



ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

Sunday, 17th March 2024

**ANNUAL MEETING of PARISHIONERS for the
ELECTION of CHURCHWARDENS**

in the Church at 12.15

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

in the Church at 12.30

Meeting Documents

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The Parish of St Mark South Farnborough

Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens

Sunday 17th March 2024 at 12.15 in the Church

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the meeting, Sunday 2nd of April 2023
4. Election of Churchwardens

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Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens

Sunday the 23rd April 2023 after the 10.30 Eucharist in Church

Present: Mr Deglan Rowe, Chairman and Churchwarden and 28 parishioners.

Opening Prayer It was decided by the Chairman Mr Deglan Rowe to forgo the opening prayer as all present had attended the 10.30 am Eucharist immediately before the meeting.

Apologies for absence were recorded from, Mrs Ann Ient, Miss Gwen Miller, Mrs Maria Smith, Mr Michael Evans, and Mrs Sue Evans.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Sunday the 23rd April 2023 had been distributed previously, and were approved as a true record of the proceedings. Proposed by Mr Mick Smith and seconded by Mrs Hilary Bellamy with all present in favour.

Election of two Churchwardens

There were two nominations for the position of Churchwarden: -

Mr Deglan Rowe, proposed by James Podger and seconded by Mr Michael Palmer, and Mr Michael Palmer, proposed by Mr Colin Lagor and seconded by Mr James Podger.

There being no further nominations for the position of Churchwarden, Mr Deglan Rowe, and Mr Michael Palmer were duly elected as Churchwardens to serve for a period of one year with all present in favour.

The Parish of St Mark South Farnborough

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 17th March 2024 in the Church following immediately
after the meeting to elect Churchwardens**

Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the previous meeting Sunday 23rd April 2023
- 3 Election of the Honorary PCC Secretary
- 4 Election of the Honorary PCC Treasurer
- 5 Election of Parochial Church Council Members
- 6 Aldershot Deanery Synod and election of Deanery Synod Representatives
- 7 The Electoral Roll
 - a) acceptance of the Roll
 - b) appointment of an Electoral Roll Officer
- 8 Financial Report from the Treasurer
- 9 Independent Examiner
 - a) Note of thanks
 - b) Appointment of the Independent Examiner
- 10 Safeguarding
- 11 Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council for 2023
- 12 Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church
- 13 Reports from Church Groups
14. Any other business, *to be notified in writing to the Chairman not less than seven days before the meeting.*
15. Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, The Parish of St Mark, South Farnborough

Sunday the 23rd April 2023

Immediately following the meeting to elect the Churchwardens.

Apologies for absence: as for the previous meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Sunday the 15th May 2022 had been previously distributed and were approved as a true record of the proceedings.

Proposed by Mr Deglan Rowe and seconded by Mr Jim Ennis. All present in favour.

The Electoral Roll

- a) Mrs Judith Gibbons reported that there were 56 members on the Electoral Roll at the date of the 2023 APCM, and there were 53 at the close of the 2022 parish year. The breakdown is: 30 members within the Parish, and 26 outside of the Parish.

There are two applications pending to join the Roll as soon as the meeting closed.

- b) Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs Gibbons agreed to continue as Electoral Roll Officer and was proposed by Mr Deglan Rowe and seconded by Mr Jim Ennis. All present in favour.

The Chairman's Report

Is attached as part of the 2023 APCM document pack. There were no questions to this report.

Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

This report is attached as part of the 2023 APCM document pack. There were no questions to the report.

Finance Report

The Treasurer's report and the 2023 accounts are part of the 2024 APCM document pack. The Treasurer made the following comments to his report: -

- If an Incumbent does not live in the Vicarage, then our Parish Share will reduce to £26k.
- If the vicarage is not used, then the Diocese would try to rent out the building. Any money collected in rent would go to the Diocese, not the Church.

Independent Examiner

- a) **Note of thanks:** - A note of thanks was sent to the Independent Examiner of the Accounts, Mr Patrick Brown.

b) Appointment of an Independent Examiner: It is hoped that Mr Patrick Brown will be willing to continue as the Independent Examiner for our accounts.

Fabric, Goods and Church Ornaments

The report is attached as part of this pack. There are a number of problems with the structure of the building which are allowing water ingress during heavy rain and strong winds. Thanks are due to Mrs Hilary Bellamy for arranging to have the worst areas repaired.

The Quinquennial Inspection is due next year (2024). There were no questions to the report.

Aldershot Deanery Synod report

Is attached as part of the 2024 APCM document pack. Mrs Judith Gibbons reported that hers, and Mr James Podger's term of office had two years to run, and not one as reported in the 2022 minutes.

There were no questions to the report.

Election of four PCC Members

There are two vacancies carried over from the last APCM, and two vacancies from members whose three-year term is at an end. There were four nominations to fill these vacancies: -

- Mr Peter Fane-Gladwin, nominated by Mrs Daryl Bates and seconded by Mr Colin Lagor
- Mrs Christina Fane-Gladwin, nominated by Mr Mike Palmer and seconded by Ms Daryl Bates
- Ms Angharad Nicholas-Podger, nominated by Mrs Judith Gibbons and seconded by Mr Jim Ennis
- Mr Jim Ennis, nominated by Mrs Jacqui Nicol and seconded by Ms Angharad Nicholas-Podger

Immediately following the meeting, Mrs Jacqui Nicol tendered her resignation from the Council. She apologised for any inconvenience caused by her resignation. The Chairman and the Secretary thanked her for her valuable contribution to the Council.

Mrs Lorraine Crossingham, who had been nominated by Mrs Hilary Bellamy and seconded by Mrs Margaret Lapwood, had indicated that she was willing to stand as a member of the Council if there was a vacancy. As all four vacancies were filled, Mrs Crossingham was co opted to serve on the Council until the 2024 APCM. She subsequently tendered her resignation from the Council on the 28th May 2023.

There being no further nominations from the floor, four were elected to serve for three years, and Mrs Crossingham to serve to the 2024 APCM.

Election of the Honorary Treasurer

There was one nomination for the post of Honorary Treasurer, Mr Mick Smith, nominated by Mr Mike Palmer and seconded by Mr Jim Ennis.

There being no further nominations from the floor, Mr Mick Smith was duly elected to serve as Honorary Treasurer for the period of one year.

Election of the Honorary Secretary

There was one nomination for the post of Honorary PCC Secretary, Mr Colin Lagor nominated by Mr Mike Palmer and seconded by Mr James Podger.

There being no further nominations from the floor, Mr Colin Lagor was duly elected to serve as Honorary PCC Secretary for one year.

Safeguarding

Mr Jim Ennis who took over the role as Safeguarding Officer part way through the year, continues to complete his training.

Any other Business.

Votes of thanks were recorded for:

Mrs Felicity Lewis for continuing to run her small team of Church cleaners.

Mike Palmer proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Mick Smith for his work in developing a new parish website and also to Mrs Anne Rowe for her work in maintaining the current website.

