

# St Mary's Newick

## Living God's Kingdom



*“Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.*

*Enter into the joy of your Lord.”*

*Matthew 25:21*

*Praying – Serving – Growing – Together*

*21<sup>st</sup> May 2023*

*11:30 a.m.*

# Vestry Meeting & APCM

Annual Meeting of Parishioners  
(Vestry Meeting)

Election of Churchwardens

Election of Deputy Wardens

## Annual Reports

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

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## Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's, Newick. PCC Report 2022

### **The Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

The PCC, working closely with the Rector, is responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of the Church, the church members and church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the Church within the wider community. Church Members are encouraged to stand for election to the PCC providing a balance of skills and experience.

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission (No 1138070) under the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. Membership is determined under the new Church Representation Rules 2020. Membership consists of the Rector, ex-officio members, Churchwardens, Lay Readers, Members of Deanery Synod and up to twelve members of the Church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM) or later co-opted during the year.

### **Ex-Officio Members**

Revd. Paul Mundy	Rector
Christopher Hume	Churchwarden, Treasurer and PCC Vice Chair
Sara Fuller	Churchwarden, PCC Secretary cover
Jeremy Burdett	Lay Reader and Member of Deanery Synod
Geoffrey Clinton	Lay Reader
Patsy Bailey	Associate Lay Reader and Member of Deanery Synod
Kate Francis	Member of Deanery Synod

### **Elected Members**

Caroline Smith	Safeguarding Officer
Tony Bailey	Sexton
Linda Farmer	Policies & Procedures
Audrey Ford	
Anthony Mallinson	
Alan Young	
Dan Cowley	
Mandy Stockwell	
Johnathan Fenton-Vince	
Ian Reekie	Joint Treasurer

Six PCC meetings were conducted in 2022 (January, March, May, July, September, November). Agenda topics, for which one or two PCC members took the lead, along with members of the congregation, included: the mission action plan, safeguarding, prayer, mental wellbeing, finance, health and safety, pastoral care, fabric, churchyard, outward giving, barn centre, parish magazine and the Christmas tree festival. Work on these was supported by several small groups and committees as listed below. The lead on each of these is in bold:

Standing Committee:	<b>Revd. Paul Mundy</b> , Tony Bailey, Jeremy Burdett, Geoff Clinton, Sara Fuller, Christopher Hume.
Finance:	<b>Christopher Hume</b> , Robin Parris, Ruth Connellan, Ian Reekie
Fabric:	<b>Tony Bailey</b> , Christopher Hume, Sara Fuller
Pastoral Care:	<b>Patsy Bailey</b> , Pat Beeston, Jebby Dyson, Audrey Ford, Ian Reekie, Pat Pioli, Rosemary Walters, Marion Young, Ron & June Perou
Outward Giving:	<b>Jeremy Burdett</b> , Revd. Paul Mundy, Ron & June Perou, Ian Reekie, Sue Balloch
Youth:	<b>Revd. Paul Mundy</b> , Ali Brown, Lee Buck, Patsy Bailey, Isobel Baty, Rebecca Hume
Barn Centre:	<b>Tony Bailey</b> , Patsy Bailey, Sue Balloch, Linda Farmer, Rosemary Walters, Revd. Paul Mundy
Churchyard:	<b>Christopher Hume</b> , Alan Young, Tony Bailey
Christmas Tree Festival:	<b>Sara Fuller</b> , Jenny Smerdon
Parish Magazine:	<b>Revd. Paul Mundy</b> , Mel Balloch, Sue Balloch, Alex Harrison, Christopher Hume, Alan Morgan, Jackie Potter, Monica & Peter Todd

### **Aims and purposes as a charity**

- Promoting the gospel of Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting the whole mission of the church – pastoral, social, evangelical and ecumenical
- Knowing Jesus better and making Him better known
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or ability to pay
- Providing financial support to those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives

To meet our charitable objectives we have continued to follow our Mission Action Plan (MAP), setting out and expanding our guiding principles. We also take into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Key elements of the MAP include:

- Worship of God and the proclamation of His Gospel
- Listening to God in prayer
- Linking to the wider community
- Support and education in the Christian faith, especially for the young
- Maintaining Church property

**Sara Fuller**

## How we did we affect people's lives in 2022.

### Worship and the Gospel

2022 began with a renewed sense of hope and expectation following the lifting of Covid restrictions at the end of 2021. However, on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February Russia invaded Ukraine and the world prepared itself for another European war. At St Mary's this meant welcoming Ukrainian refugees into the homes of many in our parish, welcoming family's mothers and children into our services and our schools.

It is one of the great joys of 2022 to see these relationships grown and for the Ukrainian families in Newick to become such an important part of our community.

St Mary's was also a central part of our community's joy and mourning as we first celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June and then sadly hosted the period of National Mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at her beloved Balmoral Castle on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2022 aged 96. St Mary's was open from sunrise to sunset for those who wished to sign the Book of Condolence and light a candle in Her memory, with hundreds passing through our doors.

It is an important reminder of the role the Church holds during times of national celebration and mourning.

Over the year our Church attendance increased, with an increase of services taking place at St Mary's from BCP Holy Communion, Evensong, 10am Services, Healing and Memorial, School services back in Church and Fresh Expressions of worship in monthly our Worship 2.

The average attendance at services on a normal Sunday at St Mary's averaged 22 at the 8am plus online attendance and 71 and the 10am, this increased to 96 for our third Sunday plus over 14 young people attending Owls.

During the year in the parish there were the following 12 Baptisms, 10 Weddings & Blessings and 19 Funerals.

### *Other Services*

Worship 2 continues to be well supported and gratefully received by all those who attend.

Our Remembrance Services took place on the Green and in Church and were well supported back to pre-pandemic numbers. Huge thanks to NEASSA for all they do in enabling and supporting our season of Remembrance.

Our Healing Services, Thanksgiving and Memorial Services were well supported, Thanks to Patsy & Mandy for the pastoral work around these much-needed services. A special thankyou to Fr Martin for his beautifully crafted Blue Christmas Service in early December which offers a much-needed time of reflection to those struggling with loss or grief in the season of Advent & Christmas.

Our Map is following the diocesan vision strategy of the Four Mores and we look forward to expanding this with the church and the community in 2023. The Four Mores are: **MORE OPEN: A SIGN OF BEING ONE, MORE CONVERTED TO JESUS CHRIST: A SIGN OF BEING HOLY, MORE GENEROUS: A SIGN OF BEING CATHOLIC, MORE ENGAGED: A SIGN OF BEING APOSTOLIC.**

## **Ministry**

Rev Paul Mundy continued his appointment as Rector and Incumbent of the Benefice of Newick and continues in his role as Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's Chailey.

We are hugely thankful for the Lord bringing Fr Martin Morgan to our ministry and his joy, wisdom, hospitality and excellent pastoral care are a blessing to both St Mary's and St Peter's.

Our Readers Geoff Clinton & Jeremy Burdett continue their vital roles in the life of St Mary's and assisting in neighbouring parishes. They are soon to be joined by Reader in training Alan Young who is due to finish his Reader Course at St Augustine's in autumn of 2023.

Ian Reekie continues his study through Sussex Gospel Partnership and is an Occasional Preacher with the permission of the Incumbent and Churchwardens.

