

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF RUGBY

SAINT ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022



O God,
make the door of this house wide enough
to receive all who need human love and fellowship,
narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife.
Make its threshold smooth enough
to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet,
but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power.
O God, make the door of this house
the gateway to your eternal kingdom.
Amen.

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Parish Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The Coventry Diocesan mission priorities are: **worshipping God, making new disciples and transforming communities.**



The five *Anglican marks of mission* are:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to encounter God the Holy Trinity through a range of activities, events and services. The PCC maintains an overview of both the worship of the church and its wider life, such as its arts and cultural programme and its café.

When planning activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC has considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. St Andrew's exists to serve the people of the ecclesiastical parish in which we are set, providing them with opportunities to:

- learn about the Christian faith *and*
- develop a relationship with God through the sacramental, prayer and community life of the local church

We also support people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through the additional three Anglican marks of mission (see above 3-5). This includes:

- The provision of pastoral care for members of the congregation and those living in the parish, through home visiting, home communions, hospital visiting, baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Supporting charitable activities and fundraising in the church
- Providing opportunities for those who are vulnerable, and/or with additional support needs to take part in meaningful activity and gain work experience

To facilitate this work, it is essential that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Andrew's, Rugby.

Review of the Year and other Activities

Overview

2022 proved a momentous year in the life of the nation in a number of ways. The unprecedented celebration of our monarch's Platinum Jubilee was followed later in the year by the death of Queen Elizabeth II – for many of us, the only sovereign we had known – and the accession of King Charles III. It was also the year in which, to a large extent, normality returned to church and daily life. Covid, of course, had not gone away, as repeated positive tests and ongoing health issues reminded us, but we were able to return with renewed appreciation to something like the normal pattern of St Andrew's vigorous round of worship, hospitality and outreach.

2022 was also the year in which St Andrew's began to respond to Bishop Christopher's invitation to become one of six Mission Hubs across the diocese. A well-attended Discovery Day on the 12th February gave us the opportunity to think, together with colleagues from across the Rugby Deanery and beyond, how we would work together in mission and outreach in line with the diocesan strategy. A central plank in our Mission Hub development was the appointment of an Associate Minister and, after a prolonged search for the right person, we were delighted to interview the Revd Alison Baxter at the end of the year, to start work in April 2023.

As always, I am very grateful to our staff, volunteers, congregations, and the wider community alike for all the time and energy that they contribute to our common life in and around St Andrew's. The reports below give a picture of much that happened across the various spheres of our work. In addition, some other key events deserving mention were:

- In March, a good number participated in an intensive day, working together with deanery colleagues on **Living in Love and Faith**, a national initiative to help us reflect in depth on Christian teaching about sexuality, gender relationships and marriage. We also hosted a diocesan thanksgiving service for LLF with Bishop Christopher on Saturday 24th September, a day on which we were also playing a key part in Rugby's annual Food Festival.
- In **Holy Week** we were privileged to be joined by Bishop John, who took key roles in many of the services from Palm Sunday through to the Easter Vigil, at which three candidates from the parish were confirmed.
- As well as the **Mission Hub** Discovery Day, we hosted one of several roadshows to learn more about diocesan plans to invest in mission and ministry across the county.
- We were delighted to host visits from a number of **local schools**, including St Andrew's Benn, Riverside Academy and Rugby Free Primary. Some services, including on Ash Wednesday, were also held at Harris Church of England Academy, working closely with Helen Bryant, its Lay Chaplain, who is on St Andrew's PCC.
- At Pentecost on Sunday 5th June we held a bring and share lunch to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of **Queen Elizabeth II**. Later in the year we gave thanks for her life at a service of Choral Evensong on Sunday 11th September.
- We welcomed Rugby's new Mayor, Councillor Carolyn Watson-Merrett, at the annual **Civic Service** on the 26th June and enjoyed working closely with her at many other events over the year.
- In July, all the church staff went on a reflective **Quiet Day** at the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Ashow – a beautiful spot on the banks of the Avon and remarkable among CofE parishes for its very Catholic-sounding dedication!
- Many events took place over the course of the year, ranging from weekly Tuesday Lunchtime Concerts to monthly Candlelit Concerts and termly Cream Tea Concerts, alongside one-off

extravaganzas, such as the play, masterminded by Peter Privett, celebrating 801 years of Christian ministry in Rugby. Ben Jennings, appointed as our **Community Engagement Lead** in April, was instrumental in the success of these and numerous other initiatives.

- The theme of December's **Christmas Tree Festival** was 'A Cosy Christmas', with a host of beautiful trees with knitted eco-friendly decorations.
- Amidst much rejoicing, the **Manchester Carols** returned to St Andrew's on the 3rd December, making for an exciting, if every busy, day for us when we also hosted the town's Lantern Parade.
- Rachel Cliffe, our Junior Choir Leader, convened a very successful **Big Sing** for the children of three local primary schools, their parents and families, on the 7th December.
- **Muddy Church** continued at May Blossom Farm, becoming a twice-monthly event in the latter part of the year. We were especially grateful to Hannah Priest, Rolene Cort and others for their voluntary help in the final quarter of the year. We also resumed a monthly Worship All Together service on the first Sunday of each month, alongside the regular weekly Godly Play Sunday Club.
- **Carols, Christingles and other seasonal services** were celebrated in profusion. We were also pleased to see a large number of infant **baptisms** over the course of the year, making up for the many months of Covid restrictions and unpredictability.

