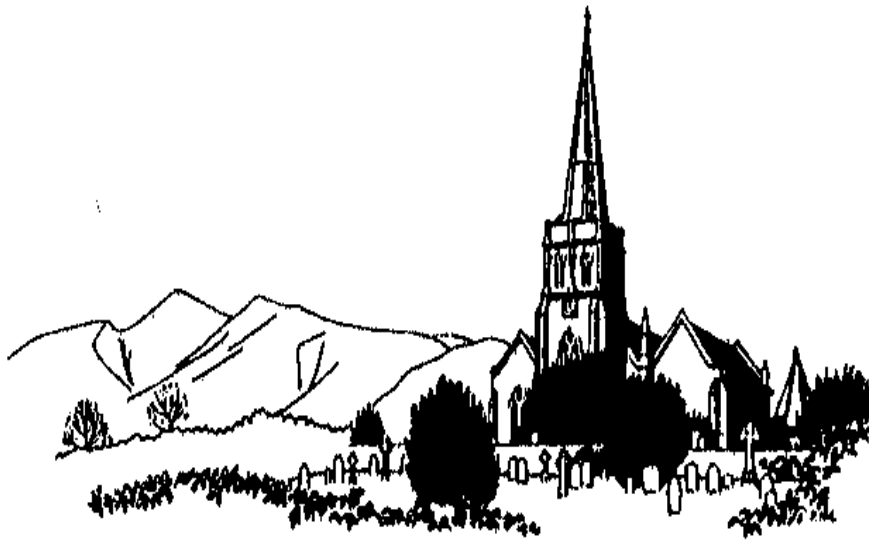


The Parish of Keswick St John

(Registered Charity Number 1207865)



**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF KESWICK ST JOHN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

**TOGETHER WITH AGENDAS
FOR THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2025**

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

**TO BE HELD IN CHURCH ON SUNDAY 27TH APRIL 2025
AFTER THE MAIN 10AM SERVICE**

The Mission Statement of the Parish of Keswick St John

In friendship together we resolve to worship God,
serve the community, and share our faith in Jesus Christ.

From the PCC 'remits and roles of sub-committees' approved March 2019

The Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the statutory body that works with the Vicar to further the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It may share its work with sub-committees as well as invite people to attend its meetings where that will further its work.

VISION - What is our Church about?

1. To worship God.
2. To be a Parish Church of the town, a spiritual home for young and old, for old and new residents, for all who come from the parish and beyond. (NB: The town is shared between two parishes; KSJ $\frac{3}{4}$ and Crosthwaite $\frac{1}{4}$)
3. To be a Parish Church that welcomes visitors from Cumbria, UK and all over the world.
4. To be a Parish Church that shares the Christian faith in ways that engage and transform people, using the best of what is old and not being afraid to embrace what is new.

ETHOS

1. To be open to God and where He is leading us.
2. To grow as Christians in the faith, as disciples sharing in God's mission, in all its breadth.
3. To encourage people to explore and discover their gifts, talents and vocation wherever and however God is calling them.
4. To be good stewards of all our God given resources, human, spiritual, material, environmental, financial.
5. To encourage people to get involved in the life of the Church, accepting that people's best is good enough and we should be gracious to accept it.
6. To praise and affirm what people do; to encourage people to start; to allow people to fail and try again and also allow people to stop.
7. Our discipleship is about relationship, and not control.
8. Our accountability is mutual.

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Administrative Information

St John's Church is situated in Ambleside Road, Keswick. It is part of Derwent Deanery and the Diocese of Carlisle within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DD.

PCC members who have served at any time during 2024/5 are:

Incumbent: The Reverend Charles Hope (ex-officio)

Churchwarden: Mrs Kathleen Beck

Elected Members:	Mrs Ann Clinker	(from APCM 2022 – 2024/5)
	Ms Penny Duttson	(from APCM 2022 – 2024/5)
	Mr Allan Daniels	(from APCM 2022 - 2024/5)
	Mrs Sue Lake	(from APCM 2023 – 2025/6)
	Mrs Margaret Purkiss	(from APCM 2023 – 2025/6)
	Mrs Cathy Hooper	(from APCM 2024 – 2026/7)
	Mrs Chris White	(from APCM 2024 – 2026/7)
	Mrs Rachel Frampton	(from APCM 2024 – 2026/7)
	Mrs Brenda Mumford	(from APCM 2024 – 2026/7)

(We elect 3 people for a three year term, or should there be vacancy in another 'block' of three years for the number of vacancies in that block.)

Deanery Synod:

Mrs Susan Leighton	(till APCM 2026)
Mr Bruce Mumford	(till APCM 2026)
Mr Terry Sloan	(till APCM 2026)
Mrs Brenda Mumford	(till APCM 2026)

(Deanery Synod members are elected every three years, vacancies are filled for that triennium. The next deanery synod elections are due in 2026)

Treasurer: Mr Justin Scott

Offering Assistance to the Parish:

The Reverend Rosemary Elliott
The Reverend Canon Tim Herbert
The Reverend Canon Michael Webb
The Reverend David Williams
The Ven Brian Smith
The Reverend Malcolm Stonestreet

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the 1956 Parochial Church Council Powers Measure, other Measures and Canons of the Church of England, as well as Charity Law. We are now registered with the Charity Commission.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds are to be spent.

The PCC may operate through sub-committees and working groups with delegated powers.

Aim and Purposes

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Charles Hope, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Objectives and Activities

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

When planning our activities for the year, we have an eye to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

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

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to support the incumbent in offering a range of services during the week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

All are welcome to attend our services.

Services are relayed via Zoom and Facebook all year. This enables the 'housebound' and those from further away to enjoy our services within the limits of the technology!

We have celebrated 3 baptisms, 4 weddings, and 14 funerals services in our church this year.

The PCC's Review of its activities during the year

The full PCC met in January and February before the APCM in April and then in June, July, September, November and December. Meetings were mainly held at the vicarage to save heating.

Justin Scott agreed to continue as Treasurer for the PCC, but not being a PCC member.

After consultation with other PCCs in the Mission Community, the PCC agreed to enter into a partnership agreement with the Diocese whereby we agree an offer level for the next three years and the Diocese agrees to maintain staffing in this area at the current level. The Offer for 2024 was set at £51,500; 2025 at £53,045 and 2026 at £54,105 (This sum is paid from the PCC General Income – that is primarily from regular stewardship, plate collections). The request from the Diocese is that Offer levels be both 'generous' and 'realistic'. In 2025 we will be meeting with the Diocese to review our 2026 figure to make sure it is still 'correct' and to start thinking of offer for 2027 onwards as well as wider stewardship issues. Income from rents has risen reflecting the increased use of our church for concerts.

The hard work and good housekeeping of the Finance Committee and the generosity of the congregation in response to the many losses of income helped to reduce the effect of those losses

The PCC warmly thanks everyone who faithfully and regularly contribute to the stewardship of St John's. Regular stewardship appreciably helps the PCC in budgeting and planning forward.