Mandy Stockwell continues her course at St Augustine's as an independent student as part of her vocation journey and continues her lead in our Fresh Expressions Worship 2 service and as a worship leader with the permission of the Incumbent and Churchwardens.

We are thankful for the continued ministry of our Home Groups and their leaders, for the teaching and in-depth bible study (exegesis) it offers those who attend. Our prayer is that looking into 2023 an evening Home Group for those who work during the day could be created.

Audrey Ford has continued to lead the Prayer Group; this cornerstone of our mission at St Mary's assists in forming God's vision for our Church and answering the needs of our congregation and community

Patsy Bailey is our Authorised Lay Minister in Pastoral Care & Mission and in 2022 has started an elective in Chaplaincy which she hopes to further her ALM role to enable a greater involvement with our Nursing homes and Hospice. Patsy continues her ALM journey with the blessing of the Incumbent and PCC.

## **Giving**

The financial crisis of 2022 has left us with many challenges and uncertainties; St Mary's has taken a big hit financially through the pandemic and now with the rising cost of living, this means that we will be using some of our reserves to remain solvent in 2022 & 2023. This is despite your incredible generosity in supporting our Christmas Appeal for Youth and Families work in the Parish. Ian and Christopher have been working on a Legacy Appeal which was launched towards the end of the year, and we look forward to benefitting in due course from the fruits of their labour.

Even with the current situation St Mary's community and have been incredibly generous through the Parish Giving Scheme, occasional gifts and monthly giving. Thankfully this means we can continue to be an active presence of Christ's love in our community and beyond. Thank you all, and to the good governance and wise stewardship of, Robin Parris, Ian Reekie and Ruth Connellan

## Rectory Report for the 2022 APCM

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-17*

One could be forgiven for naming 2022 as an ‘annus horribilis’; with a European war, post Brexit shortages, changing government leaders along with the seasons, the death of our beloved Queen Elizabeth, extortionate fuel increases, rising inflation, and a financial crisis!

Who would have thought things could be worse than going through a world-wide pandemic! However, here at St Mary’s, in amongst the dark night’s of the soul, there has been much rejoicing and so much to be thankful for.

Beginning of January, we taught 38 young people how to give CPR and use a defibrillator, just one of our winter welcome specials Lee organised.

In March we launched the St Mary’s Youth Choir with the wonderful Cara, and it was fantastic to have our young people singing with us for our major festivals over the year. In early March I was invited by the Archbishop of



Canterbury to represent the Parish at an afternoon tea for rural clergy. The tea was excellent and the company interesting and I must say I left feeling more hopeful than when I arrived!

One of the great joys of 2022 was having our concerts and live music back in St Mary’s following the pandemic, kicking off with Andy Rees and the Coro Nuovo Choir, then the Intergenerational Opera, the East Sussex Concert Band and Vivace. Music is at the

heart of our mission and outreach at St Mary’s and I hope this is something we can build on in the future.

2022 was when we really kickstarted our “St Mary’s a centre of God’s Love Accessible to all’, looking at how we can we can improve St Mary’s and the Barn Centre for everyone, following the 2021 Church of England Report from the Church building Council ‘Equal Access to Church Buildings’. A period of consultation was initiated and plans and drawings submitted. This will be a major project for St Mary’s over the next 5 years, but at it’s heart is God’s calling for us to be a fully inclusive Church, both for St Mary’s and for our Community.





Easter was later this year on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April and started in the dark with our Sunrise service, which was an absolute joy as we gathered around the fire and sang God's praise announcing the Risen Christ. Hot cross buns were served by the Ministry of Cake team (Rebecca & Pat) and a goodly amount of 'wobbly coffee' to keep out the morning chill, provided by our Churchwarden Christopher Hume. 8am service and a then 10am Family Communion in the beautifully decorated St Mary's were very well supported, then it was off to Chailey to join St Peter's for their Easter day celebrations.



April is always a busy month and well attended Gardening days and preparations for the making our Church and Churchyard look their best the Summer.

for

May was an exciting time as we prepared to take 14 young people from NYC to May Camp the Diocesan Youth Weekend at Plumpton Racecourse. Sadly, one of the two main hosts of May Camp had to pull out the day before and our very own Niamh Mundy was contacted by the Diocese team to ask if she would co-host the event with 30 minutes notice. Niamh said that the bible study group she with in Brighton were studying Jonah . . . So, she didn't really have much choice but say yes!

I love it when God works like that 😊

We all had a great weekend, huge thank to Lee for organising and for all who supported our youth work.



There was also the added bonus of NYC winning the football cup and here are some of the highlights.





May, June & July saw the silly season begin for weddings and wedding Blessings for many couples who had postponed their nuptials because of the pandemic. In June we continued the joy by celebrating Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee with celebrations in Church and in the community, with tea parties, beacon lightings, food fairs and concerts. June also marked the 10 years of my Deaconing . . .where did those years go!



August was preparation time for Holiday Club, baptism or two and yes, you've guessed it, more weddings!

For more Holiday club news see Ali's report but it was a huge success and well done to Ali and all the team of volunteers.

The Ukrainian Community Hub went from strength to strength, sharing traditions, arts and the flavours from our two countries. Using the Barn Centre, we were able to connect the families with an English teacher to enable those with little or no English to be able to find work. Over the year our Ukrainian families have really become part of our community and I know the blessings have been felt as much in our lives as they have in theirs.



In September whilst Pam and I were on annual leave in France we received the tragic news that our beloved Queen Elizabeth had died.

I will never forget sitting in our campsite near Sarlat, in the early evening sun, around 6:30pm UK time, with the mist rising from the river; when, somewhere further down the

valley a lone piper began to play the "The Flowers of the Forest". Thinking this rather strange, it was within seconds of the piper finishing that our phones and those of our neighbours began to announce the sad news.

I am hugely grateful to Rebecca, Christopher and Sara for enabling St Mary's to become a centre for our communities shared grief, and for the team who kept our church open and welcoming during the time of National Mourning.

Thanks to Ash & Josh Stockwell we were able to televise the funeral of Her Late Majesty in St Mary's being together for this time of grief was good, and it was attended by all ages. It will be our intention to use this experience to show the Coronation for King Charles III when a date is given in 2023.

September also saw St Mary's celebrate a season of joy and love as Fr Martin and Sylvia chose St Mary's to celebrate their Golden wedding anniversary. We are truly blessed to have them with us at St Mary's and St Peter's and we pray that God will continue to bless each of them and their family so that they may be a blessing to others.



*Please enter your caption competition suggestions here: . . . . .*  
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September continued our season of Men's Supper's this year with 'Jezzer the Deer Man' giving us a fascinating talk on Deer Management with some very serious 'firepower' being passed around, we have been truly blessed with all our speakers this year. ( Please see Christopher's report).

It was wonderful that this year also saw Sutton Hall host the Area Ploughing Match



Competition, which was well attended and loved by all in the glorious autumn sun.

I was greatly surprised to be invited to speak at The Ploughing Match Dinner at Glyndebourne, and this was a great opportunity to speak about the connection with our rural churches and our farming communities.



Autumn was a difficult time for Pam and me, as first Niamh in September and then Ella in November left Newick to go travelling for a year. Thank you to all who have been praying for them and supporting them on their journey.