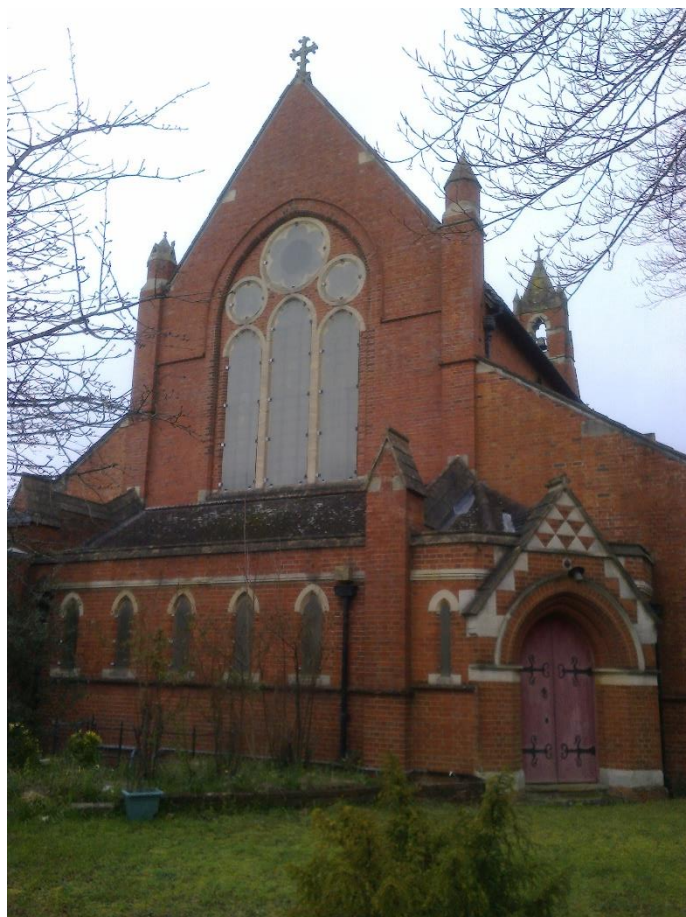
It was very good to have baby Elliot in Church today for the first time, his Baptism is being arranged for the near future.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with all present, saying The Grace together.

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Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2023



Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2023

1 Administrative Information

St Mark's Parish Church is situated on the corner of Reading Road and Alexandra Roads, Farnborough Hampshire. It is part of the Diocese of Guildford, within the Church of England. The Parish has no administrative support or office facilities. The address for correspondence is: -

- St Mark's Church Parish Office,
- Reading Road,
- Farnborough,
- Hants,
- GU14 6ND.

The Parish became a fully registered charity, registration number 1188893, with the Charity Commission on 3rd April 2020.

2 Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The PCC operates with three official sub-committees: the Finance, the Fabric/Quinquennial, and the Hall Management sub-committees, which are chaired by a Churchwarden. Each is made up of four other members, with the ability to co-opt other members as necessary. The Executive committee, which is usually chaired by the Vicar, and consists of both Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary. has not met due to the Interregnum. These groups make recommendations to the main council, where they are debated, and decisions made.

3. Objectives and Activities

PCC Role

- Work with the Vicar to promote the Church in the Parish, and its mission and how to improve this.
- Care for the Church and its future and structure.
- Promote links with St Mark's School.
- Ensure that all who wish to contribute to church life have the opportunity to do so.

In 2023 we started the year with our Parish still without a Vicar and the PCC still running the Parish. We were lucky to have the support of visiting clergy, until in July 2023, Rev Phil Roche joined us as Priest-in-Charge, supported by his wife Helen (LLM). The net effect has caused St Mark's to grow in reputation: 'Welcome to All'.

Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden

4 Electoral Roll

As the Electoral Roll does not close until two weeks before the APCM, this is not a "definite" report.

At the time of writing, the number on the Electoral Roll stands at 63, with seven people joining the roll since the last report and no names being removed.

It is worth noting that Electoral Roll numbers no longer affect us financially as far as Parish Share is concerned, so “the more the merrier” approach is not necessarily to be avoided. Electoral Roll numbers are used to calculate the number of Representatives we have at Deanery Synod.

Worth noting that in 2025 the Roll is cancelled and EVERYBODY will have to re-apply. All members will be contacted individually at the appropriate time.

Judith Gibbons

5 PCC Membership

The membership from April 2023 to March 2024 was:

Position	From 2023 APCM	At 2024 APCM
Priest-in-charge	Rev Phil Roche from July 2023	Rev Phil Roche
Lay Minister	Mrs Helen Roche from September 2023	Mrs Helen Roche
Churchwardens	Mr Deglan Rowe Mr Michael Palmer	Mr Deglan Rowe Mr Michael Palmer
Aldershot Deanery Synod	Mr James Podger (1) Mrs Judith Gibbons	Vacancy Mrs Judith Gibbons
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Michael Smith	Mr Michael Smith
Honorary Secretary	Mr Colin Lagor	Mr Colin Lagor
Elected Members (Full council = 9 members)	<p>Mrs Felicity Lewis (2) Mrs Daryl Bates Mr Jim Ennis Miss Angharad Nicholas-Podger Mrs Hilary Bellamy Mrs Margaret Lapwood Mr Peter Fane-Gladwin (2) Mrs Christina Fane-Gladwin Mrs Jacqui Nicol (2) Mrs Lorraine Crossingham (Co-opted) (3) No vacancies from April 2023.</p> <p><i>(1) Mr James Podger resigned leaving a Deanery Synod vacancy.</i></p> <p><i>(2) Mrs Nicol, and Mrs Lewis resigned in 2023 and Mr Peter Fane-Gladwin stated his intention to stand down at the APCM, giving three elected vacancies at the 2024 APCM.</i></p> <p><i>(3) Mrs Lorraine Crossingham was co-opted on to the Council to serve until the 2024 APCM. She tendered her resignation from the Council during the year.</i></p>	<p>Mrs Daryl Bates Mr Jim Ennis Miss Angharad Nicholas-Podger Mrs Hilary Bellamy Mrs Margaret Lapwood Mrs Christina Fane-Gladwin</p> <p><i>Plus three vacancies</i></p> <p><i>Mrs Daryl Bates term of office ends at the 2024 APCM making a total of four vacancies</i></p>

6 Review of the year January to December 2023

We started 2023 in a state of some uncertainty. Rev. Gareth Dicks had left the Parish in December 2022. The Vicarage was once again empty, and the Church managed by us. We were able to cover the services with continued support from Stephen Mourant, Keith Bristow from Ash, Bruce Nicole, Andrew Linn and Sarah Norbron from St Peter's, and Phil Roche. Holy communion was available at almost all of our 10.30 am Services, together with the 8 am Services on the first Sunday of each month.

We were fortunate to have Bishop Andrew, with Rev Stephen Mourant, join us for Palm Sunday and take part in our annual play, starting in the Hall and proceeding to the church. It was also wonderful that Gwen Miller (age 103) was able to be with us for the service and congregational photo in the church.