The PCC works through several committees and ad-hoc working groups as needed. The Standing Committee, made up of vicar, churchwardens, PCC Lay Chair, treasurer and secretary; this is a legal requirement under Church Regulations and is authorised to transact business between PCC meetings. Other committees are Safeguarding (as part of the remit of Standing Committee), Finance, Fabric, and Environment Group. These committees deal with different aspects of parish life. They are responsible to the PCC and meet regularly. Their recommendations are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary. The committee structure has continued to work well during 2024 and has the added benefit of freeing up time at PCC meetings to discuss broader issues.

Friends of Keswick St John is an independent charity which supports church maintenance and fabric. Their support and generosity are much appreciated.

It was great to be able to have a Parish Garden Fete again in 2024 – this was only possible because it was done in partnership with other voluntary groups in our town. Because it was a partnership we were able to play to everyone's strengths, such that a good time was had by all and funds were raised for everyone. Our thanks to all our partners including the St Herbert's School Choir, North Lakes Brass Band, Rotary, Lions, Knitters, Scouts & Guides and all the dinosaurs!

There is currently no PCC Secretary. The secretarial work has been shared between Susan and Charles.

Finally, the PCC wishes to warmly thank Charles and Kathryn and family for the wonderful hospitality they continue to offer the parish and all the work involved with Zoom and Facebook links to ensure that the church services were seen by so many people

The PCC

Electoral Roll Report

The Electoral Roll is due for renewal in 2025 for the 2025 Annual Meetings. At the time of writing this report, the review was still underway.

The number of electors on the roll as of 2nd April 2024 remained at 147 with 4 removed from the roll due to deaths, 4 new names added.

Eve Massey

Electoral Roll Officer

Derwent Deanery Synod

Our Deanery Reps are Bruce and Brenda Mumford, Terry Sloan and Susan Leighton, and this Synod meets 3 times a year. The speakers attending in the last year have ranged from Bishop Rob; two Church Commissioners (Investment Fund for countries affected by slavery, and Green Issues / agricultural tenancies); the Disability Access Advisor; a speaker from Mitre Housing Association; and a spokesperson updating us on the Carlisle Diocesan Net Zero Action Plan.

Information given to us has included reports from the most recent General Synod (The rep for our Deanery is Valerie Hallard, and she keeps us informed of the outcomes of the most recent General Synod); St Aiden's Church plant project (Binsey); and the Welcome Directory (where a Church can register to make it known that they would welcome those who have come out of prison - There are only two such Churches in the Diocese).

A report of the Deanery Synod is given at our next St Johns PCC, and once the PCC minutes have been approved – those minutes are displayed in Church (back wall Children's area).

As Lay Chair of Derwent Deanery Synod, I also get invited to the **West Archdeaconry Mission Pastoral and Parsonages Committee** (4 times a year). At this meeting each of the Deaneries (in our case the Derwent, Grasmoor and Binsey Mission Communities) report on their 'patches'. The Archdeacon (Stewart Fyfe) chairs the meeting. There is also a Financial, and Property review (alternate meetings), where the Diocesan Secretary lets us know the probable financial situation based on the Parish offers that have been received, and the Property team report on the number and state of vicarages.

Also this February I attended the Annual Archdeaconry Parsonages Committee at Rydal Hall (which looks in more detail at works proposed for Clergy housing, sales and purchases). If you would like to know more about any of these meetings, please ask me.

As Lay Chair I am also on the Diocesan Standing Committee – fortunately this has not needed to meet for the last 25 years.

Susan Leighton.

Diocesan Synod and Diocesan Board of Finance meets 3 times a year (2 full days and one evening). There are up to 4 Lay and 5 Clergy from Derwent Deanery Synod who may be elected, and in total a maximum of 112 elected members across the Diocese.

At present we have 5 Clergy reps but only 2 elected Lay members (so 2 Lay vacancies for Derwent Deanery) – it is a 3 year term of office.

At this Synod we begin with a short Bible Study and are led by Bishop Rob (at this time). We receive information from the Diocesan Board of Finance, and about the General Synod. There have been talks by a Church Commissioner (impact investment fund); on the Mission Community Development - Vocations and Ministry Strategy (by Rachel Head) including a report on the Diocesan Investment Programme (DIP) funding bid (focussed on growing new worshipping communities, growing and releasing leaders for mission, and growing younger); a report from the Mothers' Union (Rise Up campaign regarding domestic abuse); the annual report on Safeguarding; a report from the DBE (Diocesan Board of Education – there are 104 C of E schools in the Diocese); Building Strategy and the Carbon Neutral action plan progress.

The interviews regarding the post of Bishop of Carlisle are expected to have taken place in March – the decision is likely to be announced in May, for a possible start date Sept 2025.

Susan Leighton

Keswick Mission Community Annual Report on 2024.

Keswick Mission Community 2024

'Mission Community' as I understand it, has undergone a significant refocussing from a diocesan perspective. It is obvious that a huge amount of work has been going on behind the scenes involving Bishop Rob, the Archdeacons, Rachel Head (Director of Mission and Ministry, Support and Innovation) and many others too.

This led to the development of the new light-touch strategy and supportive toolkits – such as the garden planner. From this I draw a number of themes:

- 'Mission Community' will work differently in different areas – as parishes are unique, so too are Mission Communities.
- Mission Communities are about how can we collaborate on mission matters across parish boundaries in such a way that we support each other to be better at what we are good at; and how we can help each other cover the gaps.
- The garden planner is about thinking of what we need to 'prune'; bring to an end; nurture; plant (begin). In other words some things we can agree to stop; some things we will prioritise and put effort into; some things, no matter what we think, will die.
- Through it all it is about prayer, discipleship, ministry, vocation and seeking the will of God.

In Keswick, we have agreed that our joint efforts are best done through the work of Churches Together in Keswick (CTiK) – see their report for more information.

But along side that there are some things that are worth highlighting:

- A weekly prayer meeting is normally held on Wednesdays at 8.30am in the Crosthwaite Parish Rooms. Whilst it is normally Andy, Keith, Susi and Charles it is open to all!

- As local church leaders we are thinking about how we can engage directly in mission and evangelism (be it an Alpha or a pub group etc)
- As local churches we are much better at supporting each others events and sharing details of each others activities.
- All sorts of cross-church support and events are happening – think Parish Fair; summer club etc
- Parish Offer will continue to be developed in the context of mission community discussions with the diocese.

Charles Hope

The Church Building & Ornaments

See Churchwarden's Report below.

The Church building and churchyard:

The church is in good order and the quinquennial repairs are broadly up to date. Some works are outstanding – clergy vestry guttering, coping stones to the ramp, some slates, clock repair etc. We aim to get these done this year.

In 2024 the churchyard grass has been maintained in three ways:

- John Lowe and his team have cut the grass around the church, the ashes area at the Borrowdale Road entrance and the new area (Area 4).
- Community Pay Back, part of Probation Service, have cut the rest of the grass (Area 2 being the slope down from the upper terrace – was left uncut till most of the seeds from the wild flowers in the grass had fallen); and Area 3 being the area up the slope towards the Borrowdale Road entrance and onto the top – was cut on a regular basis throughout the year.
- Volunteers maintain bits of hedging, graves etc.

