall and curriculum timetabling. All schools remain on the same story programme but on some Wednesdays Shaw Ridge forgoes an assembly.

The Story Programme: Spring term began with a series of OT versus NT stories exploring the values Compassion, Humility and Service from the Christian Values Book. After Easter we launched into Pentecost and the Book of Acts finally landing in Revelation with the story "New Heaven, New Earth"!

In the Autumn we started the school year with a Christmas module of 6 stories from Zechariah through to the visit of the Magi and were invited into Brookfield school for a "taster" assembly "Shepherds and Angels" which was very well received. To support our Christmas module, we gave each school an Advent gift – the younger classes received Real Chocolate Advent calendars that tell the Christmas story along with copies of Bible Societies 2025 booklet "The Amazing Adventure!" which has a photocopiable colouring sheet to go with it. And we gave our school contacts a box of chocolates and a card for the staff room with an invitation to promote 2 events for families - An afternoon of Christmas activities and carols at Holy Trinity Church Shaw and the Nativity Festival held at St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze. Some classes also visited the Nativity Festival as part of a class trip.

Training: In May 11 team members spent an enjoyable morning at Bible Society on one of their new courses – refresher training (which keeps us up to date with our training for the next 3 years) and a drama workshop. The drama workshop was so inspiring and has given us many new ideas, particularly in mime to try out - helping us think outside the box! We also met our new regional trainer Claire Morgan who replaces Rachel Cully now head of Open the Book at Bible Society and arranged a repeat training with her in October for those who missed it.

Safeguarding: Our safeguarding officers Rebecca Kershaw (Holy Trinity) and Beverley Belcher (All Saints) continue to keep the team up to date with safeguarding requirements and provide schools with letters of assurances under our working together agreement.

Meetings with schools: In June Edward Glennie, Angela Mak and I met with schools to check in how the year had gone, agree the assembly dates and stories for next year, and raise awareness of the school visits that are available to St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze and Holy Trinity Shaw that support the RE, History and Eco Biology Curriculums. Risk assessments/protocols were reviewed and the new song introduced and welcomed.

Schools have been very affirming in these meetings and throughout the year. We have been invited to the school play at Tregoze and featured on their RE notice board! Peatmoor invited us to their annual thank you assembly and regularly mention us in their newsletter along with a photo of the team. All schools follow up the Christian message in assemblies and have embraced the new story programme planned from 2026 as we return once again to the beginning of the biblical timeline with Creation.

Change of school/church contact for Peatmoor: Following Tudors retirement in May as vicar of All Saints Church, Lydiard Millicent - Bev Kauppinen, their schools and family worker, is now copied in on school communications.

New Head teacher for Westlea school: In September Fay Dean became the new headteacher. I am still copying Alex Moore the Deputy head and Caroline Cannon remains our very encouraging school contact.

Experience Easter year 3 visits to Holy Trinity Shaw: at the school meetings these were agreed for each school as the same day and time as last year in the last week of the Spring term.

The Gathering and Prayer meetings: We have continued with our quarterly prayer meetings and our annual gathering in July at Holy Trinity - a time for the wider team and OtB friends to meet, pray and share. It was great to catch up with their Open the Book news from Oliver Tomkins, Millbrook and Hazelwood Academy schools and to share our news with them. This was followed by a time of creative and open prayer together before learning the new Open the Book song with Makaton Signs which we introduced in the Autumn and schools now sing before and after each assembly.

T-shirts and Fleeces: As a thank you and to use in school every team member has received a Navy T-Shirt with an Open the Book logo on the front and Open the Book, Bible Society writing on the sleeve. Thank you to Holy Trinity Shaw for funding these. As the weather turned colder, we explored Open the Book logo fleeces and several members have these too!

Joys and Sorrows: This year we welcomed Richard Williams, Janet Clarke and Myra Jones to the team and said farewell to Judith Mumford. We have held in prayer Liz Rabbit who has been unable to return to assemblies in Shaw Ridge and also Peter Rogers who has spent much of the year in cardiac rehabilitation. We are so thankful he is still with us and was able to return to Tregoze assemblies in the summer. As we go forward into 2026 we continue to hold other team members who are struggling with their health in our prayers.

Memorial Baner: Very sadly our team member and sister in Christ Christine Maxwell passed away unexpectedly at Eastertide. Christine was a valued member of the Westlea assembly group, and we hold her family and husband John in our prayers. Team members attended her funeral at The Well church in May which was a beautiful and heartwarming service in remembrance of her life.

We received a donation from the family and decided to use it for a memorial banner to hang from our book stand. This has "Open the Book" on it with a picture of our storytelling bible below and has been used in our school assemblies since the winter. Grateful thanks to Stephanie Glennie for organising this for us.

Our vision: The vision of the team is to see an Open the Book assembly in every West Swindon school. This year I wondered if we might be "nearly there yet" only to realise how far we have to go! And that it is the journey with God that is important not the arrival at the destination which ultimately is in God's hands and timing.

(Heather Benn, Open the Book Team Leader, Benefice of West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze)

4.10 Annual Faith Chaplain Report

A Year of Faith and Growth

What a difference a year makes! This time last year, we were in the final days of Tudor's ministry, and now we are about to embark on an exciting new chapter—not only with a new minister but with a female minister!

Last year, I served as All Saints' part-time, school's youth worker, collaborating with three schools. Now, as the Faith Chaplain for the Diocese, I am delighted to be working with St. Mary's Church as well as All Saints, engaging with five schools in what feels like I, a nearly, full-time capacity! Exciting times indeed.

So much has happened over the past year that I could write a book! Instead, I will cover the highlights, challenges, and plans for our future as succinctly as possible.

Worship

Initially, I felt a tremendous responsibility in leading weekly worship at Lydiard Millicent and Ridgeway Farm schools without Tudor by my side, also accompanied by some apprehension. However, I can honestly say that this aspect of my role has become increasingly rewarding. At the end of every worship session, the BASH youngsters lead the rest of the school with the powerful refrain:

God is good
All the time
All the time
God is good

For that is His nature!

WOW! At that moment, just about every hand is raised high to God; what an AMEN that is!

Additionally, Peatmoor School now allows me to lead their assemblies every other week, and I am excited to take my first worship at St. Mary's School, Purton after this half-term. The head at Bradon is also open to involving some of the youngsters I meet with on Tuesdays and Thursdays to lead assemblies. Although it's early days with the latter two schools, the future looks bright!

Teaching

My teaching load is increasing as RE teachers are few and far between. I must admit, I love being back in the classroom in a teaching capacity. This position allows me to discuss my faith openly—something that not permitted in a traditional RE teaching role.

The Experiences!

Experience Pentecost and Christmas were loved by students and staff alike. One head wrote:

"Thank you so much for the time, effort, and care you put into running Experience Christmas. It is truly appreciated. The experience gave the children a much deeper understanding of the Christmas story, and it was wonderful to see how engaged they were throughout. I know it will have made a lasting impression on them."

In term one of the next academic year, we will be offering Experience Harvest. I appreciate that church members have been involved and get to 'experience' working with the youngsters.

All-Age Services

Both our All-Age Good Friday services and Christmas Eve services—led at St. Mary's and All Saints—were blessed with a substantial number of youngsters participating, totalling in the high twenties. The churches were packed, and the youngsters' singing, dancing, and spoken words were truly uplifting. On Christmas Eve, one person remarked, "I wasn't feeling like Christmas at all when I arrived this evening, but now I do!" Witnessing the commitment of the youngsters to these services is always a highlight for me.

BASH: Bible And Sharing Hour & a Half

I am delighted that our BASH numbers this year are in the twenties. As I write this, tonight, we have a special BASH family and church event featuring the wonderful Francis from Uganda.

Additionally, I am collaborating with Rev. Ian and his wife, Celia, at their vicarage, on an older youth group called SOUL—Spirit of Unlimited Love.

The SOUL sessions are averaging five to seven teenagers and cover very interesting subject matter. Up to three of our older BASH members have attended, and I will work on encouraging others to join me as opportunities arise.

Our summer BBQ & rounders tournament.

What can I say accept bring on the next one!

What food, what numbers, what fun.

When people drive by because they can't believe such a huge gathering, could be ours, you know God is working amongst us.

We went against our BASH youngster's advice and offered a light party on the 31st October. Nicky, Karen and I put a lot of effort in to making it particularly special and on the day, we had three youngsters planning to attend. We prayed for ten to come and praise God by the end of the evening, we had ten youngsters. We will offer this event as an alternative to Halloween again this year.

I want to thank Ian for organising and writing, and the congregations of both churches, for giving me the most moving, and humbling experience this year and all the BASH parents that attended my commissioning service. I will never forget that day. I was so blessed.

God has taught me so much this last year, namely I can make plans and He laughs on. After all I was never going to apply for the role of Faith Chaplain, was I? God showed me He knew best and increasingly helps me to trust in Him and accept that He is my safe resting place and under me are His safe arms. I ask for your continued prayers for:

All the schools and youngsters. Particularly Lydiard Millicent, where school numbers are low, and after-school participation will become nonexistent when the current youngsters move to secondary schools at the end of this academic year.

Patience and Strength: As I navigate my emotional journey of grief after the loss of my husband and mother.

Youth Engagement: That in the coming months we will see more young people and their families joining us at church services.

As I reflect on this past year, I marvel at what God has done.

Each moment, whether in worship, teaching, or events, has brought me closer to God both in purpose and spirit and I, so, thank Him for that. I pray that together we can inspire our youngsters and their families and ensure that the light of our faith shines brightly so that our church will be filled with

Thank you, as always, for your support and prayers I, for which I am so very grateful. I am really excited for this next year full of faith and even more growth!☐☐

(Bev Kauppinen)

4.11 Bell Ringing

Officers of ASLM Bellringing Team:

Ann Hutchinson - Tower Correspondent

Jeanette Ferris - Ringing Master

John Halsted - Steeple Keeper

Judith Coulson-French - Health and Safety Officer

Bryan Hutchinson - Tower Treasurer

Numbers remained steady throughout the year with around 8-9 regular ringers on Tuesday evening practices and 6 or 7 ringers for Sunday services. We have had enough ringers to ring the bells most Sundays of 2025.

Michael Moore helps with teaching on the first Tuesday of each month and this has been a huge bonus and help to everyone for learning and general progress. A couple of others also come regularly to boost numbers on both practice nights and for Sunday service ringing and this is very helpful and much appreciated. Another ringing teacher Colin Woodley plans to start coming monthly along with Michael to help teach learners and to enable more method ringing etc

A Quarter Peal for International Women's Day was rung in March 2025.

On a beautiful sunny day in May 2025 several of the ringing team also took part in a ringing challenge to gain a place in the Guineas Book of Records. A world first was achieved ringing at Charlton church as we joined ringers from all over Britain for this event. A mini-ring and beer festival were set up in the village hall and a well-earned drink and cake was enjoyed after taking part in the challenge.

As part of the village VE day commemoration events a Tower Open Day was held during the weekend in May. This was well-attended with around 100 visiting ringers and locals coming into the tower

We had no weddings during 2025 partly due to the church refurbishment and also due to Tudor's retirement. However, we did have several visiting bands from other towers and other parts of the country. This is a useful source of income for us and also a huge help when we get to ring with and learn from those who visit.

A new carpet and painting of part of the walls have smartened up the tower again. We have also refreshed the bellringing section of the website.

Thank you to everyone in All Saints who help, encourage and support us throughout the year, it is much appreciated.

(Ann Hutchinson and Jeanette Ferris (Joint Tower Captains))

4.12 Saturday Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

After Tudor retired, we managed to continue the monthly Men's Breakfast meeting. Because the kitchen was unfinished the first meeting was held at Greggs in Asda in West Swindon but thereafter, we were able to meet in the church. We used to meet in the vicarage so the re-ordered South Aisle could not have come at a better time.

It is held from 8am for an hour either on the first or second Saturday in the month and the breakfast usually consists of bacon rolls, tea, coffee and orange juice. This is followed by a short Bible Study, discussion and prayer. Peter, a Licensed Lay Minister has been preparing and leading most of the studies.

The breakfast is funded from donations which also help to cover the cost of the Filling Station sandwich making and food for the homeless that All Saints Church partakes in approximately every 15 weeks, in a rota with other churches within the Swindon Deanery.

The numbers attending vary from 4 to 10 and emails are sent to around 16 members of All Saints church. We also have men come who attend other churches, such as St Mary's Purton and Holy Trinity Shaw, which is a great blessing and we hope that this will grow in 2026. We welcome all men who wish to socialize and learn more about the Christian Faith.

(Julian Wright)

4.13 Thursday afternoon Bible Study Group

This continues on a Thursday afternoon and has regular attendance of 5-7 people. We read and discuss about 3 chapters each week and enjoy a cup of tea and a biscuit. A summary of the chapters is usually circulated with notices for the week.

(John Lindsay)

4.14 Safeguarding

Firstly, I am pleased to report that no safeguarding concerns were reported to me during 2025.

All Saints is committed to Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and as a result regularly reviews our Safeguarding Policy and follows safer recruitment practices. All appointments are approved by the PCC once the safer recruitment procedure has been followed. All members of the PCC have obtained a DBS check and undertake training to Foundation Level. I also provide a Safeguarding report to the PCC every meeting.

It is a requirement that all who work with children, young people or adults at risk need to obtain a DBS check and this has to be renewed every three years. As well as this they all must undertake Safeguarding Training at a level appropriate to their level of responsibility, which again must be renewed every three years unless it is the Basic training.

In 2025

- 8 people obtained or renewed a DBS check.
- Provided a letter of Assurance to Peatmoor School for the Open the Book Team
- 3 completed Basic and Foundation Safeguarding Training
- 2 completed leadership training
- All those working with our children and young people completed a course on Domestic Abuse Awareness
- Our Safeguarding policy was reviewed and accepted.
- We celebrated Safeguarding Sunday

Both the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding courses are available online and can be completed by anyone at a time convenient to you. Should you wish to do so please let me know and I will organise this for you.

Once again, I wish to thank all those who have responded to my requests to complete training, provide references or renew DBS checks without complaint and so promptly.

In the coming year we shall continue to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues and review our policies and practices in line with government and Diocesan requirements.

(Beverley Belcher)

4.15 Churchwardens' Report

It has been a busy year for the wardens with Tudor's retirement, the completion of the Nave roof, the reordering and refurbishment of the organ. Andrew has worked hard and successfully to fill all the slots for the taking of services. We have dealt with several wedding and funeral enquiries. Andrew has faithfully locked and unlocked the church on a daily basis so that it is available for private prayer during the day.

John has checked, maintained, and the grass cut at the Vicarage. A garden maintenance day was held to clear the worst of the weeds from then flower beds.

The Chaplaincy with St. Mary's Purton was set up with funding from both churches and the Diocese and is working well. John Lindsay and myself (John H) are the All-Saints reps, on the committee for this. John H. took on the maintenance and inspection of the bell tower.

The Quinquennial inspection was carried out by the Church Architect, producing a list of work to be carried out over the next few years.

Work was carried out by John to try to stop the new glass door from blowing open and reduce the draughts into the church from the door surround. Also, electrical work was required to reinstate one of the convector heaters. Unfortunately, one of the new radiant heaters has stopped working and we are awaiting replacement parts.

There have been problems with the pressurisation unit on the boiler, now, hopefully resolved.

The PCC has been successfully expanded with talented people. A subcommittee was set up to produce the Parish Profile for a new minister and interview the candidates.

New activities have been set up: prayer meetings, bible studies, youth work and coffee morning for school Mums. The life of the Church is expanding in a most satisfactory way.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the life of the church over the last year. Whenever we have asked members for help, the answer has always been “yes” and we are very grateful for all the support we have received. Special thanks go to Ginnie and Anne who are responsible for the music, Sally and her team for the flowers, Nicky for the environmental side and assisting Bev K helping with numerous other activities such as grant applications and catering and organising social events, etc etc. Tina, of course, who has worked like a Trojan to lead the reordering, carry out the Treasurer’s role and chair the PCC. Julian for Health and Safety, sandwich making, Saturday Men’s breakfasts, and wise contributions to fabric and other issues. Bev K. for her remarkably successful work with the children’s groups, the schools and the Chaplaincy. Alison for her help and artwork with the Experience Pentecost, Experience Christmas and all age services. Karen for her administration work, especially the rotas. John Lindsay for home communions, helping with communion services, serving on the Chaplaincy enabling committee, and running prayer and bible study groups. Heather Benn and the Open the Book team.

We would also like to thank Andrew Bourne, Beverley Belcher, John Lindsay and Bev Kauppinen for taking services during the interregnum. Further thanks to all of the visiting clergy and lay preachers who have come from as far and wide as Surrey and Wales and to the Reverend Michael Johnson for helping out with three baptisms as well as a guiding hand. Further thanks too to David Cain who, in addition to taking many services, has put up with polite requests for amendments to his services, often at late notice.
(John Halstead and Andrew Roberts)

4.16 Reordering Project

At the start of 2025 services were taking place in the village hall and the Nave roof repairs were almost completed. Rixon builders completed the Nave roof repairs at the end of January and work commenced on the reordering of the South Aisle.

Ellis and Co were appointed to work on the reordering with Benjamin and Beauchamp as architects. Originally the work comprised of removal of South aisle pews, a new wooden floor, infrared Halo heating and a glass door. The glass door has been etched with a design by Sheona Beaumont incorporating pictures drawn by local school children.

As work commenced and grants became available the work was expanded to include a new accessible WC and kitchen, Ellis were able to incorporate these changes into their schedule as and when funds became available.

Although work was not completed when Tudor left the church Ellis allowed us access to the church for his final Easter service before he retired.

Parts of the organ were removed for repair at the start of the reordering work. When the reordering work was reaching completion Clevedon Organs dismantled the organ to overhaul it.

Following completion of the work in June we had sufficient funds remaining to purchase new chairs and tables for the south aisle. Church members are already making excellent use of the flexible and welcoming space created by the reordering. As well as enjoying refreshments after services in a relaxed café-style arrangement, we have been able to host a variety of events. These have included a Celebration Day in September to mark the completion of the reordering, a shared meal with our mission partners in October, and a concert in November. The new space has also enabled enhanced activities for our youth group, BASH.
Tina Wheeler – Project Manager)

4.17 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION REPORT

Eco Champion’s Report

This year has been a positive and encouraging one for our churchyard and our wider eco work. Wildflowers were sown in three different beds: a small, heavily shaded bed under the trees, a long bed against the rear wall, and a circular bed outside the vestry door. Although these areas were difficult to maintain during the drought, they still provided valuable food and shelter for pollinators and other small creatures.

On Palm Sunday as part of a blessing of the reordered church the Bishop of Swindon, Rt Revd Neil Warwick, blessed the pond and the churchyard.

In May, 22 members of BASH took part in a lively churchyard session, digging over a flower bed, adding compost, and planting sunflower seeds. Their efforts were rewarded with burgers and chips, and everyone took home extra seeds to plant. We also enjoyed summer BASH sessions in the churchyard, complete with a paddling pool to keep cool on hot evenings.

In July, we welcomed Lydiard Millicent Pre-School for a churchyard visit, where the children learned about our eco work and learned about insects. Planting around the pond was enhanced to provide better cover for wildlife, and I am delighted to report that a frog was spotted, raising hopes of frogspawn in spring 2026. Dragonflies were also seen visiting the pond, further encouraging signs of a thriving habitat.

In October, the PCC agreed an Environmental Policy to guide outlining our environmental principles and commitments going forwards. This is published on the church website.

The back of the churchyard was tidied in October in preparation for winter. Alongside this, we have continued to make small but meaningful sustainability improvements, including reducing plastic use and choosing more eco-friendly products.

Our work has been recognised beyond the parish, with features in the September 2025 Diocesan Environment Newsletter and the Benjamin and Beauchamp newsletter, where All Saints was highlighted as a flagship church for the Bristol Diocese Net Zero programme.

I continue to attend Swindon Deanery and Diocesan Eco Champions' meetings and am working with others to plan the Swindon Churches Green Festival (6–14 June). *Nicky (Eco Champion)*

4.18 Events Team Report

Our vision for the reordered church was that we wanted to be able to build community far better. Not just between church members but for people across the local area. The church now feels lighter and airier, and the flexible layout, together with the new kitchen and indoor toilet, has made it possible to host a wide range of events and functions that simply weren't feasible before. To make the most of these opportunities, an Events Team was formed (Julian, Lynda, Bev K, Karen, Lindsay, Andrew R and Nicky) with the aim of developing regular community events.

Celebration Day: In September we held a Celebration Day where we invited the Architects, builders, funding bodies, church and community to an event with Prosecco and Celebration Cake. The programme included an overview of the reordering project, celebration songs from BASH, a fascinating talk by Sheona Beaumont (who designed our iconic glass door), a demonstration of our newly restored organ by Ann, a display and papers on the history of the church and a variety of fun competitions. This was attended by 78 adults and 14 children.

Evening with Francis and Dorcus: In October, we hosted an evening meal in the church with our mission partners, Francis and Dorcus Nkurunziza, who lead 'Hope for Life' in Uganda. Ten people attended the meal, which raised £212 for 'Hope for Life', supporting their work to equip and empower people in Katanga to take up a career.

Young People's Light Party: The Light Party (an alternative to Halloween) took place on Friday 31 October and was attended by 10 young people. They enjoyed a wide range of activities including doughnut eating, face painting, glass bottle painting, pass the parcel, karaoke and luminous bowling. Those who attended had a great time, and we hope they will invite friends so the event can grow in future years.

Sax Choir and Sarsen Songmen: In November, twelve talented saxophonists performed on the full range of saxophones — from the tiny soprano to the deep baritone. Their lively and tuneful programme spanned many musical genres and moods: humorous, mischievous, moving and rhythmic. They were joined by The Sarsen Songmen, a male voice choir from Aldbourne, who sang a wide selection of songs in rich four-part harmony — unaccompanied, melodic and full of fun. The event was attended by 63 adults and 24 children, raising £514.

Looking ahead the Events Team has exciting plans to deliver a wide range of community events throughout 2026. *(Nicky Iddon, on behalf of All Saints Events Team)*

5.0 Financial Review

5.1 Financial Arrangements

Banking Facilities: Barclays Bank, Regent Street, Swindon

Planned Giving Organiser: Tina Wheeler

Independent Examiner: Nikoleta Bates, King Charles Road, Swindon

5.2 Treasurer's report

2025 Financial Report

For the second year running our General Fund income did not cover our expenses and we used more of our reserves, although not as much as predicted at the start of the year. Most of our expenses remain much as budgeted, but for various reasons our income has reduced. The exceptional expense this year is the cost of running the new Halo heaters, installed as part of the reordering, which are more expensive to run than the previous heaters.

The budget for 2026 indicates that we will use more of the reserves, even though our Parish Share has been reduced due to having a part time incumbent. We are fortunate that we usually make up some of the deficit during the year and that we have reserves to call on.

The Special projects fund currently holds sufficient to pay the retention fees on the roof and reordering which are due for payment in 2026.

We are holding £5,000 in the Children's fund as our contribution to Purton towards employing a Children's worker in 2026.

Hopefully as the church grows so will our income.

The PCC have approved the reserves policy which states why we are holding reserves and how much. It is a requirement of the charity commission that members are made aware of this policy.

(Tina Wheeler)

5.3 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy deals with our General Fund of £39,778 at the end of 2025.

Other funds which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

1. Building Fund £12,049 (Restricted)
2. Bell Fund £2,971 (Restricted)
3. Special Projects £11,888 (Restricted)
4. Children's work £5,000 (Restricted)

Our Reserves

From an operational perspective, maintaining reasonable cash reserves represents good stewardship by allowing a church to be prepared for contingencies, such as unexpected large repair bills, a sudden and unexpected downturn in revenues, or other unexpected events. The recommendation is three to six months of operating expenses.