Following discussions with Archdeacon Paul Davies (now Bishop of Dorking), a new strategy was implemented for our future. Following the model of Godalming and other parishes, it was mooted that we might explore the possibility of a part-time priest and Rev Phil Roche was invited to conduct some services accompanied by Helen, his wife. Their visits went well and Phil was interviewed to join us as part-time Priest-in-Charge. On the 18th July 2023 he was inducted by Paul Davies into our Parish. Helen was licensed as our Lay Minister on 10th September 2023.

Since then, we have seen more new faces and better arrangements and constructive activities for the children. The church is generally open on Fridays, when Phil is present, together with the 8 am/10.30 am Services mentioned above. The pattern of Services was to resume with the Communion red book for the 10.30 am Services.

The Diocese let out the vicarage and our Parish Share remained manageable, enabling us to finance work to the church. We had leaks in the roof requiring urgent repairs. The entrance-way and its surrounds were re-pointed, making the brickwork look brand new.

We celebrated the King's Coronation in style, and Christmas was well celebrated with good attendances for our Christmas Services and Advent.

Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden

7 Report of the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) consists of six Ex Officio Members who serve for one year only, two Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and two Deanery Synod members, plus the Priest-in-Charge and Lay Minister. We are pleased that the Revd Phil Roche was inducted as Priest in charge on the 18th July 2023 for a period of two years and that in September 2023 Helen Roche was licensed as a Lay Minister in this parish.

The main body of the PCC consists of nine elected members who serve for three years. At the APCM, there were four vacancies, two new members were elected, and two members whose 3-year term was at an end, decided to stand again making the total Council members up to nine.

Immediately following the meeting, Mrs Jacqui Nicol tendered her resignation from the Council. She apologised for any inconvenience caused by her resignation. The Chairman and the Secretary thanked her for her valuable contribution to the Council.

Mrs Lorraine Crossingham, who had been nominated by Hilary Bellamy and seconded by Margaret Lapwood, had indicated that she was willing to stand as a member of the Council if there was a vacancy. As all four vacancies were filled, Mrs Crossingham was co-opted to serve on the Council until the 2024 APCM. She subsequently tendered her resignation from the Council on the 28th May 2023.

During the year, Mr James Podger one of our Deanery Synod Representatives. resigned from the Council. It was decided to leave this vacancy until the APCM.

Mrs Felicity Lewis and Mrs Jacqui Nichol resigned from the Council during their time in office, making two vacancies for PCC members. Mrs Daryl Bates 3-year term of office ends at the 2024 APCM and Mr Peter Fane Gladwin has stated his intention to stand down at the APCM. This makes a total of four vacancies for elected members of the Council.

The role of Safeguarding Officer was taken on by Mr Jim Ennis who volunteered to become the Safeguarding Officer as soon as he has completed his training. Mrs Vino Perera has volunteered to help him with this role.

During the past 12 months, the PCC has met for two special meetings, and seven normal meetings. The Archdeacon of Surrey (Paul Davis), and Rev. Jens Mankel (Mission Enabler - Revitalisation) attended one of the normal meetings, and the Archdeacon attended one meeting without Jens.

Parish health meetings with Jens.

The following subjects were discussed: -

- Clergy cover during the Interregnum.
- Formation of sub committees
- The appointment of Rev Phil Roche as Priest in Charge
- The updating of the Vision Statement Document for St Mark's future
- Meeting with the Archdeacon of Surrey and Church Planting Advisor (Jens Mankel)
- Approving the Accounts for the APCM
- Approving the addition of Mrs Helen Roche as part of the St Mark's Ministry Team.
- St Mark's School, the appointment of a new Head teacher, and the School joining the Diocesan Academy Scheme.

Colin Lagor, PCC Secretary

8 Churchwardens Report for 2023

Last year we said goodbye to Rev. Gareth Dicks, albeit we parted on good terms. It was evident that he could not offer what St Marks required, being a broad-based church. At first, what would happen seemed very uncertain, as clearly the Church Plant plan had not worked. Having consulted with the then Archdeacon Paul Davies, Paul promised a different approach. Following the precedent set by Godalming Parish Church, and also some other parishes within the Diocese, it was proposed that we had a part-time priest i.e. one who would still be in paid employment, but available to care of the Parish on Sundays and some additional days as agreed.

Meanwhile we relied upon visiting clergy for our services (late 2022 and into 2023). Stephen Maurant in particular came to our rescue, together with Haydon, Bruce Nicole, Mark Chester, Keith Bristow from Ash, Andrew Linn, Sarah Norbron, and a certain Phil Roche. Stephen Maurant was extremely supportive with the Easter Saturday Confirmation preparations and the St Mark's School Leavers' Service. He has continued to support our school with assemblies etc.

Phil seemed to show particular interest in us and ultimately, he was interviewed and appointed as Priest-in-charge in July 2023.

On Palm Sunday 2023 Bishop Andrew, Bishop of Guildford, honoured us by leading our 1030am service. This was the last service to be attended by our oldest communicant, Gwen Miller. Gwen was baptised in our church and sadly passed away in January 2024 aged 103 years.

We arranged a wonderful Easter celebration with Rev Mark Chester, and his wife, Zilla, again answering our prayers for Easter Day, to rise early for our annual Dawn Service. Mick Smith, arranged the usual small fire outside, which turned out to be a little livelier than anticipated as the stone cracked and caused a minor explosion when we were back in the church. The weather was kind to us, with a beautiful dawn and the colours changing in the East Window as the sun rose, together with the changing light in the other windows of the church. Some 35 people attended the service, followed by Easter Parish Breakfast and other entertainment including an Easter Egg Hunt in the Church Hall. This was followed by the 10.30 am Eucharist with Mark Chester presiding over the same.

In July we had Phil's Service of Induction by Archdeacon Paul, who would later be appointed Bishop of Dorking. Many dignitaries were in attendance, including the Mayor of Rushmoor and most of our neighbouring clergy. Helen Roche joined us as our first Licensed Lay Minister in September. Phil was keen for the congregation to be fully involved by way of offering training. Some members were trained as Communion Assistants, and two, Daryl Bates and Jim Ennis, (joining Deglan) as Occasional Preachers.

The new children's area was improved and supported by Angharad, Helen, Natasha and other volunteers. All Services now involve the children at the start and finish. This was a definite step forward. The church is also now open on Friday mornings for prayer, fellowship and 'Crafty Coffee'.

Later in the year, in typical St Mark's style, we were able to celebrate the coronation of His Majesty, King Charles, with a version of the King in attendance and everyone in their regal attire, together with a wonderful spread, principally organised by Daryl and Carole.

We were pleased to see the year out with a much-improved attendance during Advent and our Christmas services. We look forward to the year ahead.

Deglan Rowe and Mike Palmer, Churchwardens

9 Priest-in-Charge Report July -December 2023

Priest-in-Charge Report- July to Dec 2023

What a wonderful welcome given by, not just the people of St Mark's, but the wider area. St Mark's has shown that it is a really welcoming place. Welcoming not just me and Helen as Licensed Lay Minister, but welcoming all who come to St Mark's, and welcoming new ideas and ways of doing things.

