

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

CHARITY NO:- 1133069

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTROUGH

INFORMATION

Contact	Mrs M A Smith
Treasurer	Mr R Ekins
Trustees	Mrs A C Hudson Mr P W Parkin Mrs B A Perry Mr E Taylor Miss B Brockman Mr R Heaton Mrs J Allen H Downes Mr R Ekins Mrs I Heaton Mr R Lumby Mrs A Lumby Mrs C Palmer Mrs A Smith Mrs C Campsall Mrs M A Smith Mr P Radcliffe Revd A Barraclough D Barraclough
Address	22 Ivanhoe Close Doncaster DN5 8DY
Accountants	Brearley & Co Accountants Limited Chartered Certified Accountants Ltd 39/43 Bridge Street Swinton Mexborough S64 8AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 209 Beckett Road Doncaster DN2 4BB

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTROUGH

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPOTBROUGH

STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Parochial Church Council requires the Trustees to ensure that financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Church and of the surplus or deficit of the Church for that period. In the preparation of those financial statements, the Trustees are required to ensure that:-

- * suitable accounting policies are selected and applied consistently;
- * judgements and estimates are reasonable and prudent;
- * preparation of the financial statements is on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Church will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Church and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Parochial Church Council. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed: 

Signed: 

} (Trustees)

Date:- 18 April 2018

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

**ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH**

As described on page 6, you have approved the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 set out on pages 3 to 7. In accordance with your instructions we have compiled these unaudited accounts from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brearley & Co', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brearley & Co Accountants Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Date:- 18 April 2018

**39/43 Bridge Street
Swinton
Mexborough
South Yorkshire
S64 8AP**

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

RESTRICTED	31.12.17		31.12.16	
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
Church roof and tower appeal		-		1,020
Hall lease				-
Collections		-		85
Other voluntary		-		142
Fundraising		-		39
Investment		32		16
Church		39		-
Stable and roof refurbishment		9,514		7,203
Gift Aid & GASDS recovered		9,478		-
Church organ repair fund		45		85
Grants		4,120		-
Legacies		6,000		460
Flowers		-		-
Appeals		1,635		-
Gross Income		30,863		9,050
Resources expended				
Donations to charities	606		734	
Church maintenance	68,175		216	
Maintenance - other	10,545		-	
Church expenses - mission/evangelism	860			
Church hall and stable costs	997			
Church running costs	-		100	
Investment fund transfer	8,369		-	
Other	1,998		-	
		91,550		1,050
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(60,687)		8,000
Funds balance b/fwd		186,284		178,284
		125,597		186,284

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

UNRESTRICTED	notes	31.12.17		31.12.16	
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds					
Collections			4,406		10,561
Collections - Baptism			164		2,207
Collections - Funerals			327		111
Collections - Weddings			320		3,035
Money given under gift aid			29,941		27,921
Money given without gift aid			12,142		10,176
Gift Aid and GASDS recovered			18,003		-
Church activities			228		1,253
Othr voluntary			4,366		159
Church hall hire			21,417	-	21,750
Statutory fees retained by the PCC			8,835		-
Investments			-		38
Legacies			2,000		7,752
Fundraising			-		43
Investment fund transfer			8,369		-
Gross Income			110,518		85,006
Resources expended					
Fund raising activities			-		-
Diocesan Parish share		44,000		61,180	
Clergy and staff expenses		5,788		1,531	
Church running expenses		22,833		18,227	
Church utility bills		11,451		5,695	
Charity donations		510		555	
Church hall		3,083		13,653	
Church maintenance		15,036		-	
Governance costs		1,260		-	
Other		3,643		-	
			107,604		100,841
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year			2,914		(15,835)
Fund balance brought forward			5,675		21,510
			8,589		5,675