Community Pay Back has continued its work of filling in collapsed graves and 'lowering' raised graves with the intent that in the end a mower will be able to go straight over the top of all the burial areas.

The Town Council has agreed a grant of £2,000 to St John's (and £2,000 to Crosthwaite) to assist with the cost of churchyard maintenance in 2024.

Our thanks go to the Town Council for their grant aid of this important community facility for the town; to Probation Service for their sterling work and to our other volunteers for all their maintenance of hedges and planting of new saplings.

The church building is generally in good order.

In 2023, the faculty for the installation by NETCS of a mobile mast on behalf of Vodafone inside our church steeple was eventually approved as NETCS finally submitted their paperwork, after a long period of them reviewing the situation. This will give the church a rental stream for the next 20 years as well as a one off lump payment when the equipment is installed. Work on installing the equipment is due to start in March 2025.

Options for reordering the church, following on from the temporary reordering of the South Aisle and extensive consultation and discussions. The plans were submitted to the DAC in late 2024

and recommend by them to the Deputy Chancellor. We hope a decision on granting a faculty and subsequent work will happen in 2025.

Thank you to the Fabric Committee for keeping on top of the building repairs and management issues.

The movable furniture and ornaments

The freehold of the church and its churchyard are vested in the vicar. All the movable furniture and ornaments are in the legal ownership of the churchwarden. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance, preservation of the fabric and ornaments.

It is the churchwarden's responsibility to check annually 'The Terrier'. The Terrier was checked in March 2025.

There is a log of the key holders.

The team of cleaning volunteers have worked industriously since the end of the last lockdown washing chairs and pews and polishing the latter. Every two weeks they meet to vacuum and dust the church and clean the toilets. They also keep the vicar informed about items not working or broken – and signs of woodworm! The brasses are kept shining and kitchen cupboards clean thanks to other volunteers.

We are fortunate in having a skilled team of flower arrangers and decorations in church for both 'normal' times and special occasions. Social and fundraising events are managed by the social/entertainment group.

Church services

Our sidespeople perform a vital role in welcoming people to our church and making sure people feel comfortable and welcomed. Thank you to the team for all they do.

Collections are now made during the offertory hymn and using plates at each door and at the top of the nave. These are counted after the Sunday 10.00 am service by the counting team and banked by Eve Massey.

Lesson readers and intercessors are both vital to our services, as are the Chalice Assistants. Thank you to the volunteers – we are always delighted to welcome new volunteers, please have a chat with Charles, Susan or Richard.

Rotas for tasks associated with our services are maintained by Richard Blackmore who can be contacted via email on ksj.rota@gmail.com

The PCC

Reserves Policy

The PCC aims for the General Fund to be up to a year's worth of running expenses. This is to allow for cover for any unforeseen building work or sudden drops in income.

The Annual Safeguarding Report

Safeguarding Annual Report: Keswick St John & Borrowdale to the PCC & APCM

This report follows the template as recommend by the Diocese.

1. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer

Our Parish Safeguarding Officers are Geza & Richard Blackmore

2. Safer Recruitment, and Training

Our parish supports the following groups working with children and young people, and with adults who are vulnerable. For work with children this consists of the Summer Holiday 'day-clubs', delivered in partnership with volunteers of King's Church, Crosthwaite Church and with parents in attendance (ie no unaccompanied children) and the Toddlers Group (again with parents and no unaccompanied children). For vulnerable adults this consists of some home visiting and home communions.

The leaders and volunteers working with our groups have been safely recruited according to the Church's national guidance and we have ensured they have received the level of training required by the Church.

Safeguarding training is now online and in person. In 2024 this has been delivered in both ways.

In terms of paperwork and administration, we now use the template provided by the diocese and held electronically with relevant paperwork copies held on file.

DBS checks for PCC members continued in 2024 so that most PCC members have now been DBS checked. (This is a requirement of the Charity Commission where charities run / sponsor / support children's work or work with vulnerable adults, as well as the Church of England policy on Safeguarding.)

The PCC has approved the following activities involving children and potentially vulnerable adults: Toddlers, home Communion, home visiting, choir (adult). Events happening in church led by the St Herbert's School or by the Brownies are covered by the safeguarding procedures of the school and the Brownies. Any organisation using church for events with children and vulnerable adults must either follow the policies of Keswick St John PCC or have their own equivalent safeguarding procedures and this is reflected in the hiring agreements used by the relevant PCC.

All records are kept securely in the vicarage. Data safeguarding files on the computer are password protected. Historic paperwork will be kept securely in church and then in due course moved to the Diocesan Archive for as long as they need to be kept for statutory purposes.

3. Church Policy and Guidance

The PCCs has formally adopted the House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church; Safeguarding Policy statement', and Church of England safeguarding policy and guidance.

There are a copies of the parish Safeguarding Policy on all church notice boards, as well as 'Who's Who' in both parishes. There is a copy of the House of Bishops' policy statement and

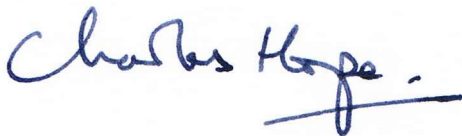
procedures in all churches. Copies are also available at the vicarage and are given to all authorised volunteers.

And finally, our thanks go to all our volunteers for their patience in doing all the paperwork and training. We live in a changed world where old certainties no longer work. Looking after children and vulnerable adults in our care is a shared duty of care.

Rev Charles Hope, DBS administrator.

Risk Management

The PCC manages a range of 'risks. Financial risks are the purview of the Finance Committee; Health and Safety and maintenance are part of the Fabric Committee's remit; and all Safeguarding issues are the responsibility of the PCC with day to day matters delegated to the Standing Committee as necessary.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Hope." The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Signed on their behalf by Revd Charles Hope (Chair of the PCC)

Reports

Vicar's Report 2024 – Keswick St John & Borrowdale

This is already a huge report, and I am not going to repeat what is said elsewhere, but commend it to your reading, reflection and prayer!

2024 was a very busy year in many ways. I will focus on four areas – church, schools, community, people. But I will do in the context of the four themes of the Diocesan God for All Strategy as below.