It's been a very busy first six months, and it's been great getting to know everyone and working with the whole congregation and the PCC.

I've been charged with 4 priorities to focus on and these have driven the activities and direction for development within the parish. These are:

1. Provide Leadership & Pastoral Care to St Mark's with a focus on providing worship of a high standard, and opportunities to grow in discipleship
2. Ensure an effective link with St Mark's CofE Primary School, so that the church plays its part in the Christian Distinctiveness of the school
3. Work alongside the Mission Enabler (Revitalisation) in growing stewardship so that the church may be properly resourced for mission and ministry

4. Work with the Area Dean, Deanery Leadership Team, & Archdeacon in discerning the pattern of ministry beyond the interim period

1- Provide Leadership & Pastoral Care to St Mark's with a focus on providing worship of a high standard, and opportunities to grow in discipleship

A number of changes have taken place with the worship offered at St Mark's. This has focussed on establishing worship for the whole family, whilst maintaining the focus on communion.

We have reintroduced the use of the Church of England's Common Worship resources to provide the widest range of liturgical resources available. This has been supported by having Old and New Testament readings in addition to the Gospel. This increases the teaching and preaching opportunities for our preaching team. We've also been able to train and begin to deploy two more people as occasional preachers. This brings our team of occasional preachers to three, in addition to Helen and myself. JIm and Daryl are our latest occasional preachers, alongside Deglan, who are now part of our regular pattern of preaching. Well done and thank you

Alongside these changes in building the ministry team and liturgical resources, there have been a number of changes to the layout of our worship spaces to support and develop how we come together. The main changes have been creating space around the nave altar table by removing the old kneelers, returning to using the high altar and chancel for some services, and returning the memorial chapel to its main function as a chapel.

These changes have enabled us to consolidate our service provision, and introduce new services. Our pattern remains generally the same, but we have been able to adapt this for special days, eg Remembrance, and for new services. In October we held our first 'In Memory' service, and I expect this to become an annual event. This year we've also changed the special services through Advent and Christmas. These changes brought 54% more people to our services during this time compared to 2022.

Including our children and young people within our worship has also transformed things beyond my expectations. By having a clear time for children at the start and end of the service has given new purpose to our worship, and feeling of family that is so important to St Mark's. The relocation of the children's area to the south aisle of the church, carried out by so many willing volunteers, has been key in this development. Investing in new resources has also meant we can improve what is offered for our children and young people. But the instrumental force behind this transformation has been the small team of people who have committed to developing the work with our young people, particularly Helen, Judith, Angharad, and Tash, as well as others, for starting this journey of change. They have brought a new vitality and inspiration to our Sunday mornings. I'd also like to thank Marcus for the joy he's added, as well the unwavering dedication of the team working with the children and who spend time preparing the activities, supporting, praying and chatting with, and listening to our children during our services.

Our young people have also driven a development I was not expecting. I was asked if there was any reason why they could not support the distribution of communion. It is this question from one of our young people that gave rise to a team of ten people, of all ages, who have been trained and licensed to distribute communion. The team are also licensed to take communion to those who cannot make it to a service at St Mark's. Thank you team, for responding to the call, the support that you give in our worship in services, and also thanks on behalf of those who receive communion at home. .

There have also been a whole number of things 'behind the scenes' that have been going on. These include tidying, sorting and removing a whole host of items, paperwork, and things that have been

cluttering the worship spaces, and preventing us from having fellowship together. There have also been a number of improvements in health and safety management, administration, and practical improvements eg creating storage for our flower arrangers and safe storage of cleaning materials.

A big thank you to everyone who has been involved, and have worked so hard to support these changes..

2- Ensure an effective link with St Mark's CofE Primary School, so that the church plays its part in the Christian Distinctiveness of the school

The first step in building a more effective link with our parish school was to join the governing body. I did this in September at the start of the academic year, and it has been a pleasure working alongside the other governors, under the direction of our Chair Michael, to provide strategic support for the school.

I've also met with the Headteacher, who was also new at the start of the academic year and visited the children's classes. I'd like to thank Rev Stephen Maurant who has continued to regularly visit and support the school.

I'm pleased that the school has continued their long established traditions of hosting Harvest and Christmas services at St Mark's. Changes are also afoot at the school, such as the new 'Carols around the Campfire' service that took place in the school playground. It was a great success, and it was really good to meet a number of parents and families at the school. But see the school report for more details

I've also begun to consider how and when a team could be formed to undertake specific activities at the school such as 'Open the Book'. At the end of 2023 this was still a little early to instigate discussions, and of course it will need to be tied in with the School Development Plan. But watch this space.

3- Work alongside the Mission Enabler (Revitalisation) in growing stewardship so that the church may be properly resourced for mission and ministry

St Mark's is a church on a journey. A journey into a new lease of life, joy, sharing the love of God and growth. To help us on this journey we have been working with Jens Mankel, Mission Enabler (Revitalisation), a member of the Guildford Diocese Mission Team.

Jens has provided challenge, direction and helped to form a framework of activities, considerations, discussions, and workshops to support St Mark's on its journey. These have taken place with the PCC, and a wider group of people. We are now 6 months into a 2-year plan that will help us to

- Consider the strengths and areas for development at St Mark's
- Consider how we provide teaching and discipleship for our congregations
- Develop a mission plan
- Develop plans to ensure we can resource the discipleship and growth activities that are in the mission plan

This is a 2-year process, and good progress is being made.

I want to thank Jens for the support he's providing, and also to the PCC and wider group for their commitment and openness to the journey. Both Jens and I have been challenged and learnt a lot from being involved in this process.

One of the outcomes of this process already in place is the introduction of the Welcome Team who provide the initial contact for people at the start and end of our services together. A big thank you to Judith for coordinating this, as well as thanks to all who are part of the team.

4- Work with the Area Dean, Deanery Leadership Team, & Archdeacon in discerning the pattern of ministry beyond the interim period

This is the priority area where the least activity has taken place. So far, in discussion with the Area Dean, we have decided to pause any activity until summer 2024 at the earliest. This is so we can review the progress in the other priority areas, before commencing any formal planning. We need to have a clear picture of the direction of travel for St Mark's alongside seeking to see and hear God's vision for the future.

The PCC will of course have a key role in these discussions and prayers. Please pray for them as we progress through the coming year and deliberations commence.

However, part of the ongoing pattern of ministry at St Mark's is having an established local ministry team. The development of the ministry team is underway, with our occasional preachers, and other teams. In addition to this three members of St Mark's also attended a 'Nudge' event hosted by the Diocesan Mission and Ministry Team, to explore how God is calling them in terms of formal ministry. We will continue to support those who feel called to to be minister's of God, and part of the ministry team at St Mark's.