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBOUGH

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017**

Restricted	31.12.17		31.12.16	
	£	£	£	£
Investments				
SDB Finance		3,364		3,355
Investments		8,369		-
		<u>11,733</u>		<u>3,355</u>
Current assets				
Stocks	-	-	-	-
Short term investments (CCLA)	7,000		7,000	
VAT reclaim	11,241		-	
Petty cash	-		-	
Bank	95,623		175,929	
	<u>113,864</u>		<u>182,929</u>	
Current liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors	-		-	
	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net current assets		<u>113,864</u>		<u>182,929</u>
		<u>125,597</u>		<u>186,284</u>
Parish Funds				
Restricted		125,597		186,284
		<u>125,597</u>		<u>186,284</u>

Signed:  (Treasurer)

Signed:  } (Trustees)

Signed:  }

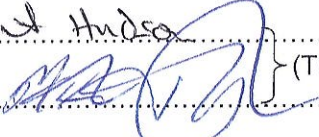
Date:- 18 April 2018

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

Unrestricted	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
Investments				
SDB Finance		-		8,088
Investments		-		256
		<u>-</u>		<u>8,344</u>
Current assets				
Stocks	-		-	
Debtors	-		24,640	
Debtors (HMRC)	5,638		-	
Debtors (GASDS)	1,600		-	
VAT reclaim	2,015		-	
Short term investments	-		-	
Petty cash	182		250	
Bank	38		-	
	<u>9,473</u>		<u>24,890</u>	
Current liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year				
Bank	-		26,443	
Creditors	884		1,116	
	<u>884</u>		<u>27,559</u>	
Net current assets		<u>8,589</u>	-	2,669
		<u><u>8,589</u></u>		<u><u>5,675</u></u>
Parish Funds				
Unrestricted		8,589		5,675
		<u><u>8,589</u></u>		<u><u>5,675</u></u>

Signed:  (Treasurer)

Signed:  (Trustees)

Signed:  (Trustees)

Date:- 18 April 2018

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
Investments				
SDB Finance		11,474		11,389
Investments		259		256
		<u>11,733</u>		<u>11,645</u>
Current assets				
Stocks	-		-	
Debtors	-		24,660	
Debtors (HMRC)	5,638			
Debtors (GASDS)	1,600			
Short term investments	7,000		7,000	
VAT reclaim	13,256		-	
Petty cash	182		250	
Bank	95,661		157,135	
	<u>123,337</u>		<u>189,045</u>	
Current liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors	884		896	
	<u>884</u>		<u>896</u>	
Net current assets		<u>122,453</u>		<u>188,149</u>
		<u>134,186</u>		<u>199,794</u>
Parish Funds				
Total funds		134,186		199,794
		<u>134,186</u>		<u>199,794</u>

Signed:  (Treasurer)

Signed:  (Trustees)

Signed:  (Trustees)

Date:- 18 April 2018

St. MARY'S CHURCH SPROTBROUGH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

The financial statements include all transactions and assets.

They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their affiliation to another nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

1.2 Funds structures

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific project. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent for each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the PCC is free to use for ordinary purposes. Unrestricted funds include designated funds, where the donor has made known their non binding wishes or where the PCC, at their discretion have created a fund for a specific purpose.

1.3 Incoming resources

Collections and planned giving are recognised when received, tax recoverable on gift aid is recognised when the donation is received. All other incoming resources are sufficient reliability. All incoming resources are accounted for gross, recognised once the PCC has entitlement to them, it is virtually certain that they will be received and the monetary value can be measured with.

1.4 Resources expended

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred and is accounted for gross.

1.5 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

1.6 Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable Church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993. Movable Church furnishings held by the vicar and Church warden on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted for as inalienable property unless they cost below £5,000 or are consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £5,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred. All expenditure in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £5,000 or on the repair of movable Church furnishings acquired before January 2000 is written off.

Fixed asset investments

Investments are stated at market value. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

SDB Finance Monies held on behalf of the Parish

(i) Lease of land to surgery

Resulting from the lease of part of the land of St. Mary's Church Hall to the Scott Practice, Sheffield Diocesan Board of Finance is holding funds with accruing interest on behalf of the PCC. The money is to be spent at the discretion of the PCC on the Church Hall only. As at 31 December 2017 the value of this investment was £3,364.

(ii) Black Rock investment (Sprotbrough) Lands

The source has not been identified due to the sad loss of previous Treasurers. The process of updating the account details in 2017 has occurred and the monies transferred to the Restricted Fund. The money is to be spent at the discretion of the PCC.