SPEAK BOLDLY - <i>A faith for all;</i> - <i>A faith for all aspects of our lives;</i> - <i>A faith that engages and inspires</i> Baptism follow up Wedding follow up Funeral Follow up Worship / groups that engage with those we are not engaged with	TREAD GENTLY - <i>Caring for God's creation:</i> - <i>Collectively;</i> - <i>Personally;</i> - <i>Prophetically</i> Church reordering and repairs KSJ & HTG Churchyard maintenance KSJ & STA
FOLLOW DAILY - <i>A living Christian faith</i> - <i>Living it</i> - <i>Growing in it</i> - <i>Sharing it</i> Bible study group Different sorts of services Lay involvement in Worship KSJ & B - reading & prayers / leading / speaking (preaching)	CARE DEEPLY - <i>Church as part of the Community</i> - <i>Church at the heart of the community</i> - <i>Church transforming community</i> Pastoral Care Connections with wider community & organisations - Scouts & Guides / Youth Club - Charities – operation & 'alignment' - Partnership working Schools* work

Although people is listed last, it should actually be first – People are the beginning, the middle and end of the church's mission and ministry. For that reason sometimes my admin is slow, but people take priority. I am aware that more people, from within the congregation and also in the wider community are in need of, and receive varying levels of pastoral care, from myself and others connected to St John's – support of colleagues in this ministry is much appreciated. I hope in 2025 to put more of a focus on this as we encourage people to develop vocations in the life of the church to lead our worship, explore different forms of worship for example.

Schools are a key element in our churches' lives and contributions to all our communities. The opportunity to lead school assemblies allows one to get to know the children and staff and bring a spiritual and Christian perspective on important issues, to share bible stories, the lives of the saints etc and so encourage young people to be aware of the value of the spiritual life and the

Christian faith. Governance is something that can take time, but is also an opportunity to shape the ethos and values of a school.

Community is the third aspect I want to reflect briefly about – on the one hand, I have always been a firm believer in the importance of the church being at the heart of the community, for the community. That is about engagement and support, encouragement and partnership. There is a huge amount going on in Borrowdale and Keswick with so many enthusiastic and able volunteers and organisations. Our great weakness is that everyone works brilliantly in ‘silos’ (including the churches(!)), but how much better we could be if we found ways of collaborating and supporting each other across our silos. This is progressing into 2025 and hopefully there will be more on this shortly.

For some reason, as Vicar of Keswick St John & Borrowdale and Rural Dean, I end up being a trustee of many organisations, including: Borrowdale Charitable Trust, Abraham Fisher Charitable Trust, Borrowdale Institute, Borrowdale Story, Battersby Hall Trust, Friends of Keswick St John, Keswick Linking Lives, Keswick Area Food Share, Keswick School Trust, St Herbert’s School Trust, Little Braithwaite Charity, Jessie Agnes Pearson Trust, Great Clifton Educational Trust, Diocesan Youth Centre. (Other trusts are delegated to Susi Wood - Threlkeld & SJV Trusts.) This creates work and opportunities – it is about aligning one’s organisations so that they are pulling in the same direction – and that is happening.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone in both our parishes for all that you do to support, maintain and deepen the life of our churches. A huge thank you to Kathryn and the girls for all their support to me.

Rev Charles Hope

Churchwarden’s Report

(Churchwarden Annual Report to be read in conjunction with the previous section on the church building and churchyard.)

The churchyard is in good order thanks to probation service ‘Community Pay Back’ team and John Lowe for grass cutting, thanks to Penny Dutson for her help and advice.

The outside of the church building seems to be ok apart from some long standing cosmetic repairs yet to be done.

Discussions are still ongoing about church reordering hopefully talks be completed soon.

Thanks to John Cooper Green and the choir for the wonderful music they give us .

Many groups have used the church during the year, regular meetings and concerts. It’s good to know our church is used by so many people, and people who write in our visitors book are from all over the world.

Grateful thanks to all the small groups of people who contribute to the life of the church, flowers, refreshments, cleaning, and sides people.

Finally thanks for all the support I am given I really appreciate it.

Mrs K A Beck

Church cleaning team

Our team of seven ladies meet on alternate Friday mornings at 9 am for approximately an hour and a half to do the general church cleaning. We are a happy, mutually supportive group and if you would like to join us you would be made very welcome. For further information, please have a chat with me or any member of the team.

Thank you to Chris, Kathleen, Lynn, Penny, Sandra and Sandie for your hard work and for covering for each other when necessary throughout the year.

Bridget Connolly

Brass cleaning report 2024

We meet every two to three months, depending on special dates which are celebrated in church. Volunteers are always welcome. If you can not stand for any length of time, it is fine to sit down and polish.

If you are interested in finding out more or coming along one morning to join us, please speak to either Bridget or Ann.

Ann Clinker

Refreshments

Thanks to the many people who volunteer their services on a regular basis we continue to be able to enjoy each other's company over a cup of tea or coffee after the 10.00 a.m. Service and on occasions Lunch or Supper. This is a very important part of our Church Family life and is very much appreciated by many of our regular congregation and also visitors. I would like to thank everyone who makes this possible. It is very much appreciated.

Cynthia Scott.

Choir and Music

MUSIC REPORT 24/25

The choir's new rehearsal times have continued to work well with more new members singing on a Sunday and joining us for the occasional Friday evening to prepare for special events, learn more complex music and socialise afterwards. Many visitors are amazed that this small Lake District town can produce a choir of such a high standard where many churches in larger towns have lost their choir altogether, particularly following the pandemic. We are a tourist town and I am delighted that more and more are choosing to sing with our choir on a Sunday morning when visiting. One singer wrote to me that they had "never been so welcomed to a choir". Some of the music the choir is singing now I would not have thought possible a few years ago. As ever the Carol Service, which was well attended, was a focal point. I always try to increase the

choir's repertoire by teaching them two new carols, this year I chose Michael Head's "The little road to Bethlehem" and John Gardner's lively setting of "The holly and the ivy". One of my favourite services in the year is the "Epiphany Service". With so much turmoil in the world we felt the need to have a service at the start of the year which developed the meaning of Christmas and Christ as the bringer of peace. Without all the razmataz and commercialisation we were able to have a reflective service which left many moved.

Charles and I have tried to give the services in Lent a different flavour. I have been using the organ only for the hymns and the music settings for the communion have been unaccompanied. Another change has been the singing of a psalm using Anglican pointing between the Epistle and the Gospel. The psalms contain so many meaningful words and I have been delighted how the choir and congregation have reacted to them.

St. John's is becoming one of the foremost churches in the diocese for music and it is encouraging that more and more groups and soloists wish to perform in the church. We are delighted that Keswick Music Society has made St. John's their new home and we have been privileged to hear some front rank performers. We are also pleased that Keswick Choral Society have developed a close relationship with the church and now hold both their major concerts in the church. This year we have been able to present a Summer series of outstanding concerts.

We have the most loyal, committed and enthusiastic singers who give up so much time to support the church and I know this is very much appreciated by the congregation and clergy. I also want to thank John Duff, Kathryn Hope and Howard Marriott who so willingly step in and lead our worship from the piano or organ, thus giving Frances and me the freedom to go away. Thank you all for your support.

John Cooper Green

Churches Together in Keswick & Neighbourhood (CTiK) 2024-25

Andy Murphie and Angus Whiteman were appointed as co-chairs at the AGM in November 2024 and are supported by Keith Rigg as Secretary, Charles Hope as the interim treasurer with Allan Daniels as vice-chair. The number of lay representatives from churches has declined and there is space for additional representatives from every church.