Thank you

I need to complete this section by publicly expressing my thanks to all those people who support the work of St Mark's. They include the PCC, those who support and take part in our worship, those who help and support with the provision of refreshments, who manage the church hall, and do all those unseen things that keep things running eg managing servicing the boiler, cleaning and shining the church in preparation for worship, provision of refreshments, and a myriad of other activities without which St Mark's would not be the good place it is. And thank you to everyone who comes to share in the worship of God, and the sharing of God's love wherever they go.

On the night I was formally installed as Priest-in-Charge in July 2023, I spoke briefly on three 'f's that sum up St Mark's

Faith

Food

Friendship

These remain true. But I've recently been challenged, and am considering adding a fourth St Mark's 'f'- Fun. Everytime I enter the church, church hall, or school, I see people smiling, a clear indication that people are enjoying themselves and having fun.

So thank you all for a fun first six months.

Rev Phil Roche

10 Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding of vulnerable adults and children is an important component of the work of St. Marks'. This year we have continued strengthening our safeguarding policies and practice. We are working closely with the Diocesan Safeguarding Lead to ensure that we stay up to date with policy and practice.

We use the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard ensure we are compliant. I was appointed as safeguarding lead for the parish in 2023 and I continue the work of Daryl Bates and Deaglan Rowe who previously occupied the role. All those who have a role in the parish have undertaken Safeguarding training and DBS checks.

Safeguarding concerns can be reported to Me, Rev. Phil Roche, Helen Roche, Churchwardens or any member of the PCC.

Jim Ennis, Safeguarding Lead.

11 Deanery Synod report

Since the APCM held in 2023, there has been quite a few problems with aspects of organisation and only one meeting has been held. Unfortunately, neither of our reps NOR our priest were able to attend. Minutes of the meeting tell us that everyone was delighted to be able to see the rebuilt All Saints Church in Fleet. The business of the meeting did not reveal anything for which we at St Mark's need to take action.

Following the resignation of my co representative, it will be necessary to elect another rep at the APCM to serve for the remaining two years of office.

Judith Gibbons

12 Fabric Report

The work to the Interior of the Church Hall continued so that use of the Hall would be satisfactory and more comfortable and attractive to visitors. New chairs were purchased and the painting of the rooms continued. The Hall thus looks fresher and more welcoming.

We were able to turn our attention to the church itself. With the sterling efforts of Hilary Bellamy and others, we were able to secure good quality contractors to sort out our various leaks in the church vestry roof and the repointing of the brickwork to the porch and surrounding area. The outside has already been transformed back to how it must have been some time ago and all within budget.

The kitchen area has also been improved so it is easier to keep clean and tidy and we look forward to further redecoration within the interior. A new children's area has been opened up on the southern side allowing better access and this is now in full use. Next year we will have the Quinquennial Inspection of the Church to look at the structure and other relevant issues, so the PCC and the wardens will need to prepare for this in April 2024.

Deglan Rowe, Churchwarden

13 Annex – Reports from Church Groups for 2023

A1 Church Hall Committee

The Hall continues to be an essential part of Parish and community life, being heavily booked all week and at weekends. We cater for a huge range of activities for people of all ages from little ones at music and movement sessions up to those more senior who go to the various U3A classes. We provide space for those seeking help in a number of ways and we are used by both Pentecostal churches as well as North Camp Matters Association and the Nepalese community.

During the last year we did not raise prices but will need to do so in 2024. We have installed new Fire Instructions in the rooms and Fire Assembly Points in the grounds. We have installed a Defibrillator in the foyer.

We are eternally grateful to those who volunteer for Work Days and help with emergency work. We could not manage without them.

It is necessary to state that managing the Hall has become an enormous task which the present manager is not prepared to shoulder after April 2025.

Daryl Bates

A2 Music

Paul Collins has played the music for all of the 10:30 Eucharist services for the reporting period 2023/2024. Paul's system is based on a Denon Professional Blu-ray / USB player and a 12-inch television. It uses a large keyboard-amplifier and loudspeaker that is matched to St. Mark's church and is positioned in the Chancel to emulate the sound of the church pipe organ. The system was first used for Eucharist services in 2012. It is basically a computer-based music player.



One advantage of using a computer rather than a CD player is that any music is straightforward and fast to find and play, which means that there are no unnecessary interruptions during worship. Other advantages over a CD player are that the correct number of verses can always be played and the Media Player can play other organ music and any music before and after the service and during Communion.

Paul Collins

A3 St Mark's Floral Team

Our team continues, undaunted by the fact that we are not numerous. Since our last report, Marie has handed over the reins but I remain eternally grateful for her continued wonderful arrangements. Very pleasing to report is the fact that a number of ladies, professing to be unable to arrange flowers, none the less have assisted us on numerous occasions, which is allowing us to continue to make St Mark's look beautiful at all times.

Rev. Phil asked if it was possible to have symmetry at the High Altar, and to that end two substantial plinths were made to my specifications. We are all agreed that it is rather lovely that congregation sitting at BOTH sides of the nave aisle can now see flowers.

We remain forever thankful that for the most part we do not struggle to find funds for flowers, with members of the church being extremely generous with their contributions, either when arranging when it is their turn on the rota, or donating for festivals and anniversaries.

At the time of writing this report, lent looms, and I hope that I can maintain the tableaux tradition as has happened over the last two or three years.

Exciting news is that a Flower Festival is planned for this year, to take place over the first weekend in June. The theme will be "An English Country Garden" and more details should be available by the time this report is received at the APCM.

Many many thanks to all who have assisted in any way towards keeping St Mark's 'beautified' this year.

Judith Gibbons

A4 St Mark's Library

There is a great diversity of books in the library ranging from prayer books, lives of the Saints/Apostles and seasonal information to name but a few. Some of the books were suitable for children so I have transferred them to the children's section. I try to display seasonal books on the top of the bookcase. When I first took over, I wanted to place books on the same subject together but unfortunately this isn't possible due to the different sizes of the books and different sizes of the shelves.

I do hope you will browse through the books on offer and indeed borrow them. I'm sure they will provide food for thought. If anyone has any suggestions as to what they would like to include in the library I would welcome them.

Jacqui Nichol

A5 St Mark's Website

Website address: stmarksfbro@outlook.com

Firstly, a big thankyou to Anne Rowe for keeping the website calendar, monthly prayer calendar and weekly scriptures up to date, this requires quite a lot of time to add the information to the site.

In late 2023 there was a major change to the look of the website which required a complete rebuild of the 'Home Page'. Church Edit have introduced 'Design Builder' which is now used to build the 'Header' (Top section), 'Content Page' (Middle section) and 'Footer' (Bottom) of the Home Page. It is hoped that the new format is acceptable. Any constructive criticism should be forward to the website administrators.

The menu has been kept as simple as possible, with the use of Buttons to redirect the user to the section rather than 'Click here' used in the previous version for redirection.

The layout has been developed to best suit the handheld devices such as the smart phone and tablet, as these are possibly the most used way of viewing the website. The colours used are black and white, the font is Arial, and some heading is purple.

There is still a large amount of work required to update the history of St Marks. This is an ongoing process and will appear in the menu as pages are developed and ready to be viewed.