(iii) Hickling Legacy

Resulting from the legacy of Rev Hickling, Sheffield Diocesan Board of Finance is holding funds with accruing interest on behalf of the PCC. The money is to be spent at the discretion of the PCC. As at 31 December 2017 the value of this investment was £8,110. This fund has been transferred from the Unrestricted Fund to the Restricted Fund.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks of saleable items for fund raising are valued at cost and represent the amounts held on 31 December. No items were held on 31 December 2017.

1.8 Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening market value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between market value at 5 October, mid year review and opening market value (or purchase date if later).

The Parish of Sprotbrough

Annual Report and Financial Statement

**of the Parish of Sprotbrough
for the year ended
31 December 2017**

Incumbent

The Revd A Barraclough
The Rectory
42a Spring Lane
Sprotbrough
Doncaster
DN5 7QG

Bankers

Lloyds TSB
209 Beckett Road
Wheatley
Doncaster
DN2 4BB

Independent Examiners

Messrs Brearley & Co
Accountants
39-43 Bridge Street
Swinton
Mexborough
S64 8AP

1. Membership

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

The following shows the membership of the PCC as 31st December 2017.

Ex officio members

Rector	Revd Amanda Barraclough	2015
Assistant Curate	Revd Robert Heaton	2011
Churchwardens	Angela Hudson	
	Roland Lumby	2015

Deanery Synod Representatives	Alison Lumby	2017
	Derek Barraclough	2017

Reader Emerita	Betty Brockman
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Elected members

Joanne Allen	2015 / 2018	
Cynthia Campsall	2016 / 2019	
Hilary Downs	2016 / 2019	
Ray Ekins	2012 / 2015 and 2015 / 2018	
Irene Heaton	2015 / 2018	
Carol Palmer	2016 / 2019	Philip
Parkin	2017 / 2020	
Barbara Perry	2017 / 2020	
Philip Radcliffe	2013 / 2016 and 2016 / 2019	
Anne Smith	2015 / 2018	
Ean Taylor	2017 / 2020	

2. Aims and Organisation

The mission statement of St Mary's Church states that our purpose is to Worship God and Welcome All. The 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 PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline measures 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The PCC operates through the following committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

Vision Committee

This deals with matters relating to the ministry of the local church to the community and the world, including ecumenical links, evangelism and the support of mission and relief agencies.

Church Building and Grounds Committee

This assists the churchwardens in executing their responsibility for the maintenance of the fabric and plant of St Mary's Church, and also for the maintenance of both St Mary's and Cadeby churchyards.

Church Hall and Stable Committee

This has responsibility for the maintenance of the fabric and plant of the hall and the Stable.

3. The Rector

None of us is getting any younger, are we? Six members of St. Mary's went to glory in 2017. That might awaken fear, yet we can look forward with faith. St. Mary's is growing younger. In 2015, two thirds of our worshipping community were in the 70+ age bracket. In 2017, that has dropped to a half. In 2015, 3 under the age of 18 were part of our worshipping community. We can now count 15. St. Mary's is becoming a younger church, and there is much for which we can thank God. But we cannot afford to be complacent. There are many challenges when so many young families are just beginning the habit of belonging. They do not know us well. They do not know one another well. We do not know them well. It is in deepened relationships that faith is deepened. Habits take time to forge before belonging grows into believing discipleship. From 2017's Nurture Course, Pilgrim, we shared the joy of just one candidate for Confirmation. Young families have busy complex lives –supporting them in that is also complex.

Life at St. Mary's can feel full and complex too. My diary has been filled with a vast variety of contacts which allow relationships to be forged and sustained. All part of the rich tapestry of ministry. 20 baptisms, 1 Thanksgiving for the gift of a Child, 12 weddings, 28 funerals – each with a home visit, creating opportunities to talk about faith at some of the most significant staging posts of life's journey. I'm grateful to those who have undertaken some of that. Our relationships with young families have been strengthened by the introduction in April of 'Starting Rite', a 5 session course exploring spirituality with parents and babies. Sue Drake and Issy Mears have been at the heart of delivery, supported by Louise Cunningham and our partners at St. Peter's Bentley.