The PCC have agreed to hold sufficient money in our General Fund to cover six months of expenditure (which is £35,274 budgeted for 2026). This is a reduction on previous years as we will only have a part-time incumbent.

Other Funds held for Specific Purposes

Restricted funds (Building, Bell, Special Projects and Children's funds) can only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.

Changes from 2025

Our General Fund expenses in 2025 exceeded our income by £3,143, which is worrying as two years in a row we have had a deficit. Our Parish Share for 2026 is based on a part-time incumbent but it is not significantly lower than that for a full-time person as we agreed to pay an extra £3,842. The 2026 budget is currently predicting a deficit of £4,818, hopefully now we are back in the church the financial situation will improve.

The reordering and roof work was completed in 2025 and the money remaining in Special Projects Fund is reserved to pay the retention fees to the builders, which are paid 12 months from completion of the work.

The Children's worker fund residue will cover our donation to Purton Church for the Children's worker in 2026.

The Building fund has increased in value due to the transfer of the residue from the Special Projects fund.

Nikoleta Bates
12 King Charles Road
Freshbrook
Swindon
SN5 8NA

Tina Wheeler
49 Chestnut Springs
Lydiard Millicent
SN5 3NB
22nd February 2026

Dear Tina,

I reviewed All Saints Church accounts for the period from 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 and can verify that accounts have been kept correctly and accurately.

Yours sincerely

Nikoleta Bates

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Balance sheet (Church of England)

As at: 31 December 2025

	As at 31/12/2025	As at 31/12/2024
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors	4,892.19	1,387.72
Investments	23,324.99	158,474.37
Cash at bank and in hand	44,798.98	130,439.19
	<u>73,016.16</u>	<u>290,301.28</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	1,328.37	255.90
	<u>1,328.37</u>	<u>255.90</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	71,687.79	290,045.38
	<u>71,687.79</u>	<u>290,045.38</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	71,687.79	290,045.38
	<u>71,687.79</u>	<u>290,045.38</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	71,687.79	290,045.38
	<u>71,687.79</u>	<u>290,045.38</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	39,778.64	41,780.60
Restricted		
Restricted - Building Fund	12,049.15	6,029.15
Restricted - Bell Fund	2,971.18	3,291.18
Restricted - Special Projects	11,888.82	232,751.05
Restricted - Children's Work	5,000.00	6,193.40
	<u>71,687.79</u>	<u>290,045.38</u>
Funds of the church	71,687.79	290,045.38
	<u>71,687.79</u>	<u>290,045.38</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected
period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
<i>Planned giving</i>						
0101 - Gift Aid – Bank	46,236	—	—	—	46,236	54,015
0110 - Gift Aid – Envelopes	2,737	—	—	—	2,737	2,853
0120 - Gift Aid – Restricted	—	—	816	—	816	816
0201 - Non Gift Aid	1,090	—	—	—	1,090	680
Planned giving Totals	50,063	—	816	—	50,879	58,364
<i>Collections and other giving</i>						
0301 - Cash GASDS	2,741	—	146	—	2,887	2,540
Collections and other giving Totals	2,741	—	146	—	2,887	2,540
<i>Other voluntary receipts</i>						
0401 - One-off G Fund	1,727	—	—	—	1,727	1,903
0420 - One-off Restricted	—	—	7,160	—	7,160	14,451
0901 - Fund Raising Inc	466	—	—	—	466	774
Other voluntary receipts Totals	2,194	—	7,160	—	9,354	17,128
<i>Gift Aid recovered</i>						
0601 - Tax Claim – GF	13,525	—	—	—	13,525	15,223
0610 - Tax Claim restricted	—	—	1,915	—	1,915	3,949
1001 – Dividends	—	—	4,832	—	4,832	9,342
1020 - Bank Interest	1,009	—	—	—	1,009	1,124
Gift Aid recovered Totals	14,535	—	6,747	—	21,283	29,639
<i>Other receipts</i>						
08A1 - One-off grants	—	—	102,066	—	102,066	112,993
Other receipts Totals	—	—	102,066	—	102,066	112,993
<i>Receipts from church activities</i>						
1101 - Ministry Fees	696	—	—	—	696	920
Receipts from church activities Totals	696	—	—	—	696	920
Receipts Grand totals	70,230	—	116,937	—	187,167	221,585

Payments***Missionary and Charitable Giving***

1850 - Tithe Giving	6,880	—	—	—	6,880	6,991
---------------------	-------	---	---	---	-------	-------

Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals

	6,880	—	—	—	6,880	6,991
--	-------	---	---	---	-------	-------

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Parish Share						
1910 - Diocese	50,004	—	—	—	50,004	63,732
Parish Share Totals	50,004	—	—	—	50,004	63,732
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers	2,952	—	—	—	2,952	2,516
2004 - Children's Worker Wages	—	—	11,326	—	11,326	11,449
2110 - Incumbent Expenses	540	—	—	—	540	2,207
2120 - Children's Worker Trv	—	—	704	—	704	469
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals	3,493	—	12,030	—	15,523	16,643
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	718	—	80	—	798	885
2210 - Church Groups	54	—	—	—	54	171
2220 - Outreach	—	—	—	—	—	555
2270 - Training	230	—	—	—	230	185
2301 - Church running - Ins	2,050	—	—	—	2,050	2,403
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	525	—	20	—	545	672
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	159	—	—	—	159	299
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	392	—	—	—	392	186
2331 - Gifts Misc	398	—	—	—	398	42
2370 - Sundries Expenses	2,520	—	—	—	2,520	1,676
2401 - Utility - Electric	2,100	—	—	—	2,100	941
2410 - Utility - Gas	333	—	—	—	333	745
2420 - Utility - Water	480	—	—	—	480	130
Church Running Expenses Totals	9,965	—	100	—	10,066	8,894
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	694	—	300	—	994	264
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	147	—	—	—	147	1,231
2702 - Roof Repair	—	—	56,911	—	56,911	145,256
2703 - Organ Refurbishment	—	—	16,020	—	16,020	4,200
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	841	—	73,231	—	74,072	150,951
New Building work						
2701 - Church Major Repairs	—	—	—	—	—	3,118
2901 - Architect's/Consultant Fees	857	—	10,654	—	11,511	23,973
2910 - Reordering	—	—	237,276	—	237,276	9,180
New Building work Totals	857	—	247,930	—	248,788	36,272
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs	190	—	—	—	190	—
Other Payments Totals	190	—	—	—	190	—
Payments Grand totals	72,232	—	333,292	—	405,525	283,484

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Missionary and Charitable Giving						
1850 - Tithe Giving	6,991				6,991	8,346
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals	6,991				6,991	8,346
Parish Share						
1910 – Diocese	63,732				63,732	63,732
Parish Share Totals	63,732				63,732	63,732
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers	2,516				2,516	2,439
2004 - Children's Worker Wages			11,449		11,449	9,989
2110 - Incumbent Expenses	2,207				2,207	1,925
2120 - Children's Worker Trv			469		469	1,005
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals	4,723		11,919		16,643	15,358
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	885				885	651
2210 - Church Groups	171				171	173
2220 – Outreach	555				555	785
2270 – Training	185				185	115
2301 - Church running – Ins	2,403				2,403	2,387
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	652		20		672	794
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	299				299	76
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	186				186	162
2331 - Gifts Misc	42				42	384
2370 - Sundries Expenses	1,676				1,676	2,934
2401 - Utility – Electric	941				941	727
2410 - Utility – Gas	745				745	1,132
2420 - Utility – Water	130				130	201
Church Running Expenses Totals	8,874		20		8,894	10,526
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2310 - Church Minor Repairs						90
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	264				264	375
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	1,231				1,231	3,905
2702 - Roof Repair			145,256		145,256	
2703 - Organ Refurbishment			4,200		4,200	
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	1,495		149,456		150,951	4,370
New Building work						
2701 - Church Major Repairs			3,118		3,118	
2901 - Architect's/Consultant Fees			23,973		23,973	384
2910 – Reordering			9,180		9,180	
New Building work Totals			36,272		36,272	384
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs						18
Other Payments Totals						18

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Payments Grand totals	85,816		197,668		283,484	102,738

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund) As
at: 31 December 2025

		Balance	Previous balance
Cash at bank and in hand			
6505: Barclays Bank - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	12,940.83	18,456.67
Building Fund	Restricted	11,998.15	6,012.15
Bell Fund	Restricted	2,971.18	3,291.18
Special Projects	Restricted	11,888.82	96,445.79
Agency collection	Restricted	—	40.00
Children's Work	Restricted	5,000.00	6,193.40
		<u>44,798.98</u>	<u>130,439.19</u>
		44,798.98	130,439.19
Debtors			
6506: Debtors - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	—	1,224.72
Building Fund	Restricted	—	17.00
Special Projects	Restricted	—	146.00
		<u>—</u>	<u>1,387.72</u>
		—	1,387.72
Z05: Accounts Receivable - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	4,841.19	—
Building Fund	Restricted	51.00	—
		<u>4,892.19</u>	<u>—</u>
		4,892.19	—
	Debtors	4,892.19	1,387.72
Investments			
6501: CBF Deposit Account - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	23,324.99	22,315.11
Special Projects	Restricted	—	136,159.26
		<u>23,324.99</u>	<u>158,474.37</u>
		23,324.99	158,474.37
	Investments	23,324.99	158,474.37
Agency accounts			
6699: Agency collections - Liability			
Agency collection	Restricted	—	40.00
		<u>—</u>	<u>40.00</u>
		—	40.00
	Agency accounts	—	40.00

	Balance	Previous balance
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year		
Z04: Accounts Payable - Liability		
General fund Unrestricted	1,328.37	215.90
	<u>1,328.37</u>	<u>215.90</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	<u>1,328.37</u>	<u>215.90</u>
Grand Total	<u><u>71,687.79</u></u>	<u><u>290,045.38</u></u>

Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of North West
Swindon and Lydiard Millicent
Trustees Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2024



The Vicarage
The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
SN5 3LR

allsaints-online.org.uk
Tel 01793 772417

Reg. Charity no. 1182788

Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 13th April 2025

1 Organisation and Trustees

PCC Member	Retirement	Reason	Note
Tina Wheeler (Treasurer)	March 2027	Elected Member	
Nicky Iddon (Vice -chair)	March 2026	Elected Member	
Bev Kauppinnen	March 2026	Elected Member/Deanery Synod	
Beverley Belcher (Secretary)	March 2027	Elected Member	
Heather Benn	March 2026	Elected Member	
John Lindsay	March 2025	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Rev Tudor Robert (Chair)	Ex Officio	Incumbent	
Rev Tricia Roberts	Ex Officio	Minister Licensed to Parish	
John Halstead	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Andrew Roberts	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Julian Wright	Ex Officio (2025)	Deanery Synod	

- 1.1 The trustees of All Saints Church were the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which had the responsibility of cooperating with, and supporting, the Vicar in promoting the work of the Church within the parish.
- 1.2 A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer, met regularly, and as necessary, to conduct urgent business. The Standing Committee also managed some of the day-to-day business which otherwise would take up time at PCC meetings. The Standing Committee reported on all its activities to subsequent PCC meetings.
- 1.3 The trustees are governed by the contents of Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 Jan 1957.
- 1.4 The trustees also have had a regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit as directed in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.
- 1.5 The trustees are elected for a term of 3 years at the AGM from the membership. At the end of this period the trustee may seek re-election if they so wish.
- 1.6 There are currently 8 trustees who have met 8 times during 2020 with good attendance at each meeting.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 All Saints Church's objective is Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the Whole Mission of the Church.
- 2.2 **All Saints Church aims to make known and share the love of God within our communities**
"Be Family, Make Disciples, Serve Others" means that we seek
 1. To be an integrated church family united through our faith in Jesus.
 2. To encourage people into discipleship by demonstrating our relationship with Jesus.
 3. To express our love for God in the service of others.

3. Activities and Achievements

3.1 Church Membership

The electoral roll currently stands at 89 and will be revised in full in 2025.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.2 Worship

During 2024 we continued to offer an 8am Holy Communion Service along with a 10.30am service with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. The monthly Communion moved to twice a month at 10am on a Thursday.

3.3 Annual Sunday Attendance

Year Service Attendance	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
8.00 Adult Ave	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5	5
8.00 Adult Norm	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5	5
9.30 Adult Ave	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	11	9	2				
9.30 Adult Norm	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	13	10	10	2				
9.30 Child Ave	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	10	11	6	1				
9.30 Child Norm	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	11	12	6	1				
10.30 Adult Ave	62	59	54	52	52	52	50	47	47	45	28	25	25	26	26
10.30 Adult Norm	59	57	49	47	45	43	48	49	50	41	30	23	25	26	25
10.30 Child Ave	22	21	19	17	15	12	10	9	5	4	1	1	2	5	4
10.30 Child Norm	20	20	17	16	14	13	11	7	6	2	1	1	2	5	3
6.30 Adult Ave	15	19	13	15	5	-	-	-	15	9	-				
6.30 Adult Norm	9	8	6	5	5	-	-	-	15	10	-				
6.30 Child Ave										0	-				
6.30 Child Norm										0	-				
Thurs Com Adult											4	7	8	7	6
Thurs Com child											4	7	8	2	6
YouTube* Total number of views											3195	1281			
YouTube* average weekly view											80	53			

The figures for 2009 to 2014 6:30 services include large figures at Partnership services.

The 6:30pm began to be reintroduced in 2019 but due to low numbers stopped again mid-2019.

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2021. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

The Monthly Communion Service was stopped completely in March 2020 and did not restart until mid-2021 due to Covid restrictions.

The 8am Holy Communion Service did not take place during 2021 due to Covid restrictions and restarted in February 2022.

3.4 Christmas Services

Service Attendance \ Year	Year															
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022		2023	2024
Christingle	86	87	85	60	81	92	121	150	75*	27	-		Jan 28	Dec 3	n/a	n/a
Children	40	55	31	29	57	53	63	75	30*	18	-		Jan 22	Dec 3	n/a	n/a
Carols	87	121	113	119	134	128	109	109	128	100	-	57	51		54	27
Children	20	23	21	25	34	69	19	37	12	7	-	6	5		2	1
Christmas Eve	89	146	65	85	81	92	121	150	146*	92	-	42	95		100	73
Children	46	48	15	35	57	53	63	75	40*	44	-	16	50		40	35
Midnight Comm	61	57	62	48	52	60	55	55	50	54	22		20		29	20
Children	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	5	0		1		0	0
Christmas Day	66	74	52	73	60	35	54	66	54	45	17	26	26		22	27
Children	22	26	17	18	7	12	15	9	5	9	2	1	3		2	2
Youtube Carol Service											59					
Youtube Christmas Day											51					

* NOTE: In previous years the Christingle and Crib Services have been the same service held on Christmas Eve. From 2018 there were two separate services so the attendances should be added together for each year;

In 2021 we did not hold a Christingle Service in December but it was held on 3rd January 2022. In 2023 we did not hold a Christingle Service in church but facilitated this to be held at Lydiard Millicent School as part of a school assembly.

In 2022 we held a Christingle Service in January and again in December.

In 2021 there was no Midnight Communion Service. YouTube services were stopped mid-2021.

3.5 Easter Services

Service Attendance \ Year	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
*YouTube Maundy Thursday		42			
*YouTube Good Friday	58	43			
Good Friday Service		18	7	49	35
Children		6	2	27	71
Last hour at the cross			15	8	10
Children			0	0	0
Easter Day		42	41	47	56
Children		3	4	13	15
*YouTube Easter Day	90	61			

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2022. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

In 2020 there were no Easter Services in Church due to Covid.

Due to Covid there was no Service on Maundy Thursday in 2021. Once again this was available on YouTube. In 2021 a Good Friday service was held outside church along with a YouTube pre-recorded service.

In 2024 the Good Friday 10.30am service was planned and run by Bev Kauppinen (Schools and Children's Worker) and the young people.

Occasional Offices

During the year, there were two Weddings, no baptisms and Tudor conducted 7 funerals.

PCC Secretary

During 2024 the PCC continued to meet regularly mainly at the vicarage. During the year we held 9 meetings and continued to follow the pattern of opening with a Bible reading and a prayer, a more focused section for prayer in the middle and ending with prayer. Once again, I am pleased to report that attendance has been good.

This year we have, continued to work on the reordering and reroofing plans and are pleased to see the work of the previous years coming to fruition.

Once again, I am grateful to Tina Wheeler who kindly proofreads for me and to all those who prepare reports ahead of the meeting. As always, we work on behalf of the church members so please speak to any of us about any concerns or ideas. Currently there are vacancies on the PCC so if you would like to be involved, please talk to one of us – you would be most welcome.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.6 Deanery Synod Report

Our Lay Deanery Synod members are Bev Kauppinen and Julian Wright and from May 2025 we have another year to serve. Tudor is a clergy member.

There have been 3 meetings this year and the fourth is on 27th February 2025 on **Pioneering Parishes taster seminar**. This seminar will offer the tools for honest conversation about how together we can shift the energy of the church further out into the parish. Members of our PCC are also invited to attend.

Our first meeting was held on 22nd May 2024 at St Mark's Church and was led by Archdeacon Christopher Bryan about 'Transforming Church. Together'. It was noted that the three most deprived areas in the Swindon Deanery were Parks & Walcot, Pinehurst and Penhill. Parishes with low income could benefit from being linked with more prosperous parishes.

The second meeting, held on 16th July at All Saints, Southbrook Street, failed to adopt the 'Deanery Vision' because the latest draft had not been circulated to members, so instead we concentrated on 'Hearing from one another'. Our discussion group was very interested to see how our 'Men's Breakfast' is held. Another group from St Mark's talked about their 'welcome space'.

Our third meeting held on 3rd October at St Peter's Penhill Drive concerned 'Every Member Ministry and the pathways for training being developed' in a presentation from Dr. Stephanie Hayton, Advisor for Lay Ministry. Several stages of calling were identified namely: Being aware of God calling, being able to articulate your calling, having the confidence and desire to follow the call and making a decision to allow the church to formally test your calling. Many fortunately will volunteer (eg. PCC member, Synod rep, treasurer, churchwarden etc.) but only a few will be called to Lay Ministry. Several other Lay roles were identified.

At each meeting there was a short update on 'Diocesan and local priorities' which include the Deanery Working Groups, Eco Champions, Racial Justice and Financial Well-being.

When elected, Julian asked not to attend the PCC meetings and was therefore removed as a Trustee. However, in the light of changing circumstances, after the APCM he will discuss with the new PCC whether it would help them for him to become a Trustee once again.

(Julian Wright)

3.7 Worship and Music Team

From January until the beginning of August we held our services in All Saints church, as usual, with the use of the organ, piano and sound system. After this we moved into the Parish Hall while work was done on the church roof and re-ordering.

Our 'new normal' (at the time of writing) is keyboard and guitar, which has to be set up every week along with chairs, tables, projector etc. We also continue to use Worship Lyric Videos when musicians are not available. One advantage of the smaller space has been that we are all closer together and it has been good to hear the congregation singing enthusiastically. (We also have use of the kitchen making it easier to serve refreshments after the 10.30 service demonstrating just one reason why we need a servery!) At Christmas we were able to use the school for our carol service and for the All- Age Christmas service on Christmas Eve ('Shrek finds Christmas') led by Bev and the youth group

band.

Notable events and services during the year included two All-Age services (Good Friday & Christmas Eve), welcoming Bishop Neil in April, and a number of overseas visitors, Daniel & Sarah and their daughters, Sophie & Ana from Brazil, Mark Draper serving with MAF in Kampala, Francis from Hope for Life, Katanga, and members of the Anglican Youth Fellowship choir from Uganda on their 40th anniversary tour, sharing their joyful worship with us on a wet and windy weekend in November.

In July we held our Save the Nave concert, organised by Julian Wright to raise funds for the church roof. Local musicians, young & old, including members of All Saints, donated their time and talents for free providing a varied and highly enjoyable programme. The Corinium Players entertained on classical guitar & Spanish guitar, Rhiannon Caple played piano & flute, accompanied by Adrian Notley on guitar, and folk trio Friggit entertained with sea shanties. Anne demonstrated the versatility of the church organ, Julian 'DB' sang & played guitar and the youth band provided the finale, singing, dancing and waving flags.

(Anne Dwight and Ginnie Heads)

3.8 Open the Book Assemblies in Primary Schools

Open the Book is a bible story telling programme in primary schools and part of Bible Society. Stories sit within a whole school act of collective worship which is scripted and inclusive of all faiths and none. Children watching actively participate and see their peers help the Open the Book team present the story.

We are blessed with a team of 20 committed people from different churches who take assemblies into Shaw Ridge, Westlea, Tregoze and Peatmoor Community Primary Schools on Wednesdays. In 2024 we gave a total of 65 assemblies reaching an average of 450 children a week.

This year we have increased provision in Shaw Ridge school to fortnightly (3 assemblies per term) and aligned the story programme so that all four schools receive the same fortnightly assembly (17 assemblies each per year). This has enabled us to build upon existing school and team relationships, maturing the confidence of the team and supporting the schools with their collective worship.

As church volunteers invited into schools, we find ourselves a unique Christian witness pointing to the eternal hope and forgiveness found in Jesus Christ. Children who watch and take part in the stories recount their experiences – in the playground, on the way home, at the dinner table and sometimes storytellers are “spotted” like Steve out shopping when a boy insisted on speaking to him and he was drawn into a conversation with the boy’s mum – what a great witness from church to school to community.

Sometimes it’s not the people that are memorable but the props - one afternoon returning to church and unloading a wooden camel from my car I heard a small voice say, “Mummy look - there’s the camel that was at school” what a conversation opener! - I wonder if that boy was remembering the “P--tong” camel spitting noise we all enjoyed making in assembly as part of the whole school participation!

In 2024 we said farewell to our long-term members Tudor and Judith. At the same time, we welcomed Janet and Richard to the team.

This was a transitional year for the governance of the Open the Book team which underwent a seismic shift from The Partnership of Churches which it sat under to Holy Trinity Shaw who very kindly “took us in” and enabled safeguarding and safer recruitment agreements with our Anglican sister churches St Mary’s Lydiard Tregoze and All Saints Lydiard Millicent. It is testament to the hard and patient work of the safeguarding officers, PCC leaderships, incumbent’s and Partnership Council that our governance has transitioned smoothly enabling the Open the Book team (who originate from different churches) to continue working together in our wonderful schools. Grateful thanks go to everyone who laboured to make this happen.

A full account of the school year 2023-24 can be found in each school’s “review of the year” reports which were written in the summer after meeting with our school contacts for everyone’s encouragement and the changeover of leadership from 31.8.24. Here are some of the year’s highlights:

Children participate in acting out the stories in all schools. Peatmoor say:

- Children are keen to help and be in the drama.
- School especially like it when children have lines to say
- Children love seeing their peers in the story.
- School has noticed the confidence of the team has grown.

We even made it into the school newsletter with our Joseph trilogy of assemblies in the Autumn and in the summer received handmade cards of thanks from the children which they presented to us in a special assembly.

Building relationships with schools:

Tregoze invited all their volunteers including the Open the Book team for mulled wine and mince pies! Four team members went along and had a very enjoyable time chatting to teachers and other volunteers. We met Dave and Janet from Gorse Hill Baptist church who also give assemblies in school, and I was able to confirm the date of their Experience Easter visit to Holy Trinity with the year 3 teacher. Once again, the team look forward to welcoming them and helping with this whole church occasion.

Aligning the story programme allows us to offer fortnightly assemblies to all our schools.

Shaw Ridge: Since September we increased from monthly assemblies to fortnightly assemblies in Shaw Ridge so now members take the story for that day into the afternoon assembly in Westlea school as well. We also have a joint practice in between for the next story!