The main aim of the website is to be forward looking. Previously the website was very retrospective and that part of the website is being updated to be more in line with the new format.

Mick Smith

A6 Social Committee

Once again we have had a very busy year in organising events both for the Parish and also for local Charities such as the Food Bank, Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and MacMillan Cancer Fund.

We continue to hold the monthly Parish breakfast which is very popular, as well as catering for other events. We celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with 'A Feast Fit for a King' which was enjoyed by over 50 people.

Before the arrival of Rev Phil in July we had found ourselves taking on responsibility for organising Lent Groups and other more ecclesiastical events. So, we are now delighted that Phil volunteered to join the Committee and we can discuss the events for Festivals and other occasions with fresh ideas.

Our annual Christmas Festival based around Christmas music was most successful and the next one is already being planned.

We are delighted that so many people take part in all that we organise and look forward to another successful year.

Daryl Bates

St Mark's CE Primary School

2023-24



St Mark's CE Primary School have had a busy year full of exciting events linked to the church and local community. On Wednesday 29th March 2023, we held our annual Pause Day which included our Easter Service at St Mark's Church. During the morning the children visited prayer stations set up the school hall, allowing time for reflection and quiet. In the classrooms each class focused on "witnesses" during the Easter story. A beautiful end to the day was to celebrate in church with our families and the St Mark's congregation. The children retold parts of the Easter story, using songs, poems, actions and bible passage. Yr5/6 wrote a fitting prayer to conclude our service. A huge thank you to Rev Stephen Mourant for coming to spend the day at St Mark's, he helped with our prayer stations, was quizzed by each class with their "big questions" and finally lead our service at the church. It was a very special day for the children to "pause" and reflect on the things which are important to them. Year 1/2 made beautiful Easter Garden's as part of our RE unit. The children invited their families to come a view their creations and explained to them the symbolism of each part. The children spoke confidently about the Easter story and could explain how these gardens helped them understand the death and resurrection of Jesus.



Our Year 6 children were delighted to attend the annual Leavers Service at Guildford Cathedral to celebrate with other schools their time at Primary School. They also had a fantastic day out at Wintershall, watching the fully immersive production of the "Life of Christ".



Three of our Year 6 girls were asked to prepare a "please" prayer as part of the Leaver's Service. They read this with great confidence in front of a packed cathedral.

In July we were able to return to the church for our school Leavers Service to wish our fantastic Year 6 good luck in the next stage of their education journey.

We also said farewell to Mr William Neighbour, our interim Head teacher.

As the new academic year began, we were absolutely delighted to welcome the arrival of Miss Vicky Ellis as our new Headteacher, ready to lead St Mark's on the next phase of our journey.

Our focus for our daily worship reflected on the story of Moses and journeying with him as he led God's people from Egypt and to the Promised Land. At the beginning of a new school year, it is always good to be back together as a community, and so we are used the story of Moses to help us to reflect on some important ideas about being a community together and about God, who looked after them. These stories can be found in the Bible, the Torah and the Qur'an, recognising Moses as a prophet and leader in all three of these Abrahamic traditions. In October we were delighted to be able to hold our Harvest Festival celebration in church. Our service began with the children singing "Who put the colours in the rainbow?" to a full church of families and our local community. As the last line of the hymn reminded us, God made everything. The first thing he made was light. This light can be split into all the colours of the rainbow. When you mix these, you can produce other colours. Colour is one of God's gifts to us. God was like an artist. He was happy with the world, so he painted it with many colours. He wants us to enjoy these colours. Each class celebrated a colour using songs, poems and drama. We said a big thank you to all our families for the generous donations to the Farnborough Food Bank at the Trussell Trust and The Larder at the Good Shepherd Church.



November saw us focus our thoughts on Remembrance Day, where we held our reflective service at school. The whole school came together for our service of remembrance. The children entered the hall, holding a poppy and listened to 'Nimrod' from the 'Enigma Variations' Op 36 by Elgar. We shared a special video which explained the importance of Remembrance Day and talked about the significance of this day for our school community. Year 1/2 read a poem called Poppy. Poppy before each class laid their beautiful wreaths made this year from recycled cups. This followed the Royal British Legion, who had made poppies this year for the first time from recycled materials and no plastic. The Spirituality Team led the school in prayer using the poppies. Year 5/6 read the poignant

poem In Flanders Fields before our 2 minute silence as a mark of respect for all those who have given their lives for us and for those who continue to give to keep us safe. The Last Post was played to signal the end of this reflective time.

Year 3/4 shared these memorable words....

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

We will remember them.

In school our Spirituality Team have continued to run JAM Club (Jesus and Me) for the younger children. Each week they choose a different Bible story to explore through craft and drama activities.



As Christmas drew near we began our celebrations with a Christingle worship in school and a focus on Advent. We were blessed again by the kind offer of help from Rev Stephen. He shared a beautiful worship with the children looking at the second candle of Advent and discussed the relevance of peace in our lives.

At the beginning of December the whole school were delighted to visit the Advent Festival at St Mark's Church. This year titled "Ding Dong Merrily". Each class had produced an artist interpretation of a Christmas hymn or carol. Year R looked at O Little Town of Bethlehem, Year 1/2 Hark the Herald Angels Sing,

Year 3/4 One Bright Star and Year 5/6 We Three Kings. We thoroughly enjoyed spotting all the different carols and being part of the special creative celebration. The children were delighted with the personalised letters that each class received from Rev Phil and Marcus the Lion.



St Mark's performed a beautifully sparkly nativity, titled "The Twinkly Nativity" in front of a packed audience in the church. Seven gleaming stars told a very special story and gave the message of God's love at Christmas to everyone. The Infants thoroughly enjoyed learning the songs and bringing the play script to life. They were extremely well supported by the Juniors who sang several toe tapping carols from the choir stalls. Our thanks again to Rev Stephen who shared prayers and blessings for Christmas.

"But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. This very day in David's town your Saviour was born—Christ the Lord! And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2 v10-12

A wonderful end of term community event, and first for St Mark's - carols around the campfire. What a delightful way to end the term in festive spirit together. Rev Stephen and Rev Phil, both joined us for carols, hot chocolate and mince pies.



The New Year brought a focus on a series of themes based on wise words - all of them from the Bible, all of them ancient advice about how to live, but in our modern world, they often sound surprisingly up to date! We link this ancient wisdom to stories from across the world and across cultures in the first half of the term, and then after half term, connect into the life and stories of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Easter.

Most recently we have begun our preparations for Easter, which began with a wonderful worship, led by our Spirituality Team for the beginning of Lent which included real pancakes! The Team set a challenge for the school to design new and tasty pancake toppings during the half term holiday. The children and staff are very much looking forward to our Easter Service which will take place in church, with the invitation extended to our parents, families and the church community. Our term will end with a traditional Pause Day, taking the time for quiet reflection, creative activities and personal prayers.

We look forward to sharing more of our school events within the church and with the wider St Mark's community throughout the rest of the school year.