The link with St. Peter's Bentley has been a significant development over 2017, and has now been formalised in a Mission Partnership Agreement, ratified by both PCCs and approved by the Diocese. Due to be formally marked in a Joint Launch Event, this Partnership will be vital in providing the impetus to take on mission initiatives together which we would struggle to deliver alone. 'Starting Rite' was simply the first expression of that. It was followed by 'Exploring Christmas' – a 2 hour session, repeated four times during a week, for classes of 8 year olds from schools in Bentley and Sprotbrough. Building on its success, we plan to deliver 'Exploring Easter' in 2018. Revd Dave Berry and I hope that this growing link, which encourages our churches to work collaboratively, will enrich ministry in our schools and churches. But also we hope to strengthen our focus on the area around our shared boundary which is largely untouched by current mission and ministry.

The newly forged Mission Partnership opens the way to the anticipated appointment of a Mission Partnership Development Worker who will provide administrative support between the two parishes. The Upper Room in the Stable is now 2 rooms – one with dedicated storage facilities as well as a secure office base from which administrative support can be delivered, both by the Mission Partnership Development Worker and by home-grown volunteers. This is expected to free around 10 hours of my time to be able to explore growing involvement with youngsters. During 2017 a regular Christian story-time in Sunny Bright Nursery on Sprotbrough Road has been established, and I hope to develop something similar with our resident child-minder, whose use of our premises has generated a welcome income, and positive community contact. All these opportunities to build relationships stand alongside our now embedded pattern of Activity Sessions, All-Age Worship Services, t-Time sessions and strengthening links with local schools.

I want to pay tribute to Robert, whose efforts to juggle the demands of paid and unpaid ministry are often little short of heroic. To Derek, newly licensed in September, who, with Betty, Irene, Robert and I, form the Team who support one another in ministry. To Roly and Angela our Churchwardens, who do more than most realise to make and keep the place ship-shape. Their efforts were rewarded with a gold star rating when the Archdeacon came a-calling. They helped oversee some major works in 2017, listed in their report. Thanks to Ray who has worked tirelessly to help stabilise our accounts in the turbulence of these major outlays, and minimise our outgoings in a host of ways. Thanks to so many who have fettled, baked, raised funds in all winds and weathers. To Derek who keeps me sane, and to all who have counted me as not just your Rector, but as your friend. I feel privileged and humbled to be both.

Amanda Barraclough

4. Electoral Roll Officer

The number on the Electoral Roll at 7th April 2018 was 156.

5. Churchwardens

2017 has been a very busy year indeed! The organ restoration was finally completed as was the upgrading of the church heating system. We also had the new projector and screen installed which is now in regular use not only during selected services but has also been used for other events as well. We now have a new external notice board. We had the tower pointed, and the kitchen roof replaced following the last Quinquennial having flagged them up. We have also found new homes for many of the items from St. Edmunds – this is an ongoing project. We have discussed the future practice of the church regarding the positioning of plaques and have reached a decision to purchase a Memorial book as an alternative. We are considering the allocation of an area of churchyard for cremated remains as our current section has little additional capacity. And if this wasn't enough, just in time for Christmas we managed to get authority to install lights for the trees facing the road, so St Mary's church would no longer be a dark corner, and, there have been several marathon clean up session in church as well!

Throughout the year we have attended several conferences, talks and workshops, covering a variety of topics such as Safeguarding, Data Protection and using the new online Faculty application process (that should come in handy!). We have also hosted a visit from Bishop Pete prior to him taking up his office, along with Betty Brockman; Roland had the pleasure of representing St Mary's at his installation at Sheffield Cathedral. A wonderful and uplifting day! This year also saw the start of our work to update the Church Inventory. In keeping with requirements, we are digitising it! This involves photographing and re-cataloguing everything, to ensure we have a digital copy as well as a hard copy. This has been a very long process. We still have a lot to do and it is hoped that this task will be completed during 2018.