Thank you Westlea for allowing us to trial our new book of stories.

This year we trialed 5 stories from our new resource in Westlea school on Monday afternoons in addition to our Wednesday programme of 12 afternoon assemblies. Westlea now have all their assemblies on a Wednesday afternoon. Going into both schools more frequently has enabled the team to grow in teamwork and confidence in a year of change both for The Partnership and our Westlea Church members. Westlea says:

- Children often ask if the Open the Book team are coming in today! and
- Children love the whole school participation.

Prayer: We have continued with our quarterly prayer meetings, and this has been a special time of catching up with our Freshbrook friends who take assemblies into Oliver Tomkins school, Millbrook and more recently Hazelwood Academy with Toothill church.

The Gathering: We also enjoyed seeing many of them at our annual team gathering in Holy Trinity Shaw – a special time together for everyone before the long summer break. This year Stephanie ran a turban tying workshop. Special thanks go to Stephanie our costume seamstress, Alison our props design artist not to mention our “ironing fairy” who doesn’t wish to be named! We wouldn’t be “well presented” without them!

(Heather Benn 03/04/24)

3.9 Children’s Church and Schools’ Worker Report

Last year, I started my report by expressing my profound gratitude to all the members of our congregation for enabling me to embark on an incredible, once in a lifetime journey to Uganda. This year, I wish to express my deepest and heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering support and understanding I’ve received during what has been the most challenging year of my personal life.

The compassion, love, and care shown to me after the devastating loss of my mother, followed closely by the passing of my husband, have been invaluable. Thanks to the love and kindness I received, I was able to manage my grieving process so that when I returned to work it was with renewed energy, strength and determination. Thank you all for being such a vital and integral part of that journey.

My second topic last year dealt with BASH, where I said the following;

“I am pleased to report that our Friday night youth group, BASH - Bible and Sharing Hour & half, continues to thrive. We have consistently seen attendance numbers in double figures with numbers as high as twelve, which is a testament to the fact that we are offering something, on a Friday night, that the youngsters want and enjoy.”

As of January 2025, there are just under thirty youngsters on the Bash register and Friday night attendance numbers range from late teens into the twenties. In fact, I think it would be fair to say Nicky and I were slightly disappointed, when on one Friday we only had fifteen only!

BASH, is thriving. The Christmas Eve All Age service was very well attended, with so many parents and families. Twenty-five youngsters took part in the service; “Shrek finds the real meaning of Christmas.” It was such a success that the Easter all age service on Good Friday April 18 is a sequel “Shrek found the real meaning of Christmas, but what about Easter?”

I am excited about Easter. Christmas was fun, as always, and it was a large undertaking but helping the youngsters and their families understand the gospel, the good news the real significance of Easter; Christ’s sacrifice made for each one of us, is so important to me.

Our links with St Mary’s Church have grown in a really positive way. So much so they have asked us to share our all-Age Easter service with them at their Church. The youngsters are thrilled to bits to be given this opportunity.

In addition, on February 27th we are having a joint youth evening with BASH and St Mary’s youngsters, which hopefully, is a sign of things to come, moving forward.

There has been no SPOT Sunday school since church moved into the parish hall, although a Sunday school was held the first Sunday of this month. There is no doubt that it is far harder getting youngsters into church on a Sunday as there is so much competition from all sorts of other external factors. As we get ready to return to church and, potentially plan the recommencement of SPOT please pray for guidance as to the best way forward.

The work in schools has gone from strength to strength, particularly in Ridgeway Farm and Peatmoor. The heads of these two schools are happy for me to lead worship/assembly and I am hoping the same will be true at Lydiard school.

I have been able to continue to build meaningful relationships with both the students and staff, creating a safe environment for the youngsters, whether it's through band, teaching or things like Christmas in a box. The work in schools is positively, impacting on the numbers in BASH, which is such a blessing and also means I have the opportunity for more interaction with parents too.

After Easter, Experience Pentecost is the next big event that will be held in church and in Ridgeway Farm school. It will be a joy to do this in our reordered church and practically a lot easier.

The BASH, rounders, BBQ, picnic, last July was so enjoyed by all groups and generations that it has been agreed to repeat this event at the end of term six in July.

As my extended contract at All Saints Church draws to a close in July, I find myself facing a crossroads - one where the path forward is not immediately clear, yet increasingly I am feeling compelled to continue this vital ministry.

The growing number of young people who have come to our church on Friday nights, enthusiastic, eager and increasingly willing to pray and talk about God, whilst enjoying their Nicky made toasties, of course, is giving me the belief, that this is the work God wants me to do.

Yet, regrettably, I am in a position where I am unable to work on a voluntary basis. I wish that that were not the case, but it is.

I have met with the diocese, regarding the faith chaplaincy role and as I write this, I have another meeting next week. They are keen and will finance the role, to some degree, for the next three years, but would like some financial commitment from our church in addition to St Mary's. There are also, other avenues to be explored, but the path forward is far from certain.

What I do know, with absolute certainty, is that God is good and through the most difficult year in my personal life, He has blessed me with a joy and a desire for this work that I can't just ignore. It is my deepest hope and prayer that the way forward will be made clear, and that I may continue to work with our young people, and with All Saints church. How amazing would it be to see many of them draw close to God and in the fullness of time, accept him into their hearts and lives?

As this is my last annual report with Tudor as my 'earthly' boss! I want to take this opportunity to thank him for the working relationship we have had, for the times of joy, laughter, prayer and reflection we have shared and for the genuine love he has given me for the psalms.

Tudor, brings an energy, enthusiasm and humour that the children love. He has allowed me the freedom to make the role my own and not 'clipped my wings too much' for which I am very grateful! You will be missed Tudor, but I know God will bless you and Tricia in the next phase of your lives.

Finally, please pray that God's will becomes clear in the coming days and weeks ahead that this particular youth work, His work and His ministry, can continue.

(Bev Kauppinen)

Bell Ringing

Throughout 2024 the number of ringers remained steady at around ten. Regularly each week we have about 8 or 9 ringers for each Tuesday practice and around 6-8 each Sunday morning. We would like to thank those committed ringers who turn up each week in all weathers. Thank you.

In February 2024 we hosted the Branch Striking competition where 6 or 7 church groups from across the branch gathered to compete for the top place (this went to St Mary's, Purton). Overall, about 70 ringers attended and we were able to provide tea, coffee, snacks and cakes. The competition was judged by Steve Bucknell and Daniel Knight.

We rang the bells for two weddings and had several visiting ringing groups in the first half of 2024. From September the church closed for roof repairs and refurbishment. Although the church has been closed Tuesday practice has carried on with ringers crossing a very muddy churchyard each week and Sunday ringing has been unaffected. We felt a long closure would have been damaging to our practice and it would have been difficult to keep the team together so we thank the church that this has been possible. We're looking forward to having a new carpet as the old one became extremely muddy as the building work progressed.

John Halstead has also taken on the role of checking the bells and replacing parts as necessary. He has been ably assisted by Howard Benn who helped to produce a new 'stay' when one was broken and needed to be replaced. Jason, ringing master from St Mary's, Lydiard Tregoze has assisted with very welcome training and advice for these roles.

We held a summer outing in August 2024 to ring in Pewsey and Wootton Rivers churches followed by a very welcome lunch in the Royal Oak. Around 12 ringers from All Saints, St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze and St Mary's Rodbourne Cheney joined forces for this outing and a very good day was enjoyed by all who attended.

Some changes in roles for 2025 have been put in place -

Ann Hutchinson is Tower Correspondent

Jeanette Ferris is Ringing Master

John Halstead is Steeple Keeper

Judith Coulson-French is Health and Safety Officer

Bryan Hutchinson is Tower Treasurer

Michael Moore will help with teaching on a regular monthly basis

Plans for 2025 – A Quarter Peal is planned in March for International Women's Day. Most of the ringing team plan to take part in a ringing challenge to gain a place in the Guinness Book of Records (May 25) and we're also planning a Tower Open Day during the village commemorations for VE day. More details to follow but keep Saturday 10th May free.

Thank you to everyone in All Saints who help, encourage and support us throughout the year.

(Ann Hutchinson and Jeanette Ferris (joint Tower Captains))

3.10 Saturday Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

This eclectic group of men originally met in a barn in Cricklade then in the Church, and during reordering we have been meeting at the Vicarage. Men in particular love a challenge and the Vicarage may have been too comfortable for some! Nevertheless, we have met most first Saturdays of the month at 8.00 am and having feasted on bacon butties, coffee, tea, and orange juice we then begin on looking at Bible Stories and passages that might particularly speak to men in their everyday lives. We are all looking forward to meeting once again in the Church. I would commend this group to all men. I will be interested to hear how the group develops and maybe if we could link up with the guys from the Parish of Purton. My thanks to all the regulars and those who drop in its been a great thing to travel with you. We have sought to try and support financially the Filling station sandwich team that meets every three months.

(Tudor Roberts)

3.11 Thursday afternoon Bible Study Group

On first Thursdays a small group has continued to meet in the Craft room of Lydiard Millicent C of E primary School while building goes on at Church (thanks to the school for their hospitality) for mid-week Holy Communion. These have been special times. The other group that meets on Thursdays is the 2.00pm Bible study Group, we have journeyed through Marks Gospel and the beginnings of Lukes gospel and are currently studying the Book of Romans. We have enjoyed each other's company + tea and biscuits at two and delving into Gods word and praying for those who need our prayers. Meeting in smaller groups can be a wonderful way of building on what we learn and encounter of God through Sunday worship. May these groups grow and prosper. Thank you for all the Christian fellowship.

(Tudor Roberts)

3.12 Safeguarding

Firstly, I am pleased to report that no safeguarding concerns were reported to me during 2025.

All Saints is committed to Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and as a result regularly reviews our Safeguarding Policy and follows safer recruitment practices. All appointments are approved by the PCC once the safer recruitment procedure has been followed. I also provide a Safeguarding report to the PCC every meeting.

It is a requirement that all who work with children, young people or adults at risk need to obtain a DBS check and this has to be renewed every three years. As well as this they all must undertake Safeguarding Training at a level appropriate to their level of responsibility, which again has to be renewed every three years unless it is the Basic training.

Towards the end of 2024 I renewed my DBS check and Foundation Safeguarding Training and by the time you read this I will have renewed my Leadership Training along with Recognising Domestic Abuse Training.

Since November and in the coming months, many are coming to the end of their 3 years and have or will be renewing training and DBS checks.

In 2024

- 5 people obtained or renewed a DBS check.
- 2 renewed people Foundation Safeguarding Training.
- 1 completed Basic Safeguarding Training.
- 2 renewed safer recruitment training
- 1 renewed leadership training
- Our Safeguarding policy was reviewed and accepted.
- We celebrated Safeguarding Sunday

Both the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding courses are available online and can be completed by anyone at a time convenient to you. Should you wish to do so please let me know and I will organise this for you.

Once again, I wish to thank all those who have responded to my requests to complete training, provide references or renew DBS checks without complaint and so promptly.

In the coming year we shall continue to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues and review our policies and practices in line with government and Diocesan requirements.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.13 Churchwardens' Report

Around half of the year was spent in the Parish Hall (kindly offered free of charge by the Parish Hall Trustees) due to the roof renovation and the reordering of the inside of the church.

The Chancel walls were plastered by Simon Lewis in the early part of last year and they did a very good job in improving, most notably, the wall opposite the inside vestry door.

Since we have been having services in the Parish Hall, normal activities such as BASH and SPOT sessions have had to be elsewhere. The Parish Council also moved their monthly meetings to the Jubilee Club House and thanked us for hosting them previously.

The annual PAT test took place and was conducted by the same local man as last year.

Services in the Parish Hall went ahead seamlessly after all objects required were moved from the church in advance. We would like to thank Anne and Ginnie for their assistance with music; Sally Griffiths and all the flower arrangers for their floral displays when the church was still available and look forward to welcoming them back when we are in the reordered church; the bellringers for performing before our services both in the church and Parish Hall; all those who have covered sides duties, readings (and raised their voices in the Parish Hall) and sound system whilst in the church; to Nicky Iddon and others for regularly providing refreshments after the Parish Hall services and to the good number of congregants who have made the Parish Hall services cosy.

We are grateful also to Rixons and Ellis for their endeavours both on the roof and inside the church. We have kept an eye on both the outside and inside of the church during these works for insurance purposes and the normal interior and exterior checks will resume once we are back in the church.

The departure of Tudor and Tricia will leave a big hole to be filled and we would like to thank them both for their service and humour over the last seventeen years and wish Tudor well in his retirement and Tricia in finding future employment. At the time of writing, we are making plans for the interregnum and will doubtless have more information at the time of this report being read.

(Andrew Roberts)

3.14 Reordering Project

The team includes Revd. Tudor Roberts, John Halstead, Nicky Iddon, Tina Wheeler and Julian Wright. We are committed to making our beautiful, ancient building accessible, hospitable and flexible so it can be used in all sorts of creative ways for God’s mission and provide a community hub at the heart of the surrounding area.

Nave Roof Repair

The nave roof has been now been successfully refurbished (Sep 2024-Dec 2024). We have previously renewed the Chancel roof (2020) and South Aisle roof (1992), which means the entire roof is now sound for another 100 years.

The total cost of refurbishing the nave roof was £220,867 with 40% coming from church funds, 31% from grants, 15% from donations/fund raising and 14% from VAT claims. Many thanks to all those who gave so generously and to the 7 charities below, who gave us a total of £68,085 in grants towards this work.

Benefact Trust	£4,750
CF Hills	£10,000
CF Crapper & Sons Landfill Ltd	£15,000
Congregational & General Charitable Trust	£15,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	£20,000
Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust	£3,000
LMPC	£335

We would also like to thank Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall committee who have generously provided us with free use of the Parish Hall for Sunday Services for the duration of the Nave Roof repairs and renewal of the church interior.

Renewal of Church Interior

The church interior constraint on space and the lack of kitchen and toilet facilities within the church is severely compromising our mission. The current configuration of the church also presents accessibility, sustainability, safety and safeguarding challenges.

A series of interior changes to address these limitations have been set out in a faculty which was approved by the Chancellor on 2nd October 2024. The work was initially split into phases so that as we have sufficient funds for a phase we can go ahead with the work. However, costs were constantly changing, as we managed to renegotiate some elements, the split became flexible. The builders are currently under contract to complete all of phase one and some of phase two and three (i.e. the shell for the WC and kitchen) has been moved into phase one.

Phase 1 Remove south aisle pews, new floor, new infrared heaters, new glass door. Build the shell/walls of the WC and kitchen
Phase 2 Install new kitchen units and appliances
Phase 3 Install toilet and associated furnishings

Once the above has been achieved we would also like to replace the existing chairs in the church which are very worn.

The total cost to complete all three phases is:

Total Construction costs	£220,718	(includes infrared heaters and replacement chairs)
Total Consultant costs	£15,565	
Total costs ex VAT	£236,283	

Available	£199,906	(includes expenditure incurred, donations and grants)
Funds needed	£36,377	

We will use church funds and are holding fund raising events which are also helping foster community. We are also applying to funding bodies, local businesses and charities. We would love the congregation and local community to donate to this vital element of our shared future.

Phase 1 work is scheduled to complete by Easter 2025. We are vigorously fundraising for Phases 2 and 3 so that we can offer hospitality and the convenience of an indoor toilet, across a whole series of community events. It would be ideal if we could continue the next phases directly after the completion of phase 1. We anticipate that Sunday Services will be able to continue while phases 2 and 3 are carried out.

A local artist (Sheona Beaumont) has been appointed to design the new glass doors for the church. She has been working collaboratively with the 12 children of the Worship Committee in Lydiard Millicent School to create a design to be etched into the new doors. This will be based on the theme of Psalm 24 Verse 1 'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it'.

In addition to the above reordering, the church organ is being refurbished.

After the PCC decided to keep our pipe organ, made in 1870 by John Nicholson of Worcester, a report with recommendations was commissioned from Paul Hale, an independent organ specialist, in order to help us obtain some grant funding.

His response as to 'why bother' to keep and repair it? and I quote was; 'Because this organ is a real gem. Historically and musically important, very finely made and, soundly restored when moved to All Saints – whose west end it fits like a glove.'

His recommendations concurred with a quotation from Clevedon Organs who regularly tune this fine instrument namely

1. Remove pedalboard and pedal touch-box for restoration
2. Remove Bourdon pipes, chest and tubing. Restore chest and re-run tubing so better supported
3. Take all the pipes out of the organ for cleaning and repair
4. Revise Great Mixture (our organist Anne says it squeaks)

We received much support from the DAC organ advisor (Chris Mansfield), the Archdeacon and the Assistant Archdeacon. Stages 1 and 2 have almost been completed at a cost of £7,140 thanks to some very generous donations that also paid for Paul Hale's report.

We have a grant from the Cathedral and Church Buildings Department for £5,000 and although we are short of £2,867 the PCC have allowed Tina to sign a contract with Clevedon Organs to complete the work. As stages 3 and 4 cannot be started until the dust protection can safely be removed, we are not sure if this will be achieved by Easter Sunday but everyone involved is trying to reach that goal.

A huge thank you to Tina Wheeler for the enormous effort involved in the project management of both the nave roof repair and the reordering. Also, many thanks to Lindsay Shaw, Andrew Bourne, Tudor Roberts, Julian Wright, Tina Wheeler and Nicky Iddon for all their work in applying for grants. Many thanks to Julian Wright for all his work to get the organ assessed and repaired. Finally, John Halstead has done sterling work and saved us a lot of money by removing pews, noticeboards, baize doors, the carpet among other manual tasks.

(Reordering team)

3.15 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION REPORT

Activities and Achievements

Energy Efficiency: Following receipt of the recommendations of an Energy Audit carried out by the DAC in Feb 2024, John Halstead and I investigated these and recommended to the PCC that we install two infrared halo heaters in the south aisle as part of the reordering. The DAC provided a £10,000 grant towards the cost of these. These are in keeping with our grade II* listing. They heat people and objects directly below which means that we will not need to heat the whole church for meetings and events using only the South Aisle. These will reduce both our carbon emissions and our energy costs. The new glass door should also retain heat more effectively.

Wildlife Conservation: The wildflower beds at the back of the church were planted with wildflower seeds with the help of nine young people from SPOT/BASH on Sunday 17th March 2024. They did a great job and were rewarded with hot chocolate, marshmallows and squirty cream. In the autumn of 2024, I planted wildflower seeds in the back of the churchyard without BASH as the churchyard was full of scaffolding which presented a health and safety issue for the youngsters.

Churchyard Pond: Ponds in the UK have declined by approximately 50% in the 20th century and many have been polluted by things like agricultural runoff. These are vital part of the ecosystem supporting biodiversity, providing drinking water, breeding ground, shelter, protection and food. Following approval of our pond faculty application a pond was installed in the churchyard with the help of John Halstead. This is the first churchyard pond to be installed in the Diocese of Bristol. It will be used to teach the BASH youngsters about pond eco-systems.

Training and Collaboration: Every 6 weeks have an online meeting with the other Eco Champions in the Diocese of Bristol. Each quarter I meeting with the Eco Champions of Christchurch and Wroughton to pool knowledge and potentially collaborate on joint Eco events.

Recognition: We received the Bishop's Award for Good Management for Wildlife, in August 2024. We currently hold an Eco Church Bronze Award, the Eco Church team has however updated the criteria for all three awards (bronze, silver and gold) and we will need to revisit this and carry out further initiatives to maintain our bronze award.

Nicky (Eco Champion)

3.17 Vicar's Report 2024/2025

Genesis 24:42 says this:

"When I came to the spring today, I said, 'LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come.'"

Since September 2007 Tricia and I have been on a journey. Back in June 2007 when we came for interview held at the Bible Society headquarters, we have felt a call to serve Jesus Christ in this parish. Just recently I have been taking the bus and walking a lot and it's like God has been walking me back across every road and path on which I have travelled. Now my prayer is that God may grant you success as you head into an interregnum and grant us success as we build a new life in Plymouth. So, looking back over this last Church year since Easter 2024: I wanted to record the following:

Church building.

After 14 years of preparing for a reordering (and unexpectedly doing a Nave roof repair first) it has been moving to visit the church building and see the first results of Ellis and Co's work on the inside of All Saints Lydiard Millicent. I am grateful for the reordering team that have served in this last church year: The team, Tina Wheeler, John Halstead, Nicky Iddon, Julian Wright (and Robert Bednarski at the beginning of the year), backed up by the PCC, have been brilliant. In the background a whole host of people have helped with grant applications thank you to each one. We have succeeded in getting the task completed (almost). Hopefully by the end April everything in the building should be done. We are so grateful to all who have given money towards all the work including many grant bodies, the builders, the architects, the team who designed the door, the organ specialists to name just a few.

It has been a long time to be homeless and we give thanks for another group of people have made "church" happen in the building of the Parish Hall. So often it's been a small group of people who have used their ingenuity, strength, and spirit to make 'Church in the Hall' happen – thank you. Bells have been rung (Thanks to Ann Hutchinson and team), chairs and tables put out and stored away again, coffee has been served, intercession and readings have all been covered, music has been played, people welcomed, and sides duties done, as well as the ingenuity and design that have helped us in our Parish Hall sojourn. And thanks too to Karen Johnson and more lately Tricia Roberts who have helped prepare slides for each and every church service.

The PCC

This year the PCC have worked especially hard.

- Tina as Treasurer and project director
- Nicky Iddon Eco-champion and Project Communications,
- John Lindsay Licensed Lay visitor,
- Andrew Roberts and John Halstead - Churchwardens,
- Bev Kauppinen Children's and youth church and school's worker
- Heather Benn Open the Book team coordinator.
- Beverley Belcher as PCC secretary and safeguarding Officer.

A BIG thank you to them all.

Children's, youth, and schools work.

It has been a joy to take assemblies and teach RE in the three local primary schools (Lydiard Millicent, Ridgeway Farm and Peatmoor) that I go into. I am confident that Bev K, (who I am so grateful for) will be able to continue this work very well and excellent relationships have been built with both children and staff. I think Lydiard Millicent School has particularly missed not being in the church building for their termly services and they are looking forward to returning to our reordered church building. I am particularly happy that we have been able to involve some of the children in the design of our new church glass door. Along with others I am hoping to arrange the annual purchase of bibles through Lydiard's Educational Trust so that these can be given out in July 2025.

I am incredibly grateful for all the freedom that we have had to serve 3 schools where Andrew Farmer, Libby Matthews and Laura Gibbard have always made myself, Bev K and Heather welcome. Please pray that All Saints can raise up a replacement foundation governor for Lydiard Millicent Church of England Primary School.

Worship

As I have said above, I am very grateful for everyone who has made church in the hall work, whether it is John showing us how to use his projector and screen or Anne Dwight and Ginnie Heads providing music week by week. Anne and Ginnie have also helped considerably with the choosing of hymns and communicating those choices to all who need to know in advance. All Saints has got some of the best intercessors I have ever come across, put that together with those who have been doing sides duty and those who have been doing refreshments after services and I think that is one of the reasons why people keep coming back to the church in the hall. It is great that people have been able to read the bible publicly either from their phones or pew bibles that has been provided. Thanks to Andrew Bourne for stepping in and leading some Sundays when we were away and the wardens too. I am very grateful to Kevin Egan, Alan Saunders and his partner Caroline and Andrews Roberts who have got the 8am services ready.

I am also thankful for the brilliant flowers the Flower team did, while were still open, under Sally and team and we are also grateful for St Mary's Church in Purton and Lydiard Tregoze who allowed us to use their church buildings for funerals and Weddings. Thanks also to the Hall particular Mike Sharp and Sherilyn who have ensured we can use the Parish Hall throughout the rebuilding work.