October is a time of Thanksgiving and Harvest Celebrations and as always, our Flower team excelled themselves. We hosted school for their Harvest Celebration, as well as our Main Service at St Mary's, and our Collections going to support those most in need during these difficult financial times.



October, we hosted a fantastic Churchyard tidy with over 40 volunteers and cake, soup and hotdogs in abundance. The team uncovered a hidden gravestone remembering a young man, Frederick Langridge, killed in the First World War.

This has inspired a group of the young Newick Dad's to plan a visit to Belgium in 2023 to remember the Newick Lads who lost their lives in The Great War.

Bonfire night was a huge success with a dramatic firework display which showed the very best of Sussex tradition and commemorated the Late Queen. The flower team again performed miracles as they transformed St Mary's in preparation for our season of Remembrance with our Remembrance Sunday Service and later in the month our Thanksgiving Service.



November you kindly packed me off for a much-needed Ignatian Retreat at St Buenos in Wales and I am hugely thankful for the support of the parishes in my spiritual development and well-being. It was a real time of restoration and renewal.



December, we held our awesome Christmas Tree Festival and despite fear that the financial situation might put folk off entering we had a wonderful turnout and a fantastic amount raised for St Mary's and St Peter & St James Hospice. Thank you to Sara, Jenny and Tony and all the team for making this happen. This led us beautifully and respectfully in our Christmas celebrations, with school, family and community services, on the Green, around the Pub's and in school and St Mary's.



Christmas services were well attended with a back to pre-pandemic turnout for the 'At the Crib Service' as always huge thanks to Patsy and the Bailey family for all their hard work and dedication. Advent Carols was wonderful, and well attended, thank you Jonathan and the Choir, and our Lessons and carols, Midnight and Christmas Day Services, were a joyful celebration of awe and wonder at the coming of the new-born King.

This closes another busy, and challenging year at St Mary's, but once again filled with much joy, celebration, generous hospitality and of course CAKE! . . . . . not forgetting this year, a Marmalade Sandwich or two along the way.

Thank you everyone who has been a been of our St Mary's family in 2022 and enabled us to be serving at the heart of our community.

Huge thank you to the unsung heroes of Robin & Ruth for accounts, for Caroline in the office producing our weekly newsletter, and supporting our administration and to Jackie and Alex for all their work on our amazing Church Community magazine.

Remember in all things be joyful, keep the faith and keep doing the little things that make a difference to those you love and those in need.

**Paul**

### **Electoral Roll Report 2022**

The current roll stands at 146. Of this number 124 live within the parish boundary and 22 live outside it.

Since last year's report, 8 names have been added and we extend our welcome to those people.

Sadly, two people have been removed as they are no longer with us. We give thanks for the lives of Joy Hay and Rosemary Begbie.

Two other people have been removed as they have moved to West Sussex in order to access improved specialist health care.

The list of names on our Electoral Roll will be displayed in the porch for 2 weeks as required by the Diocese of Chichester. This list will include names only, no other data will be displayed.

**Mandy Stockwell**  
**Electoral Roll Officer**



## **Safeguarding Report**

The Church Website has the relevant policies, information and how to report concerns and access help. As previously mentioned, I keep a record of all those who are DBS checked on my database and inform them when their checks need to be renewed. DBS checks now, need to be renewed every 3 years, as required by the Diocese, on the advice of the Charity Commission. Although, the Diocese informed Safeguarding Officers last year, to only place those with a new DBS check on the 3 year cycle. They said to keep those who had a current DBS on the 5 year cycle, as they were and only change this, when they have a new DBS check done. However, with nearly 50 DBS checks on my system, about a third having been renewed this year and most of the rest being renewed next year, this places a significant increase in workload for the Safeguarding Officer. Also, it impacts on the finances of St Marys.

Only Online Safeguarding training is available on the Diocese website. Face-to-face training was withdrawn by the Diocese. This did not meet the needs of our Pastoral Support Volunteers, because it was difficult to access and not designed with their role in mind. After consultation with Paul and myself Patsy ran an in-house training with her Volunteers

Lee Buck, who runs the Youth Club Lee Buck, Ali, who runs Owls and Cara Barseghian, who is running the Youth Choir all have up to date DBS Checks and are aware of Safeguarding issues and Health and Safety.

The Diocese of Chichester has broadened its remit on the training that Safeguarding Officers must do to include: 'Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking'. I have just completed this online and all my other training is currently up to date

There are no outstanding Safeguarding issues.

**Caroline Smith**

## **Children and Family Ministry**

In Newick, Owls Club continued to thrive, with an average of 15 children each month. New families joined as others departed, balancing the numbers. There were a small number of children who regularly attended Owls each month with their families and who also attended other services on non-Owls weeks, including the Newick Youth Choir when that was initiated in the Winter term. We welcomed Pam to the team in November 2022, who has also taken on a greater responsibility of teaching younger children when we split into two groups. We continued to support and encourage our young helper, Honor, who volunteers at Owls as part of her DofE and to ensure that she is adequately supervised yet given responsibility to add challenge to her role.

At Easter, Owls leaders offered a Bible Society Easter trail outside Church for families and children, which ran on Easter Sunday/Monday.

In August, the 3 day Aquatastic Holiday Club ran in Barcombe, attracting 60 children, with 27 volunteers. The focus of the holiday club was Jesus' encounters with water to reveal his supernatural and awesome power as the son of God. The water slide was an ambitious challenge enjoyed by all the children big and small. The thunderstorm and downpours on the final day added to the watery nature of the club.

In December, an Owls trip was advertised to see the Owls display together in Newick Village hall. In November, we began our decorations for the Owls Christmas tree which featured in the Christmas Tree festival and also celebrated the birth of Jesus at Patsy's amazing Crib service, which was attended

by several Owls as well as many other children from the village and at which Cara's choir sang, to the delight of the congregation.

In Newick Primary school, assemblies continued as a routine on Wednesday mornings, with a new style of assembly initiated in October to mimic a Church service and teach the children the Lord's Prayer. The assembly now routinely has a covered table set up with cross / Holy Trinity candle / Bible to remind the children of the symbolism of the Christian faith. Year 6 assembly monitors were organized in 2022 in order to give the Year 6s a greater role of responsibility in assemblies. Ali continued to meet with the Faith Council, a group of 12 children from Yr1-6, to plan activities to involve them in a half-termly assembly.

In 2022, the role of Children and Family Ministry was divided between Barcombe, Chailey and Newick until August 2022, when I resigned from my post and began a new post with Newick PCC in September, working for 9 hours a week divided between Newick and Chailey Churches.

## **Ali Brown**

### **Newick Youth Club**

In April 2022 we had a regular attendance of 35-40 young people at NYC. In July 2022 we advertised to Newick, Chailey and Fletching primary schools and had 20+ attend our welcome evening, this was without the Newick year 6's as they had a school play. We then hit September when we saw 30 young people attend NYC and 35 attending NCT (year 8+) we were regularly seeing over 60 young people each week.

As the months went by NYC slowly lost a few members but became a more gelled group, getting to know one another better and enjoying their time with us more. NYC is still getting new members & NCT has had a good core group attending with new members once a term or so.