During the year we also prepared for the Archdeacon's Visitation, which was in December. The purpose of the visitation is to go through St Mary's bookwork to ensure we comply with what is expected of us. This entailed thorough planning to ensure we could present all the relevant documentation to him. I am pleased to say that we were able to answer all the questions put to us and the Archdeacon congratulated us on our preparation for the visit.

Finally, thank you everybody for your support from Deputy Churchwardens, the PCC and committees, Stewards, those who count money, clean the church, do flowers, ring bells, do readings and, prepare intercessions, do odd jobs around the church, look after and equip the

Church Hall and Stable, make tea and coffee after the service or visit the sick – whatever you do, thank you! Everything you do is appreciated.

In my first year in office I have had great support from Angela and Barbara whilst getting to grips with all the Churchwarden duties for which I am eternally grateful.

Angela Hudson
Roland Lumby

6. Secretary

This year has been very busy. The PCC has met on the second Monday of each month at 7.30pm in the Stable. The agenda is decided at a meeting of the Standing Committee ten days before and the agendas have been very full. As explained in the Churchwardens' Report, there have been many issues to discuss and decide, in order to maintain the fabric of the church building and to expand the life of the church. It has been a challenge to finish the PCC meetings on time! Agendas, minutes and documents are distributed electronically to most members, five require hard copies.

PCC attendance this year has been 83%.

The PCC members are Trustees of St Mary's. The list of Trustees, updated by me and the Financial Report compiled by Ray, have been submitted to the Charity Commission again this year.

My thanks go to all who have helped me in my endeavours.

Anne Smith

7. Vision Committee

PCC meetings can focus on managerial oversight. The Vision Committee is vital in focussing on what we are here for, and how we fulfil that call.

After the 2015/16 Mission Action Plan, the Committee drafted the 2017/18 MAP2, adopted by PCC. 2016 statistics revealed growth in our Worshipping Community, and our priority is to ensure belonging is embedded by deepening relationships. Plans for the Church Weekend Away in June 2018 are part of that vision. The Committee has also overseen planning, delivering and reviewing invitational events – the Marriage Celebration, Palm Sunday All-Age Invitation Service, and joint service with t-Time. Involvement in 'outward-facing' initiatives such as the Scarecrow Festival and Scout Gala had their beginnings with the Committee. 'Starting Rite' was first discussed here - that led to the Mission Partnership with St. Peter's Bentley. The vision of a more 'Outward facing Church' led the Committee to initiate discussions about support of mission agencies, from which our new Mission link with Tim & Miranda Heathcote of CMS emerged. The Committee have undertaken a review of Pastoral Care networks and Prayer Ministry. A number of training events have been attended.

As well as encouraging new initiatives, the Committee reviews what we already do so that existing patterns serve the vision of a more outward-looking church.

Amanda Barraclough

8. Pastoral Workers

During 2017, I have continued my involvement within the t-Time team, sharing the planning, preparation and delivery of each of the sessions: as well as encouraging and supporting the t-Timers as we travel along our faith journeys together.

After shadowing Amanda on some of her Baptism visits in 2016, I am now part of the Baptism team who carry out visits to families around the parish, who are exploring baptism.

I have also continued my involvement with the planning and delivery of the children's 'Activity mornings', which are held in the church hall during the school holidays, e.g. the 'Pumpkin Hero's Party' held in October. During these sessions fun activities are carried out and the Christian message expounded – (some children attending are part of the church family, as well as children from the wider community).

My work continues within the parish visiting people of all ages, who perhaps need support and encouragement.

Irene Heaton

Even though I am a licensed Lay reader, I also function as a Lay Pastoral Minister. I have dual 'nationality'. Both are relevant but different skills and training is required for both areas, but there is overlap. I have recently started taking home communion and visiting those that are ill. Visiting is an area that I need to work on. So beware, I may visit a house near you soon! I also help in t-Time in a minor role, along with activity sessions. We are planning to start a men's group first meeting will be in the Stables 7.30-9pm April 3rd. Men please take note. For future dates we will try to get speakers. Irene and I are also in the Prayer ministry after services. I am also involved with other areas and sub-committees, which may/may not come under Pastoral care.