Pastoral care

I am very grateful for all the visiting that Sue Jones and John Lindsay have undertaken for the church. This is a really important part of the church's work, and it is always useful to know who we can pray for and who we can visit. We are praying for John's health to improve so he can return to his ministry of taking home Communions.

Global mission links

All Saints is greatly blessed by our global mission links. Over this past year we have received visits from our new mission partners Mark and Stef Draper with MAF Kampala, Sarah and Daniel Brito Medeiros who have now become mission associated with CMS, the Uganda Youth Choir and Frances Nkurunziza from Hope for Life Katanga. Since the UK and the US are lowering their aid budgets, it is particular important for the church to maintain its mission links and pray for them to flourish and see the Gospel lived out and shared.

Teaching

On Tuesday nights I have taught at the Diocesan course called 'Exploring Christianity' which meets at Penhill church. I would commend this course to anyone seeking to grow in their discipleship with Christ. It is 2 years to complete every module, and you can choose whether or not to do essays. This can be a good way to prepare for any lay or ordained ministry that you might do in the future. At All Saints, Tricia and I have generally kept to preaching from the scriptures which are set in the Church of England lectionary for each Sunday, but I recall having taught through the books of Revelation and Deuteronomy. It has been a joy to preach at All Saints because people are very good at responding to what the preacher says. I believe that our new church building will give us greater opportunities to learn and worship in different and exciting ways. In our Thursday home group, we have often looked at the gospel that is being preached in more details. I hope such groups will spring up and flourish in years to come.

Governance and Administration

If you are still reading and this subtitle has not put you off, then it shows that this is an important subject. Karen has done all my administration for the last 14 years for which I am very grateful. I am also thankful for everyone who has served on the PCC. Beverley as PCC secretary and Safeguarding Officer and my two wardens John and Andrew and Tina as treasurer have been my A team or Standing Committee. Thank you to all of them, I am encouraged that people are already coming forward to serve with the next PCC. People sometimes think that meetings are boring, but I can truly say that the PCC meetings we have had in the Vicarage in the last few years have been really productive. We have dealt with safeguarding, finance, buildings, the churchyard, children's and youth work, schools work and our accountability to the Diocese of Bristol. As a result, my job as Vicar has been so much easier than some of my clergy colleagues who do not have such supportive PCCs.

Lastly, I as I come to the end of my journey here, I want to say thank you to Tricia for all the support she has given to me, this church, this parish, and I am grateful To Jesus and his faithfulness. As Geneis24: forty-two says "Lord grant us success on our journey"

(Revd Tudor V Roberts Epiphany 2025)

4.0 Financial Review

4.1 Financial Arrangements

Banking Facilities: Barclays Bank, Regent Street, Swindon
Planned Giving Organiser: Tina Wheeler
Independent Examiner: Nikoleta Bates, King Charles Road, Swindon

4.2 Treasurer's report

It has been a tough year for our finances in 2024 as our General Fund income did not cover our expenses which meant we had to use some of our reserves. The budget for 2025 also indicates that we will need to use more of our reserves to cover all expenditure. In order to try and alleviate some of the pressure we have reduced our Parish Share for the first time since I have been Treasurer.

Work on the Nave roof was completed in December 2024 and the site cleared of scaffolding in January 2025. £46,000 of the restricted Special Projects fund was allocated to the Nave roof repair and we expect to use the remainder of the fund for the reordering in 2025.

At the time of writing, we have sufficient funds to complete the first phase of work for the reordering and also install the framework and drainage for the servery and WC. We will be unable to install equipment in either of these areas unless we obtain more funds. We have several grant applications in progress for this work and welcome donations.

All of this has kept me busy, paying invoices, requesting payments of grants, applying for income tax rebates on donations and VAT refunds from Listed Places of Worship. In addition to managing the finances I have also arranged the church insurance and liaised with all the various organisations involved in the roof repair and the reordering, architects, builders etc. I am looking forward to all the work being completed and only managing the church day to day finances.

We are holding sufficient funds to continue to employ the Children's worker until the end of July 2025 when we will need to consider if we can fund this work going forward.

The PCC have approved the reserves policy which states why we are holding reserves and how much. It is a requirement of the charity commission that members are aware of this policy.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with our projects in 2024.

(Tina Wheeler)

4.3 Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy deals with our General Fund of £41,781 at the end of 2024.

Other funds which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

1. Building Fund £6,029 (Restricted)
2. Bell Fund £3,291 (Restricted)
3. Special Projects £232,751 (Restricted)
4. Children's work £6,193 (Restricted)

Our Reserves

From an operational perspective, maintaining reasonable cash reserves represents good stewardship by allowing a church to be prepared for contingencies, such as unexpected large repair bills, a sudden and unexpected downturn in revenues, or other unexpected events. The recommendation is three to six months of operating expenses.

The PCC have agreed to hold sufficient money in our General fund to cover six months of expenditure (£38,907 budgeted for 2025).

Other Funds held for Specific Purposes

Restricted funds (Building, Bell, Special Projects and Children's funds) can only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.

Changes from 2024

All funds have reduced in value during 2024, apart from the Building Fund as we transferred £4,000 into it from the General Fund to cover the maintenance work required.

Our General Fund expenses in 2024 exceeded our income by £7,694, which has forced us to reduce our Parish Share for 2025, although the same situation is expected to happen in 2025.

The Special Projects Fund will be used in 2025 to pay the final roof invoice and make a start on the reordering work. The fund for the children's work will allow us to pay a children's worker to the end of July 2025.

Nikoleta Bates
12 King Charles Road
Freshbrook
Swindon SN5 8NA

Tina Wheeler
49 Chestnut Springs
Lydiard Millicent
SN5 3NB

21st February 2025

Dear Tina,

I reviewed All Saints Church accounts for the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 and can verify that accounts have been kept correctly and accurately.

Yours sincerely

Nikoleta Bates

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Balance sheet (Church of England)

As at: 31 December 2024

	As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors	1,387	4,254
Investments	158,474	248,007
Cash at bank and in hand	130,439	102,518
	<u>290,301</u>	<u>354,780</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	255	2,836
	<u>290,045</u>	<u>351,944</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>290,045</u>	<u>351,944</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>290,045</u>	<u>351,944</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>290,045</u>	<u>351,944</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	41,780	52,349
Restricted		
Restricted - Building Fund	6,029	3,659
Restricted - Bell Fund	3,291	3,211
Restricted - Special Projects	232,751	274,611
Restricted - Children's Work	6,193	18,113
Funds of the church	<u>290,045</u>	<u>351,944</u>

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December
2024

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Planned giving						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	54,015				54,015	56,308
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	2,853				2,853	3,501
0120 - Gift Aid - Restricted			816		816	616
0201 - Non Gift Aid	680				680	820
Planned giving Totals	57,548		816		58,364	61,245
Collections and other giving						
0301 - Cash GASDS	2,397		142		2,540	2,802
Collections and other giving Totals	2,397		142		2,540	2,802
Other voluntary receipts						
0401 - One-off G Fund	1,903				1,903	2,233
0410 - One-off Designated						2,350
0420 - One-off Restricted			14,451		14,451	408
0901 - Fund Raising Inc			774		774	458
Other voluntary receipts Totals	1,903		15,225		17,128	5,450
Gift Aid recovered						
0601 - Tax Claim - GF	15,223				15,223	16,245
0610 - Tax Claim restricted			3,949		3,949	2,790
0620 - Tax Claim Designated						28
1001 - Dividends			9,342		9,342	25,473
1020 - Bank Interest	1,124				1,124	665
Gift Aid recovered Totals	16,347		13,291		29,639	45,204
Other receipts						
08A1 - One-off grants	130		112,863		112,993	5,250
Other receipts Totals	130		112,863		112,993	5,250
Receipts from church activities						
1101 - Ministry Fees	920				920	2,644
Receipts from church activities Totals	920				920	2,644
Receipts Grand totals	79,247		142,338		221,585	122,596

Payments

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Missionary and Charitable Giving						
1850 - Tithe Giving	6,991				6,991	8,346
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals	6,991				6,991	8,346
Parish Share						
1910 - Diocese	63,732				63,732	63,732
Parish Share Totals	63,732				63,732	63,732
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers	2,516				2,516	2,439
2004 - Children's Worker Wages			11,449		11,449	9,989
2110 - Incumbent Expenses	2,207				2,207	1,925
2120 - Children's Worker Trv			469		469	1,005
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals	4,723		11,919		16,643	15,358
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	885				885	651
2210 - Church Groups	171				171	173
2220 - Outreach	555				555	785
2270 - Training	185				185	115
2301 - Church running - Ins	2,403				2,403	2,387
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	652		20		672	794
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	299				299	76
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	186				186	162
2331 - Gifts Misc	42				42	384
2370 - Sundries Expenses	1,676				1,676	2,934
2401 - Utility - Electric	941				941	727
2410 - Utility - Gas	745				745	1,132
2420 - Utility - Water	130				130	201
Church Running Expenses Totals	8,874		20		8,894	10,526
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2310 - Church Minor Repairs						90
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	264				264	375
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	1,231				1,231	3,905
2702 - Roof Repair			145,256		145,256	
2703 - Organ Refurbishment			4,200		4,200	
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	1,495		149,456		150,951	4,370
New Building work						
2701 - Church Major Repairs			3,118		3,118	
2901 - Architect's/Consultant Fees			23,973		23,973	384
2910 - Reordering			9,180		9,180	
New Building work Totals			36,272		36,272	384
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs						18
Other Payments Totals						18

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Payments Grand totals	85,816		197,668		283,484	102,738

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts						
Planned giving	57,548		816		58,364	61,245
Collections and other giving	2,397		142		2,540	2,802
Other trading activities			774		774	458
Other voluntary receipts	1,903		14,451		16,354	4,992
Gift Aid recovered	15,223		3,949		19,172	19,065
Investments	1,124		9,342		10,466	26,138
Other receipts	130		112,863		112,993	5,250
Receipts from church activities	920				920	2,644
Total income	79,247		142,338		221,585	122,596
Payments						
Missionary and Charitable Giving	6,991				6,991	8,346
Parish Share	63,732				63,732	63,732
Clergy and Staffing costs	4,723		11,919		16,643	15,358
Church Running Expenses	8,874		20		8,894	10,526
Church Repairs & Maintenance	1,495		149,456		150,951	4,370
New Building work			36,272		36,272	384
Other Payments						18
Total expenditure	85,816		197,668		283,484	102,738
Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfer	(6,569)		(55,330)		(61,899)	19,857
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in			4,000		4,000	244,569
Gross transfers between funds - out	(4,000)				(4,000)	(244,569)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	(10,569)		(51,330)		(61,899)	19,857
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	52,349		299,594		351,944	332,086
Total funds carried forward	41,780		248,264		290,045	351,944

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of North
West Swindon and Lydiard Millicent**

Trustees Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2023



The Vicarage
The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
SN5 3LR

allsaints-online.org.uk

Tel 01793 772417

Reg. Charity no. 1182788

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 28th April 2024

1 Organisation and Trustees

PCC Member	Retirement	Reason	Note
Tina Wheeler (Treasurer)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Nicky Iddon (Vice -chair)	March 2023	Elected Member	
Bev Kauppinnen	March 2026	Elected Member/Deanery Syno	
Beverley Belcher (Secretary)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Heather Benn	March 2023	Elected Member	
John Lindsay	March 2025	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Rev Tudor Robert (Chair)	Ex Officio	Incumbent	
Rev Tricia Roberts	Ex Officio	Minister Licensed to Parish	
John Halstead	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Andrew Roberts	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Julian Wright	Ex Officio (2025)	Deanery Synod	

- 1.1 The trustees of All Saints Church were the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which had the responsibility of cooperating with, and supporting, the Vicar in promoting the work of the Church within the parish.
- 1.2 A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer, met regularly, and as necessary, to conduct urgent business. The Standing Committee also managed some of the day-to-day business which otherwise would take up time at PCC meetings. The Standing Committee reported on all its activities to subsequent PCC meetings.
- 1.3 The trustees are governed by the contents of Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 Jan 1957.
- 1.4 The trustees also have had a regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit as directed in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.
- 1.5 The trustees are elected for a term of 3 years at the AGM from the membership. At the end of this period the trustee may seek re-election if they so wish.
- 1.6 There are currently 8 trustees who have met 8 times during 2020 with good attendance at each meeting.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 All Saints Church's objective is Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the Whole Mission of the Church.
- 2.2 **All Saints Church aims to make known and share the love of God within our communities**
"Be Family, Make Disciples, Serve Others" means that we seek
 1. To be an integrated church family united through our faith in Jesus.
 2. To encourage people into discipleship by demonstrating our relationship with Jesus.
 3. To express our love for God in the service of others.

3. Activities and Achievements

3.1 Church Membership

The electoral roll currently stands at 89 and will be revised in full in 2025.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.2 Worship

During 2023 we continued to offer an 8am Holy Communion Service along with a 10.30am service with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. The monthly Communion moved to twice a month at 10am on a Thursday.

3.3 Annual Sunday Attendance

Year Service Attendance	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
8.00 Adult Ave	13	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5
8.00 Adult Norm	13	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4	5
9.30 Adult Ave	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	11	9	2			
9.30 Adult Norm	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	13	10	10	2			
9.30 Child Ave	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	10	11	6	1			
9.30 Child Norm	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	11	12	6	1			
10.30 Adult Ave	61	62	59	54	52	52	52	50	47	47	45	28	25	25	26
10.30 Adult Norm	54	59	57	49	47	45	43	48	49	50	41	30	23	25	26
10.30 Child Ave	23	22	21	19	17	15	12	10	9	5	4	1	1	2	5
10.30 Child Norm	21	20	20	17	16	14	13	11	7	6	2	1	1	2	5
6.30 Adult Ave	15	15	19	13	15	5	-	-	-	15	9	-			
6.30 Adult Norm	12	9	8	6	5	5	-	-	-	15	10	-			
6.30 Child Ave											0	-			
6.30 Child Norm											0	-			
Thurs Com Adult												4	7	8	7
Thurs Com child												4	7	8	2
YouTube* Total number of views												3195	1281		
YouTube* average weekly view												80	53		

The figures for 2009 to 2014 6:30 services include large figures at Partnership services.

The 6:30pm began to be reintroduced in 2019 but due to low numbers stopped again mid-2019.

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2021. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

The Monthly Communion Service was stopped completely in March 2020 and did not restart until mid-2021 due to Covid restrictions.

The 8am Holy Communion Service did not take place during 2021 due to Covid restrictions and restarted in February 2022.

3.4 Christmas Services

Service Attendance \ Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022		2023
														Jan 28	Dec 3	
Christingle	81	86	87	85	60	81	92	121	150	75*	27	-		Jan 28	Dec 3	n/a
Children	40	40	55	31	29	57	53	63	75	30*	18	-		Jan 22	Dec 3	n/a
Carols	121	87	121	113	119	134	128	109	109	128	100	-	57	51		54
Children	20	20	23	21	25	34	69	19	37	12	7	-	6	5		2
Christmas Eve	86	89	146	65	85	81	92	121	150	146*	92	-	42	95		100
Children	63	46	48	15	35	57	53	63	75	40*	44	-	16	50		40
Midnight Comm	60	61	57	62	48	52	60	55	55	50	54	22		20		29
Children	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	5	0		1		0
Christmas Day	77	66	74	52	73	60	35	54	66	54	45	17	26	26		22
Children	24	22	26	17	18	7	12	15	9	5	9	2	1	3		2
Youtube Carol Service												59				
Youtube Christmas Day												51				

* NOTE: In previous years the Christingle and Crib Services have been the same service held on Christmas Eve. From 2018 there were two separate services so the attendances should be added together for each year;

In 2021 we did not hold a Christingle Service in December but it was held on 3rd January 2022. In 2023 we did not hold a Christingle Service in church but facilitated this to be held at Lydiard Millicent School as part of a school assembly.

In 2022 we held a Christingle Service in January and again in December.

In 2021 there was no Midnight Communion Service. YouTube services were stopped mid-2021.

3.5 Easter Services

Service Attendance \ Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
*YouTube Maundy Thursday		42		
*YouTube Good Friday	58	43		
Good Friday Service		18	7	49
Children		6	2	27
Last hour at the cross			15	8
Children			0	0
Easter Day		42	41	47
Children		3	4	13
*YouTube Easter Day	90	61		

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2022. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

In 2020 there were no Easter Services in Church due to Covid.

Due to Covid there was no Service on Maundy Thursday in 2021. Once again this was available on YouTube. In 2021 a Good Friday service was held outside church along with a YouTube pre-recorded service.

In 2023 the Good Friday 10.30am service was planned and run by Bev Kauppinen (Schools and Children's Worker) and the young people.

Occasional Offices

During the year, there were five Weddings, four Baptisms, Tudor conducted eight funerals and one memorial service.

3.6 PCC Secretary

During 2023 the PCC continued to meet regularly mainly at the vicarage. During the year we held 9 meetings and continued to follow the pattern of opening with a Bible reading and a prayer, a more focused section for prayer in the middle and ending with prayer. I am pleased to report that attendance has been good and if we have had to miss a meeting it has only been one over the year.

This year we have, continued to work on reordering plans as well as looking at our response to Eco church and the Transforming Church plan from the Diocese. In the coming year will be continuing to work on the reordering and the plans for moving out of the church while the roof is replaced.

Once again, I am grateful to Tina Wheeler who kindly proofreads for me. As always, we work on behalf of the church members so please speak to any of us about any concerns or ideas. Currently there are vacancies on the PCC so if you would like to be involved, please talk to one of us – you would be most welcome.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.7 Deanery Synod Report

2023 was a year when a new Deanery Synod was elected on the three-yearly cycle. The clergy remain the same as they are on Deanery synod as part of their role, but all the lay members of synod were re-elected at the APCMS. 15 members stood down, including John Bishop from New Town after 50 years on Deanery Synod, and 10 new members joined, while 22 continued in role. The Deanery is very grateful to everyone who serves on Deanery Synod and helps us to work together as parishes with a shared commitment to seeing God's Kingdom come across the Deanery.

Deanery Synod met four times during the year, with the Deanery Leadership team (DLT) meeting between synods to plan the agenda and work on the Deanery Vision. The Deanery vision was kicked off by the DLT in May, with input from the clergy chapter and we are hoping to develop and begin implementing the plan that flows from it parts of it during 2024.

In February we met at St John's Haydon Wick with Archdeacon Christopher to hear the progress on the Diocesan Vision, Transforming Church Together (TCT) and to discuss what it might mean for our parish and how we can work together across the Deanery.

In May, at St Philip's Upper Stratton, Chris Dobson came in his role as Adviser for Parish Discipleship and Evangelism to follow up one of the strands from TCT, developing discipleship and evangelism. He was keen to hear of our experiences of discipleship and evangelism to inform his work.

In July, with the new synod elected, we had a barbeque as one of the final events at Legge House. This helped us to get to know one another better and we received feedback on the draft Deanery vision. David Cain was re-elected as Lay -chair and Helen Watt as Deanery synod Secretary. We were grateful to Chris Pope for his years as Deanery treasurer and elected Anthony Slack in his place. The house of laity elected James Greenslade, Abby Scott and Dave Templar as members of DLT and the clergy elected Toby Boutle, Elveen Mead and Lydia Morey.

The final meeting of the year was at St Michael's Highworth in November when the Deanery vision was presented and there was discussion about the way forward under each of the nine headlines. You can find the Vision document presented to the November Synod here <https://nschurch.org.uk/swindon-deanery-vision.php>.

At every meeting we heard updates on local and diocesan priorities, including Racial Justice, eco church and the cost-of-living crisis, as well as worshipping in a variety of styles and enjoying the hospitality of the host church.

We have had one meeting in 2024 on 6th February at St John Church Parks when we were introduced to the new Bishop of Swindon, Rt Rev Neil Warwick. The rest of the meeting focused on Education which included: Open the Book Assemblies (Heather Benn and Team), Experience pilgrimage, Chaplaincy in secondary schools and a Young person's perspective by Joanna Ibitoye a very eloquent and wise 14-year-old.

Swindon Deanery encourages anyone with an interest in the wider deanery and the topic under discussion to come to our meetings. Please speak to your Deanery Synod reps if you would like to know more. As well as Tudor they are Bev Kauppinen and Julian Wright.

(Julian Wright)

3.8 Worship and Music Team

With a few notable exceptions, 2023 was a relatively quiet year for our musicians. Whenever possible we provided live music at the 10.30 Sunday morning service, usually a mix of organ, piano and guitar. This was backed up by the use of Worship Lyric Videos when musicians were not available. We aim to provide a mix of traditional hymns and more modern worship songs.

The exceptions were All-Age services led by our Children's worker, Bev, and young people from three local schools, one on Good Friday, one in July and one on Christmas Eve. A drum kit was borrowed and squeezed in, and the young people played, sang, danced, acted, preached and prayed, with some gymnastics and puppets thrown in for good measure. They wrote new words to well-known tunes (eg 'We will, we will listen') and performed a completely new song, 'Mary's Song' written by Alison Spencer.

Other notable services during the year were two Sunday morning services including baptisms, and Coronation Sunday on 7 May. At Christmas we held our usual Carol Service using the nine lessons and carols format, with singing led by a small choir.

Thanks go to Karen for putting together the slides for our services and to the Sound Team for making sure it all works on a Sunday morning.

(Anne Dwight and Ginnie Heads)

3.9 Open the Book Assemblies in Primary Schools

Open the Book is a bible story telling programme in primary schools and part of Bible Society. In 2023 The Open the Book team has established themselves in four primary schools, Shaw Ridge, Peatmoor, Tregoze and Westlea. We have increased our provision in Westlea and Peatmoor schools to fortnightly (three assemblies per term) in line with Tregoze. Our founding school Shaw Ridge continues to receive monthly assemblies (two per term).

In 2023 we gave a total of 61 assemblies on Wednesdays with a team of 20 people from five different churches (All Saints Lydiard Millicent, St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze, Holy Trinity Shaw, Westlea and Freshbrook). We value the relationships that have been built up between the churches working together which has enabled the team to serve these schools so well.

Schools are very encouraging and supportive of the team and appreciate the message the stories bring. Our relationships with schools remain good with a change of two new school contacts for Shaw Ridge (Natasha Halliwell) and Westlea (Claire Wright).

We have been given a resource room at Holy Trinity Church, Shaw to meet in and store our costumes and props. We have signed up to the new Bible Society membership scheme (a requirement from Sept 2024) and trialled some of the new stories in all schools. We have welcomed Lindsay from All Saints to the team and said goodbye to Bob and Wendy from Holy Trinity. It has been a tough but enjoyable year. In 2024 the challenge will be to nurture the doors opened to us with deepening commitment and relationship.

(Heather Benn 03/04/24)

3.10 Children's Church and Schools' Worker Report

My second year in post started with a wonderful trip to Uganda, courtesy of church members; the generosity of whom, I will never forget. It was a truly wonderful experience, filled with incredible moments of growth, learning, and connection. The trip allowed me to witness the beauty of the people but also the incredible poverty, that I had never seen the like of before. A real juxtaposition.

BASH - Bible And Sharing Hour (and a half) our Friday evening youth group, has been thriving with a consistent attendance of between eight and twelve children. The enthusiasm and engagement of the children during our sessions has been inspiring.

While the BASH Friday evening youth group has been flourishing, I would like to request prayer for the SPOT Sunday school. The attendance numbers have not been that high. However, I firmly believe in the power of prayer and know that with God's guidance, we can see a positive change in the numbers. Please join me in praying for increased attendance and for SPOT to become a place of joy and spiritual growth for the children.