Activities for the year remain aligned to the four Vision Refresh themes with both ongoing and time specific activities. The ongoing activities include support for the Two's Company Keswick befriending scheme, the summer holiday club, holding each other to account for church responses to the climate emergency, Christian Viewpoint in the Reminder and joint adverts for Christmas and Easter services. The specific activities held were the Good Friday Walk of Witness followed by hot cross buns; Easter Sunrise service; Day of Prayer; Quiz evening for Christian Aid; Joint services for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Creation Care and FairTrade.

The CTiK Council meets four times a year at the Quaker Meeting House and in addition to the usual reports we share the joys and challenges of each church, share our church responses to the Climate emergency, and consider how we can best work together as the Christian community in Keswick and the surrounding villages. There remains an ongoing desire amongst the churches to work together and support each other, whilst recognising there is limited capacity to take on new projects.

Keith Rigg
Secretary, CTiK

Two's Company Keswick Befriending Scheme 2024/25

The Two's Company Befriending Scheme is now in its fourth year and continues to grow, establishing itself as a mature provision within the community. We consistently receive positive feedback regarding the benefits of befriending, both for the visitors and those being visited. Recently, one of our referrers expressed, 'Your service is so supportive and really is what people of Keswick benefit from being so rural. I cannot stress how significant the impact of your service has on our patients.'

Currently, we have 38 trained volunteers and 34 scheme members who receive regular befriending visits, either at home or in the community. This equates to nearly 800 face-to-face visits and 140 befriending phone calls over the year. Although these figures are similar to last year, they do not reflect the dynamic nature of our scheme where volunteers retire and are replaced, and scheme members change for various reasons with new referrals constantly coming in.

Referrals are received from a wide range of sources, including healthcare professionals, family, friends, and individuals themselves. Our monthly activity afternoons at Greta Gardens continue to be well attended by both scheme members and other residents. In November, we conducted an awareness session at Booths in Keswick to further enhance our profile. The scheme always welcomes new referrals and volunteers, who are always needed.

Special thanks are extended to Fiona Overend, our dedicated scheme coordinator, for her hard work and effort in ensuring the smooth operation of the scheme. We also express our gratitude to Sara Sutton, who provides essential administrative support. Our trustees deserve recognition for their oversight, and we appreciate the support from our churches and the Keswick Rotary Club.

Keith Rigg
Leader

Flowers in Church

We have four regular members of the Flower Team, Bridget Connolly, Margaret Purkiss, Cynthia Scott and myself. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and commitment. We have had a few extra people helping at Easter, Harvest and Christmas; this is very much appreciated by the Flower Team. We really do need more people to help us as we are getting older.

Because of the cost of flowers and the need to water arrangements regularly we will be using silk flowers and make new arrangements regularly. We have also decided to use a combination silk and fresh flowers at Easter, Harvest & Christmas to cut down on costs.

We are always happy to welcome others to the Team (men!!! or women). You don't have to be an expert. If you would like to have a go, I will be happy to give you some help. Please see me in church or call me on 017687 75742.

Sue Lake

Mothers' Union, Keswick Branch

Mothers' Union meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month from October to March, at 2.00pm in St. John's Church. We start each meeting with a short Service followed with a guest speaker and finish with a cup of tea and cake.

Our theme for 2025 is 'Join Us and Join In'.

We have interesting and informative speakers at our meetings. Last Christmas for the first time we had a Christmas tree in the Tree Festival in the Methodist Church. Our members knitted over 100 Christmas Crackers to decorate the tree, filled them with chocolates and donated them to Keswick Food Share. We are continuing to support "Away from it All". This is a caravan at St. Bees for families in need.

The MU would not function without the hard work and support from Rev. Charles Hope and Rev Andy Murphie, our secretary Christine White and our treasurer Rev. Michael Webb. A big thank you to our members who bake cakes, and all who give me their help and support at each meeting.

Our meetings are open to everyone, why not come along. We are a very friendly group and you would be made most welcome.

Lynn Hazell, Leader Keswick Mothers' Union

Pastoral

This team involves Gaynor Williams, Chris White and Susan Leighton. Between us we visit those who cannot now get to Church which is appreciated by them.

If you know of anyone who may like a visit, please see Charles in the first instance.

Thank you also to Rosemary for her work in leading the Communion at Homethwiate House and to Brian for leading the Communion at Greta Gardens. These services are much appreciated by the residents of these places as well as others who join them too.

If you know of anyone who would like a home visit, or home Communion, please let Charles know.

Susan Leighton

Prayer Chain

There are now 13 people who are committed to praying for those who have asked for our prayers. People from our congregation may be asking for prayers for themselves or their family and friends.

For those we may come across who are experiencing difficulties in some way, by offering to pray for them, we are letting them know of God's provision and care.
Prayer is very much appreciated by all who ask, and part of our role as disciples.
If you would like to join this group, please contact Susan Leighton or Stephnie Critchley.

Susan Leighton (in conjunction with Stephnie Critchley).

Homethwaite House

The very faithful congregation of between five and seven people meet on the first Monday of each month in the lounge for Holy Communion which I normally take. A lot of visiting is done of Homethwaite residents and many come to church regularly as well. Over the year we have lost four people who were faithful members too (may they rest in peace and rise in glory), but we remain in good heart.

Rev Rosemary Elliott

Rainbows, 3rd Keswick

The Group continues to meet on alternate Monday afternoons.

Gill Warren,
Brownie & Rainbow Leader

St Herbert's School Report

In May 2024 I took on the role of a Foundation Governor at the school. Chris White had been a very active Foundation Governor, and the school had really appreciated her diligence to the role.

Just before she stood down the school had both Ofsted and SIAMS (The Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspections which resulted in very good reports.

In September I became part of the Curriculum and Standards Committee (with Early Years being my Link Governor Area), and Emma Bain from St John's is also part of the Curriculum and Standards Committee (with Pupil Premium being her Link Governor Area). As well as preparing for, and attending meetings, a Governor is involved in Monitoring Visits.

The Full Governing Body meets 5 times a year, and each new School year there is a lot of official paperwork to read and complete. And during the year School policies are reviewed on a rolling basis before being approved, as well as official documents such as for Safeguarding - Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE).

If you wish to know more, please ask me.

Susan Leighton Foundation Governor.

And The Rev Andy Murphie, Chair of Governors, writes:

St. Herbert's Primary School – Report to Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2024-25

St. Herbert's Church of England School is supported by Foundation Governors nominated by both Crosthwaite Church and St. John's Church. Revd Andy Murphie and Revd Charles Hope, as Incumbents, are ex-officio Governors. During 2024 and into 2025 Governors from our churches have been active in attending meetings, visiting the school, supporting school activities, linking up with subject leaders, judging competitions and assisting with various trips and residential. The core function of Governors is to support and challenge the school in terms of its vision, accountability and financial oversight and we have aimed to do this in the context of the school's strong Christian values of Wisdom, Hope and Aspiration, Community and Dignity. All these values stem from the Church of England's Vision for Education that all pupils live "life in all its fullness" (John 10:10).

The School Prayer – used regularly in Collective Worship – is:

Almighty God, we thank you for our school.

We thank you for everyone here.