Derek Barraclough.

9. Church Buildings and Grounds Committee

See Churchwardens' Report (above).

10. Church Hall and Stable

We appointed Kate Jones to do the bookings and payments and Derek Barraclough volunteered to do the locking and unlocking of the premises for events on a trial basis. This didn't work out because of the time commitment and we have appointed a caretaker, Allan Sneddon which seems to be working. The premises have been well used over the year which has raised issues of wear and tear some of which have been addressed. The Hall floor has been stripped and polished and the carpets cleaned. We have had a child-minder hiring the premises on a regular basis so this is bringing in a steady income. The roof of the Stable has been identified as needing immediate repair and we are still looking for funding for this. The upper room in The Stable has been completely reorganised to provide office space for someone who we anticipate will be appointed as part of the Mission Partnership which we have entered into with Bentley. As well there is a designated storage area for those who need it like 'Open the book', Knit and Natter group and things for the Christmas Fayre.

I would like to thank the members of the management committee for all their help and support. May we continue to rejoice in this valuable asset we have to the life of the church.

Betty Brockman

11. Other Committees Groups and Representatives

11.1 Adwick- le-Street Deanery Synod

Your Deanery representatives are Alison Lumby and Derek Barraclough who have attended meetings chaired by Amanda as Area Dean. We have been made welcome in churches across the deanery with meetings covering diverse topics. In February 2017 Dr Christine Gore reported on the setting up of the college of St Peter as a learning community for the diocese.

A presentation by David Stout about “generous giving and gift aid” followed in June, and in October everyone joined the discussion about the deanery harvest celebration being planned for September as part of Hope 2018. This will be a large scale event, at the end of a week of activities, which will be attended by Bishop Pete of Sheffield.

Deanery synod representatives have also shared their experiences of Christmas and Easter in their different communities both the things that went well and what might need to change.

Alison Lumby

11.2 Bell Ringers

As, you are aware, in spring 2017 Cyril retired from ringing after 72 years service to bell ringing, including 64 years at Sprotbrough, from when the current bells were installed in 1963. Cyril remains a member of the band and joins us once a month after the early Sunday services.

We have a core of dedicated ringers, all with lengthy service at St Mary's, but have not trained anyone new for many years. With declining numbers of ringers, priority has been to recruit and train new ringers. We currently have three learners, at various stages but do need to recruit more if we are to ensure that ringing continues at St Mary's.

Amongst the learners is 13 year old Noah, grandson of John Laughton, who was Tower Captain.

To facilitate teaching of new ringers, in August we hosted a Ringing Teachers Course, which three of our members attended. We have also made and fitted silencers to enable silent lessons, for use whilst learners are taught to safely control a bell. Proposed next development, to enhance teaching is to install a computer simulator, linked to sensors on the silenced bells.

Tim Wheeler

11.3 Children's Society Support Group

Following the death of Victor, a staunch supporter of the Society, our committee chairman and driving force behind our fundraising, we held a meeting to discuss the way forward. We knew Victor would not want the committee to fold and neither did we, but as a very small committee, there had to be a few changes. The new St.Mary's Children's Society support group does not have a committee, agenda or financial reports. We will continue to raise funds for the Society on an informal basis and anyone willing to help at any of our events would be very welcome.

During the past year, we have had a very successful Summer Lunch, Scarecrow Festival, and Wine and Wisdom evening. Our box opening coffee morning was very busy and we held Christingles at Orchard and Copley schools.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed in any way and we raised £3983.25 for the Society. Thank you very much.

Helen Harwood

11.4 Church and Community in Sprotbrough

Once again we have had a good year in spite of or because of one or two changes. We have a good team who seem to work well together for which I am very grateful. Jan Wild has stayed on the management group and we have welcomed Maureen O'Brian onto the team to replace Vivien Jenkinson as the organiser of the advertisements. We are very grateful to Vivien for all her efficiency and the hard work she has put in over the years, she has been wanting to retire for some time! Talking of retirement if there is anyone who fancies being editor? I would be more than happy to stand down! If anyone is even vaguely interested then do let me know.