In April we had loads of sessions outside. We had combat archery, water games, tag in the woods, colour party and more. It has been great to be on the playing fields and have the community see we have a good youth group which is very busy. When speaking to parents, younger siblings are already planning their Wednesday nights to be with us.

We did lose 3 leaders this year, which made it more difficult for us to run if someone wasn't free. We have however been able to find another helper to support the work we do. We are always after more volunteers!!!

We attended May Camp last year. We took 12 young people to encounter God through worship, talks and prayer. The young people had a great time and had positive feedback from parents. One boy mentioned he has never been so quiet and felt peace like this before. We also won the football tournament as well. We are taking a group in 2023 we currently have 18 signed up.

I am hoping that by Easter 2023 I will have started to attend Chailey secondary school to run a lunchtime club for year 7's. This is to help those settle in and offer a place where they can feel safe, eat lunch, play games, and help build rapport.

There is such great work happening here in Newick and Chailey. Next year we hope to have a small DofE group, as well as a great May Camp and a few summer trips. We also hope to continue to build on the youth groups we have.

## **Lee Buck**

## **Pastoral Care**

St. Mary's is blessed with an exceptional pastoral team of Christians who are reliable, dedicated and capable who illustrate 'loving your neighbour' day after day to members of the community in Newick, this support is available to everyone, not just church members or Christians.

The work load is mainly with older people who need company, friendship and when suitable prayers or communion via home visits. The team visits in twos where possible and people are invited to attend the lunch club and Tea at Three.

The team has a monthly meeting and are able to contact myself when an issue arises, they take safeguarding seriously and have recently attended a training session to be more alert to abusive situations and last year a First Aid Course. The team also help with lunch club and Tea at Three.

Training in therapeutic listening is being planned.

## **Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)**

This role continues to be varied and interesting; I maintain as many connections within the community and often with other Churches as possible. My role varies so much such as helping individuals to access an assessment re mobility, helping the Chatterbox room apply for a grant to extend their activities, visit the Memory Cafe, support the bereaved and those approaching the end of their lives, listening to many problems, provision of food to families or older folk, organising monthly visits to Nightingales for hymns and prayers (a huge thank you to all those who come along), our visits are very popular leading to a good relationship with the home and residents, St. Mary's is very welcome there. Running the Community Hub which is a welcoming warm space for members of the community while providing support to the Ukrainian's living locally, the hub seems to become busier week by week, with a professional specialising in the support of the Ukraine guests visiting weekly, the problems these people face varies and we have done all we can to assist them.

It has been wonderful to build such strong bonds with all these people who have such an uncertain future, we will always remember each other for the rest of our lives and hope that in the future we might meet up again. A huge thank you to Malcolm Smith who has played such a major role in supporting the hub etc. throughout this year. The donations cover the cost of refreshments and people drop off very tasty cakes! The donations are held in a fund at St. Mary's.

Tea at Three continues to thrive alongside the lunch club in providing a warm welcome, good food and company.

A huge thank you to Pat Beeston who week after week bakes wonderful cakes which I distribute, also thank you to all who contribute to the pastoral fund which I dip into to provide flowers or treat someone to a decent cup of coffee while we have a chat where problems are shared.

I produce a weekly letter with prayers, which began during Covid and continue, and offer home communions although sadly most of those whom I used to share this privilege with have died during the year and much missed. The support of those who are bereaved is very important to me, I try to attend the funerals where possible and my Chaplaincy training will be completed soon,

I enjoyed spending time with Chaplains at the Brighton General Hospital and The Kleinwort Centre Haywards Heath as well as meeting the other inspirational Chaplains during the training.

As an ALM every day is different and often unexpected, it is a blessing to work closely with the Good Neighbour Scheme, the Trussell Trust and the Newick Trust as well as professionals from outside agencies - Social Services, 3VA when the need arises.

## **Dancing for Fun and Fitness**

This outreach activity has been running for fifteen years, it remains full and provides valuable social and spiritual support alongside the fun of dancing. For the majority of those attending it is the highlight of their week, various life changing experiences have happened to those attending over the years, most are now widows or carers. Several of the members have accompanied me to entertain in

Memory support groups and I am invited to both Plumpton and Ofham Churches a couple of times a year for an exercise/ dance session and also get to talk about ALMs which are still not widely known about. It is very satisfying to have an individual attending ask me to pray for themselves or a situation and to be able to pray an overarching pray for them all.

Helping with Owls Club and the Children's choir is not only very enjoyable it allows me to connect with the younger generation who are such an important part of St. Mary's mission.

**Patsy Bailey**

### Men's Suppers

We enjoyed four successful men's suppers in 2022.

Our four speakers for the year were Alan Martin, Chris Jago, Jeremy Moss and Fr Martin Morgan.

We're on a bit of a roll. Our attendances are up, we have a loyal bunch of "regulars" and quite a lot of welcome new faces have put in an appearance. The "Dangerous Dads" turned out on several occasions, which lowered the average age, and raised the noise level, not to mention the wine consumption.

We have a lot of fun, heard some very interesting talks, and enjoyed four really good congregational occasions.

We were brilliantly and generously catered for by the ladies who cooked for us and served our suppers. We were very well looked after. The ladies really put in a major shift for us, particularly those who cook. We are most fortunate and truly grateful. I am always glad to hear that the ladies enjoy a good supper together after they have served us, while our speaker is talking.

All in all these are wonderful and enjoyable evenings of fellowship and good fun, and a most worthwhile part of our life at St Mary's.

**Christopher Hume**

### Sexton's Report

2022 has been a quieter year than previously for maintenance work although there been some major items of note. In January we had a visit from members of the DAC to discuss among other matters, the need to upgrade the footpaths which are uneven and hazardous, their advice was extremely useful for informing future discussions.

In April, a new digital heating control system was installed. So we now have a 21st century digital control for a 20th century boiler supplying a late nineteenth century heating system! It has not been entirely without running problems and it won't make the Church building any warmer in winter unfortunately, however it is working well overall and can be operated remotely.

May was significant because our inspecting architect Richard Andrews carried out the quinquennial inspection which is a kind of building health check which I am pleased to say passed with flying colours. However it did bring to light the need to ensure the terrier and logbook are kept up to date which was dealt with promptly after his visit.



In June the incumbents boards which were looking very dull and not very readable, were gilded by Hallmark signs, Piltdown. Considering it meant applying gold leaf over very uneven black paint Kevin Oakley did a very creditable job.

In October our energy supplier had smart meters installed in the Church and Barn Centre. This is more for their convenience than our and should not result in any change to the way we are billed for electricity.

November was when the lightning conductor system was tested by our service provider AC Wallbridge of Salisbury. One conductor on the north side of the chancel failed its resistance test and was supplemented by a second new earthing rod to ensure a good level of protection against lightning strikes.

Around this time heavy rain resulted in heavy flooding in the boiler room. Measures previously taken were not sufficient to protect the boiler but thankfully the flood water subsided fairly quickly. Boiler servicing was due in November/ December time but Southern Heating went out of business without any notification so this essential work was deferred to January 2023 and a new provider.

Many other regular tasks such as fire extinguisher servicing, piano tuning, organ tuning and blower servicing have been carried out as usual throughout the year.