We pray that our school will be a place where we learn to love,
as we love to learn

A place where everyone is respected and all are deeply valued. Amen.

In 2024, the School had two inspections – the Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS), which is the 'church school' inspection, and Ofsted, which is probably more familiar to people as the government sponsored inspection of schools. On both occasions the school was rated 'Good' and received a great deal of positive feedback from Inspectors. Ofsted wrote "Governors understand the school's priorities well. They provide effective challenge and support to improve the school further." SIAMS wrote that the school was "living up to its foundation as a church school". It commented on the way in which pupils "are provided with every possible opportunity to enable them to experience 'life in all its fullness'. As the only primary school in this community, pupils, and their families, of any faith or of none, are warmly welcomed in."

Clergy regularly lead Collective Worship at St. Herbert's and regular services are held in both St. John's and at Crosthwaite. Where possible, Charles and Andy have aimed to be present together to emphasise our churches' shared interest in and support of St. Herbert's. Services are held in our churches at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and in the summer for School Leavers.

Andy Murphie

Toddlers

Our Toddlers Group continues to meet once a month and has proved to be very popular. When one group move on to Nursery School we welcome a new group of babies and toddlers which keeps the numbers pretty steady. The sessions can be pretty hectic but are fun and it is lovely to watch their progress. The parents and grandparents are very appreciative and enjoy the opportunity to chat with other adults over tea, coffee and cakes. We also provide fruit and drinks for the children. I would like to thank Sue, Margaret and Brenda for their help and also Kathleen for all the help and support she gives to us in all our activities.

Cynthia Scott.

Friends of Keswick St John.

From FOKSJ Annual Report - Main Achievements 2024

The Friends trustees have remained the same during the year and the numbers of members has remained fairly constant.

The Parochial Church Council have made no requests for funds during the year though discussions have taken place about the possibility of supporting part of the renovation and reordering of the building. A request is expected once the PCC has had permission to commence the work.

The investment of funds on a deposit account has proved very successful as will be seen in the Treasurer's accounts.

The Friends Annual get together was held as usual in October and attracted a good number of members and people from the local community. Chris Lewis spoke about the Keswick School of Industrial Arts which flourished from 1884 for a hundred years. He brought a number of examples of the work and referenced the artefacts in St John's which were of great interest to all who came.

Our fundraising has been of mixed success. We held a Cornish Cream tea at Greta Gardens in May which proved highly popular both with the residents and local people. The sum of £512.15 was raised and the Friends were invited to make this a regular event in the complex. Sadly, it was not possible to hold the Trivia Quiz, possibly because of other quizzes around the same time, and this was postponed to May 2025.

The members have received the usual two newsletters during the year. The first around Easter contained the Annual Report and details of the plans to reorder the church building. The second in the autumn featured the pictures of the Celtic Saints, painted by Sister Irene.

We have been very grateful to all those who continue to support the Friends and raise funds for future projects. We rely on a very small team, especially of the trustees but also kindly assisted by other members of St John's who bake and help with events.

The trustees have read the Charity Commission's Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance and have regard to this when running the charity. The guidance is available on the Charity commission's gov.uk website.

The membership at the end of the year was 43.

Rev Michael Webb
Chair, FOKSJ

Treasurer's Report 2024

2024 Treasurer's Report

General Fund

This is the main fund of the PCC and the receipts include regular stewardship payments, general donations, general collections and general legacies. The funds are used to meet the day to day costs of St Johns and also to make the monthly Parish Offer payment. Excluding legacies the figures are broadly similar to 2023.

There were several generous legacies in 2024 which have increased the overall reserves. Planned/regular giving was materially the same as in 2023. Rental income has been increased due to the new mobile phone mast which gave rise to a one off fee of £5,000 and ongoing fees of £1,000 a quarter. The gas, electric and water costs in 2023 were reduced by brought forward overpayments and the 2024 figures whilst higher, particularly gas, were as budgeted. The current electric and gas contracts end in Summer 2025.

Churchyard Fund

The Churchyard income was broadly similar to 2023. In addition there was also again a £2,000 Grant from Keswick Town Council.

Fabric Fund

The Fabric fund benefited from a legacy in 2023. There were no specific legacies for the Fabric fund for 2024 and hence the income was greatly reduced. The main expenditure in 2024 relates to the proposed reordering of the church interior.

Other Funds

There were no material movements on the other funds in 2024.

This is a general overview of the 2024 figures. Please let me know if there are any specific queries.

Justin Scott
Treasurer.

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of Keswick St John

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective Responsibilities of PCC and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of the Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the 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 PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

Signature



Name

VANESSA METCALFE .

Date

25/03/2025 .

Receipts and Payments

PCC of Keswick St John
Receipts and payments
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

<i>Note</i>	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
CYard - Churchyard (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Donations - Churchyard		425	1,634
Grants Received		2,000	2,000
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	2,425	3,634
Income from charitable activities			
Fees - Churchyard		3,366	6,212
	<i>Total Income from charitable activities</i>	3,366	6,212
Other trading activities			
Fund Raising - Summer Fete		1,600	—
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	1,600	—
Total income and endowments		7,391	9,846
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Upkeep of Churchyard		6,483	8,988
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	6,483	8,988
Total expenditure		6,483	8,988
		907	857
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure			
Brought forward balance		45,380	44,523
Total carried forward balance		46,288	45,380
Commun - Community Support (Designated) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Investments			
Dividends/Interest Received		—	101
	<i>Total Investments</i>	—	101
Total income and endowments		—	101
		—	101
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure			
Brought forward balance		5,205	5,104
Total carried forward balance		5,205	5,205

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Endow - Endowment Fund (Endowment) Fund			
Brought forward balance		18,243	18,243
Total carried forward balance		18,243	18,243
Messy - Messy Church (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Cash Collections		—	15
<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>		<i>—</i>	<i>15</i>
Total income and endowments		—	15
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Children & Youth Work		—	34
<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		<i>—</i>	<i>34</i>
Total expenditure		—	34
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		—	(19)
Brought forward balance		882	901
Total carried forward balance		882	882
Mission - Mission Fund (Designated) Fund			
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Charitable Giving		—	100
<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		<i>—</i>	<i>100</i>
Total expenditure		—	100
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		—	(100)
Brought forward balance		997	1,097
Total carried forward balance		997	997
Other - Other restricted amounts (Restricted) Fund			
Brought forward balance		0	863
Transfers to/(from)		—	(863)
Total carried forward balance		0	0