We were sorry to say farewell to three valued colleagues. **Wendy Coleman**, our Children's and Families' Minister, accepted a new post on the chaplaincy team at Birmingham Children's Hospital in the autumn. We bade her farewell on Sunday 23rd October and are immensely grateful for all her care and creativity in this role over recent years. Later in the year, **Ivan Finbow** stepped down as the PCC's Gift Aid Officer, having performed this demanding role with meticulous attention to detail for many years. And in November, our Director of Music, **Richard Dunster-Sigtermans**, announced his decision to step down. Fortunately, he was happy to continue until Easter 2023, so we have been able to enjoy his talent and drive for a few more months. On behalf of all at St Andrew's I would like to thank Wendy, Ivan and Richard very warmly.

Confines of space mean that not every event, achievement or person can be mentioned, but each contribution made to our common life is valued highly. The PCC would also like to take this opportunity to thank, among other benefactors, the Coventry Diocesan Mission Fund for its contribution to our work with children and young people, both for the Children and Family post and the Junior Choir post; the Rugby Benevolent Fund for generously supporting our Community Engagement post; and the Saltley Trust for its support of our Children and Families work.

The Revd Canon Edmund Newey, Rector

Kindle in our hearts, O God,
the flame of love which never ceases,
that it may burn in us, giving light to others.
May we shine for ever in your temple,
set on fire with your eternal light,
even your Son Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our Redeemer
Amen.

The PCC has been keeping our Mission and Vision statement under regular review: its current version, informing all that we do, is included here:

St Andrew's, Rugby
At the Heart of Things

St Andrew's is a member of the national Major Churches Network, an iconic part of the town-centre environment, listed 2*, and generally seen as 'the Parish Church for the town'.

The St Andrew's Purpose ('What We Exist to Do'):

Worship as the heartbeat of the church community through the week.

A holy place, seeking to bring worshippers and visitors ever closer to the love of God and the example of Jesus.

Community involvement as the heartbeat of our mission.

A meeting-place, for all the people of Rugby, and all visitors, of all faiths and none, so together we can help in the revival and happiness of the town centre.

The Key Priorities of the Diocese of Coventry: (A backdrop to the St Andrew's Vision)

Reconciliation; Worship; Discipleship; Transforming Communities

The St Andrew's Vision ('How We Define Future Strategic Objectives'), **during and after Covid19, is to provide an environment...**

1. of care and challenge for the whole community;
2. centred on Christian worship, values, heritage and music;
3. demonstrating mutual respect and love across all generations and cultures;
4. actively eco-friendly and digitally forward-looking;
5. hospitable every day to those of all faiths and none;
6. integral to the revival of the town-centre as Rugby's heart.

The St Andrew's Strategic Objectives, 2021-25 (developing out of two 3-year Vision and Mission plans, 2014-7, 2017-20; but also shaped by the experience of Covid)

- *A Seven-Day Church: worship and engagement at the heart of the town, and increasingly a place for people to turn to in good times and in difficulty
- A Hospitality Church: faith, food and fun in the town centre, and increasingly a place where the gospel meets the people's needs
- A Heritage Church, where respect for the historical, musical and architectural treasures of the past is embraced in an urgency about justice and renewal for people and the planet
- A Church with All Generations at its Heart, leading projects for mutual respect between young and old, families and their community, different cultures and traditions

- A Civic Church, playing an increasingly important role in partnerships for the re-shaping of the town-centre community
- A Well-Resourced Church, with an imaginative strategy for providing the finance and up-to-date infrastructure necessary for delivering all objectives.

Children and Families

Our Children's and Families ministry continued on a similar pattern to previous years with weekly Children's Church each Sunday, meeting in the Godly Play room and drawing on its rich resources. Muddy Church continued to meet at May Blossom Farm – attendance was variable and had not yet regained its pre-Covid level. Despite this we moved to meeting each fortnight, as we sought to establish a regular core attendance. In the second half of the year we were pleased to reintroduce Worship All Together on the first Sunday of each month, with the children serving as acolytes, reading the gospel and leading the prayers. We were also delighted to be able to host a number of outdoor activities in the church garden during the year, timed to coincide with events in the town centre, and to return (after enforced changes of plan in 2020 and 2021) to in-person Christingle service on the 23rd and 24th December.

As mentioned above, Wendy Coleman, our Children's and Families' Minister moved to a new post on the chaplaincy team at Birmingham Children's Hospital in October. Recruitment of her successor began immediately, but we are particularly grateful to a group of volunteers who have contributed energetically to regular ministry and one-off events alike – thank you Hannah, Peter, Rosemary, Chelsea, Simon, Noni, Helen, Rolene and others!

Fabric Report

We managed to keep the spend to a minimum during 2022 as we awaited the Quinquennial Report which would show where the priorities should be. Regular maintenance items, such as the clearing of the roof, gutters and drains, were kept up as usual.

Hash Mistry, Chair of Fabric Group

Hospitality

The café activity of 2022 was a move towards pre Covid times with opening 6 days a week, from 10am to 1.30pm and staffed by a range of voluntary helpers. Volunteers from the church (a few), Brooke School, who the clientele enjoy meeting and always ask after when the school holidays arrive, ISS and New Directions. This daily opening enables the church to keep an open door to welcome all in. School holidays do present a challenge, especially to our church volunteers.