Thank you too to all the other members of the management committee and all those people who help in the distribution of the magazine, unsung heroes! No one has objected to the decision to reduce the number of editions to ten and increase the price to a straight £5.00 to make it easier to collect the money. We are also looking for more and varied inputs and would welcome any contributions that you would like to make – it is a community magazine, not just the churches. We are delighted that one of our local doctors has agreed to give us a quarterly article and look forward to receiving it. The numbers receiving the magazine have dropped a bit in recent years so anything you can do to increase circulation would be appreciated.

Betty Brockman

11.5 Churches Together in Sprotbrough.

A visit by Erica Dunmow, a representative of Churches Together in South Yorkshire, prior to its dissolution in November 2017, showed Sprotbrough's strong partnership links are a 'model of good practice' in the region. This has been built on years of investment. Many initiatives are only sustainable because of this – Open the Book, Forget-Me-Not Café, and Carols on the Green are examples.

One of CTS's strengths is the readiness to 'draw a line' under some ministries, and to invest in new initiatives. Chat Room drew to a natural close in the summer; Carols on the Green is 'under review' following poor attendance.

Our capacity to develop family links has been strengthened by liaison with Sprotbrough Park's newly appointed Family Outreach Worker. Activity Sessions for children (3 this year) are regular events in the calendar, supplementing the seasonal joint services, Lent Course, Christian Aid initiatives, presence at the Scout Gala, and partnership in delivering new initiatives like 'Exploring Christmas'. A shared meal at our AGM proved a popular change. Regular prayer gatherings during Advent, Holy Week and Ascension-tide are varied in style. Christmas and Easter cards, delivered to 3000 homes, have become more 'outward-facing', publicising key events in a more visual format.

Amanda Barraclough

11.6 Forget-me-not Cafe

Churches Together with the Alzheimer's Society organise a social event for Dementia sufferers and their carers. Every last Tuesday of the month we meet at St Mary's church hall. Lydia Beasley is our team leader, she organises entertainment and volunteers. Gill Morris is the treasurer, Angela Hudson, Carol Palmer and I shop for and prepare afternoon tea. Attendance is stable,

there are usually sixteen people plus their carers present, enjoying each other's company and the musical entertainment. Many friendships are formed; some enjoy dancing with their partner or a volunteer. We have a group of volunteers who attend regularly to lay tables for tea, pour tea and wash up after tea.

Jane Owen, the Doncaster Dementia Cafe Coordinator also attends to offer her support when necessary. Money is raised with a raffle to pay for food and entertainment, so that we are self supporting. All St Mary's volunteers are Disclosure and Barring Service checked and have Enhanced Certificates. Kitchen workers have attended a Food Hygiene course. We have a certificated First Aider present. St Mary's is now formulating a data Protection Policy.

Hilary Downs

11.7 Funds in Fellowship

For various reasons some fundraising events did not happen during 2017 – in fact only 2 took place and the funds raised went to the Stable Roof Fund and the creation of a storage facility upstairs in the Stable.

In May we had the Village Quiz, slightly smaller than usual but still enjoyed by all who took part. The cup was won by The Mallets (Croquet Club) who will hopefully "defend their title" this year. In July we held a Summer Bazaar which was a surprisingly good fund raiser – shall we repeat it sometime? Any ideas and / or offers to organise an event will be gratefully received- the Stable roof needs urgent repairs!

Barbara Perry

11.8 Jigsaw Library and Coffee Morning

The Jigsaw Library and coffee Morning meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month in the Stable 9.30 – 11.30am. It was initially set up in 2012 to provide an interesting and stimulating hobby for people in the local community and is unique to the area and beyond. We have over 500 jigsaws in stock, of various shapes and sizes, which we hire out for £1 each to take home and return the following month. The library provides a relaxing atmosphere where anyone can pop in for tea, coffee, latte and homemade cakes, for a chat and to meet up with friends.

During 2017, thanks to money raised, the following donations have been made:

Stable Roof Fund	£150	St Mary's General Fund	£50	Riding
for the Disabled	£50	Yorks Air Ambulance	£50	D.
Banham Dog Rescue	£50	Don. Street Pastors	£50	Guide
Dogs for the Blind	£50	Macmillan Coffee Morning	£25	St
Mary's Embrace	£25			

Total £500

Surplus jigsaws are donated to local BHF, Arthritis and Barnardo's charity shops.