Note

From 01 January 2024 01 January 2023
To 31 December 2024 31 December 2023

Soc - Social Fund (Designated) Fund

Income and endowments

Other trading activities

Social Fund Income

1,845

1,499

Total Other trading activities

1,845

1,499

Total income and endowments

1,845

1,499

Expenditure

Raising funds

Costs of Other Events

136

—

Items for Social Fund

995

—

Total Raising funds

1,132

—

Total expenditure

1,132

—

Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure

713

1,499

Brought forward balance

2,442

942

Total carried forward balance

3,155

2,442

SpCol - Special Collections (Restricted) Fund

Brought forward balance

—

—

Total carried forward balance

—

—

Special - Fabric Special (Restricted) Fund

Brought forward balance

12,500

12,500

Total carried forward balance

12,500

12,500

General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund

Income and endowments

Donations and legacies

Stewardship Envelopes - Gift Aided

307

423

Stewardship Standing Orders - Gift Aided

25,425

25,386

Stewardship Envelopes - Non-gift Aided

389

219

Stewardship Standing Orders - Non-gift A

4,979

5,354

Cash Collections

5,970

3,621

Church Collections - Gift Aid Envelopes

2,735

2,525

Wedding Collections None Gift Aided

156

29

Funeral Collections Gift Aided

—

2,000

Funeral Collections None Gift Aided

1,668

2,764

Wall Boxes Income

1,130

1,462

Donations

10,431

15,951

Income Tax Recovered (Gift Aid)

6,855

8,362

Legacies

43,527

54,500

Grants Received

1,477

—

Total Donations and legacies

105,054

122,599

Income from charitable activities

Fees - Weddings

1,044

724

Fees - Funerals

1,517

1,379

Fees - Heating

900

1,180

Total Income from charitable activities

3,461

3,283

	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Other trading activities			
Church Rental Income		10,090	891
Photocopier Reimbursement of Cost		15	47
Other Reimbursement of Costs		464	70
<i>Total Other trading activities</i>		<u>10,570</u>	<u>1,009</u>
Investments			
Dividends/Interest Received		9,001	4,732
<i>Total Investments</i>		<u>9,001</u>	<u>4,732</u>
Other income			
Other Extraordinary Income		—	31,836
<i>Total Other income</i>		<u>—</u>	<u>31,836</u>
Total income and endowments		128,087	163,460
Expenditure			
Raising funds			
Advertising - Fund Raising Events		85	123
Costs of Other Events		—	125
<i>Total Raising funds</i>		<u>85</u>	<u>248</u>
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Parish Offer		51,504	51,000
Organist		220	—
Working Expenses of Incumbent		1,871	—
Mission & Outreach Expenses		—	73
Children & Youth Work		329	586
Church Building Maintenance		1,154	4,036
Insurance		8,296	7,303
Organ/Piano Maintenance		673	348
Cleaning		91	25
Upkeep of Services		1,111	497
Service books		—	580
Parish Expenses		1,465	57
Office Expenses		1,032	675
Advertising/Publicity		267	375
Church - Electric		1,988	1,145
Church - Gas		11,006	4,385
Church - Water		494	(2,802)
<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>		<u>81,508</u>	<u>68,289</u>
Total expenditure		81,594	68,538
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		<u>46,492</u>	<u>94,921</u>
Brought forward balance		160,896	65,112
Transfers to/(from)		—	863
Total carried forward balance		207,389	160,896

Note	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
Fabric - Fabric (Restricted) Fund			
Income and endowments			
Donations and legacies			
Donations		—	1,264
Legacies		—	15,000
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	<u>—</u>	<u>16,264</u>
Other trading activities			
Fund Raising - Summer Fete		1,600	—
Fund Raising - Other		958	—
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	<u>2,558</u>	<u>—</u>
Total income and endowments		2,558	16,264
Expenditure			
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Church Building Maintenance		3,996	8,711
	<i>Total Expenditure on charitable activities</i>	<u>3,996</u>	<u>8,711</u>
Total expenditure		3,996	8,711
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		<u>(1,437)</u>	<u>7,552</u>
Brought forward balance		<u>10,901</u>	<u>3,348</u>
Total carried forward balance		9,464	10,901

Balance Sheet

PCC of Keswick St John

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Fixed assets			
	6401: COE Investment Fund (Endowment)	18,243.64	18,243.64
	Total Fixed assets	18,243.64	18,243.64
Current assets			
	6501: Bank current account Natwest Keswick	42,620.89	90,495.01
	6507: COE Investment Fund - Original	21,172.10	21,172.10
	6508: COE Investment Fund - Additional	65,415.16	65,415.16
	6509: Allerdale Credit Union	5,201.81	5,201.81
	6510: COF Deposit Fund 607006001 D	152,319.92	78,318.35
	6511: COE Deposit Fund 607006008D (Reserve Fun	—	—
	6590: Cash in safe (not banked)	—	—
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
	Total Current assets	286,729.88	260,602.43
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	845.14	21,394.26
	Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
	Total Liabilities	845.14	21,394.26
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	304,128.38	257,451.81
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	46,676.57	104,813.99
	Z01: Starting balances	257,451.81	152,637.82
	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	—	—
	Total Reserves	304,128.38	257,451.81

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	207,389.82	160,896.94
Designated	9,359.04	8,645.24
Restricted	69,135.88	69,665.99
Endowment	18,243.64	18,243.64
Total	304,128.38	257,451.81

Budget, General Fund 2024 with 2023 & 2022 actuals

Budget 2025

General fund

	Budget y/e 31/12/25 £	Estimated Actual y/e 31/12/24 £	Budget y/e 31/12/24 £	Actual y/e 31/12/23
Planned giving	30,277	30,277	37,250	31,382
Cash collections	8,000	8,000	10,000	6,146
Collections (Weddings & funerals)	1,814	1,814	1,500	4,793
Wall Boxes	1,100	1,100	1,000	1,462
Donations	8,671	8,671	3,000	16,774
Tax recovered	8,555	8,555	10,000	8,362
Fees	3,073	3,073	3,000	2,825
Fund raising	0	0	2,000	0
Rental income & other	9,545	9,545	2,000	1,009
Investment income	6,329	6,329	4,050	4,833
Other	1,477	1,477	0	0
Extra income required	8,004	0	10,930	
Total Income	86,845	78,841	84,730	77,586
Cost of fund raising	100	85	600	248
Parish offer	53,045	51,500	51,500	51,000
Organist	1,000	109	3,700	0
Vicar's & clergy expenses	3,000	1,871	3,000	0
Education & resources	0	0	100	0
Children & youth	350	329	250	659
Building maintenance	1,000	1,060	500	4,036
Cleaning	150	91	150	25
Organ & Piano maintainance	500	322	500	348
Service upkeep	1,500	950	1,500	1,077
Parish & office expenses	2,300	2,210	2,000	732
Advertising & publicity	500	213	500	375
Insurance	9,600	8,295	6,000	7,303
Gas	11,200	10,648	11,200	4,385
Electric	2,000	1,960	1,600	1,145
Water	600	494	600	-2,802
Extraordinary		0		
Total expenditure	86,845	80,137	83,700	68,531
Excess of income over expenditure	0	(1,296)	1,030	9,055
Insurance claim				31,836
Legacies	0	43,527	0	54,500
	<u>0</u>	<u>42,231</u>	<u>1,030</u>	<u>95,391</u>

THE PARISH OF KESWICK ST JOHN

Agendas for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2025

Annual Vestry Meeting

Sunday April 27th 2025 (following on from the main 10 am service of worship)