Having the café has facilitated catering at special events:- the Food Festival, BikeFest, Cream Tea concerts and a bar for the monthly Candlelit Concerts. A particularly special occasion was a congregation lunch in celebration of the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Our volunteers do more than serve food and drinks, they are good listeners and talkers providing company for those in need. Warning: Inflationary pressures are beginning to be felt on our prices and care is needed here to retain some of our older clientele. There is also increasing pressure on the food preparation and clearing away areas and the kitchen in general is showing its age.

Ron Smith

“Community involvement as the heartbeat of our mission. A meeting-place, for all the people of Rugby, and all visitors, of all faiths and none, so together we can help in the revival and happiness of the town centre.”

These words, from the Vision, Mission and Strategy document above, were the trigger for the appointment of Ben Jennings as Community Engagement Lead in April 2022, and the appointment by the PCC of a support group for him. Amber Merrick Potter had achieved much in the role previously, but there was a gap of more than a year before the church was able to replace her after her promotion to work with Coventry as City of Culture.

After the sharp decline through the pandemic, Ben (with the support of a growing group of volunteers and helpers) has been a key figure in reviving the St Andrew's outreach in the community and reviving the numbers who come from the community into the church. This list is indicative but because of limited space can't be complete. Music - (his biggest new initiative, the monthly Candlelit Concerts, which have brought hundreds of new friends into the church; his involvement in the long- established Tuesday Recitals – the TLC series; his weekday singing and composing groups); the Monday Art group: the Civic Festivals in which the church is a more important partner than ever: the Environmental sessions on two Saturdays each month. Where there is eager community activity, other initiatives blossom – the Director of Music's Sunday Cream Tea Concerts, the Second Saturday Songs for health and fun (which came out of a conversation between Rex Pogson and Sharon Crofts). Alongside the Writer's group, the Community Choir, the bellringers, a regular parents' group, and those who sew, discuss, read, and practise, all this has restored the pre-Covid week-long community buzz, with over 400 involved in these activities in an average week, quite apart from the big influx for festivals, (and the footfall in the daily café – see separate report).

More than restored, in fact. The prospect of a bleak winter for so many faced by a cost-of-living crunch encouraged us to apply to play a part in the Warm Space initiative, which has extended the hours during which the church is open and is attracting still more approaches to make use of the building. Our thanks go to the Rugby Group Benevolent Fund, and the diocesan Together for Change fund, and the Cemex community funds, for their help in helping us to make the church more and more active when our resources in money and volunteers are, like everyone's, depleted by the Covid crisis and more and more stretched since. Rugby town-centre is likely to need us yet more in the next few years.

Rex Pogson

Eco Church

The successful and proven Sustainable Saturday Markets and the Repair Cafe events continued to be held during the year on the first and third Saturday monthly and continue to be well attended and popular.

Your support of Rugby Foodbank with your contributions throughout the year and supporting their Harvest Appeal is much appreciated and even more vital in the economic climate during the past year.

Our recycling initiatives continued during the year with seven boxes of ink cartridges raising well over £200 for church funds; regrettably Walkers Snacks Limited, through their parent company PepsiCo Inc, discontinued their support for the crisp packet initiative at the end of April however the various collections provided over £200 for church fund; in the second year the milk bottle cap scheme through your efforts provided some three and a half black bags of caps which help provide funds for a

school in Africa. We continue to support the Toilet Twinning initiative and have supported the recycling of mobile telephones.

As part of the celebrations for The Late Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee in May, and as part of the Green Canopy a tree marking the historic achievement, was planted by the Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire during a day of celebration also attended by the Mayor of Rugby. Rugby Council Leaders and local councillors together with members of the congregation and community, The St Andrews' Community Choir provide part of the entertainment during the day which culminated in an act of worship based on the Celtic Tradition.

The small team making up the Eco Church Group were pleased that Eleanor and Tulsi were able to join the regular meetings and helped with the planning of the Jubilee Celebrations. We were sorry to lose Wendy as one of our number when she moved to a new job opportunity. The Eco Church Group appreciate and value the support, particularly of the congregation, in their initiatives as our Eco Church journey grows and develops.

John Daymond, chair of Eco group

The Mothers' Union

St Andrew's Mothers Union group continues to flourish. We meet monthly (usually the second Wednesday) at 2.15 pm for a reflective Communion together in the Lady Chapel. This is followed by tea, biscuits and the opportunity to catch up on news, and just enjoy one another's company. The group keep in close touch throughout the intervening weeks, and always include in our thoughts and prayers those who are no longer able to join us. We are always very happy to welcome others to our Wednesday gatherings- you do not have to be a mother or even female! If you would like to know more, do speak to Joyce, to Kate or Rev'd Pam, or just turn up. We would love to see you.

The Reverend Pam Gould

Pastoral Care

First of all, many thanks once again to our pastoral care group for all that they have done over the past year. 2023 has been the first year that we have been able to meet together since Covid regulations every eight weeks to discuss our work and, more importantly, to resume our normal visiting routines to care homes and individuals. This has been a joy to us.

All of our group have now renewed their DBS as it is now a requirement for pastoral teams under the national Safeguarding guidelines, so again thanks to the group for willingly undertaking this. Most of the group have also completed their Safeguarding Foundation training online—again a new requirement under the national guidance.

Pastoral care is a quiet ministry, quite rightly, as confidentiality is extremely important, so you won't hear us talk much about it. But, we would want you to know that we are involved with those who cannot come into church in visiting and keeping in touch. If you feel that this is ministry that you could help with, then do talk to me.

Joyce Woodings, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator.

Safeguarding

We do regard Safeguarding as paramount at St Andrew's Church—Safeguarding is not just the responsibility of either PCC or the Parish Safeguarding Lead—it is everyone's responsibility if you are involved with us as a church.