Liz Crockford

11.9 Knit and Natter Group

The Knit and Natter Club meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Stable from 2-4pm. Since starting in 2015, through our efforts we have donated nearly £4,000 to local charities, including DRI Oncology unit, Yorkshire Air Ambulance, Donmentia, Forget-me-not Cafe and Stable Roof Fund. Some of our members bring along their own project while others make items from our stock of donated wool, which we sell at coffee mornings. From time to time we arrange an outing for afternoon tea etc. As we are a self funding group we each pay £2 per session to cover overheads- refreshments, room hire etc. If you don't knit then come along for a natter- a warm welcome awaits you.

Joan Harrison

11.10 Mothers' Union

Membership: 20

In 2017, some of our speakers helped us to focus on 'those whose family life has met with adversity'; one of the key objectives of Mothers' Union.

We held a coffee morning to raise money for AFIA (Away From It All) which provides holidays for families who cannot afford to fund it themselves. Thanks to generous donations, we were able to donate £615.50 to this project which is close to our hearts. We also donated £130 to the Mothers' Union annual appeal.

We have met with other members in Adwick Deanery and hosted our Deanery Festival. Issy has been our Deanery leader for more than 15 years and has now stepped down from this role which she has performed so well. We thank her for her commitment. This now leaves us without a leader and we hope that someone will come forward to fill this post.

Some of our members continue to support families at Moorlands prison by volunteering to run the play area for visiting children. This is always open to new recruits.

Our membership has declined a little and we are always pleased to see new faces at our meetings.

Andrea Offord

11.11 Parish Luncheon Club

The Parish luncheon Club, now in its 7th year, meets regularly on the last Thursday of the month at the Newton Arms, Sprotbrough Road at 12 noon. The conservatory is reserved for us and around 40/45 people come along to enjoy food, fellowship and friendship. Thanks to donations from members, we have a free raffle and quiz, apart from Easter and Christmas when money raised is donated to a local charity. It is a very happy chatty time when everyone is greeted and made welcome by the team – June, Elizabeth, Liz, Carole and Reg who provides the quiz. Advance seat reservations are made via Carole but there is always room for unexpected guests.

Carole Hall

11.12 Sunday t-Time

Sunday t-Time has continued to meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month throughout 2017, with the exception of August, due to the summer break. t-Time numbers have been averaging around 16 per session. Some of the t-Time families are attending the All-Age worship service on a regular basis now, many of whom came along to the 'All-Age' communion service held in May. Also, a good number of the families joined in with the Pentecost celebrations held in June.

Following on from the 'All-Age' communion service, we began to explore the theme of 'Belonging' in our t-Time sessions , learning about 'signs and symbols' connected with the Christian faith, together with 'caring and sharing', and then covering the importance of 'remembering'. t-Time sessions are run in a very informal way, encouraging and nurturing close relationships with each other as we explore the Christian faith together. We are seeing people of all ages connecting with each other and growing in their faith. It is exciting and encouraging to see God working in this way.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in prayer throughout the year.

Irene Heaton

11.13 Websites

There have been no significant improvements on either the Church or Church Hall websites during 2017. There was a planned update due during the latter half of 2017 to add details about the history of St Mary's. But due to other commitments this did not happen. It is hoped that this can now be done during 2018.

Due to the Rectors work with the local schools we now have a link on the website to Copley Junior School's R.E Curriculum page. Which also includes a short photo gallery of their visit to St Mary's during Harvest Festival. With full permission to utilise the photos used.

Also incorporated during the last year on our main website is a page detailing the work of St Peters College. St Peter's is not a what but a who.....it's a community of all those in ministry in the Diocese and those who want to grow in their faith. Without the full cooperation of Church House the adding of this very informative and useful resource would not have been possible.

www.stmarys-sprotbrough.co.uk

www.stmarys-sprotbrough.co.uk/churchhall

Roland Lumby