1. Attendance
2. Minutes of last year's Annual Vestry Meeting
3. Election of Churchwardens
4. Any other business

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING HELD IN CHURCH ON SUNDAY 14th APRIL 2024

THE PARISH OF KESWICK ST JOHN

Minutes for the Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2024

Annual Vestry Meeting

Sunday April 14th 2024 (following on from the main 10 am service of worship)

1. Attendance

Charles & Kathryn Hope, Bruce & Brenda Mumford, Gaynor Williams, George & Susan Page, Penny Dutson, Bridget Connolly, Kathleen Beck, Eve Massey, Ron Soden, Linda Soden, Betty Forsyth, Doreen Hodder, Richard & Gesa Blackmore, Chris White, Cynthia Scott, Terry Sloan, Doreen Lee, Sue Reid, Di Mitchell, Mike Hambrey, Alan Daniels, Liz Hale, Sue Lake, Margaret Purkis, Pam Herbert, Tim Herbert, Victoria Parr, Rachel Frampton, Mary-Gay Pearson, Susan Leighton

Apologies

John & Clare Spedding, James & Janaki Spedding, David Williams, Brian Smith, Michael & Marija Webb

2. Minutes of last year's Annual Vestry Meeting

These cannot be found.

So they were taken as read – the only item being the election of the Churchwardens – Kathleen Beck was elected in 2023

3. Election of Churchwardens

Mrs Kathleen Beck was prepared to stand again.

No one else volunteered.

Mrs Beck was duly elected.

It was delegated to the PCC to appoint someone else during the year if someone suitable volunteered.

Rev Charles Hope pointed out that the job list for the churchwarden was getting longer and longer – it was important that Kathleen (and anyone else taking on this role) knew that they could 'pick and choose' what they did, working in partnership with the PCC and others in the church to address issues they didn't want to get involved with, felt they didn't have the skills to deal with or didn't have the time to address. It's important we play to each other's strengths and not burn each other out!

4. Any other business

None. Meeting closed.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on Sunday April 27th 2025 after the Annual Vestry Meeting**

Agenda

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Minutes of last year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
3. For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows:
 - a. To the Deanery Synod – no vacancies
 - b. To the Parochial Church Council:
 - 4 representatives for 3 years (2025 - 2027/8)
 - 1 representatives for 2 years (2025 - 2026/7)
 - 2 representatives for 1 year (2025 - 2025/6)
 - c. For the appointment of Sidespersons
 - d. For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.
 - e. Mission Community Representatives
- 4 To receive Annual Reports including
 - a. A Report on changes in the roll since the annual parochial church meeting;
 - b. An Annual Report of the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish generally;
 - c. The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on the 31st December immediately preceding the meeting audited or independently examined;
 - d. A Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;
 - e. A Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
- 5 And other matters of parochial or general Church interest. –
 - a. To review the Options for reordering
 - b. TO consier the church of England's policy of reparations for colonialism
 - c. Any other business

THE PARISH OF KESWICK ST JOHN
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
HELD IN CHURCH ON 14th April 2024

Minutes

1. Attendance and Apologies
As per the Annual Vestry meeting
2. Minutes of last year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
These cannot be found.
So they were taken as read – the key items were the election of the PCC as reflected in front of the Annual Report presented at this meeting; the reports and accounts as included in last year's report. –
3. For the election of Parochial representatives of the laity as follows:
 - a. To the Deanery Synod – no vacancies – no elections due this year
(reps continue to be Susan Leighton, Bruce Mumford, Brenda Mumford, Terry Sloan; reps as also ex-officio members of the PCC)
 - b. To the Parochial Church Council:
4 representatives for 3 years (2024 - 2026/7)
2 representatives for 2 years (2024 - 2025/6)
1 representatives for 1 year (2024 - 2025)
Cathy Hooper's three year comes to an end this year.
The following were elected for three years from 2024: Cathy Hooper, Chris White, Rachel Frampton.
Agreed that other vacancies can be filled by PCC appointment.
 - c. For the appointment of Sidespersons
Existing sidespersons re-appointed, delegated to the PCC to appoint new sidespersons.
Thank you for the ministry of welcome and for counting the collections.
 - d. For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.
Agreed that Craig Wood be reappointed for another year.
 - e. Mission Community Representatives
Charles & Susan.
- 4 To receive Annual Reports including
 - f. A Report on changes in the roll since the annual parochial church meeting;
Eve reported 4 removed from the roll due to deaths, 4 new names added; roll remains at 147.
 - g. An Annual Report of the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council and the activities of the Parish generally;
The Report on the work of the PCC & the activities and organisations in the life of our church – received with thanks for all the work everyone does.
Noted that Fabric Committee didn't have a separate report – in 2023 the bulk of its work was continuing the recovery work from the burglary – repair to the doors and installing the new safe; and repair to the North West window.
 - h. The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on the 31st December immediately preceding the meeting audited or independently examined;
The Accounts & Treasure's Report were received and approved.
The General Fund looks very healthy – this is because of the [a] the insurance payout for the burglary and [b] some significant legacies received with thanks in 2023.

Thank you to Justin for all his work on our books.

The PCC is in the process of registering with the Charity Commission to become a registered charity as our income exceeds the threshold for registration.

- i. A Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;

This is in the report – all in good order.

The PCC acknowledges with thanks the loan of silver from St John's in the Vale & Wythburn which we use regularly.

- j. A Report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod

This is in the report.

5 And other matters of parochial or general Church interest. –

- d. To review the Options for reordering

Charles recapped the purpose of the project was to facilitate worship, openness to the community and flexibility of usage of the church. He recapped the four options that had been outlined previously and the feedback that had been received. This had led to an Option 5 being identified – removing some pews at the west end to expand the socialising space there, making the sanctuary space more prominent into the nave moving the font out from the corner, some possible designs for movable pews for the choir, pews going in 'chevron style' in the south aisle.

Questions were asked about where the Music Society piano could go, what about keeping both areas for socialising.

Feedback would be appreciated to help the PCC in determining the way forward.

All comments received would be shared with the PCC and also the DAC.

- e. To consider the Church of England's policy of reparations for colonialism

Great concern was expressed by some people present about reports of the Church Commissioners setting up a fund for reparations due to slavery [a] due to appropriateness or otherwise, or reparations for events that happened some 300 years ago and [b] at a time when the Church is struggling for funds. Some felt as if the leadership of the Church was out of step with the congregations in the pews. In reports of this fund, it seems to be described as about reparations, but latterly it has been described as about investment – some clarity of purpose would be helpful. In the discussion, Charles reminded the meeting that a PCC motion can go to Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod and then to General Synod.

As a first step, it was agreed that Charles, as Rural Dean, would try and get a speaker to come and explain how the Church Commissioners are using their funds, not only for reparation / investment purposes, but also for Strategic Developing funding (or whatever it morphs into).

- f. Any other business

Kathleen thanked Charles & Kathryn Hope for their work and support to the life of the church.

Bruce thanked Kathleen for her work as Churchwarden.

Lunch was then enjoyed!