There have been no Safeguarding concerns raised over the past year as our usual church activities are really just getting back into full swing following Covid. However, as last year, some of our PCC and congregation have used their time to complete online Safeguarding training —so many thanks to all those who have undertaken the training. If anyone would like to undertake the basic training, then do speak to Kate or myself. As our church opens up for community activities, then we must ensure that we adhere to all Safeguarding guidelines and we need many of you to understand Safeguarding and ensure that we, as a church, prioritise Safeguarding.

I have been Parish Safeguarding Lead since 2011 and have decided that it is time to take a break from the APCM 2023. So, we will be looking for a new Parish Safeguarding Lead—please do talk to Edmund or myself if you feel that this is a role that you could fulfil.

Joyce Woodings, Parish Safeguarding Lead.

The Big Table Gospel

We meet in the church cafe on alternate Thursday and Friday mornings, gently discussing topics arising from the forthcoming Sunday Gospel reading and trying to work out what the story means for our lives today. During Lent and Advent, we have special themes, either focussing on a particular book or working through a series of paintings which prompt discussion. We normally have between about five and ten people at the meetings and new members are always welcome. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

John Howes

Thirteen Bells Book Club

Starting during lockdown and online, this group has been meeting in person since last summer and has now grown to about ten people. We gather at a local café once a fortnight on Thursday mornings and discuss our chosen book which often takes us out of our comfort zones. We have read graphic novels, science fiction, historical fiction, theology and modern thrillers. We aim to get through one book per month so there is no pressure to read too quickly. We always welcome new members. Contact John on shoparound1938@gmail.com

John Howes

Café Writers

This group is for anyone who loves to write, from beginners to published authors. We meet once a fortnight at the back of church on Friday mornings. We have recently published *Press Pause: Relax With A Poem*, a 250-page anthology of our poetic work, now available from Amazon. We do readings and sell books at the monthly Saturday Singing Events at St Andrew's. We also appear at other festivals, including Southam, Moulton and the Percival Guildhouse. New members are always welcome. www.rugbycafewriters.com

John Howes

Compassionate Communities

The ministry of Compassionate Communities has been growing this past year in the amount of people we have supported. We have delivered 3 cohorts of programme delivery through our Take a Breath service which supports people living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and other respiratory conditions, and 4 cohorts through our PACE Yourself service which is for people living with Heart failure. From these we established and launched a new drop-in service in November hosted at Rugby Methodist Hub for follow up of people living with long term health conditions, primarily for the group members we want to continue to support long term.

Bereavement Point has seen over 20 individuals supported in a group setting and it continues to receive new members regularly although the groups are often reasonably small. Alongside this we have provided a programme of input in partnership with Rugby Myton Hub to deliver a Bereavement programme for people whose loved ones have died from a life-limiting condition.

I personally have been particularly delighted in the establishment, delivery, and ongoing success of the Second Saturday Singing events which are aimed at delivering Singing for Wellbeing to the Rugby community. Recently this has seen 75 participants in attendance. This was established through conversation with Rex Pogson who has been instrumental in enthusiasm to get this up and running through local community group connections and recognition that singing is not only good for lung health but for the improvement of everyone's emotional wellbeing whether someone can actually sing or not!

As we move into the forthcoming year the key plan for Compassionate Communities is to firstly establish a community of pray-ers around the ministry we're delivering in Rugby and beyond to enable God's work in and through us to continue in the work already being delivered and in addition to offer some Story Circle and Listening Hour opportunities, further Wellbeing event engagement at St Andrew's for the people of Rugby, and to connect with other Rugby community groups to offer support in the provision of specific training/education around supporting those who are living with long term health conditions and their wellbeing, palliative care and bereavement.

I am extremely grateful to the St Andrew's Community who have prayed for and supported me and our team through this past year in ministry and am looking forward to prayerful growth for the future.

Revd Sharon Crofts

Associate Minister and Chaplain for Compassionate Communities

Church Choir

Throughout the year the members of St Andrew's Church Choir have continued to give generously of their time, rehearsing regularly and singing in services and concerts. Numbers have remained stable though, as ever, new members are always welcome!

Two concerts were presented to very appreciative audiences, featuring selections from the choir's extensive repertoire. Additionally, there was the annual evening of music and readings for Remembrance Day with the sublime Requiem by Fauré as the main focus.

Each service throughout the year is equally important and has its unique character but highlights inevitably were the Advent and Christmas Carol services where the choir's performances received much praise.

The loyalty of the choir members must be commended and, as this is my last report for the PPC as Director of Music, I wish to publicly state that it has been an honour and genuine pleasure to work with the choir of St Andrew's over the past 5 years. I wish the choir all the very best for the future.

Dr Richard Dunster-Sigtermans: Director of Music

St Andrew's Young Choristers

Young Choristers has continued to meet for an hour every Wednesday afternoon this academic year. 3 of the 4 current members are now singing regularly with the adult choir on Sunday mornings and starting to gain enough confidence that they are making a positive contribution. Their families are also coming to church and being included into the church life.

We had a very successful Big Sing before Christmas, inviting primary schools to come into church having learnt several Christmas carols and songs and it was lovely to see so many children enjoying being in our wonderful space. This was only possible with the help of several volunteers from the choir and congregation who were around to supervise and guide the children. This is something that I think would be good to repeat – possibly not at Christmas when everyone is so busy already.