Mrs Nicola Smith
Senior Teacher

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DIOCESE of GUILDFORD
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S SOUTH FARNBOROUGH (0108)

Financial Statement and Treasurer Report
Year Ending
31st December 2023

PRESENTED
TO THE
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF ST MARK'S SOUTH FARNBOROUGH (0108)
29th February 2024

Report of the Independent Examiner for the Year Ending 31 December 2023

ST MARK'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mark's, Farnborough

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- (1) which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:
 - the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
 - the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a part of an independent examination
- (2) I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to obtain a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Mr Patrick Brown
6 Kingsley Court
Windsor Way
Aldershot
Hants
GU11 1HZ

9th March 2024

1 - Financial Statement for the Year Ending 31 December 2023

St Marks has enjoyed a resurgence in the congregation during the year helped by the arrival of our new part-time vicar Phil Roche and his wife Helen, a Licenced Lay Minister LMM.

Standing Orders (SO) increased slightly throughout 2023.

The Diocese parish share for 2023 started at £3,099.59 per month. This figure was for a parish with a vicarage but no permanent vicar. In July the Dioceses let the vicarage to private tenants as the new part-timer vicar did not want to take up residence. This reduced the Parish Share to £2,184.96 per month. The Parish share for 2023 has been paid in full.

Works to deal with some of the outstanding quinquennial items were discussed and a plan and budget for these works was put in place. The work carried out during 2023 shows as expenditure. Those projects completed came in on budget or slightly under.

Income remains an issue. The Church Hall is still providing approximately twice the monthly church giving, and this is the only reason the church can function and remain open.

The church income for 2023 was £42,229.32 with expenditure of £61,065.93, with a restricted income of £573.70 and expenditure of £3,211.57.

The Hall income for 2023 was £60,999.99 with expenditure of £24,365.83.

Once again, as the Treasurer, I would like to thank everyone for their continuing support of St Marks.

2. 2023- Income

In 2023 the total income increased from £100,807.77 in 2022 to £103,803.01

This is a modest increase and was helped by the increase in parishioners' voluntary giving by standing order. The gift aid tax claims for the 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 tax years are still to be collected.

Planned Giving:

A) Monthly Standing Orders (SO) have seen an increase from £20,280 in 2022 to £25,155 in 2023. This is an increase of £4,875. A big thank you to the people who now donate by Standing Order. This regular planned giving gives the finance committee a better idea for planning and budgeting.

B) Gift Aid envelopes:

The Gift Aid envelope scheme has seen a decrease from £2,810.90 in 2022 to £2,575.00 in 2023, a decrease of £235.90. Some of the reduction may be because of people switching from the brown to blue envelopes or switching to monthly SO giving.

C) Gift Aid Blue envelopes:

The blue envelope scheme has seen a modest increase from £1,534.00 in 2022 to £2,366 in 2023, an increase of £832.00.

D) Open Plate Collection:

The open plate has seen a fall from £3,839.03 in 2022 to £3,697.92 in 2023, a decrease of £141.11. As the number of people attending services has been slowly increasing, this may be due to people moving to SO giving. I would ask if the taxpayers could use the gift aid form for the brown or blue envelopes and standing orders.

The SO planned giving, yellow envelope, blue envelope, open plate, and donations income for 2023 was ~£36,596, an increase of ~£2,600 in 2022. Good as these figures are they are still insufficient to cover the monthly running costs of ministry, insurance, and utilities before any maintenance and repairs are carried out.

The outstanding HMRC Gift Aid claim for the tax year 2019-20 and 2020-21 and 2022-2023 is still to be collected.

The Church Hall is the biggest contributor of income to general funds. Despite the Hall being virtually fully booked, 2023 has seen a small decrease income from ~£63,000 in 2022 to ~£61,000 in 2023. Without Hall income, life would be very different at St Marks.

2023 Income

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted		Total	Total
	Church	Hall	Development Fund	General Fund	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£		£
Voluntary Income						
Planned Giving Standing Orders	25,155.00				25,155.00	20,280.00
Planned Giving Yellow Envelopes	2,575.00				2,575.00	2,810.90
Gift Aid Blue Envelopes	2,366.00				2,366.00	1,534.00
Open Plate Unrestricted Cash	3,697.92				3,697.92	3,839.03
Gift Aid Donations	220.00				220.00	620.00
Donations	2,041.83		365.00	175.57	2,582.40	4,853.51
Donation Restricted 2526 Philippa Nicholas						
Restricted for New incumbent discretionary fund					0.00	
Grants					0.00	
Votive Candles	0.00				0.00	
Sundry Book Shelf Hall	0.00				0.00	32.00
HMRC Refunds	0.00				0.00	
	36,055.75	0.00	365.00	175.57	36,596.32	33,969.44
Income from Investments						
Bank interest & compensation	420.92		33.13		454.05	183.92
	420.92		33.13	0.00	454.05	183.92
Income from church activities						
Cakes, coffee, crafts	0.00		0.00		0.00	78.55
Monies to be paid out (Rest collected to	0.00				0.00	357.41
Fund raising Fayres (Any)	4,587.80		0.00		4,587.80	1,007.40
Hire of the Church	200.00				200.00	0.00
Church Hall Lettings (Income)		60,999.99			60,999.99	63,068.49
Magazine	0.00				0.00	0.00
St Mark's PCC Fees	963.00				963.00	1,530.25
Refund on utilities	1.85				1.85	612.31
	5,752.65	60,999.99	0.00	0.00	66,752.64	66,654.41
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	42,229.32	60,999.99	398.13	175.57	103,803.01	100,807.77

3 - Expenditure:

The total expenditure for 2023 was £88,663.33. This is an increase of £~£16,000 from the £72,731.93 figure for 2022, due to the quinquennial work carried this year.

The parish share for 2023 was £32,621.93 and was completely paid. St Marks paid the parish share monthly by standing order at rate of £3099.59 for six months then £2,184.96 for six months after the arrival of the priest-in-charge.

The financial situation remains unchanged from previous years; all expenditure has been put on hold and only essential and safety works have been, and will be, carried out to keep the expenditure as low as possible. The works carried out over the course of 2023 will be detailed in the fabric report.

The utility bills are being closely monitored. The electricity contracts for both the hall and church renewed in 2022 and will need negotiating in September 2026. Currently the church hall electricity cost is 22.34p/kWh and the church 22.59p/kWh with the standing charge 144p/day.

Gas is still on contract with British Gas until August and October 2024. A further one-year contract with British Gas has been put in place, but the cost is at the best price obtainable at 9.32/kWh and standing charge 200p/day. This means that the church and hall heating bills will be two-and-a-half times larger after August and September 2024, further increasing the dependence on the hall income.

A renewed effort is now required for fundraising for the Church building and roof fund. The Quinquennial report lists some work that is needed promptly to maintain the integrity of the building. After April 2024, this list will be added to placing a further burden on the limited income.