I am so grateful that Judith Mumford has become a regular helper at SPOT, especially with the departure of Alison Spencer. Her contributions are invaluable, she has a wonderful way with the youngsters and is a font of knowledge. Thankfully, she is also very flexible and adaptable and copes with whatever I throw her way!

I have continued to work actively in Lydiard Millicent, Ridgeway Farm, and Peatmoor schools. Working with Tudor is a delight, in spite of the health issues with both of our spouses we have managed to have meaningful times of joy, laughter, prayer and reflection. Tudor is unique in his approach and brings an infectious energy and enthusiasm that the children love. He has allowed me autonomy and freedom to make the role my own and I am very grateful for that.

The response from all three schools has continued to be incredibly encouraging. I have been able to build meaningful relationships with both the students and staff, creating a safe and welcoming environment for young people. We have discussions about faith and their challenges, anything from friends falling out to a boy who wasn't sure he could cope with an RE lesson last week, because the dog walker had lost his dog. Sadly, the dog got trapped in water and died. It is, genuinely a privilege to be allowed into these youngster's lives.

As well as teaching in Ridgeway Farm, Peatmoor school have asked me to deliver some lessons to years four, five and six, this year. This should have happened in January but due to my back issues, which meant I was not able to work for almost three weeks, this will now happen in term five.

Our Christmas all-age service saw a wonderful attendance, with families and children coming together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It was a fabulous occasion filled with love, laughter, and a true sense of community. It was brilliant to see the church full of so many youngsters and their families.

We are now rehearsing hard for the Good Friday service, and I am pleased to share that the script has been written. I am excited about Easter. Christmas is fun and it was a large undertaking but helping them to understand the real significance of Easter - Christ's sacrifice and resurrection, is so important to me.

Therefore, there is not the same joviality in this script as at Christmas, it wouldn't have been appropriate, not on Good Friday. We are using puppets and will have four interactive stations; I just pray that the Good News message really hits home. I am being lifted on a weekly basis by the youngsters singing, 'I have decided to follow Jesus' at the tops of their voices!

Future events include the church yard plant, save in the nave, confirmation classes and the end of the academic year, all age service.

I want to finish by saying how grateful I am to have the opportunity to engage with youngsters in various activities within school and the church. It is a contrast to my home life with Ron's illness, whilst he continues to be amazing, the role really is a blessing. I am so pleased there is money to extend the role for another six months.

Moving forward, my prayer and I hope everyone's in the church is, for transformation in terms of filling the church with youngsters, and hopefully their parents every Sunday. I believe that through our continued efforts, prayer, and God's grace and Holy Spirit, we will see a positive change and a wonderful youth presence in our church.

Thank you all for your support and encouragement. My biggest thanks has to go to Nicky Iddon, she really is my right hand person and without whom all that has happened with SPOT and BASH would not have happened. In addition, she has the children's vote as the best cheese and ham, or baked bean, toasties maker ever!

(Bev Kauppinen)

3.11 Bell Ringing

In May 2023 we had the privilege of ringing for the Coronation of King Charles 111 and Queen Camilla – a truly historic occasion. Documentation to record this is displayed in the tower. A Quarter Peal was also rung in honour of the event.

We also rang for four weddings and for the funeral of a local man who loved the sound of church bells. Money from this and also from visiting bands gave tower finances a boost and we have a healthy budget to invest in a few tower essentials to aid our ringers to learn and progress.

We usually have around 8-9 ringers on Sunday mornings and also at our weekly practices. A couple of regular visitors support us to enable ringing of a few more advanced methods and to progress the abilities of our local band. This is good as several other churches regularly have to cancel Sunday ringing as there are not enough people to ring.

We have also hosted three or four visiting groups over the year, and this enables us to learn from them.

Sadly, two of our long-standing ringers have retired this year, we will miss their support and it also leaves us with an immediate problem for regular maintenance. However, discussions are ongoing with a couple of people and we expect this to be resolved in the next few weeks.

Overall, we have had a good year, numbers are steady, and learners have progressed well. Our thanks to the church wardens, vicar and congregation for ongoing help and support. It is good to know we are appreciated.

(Ann Hutchinson and Jeanette Ferris (joint Tower Captains))

3.12 Saturday Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

This group meets each first Saturday of the month at 8am in Church. We normally finish by about 9am. Hot bacon is prepared at the Vicarage and brought down to Church, along with bread rolls, tea and coffee etc. Then everyone helps get the tables up, plates out and the coffee and tea on. We use church mugs which then go back to the Vicarage to go in the dishwasher.

Anything from six to ten men turn up and having had a hearty breakfast we then turn to a short Bible study which is designed to be particularly helpful to the challenges, stresses, and joys that man may find in their Christian walk. Many studies show that men are more likely not to talk so easily about issues, particularly of mental health, as women might do, as well as open up about what turns up in the Bible. We have tackled some challenging passages this last year from the book of Judges, Revelation, and the gospels.

I think that many men who come find it helpful to be able to chat things through in a safe setting, and to hear about each other's lives. We are all looking forward to the day that a servery may get installed in the Church as this would make serving breakfast so much easier, but in the meantime, its good, early on Saturday morning, to meet in Church and relationships are built as we all clear up afterwards.

Jesus spent considerable time with small groups of men as well as with women like Martha and Mary. There is something about setting aside one morning per month to meet. I am grateful to all the men that sacrifice a morning in bed to travel out to what at first is a cold church before it heats up.

We welcome anyone that would like to join and can guarantee it's a friendly an open group that wants to help each other be disciples, share friendships and grow closer to God as well as enjoy a bacon butty. We are now an international group with men from Ukraine, Germany and Wales!

(Tudor Roberts)

3.13 Thursday afternoon Bible Study Group

We meet at the Vicarage, the Butts Lydiard Millicent each Thursday at 2pm.

Some good news! At times, this term (spring term) we have had to put out extra chairs. In one sense we don't do anything radical. We have been looking at Mark's Gospel, at first with a guidebook and recently without, as we study Mark chapters nine to sixteen. This group first started as a place where anyone could come that wanted to have fellowship, drink tea, and look at something from that Bible that will get us talking. Each session begins with a sharing from each person about something good and something challenging during the week, then following prayer, we read a section of the Bible e.g. the first part of Mark's gospel chapter nine. People value an open and safe place where questions can be talked through, when we can relate scripture to our daily lives, and then pray at the end of the session for our week ahead and anything that came up in the bible study. We start at 2pm each Thursday and finish around 3.30pm. When everyone comes there are about eight people, most Thursday's there are about six or seven people. Soot's, the Vicarage cat, enjoys sitting on peoples' laps and on occasions raiding the milk jug. If this sort of group and meeting appeals to you, why don't you come along, or if you want help in setting up a similar group on a different day then just ask.

(Tudor Roberts)

3.14 Safeguarding

All Saints is committed to Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and as a result regularly reviews our Safeguarding Policy and follows safer recruitment practices. All appointments are approved by the PCC once the safer recruitment procedure has been followed. I also provide a Safeguarding report to the PCC every meeting.

It is a requirement that all who work with children, young people or adults at risk need to obtain a DBS check and this has to be renewed every three years. As well as this they all must undertake Safeguarding Training at a level appropriate to their level of responsibility, which again has to be renewed every three years.

In 2023

- people obtained or renewed a DBS check.
- people completed Foundation Safeguarding Training.
- Two people completed Basic Safeguarding Training.
- Lindsay Shaw was safely recruited to the Open the Book team.
- Karen Johnson was safely recruited to work with Children and Young people as required.
- Our Safeguarding policy was reviewed and accepted.

Both the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding courses are available online and can be completed by anyone at a time convenient to you. Should you wish to do so please let me know and I will organise this for you.

I am also pleased to report that no Safeguarding concerns were brought to my attention during 2023.

Also, during 2023 the Diocese released their Safeguarding Hub and Dashboard for the recording of all training, DBS checks and monitoring of Safeguarding actions including job descriptions and risk assessments. I am gradually transferring all our records to these.

I wish to thank all those who have responded to my requests to complete training, provide references or renew DBS checks without complaint and so promptly.

In the coming year we shall continue to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues and review our policies and practices in line with government and Diocesan requirements.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.15 Churchwardens' Report

The year has, in general, passed comparatively smoothly and may I thank John for his expertise with the practical matters.

At the time of writing, the Chancel walls are being plastered. The first coat was done a few weeks ago but, due to the very wet weather recently, the wall is still too wet for subsequent plasters.

I carry out quarterly checks of the interior and exterior and have not noticed anything untoward.

The Parish Council have continued holding their monthly meetings with us although this may once again change in the not-too-distant future.

John and I attended the Triennial Inspection which went successfully with a few administrative observations made.

May we thank Anne and Ginnie for their help with the music for Sunday services and to Sally Griffiths and all the flower arrangers for their colourful efforts throughout the year. We would also like to thank all those who have covered sides duties, readings, sound system and to Nicky Iddon for seeing to post-service refreshments on many occasions.

Due to the exhaustive efforts of Bev Kaupinnen and Nicky Iddon, regular children's BASH and SPOT sessions have been held in the church and Parish Hall.

We will be having a PAT Test around June or July and I have managed to secure the services of a local man for this purpose.

We are currently discussing possible solutions to the water in the crypt area and a mouse in the vestry cupboard which has discovered a way of pinching the cheese and finding its way out of the humane trap. I did contact the local pest control person in Purton but, due to health issues, he is unable to help out at present.

(Andrew Roberts)

3.16 Reordering Project

Restoration and Renewal Report

The team includes Revd Tudor Roberts, Robert Bednarski, John Halstead, Nicky Iddon, Tina Wheeler and Julian Wright. We are committed to making our beautiful, ancient building accessible, hospitable and flexible so it can be used in all sorts of creative ways for God's mission and provide a community hub at the heart of the surrounding area.

Renewal

Our faculty for the reordering of the church was submitted in May 2023 and included some changes from original for concessions to the conservation bodies. The main objections of the conservation bodies were the removal of all pews.

At the end of 2023, the Chancellor approved the faculty application. He stated however that the case for the removal of pews had not been made and none could therefore be removed. He also set the conditions;

1. That no building work may commence until all funds are in place for the Works.
2. That no building work may commence until the organ has been re-housed.

It has proved very difficult to rehome the organ as required and without the removal of at least some pews, it is impractical to install a servery, WC and storage, as this will leave no space in the church. The team therefore decided to submit a new faculty split into three phases to allow for us raise each tranche of money as needed.

Phase 1

1. Removal of the pews in the south aisle only
2. Installation of a wooden floor level with the pew bases of the remaining pews
3. A revised heating solution (not including underfloor heating)
4. Retaining the existing carved relief panel at the entrance, replacing the 'green' lobby doors with glazed doors

Phase 2

1. Installation of a Servery at the west end of the south aisle

Phase 3

1. Installation of a WC at the west end of the south aisle

It may be possible to carry out Phase 1 while the nave roof is being repaired.

The conservation bodies have stated that they would not object to the proposals above subject to full details. We are in the process of drawing up the detail of this new faculty.

Restoration

In Feb 2023 our architect's Nave re-roofing Invitation to Tender was sent out. We received two quotes for the work and appointed Rixon, who carried out the work on the Chancel Roof.

We have permission to carry out this repair but can't start the work until we have the bat surveys (scheduled to start May 2024), Natural England licence and the tiles have been delivered. We have raised £52,750 in grants with a further £25,000 in applications awaiting a decision. We also received generous donations of £5,600 (£7,000 with gift aid).

We are hoping the roof repair will commence in September this year. Once the work commences, we will be holding Sunday Services in the Parish Hall.

(Reordering team)

3.17 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION REPORT

Activities and Achievements

Water Conservation: In May 2023, John Halstead installed a water butt next to the shed to collect rainwater, enabling the watering of wildflowers with natural resources. This initiative not only saves water, a precious resource, but also provides better nourishment for the plants.

Wildlife Conservation: In 2023 the back of the church was left unmown to let the wildflowers through, because however the soil is too rich, the grass smothered these.

The plan is therefore to plant wildflowers in the beds at the back of the churchyard, and to leave one or two circles of unmown grass where the vigorous wildflowers such as oxeye daisy exist. It will be possible to manage these circles so that the cuttings are completely removed to impoverish the soil.

Engagement with Young People: In collaboration with Bev Kauppinen, we showed 30 children (4–5-year-olds) from Lydiard Primary School around the churchyard in July 2023 and gave them a ‘Minibeast Hunt’ challenge to complete over the summer. The wildflower beds at the back of the church were planted with wildflower seeds with the help of nine young people from SPOT/BASH on Sunday 17th March 2024. They did a great job and were rewarded with hot chocolate, marshmallows and squirry cream.

Recognition: In addition to our current Eco Church Bronze Award, we received the Bishop’s Award for Good Management for Wildlife, in August 2023.

Energy Efficiency: In October 2023 the Diocese carried out an Energy Audit of the church and we received a report of their recommendations in February. We are entitled to a £10K grant if we invest to reduce our carbon footprint as per their recommendations. The report advises against all forms of heat pump that we were considering to replace the boiler. It strongly recommends against underfloor heating which was part of our reordering faculty. The main thrust of the report is to replace heating of the air within the building to radiant heating to warm people instead. John Halstead and I will therefore be exploring options for radiant heaters within the church and the underfloor heating has been removed from the new faculty.

Training and Collaboration: I completed the Diocese Carbon Literacy Training and am meeting monthly with the Eco Champions of Christchurch and Wroughton to pool knowledge and potentially collaborate on joint Eco events.

Promoting Sustainability: In November 2023 I gave a short talk on having a more sustainable Christmas.

Nicky (Eco Champion)

3.17 Vicar’s Report 2023/24

St Paul wrote to the Church in Ephesus in Ephesians 3:20-21 *“20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen”*

It is remarkably interesting to mentally go back over the year gone and recall what happened and how God has been with us all. Last year we held Experience Easter in Church and on a recent governor visit at Lydiard Millicent school the children had pictures of this event in their RE books and showed them to me.

Last year as I went through my diary we were working on the following:

- The vicarage was fitted with Solar panels which has been fantastic.
- The reordering of the Church and the submission of the faculty application as well as dealing with submissions from Historic England and SPAB.
- We planned a concert with Royal Wootton Bassett symphony orchestra which took place in July and also involved the youth group choir and music group.
- A meeting with Revd Chris Dobson resulted in plans to take a team to Uganda in October 2023. Four people had a wonderful time and returned with stories to tell. It’s great to see our Church widen its missionary focus.
- As with all incumbents of churches in the Diocese of Bristol we were asked to attend meetings where changes to church theology and prayers on human sexuality were talked about. Interestingly this affected the planned Uganda trip which the Diocesan Bishop allowed, in the end, to go ahead. I found the prayer meetings with the Uganda link group were a major source of strength over this period. Our link is still strong despite challenges.

- Everything involving children's work got busier as Bev K stepped into her role as ASLM children's church and school worker. This meant that Easter in a box, Christmas in a box, collective worship and the beginnings of our youth group all began to take shape.
- At the same time, I and others got involved more in Open the Book assemblies at Peatmoor Assemblies.

It's been great to see children want to get involved, want to get baptised and be confirmed. Of course, there are 'still hills to climb' as we rebuild the Church from the Covid period, and in this time pastoral contact with people has been as important as what happens in Church.

It's been very encouraging to see Andrew Farmer accept his post as Headteacher at Lydiard Millicent Church of England primary School. It's a great school that I have been going into for 18 years to take assemblies and serve on the Governing board. Equally Laura at Ridgeway and Libby at Peatmoor are great to work with.

Personally, this year has been one of joys and real struggles. Our Son Theo's wedding to Elisa was a real time of joy, and Tricia's diagnosis of Lymphoma Cancer, in late September, a sudden change for Tricia myself and the whole family and this continues to be a struggle as I write. Yet within this struggle we have met much kindness and realised how amazing the Oncology ward in Great Western Hospital is. With all this change it wasn't surprising I made the decision to take some time off in November and hand over the Remembrance service and other services to a replacement minister for two weeks. Thank you to those who stepped up.

Looking back these were some other features of Church and parish life in 2023/24.

- Bishop Lee retired, and we welcomed Bishop Neil to be the new Bishop of Swindon.
- Lydiard Millicent School had a SIAMS inspection (statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools). They did very well and hopefully this lays down good foundation for any possible Ofsted inspection in the next year.
- Hosting the Thursday group here in the Vicarage, seeing the Mid-Week Holy Communion services grow ever so slowly has been a real encouragement.
- In the wider Church, the Transforming Church Initiative has taken up quite a lot of time in an effective way, as it has made Churches think about how they might be missional. I am proud of the way our PCC has discussed these things through.
- I want to thank people personally at the AGM rather than list names in this report but suffice to say each member of the PCC and the whole Church has been great in their various roles, Andrew and John as wardens and Andrew as Verger have complimentary gifts as does Tina and all the rest of the team.
- Last year as every year we have handed out year six Bibles on behalf of the Lydiard's Educational Trust to children at Oliver Tomkins School, Lydiard Millicent and Ridgeway Farm Church of England primary schools, and at Peatmoor Community School.

Looking at the verse I quoted at the Beginning I wonder whether as a church and a parish I/we really do realise that God can do more than we imagine. If you read the verse carefully St Paul draws the readers attention not to our own inner resources but to God working in us.

My prayer for this AGM is that we might realize more greatly and dare to believe with faith more courageously how great God's plans are for those that trust in him.

As Hannah Whittall Smith said, "perfect obedience would be perfect happiness if only we had perfect confidence in the power we are obeying." Thank you to all who make All Saints Church and the living Church the "Ecclesia" the body of Christ be one where people catch a glimpse of God's glory and power.

(Tudor Roberts Passion week 2024)

4.0 Financial Review

4.1 Financial Arrangements

Banking Facilities: Barclays Bank, Regent Street, Swindon

Planned Giving Organiser: Tina Wheeler

Independent Examiner: Nikoleta Bates, King Charles Road, Swindon

4.2 Treasurer's report

2023 Financial Report

At the start of the year the budget for 2023 predicted a £14,500 deficit at the end of the year, based on anticipated income and expenditure. Our income over the year was higher than expected and expenses lower therefore the deficit at the end of the year was £3,420. This deficit is due to the PCC honouring our 10% tithe to the usual organisations.

The PCC decided to move the funds for reordering and roof repair from the discretionary fund to a restricted Special Projects fund. This is because income to a discretionary fund is included in the diocese calculation for our Parish Share making the requested sum much higher than it should be. We currently give more Parish Share, than the requested amount, after removing the discretionary income from the calculation.

We are currently applying for grants and fundraising for the Nave roof. It is planned to start work on the roof in September 2024, after obtaining the necessary licences and roof tiles. We have already been awarded five grants, totaling £52,750, these can be claimed with supporting invoices when work has been carried out. Two of the organisations have actually paid the grant in advance and it is reflected in the accounts. We are awaiting the outcome on a further two grant applications. Any residue from the Nave roof repair, will be held for the reordering.

We are holding sufficient funds to continue to employ the Children's worker until the end of 2024 when we will need to consider how to fund this work going forward.

The PCC will welcome any donations towards either of these funds.

The PCC have approved the reserves policy which states why we are holding reserves and how much. It is a requirement of the charity commission that members are aware of this policy.

Thank you to everyone who has helped our finances to remain healthy during 2023.

(Tina Wheeler)

4.3 Reserves Policy

All Saints Church Trustees Annual Report - Reserves Policy 2023

The Reserves Policy deals with our General Fund of £51,692 at the end of 2023.

Other funds which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

1. Building Fund £3,659 (Restricted)
2. Bell Fund £3,211 (Restricted)
3. Special Projects £274,611 (Restricted)
4. Children's work £18,113 (Restricted)

Our Reserves

From an operational perspective, maintaining reasonable cash reserves represents good stewardship by allowing a church to be prepared for contingencies, such as unexpected large repair bills, a sudden and unexpected downturn in revenues, or other unexpected events. The recommendation is three to six months of operating expenses.

The PCC have agreed to hold sufficient money in our General Fund to cover six-months of expenditure (£47.681 budgeted for 2024).

The PCC has agreed that the balance of £4,000 held in the general fund will be transferred to the restricted building fund to cover the expense of the maintenance work carried out in 2023 and what is in hand for 2024.

Other Funds held for Specific Purposes

Restricted funds (building, bell, special projects and Children's funds) can only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.

In 2023 the PCC decided to move the money in the 'designated building fund' into 'restricted special projects fund'. This fund is for the planned refurbishment of our building and the repair of the Nave roof. If we continue to hold it in a designated fund then any income (from grants, donations etc) will be included in our general fund income when the diocese calculates our Parish Share.

The Puppet's designated fund was transferred to the Children's fund, in 2023, to be used by the children's worker.

4.4 Accounts for the year 1 January 2023 – 31st December 2023

Nikoleta Bates
12 King Charles Road
Freshbrook,
Swindon, SN5 6NA

Tina Wheeler
49 Chestnut Springs
Lydiard Millicent
SN5 3NB

16th March 2024

Dear Tina,

All Saints Church Accounts 2023

Having examined All Saints Church accounts and reviewed the accounting records for period 01.01.2023 — 31.12.2023, I can verify that accounts have been kept correctly and accurately.