Rachel Cliffe

St Andrew's Community Singers

The St Andrew's Community Singers continued to enjoy meeting in term time on Monday evenings from 6.30 -7.30pm.

We took part in many events from April through until March this year, including leading Saturday Songs at St Andrew's on a couple of occasions, and giving a lunchtime concert at the church of St Peter and St John. Later, in May, we sang outside during the Eco Afternoon and Tree planting at St Andrew's Church, and then inside on a very hot day at St Edith's Church, Monk's Kirby - as part of their Heritage Festival in July.

In November, we were once again invited to take part in the Patronal Festival Service at St Edmund's Church, Thurlaston (it must have been our 5th visit) and in December we again took part in the Tree of Light Service at St Andrew's Church. Most recently, we gave a short concert for the Visually Impaired Persons Club at Overslade Community Centre.....a new venture for us which proved to be very happy and memorable....

New members are always welcome!

Angela Youngman Stewart, Conductor
Margaret Tuite, Accompanist

Bell Ringing

With ringing now permitted, we started 2022 by ringing in the New Year. Covid infections and other illness in some of our band members and contacts have continued to reduce numbers attending for parts of the year, but Monday practices and Sunday morning service ringing have continued with only a few cancellations, with help from members of other local bands. Loan of the guild CO2 monitor confirmed that ventilation in both ringing chambers is now adequate. We often use the café area after practices to have a tea/coffee, biscuits and a chat.

We have rung 3 Quarter-peals in the year, all in the West tower. The first was with Gerald Newth to mark his departure to Maidenhead to live nearer family. Sadly, Gerald has recently passed away. The second was for the funeral of Janice Cook. Janice, her husband David and son Michael were members of the Rugby band until the mid-1990s. The third was for the Platinum Jubilee. One visiting band rang a peal on the 8 in February, another lost a peal in August.

The tower clean was completed before Easter, and Mark (mostly) has 'topped up' by hoovering the carpets when necessary – thanks! Our outing in July, to Southam, Napton and Braunston, had low numbers attending. The annual dinner was better attended, although the Rector had a date clash and was unable to come. Thanks to Pip for arranging both.

Some pupils from Rugby school have started learning to ring, on Thursday afternoons. The new learners from early 2022 left the school in the summer, at least one intended to continue ringing while at university. More pupils expressed an interest in September and have progressed to ringing open bells.

There was a flurry of activity after Queen's death, with the 5 bells firstly half-muffled then fully muffled (with makeshift muffles) we rang both on the day after the late queen's death and the day of the funeral with muffles on, and open for the King's accession on the 8-avoiding removing and refitting the muffles. The West tower clappers were refurbished in September (with a slight delay for the late Queen's funeral), this has left the bells much more evenly-struck.

A group of 4 started handbell practices in October, then performed at the Manchester Carols event in church and in 5 care homes. Laurie Jones did a great job of our entry for the Christmas tree festival: thank you, this is very much appreciated. We were able to ring for all the main services over Christmas, with some assistance from ringers from Clifton. Thank you to all the band for your commitment, and to Edmund for his support.

Ringling contacts: Christine Homer 01788 536566, John Goddard 01788 334256

Christine Homer, Tower Captain

Video Streaming

At the start of the Covid lockdown, it was decided to attempt to video stream some services. It started very crudely using an iPhone as a camera and the expertise of Ben Foster with the assistance of Kate Foster and me. Since then, equipment has been bought and a cabinet built to provide regular streaming of the Sunday 10:30 Eucharist in a fairly professional manner. Some funerals are also privately streamed so that mourners who are unable to attend physically can join the service. At present, the Sunday services are regularly viewed 35 – 40 times with 65 followers registered on the streaming channel. Since streaming was started, the number of times that it has not been transmitted can be counted on the fingers of one hand and it has fallen to Ben, Kate and me to maintain this provision. A survey carried out by the Church of England has concluded that churches that continue to stream are recovering significantly better, post-covid than those who have stopped. Significant time and money have been devoted to setting up quality equipment and, from the numbers using the service and comments that have been made about it, it seems to be a valuable outreach activity.

To keep it going it is becoming imperative that a team of operators is recruited and trained. Each service requires a team of two people – one to control the sound and the other to operate the cameras. Ideally, a team of 8 people would allow a rota so that there would be a duty once every four weeks. Please speak to Ben, Kate or me if you feel you could help to continue to bring our Sunday services to a wider congregation.

Ted Old

Financial Review

Financial Review and Outlook from the Financial Group.

It has been a great relief to see a much improved outlook since last year. The church's financial position is still far from what I would like to see but it is heartening that it has begun to stabilise and is beginning to move in the right direction.

The biggest single outlay, as ever, is the Parish Share which covers a number of areas, one being the costs associated with having our Rector. It also contributes in part to supporting less well off parishes, which as Christians we willingly do. As in previous years the PCC honoured its commitment to pay the Parish Share.

An ever present concern is unplanned maintenance which rears its ugly head every year or so and which can make a significant dent in our reserves. We need to get onto a sustainable growth path as soon as possible in order to re-build our reserves depleted by lockdown.

Grants and bequests continued to play an important part but are unpredictable by their nature and we cannot plan our finances on assumptions that they will continue. We need to consider such income as additional to our planned giving.

With the steady re-opening of the cafe and appointment of Ben Jennings as Community Engagement Lead, we saw a steady growth in numbers attending both the cafe and the growing and varied community events. Although this increased our costs, the revenue increased by a far greater amount.