**Anthony Bailey**

### **Outward Giving Group**

This year we have disbursed the £4000 set apart by the PCC as follows:

Bevern Trust	£600
Leprosy Mission	£600
Katy Barnwell	£1000 (Wycliffe Bible Translator)
IMC (uk)	£600 to assist with Ali's expenses in Colombia
Family Support Work	£400
Links International – project to help Christians in Lebanon (both native and Syrian refugees)	£750
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3950</b>

This leaves £50 in hand to pay for Links costs in administering the fund.

As part of our outward giving it has always been the intention to explore joint ventures with charities with the hope of involvement, either at home or abroad, working with Christian charities helped by volunteers from St. Mary's.

To this end we have been working with IMC to visit Colombia to research the needs of the Wayuu people, an indigenous tribe in the north of the country. You will see from our 2022 giving that £600 has been set aside for Ali Brown's expenses while in Colombia. Unfortunately Ali has had to pull out of this visit in 2023, so we are looking to proceed with the venture without a prior visit. We will keep the PCC informed of any progress.

**Jeremy Burdett**

## **Churchyard Report**

Our churchyard enjoyed a good year, marred only by a very dry summer which substantially reduced the usual display of wild flowers.

We carried out our usual annual health and safety survey. Connick Tree Care carried out the survey, and the necessary follow up program of work. We must be careful - two years ago a big branch cracked off our large cedar tree. Fortunately, only a few headstones were damaged and no one was injured. Our churchyard is frequently visited, and a public footpath runs through it. So we must take good care.

Work carried out included lifting the level of the oak in the South East corner of the new churchyard to enable access for funeral parties, together with necessary tree surgery to keep pathways and the public footpath clear for walkers.

Paul Tilstone and Adam Martin did a fine job with the substantial amount of mowing necessary. I am most grateful to them for their work.

I am also most grateful to all who worked so hard and well on our garden days. We had a large age range of supporters – from 4 to 85! The ladies, supported by Rev Paul Mundy on the barbecue, gave us splendid lunches which were well attended and agreeable occasions. We were glad to welcome a number of people working with us who not Church members, and to welcome their families to join us for lunch.

None of this comes cheap. Expenditure on Churchyard maintenance for the year was £4913.03.

Our Churchyard does look particularly attractive as I write, with spring flowers in bloom. The wonderful work done at garden days over past years has paid off. It is notable that many more people are tending family graves and displaying or planting floral tributes. We have a virtuous cycle in play - the better the Churchyard looks, the more people seem to be encouraged to “do their bit”.

**Christopher Hume**

## **St Mary's Lunch Club**

We have had a good year at St Mary's lunch club. We all enjoyed ease of restrictions last year and gradually after restricted numbers we have got back to 32 elderly still not as many as pre Covid but increasing. We all have enjoyed having outside entertainment from old time musical singers and country and western quizzes, bingo exercises, with Patsy's great talks. We are very blessed and have an amazing 2 teams of cooks and pudding queens and volunteers including drivers some of whom come and help every month. We meet once a month and had to postpone our Christmas dinner cooked by Rev Paul due to snow but it was amazing the week after and we were still able to have a sing along thanks to Chris and enjoyed presents from Father Christmas. We have started advertising for more lunch goers and cooks and have lots of exciting things planned including our free annual Easter lunch cooked by Paul which is also our 7<sup>th</sup> birthday so there will be lots of cake and chocolate! .

**Issie Baty**

## Ladies Suppers

We have not had a Ladies Supper for nearly a year but we are now working on holding one in the next few months of 2023. We have had two offers for speakers so it is a matter of 'watch this space' as we would like to bring this back as a regular thing.

Rosemary Walters



## Solo Friends

### **Background**

Solo Friends was inaugurated on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 as an activity group through which people living in their own in Newick could join in social events

### **Membership**

Since then the number of Friends has steadily grown largely by word of mouth invitation.

In the last year membership has grown from 45 to 62 of which nearly half are regular attenders at our activities.

All members are kept informed of activities and other matters of interest through a regular Keeping in Touch newsletter.

### **Events**

The lifting of Covid-19 restrictions has enabled us to resume full activities with monthly planning meetings in the Barn Centre and coffee mornings at The Pantry.

Monica Haynes continues to do an amazing job as central co-ordinator emailing a list of forthcoming events.

Our programme has a variety of events, with regular lunches at local pubs & restaurants

Many of the activities including are at Friends homes including lunches, teas and wine tasting as well as Canasta & Scrabble

We are also supporting village events, such as the Village Hall Film Nights, where there is a Solo Friends table.

### **Finance**

There is no need for significant financial assistance as all events are self funding and we have enjoyed free use of the Barn Centre.

Individuals are responsible for paying for their own tickets for events.

Car sharing is used wherever possible and a fair means of cost sharing agreed with the driver.

To help offset printing and other expenses we periodically have a bring and buy sale and hold a petty cash box.

### **Structure**

The activities of Solo Friends are legally part of the pastoral work of St Mary's and as such a report summarising its activities are required to be submitted to the PCC.

The risk assessment responsibilities fall under the Health & Safety Policy of St Mary's.

Solo Friends are most grateful to the PCC for permitting their activities to be treated as part of St Mary's pastoral activity and for the use of the Barn Centre.

Ian Reekie

## Coffee Café

Our Coffee Café continues to be popular both before and after the 10.00 a.m. Service on Sundays, providing us with an opportunity to share the week, discussing everything from the cake of the week to the choice of hymns. It is also an ideal moment in which to welcome visitors to St. Mary's, particularly those who are attending a Baptism or Mothering Sunday, Easter, Christmas or any of our other special Services.

The cafe continues to take place on alternative weeks between the back of the Church and the Barn Centre, the Cart Lodge being particularly popular in the warmer weather when we can sit outside and enjoy the sunshine, but there are occasions when the Barn Centre is in use and we can find ourselves meeting for several weeks in St. Mary's.

We try to avoid too much congestion around the serving area and we now have our designated spot on the red carpet. In an effort to avoid too many trips to the Barn Centre on a Sunday morning, we store as much as we can in plastic boxes in our designated area but we look forward to a time when we will be able to make use of a cupboard – or even two!

In a further effort to avoid too much congestion, Owls now have their designated area at the front of the North Aisle, where they can gather at the beginning of the Service and where they return to for their refreshments at the end of the Service. There is still some congestion whilst the parents navigate the North Aisle when they collect their coffee but hopefully this will be resolved in due course.

Our small team of volunteers at both venues has grown slightly over the year but we would love to welcome a few more, be it the setting up of the café on Saturday afternoon in St. Mary's or in the Barn Centre on Sunday morning, or serving the refreshments at either venue. You can even volunteer on the day by simply stepping behind the counter and joining in – you will always be welcome.

**Rebecca Hume**

## Christmas Tree Festival

We were blessed again with a weekend that was a great success and raised just over £2100, which after expenses was divided equally between St Mary's and St Peter & St James Hospice.