Yours sincerely,



Nikoleta Bates

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31
December 2023

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Planned giving						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	56,308	—	—	—	56,308	54,409
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	3,501	—	—	—	3,501	2,847
0120 - Gift Aid - Restricted	—	—	616	—	616	924
0201 - Non Gift Aid	820	—	—	—	820	676
Planned giving Totals	60,629	—	616	—	61,245	58,856
Collections and other giving						
0301 - Cash GASDS	2,802	—	—	—	2,802	1,607
Collections and other giving Totals	2,802	—	—	—	2,802	1,607
Other voluntary receipts						
0501 - One-off G Fund	2,233	—	—	—	2,233	2,802
0510 - One-off Designated	—	2,350	—	—	2,350	41,395
0520 - One-off Restricted	—	—	408	—	408	27,025
0901 - Fund Raising Inc	—	458	—	—	458	—
Other voluntary receipts Totals	2,233	2,808	408	—	5,450	71,223
Gift Aid recovered						
0601 - Tax Claim - GF	16,245	—	—	—	16,245	15,502
0610 - Tax Claim restricted	—	—	2,790	—	2,790	1,546
0620 - Tax Claim Designated	—	28	—	—	28	216
1001 - Dividends	—	—	25,473	—	25,473	(21,785)
1020 - Bank Interest	665	—	—	—	665	266
Gift Aid recovered Totals	16,911	28	28,263	—	45,204	(4,253)
Other receipts						
08A1 - One-off grants	—	—	5,250	—	5,250	—
Other receipts Totals	—	—	5,250	—	5,250	—
Receipts from church activities						
1101 - Ministry Fees	2,644	—	—	—	2,644	1,622
Receipts from church activities Totals	2,644	—	—	—	2,644	1,622
Receipts Grand totals	85,220	2,836	34,538	—	122,596	129,055

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Missionary and Charitable Giving						
1850 - Tithe Giving	8,346	—	—	—	8,346	6,731
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals						
	8,346	—	—	—	8,346	6,731
Parish Share						
1910 - Diocese	63,732	—	—	—	63,732	56,100
Parish Share Totals						
	63,732	—	—	—	63,732	56,100
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers	2,439	—	—	—	2,439	2,552
2004 - Children's Worker Wages	—	—	9,989	—	9,989	—
2110 - Incumbent Expenses	1,925	—	—	—	1,925	2,323
2120 - Children's Worker Trv	—	—	1,005	—	1,005	—
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals						
	4,364	—	10,994	—	15,358	4,875
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	651	—	—	—	651	2,619
2210 - Church Groups	173	—	—	—	173	21
2220 - Outreach	785	—	—	—	785	—
2270 - Training	115	—	—	—	115	—
2301 - Church running - Ins	2,387	—	—	—	2,387	2,218
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	774	—	20	—	794	780
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	70	6	—	—	76	717
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	162	—	—	—	162	162
2331 - Gifts Misc	384	—	—	—	384	57
2370 - Sundries Expenses	2,934	—	—	—	2,934	901
2401 - Utility - Electric	727	—	—	—	727	757
2410 - Utility - Gas	1,132	—	—	—	1,132	752
2420 - Utility - Water	201	—	—	—	201	241
Church Running Expenses Totals						
	10,500	6	20	—	10,526	9,231
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2310 - Church Minor Repairs	90	—	—	—	90	9
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	375	—	—	—	375	1,095
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	627	—	3,277	—	3,905	120
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals						
	1,093	—	3,277	—	4,370	1,224
New Building work						
2901 - Architect's/Consultant Fees	—	220	164	—	384	28,913
2910 - Church Major Work	—	—	—	—	—	544
New Building work Totals						
	—	220	164	—	384	29,457
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs	—	18	—	—	18	25
Other Payments Totals						
	—	18	—	—	18	25
Payments Grand totals						
	88,037	245	14,455	—	102,738	107,644

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund) As at: 31 December 2023

		Balance	Previous balance
Cash at bank and in hand			
6504: RO Account - Asset			
Reordering	Designated	—	40,100.00
		<u>—</u>	<u>40,100.00</u>
6505: Barclays Bank - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	29,786.57	30,912.82
Building Fund	Designated	—	588.20
Building Fund	Restricted	3,613.15	5,630.55
Bell Fund	Restricted	3,211.18	3,031.18
Puppets	Designated	—	313.68
Special Projects	Restricted	47,794.08	—
Agency collection	Restricted	—	153.22
Children's Work	Restricted	18,113.26	25,594.79
		<u>102,518.24</u>	<u>66,224.44</u>
Cash at bank and in hand		102,518.24	106,324.44
Debtors			
Z05: Accounts Receivable – Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	4,208.74	3,968.70
Building Fund	Designated	—	108.00
Building Fund	Restricted	46.00	36.00
Children's Work	Restricted	—	650.00
		<u>4,254.74</u>	<u>4,762.70</u>
Debtors		4,254.74	4,762.70
Investments			
6501: CBF Deposit Account – Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	21,190.36	20,532.32
Building Fund	Designated	—	201,344.08
Special Projects	Restricted	226,817.24	—
		<u>248,007.60</u>	<u>221,876.40</u>
Investments		248,007.60	221,876.40
Agency accounts			
6699: Agency collections – Liability			
Agency collection	Restricted	—	153.22
		<u>—</u>	<u>153.22</u>
Agency accounts		—	153.22

		Balance	Previous balance
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year			
6670: Cheques not cashed - Liability			
General fund	Unrestricted	—	110.00
		<u>—</u>	<u>110.00</u>
Z04: Accounts Payable - Liability			
General fund	Unrestricted	2,836.07	138.03
Building Fund	Designated	—	475.66
		<u>2,836.07</u>	<u>613.69</u>
	Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	<u>2,836.07</u>	<u>723.69</u>
	Grand Total	<u>351,944.51</u>	<u>332,086.63</u>

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Balance sheet (Church of England)

As at: 31 December 2023

	As at 31/12/2023	As at 31/12/2022
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors	4,254	4,762
Investments	248,007	221,876
Cash at bank and in hand	102,518	106,324
	<u>354,780</u>	<u>332,963</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	2,836	876
	<u>2,836</u>	<u>876</u>
Net current assets less current liabilities	351,944	332,086
	<u>351,944</u>	<u>332,086</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	351,944	332,086
	<u>351,944</u>	<u>332,086</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	351,944	332,086
	<u>351,944</u>	<u>332,086</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	52,349	55,165
Designated		
Designated - Building Fund	—	201,564
Designated - Puppets	—	313
Designated - Reordering	—	40,100
Restricted		
Restricted - Building Fund	3,659	5,666
Restricted - Bell Fund	3,211	3,031
Restricted - Special Projects	274,611	—
Restricted - Children's Work	18,113	26,244
	<u>351,944</u>	<u>332,086</u>
Funds of the church	<u>351,944</u>	<u>332,086</u>

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of North West
Swindon and Lydiard Millicent
Trustees Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2022**



The Vicarage
The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
SN5 3LR

allsaints-online.org.uk
Tel 01793 772417

Reg. Charity no. 1182788

Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 23th April 2023

1 Organisation and Trustees

PCC Member	Retirement	Reason	Note
Tina Wheeler (Treasurer)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Nicky Iddon	March 2023	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2023	Elected Member	
Beverley Belcher (Secretary)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Heather Benn	March 2023	Elected Member	
John Lindsay	March 2025	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Rev Tudor Roberts	Ex Officio	Incumbent	
Rev Tricia Roberts	Ex Officio	Minister Licensed to Parish	
John Halstead	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Andrew Roberts	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Julian Wright	Ex Officio (2025)	Deanery Synod	

- 1.1 The trustees of All Saints Church were the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which had the responsibility of cooperating with, and supporting, the Vicar in promoting the work of the Church within the parish.
- 1.2 A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer, met regularly, and as necessary, to conduct urgent business. The Standing Committee also managed some of the day to day business which otherwise would take up time at PCC meetings. The Standing Committee reported on all its activities to subsequent PCC meetings.
- 1.3 The trustees are governed by the contents of Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 Jan 1957.
- 1.4 The trustees also have had a regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit as directed in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.
- 1.5 The trustees are elected for a term of 3 years at the AGM from the membership. At the end of this period the trustee may seek re-election if they so wish.
- 1.6 There are currently 8 trustees who have met 8 times during 2020 with good attendance at each meeting.

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 All Saints Church's objective is Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the Whole Mission of the Church.

2.2 All Saints Church aims to make known and share the love of God within our communities

"Be Family, Make Disciples, Serve Others" means that we seek

1. To be an integrated church family united through our faith in Jesus.

2. To encourage people into discipleship by demonstrating our relationship with Jesus.

3. To express our love for God in the service of others.

3. Activities and Achievements

3.1 Church Membership

The electoral roll currently stands at 90 as 2 members sadly passed away during the year.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.2 Sunday Worship

During 2022 we were able to restart the 8am Holy Communion Service and continued to offer a 10.30am service with Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

3.3 Annual Sunday Attendance

Year \ Service Attendance	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
8.00 Adult Ave	15	13	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4
8.00 Adult Norm	15	13	12	13	12	12	12	11	9	10	9	7	7		4
9.30 Adult Ave	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	12	11	9	2		
9.30 Adult Norm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	13	10	10	2		
9.30 Child Ave	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	10	11	6	1		
9.30 Child Norm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	11	12	6	1		
10.30 Adult Ave	70	61	62	59	54	52	52	52	50	47	47	45	28	25	25
10.30 Adult Norm	62	54	59	57	49	47	45	43	48	49	50	41	30	23	25
10.30 Child Ave	23	23	22	21	19	17	15	12	10	9	5	4	1	1	2
10.30 Child Norm	20	21	20	20	17	16	14	13	11	7	6	2	1	1	2
6.30 Adult Ave	11	15	15	19	13	15	5	-	-	-	15	9	-		
6.30 Adult Norm	10	12	9	8	6	5	5	-	-	-	15	10	-		
6.30 Child Ave												0	-		
6.30 Child Norm												0	-		
Monthly Com Ave													4	7	8
Monthly Com Nor													4	7	8

3.4 Christmas Services

Service Attendance	Year															
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Christingle	102	81	86	87	85	60	81	92	121	150	75*	27	-		Jan 28	Dec 3
Children	47	40	40	55	31	29	57	53	63	75	30*	18	-		Jan 22	Dec 3
Carols	126	121	87	121	113	119	134	128	109	109	128	100	-	57	51	
Children	26	20	20	23	21	25	34	69	19	37	12	7	-	6	5	
Christmas Eve	101	86	89	146	65	85	81	92	121	150	146*	92	-	42	95	
Children	66	63	46	48	15	35	57	53	63	75	40*	44	-	16	50	
Midnight Comm	73	60	61	57	62	48	52	60	55	55	50	54	22	20		
Children	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	5	0	1		
Christmas Day	68	77	66	74	52	73	60	35	54	66	54	45	17	26	26	
Children	23	24	22	26	17	18	7	12	15	9	5	9	2	1	3	
Youtube Carol Service													59			
Youtube Christmas Day													51			

* NOTE: In previous years the Christingle and Crib Services have been the same service held on Christmas Eve. From 2018 there were two separate services so the attendances should be added together for each year;

In 2021 we did not hold a Christingle Service in December but it was held on 3rd January 2022.

In 2022 we held a Christingle Service in January and again in December.

In 2021 there was no Midnight Communion Service. YouTube services were stopped mid-2021.

3.5 Easter Services

Service Attendance	Year		
	2020	2021	2022
*YouTube Maundy Thursday		42	
*YouTube Good Friday	58	43	
Good Friday Service		18	7

Children		6	2
Last hour at the cross			15
Children			0
Easter Day		42	41
Children		3	4
*YouTube Easter Day	90	61	

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2022. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

In 2020 there were no Easter Services in Church due to Covid.

Due to Covid there was no Service on Maundy Thursday in 2021. Once again this was available on YouTube. In 2021 a Good Friday service was held outside church along with a YouTube pre-recorded service.

Occasional Offices

During the year, there was one Wedding Service, two Wedding Vow renewals, four Baptisms and Tudor conducted nine Funerals.

3.6 PCC Secretary

During 2022 the PCC continued to meet and were pleased to be able to start meeting together at the vicarage once again. During the year we held 10 meetings and continued to follow the pattern of opening with a Bible reading and a prayer, a more focused section for prayer in the middle and ending with prayer. I am pleased to report that attendance has been good and most of us have not missed a meeting.

This year we have appointed a Church and Schools Children's Worker, continued to work on reordering plans as well as looking at our response to Eco church. In the coming year will be focusing, amongst other things, on the Reordering and Transforming Church. In fact, by the time, you read this we will have had our first meeting dedicated to Transforming Church. Once again, I am grateful to Tina Wheeler who kindly proof reads for me. As always, we work on behalf of the church members so please speak to any of us about any concerns or ideas. Currently there are vacancies on the PCC so if you would like to be involved, please talk to one of us – you would be most welcome.
(Beverley Belcher)

3.7 Deanery Synod Report

Tudor and I attended most of the four annual meetings together and Bev Kauppinen, having been appointed as our Children's Worker joined us in October for the one about 'Education in the Diocese'.

Other topics covered over the twelve months were:

- Re-ordering project at St Mary's Church Purton
- Environmental Challenges facing churches
- Transforming Church Together

Other local priorities are reviewed at each meeting and these include: Eco Challenge, Racial Justice, Feeding Swindon Partnership & Warm Places, Cost of living crisis and the Swindon Uganda Link.

At our most recent meeting held in February 2023 the main topic was Transforming Church Together (TCT)

Next Steps.

Bishop Viv has invited everyone in the Diocese to join a conversation about our priorities, under God, for the future. The Diocese now has a Synod-approved strategy for the next five years starting from January 2023. This strategy will bring significant support to ministers and parishes, so that both can thrive and grow. They envisage a period of unprecedented ministerial and parochial revitalization, increased discipleship, positive social impact and long term environmental and financial sustainability. However, none of this can happen without parishes and benefices discerning what works for them.

To this end our PCC has been tasked to think what the future could look like and ask – ‘what do we need to do to get there?’

The TCT will offer particular support in parishes eg. parish administration, young people’s workers and school chaplaincies.

The diocese aims to recruit a number of staff to support parishes, and this will not be funded by the Parish Share. Clergy numbers will not be changing over that period.

*(Julian
Wright)*

3.8 Worship and Music Team

2022 saw further easing of the restrictions that had altered how we worshipped over the two years of the pandemic. What a joy it was to be able to take communion again, at first with individual disposal cups for the wine and in more recent months, sharing the common chalice. A new development saw John Lindsay licensed to take communion to the homes of those who are unable to join us on a Sunday.

At Easter we were able to hold a Maundy Thursday service, a Children’s Service and Service at the Cross on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday we held an all-age celebration with renewal of baptism vows.

We continued to have our worship led from the piano, organ and guitar at many services, with Worship Lyric Videos being used when musicians are unavailable. We have continued to make use of technology for our main services and despite some periodic gremlins, on balance this facilitates our worship and enables us to sing out without worrying about hymn books.

The Remembrance Day Service in early November is always a moving service and this last year was no exception.

In the run up to Christmas, Bev worked with the three schools: Lydiard Millicent, Peatmoor and Ridgeway Farm. Nineteen students from the three schools performed ‘Do they know it’s Christmas’ and ‘In the bleak mid-winter’.

The band comprised of two drummers, a pianist and guitar player. Ginnie supported the group by playing the guitar and Ann Hutchinson played flute. In addition, Sue sang alto which added depth to the youngsters' voices. They were supported by family members and friends which resulted in a packed church with standing room only. It was an amazing night with a fabulous atmosphere.

As usual, we held our traditional Nine Lessons and Carol Service in the week leading up to Christmas. A small choir led the carol singing with Emma and Heather again singing some beautiful carols before the service.

Those who select the hymns and songs for the services continue to find they are blessed by this, and we are grateful to Karen for the work she does towards the end of each week in laying out the service slides. If you have a favourite hymn or song, please let one of the musicians know this and we will look to include your choice at the appropriate time.

*(Anne Dwight and Ginnie
Heads)*

3.9 Open the Book

Open the Book is a bible telling story programme in primary schools and part of Bible Society.

This year the Open the Book team continued to send in weekly online Open the Book assemblies to Peatmoor School until the end of the summer term. This started during the covid pandemic and our reason for stopping was that we had no more copyright free stories left that we could film.

In July the online resource of around 80 assemblies was given to school with a suggestion to watch some of the earlier ones made from the Christian Values series in the Autumn term. They were also gifted the Bible Societies Christian Values Story Book and Handbook containing the transcripts. They continue to enjoy watching an assembly from this resource every week. Meanwhile from September 22 the Open the Book team began taking their assemblies into Peatmoor School every month in person. These are going very well, and I attach some photos of

our assemblies. We hope to expand the team with a few more regulars and in time increase assemblies in Peatmoor school to fortnightly.



(Heather Benn)

3.10 Children's Church and Schools' Worker Report

I started the role of children's church, school worker on the first October 2022. Thanks to the incredibly positive relationships Tudor had already developed with all three schools; Lydiard Millicent, Ridgeway Farm and Peatmoor, I received a very warm welcome.

Initially, I supported Tudor with the weekly collective worship at Lydiard and Ridgeway and the less frequent afternoon worships at Peatmoor.

After attending a harvest worship at Ridgeway Farm, I shared with Tudor that for term two, I would like to get a band/singing group together, from all three schools, to be part of the All-Age service on Christmas Eve Tudor agreed. My aim was to get twenty youngsters from all three schools, to participate in the service on Christmas Eve, with the hope that parents would support the event. On the day we had nineteen youngsters; one member had pulled out poorly. I wasn't complaining that we were one short of the number twenty!

All three schools allowed me to go into their premises, weekly, for a lunch time and after school rehearsal. I was trusted and given an incredible amount of freedom with the youngsters.

Whilst working on the two musical items, discussions ensued around the words that were being sung. One song made everyone think about how blessed we were at Christmas, compared with individuals in other countries who weren't even aware it was Christmas due to their horrendous living conditions. Conversely, In the bleak midwinter's words, particularly those of the last verse, prompted talks around the fact that all God asks from us is we give Him our hearts. I became increasingly aware of the privilege it was, having this role, being able to work with each individual and, unlike my role as an RE teacher, being allowed to share my Christian faith. In addition to the band work, Tudor and I, with help from some fabulous church members, were able to host all the students from Lydiard Millicent school, in church, over two

days, for Experience Christmas. The student feedback, via school, was very positive.

Tudor and I also worked with year four students, at Ridgeway Farm and year three students at Lydiard Millicent on Christmas in the box. This programme allowed each child to visually experience and think about the Christmas story asking as many probing questions about God and the baby Jesus as they wanted; and they did!

We supported operation Christmas child for the early year's students at Lydiard Millicent school.

2022 finished on a high note with the All Age Christmas Eve service packed to the rafters, with The Head from Ridgeway Farm school in attendance and a request from the youngsters that the band continue in 2023!

As I write, some of the band are in the process of producing a play for the all age Good Friday service, entitled 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?' Others will organise four stations in church for youngsters and their parents to be able to participate interactively and the whole group will perform two possibly three songs.

I have attended Governor's meetings at Ridgeway farm and am due to be officially accepted at the next meeting. I have been asked to consider taking responsibility for the area of SEND. I am teaching RE in that school every Wednesday afternoon to years four and six.

Tudor and I are, again, hosting all the Lydiard Millicent students at church. This time for Experience Easter, 2023. The Head is allowing me to train some students so they can lead two of the stations. The second day of this experience coincides with a SIAMS inspection and Tudor, and I have been asked to meet with the inspectors.

A new challenge is that The Head at Ridgeway farm has asked us to take Experience Easter to the school. We are delighted to have this opportunity to share the experience with the whole school. The challenge is the logistics of creating the six stations in the school hall rather than at church.

We had discussions with Peatmoor school and whilst a whole school Experience Easter was not possible in 2023, we are optimistic that we will be able to facilitate that in 2024. The encouraging news is we have been invited to lead morning assemblies, next term, covering the topic of Pentecost.

Nicky Iddon and I are planning four Ecco events to be held in church during 2023, with students from all three schools to be invited.

There has been much to celebrate in these first five months, with many highlights, none more so than a member of the band from Ridgeway farm school attending church with his family asking to be christened, with his baby sister.

Going forward I want to continue and develop the work we are doing, with the aim that the numbers of youngsters in the band translates to youngsters coming to church, having a lively, meaningful Sunday school and a youth worship band.

(Bev Kauppinen)

3.11 Bell Ringing

2022 saw bellringing return to 'normal' after the restrictions of Covid. We welcomed three new learners bringing our total number of ringers to 14.

Our learners made good progress and all were able to ring for the Queens Platinum (70th) Jubilee in June and sadly a few months later for her funeral and also the Proclamation of Kings Charles III. We also rang for one wedding last year but have at least 4 lined up for 2023.

May 2022 saw us host the monthly Branch Practice with ringers from around the Swindon area and beyond come to ring our lovely bells. Several members of ASLM ring regularly in other towers around the area and have had the opportunity to ring on the bell simulator in Christchurch. This wonderful facility was installed just as Covid restrictions were lifting and is a great boost to practices and help us build new skills.

In December 2022 we also rang a Quarter Peal in memory of Nigel Margetts, church member and bellringer. We had planned to ring for him in early 2020 but due to Covid this was postponed. Family members came to listen and thank us for remembering him in this way.

Practices on Tuesday evenings are always well attended and we almost always have at least 7-10 ringers to ring for the Sunday morning service. This is to be commended as not all towers can ring a full quota of bells every Sunday. It is wonderful to be supported in this way.

We are currently practicing to ring for the coronation of King Charles III in May of this year.

(Ann Hutchinson and Jeanette Ferris (joint Tower Captains) ASLM)

3.12 Men's breakfast

All Saints Men's Bible Study and breakfast. Meeting 1st Saturdays at 8.00 am.

The group continued to meet under Covid online, and then during nearly all of the last year, we have met physically at Church. We meet on the first Saturday of every month in Church, with breakfast pre-cooked and brought down by car, and then hot drinks made in Church and served at 8am finishing by 9am. We are a diverse bunch with men from at least three nations, and although mainly from All Saints men are welcome from other churches too and do come.

For many Saturdays, we followed a book on seven Great men and seven Great women, and then on the 12 apostles, and now do whatever bible study is topical for the time of year. We normally gather, have breakfast and chat, do a short Bible study then pray and finally clear up and go.

Sometimes the themes we are looking at are serious like suffering or sin, and at other times more joyful like the birth of Christ or Easter. It's great that at

least eight men meet each first Saturday and sometimes more. It's a great way to use our Church building and bring men together so that as Bible says, "iron sharpens iron".

My hope is that group can continue to grow, no way are we a "closed group". Several men have joined us over the last two years.

My prayer is that this monthly meeting continues to be a place where we can grow closer to God, laugh, and share together and be a blessing for the Church here and wider afield. We are all looking forward to getting the church re-ordered and a servery fitted, so we can make breakfast in the Church building and welcome even more men.
(Tudor Roberts)

3.13 Safeguarding

All Saints is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and as a result regularly reviews our Safe Guarding Policy and follows safer recruitment practices.

It is a requirement that all who work with children, young people or adults at risk on to obtain a DBS check and this has to be renewed every three years. As well as this they all have to undertake Safeguarding Training at a level appropriate to their level of responsibility, which again has to be redone every three years.

In 2022:

- 15 people obtained or renewed a DBS check
- 5 people completed Foundation Safeguarding Training
- 10 people completed Basic Safeguarding Training
- 8 people completed Leadership Safeguarding
- 8 people completed the Domestic Abuse Awareness Training.
- 3 people were safely recruited to the Open the Book team
- Bev Kauppinen was safely recruited to be our Children Church and School's worker
- John Lindsay was safely recruited to take Holy Communion to people's homes.

Both the Basic and Foundation Safeguarding courses are available online and can be completed by anyone at a time convenient to you. Should you wish to do so please let me know and I will organise this for you.

I am also pleased to report that no safeguarding concerns were brought to my attention.

I wish to thank all those who have responded to my requests to complete training, provide references or renew DBS checks without complaint and so promptly.

In the coming year we shall continue to raise awareness of Safeguarding issues and review our policies and practices.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.14 Churchwardens' Report

With Coronavirus restrictions largely lifted, there has been less need for concern about numbers allowed in church, and the appropriate restrictions, although we do ensure that masks and hand gel are readily available.

John Halstead has been his usual helpful self and, as the practical one, the one who has ensured that any remedial work has been sorted quickly and efficiently. He has seen to the guttering and maintenance work inside and has also cleaned the paths with his jet hose, something which I shall continue, which saves the expense of bringing in outside work and help.

John also met with David Tapscott about the Swindon Food Collective comparatively recently. Verbal messages are now given weekly at the Sunday services and an email about the collective is also sent out weekly with requests. We are grateful to David and Margaret for their efforts with the Food Collective and other areas of church life but it is likely that I shall take over or help further with the Food Collective in the near future. I should also like to thank David and John for opening and closing the church when I am away.

Howard Benn has kindly agreed to take over the maintenance of the tower clock for which we are grateful. Plans are afoot, via the Parish Council, for a battery to be installed which will make life easier whenever there is a power cut.

After a couple visiting the church for the first time were nearly knocked down by a speeding van before they made it to the church, the PCC. agreed that I could complete the necessary Highways form and give it to the Parish Council for consideration. It seems that the form was accepted for lodging with a higher authority. It seems that there will be more emphasis and arrangements coming to the fore in other areas of the village where the same problem occurs.

Simon Belcher gave a helpful and informative talk to Sides people and other church helpers on fire training.

After a request from an interested genealogist, many members of the Standing Committee and PCC researched the Kibblewhite vault underneath the church floor and came up with some interesting information.

It was agreed that PAT testing would be carried out annually at a fee of £75 p.a. even though certain items only require a check every four years.

Julian Wright is gradually handing over certain responsibilities to me including the three-monthly check of interior items and exterior walls etc (which have been completed in a timely manner) and also the Health & Safety (whose document he has updated). Both of us would like to thank Julian for his unstinting work over many years and in many areas which has contributed greatly to the safety and legality of the church.