It continues to be hugely important to encourage everyone who is a UK tax payer to use Gift Aid so that we can recover the tax that the donor has already paid on that money. Anyone wanting more information on this should speak to the Treasurer, Des Jones, or myself.

To ensure, not only our continuing existence as the Parish church, but to enable growth in numbers and outreach our finances must be husbanded most carefully.

The financial discipline necessary during these challenging times is resulting in several good practices being introduced which will be carried into the future to ensure that St Andrew's is best able to fulfil God's work.

Ian Sheppard

Reserves Policy

The Council consider that the reserves held at the end of the year were adequate for the church's needs over the next twelve months. Whilst the unrestricted fund is in deficit, there are adequate funds held on deposit by designated funds to cover this and provide sufficient working capital. The majority of the restricted and endowment funds assets are also held on deposit, which can be realised at short notice.

At present, as mentioned above, the church still has a small deficit on unrestricted general funds. It is the intention of the PCC to move to a situation where some unrestricted general funds can be held in reserve to cover future expected general running costs, with the rest of the funds held being either designated or restricted for specific purposes. The PCC aims to hold the equivalent of six months running costs (currently £82,000), which includes staffing costs, bearing in mind our responsibility as employers.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrew Rugby was formed when the Rugby Team Ministry was dissolved on 4th July 2013.

The method of appointment of Parochial Church Council members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's Church, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, the churchwardens, Readers and other clergy (if co-opted) and members of the congregation elected from the electoral roll. All those who attend our services or who live in the parish are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and vote for PCC members and Churchwardens.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent; PCC members are also trustees of the charity. New members receive information about their duties as a charity trustee.

The PCC met ten times in the year. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC has a number of committees which deal with a particular aspect of church life; these include the Standing Committee, the Finance Committee and the Fabric Group, the last two were experimentally combined during the course of 2021, but during 2022 we decided to revert to the original pattern of separate committees, beginning consultations on a more significant re-structuring in 2023. These committees report back to the PCC on a regular basis and inform the decision-making process of the PCC.

Ensuring the Christian governance of our Church School, St Andrew Benn Primary School is an additional responsibility of the PCC, with the Diocesan Board of Education, and the PCC appoints Foundation Governors to the Board.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated in the town centre of Rugby, Warwickshire. It is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The Correspondence address is St Andrew's Church, Church Street, Rugby, CV21 3PT. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1996, Church Representation Rules 2011) and a registered charity, number 1160223. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrew Rugby was registered with the Charity Commission in March 2014.

PCC Members are elected for three years. The members listed below are those who have served at any time from 1st January 2022 until the approval of the financial statements on the 19th April 2023.

Ex officio members:

- Incumbent: The Reverend Canon Edmund Newey (Chairperson)
- Wardens: Joyce Woodings (also Deanery Synod representative) and Hash Mistry

Elected members:

- Rosemary Privett (*term of office 2019-22*)
- John Howes (*term of office 2019-22 and 2022-25*)
- Chris Homer (*term of office 2019-22 and 2022-25*) (*Secretary*)
- Edward Old (*term of office 2020-23*)
- Ron Smith (*term of office 2020-23*)
- Rex Pogson (*term of office 2020-23*)
- Moira Gatward (*term of office 2021-24*)

- o Des Jones (term of office 2021-24) (Treasurer)
- o Helen Bryant (term of office 2022-25)
- o Noni Khumalo (term of office 2022-25)
- o John Goddard (term of office 2022-25)

Deanery Synod representatives (term of office 2020-2023)

- o Joyce Woodings (Churchwarden)
- o Bryan Acford (Assistant Church Warden)
- o Ian Sheppard (Assistant Church Warden)
- o Tony Pratt

Co-opted Members:

- o Ivan Finbow (Gift Aid Officer, co-opted Sept 2015)
- o John Goddard (Tower Captain, co-opted Jan 2016; elected April 2022)

Members approved by APCM April 2021 and April 2022

- o Sue Goddard, Lay Reader
- o Wendy Coleman, Lay Reader and Children's Minister (resigned October 2022)
- o Gwyneth Hickman, Lay Reader

Committee and Group Chairs

Chair of Standing Committee, The Rev'd Canon Edmund Newey

Chair of Finance Committee, Ian Sheppard

Chair of Fabric Committee, Hash Mistry

Convenor of the Community Outreach Group, Rex Pogson

Convenor of the Children and Families Group, The Rev'd Edmund Newey

Convenor of the Eco-Group, John Daymond

Convenor of the Pastoral Group, Joyce Woodings

Approved by the PCC on the 19th April 2023

Signed E. J. Newey

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	2022	2021
	Note	£	£	£	£	Total	Total
						£	£
Income and Endowments from							
Donations and Legacies	2(a)	120,146	-	734	-	120,880	83,350
Charitable Activities	2(b)	49,045	525	5,725	-	55,295	33,707
Income from Investments	2(c)	-	2,301	530	1,305	4,136	1,481
Other Ordinary Income	2(d)	1,955	-	-	-	1,955	33,053
Total		171,146	2,826	6,989	1,305	182,266	151,591
Expenditure On							
Raising Funds	3(a)	165,582	-	1,607	-	167,189	130,408
Charitable Activities	3(b)	3,723	-	28,157	-	31,880	25,759
Other	3(c)	29,086	-	-	-	29,086	31,894
Total		198,391	-	29,764	-	228,155	188,061
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(27,245)	2,826	(22,775)	1,305	(45,889)	(36,470)
Transfers between Funds		-	(12,259)	13,565	(1,305)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)							
Losses on revaluation of Fixed Assets		-	-	-	(15,591)	(15,591)	13,551
Net Movement in Funds		(27,245)	(9,433)	(9,210)	(15,591)	(61,480)	(22,919)
Total Funds brought forward		(77,619)	231,352	55,147	125,506	334,386	357,305
Total Funds carried forward		(104,864)	221,919	45,937	109,915	272,906	334,386

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown at note 17(a) to the accounts.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

There are no recognisable gains or losses other than those stated above.