The Church was filled with just shy of 40 beautiful trees and the usual creativity of people shone through. A steady stream of visitors to the trees continued all weekend, and even the rather quick arrival of snow and ice on Sunday afternoon didn't deter people which was fantastic. The traditional vote for best trees took place and the worthy winners were:

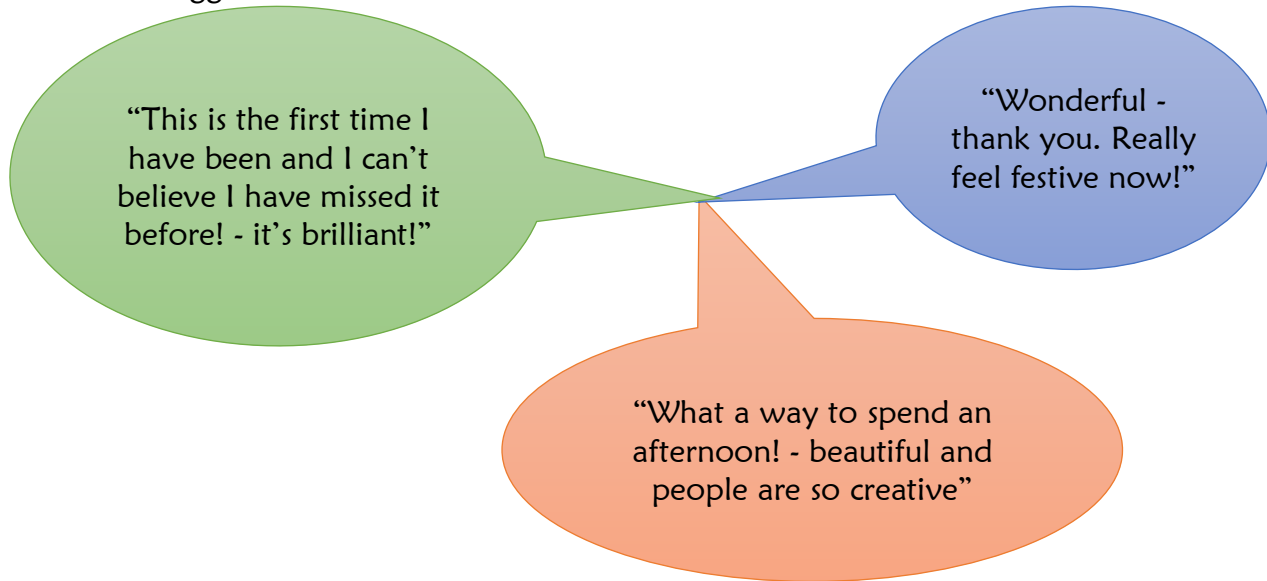
Young people tree	Newick Pre School
Club and Society tree	Newick Bonfire Society
Business tree	The Crown

Saturday evening, the brilliant Vivace Choir performed in the Church providing a graceful and wonderful end to a busy day. To sit amongst the trees with all the varying themes and lights really made it magical. Add to that the mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls that accompanied the evening and it really was a wonderful event.

The festive market was another success this year and 16 stalls filled the Barn Centre and Patio area on Saturday. The atmosphere was one of joy and laughter and was further enhanced by "The Folk" who entertained everyone throughout. Reverend Paul was cooking and there was a variety of tasty snacks and drinks available. No one can say St Mary's doesn't "do" hospitality well!

Thanks go to everyone who worked hard leading up to and over the festival weekend to make it the success it was and that includes all the lovely bakers who provided cakes to be sold across the weekend in the church - and those who gave up their time to be in Church and/or the Market welcoming visitors and serving refreshments.

There were some lovely comments made by visitors to the church and a valuable lesson was learnt when more than one person asked why there was no book to capture all the compliments and constructive suggestions - a definite for the next one!



### **Barn Centre**

With the pandemic on the wane, activities in the Barn Centre 2022 returned to a more normal level. Wedding and birthday celebrations, and sadly wakes, increased in number and Gentlemen's Suppers, Gardening Day lunches and the Lunch Club became regular features again. The Youth Club flourished and the numbers of young people attending increased. Weekly Pilates, Tai Chi and Dancing took place alongside the Women's Prayer Group, with monthly meetings of Solo Friends, Tea at Three, the Sewing Group and The Afternoon Club. Demand for the Barn facilities continues to grow, with a new course on Life Coaching started in 2023 and a further set of Yoga classes anticipated. Broadly speaking revenue is back to pre-pandemic levels but against that has to be set the increase in energy prices without any form of government funded relief.

### **Sue Balloch/ Anthony Bailey**

### **Flower Team**

Although we are a small team, the members work well together and help and support each other, this has made 2022 another successful year.

Unfortunately flowers have increased somewhat in cost this year, but as ever, we are mindful of the finances and keep our costs as low as possible.

We have been fortunate to welcomed two new members to the team.

The donations for Easter Lilies were exceptional again this year, enabling the window shelves to be decorated for the first time for Easter Services.

Harvest once again was another highlight, with additional beautiful garden flowers which had been donated.

Over the three weekends for Remembrance, St. Mary's was decorated with pedestal and wall hanger arrangements of poppies and foliage, these were appreciated by everyone.

Decorating for Christmas was another enjoyable and successful session, with window shelves in use once again.

We have been helped and supported at all the festivals by members of the congregation, the Ladies have produced beautiful arrangements, they have also fetched, carried and tidied, these sessions have been most successful and enjoyable. Another Lady has provided us with refreshments to keep us going, she's also cleaned St. Mary's behind us when we have all gone home. We have also been helped by the Gentlemen who come to our aid for repairs, provision of mechanics, erecting tables etc. We thank them all; we couldn't possibly manage without any of them.

We need more recruits to join the flower rota, not just for arranging, but who would be prepared to be called upon for generally helping out. No special skills required, just a love of flowers and a willingness to join in.

## **The Flower Team**

### **Church Cleaning**

During the course of a year I meet the large number of people who walk through the doors of St. Mary's, from our weekly Services, to Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Concerts, Easter, Christmas, school children and their parents, dog walkers, rambles and general visitors and I am invariably left with thanks for welcoming them into what they feel is a much loved and well cared for Church.

It takes all who attend our Services and care for St. Mary's to provide this welcome and the cleaning is just one small part – until our Rector finds a layer of dust that I have missed! However, we plan to be sparkling clean in time for our Easter Services this year as we have volunteers for our Spring Clean, with the cobwebs on high being attended to on the Friday afternoon so that the dust has a chance to settle for the Saturday morning. Throughout Covid our Church was diligently sprayed with anti-bacterial spray several times a week and the pews in particular have suffered – we plan to rectify this with what is the Church of England's Practical Guide for Vergers recommendation – a damp cloth with a mixture of vinegar and warm water.

I am very grateful for the additional help I have received this year in trying to deal with the mud, dust and cobwebs, but the increased use of St. Mary's means that in addition to our weekly clean further attention is always needed before our Services at the week-end and we will be re-instating our weekly Saturday Morning church cleaning and will be asking for volunteers to help in this way when they can. My thanks to everyone who makes St. Mary's the much loved and cared for Church that it is.

### **Rebecca Hume**

#### **Choir**

The choir have had a number of new recruits some able to commit more of their time than others. We are still hoping to increase our numbers over the next couple of years. Even so, we have several parishioners and friends who will join with us for key occasions and events when they are able. In Holy Week we shall be singing The Cross of Christ with some beautiful seasonal anthems and hymns. Our Advent Service was well attended and made for a very special occasion. We are particularly grateful to Bob Gumpert for welcoming the choir to his home on many winter nights to practice for Christmas and Easter services.