Although we are not due for a Quinquennial inspection until May 2025, John and Julian have discussed the outstanding areas of painting, gutter and pedestrian gate repair. Julian is also doing his best to tie Rixon's down to a date for the work to be done.

The Parish Council have used the church for their regular meetings over the last year although March will be their last. We would like to thank them for choosing the church over the last year.

May I end by thanking the PCC for taking me on as the church cleaner. Since November, I have endeavored to take certain areas at different times (polishing all the pews and spray-cleaning the carpet) to give the church a thorough clean.
(Andrew Roberts)

3.15 Reordering Project

Restoration and Renewal Report

The team includes Revd Tudor Roberts, Robert Bednarski, John Halstead, Nicky Iddon, Tina Wheeler and Julian Wright. We are committed to making our beautiful, ancient building accessible, hospitable and flexible so it can be used in all sorts of creative ways for God's mission and provide a community hub at the heart of the surrounding area.

Renewal

In Spring 2022 the proposed plans were presented in church and feedback captured and discussed. A list of 'Frequently Asked Questions' published on the Church website. A press release was sent to local papers/magazines to raise awareness locally. The proposals and architects' drawings were displayed in church and published on the website. We reviewed these in detail to ensure they reflected the vision and researched a list of potential funding bodies.

In summer, we engaged a consultant who wrote our 'case for support' to help with bidding and who extended our list of funding bodies. There are 70 funding bodies we can apply to. We also met with other churches who have reordered to learn from their experience. Our proposals were submitted to the DAC for a faculty.

In autumn, conservation bodies (Church Building Council, Historic England and the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings) provided feedback on our proposals. They raised a number of concerns and as a result, our proposals have been adjusted. Key changes are; to have a natural stone floor (rather than wood), a lower floor level, not to extend the chancel area, remove the platform lift, leave pulpit where it is and retain the carved door frame near its current location. Our changed proposals have been resubmitted and we are waiting to hear back. We will then commence fundraising in earnest.

Restoration

In Feb 2023 our architect's nave re-roofing Invitation to Tender was sent out. We have received one quote and need to receive two more.

I believe our plans will breathe new life into our church as a far more inclusive, warm, welcoming, hospitable and versatile space and secure its relevance for future generations.

(Tudor Roberts and Nicky Iddon)

3.16 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION REPORT

We live on a beautiful planet which clearly reflects God's amazing creativity. As stewards of God's creation, we have a responsibility and a duty to do what we can to be environmentally responsible. To help us focus on this, Tudor began the year with a sermon series on Creation Care.

In April, Mark Claybrough from the Living Churchyards Project visited our churchyard and advised on what we could do in the churchyard; from this a Churchyard Environmental Plan was created.

In May, Ivan Randall from the Living Churchyards Project visited the churchyard to identify the flora. He identified 43 different species of flora and grasses. A document listing these together with why these are good for pollinators is available on the noticeboard at the back of the church, together with advice on the best plants to attract pollinators into your garden. Paths were mown through the wildflowers at the back so people could enjoy them close up.

In June, there was a short talk on Fairtrade/ethically sourced goods. A leaflet was distributed on Fairtrade/ethically sourced goods, why they matter and where to find them. Fairtrade/ethically sourced coffee, tea and chocolates were served after the service. The church and vicarage have been supplied with Fairtrade tea and coffee to use for hospitality. Fairtrade, palm-oil free and slavery-free chocolates have been given out after a number of services.

Heather and I held a session with the children on caring for the environment where they built their own bee-hotels.

In July, The Church gained an Eco Church Bronze Award which recognised our commitment to caring for the planet in our Worship and Teaching, Buildings, Land and Community and Global Engagement. Sustainability has been built into our Reordering Plans. The certificate is displayed in the church and a webpage and eco badge added to the website. An article on this was published in the Parish Magazine.

In September, the seeds from the churchyard were harvested and made freely available at the Seed Swap Event.

In October, the main flower beds at the back of the church were dug over and wildflower seeds planted, using seeds harvested from last year plus a few new varieties for extra colour. Additional seeds were also planted across the churchyard and two buddleias were planted to support butterflies.

A huge number of bees and butterflies could be seen on the wildflowers in the summer. I even found four frogs. It was lovely to see villagers and others

coming to view the wildflowers at their height and take photographs.
(Nicky Iddon)

3.17 Vicar's Report

Acts 14:26-28 -Luke writes in Acts:

“²⁶From Attalia they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been committed to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. ²⁷On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. ²⁸And they stayed there a long time with the disciples”.

Looking back to this time last year the Church in Lydiard Millicent and NW Swindon has been on a journey. That is of course a much-used illustration, beloved by many clergy and preachers. Why? Because the Bible records the People of God; Israel with Moses and Joshua, leading them on a journey, or in the Gospels with Jesus going ahead with his disciples on a journey, and in the New Testament as Paul set off on his missionary journeys. So, the illustration works, and it's true today.



As I reflect on 2022/23, we are still emerging from the effects of Covid 19, and the Nation is still feeling the negative effects of Brexit and the Ukraine war.

During Covid, we started sending out YouTube videos and having meetings on Zoom. Covid is not over, it is still lingering. But I believe the local and national church is re-awakening to the need to be true to the gospel and also to regain confidence in that Gospel as people begin to come back to Church. Baptisms are booked, and we are now celebrating full Holy Communion.

I am so proud that from bellringers to sides people, musicians to those who visit, the reordering and roof team to those who work with children, the work that Churchwardens do and to those who put flowers out and help get services together, there is a great reason for thanks and joy.

The PCC has met nearly every month either on Zoom, in Church or the Vicarage. The Belltower has practiced on a Tuesday, rung on Sundays, at weddings and on the day of the Queen's funeral. The reordering team has met as a team regularly and also with the architect twice. Bev Kauppinen has started work in Schools and as her report tells us there is much reason for encouragement already. Three people from All Saints are foundation

governors. Please, if anyone would like to be a Foundation governor; we now have a vacancy on the Board of Governors for Lydiard Millicent C of E Primary School. Several people, as Heather Benn's report tells us, serve on an Open the book team across the wider parish and beyond, this is another great way of serving Schools in this parish.

This year has seen the strain on people's finances reach epic proportions, and David Tapscott is to be commended for having done a sterling job as Swindon Food Collective co-coordinator helped by Margaret. Others have flown the flag for Sat 7, and for Bible Society, and Julian has continued to coordinate the work of the Filling station, so that once every quarter food and drink is sent out to people living on the breadline. Thank you, David and others, for all you have done.

Sally Griffiths has helped coordinate the amazing flower team and Jane Halstead and the cleaning team have kept the Church tidy, that has now been handed on to Andrew who is doing that job each week.

Thanks are due to Karen Johnston who does my admin, to Howard who keeps people's IT running, and to both my Churchwardens for the way they use their differing gifts to keep Church and Vicar on an even keel.

Tina has done an amazing job not just as Treasurer but also as reordering Project Director ably assisted by Nicky Iddon and the team including Robert Bednarski and John Halstead our two engineering experts. Tina is due our thanks for the multi-roles she has done this year and she has now taken on the role of direct communication for the reordering with Emma Bakewell at the Diocesan advisory committee(DAC) and Rob Toal from our reordering architects. Julian Wright at the same time has taken on almost all of the communication with Annie for the Nave roof project, as well as getting an agreement with the Parish Council on the Clock.

We have hosted funerals baptisms and weddings as any Church would. Also, I am so pleased the Church has been used for Experience Christmas and Easter and concerts and will do so in the future too.

I hope that the 11-year journey we have been through seeking to get the reordering and roof done will soon go for Faculty, though as I write Heritage England seem to be asking questions yet again, I hope these will be answered and we can proceed, especially with encouragement from the DAC.

Bishop Lee retires after Easter; thanks are due to him for all the support and encouragement he has given all Saints over the years. There have been other changes in Swindon Deanery with some long-standing clergy such as the Vicars of Highworth and Haydon Wick retiring, and a new priest for mission joining St Marks and a new appointment at Parks and Walcott.

I am very grateful this year for a lot of work going on in the background. Beverley Belcher is doing an outstanding job as PCC secretary and along with Karen and Tina helped get the admin done for Bev Kauppinen's appointment.

Beverley also does an excellent job safeguarding. Personally, speaking my Family: Tricia, Theo, and Harriet are a constant encouragement to me.

So together we are all on a journey with Jesus and together helping to build the kingdom of God in this parish and globally with our mission links. I am hoping to take a group to Uganda in October so people can get a fresh understanding of what God is doing worldwide.

I am so encouraged by:

The success of the Bible Course and the way so many people serve God so generously at All Saints. By Experience Christmas and Experience Easter.

The sense that despite challenges, the Church of England is in good heart and people want to see Churches transformed. As I write this we are heading toward Easter, as Jesus headed to Jerusalem Luke recorded this:

“He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem” Luke 13:22

May we take up the Invitation to continue on our journey with Jesus? **He is faithful.**



*(Tudor
Roberts)*

4.0 Financial Review

4.1 Financial Arrangements

Banking Facilities: Barclays Bank, Regent Street, Swindon

Planned Giving Organiser: Tina Wheeler

Independent Examiner: Nikoleta Bates, King Charles Road, Swindon

4.2 Treasurer's report

In my report last year, I forecast a deficit of £10,000 in the general fund for 2022, but we were very fortunate to end the year with a small surplus. This allowed us to tithe 10% of our income and give an extra £1,000 towards our Parish Share.

The budget for 2023 is again showing that we will end the year with a deficit. This is based on our current known income and anticipated expenses. We are fortunate that I signed up to a new fixed rate contract for Gas and Electricity before all the rates increased. We have agreed to pay our full Parish Share to the Diocese in 2023 which is part of the reason we have a forecasted deficit at year end.

Most years when I prepare the budget it will show an anticipated deficit but usually, I find that we have unexpected income, some of the anticipated expenses do not take place and we end the year with a small surplus.

Thanks to a generous donation we have been able to employ a Children's worker and funds for that are held separately in the accounts, along with other restricted funds, such as Building and Bell funds.

We are holding £242,564 towards the Nave roof repair and the reordering. Once we get the faculty application approved, we will need to concentrate on fund raising for this project.

The PCC have approved the reserves policy which states why we are holding reserves and how much. It is a requirement of the charity commission that members are aware of this policy.

Thank you to everyone who has helped our finances to remain healthy during 2022.

(Tina Wheeler)

4.3 Reserves Policy

All Saints Church Trustees Annual Report - Reserves Policy 2023

The Reserves Policy deals with our General Fund of £55,165 at the end of 2022.

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

1. Building Fund £5,666 (Restricted)
2. Bell Fund £3,031 (Restricted)
3. Building Fund £241,664 (Designated)
4. Puppets £313 (Designated)
5. Children's Work £26,244 (Restricted)

Our Reserves

The PCC have agreed that we hold sufficient money in reserve, in our general fund, to cover six-months of expenditure (£48,000). The reason for this is twofold:

1. The church income in the last couple of years has not been sufficient to cover the month's average expenditure for normal running costs, including the Parish share.

2. In order to be able to adapt to any changes in the income and expenditure of the church in 2023.

The remaining £7,165 held in the general fund will be used to subsidise the projected 2023 income to allow us to meet our commitments.

Other Funds held for Specific Purposes

Restricted funds (Children, building and bell funds) can only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.

Designated funds are funds which have been set aside for a particular reason but can be used in an emergency.

We currently maintain a designated building fund which is for the planned refurbishment of our building and the repair of the Nave roof. The estimated total cost of this work is £750,000 of which we currently hold £241,664. The remainder will be raised by grants and donations.

The Puppet's designated fund is the residue from the puppets account which is being held until it is decided if the group will continue.

4.4 Accounts for the year 1 January 2022 - 31st December 2022

Nikoleta Bates
12 King Charles Road
Freshbrook,
Swindon, SN5 6NA

Tina Wheeler
49 Chestnut Springs
Lydiard Millicent
SN5 3NB

6th March 2023

Dear Tina,

All Saints Church Accounts 2022

Having examined All Saints Church accounts and reviewed the accounting records for period 01.01.2022 – 31.12.2022, I can verify that accounts have been kept correctly and accurately.

Yours sincerely,



Nikoleta Bates

**Statement of
Assets and
Liabilities (by
fund) As at: 31
December 2022**

Balance **Previous
balance**

Cash at bank and in hand

6504: RO Account • Asset

Reordering	Designated	40,100.00	
------------	------------	-----------	--

40,100.00

**6505: Barclays Bank •
Asset**

General fund	Unrestricted	30,912.82	26,937.50
--------------	--------------	-----------	-----------

Building Fund	Designated	588.20	8,191.00
---------------	------------	--------	----------

Building Fund	Restricted	5,630.55	4,885.50
---------------	------------	----------	----------

Bell Fund	Restricted	3,031.18	3,116.10
-----------	------------	----------	----------

Puppets	Designated	313.68	313.60
---------	------------	--------	--------

Agency collection	Restricted	153.22	
-------------------	------------	--------	--

Children's Work	Restricted	25,594.79	
-----------------	------------	-----------	--

66,224.44

43,443.97

Cash at bank and in hand 106,324.44

43,443.97

Debtors

205: Accounts Receivable • Asset

General fund	Unrestricted	3,968.70	
--------------	--------------	----------	--

Building Fund	Designated	3,799.99	
---------------	------------	----------	--

Building Fund	Restricted	108.00	
---------------	------------	--------	--

Building Fund	Restricted	36.00	
---------------	------------	-------	--

Children's Work	Restricted	36.00	
-----------------	------------	-------	--

Children's Work	Restricted	650.00	
-----------------	------------	--------	--

4,762.70

3,835.99

**D
e
b
t
o
r
s**

4,762.70

3,835.99

Investments

**6501: CBF Deposit
Account • Asset**

General fund	Unrestricted	20,532.32	20,265.70
--------------	--------------	-----------	-----------

Building Fund	Designated	201,344.08	243,129.50
---------------	------------	------------	------------

221,876.40

263,395.30

Investments 221,876.40

263,395.30

Agency accounts

**669
9:**

Agency

collections • Liability

Agency collection

153.22

Restricted

153.22

**Agency
accounts**

153.22

Balance

**Previous
balance**

Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year

6670: Cheques not cashed - Liability

General fund Unrestricted

110.00

110.00

204: Accounts Payable - Liability

General fund Building Fund Unrestricted

138.03

475.66

613.69

Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year

723.69

Grand Total

332,086.63

310,675.27

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

**Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December
2022**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Planned giving						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	54,409				54,409	55,047
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	2,847				2,847	1,926
0120 - Gift Aid - Restricted			7,924		7,924	576
0201 - Non Gift Aid	676				676	720
Planned giving Totals	57,932		7,924		65,856	58,269
Collections and other giving						
0301 - Cash GASDS	1,607				1,607	1,970
Collections and other giving Totals	1,607				1,607	1,970
Other voluntary receipts						
0501 - One-off G Fund	2,802				2,802	4,165
0510 - One-off Designated		41,395			41,395	313
0520 - One-off Projects			20,025		20,025	
Other voluntary receipts Totals	2,802	41,395	20,025		64,223	4,478
Gift Aid recovered						
0601 - Tax Recovered - GF	15,502				15,502	15,721
0610 - Tax Recovered - RF			1,546		1,546	144
0620 - Tax Recovered - DF		216			216	
1001 - Dividends		(21,785)			(21,785)	36,089
1020 - Bank Interest	266				266	10
Gift Aid recovered Totals	15,769	(21,568)	1,546		(4,253)	51,966
Other receipts						
08A1 - One-off grants						298
Other receipts Totals						298
Receipts from church activities						
1101 - Ministry Fees	1,622				1,622	1,250
Receipts from church activities Totals	1,622				1,622	1,250
Receipts Grand totals	79,733	19,826	29,495		129,055	118,233

Payments

Missionary and Charitable Giving

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
1850 - Tithe Giving					6,731	2,008
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals					6,731	2,008
Parish Share						
1910 - Diocese					56,100	64,260
Parish Share Totals					56,100	64,260
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers					2,552	81
2110 - Incumbent Expenses					2,323	1,858
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals					4,875	1,939
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	114		2,505		2,619	8
2210 - Church Groups	21				21	
2220 - Outreach						320
2270 - Training						235
2301 - Church running - Ins	2,218				2,218	2,134
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	760		20		780	981
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	717				717	52
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	162				162	300
2331 - Gifts Misc	57				57	156
2370 - Sundries Expenses	901				901	523
2401 - Utility - Electric	757				757	730
2410 - Utility - Gas	752				752	470
2420 - Utility - Water	241				241	163
Church Running Expenses Totals	6,706		2,525		9,231	6,075
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2310 - Church Minor Repairs	9				9	36
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	1,030		65		1,095	237
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	120				120	337
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	1,159		65		1,224	611
New Building work						
2701 - Church Major Repairs						3,022
2901 - Architect's/Consultant Fees		28,913			28,913	783
2910 - Church Enhancements		544			544	
New Building work Totals		29,457			29,457	3,806
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs		25			25	
Other Payments Totals		25			25	
Payments Grand totals	75,571	29,482	2,590		107,644	78,701

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not

Accounts

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of North West
Swindon and Lydiard Millicent
Trustees Annual Report
for the year ended 31 December 2021**



The Vicarage
The Butts
Lydiard Millicent
Swindon
SN5 3LR
allsaints-online.org.uk
Tel 01793 772417
Reg. Charity no. 1182788

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 24th April 2022

1 Organisation and Trustees

PCC Member	Retirement	Reason	Note
Tina Wheeler (Treasurer)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Nicky Iddon	March 2023	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2023	Elected Member	
Beverley Belcher (Secretary)	March 2024	Elected Member	
Heather Benn	March 2023	Elected Member	
Judith Mumford	March 2023	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Vacancy	March 2022	Elected Member	
Rev Tudor Roberts	Ex Officio	Incumbent	
Rev Tricia Roberts	Ex Officio	Minister Licensed to Parish	
John Halstead	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	
Andrew Roberts	Ex Officio	Churchwarden	From November 2021
Julian Wright	Ex Officio (2025)	Deanery Synod	

- 1.1 The trustees of All Saints Church were the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which had the responsibility of cooperating with, and supporting, the Vicar in promoting the work of the Church within the parish.
- 1.2 A Standing Committee, comprising the Vicar, one Churchwarden, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer, met regularly, and as necessary, to conduct urgent business. The Standing Committee also managed some of the day to day business which otherwise would take up time at PCC meetings. The Standing Committee reported on all its activities to subsequent PCC meetings.
- 1.3 The trustees are governed by the contents of Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as Amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2 Jan 1957.
- 1.4 The Trustees also have had a regard to the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit as directed in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.
- 1.5 The trustees are elected for a term of 3 years at the AGM from the membership. At the end of this period the trustee may seek re-election if they so wish.
- 1.6 There are currently 8 trustees who have met 8 times during 2020 with good attendance at each meeting.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 All Saints Church's objective is Promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish the Whole Mission of the Church.

Monthly Com Nor															4	7
YouTube* Total number of views															319 5	128 1
YouTube* average weekly view															80	53

The figures for 2006 to 2014 6:30 services include large figures at Partnership services.

The 6:30 began to be reintroduced in 2019 but due to low numbers stopped again mid-2019.

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2021. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

The Monthly Communion Service was stopped completely due to Covid restrictions.

3.4 Christmas Services

Service Attendance	Year														
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Christingle	97	102	81	86	87	85	60	81	92	121	150	75*	27	-	
Children	49	47	40	40	55	31	29	57	53	63	75	30*	18	-	
Carols	188	126	121	87	121	113	119	134	128	109	109	128	100	-	57
Children	31	26	20	20	23	21	25	34	69	19	37	12	7	-	6
Christmas Eve	120	101	86	89	146	65	85	81	92	121	150	146*	92	-	42
Children	80	66	63	46	48	15	35	57	53	63	75	40*	44	-	16
Midnight Comm	99	73	60	61	57	62	48	52	60	55	55	50	54	22	
Children	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	1	3	3	5	0	
Christmas Day	80	68	77	66	74	52	73	60	35	54	66	54	45	17	26
Children	37	23	24	22	26	17	18	7	12	15	9	5	9	2	1
Youtube Carol Service														59	
Youtube Christmas Day														51	

* NOTE: In previous years the Christingle and Crib Services have been the same service held on Christmas Eve. From 2018 there were two separate services so the attendances should be added together for each year;

In 2021 we did not hold a Christingle Service in December but it was held on 3rd January 2022.

In 2021 there was no Midnight Communion Service.

3.5 Easter Services

Service Attendance	Year	
	2020	2021
*YouTube Maundy Thursday		42
*YouTube Good Friday	58	43
Good Friday Service		18
Children		6
Easter Day		42
Children		3
*YouTube Easter Day	90	61

*The YouTube numbers are the viewing figures as listed on YouTube on 11/3/2022. We do not know how many people may have viewed the service as a household or the age of the viewer.

In 2020 there were no Easter Services in Church due to Covid.

Due to Covid there was no Service on Maundy Thursday. Once again this was available on YouTube.

A Good Friday service was held outside church along with a YouTube pre-recorded service.

Occasional Offices

Despite Covid restrictions during the year, there were 2 Wedding Services and 4 Funerals in church. There were 3 Baptism services in which 3 babies were baptised. Rev Tudor Roberts also conducted 3 Services at the Crematorium.

3.6 PCC Secretary

During 2021 the PCC have continued to meet regularly using Zoom. During the year we held 7 meetings and continued to follow the pattern of opening with a Bible reading and a prayer, a more focused section for prayer in the middle and ending with prayer. We were pleased to welcome Andrew Roberts as Church Warden in November and consequently as a PCC member. Once again Covid restrictions have meant that we have been unable to move forward on many things over the year but have continued to discuss the reordering project, safeguarding, finance and have been kept updated on matters concerning the Schools and the Deanery Synod. In November we welcomed Naomi Buckler who is the Planned Giving Advisor for Bristol Diocese to discuss our Parish Share. I am very grateful to Tina and Ginnie, who have kindly proofread for me over the year. As always, we work on behalf of the church members so please speak to any of us about any concerns or ideas. Currently there are vacancies on the PCC so if you would like to join us please talk to one of us – you would be most welcome.
(Beverley Belcher)

3.7 Deanery Synod Report

I became the All-Saints Synod rep part way through 2021 and report to the PCC but I choose not to attend their regular meetings.

The first two seasons were held on zoom, and I found these quite difficult until my camera and microphone were upgraded. Since then, we have held two live meetings which I attended with Tudor at Pattern Church and The Deanery Academy.

Topics discussed and foremost are:

ECO church

The diocese have appointed Claire Fussell as their Environmental Advisor and she highlighted the challenges that face not only the world but particularly our churches. The Anglican Church has declared that it will be Carbon neutral by 2030 and Claire presented us with a 'Pyramid of Action' and ways each church can help the Bristol Diocese reach this goal together.

This includes changing to greener energy suppliers, even if that costs more, 'Living Churchyards' such as the project Nicky Iddon is involved with and a series of Eco- awards for churches in our Deanery to work towards and achieve. These range from Bronze, Silver through to the ultimate Gold award. All Saints should soon be able to apply for a Bronze.

The synod has also looked closely at issues around **Racial Justice** particularly helped by the Vicar of St Barnabas who is the Diocesan Racial Justice champion.

Living in Love and Faith (looking at issues of human sexuality)

Deanery wide courses on LLF are being held some of which Tudor has already attended as there was a course on Zoom run just for Clergy. Do get in touch if you would like to go on a course or access resources

Transforming Church. Together.

Working groups have been discussing possible ways of implementing the vision and values which have been discerned as part of the Transforming Church.