All income and expenditure is from continuing operations.

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	2022 Total	2021 Total
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	963	-	-	-	963	1,284
Investment Assets	10	-	86,851	54,954	109,915	251,720	318,302
		963	86,851	54,954	109,915	252,683	319,586
Current Assets							
Debtors	11	13,729	-	-	-	13,729	4,922
Short Term Deposits		-	13,322	-	-	13,322	8,863
Cash at Bank and in Hand		(109,106)	121,745	(1,741)	-	10,898	11,960
		(95,377)	135,067	(1,741)	-	37,949	25,745
Liabilities							
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	12	10,450	-	7,277	-	17,727	10,945
Net Current Assets		(105,827)	135,067	(9,018)	-	20,222	14,800
Net Assets		(104,864)	221,918	45,937	109,915	272,906	334,386
Funds							
Balance	13	(104,864)	221,919	45,937	109,915	272,907	334,386

The comparative Balance Sheet is shown at note 17(b) of the accounts

The Balance Sheet shows the analysis of the net assets by Fund

These accounts were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19th April 2023
and signed on their behalf by:

E. J. Nery

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
2 Income and Endowments from:							
(a) <u>Donations and Legacies</u>							
Planned Giving		67,025	-	-	-	67,025	59,065
Gift Aid Donations		8,069	-	-	-	8,069	4,911
Tax Recoverable on giving		14,415	-	-	-	14,415	12,859
Collections (open plate)		3,342	-	-	-	3,342	2,291
Children's Services		-	-	-	-	-	30
Legacies		22,500	-	-	-	22,500	2,000
Other		4,795	-	734	-	5,529	2,194
		<u>120,146</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>734</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,880</u>	<u>83,350</u>
(b) <u>Charitable Activities</u>							
Fund raising events	4	39,977	-	-	-	39,977	10,442
Sundry income		870	-	-	-	870	382
Magazine sales books and adverts		125	-	-	-	125	117
Narrowboat		-	-	-	-	-	2,050
Fees		7223	525	100	-	7,848	3,512
Grants		850	-	5,625	-	6,475	17,204
		<u>49,045</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>5,725</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55,295</u>	<u>33,707</u>
(c) <u>Investments</u>							
Dividends and interest		-	2,301	530	1,305	4,136	1,481
Rent received		-	-	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>2,301</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>1,305</u>	<u>4,136</u>	<u>1,481</u>
(d) <u>Other</u>							
Compensation		-	-	-	-	-	6,910
Other		1,955	-	-	-	1,955	440
Covid grant		-	-	-	-	-	24,976
Furlough receipts		-	-	-	-	-	727
VAT		-	-	-	-	-	-
		<u>1,955</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,955</u>	<u>33,053</u>
Total		<u>171,146</u>	<u>2,826</u>	<u>6,989</u>	<u>1,305</u>	<u>182,266</u>	<u>151,591</u>

The comparative Statement of Income and Endowments is shown at note 17(c) to the accounts

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
3 Expenditure on:							
(a) Raising Funds							
Ministry:							
- share to diocese etc		74,175	-	-	-	74,175	74,175
- Clergy Expenses	5	285	-	-	-	285	220
Fees to Diocese		2,452	-	-	-	2,452	1,493
Bellringers		100	-	-	-	100	150
Upkeep of Church:							
- verger's fees		100	-	-	-	100	210
- running costs	6	39,024	-	-	-	39,024	24,980
Church maintenance		23,916	-	46	-	23,962	8,729
Major Repair Expenditure		-	-	-	-	-	4,080
Salary of organists and fees		10,990	-	-	-	10,990	7,650
Choir Fees and Expenses		151	-	-	-	151	571
Mission		-	-	-	-	-	1,500
Publicity		499	-	-	-	499	161
Princes Street Expenses	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Fund raising	4	8,085	-	-	-	8,085	1,992
Other payments	8	5,805	-	1,561	-	7,366	4,497
		165,582	-	1,607	-	167,189	130,408
(b) Charitable Activities							
Missionary and charitable giving:							
Church overseas:							
- missionary societies		95	-	-	-	95	120
- relief agencies		166	-	-	-	166	509
Outreach Salaries		3,353	-	28,157	-	31,510	21,957
Refugee Expenses		-	-	-	-	-	-
Young people's work		109	-	-	-	109	1,989
Narrowboat		-	-	-	-	-	1,184
Other grants		-	-	-	-	-	-
		3,723	-	28,157	-	31,880	25,759
(c) Other							
Church centre:							
salaries		17,979	-	-	-	17,979	16,299
pension contribution		1,169	-	-	-	1,169	894
printing and stationery		186	-	-	-	186	628
copy charges		5,560	-	-	-	5,560	3,956
computer expenses		2,871	-	-	-	2,871	1,186
Vault Repair Costs		-	-	-	-	-	6,909
Examiner's Fee		1,000	-	-	-	1,000	1,560
Depreciation		321	-	-	-	321	462
		29,086	-	-	-	29,086	31,894
Total		198,391	-	29,764	-	228,155	188,061