Lunch party for both the choirs at Newick and Chailey to have a get social get-together.

### **Jonathan Fenton-Vicnce**

## **Ringers' Report**

During the past year, we've rung for all the normal church services and school services. We also rang for seven weddings, two of which were at short notice, for which I'm grateful to my team for turning out. In one case Paul rang me to see if we were ringing. When I asked what time he said, "I'm waiting for the bride at the gate now". I exclaimed "Good Lord!" (at least I think that's what I said), "I'll see what I can do". We had a team ringing as the couple came out of the church. I think we got away with it. Speaking to ringers from other towers, only ringing after weddings seems to be the norm. So, couples getting married in Newick and Chailey get a bargain.

We also rang the bells for one funeral and tolled the tenor for another four. I consider tolling for funerals to be a privilege, and I personally will not charge for this service. The offer is open to everybody in Newick if requested.

Additionally, we of course rang the bells on the evening of 2nd June from 9:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. before adjourning to the Green for the lighting of a beacon in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In July we were hosts to ringers from the Sussex County Association of Change Ringers (to which we are affiliated). They enjoyed the refreshments laid on by Rebecca and Chris Hume and helpers, so many thanks to Rebecca, Chris, and helpers. (I am a little concerned that they had such a warm welcome, they're coming back!)

Sadly, on 8<sup>th</sup> September, the nation was informed of the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II. This was announced at approximately 6:30 p.m. I missed a call from Chris Hume, but fortunately Chris managed to contact Allen Lucas who went up the Tower, half-muffled the tenor and started tolling at around 7:00 p.m. Thanks Allen.

I got there around 7:30 p.m. to relieve Allen and we took it in turn to toll until just after 8:00 p.m. The following day, all towers tolled for one hour between 11:00 a.m. and noon. This time three of us, Allen Lucas, Alan Young and myself, took 10-minute shifts each.

During the period between the announcement of the Queen's death and her funeral, all church bells were to be half-muffled. This coincided with one of the weddings we rang for. Not everyone has bells half-muffled for a wedding. I hope the couple are doing well.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September, Allen, Alan and I took turns to toll for one hour prior to, and around 20 minutes after, the funeral of our Queen.

We finished the year by ringing out the old year and ringing in the new. This was a mixed team with some of our fellow ringers from Chailey joining us. It was nice to see some parishioners turn out to support us and this old tradition, but it was nicer to share the generous refreshments we found laid out for us by Paul. Thanks Paul.

We have gained one new recruit this past year – our organist, Jonathan.

Finally, I think 2022 was a unique year to be a bell ringer. Few people (if any) have rung to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of a monarch. Not many have rung to mourn the death of a monarch. To be part of this number is, I feel, a privilege and an honour.

I would like to thank you for letting us keep your bells rust-free. And thanks to my fellow ringers for their continued support throughout the year.

**Julian Avis, Captain of Bells**

## APCM FINANCE REPORT FOR 2022

2022 was a difficult year for St Mary's.

We started the year with funds in hand of £126,852 and finished the year with funds in hand of £110,271, a decline of some 13%.

Our giving for 2022 fell to £99,201 from a comparable 2021 figure of £111,802.

Our expenses rose from £133,614 in 2021 to £154,089 in 2022.

This reflected increased activity and expenditure in our core mission, and in our maintenance expenditure on our Church and Barn Centre.

The decline in giving is a matter of real concern, which we are addressing. Our traditional plate giving fell, in part reflecting a move away from cash to card giving. We have reinstated plate giving in our services accordingly. We must also reinforce awareness that it costs over £2,000 per week to keep our doors open and that we struggle to meet these costs. We are heavily dependent on the exceptionally generous giving of a few members of our congregation.

The increase in expenditure is to an extent unavoidable.

Our policy is to keep fully up to date with maintenance on our beautiful but demanding Church and Barn Centre. We have done this.

Significant cost increases were seen in youthwork where expenditure doubled to some £15,000, in energy costs, in salaries, in our general mission work in the Parish which doubled to some £9,000 and our Parish Share which rose by almost £6,000.

Two generous legacies are the rock on which our activity depends - the Lacey Bequest of £36,681 and the Manvell Bequest of £36,759. Without these legacies our major initiatives in youth work, our youth choir, and making our magazine free to all in the village would have been impossible.

Legacies past and future will remain vitally important to the future of St Mary's.

**Christopher Hume**  
Treasurer



## St Mary's Church Newick 2022

### General Fund, year ended 31st December

<u>Income</u>	<b>2022</b>		<b>2021</b>	
Regular Giving	35,645		47,352	
Other	54,635		55,050	
Plate	8,922		9,397	
Bequests	0		36,681	
Tax Recovered	20,307	119,508	20,115	168,596
Interest received		1,386		143
Wedding and funeral fees		14,914		2,660
Fund Raising				
Sundry receipts		829		3,872
Magazine - income	20,308		11,493	
- expense	-15,577	4,731	-4,600	6,892
Barn Centre - income	0		3,658	
- expense	0	0	-6,171	-2,513
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>141,368</b>		<b>179,650</b>
<u>Expense</u>				
Charitable Giving		4,987		4,000
Parish Contribution		66,218		60,718
Church & Churchyard expenses		50,862		41,959
Clergy & rectory expenses		17,974		13,708
Mission & Evangelism		9,146		3,867
Cost of Services		4,902		9,362
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>154,089</b>		<b>133,614</b>
Excess of income over expense		-12,721		46,036
Transfer to Fabric Fund				-50
Transfer to DFF fund				-30
Transfer to Barn fund				-2,318
Transfer to Pastoral Care fund		-9,706		
Transfer to Youth fund		-6,276		-17,384
Transfer from Lacey fund		25,000		-36,681
Fund brought forward		35,779		46,206
		<b>32,076</b>		<b>35,779</b>

## ST MARY'S BALANCE SHEET 31.12.2022

BALANCE SHEET					
Fixed Asset - Audio visual system			0		8,000
<u>Current Assets</u>					
Cash on Deposit			101,452		110,067
Cash at Bank			15,475		24,021
Accounts receivable			3,586		4,027
			<u>120,513</u>		<u>138,114</u>
Agency balance (Ukraine)			-226		
Less amounts outstanding			-5,900		-1,140
Magazine advertising sales in advance			-4,116		-10,123
Current Assets less current liabilities			<u>110,271</u>		<u>126,852</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS less LIABILITIES</b>			<u><u>110,271</u></u>		<u><u>134,852</u></u>
<u>FUNDS</u>					
Barn - Barn			-2,451		-888
Dance - Dance For Fun And Fitness			4,831		3,878
Fab - Fabric			11,527		11,527
Flower - Flower			1,466		1,736
LACEY - Lacey Bequest			11,681		36,681
Manvell - Marvell Bequest			36,759		36,759
Pastoral - Pastoral Care			9,706		0
YOUTH - Youth Fund			4,675		9,379
General - General fund			32,077		35,780
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<u><u>110,271</u></u>		<u><u>134,852</u></u>

## Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary's Newick

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, set out on the previous pages is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 (The Regulations) and s43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

### Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner.