Together conversations so far and their recommendations will be discussed at Diocesan Synod on 19th March. *(Julian Wright)*

3.8 Worship and Music Team

After the restrictions of 2020 it was a joy to return to something resembling normality in 2021, albeit a new normal, with face masks and hand-sanitiser still required. We had a new appreciation for things we previously took for granted, such as being able to meet in church, share in communion and sing. We were able to have live music again, while still being able to use Worship Lyric Videos for online services or when musicians were unavailable.

At the beginning of the year when we were still very much in the grip of the pandemic, we continued to run an online service for those unable to get to church, alongside a 10.30 Sunday service at All Saints when these were allowed. At Easter our Good Friday All-Age service was held in the churchyard, with a Good Friday Meditation online, and we were delighted to be able to celebrate Easter Sunday in church, which had not been possible the year before.

Later in the year we were able to resume using piano and guitar as well as the organ for Sunday services. By the end of the year we were pleased to be able to hold our Remembrance Day service in church once again and provide a number of Christmas services. No printed service sheets were used for any of the services with everything on screen and some lovely visuals, demonstrating new skills gained from 18 months of producing online services.

Our Carol Service followed the Nine Lessons & Carols format as usual but with no choir items. Instead Anne on the organ and a small number of singers led the congregation in traditional carols and a couple of duet items were performed by Heather & Emma Benn. Using recorded music we put on a Crib Service on Christmas Eve, led by Beverley, and a morning service in church on Christmas Day.

Thanks go to Karen for producing the service slides each week and to the faithful few who help with sound - rotas are back!
(Ginnie Heads)

3.9 J-club

Covid-19 continued with us all this last year but it nevertheless was a good summer with J-Club meeting 3rd Sundays outside in the churchyard after Easter 2021 which worked well. We have had fun sessions on the themes of Pentecost, Caring for God's Creation (our Bee session) and Feeding the 5000, all of which have been special times to remember and value. We were blessed with Nicky coming to explain about the church's bee and wild flower initiatives and why these are necessary. We were able to take the practical ideas of bee hotels and flower meadows home to carry on the good work.

The team aims for all 4 members (Judith, Alison, Beverley and Heather) to be present for all sessions where possible so we can continue to be connected as a team, plan, pray and be known by the children. Parents continue to be welcome and enjoy joining in. Theo, our Young Person helper, has faithfully come to most sessions too and we are very grateful for his company and views. The mix of generations provided a welcoming breadth of discussion for the two J club children who attended this summer.

We had a team meeting with Tudor planned in August to discuss the way forward for J-Club but this had to be postponed for personal reasons affecting the team. With Tudor unwell the wider church meet up to discuss forward vision was postponed and then omicron emerged around Christmastime generally putting most discussion and planning in limbo.

For the Autumn each team member organised one of the four Autumn sessions meeting outside where possible or in the hall if not and on 1st Sundays. Two of these sessions went ahead, one outside and our November Operation Christmas Child Shoebox packing session inside the hall; the other sessions were prepared but no children turned up.

With the advent of the new year Heather and Beverley stepped down from the J-Club team to focus on other roles and Judith and Alison took over joint planning and leadership of the sessions. We didn't meet in January but instead attended our church's Christingle service for families and children. The February and March meets did not go ahead as no children turned up.

As we go forth into Easter 2022 now is probably a good time to rethink J-Club, safely recruit enough helpers to the team and pray for more children to join us. *(Heather Benn)*

3.10 Bell Ringing

A return to regular bellringing from 3 or 4 ringers allowed early in 2021 to a full complement of 6 or more allowed from Easter '21 onwards was welcomed by all. With a robust risk assessment in place - focused on ventilation, hand sanitiser, masks and LFT testing before ringing we have been able to recruit and train several new ringers and allow those who had been isolating to return to the tower. We now have 12 ringers registered and ringing regularly at ASLM (including our 3 new recruits), enjoyable practices on Tuesday evenings and usually a full complement of all 6 bells rung weekly for services on Sunday mornings.

Last year saw one wedding, ringing to support the NHS and a special Sunday morning ring on 6th February 2022 to commemorate 70 years since the death of King George and Elizabeth's accession to the throne. Further ringing is planned for Jubilee celebrations in May 2022.

A recent tower 'tidy-up' saw a thorough safety inspection of the bells, renewed safety hand-rail rope and full first aid kit update to 2022 standards. Both tower Captains have completed Leadership Safeguarding training and DBS checks with all others having completed the Basic Safeguarding course as a minimum. *(Ann Hutchinson)*

3.11 Men's breakfast

The Men's group has met each first Saturday on Zoom throughout the last year.

We have people from two other Churches other than All Saints coming along and we average anything from 5 men on low days, to 9 people on high days.

We meet for fellowship and a chat and a study of the Bible and/or using a study book. Pre-Covid we would meet in Roughmoor Hall and enjoy bacon rolls and coffee, but Covid 19 has meant we have met on Zoom.

We studied a book looking at seven great women from Christian History which was enlightening for us all. Then we studied a book looking at all 12 apostles and right now as I write we are working our way through Doug and Jonathan Moo's book on Creation Care but may change to something a little lighter as it has been quite a challenging subject and book to go through.

Like the advent group that met on Zoom in advent 2021 and studied Evelyn Underhill's writings, meeting on Zoom seems to work; it is not perfect - we would much prefer to meet face to face - but Zoom has meant it takes up less time and means people can still meet even if they are involved in childcare from their home base.

We are always very open to other men joining and hope to be able to have some face-to-face meetings with bacon rolls in the Churchyard on a spring or summer's day.

(Tudor Roberts)

3.12 Safeguarding

I took over as Parish Safeguarding Officer in November and am very grateful to Tanya Stobbs for all she has done in this role previously. Since November 11 DBS checks have been completed or renewed, 9 have renewed or undertaken Basic Safeguarding Training, 6 have completed the Foundation Training and 3 are have nearly completed the Leadership level of training.

However, safeguarding is much more than checks and training it is down to us all to ensure that Safeguarding is thought about in all that we do and report any concerns we may have.

In the coming year I would like to encourage as many people as possible to undertake the Basic Safeguarding Training and explore the possibility of All Saints working towards the Safe and Welcome awards given by the Church of England.

(Beverley Belcher)

3.13 Churchwardens' Report

We now have two churchwardens thanks to Andrew Roberts joining me. He has been very conscientious in locking and opening the building on a daily basis, carrying out verger's duties and keeping the church clean for occasional offices. We work well together and I welcome him to the post.

The year has been dominated by Covid and the varying restrictions. Our response has been several risk assessments based upon changing government guidelines and Diocesan advice. We tried to keep the door open during services to maintain ventilation but when the weather became colder this was no longer an option. Mask wearing and distance keeping has been advised and requested but not enforced and most, but not all, of the congregation no longer wear them. Lists of those attending services have been kept for three weeks and then destroyed. At the time of writing, the lists have not been used to contact anyone regarding any infections. The policy will be reviewed by the PCC again at Easter time with a view to removing remaining Covid precautions.

There was a period of some months during the year when Tudor was off sick. I would like to thank everyone who rallied around to help keep the services and occasional offices on track. In particular I would like to thank Tricia for contacting substitute clergy and Karen Johnson for putting the services together for me. Many other people also helped out. Thank you.

The plans for reordering and repairing the Nave roof have continued apace and the consultation phase with the community and the congregation is just starting.

I know Andrew will want me to mention David Tapscott who has cheerfully stood in for both of us when we have not been available, as well as keeping a weather eye on our performance and prompting us when required.

The flowers have been particularly good this year thanks to Sally Griffiths and her team.

Anne and Ginnie have worked quietly and efficiently behind the scenes to select and produce the music for our services.

And last but not least, thanks to Tudor who seems to have been revitalised after his illness and has been cheerfully and energetically enthusiastic with his leadership of the church.

(John Halstead)

3.15 Reordering Project

The very first week We came to Lydiard Millicent back in 2007 I read this verse which I took as being from God for this parish.

Isaiah 54:2

New International Version

² "Enlarge the place of your tent,
stretch your tent curtains wide,
do not hold back;
lengthen your cords,
strengthen your stakes.

Since we brought a tent with us from Chelmsford and put it up in the garden, I guess we did obey this verse, but I always felt it was prophetic about what God wanted to do. Fast forward a few years and a series of circumstances indicated God's hand on what would become the reordering project. I had two people walk into All Saints and with no prompting say to me *why don't you turn this Church around and re-order it*. One person even had a vision and sketched it out on some paper, it looked exactly like the architect's plans that have developed. Also, two books one by Roy Strong and one by the Oxford Church fund got me and others thinking of what could happen.

The first Reordering team was brilliant, and we met a whole group of architects and picked Benjamin and Beauchamp who have proved to be the right choice. Our team now is made up of Robert Bednarski, Julian Wright, Nicky Iddon, Tina Wheeler, John Halstead, Tudor Roberts, and Bryan and Ann Hutchinson. Covid 19 did put a dampener on moving forward but in the last year the new team has met regularly on Zoom and lately physically (now monthly) and the following is the result.

The architects have made a site visit at which changes and comments made by the DAC were run by them, and the team went around the whole Church so that each detailed point could be absorbed and acted on. Hence the new plans which form part of our Presentation in the Church. We addressed all the points the DAC fed back to us on our initial plans and even though, during the depths of Covid, it took a "will" to re-engage with plans, we did this with the encouragement of Emma Bakewell DAC secretary, we did everything they asked, and the result is our fabulous new plans that we have today. The planning team has had to wrestle not just with plans but how we can fully exploit the enormous potential of All Saints Church as a re-ordered building to:

Worship in new and creative ways.

To open up the building even more to our local schools and the community groups such as the Pre- School and local businesses, who said they would value a facility such as we have envisioned that they can drop into.

During the last year, we have:

- Engaged afresh with the DAC
- Engaged afresh with our architects
- Commissioned Luc from Castleton Joinery to make a holy table from oak
- Re-contacted Harrington Organs who will make the new organ.
- Formed a plan to present everything to the community on March 26th 2022.

And hopefully, in April, we can apply for a faculty from the Chancellor of the Diocese to begin reconstruction of All Saints Church & the rebuilding of the Nave roof for which Julian Wright has such great advice and has already liaised with our Church building architect Annie. We intend to run this as one project and move out of the Church for one year once we have enough funds to begin work.

(Tudor Roberts)

3.16 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION REPORT

The PCC appointed Nicky Iddon as 'Environmental Champion' for All Saints mid-year. To manage our Eco Programme in a structured way, we've registered with 'Eco Church'. 'Eco Church' is one of the A Rocha UK's programmes to get to net zero by 2030; participation is encouraged by the Diocese of Bristol. Nicky has attended the initial training for this programme.

The PCC has agreed that we'll work towards an 'Eco Church' Bronze Award. There are also Silver and Gold Awards. To get an award you need to complete an extensive online evaluation of your activities under 5 headings:

1. Worship and Teaching
2. Buildings
3. Land
4. Community and Global Engagement
5. Lifestyle

To achieve an award, you need to come up to the same standard in all 5 areas. If you gain an award, you get a certificate, a plaque and these could possibly be presented to the church by Bishop Viv.

Nicky visited St Giles Church at Stanton St Quintin, Chippenham, who participate in the 'Living Churchyards' project. The team at St Giles have received the Bishops Award for the management of their churchyard for biodiversity. She and John Halstead have subsequently met with the 'Living Churchyards' representative for Swindon, for advice on managing All Saints churchyard as a wildlife haven.

Environmental impacts have been carefully considered as part of the Reordering Plans. The heating systems are more efficient, heat will be better conserved and there will be more natural light. The heating system will be future-proofed by ensuring that the underfloor heating can be connected to a heat pump when gas boilers are phased out. We will seek to recycle and reuse materials, furnishings and consumables wherever possible.

Finally, Tudor has given a sermon series on Creation.
(Nicky Iddon)

3.17 Vicar's Report

We are beginning to emerge from the 2 years of Covid 19 and yet now find ourselves on the edge of a terrible war in Europe. We must pray but not be without hope.

The reordering project is gaining momentum ahead of the 26th of March Launch. A man asked me, 'Why are you competing with the Parish Hall?!' Good question but a misunderstanding; just because we want to use a reordered Church for different things does not mean we want to be a hall. Our first priority as a church is the worship of the triune God and ensuring that the Church is a warm, welcoming and beautiful space to do that in. But wanting to make the Church into a flexible space does not mean it will not be a beautiful Church, suitable for Sunday worship, midweek worship, and occasional offices (W,B,F) yet also one in which we can switch things around for meals etc.

I can report that the 8am service has restarted and that so far, the maximum number of attendees is 2 or 3 including me. I am happy to continue with the service and will review this in September.

10.30 numbers gradually increasing and new people are coming along most weeks.

There is one wedding in May and funerals are increasing.

Baptisms are beginning to come in again, with one on 6th March and one adult one by immersion in February (2022).

I would like the PCC to look at links between schools work and what we do in church after the AGM.

The time for homegroups to restart has come with one at the Vicarage throughout lent studying Romans, plus onwards after Easter too if that works.

Peter Rogers, a trainee Licensed Lay Reader should be on secondment to us during May and June. He is currently based at Lydiard Tregoze and has been attending Men's Breakfast.

The Parish Council are organising Jubilee Celebrations in the village from Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th June and want us to do something during the Sunday Service. This is Pentecost Sunday so a time of celebration and I have seen some CPO leaflets that could be handed out to those who attend.

It's good to have welcomed people back to the vicarage for a meal after a baptism and this weekend I did an FIC appointment on the Saturday and a Wedding prep session on the Sunday pm. It seems things are getting back to "normal".

I would like to explore how we can pray effectively for everything in the Church including all the children's work we do - assemblies, RE work, Open the Book and looking to see numbers of children increase.

Can we do a mini staycation in September?

Can we re-start healing prayer ministry in services and coffee too?

Does anyone want to plan for a church pilgrimage to Israel in a years' time?
(*Tudor Roberts*)

4.0 Financial Review

4.1 Financial Arrangements

Banking Facilities: Barclays Bank, Regent Street, Swindon

Planned Giving Organiser: Tina Wheeler

Independent Examiner: Nikoleta Bates, King Charles Road, Swindon

4.2 Treasurer's report

Finance Report for Year Ending December 2021

For the first year since I have been treasurer the church annual income has not been sufficient to cover all the normal church running expenses and the Parish Share. This is despite the churches reduced outgoings, due to Covid. In order to avoid reducing our reserves the PCC decided to only pay tithe

payments to MAF and CMS and no other organisations. This decision allowed us to end the year with a small contribution to reserves.

When preparing the budget for 2022, having reduced our running costs as much as possible, it became obvious that if we continued to pay the diocese the same amount as we paid in 2021 the expenses would exceed our income by £20,000 at the end of the year. The only area where we could make further reductions in our expenditure is our Parish Share. Rather than reduce our contribution to the diocese by our expected shortfall, the PCC decided to use the surplus from 2021 and some of our reserves to cover £10,000 of the shortfall. We have therefore reduced our contribution to the diocese by £10,000 for 2022. This is not the best solution as far as the diocese is concerned and the PCC decided that if our financial circumstances should change, we will increase the Parish Share or give a one off gift.

The PCC have approved a reserves policy which states why we are holding reserves and how much. It is a requirement of the charity commission that members are aware of this policy.

Now the church can open again as normal I hope the finances may return to normal.

(Tina Wheeler)

4.3 Reserves Policy

All Saints Church Trustees Annual Report Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy deals with our General Fund £50,992 at the end of 2021. Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

1. Building Fund £4,921 (Restricted)
2. Bell Fund £3,116 (Restricted)
3. Building Fund £215,230 (Designated)
4. Puppets £313 (Designated)

Our Reserves

The PCC have agreed that we hold sufficient money in reserve, in our general fund, to cover six-months of expenditure (£38,722). The reason for this is twofold:

1. The church income in the last couple of years has not been sufficient to cover the month's average expenditure for normal running costs, including the Parish share.
2. In order to be able to adapt to any changes in the income and expenditure of the church in 2022.

The remaining £12,270 held in the general fund will be used to subsidise the projected 2022 income to allow us to meet our commitments to the building work.

Other Funds held for Specific Purposes

Restricted funds (building and bell funds) can only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.

Designated funds are funds which have been set aside for a particular reason but can be used in an emergency.

We currently maintain a designated building fund which is for the planned refurbishment of our building and the repair of the Nave roof. The estimated total cost of this work is £750,000 of which we currently hold £215,000. The remainder will be raised by grants and donations.

The Puppets designated fund is the residue from the puppets account which is being held until it is decided if the group will continue.

4.4 Accounts for the year 1 January 2020 - 31st December 2020

Nikoleta Bates
12 King Charles Road
Freshbrook,
Swindon, SN5 6NA

Tina Wheeler
49 Chestnut Springs
Lydiard Millicent
SN5 3NB

31st January 2022

Dear Tina,

All Saints Church Accounts 2021

Having examined All Saints Church accounts and reviewed the accounting records for period 01.01.2021 – 31.12.2021, I can verify that accounts have been kept correctly and accurately.

Yours sincerely,



Nikoleta Bates

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Balance sheet (Church of England)
As at: 31 December 2021

	As at 31/12/2021	As at 31/12/2020
	£	£
Current assets		
Debtors	3,835.89	4,708.78
Investments	263,095.31	227,294.95
Cash at bank and in hand	43,443.87	39,094.85
	<u>310,675.27</u>	<u>371,098.58</u>
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	—	(46.50)
Net current assets less current liabilities	<u>310,675.27</u>	<u>371,142.89</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>310,675.27</u>	<u>371,142.89</u>
Total net assets less liabilities	<u>310,675.27</u>	<u>371,142.89</u>
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General fund	51,003.31	46,998.81
Designated		
Designated - Building Fund	251,320.55	218,738.35
Designated - Puppets	313.88	—
Designated - Special Projects	—	—
Restricted		
Restricted - Building Fund	4,921.55	4,201.55
Restricted - Bell Fund	3,130.18	3,130.18
Funds of the church	<u>310,675.27</u>	<u>371,142.89</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)
As at: 31 December 2021

		Balance	Previous balance
Cash at bank and in hand			
6502: Barclays Bank - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	26,937.55	20,140.81
Building Fund	Designated	8,191.01	11,698.61
Building Fund	Restricted	4,885.55	4,165.55
Bell Fund	Restricted	3,115.18	3,136.18
Poppets	Designated	313.68	—
Agency collection	Restricted	—	(46.50)
		43,443.97	39,994.66
Cash at bank and in hand		43,443.97	39,994.66
Debtors			
6604: Debtors - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	—	650.00
		—	650.00
205: Accounts Receivable - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	3,799.99	4,620.78
Building Fund	Restricted	35.00	35.00
		3,835.99	4,656.78
Debtors		3,835.99	4,706.78
Investments			
6601: CBF Deposit Account - Asset			
General fund	Unrestricted	20,266.77	20,355.22
Building Fund	Designated	243,129.54	207,029.74
		263,396.31	227,384.96
Investments		263,396.31	227,384.96
Agency accounts			
6609: Agency collections - Liability			
Agency collection	Restricted	—	(46.50)
		—	(46.50)
Agency accounts		—	(46.50)
Grand Total		310,676.27	271,142.89

All Saints Lydiard Millicent - 1182788

Analysis of income and expenditure

Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Planned giving						
0101 - Gift Aid - Bank	55,047.03	—	—	—	55,047.03	57,839.40
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	1,926.25	—	—	—	1,926.25	2,399.60
0120 - Gift Aid - Restricted	—	—	576.00	—	576.00	576.00
0201 - Non Gift Aid	720.00	—	—	—	720.00	1,036.00
Planned giving Totals	57,693.28	—	576.00	—	58,269.28	61,811.00
Collections and other giving						
0301 - Cash GASSG	1,970.86	—	—	—	1,970.86	2,151.86
Collections and other giving Totals	1,970.86	—	—	—	1,970.86	2,151.86
Other voluntary receipts						
0501 - One-off G Fund	4,165.00	—	—	—	4,165.00	5,694.00
0510 - One-off Designated	—	313.66	—	—	313.66	695.00
0901 - Fund Raising Inc	—	—	—	—	—	376.00
Other voluntary receipts Totals	4,165.00	313.66	—	—	4,478.66	6,764.00
Gift Aid recovered						
0601 - Tax Recovered - GP	15,721.97	—	—	—	15,721.97	16,476.23
0610 - Tax Recovered - RP	—	—	144.00	—	144.00	144.00
0620 - Tax Recovered - CP	—	—	—	—	—	332.00
1001 - Dividends	—	36,089.80	—	—	36,089.80	18,953.40
1020 - Bank Interest	10.55	—	—	—	10.55	83.76
Gift Aid recovered Totals	15,732.52	36,089.80	144.00	—	51,966.32	36,991.50
Other receipts						
08A1 - One-off grants	—	298.63	—	—	298.63	7,807.13
Other receipts Totals	—	298.63	—	—	298.63	7,807.13
Receipts from church activities						
1101 - Ministry Fees	1,250.00	—	—	—	1,250.00	1,507.70
Receipts from church activities Totals	1,250.00	—	—	—	1,250.00	1,507.70
Receipts Grand totals	80,811.66	36,702.11	720.00	—	118,333.77	116,833.26
Payments						
Missionary and Charitable Giving						
1850 - Tithe Giving	2,008.00	—	—	—	2,008.00	6,600.00
Missionary and Charitable Giving Totals	2,008.00	—	—	—	2,008.00	6,600.00

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	TOTAL Last year
Parish Share						
1510 - Diocese	64,260.00	—	—	—	64,260.00	64,260.00
Parish Share Totals	64,260.00	—	—	—	64,260.00	64,260.00
Clergy and Staffing costs						
2002 - Organists & Speakers	81.00	—	—	—	81.00	3,500.00
2110 - Incumbent Expenses	1,858.95	—	—	—	1,858.95	2,049.41
Clergy and Staffing costs Totals	1,939.95	—	—	—	1,939.95	4,549.41
Church Running Expenses						
2201 - Young Peoples Work	8.60	—	—	—	8.60	110.00
2210 - Church Groups	—	—	—	—	—	173.58
2220 - Outreach	320.75	—	—	—	320.75	332.10
2270 - Training	235.00	—	—	—	235.00	210.00
2301 - Church running - Ins	2,134.18	—	—	—	2,134.18	2,091.66
2302 - Admin - Licences etc	981.05	—	20.00	—	981.05	1,042.81
2303 - Admin - Printing etc	52.10	—	—	—	52.10	727.28
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	—
2321 - Gifts Misc	198.26	—	—	—	198.26	38.50
2340 - Flowers	—	—	—	—	—	198.00
2370 - Sundries Expenses	523.96	—	—	—	523.96	765.60
2401 - Utility - Electric	730.00	—	—	—	730.00	504.00
2410 - Utility - Gas	470.00	—	—	—	470.00	630.00
2420 - Utility - Water	163.50	—	—	—	163.50	151.27
Church Running Expenses Totals	6,075.49	—	20.00	—	6,075.49	6,960.80
Church Repairs & Maintenance						
2310 - Church Minor Repairs	36.57	—	—	—	36.57	166.37
2311 - Church Furnishings & Eqp	237.58	—	—	—	237.58	249.22
2312 - Churchyard Maintenance	337.56	—	—	—	337.56	285.00
Church Repairs & Maintenance Totals	611.71	—	—	—	611.71	702.59
New Building work						
2501 - Church Major Repairs	—	3,602.23	—	—	3,602.23	28,830.04
2501 - Architect's Fees	—	763.95	—	—	763.95	10,421.01
New Building work Totals	—	3,806.23	—	—	3,806.23	39,251.05
Other Payments						
1701 - Fundraising Costs	—	—	—	—	—	231.81
Other Payments Totals	—	—	—	—	—	231.81
Payments Grand totals	74,875.16	3,806.23	20.00	—	78,701.39	124,775.66