2023 Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Total	Total
	Church £	Hall £	General Fund £	Phillipa Nichols £	2023 £	2022 £
CHURCH ACTIVITIES						
Ministry						
Diocesan Parish Share	32,621.93				32,621.93	37,480.52
Working Expenses	1,171.41				1,171.41	313.00
Vicarage Expenses	695.80				695.80	413.83
Visiting Clergy	1,036.32				1,036.32	1,370.35
Upkeep of Services	1,499.34				1,499.34	1,087.19
Church						
Insurance	4,492.24	2,314.16			6,806.40	6,508.94
Utilities	4,216.78				4,216.78	3,612.25
Boiler Maintenance	206.40	105.00			311.40	1,132.14
Repairs, Maintenance Certifications	3,876.91	678.69			4,555.60	1,267.46
Church & Hall Notice Boards	1,212.00	1,212.00		3,036.00	5,460.00	
Church Music	-	326.76			326.76	1,055.34
Church Verger / Organist / Flowers	378.98				378.98	250.25
Memorial Chapel Project				-	-	
Hall						
Running Costs		6,897.14			6,897.14	6,100.85
Utilities		5,513.75			5,513.75	4,740.26
Hall Sundries		1,122.47			1,122.47	1,109.12
Hall Major Expenditure Repair Maint		6,195.86			6,195.86	6,144.43
Hall Bad Cheques Refunds & Deposit Returns					-	150.00
Other Parish Expenses						
Church Charity paid out	110.50		175.57		286.07	-
Church Management and Administration						
Church Parish Admin	45.00				45.00	16.00
Church Magazine	329.40				329.40	-
Church Quinquennial Inspections/wo	9,192.92				9,192.92	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	61,085.93	24,365.83	175.57	3,036.00	88,663.33	72,731.93

4 – 2023 Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £		Total 2023	Total 2022
General Fund:					
NatWest Bank 2526	71,072.00	357.41		71,429.41	60,712.78
C of E CBF No. 2 Account	12,983.39			12,983.39	12,580.21
C of E CBF No. 3 Account	571.15			571.15	553.41
Development Fund accounts:					
NatWest Bank 7625	3,604.00	11,932.62		15,536.62	11,567.62
C of E CBF Account No.4		1,066.87		1,066.87	1,033.74
Total Assets	88,230.54	13,356.90		101,587.44	86,447.76

5 – Movements in Restricted Funds during the year 2023.

	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	To be Transferred in 2024	Loans	Bal C/fwd
Dev Fund NW 7625 Gen	8,250.23	365.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,615.23
Dev Fund NW 7625 Memorial Chapel	587.39					587.39
Dev Fund NW 7625 Roof works	260.00					260.00
Dev Fund NW 7625 Philippa Nicholas	2,470.00		0.00		0.00	2,470.00
Restricted Funds Nicholas In Gen Fund	0.00		-2,470.00	2,470.00		0.00
Restricted funds held In NW2625 Gen Fund	923.41	175.57	-741.57			357.41
CBF No.4 004D Restricted	1,033.74	33.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,066.87
TOTAL	13,524.77	573.70	-3,211.57	2,470.00	0.00	13,356.90

Development Fund

The NatWest development fund, a restricted account, can only be used for PCC specified projects.

- 1) Nonspecific Fund: (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) restricted fund of £8,615.23 and receipts of £365.00.
- 2) Philippa Nicholas memorial Notice board (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) of £2,470.00 and zero expenditure, balance of £2470.00.
- 3) Memorial Chapel fund £587.39 and zero expenditure, balance of £587.39.00
- 4) Church Roof Works (Restricted within the NatWest ----7625 account) carry forwards of £260.00 and zero expenditure, balance of £260.00.
- 5) The restricted NatWest -----7625 account balance at 31 December 2023 is the combination of the £8,615.23, £2,470.00, £587.39 and £260 for a total of £11,932.62.

Forward to 2024 and further years

As in last year's 'Forward into 2022', St Marks is still at the point of unsustainability and some major actions will need to be taken to ensure the future of St Marks. The future of St Marks has been given a new boost with the arrival of Phil and Helen Roche.

For the year 2023, St Marks Parish Share was set at £32,621.93 for the year and this has been paid in full. The 2024 parish share has been set at £25,217.93 which equates to a monthly payment of £2,101.49. The parish share for a parish with a full-time priest living in the vicarage would be in-excess of £70,000 a year, or ~£6,000 per month. This is unachievable with our current income from the church which is ~£3,000 per month. In the current climate of increasing costs, the Church income is likely to be maintained or fall slightly, but the parish share still needs to be paid as this is the cost of Ministry. Ministry includes the vicar, his housing cost, pension, and support from the Diocese.

If St Marks is to be able to afford a permanent full-time vicar, the church giving will need to be raised to reach £102,000. With the church income combined with the hall income and expenditure a further £22,000 will need to be raised. This income would need to be maintained for several years if we are to prove to Guildford that St Marks can afford a full time Vicar. Increasing the churches income would reduce our dependence on the church hall income and would release more funds that could be used to increase our outreach works, (i.e. mission)

The potential £70,000 parish share would equate to a donation of approximately £95 per month or £22 per week with an Electoral roll of 63. Increasing the congregation is essential to produce this figure. Please also remember these amounts would not cover the costs of the insurance (£6,806 for 2023), utilities (£4,217 for 2023) and repairs (£7,286 for 2023), therefore we do need to increase our income independently of the church hall.

In April 2024 a quinquennial inspection and report will be produced at a cost of ~£1,400). This will highlight any areas of concern which will require extra funds to cover any new findings in the report plus existing issues, for example the dry rot in the roof. Keeping the temperature at 11°C in the colder months has helped to decrease the rate of decay, but the fact is that a >£400,000 bill for this is still a real possibility and the report may throw up others works which have to be paid for.

The Church Hall is still the saviour of the church, providing twice the average church income and half the expenditure on most months. St Marks is so grateful for the hard work and dedication of Mrs Daryl Bates, her family and team, in keeping the Hall in such good order and the bookings extremely high throughout 2023. There are some remedial works required for the hall to ensure that it is kept in a desirable condition for the hirers. There is planned work throughout 2023-24 that will require funding, but the hall income can deal with these bills.

Regarding the weekly/monthly collections and giving, if you have not reviewed the amount given, please could you consider increasing your donations to help address the shortfall in income against expenditure. The treasurer would ask if it would be possible to change your method of donation to a Standing Order as this gives a reliable and regular income to enable better budgeting.

Bank Account Functions

General funds

- NatWest Account ---2625 - this is the account used for the day to day running of the Church and Church Hall.
- C of E CBF No.2 account - this is the savings account for general non restricted funds.
- C of E CBF No.3 account – this is a designated account that can only be for music at St Marks.

Restricted Accounts

- NatWest Account ---7625- this is a restricted account and can only be used for the maintenance and upkeep for the Infrastructure of the Church, and specified projects.
- C of E CBF No.4 Account - this is a savings account for the development funds, same restrictions as for the NatWest Account

This report was presented to the Parochial Church Council for first review on 29 March 2023.

Compiled by Michael Smith
Treasurer for the PCC of the Ecclesiastic Parish of St Mark South Farnborough