The comparative Statement of Expenditure is shown at note 17(d) to the accounts

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

	2022	2021	2022	2021
	Income		Expenditure	
	£	£	£	£
4 Fund Raising				
Café	25,335	7,835	6,841	1,797
Open Door	-	-	-	-
Events	10,304	-	954	-
Recitals and Concerts	1,349	1,006	150	128
Cards books and candles	59	153	-	27
Use of Church and frontage	2,180	1,210	-	-
Festival of trees	79	86	-	-
Other and sales of products	671	152	140	40
	<u>39,977</u>	<u>10,442</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>1,992</u>
5 Clergy Expenses			£	£
Clergy expenses			175	-
Clergy Fees			110	220
			<u>285</u>	<u>220</u>
6 Church Running Costs			£	£
Insurance and Licences			10,765	10,604
Heat, Light and Water			23,819	10,347
Wine and Candles			909	796
Baptisms			117	-
Cleaner's wages			3,414	3,233
			<u>39,024</u>	<u>24,980</u>
7 Princes Street Property Expenses			£	£
Insurance			-	-
Council Tax/Water/Electricity			-	-
Repairs			-	-
			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
8 Miscellaneous			£	£
Christian Stewardship Envelopes			144	142
Flowers			226	183
Housekeeping Supplies			2,302	1,593
Subscription			448	862
Book of Remembrance			175	-
Gifts			133	620
Covid expenses			-	41
Other			2,377	765
			<u>5,805</u>	<u>4,206</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

9 Fixed Assets			2022	2021
	Musical Equipmt	Office Equipmt	Total	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1st January 2022	1,800	11,116	12,916	12,916
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2022	1,800	11,116	12,916	12,916
Depreciation				
At 1st January 2022	813	10,819	11,632	11,170
Depreciation for the year	247	74	321	462
At 31st December 2022	1,060	10,893	11,953	11,632
Net Book Value at 31st December 2022	740	223	963	1,284
Unrestricted Fund	Office Fixtures		223	297
	Musical Equipment		740	987
			963	1,284
10 Investments				
	Other Investments			
	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£
As at 1st January 2022	141,851	50,945	125,506	318,302
Additions/Transfers	-	1,305	-	1,305
Interest	-	2,704	-	2,704
Unrealised Gain	-	-	(15,591)	(15,591)
	141,851	54,954	109,915	306,720
Withdrawn	55,000	-	-	55,000
At 31st December 2022	86,851	54,954	109,915	251,720
The investments comprise :			£	£
Government Stocks			635	635
CCLA CBF Investment Fund Accumulation Units	[cost £60,000]		70,300	84,586
CCLA Central Board of Finance Deposits			180,785	233,081
			251,720	318,302
11 Sundry Debtors				
			£	£
Income and Value Added Tax Repayments			12,695	3,275
Loans			500	-
Other			300	1,232
Prepayments			234	415
			13,729	4,922
12 Sundry Creditors				
			£	£
Wedding Deposits etc			125	225
Accounts Payable			8,527	3,614
Tenants Deposit			-	-
Grants in Advance			7,277	5,360
Accruals			1,798	1,746
			17,727	10,945

ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST ANDREW RUGBY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

Movement in Funds	As at 01.01.22	Interest allocated	Other income	Expenditure	Unrealised gains/(losses)	Transfer	As at 31.12.22
	£	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted Funds							
General	(77,619)	-	171,146	(198,391)	-	-	(104,864)
Designated Funds							
Christmas Tree Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community House Fund	146,851	1,461	-	-	-	(12,260)	136,052
General Reserve	84,501	840	-	-	-	525	85,866
Volunteers Fund	-	-	525	-	-	(525)	-
	<u>231,352</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,260)</u>	<u>221,918</u>
Restricted Funds							
Special Fund	737	-	-	-	-	(737)	-
Bell Ringers' Fund	2,563	7	644	(323)	-	-	2,891
Music and Organ Fund	5,864	66	163	-	-	-	6,093
FOSSAC Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Choir Scholarship Fund	3,859	38	-	-	-	-	3,897
Child and Family Fund	10,414	104	-	(12,709)	-	7,806	5,615
Mission and Vision Fund	1,807	18	-	-	-	1,305	3,130
Refugee Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Music Outreach Fund	-	-	-	(4,200)	-	4,200	-
Community Outreach Fund	-	-	5,625	(11,250)	-	5,625	-
Muddy Church	3,155	31	28	(1,285)	-	(1,460)	469
All Churches	8,600	86	-	-	-	-	8,686
Spacehive Garden	4,978	50	-	-	-	-	5,028
Project Grants	563	6	-	-	-	-	569
Wannell Trust	2,560	25	-	-	-	-	2,585
Youth Worker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Philips Fund	10,047	100	-	-	-	(3,173)	6,974
	<u>55,147</u>	<u>531</u>	<u>6,460</u>	<u>(29,767)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,565</u>	<u>45,937</u>
Endowment Fund							
Expendable Endowment Fund	125,506	1,305	-	-	(15,591)	(1,305)	109,915

The comparative Movement in Funds is shown in note 17(e) of the accounts

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

We report on the accounts of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrew, Rugby for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 16 to 32.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility:

- (a) To examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act);
- (b) To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- (c) To state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the 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 we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's qualified statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention, which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 1) the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- 2) the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- 3) the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

ASL

ASTUTE SERVICES LTD
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
44-46 Regent Street
RUGBY, CV21 2PS

Dated19/04/2023.....