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirements of the "Regulations" and "The Act" do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of the "Regulations".

### Basis of this report.

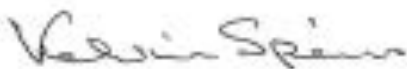
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all that would be required of an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### 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 respects the requirements
  - a) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the act and
  - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the regulating records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.



**Mr K Speirs**  
Fyndings, Station Road,  
Plumpton Green BN7 3BX

24th April 2023

**St. Mary's Parish Church Newick**  
**Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**  
**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

**AGENDA**

**VESTRY MEETING**

1. Welcome and prayers
2. Minutes of Annual vestry Meeting held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 11:30am
3. Election of Churchwardens (2)
4. Close of Meeting

**APCM**

1. Minutes of the previous annual meeting
2. Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy
3. Changes to the Electoral Roll
4. Election of Representatives to the PCC
5. The Annual Report
6. Votes of Thanks
7. Close of Meeting
8. Grace

**St. Mary's Church Newick**  
**Special PCC Meeting following APCM**  
**21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**  
**AGENDA**

1. Present:

Apologies:

2. Appointment of Officers

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Electoral Roll Officer:

Safeguarding Officer:

3. 2023-24 STANDING COMMITTEE

4. AOB

2023-24 DATES OF MEETINGS

The next PCC meeting will be on

The next Standing Committee meeting will be on

Close of Meeting

**St. Mary's Parish Church Newick**  
**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**  
**Sunday, 22nd May 2022, 11:15 a.m.**

**1. Welcome and prayers**

**2. In attendance:** Rev. Paul Mundy (Chair), Julian Avis, Anthony Bailey, Patsy Bailey, Mel Balloch, Sue Balloch, Issie Baty, Pat Beeston, Bobby Blundy, Sylvia Chapman, Geoff Clinton, Ruth Connellan, Paddy Cumberlege, Jebby Dyson, June Ellis, Jonathan Fenton-Vince, Audrey Ford, Kate Francis, Sara Fuller, Rosie Hallett, Christopher Hume, Rebecca Hume, Chris Jago, Valerie Jago, Liuba Jomiru, Allen Lucas, Juliette Lucas, Anthony Mallinson, Barry Mansfield, Shirley Mansfield, Ann Maxwell, Clive Maxwell, Alan Morgan, Lilian Morgan, June Perou, Ron Perou, Ian Reekie, Grizel Sclater, John Sclater, Ashley Stockwell, Mandy Stockwell, Dorothy Thrower, Rosemary Walters, Jo Wood, Alan Young,

**Apologies for absence**

Jeremy and Jackie Burdett, Dan Cowley, Linda Farmer, Aveline Moore, Caroline Smith, Pam Mundy, Patricia Mundy, Louise Young

**Vestry Meeting**

3. At the last Vestry Meeting in May 2021 Sara Fuller had stepped up to become a Churchwarden and had replaced Alan Young who was about to start his Readership studies with St. Augustine's College. Mel Balloch had agreed to continue for a sixth and final year. Mel Balloch was now stepping down, with Sara Fuller ready to continue and Christopher Hume proposed in his place. Sara was proposed by Mel Balloch, seconded by Rev. Paul Mundy and unanimously approved. Christopher Hume was proposed by Sara Fuller and seconded by Rev. Paul Mundy and his appointment also unanimously approved.

Rev. Paul thanked Mel for his six years of service, expressing deep appreciation for Mel's support, wise advice and love over this time. He also thanked Sue Balloch, stepping down as PCC Secretary, for all she had done to support Mel as well as carry out her PCC role.

**APCM**

**4. Minutes of the previous annual meeting**

The minutes of the previous APCM, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, were accepted unanimously. These were then signed by Rev. Paul Mundy.

**5. Know – Love – Follow – Jesus**

Rev. Paul reported that we had moved on to the next stage of development with work on our Mission Action Plan (MAP). There had been good progress and he was very grateful to Sara Fuller for the way in which she had laid out the MAP tables so we could see the trajectory of actions. Following the first MAP discussion with the PCC earlier in the year he now wanted to broaden the audience, holding a further MAP discussion on 24<sup>th</sup> September. There would also be very informal Saturday 'surgeries' bringing in people from the village. He invited all to reflect on what part they might play in these.

## **6. Adoption of Diocesan Safeguarding Policy**

Rev. Paul Mundy confirmed adherence to Diocesan Safeguarding Policy with the following statement 'I formally state that the PCC has complied with its duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.' He thanked Caroline Smith, Safeguarding Officer, Linda Farmer, and others involved in the daily safeguarding work of St. Mary's.

## **7. Changes to the Electoral Roll**

Mandy Stockwell reported that the Electoral Roll had remained stable since the last APCM. Eight names had been added but three members had died and two had moved elsewhere. One hundred and forty two people were presently on the Electoral Roll.

## **8. Election of Representatives to the PCC**

Four new members of the congregation were elected as Lay Representatives to the PCC:

Dan Cowley, proposed by Rev. Paul Mundy, seconded by Christopher Hume Jonathan Fenton-Vince, proposed by Rev. Paul Mundy and seconded by Sara Fuller Ian Reekie, proposed by Christopher Hume and seconded by Sara Fuller Mandy Stockwell proposed by Rev. Paul Mundy, seconded by Christopher Hume. All were approved unanimously.

Rev. Paul reflected that it was a privilege to serve on the PCC which needed a wide and diverse membership. He was grateful to all serving and newly elected members.

## **9. The Annual Report**

The Church Administrator, Caroline Lewis-Irlam, was thanked for all her work in preparing the Annual Report. All were thanked for their contributions. On specific items:

a) Secretary's report: there were no questions

b) Treasurer's report: Christopher Hume said that St. Mary's was in a good place financially. He thanked previous Treasurers for contributing to this and also thanked the generosity of the congregation. He was delighted that Ian Reekie would additionally be looking at legacy issues from now on. It was not the entire answer to increased funding but it would be a great help. He was looking forward to a review with Andrew Smith from the Diocese. He gave huge thanks to Robin Parris, Ruth Connellan and Mel Balloch for their support. Coming out of lockdown and dealing with post-pandemic issues would be a challenge. He proposed that Kevin Spiers be appointed as the Independent Examiner and this was unanimously approved.

c) Fabric report: Rev. Paul gave huge thanks to Tony Bailey for all his work as Sexton. He had been working tirelessly alongside Rebecca Hume, our Verger, to keep the church doors open. Tony was also thanked for looking after the Barn Centre redevelopment proposal which at the moment was working its way through a planning minefield.

d) Deanery Synod Report: the three lay members attending the Synod – Patsy Bailey, Jeremy Burdett and Kate Francis – were thanked for their report.

## **11. Votes of Thanks**

Rev. Paul said without our Verger he could not have carried out all the different services and duties that he had done. He gave her a massive vote of thanks for all her work and also that of her Team. It was in fact teamwork that kept our church working so well. Sue Balloch thanked Christopher Hume for his excellent work as Vice-Chair of the PCC and for all the support he had given her during her time as PCC Secretary.

## **12. Close of Meeting**

All were invited to lunch in the Barn Centre. Rev. Paul thanked all those attending and closed the meeting with a prayer.