







Serving the communities

of Mirfield and Hopton

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

(Please note that questions for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Wednesday 25thApril 2018 at 19:00 at St. Mary's are to be submitted in writing and presented by Sunday 22ndApril 2018 for inclusion.)

REVID HUGH BAKER Vicar of Mirfield Team Parish Report for the Year 2017

2017	St. Mary's	St. Paul's	St. John's	Crem	TOTAL
Baptisms	37	1	13		50
Weddings	9	0	4		13
Funerals	30	1	5	19	55
Average Sunday attendance (Main service only)	85	0	35		130

After all the upheavals of building works and related matters over the past few years, 2017 was a relatively quiet year.

One innovation that was begun in 2017 was the use of an online data processing service called Church Desk. This allows us to use online communications much more easily. We can send out information to members of the congregations and electoral roll very simply and we are also able to keep in touch with those who use our church for other things like Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. I hope you have found the e-mail version of the weekly news sheet useful. There is also the facility for people to book online for baptisms, weddings and social functions. It can even be set to take payments and donations for such events. When it comes to planning and organising services and events, it is a lot easier to keep everyone up-to-date with what is being done and any changes that have to be made.

One other reason we have started to use Church Desk is to make sure that we are using the information that we hold in our database legally. Changes to the law on how such data can be used are coming into force in May 2018. Communication between church members themselves and between the church and the rest of the world is very important and we need to get this right. Church Desk should help immensely with this but comes at a price so we will monitor things closely.

Sadly, over the year we have lost a few of our Church Family: Jenny Willis, Marjorie Bruce, Margaret Richardson, Freda Grainger, Eva Dunwell, Bernard Webster and Cynthia Shaw come readily to mind. The contribution made to the Parish over the years by these has been considerable and they will be missed. It is also right to note here that Margaret Richardson remembered the Parish in her will and bequeathed a sum in excess of £250,000 towards the maintenance of St. Mary's church and bells for which we are very grateful. The loss of so many faithful in just one year does bring to mind the sobering thought that our congregation is very much one that is ageing. Mission and outreach is therefore of vast importance and the, "Leading your Church into Growth" Diocesan led initiative, needs to be taken very seriously by all of us.

As I say every year, this work is not just something for the clergy, the PCC or a few central church workers, growth will only come about when everyone is active in encouraging and inviting others to come. We are trying to make this as easy as possible and we continue to make steady progress with our Plan for Growth.

As you will be able to see from the Ministry and Mission section our Long, Medium and Short-term goals to facilitate this are on track. However, it is always the personal invitation that will bring people to church and even with the best plan if no invitations are made, no one will come.

One small but significant step is that we are now delivering Collective Worship (Assemblies) at Lower Hopton School as well as at Crowlees. Links with Crowlees continue to grow especially with the appointment of Helen Butler as Chair of Governors there. In addition to the weekly Collective Worship and the visits to St. Mary's we are hoping to establish a Leavers Service for children in Year 6 who will be starting at new school. We are also pushing through with the START, enquirers' course and will soon be moving onto the next material aptly called Moving On.

Our Pastoral team continues to do excellent work with those who are sick or in need of home communion. Over the past year we have started to take Home Communion to Hopton Care Cottages. This has been arranged for the first Monday of the month and we have had groups up to 20 strong gathered to sing popular hymns, pray and take communion. We are also trying to set up a system which will help us find out sooner who may need the help of the Pastoral Team. All that we do is done in the light of new Safeguarding legislation to protect the vulnerable.

Financially we had quite a good year. In addition to our running and maintenance costs we managed to pay £70,000 towards the requested Diocesan Share of £93,692. This money comes from various sources: Direct Giving and Gift Aid tax return, fees for Weddings and Funerals, a contribution from the Community Centre, and Fundraising.

My thanks go to everyone who contributes towards the work of the church in this way but special thanks go once again to our Fundraising team headed up by Ruth Edwards who managed to raise £21,000 last year, a magnificent effort.

Our Budget and Strategy Team continue to look at all aspects of funding, setting a realistic budget for the year, trying to find ways of reducing our expenditure and increase income.

One reason we were able to get closer to our Parish Share was because last year we did not have the large building and maintenance works which dominated previous years. A lot of work still needs to be done on all the buildings in our care but we have come a long way towards making sure that our churches and the Community Centre are fit for purpose now and available for use in the future.

The Budget group will try to ensure that works done in future are done in such a way that we can meet our other financial obligations as well. I have been impressed once again over the past year with the care and attention that has been given to our churchyards and I would like to thank everyone who has helped with this.

We are extremely fortunate in the people that we have working as volunteers here in Mirfield Team Parish. Revd. Helen Butler continues to serve most effectively as a Self-Supporting Minister (SSM) and is joined by our Lay Pastoral Ministers, Barry Hambling, Val Walker and, Kath Crossley.

Both Stephanie Hunter and Jessica Malay are continuing their journeys towards ordination through this parish, Stephanie is now working as a Curate at Cumberworth, Denby, Denby Dale and Shepley and Jessica is about to start as a Curate in the Parish of Almondbury.

Pam Fearnley took over from Denise Alderson when she moved away with David and has proved herself to be a worthy successor in this role.

As always, I am extremely grateful to those who have served as PCC members, Officers and Church Wardens over the year and to everyone who has contributed in any way to the running of the Parish.

With every blessing.

Hugh

THE BUSINESS OF THE FULL PCC

Membership of the PCC

The PCC consists of:

Clergy

Revd Hugh Crispin Baker (Vicar and Chair)

Revd Helen Butler

Wardens

From St John's

Karen Batty

From St Mary's

Ruth Edwards Anne Richardson

From St Paul's

Tim Grace

PCC Members

From St John's

Chris Breare Phil Tolson Vicky Bowen

From St Mary's

Lauren Montgomery-Bell

Ruth King Susan Smith

From St Paul's

David Brooke Valerie Warner Jane Jaggar

Deanery Synod Reps

Barry Hambling

Ruth King Richard Smith

Ex Officio Child Protection Officer Karen Batty

There were 6 PCC meetings and 6 Standing Committee Meetings held in 2017/2018.

The Officers to the PCC were:

Vice-Chair

Chris Breare

Secretary

Rosie Baker

Treasurer

David Brooke

Eiectoral Roll

Every 6 years the old Electoral Roll is discarded in favour of a new one and a new Roll was initiated in April 2013. At the 8th February 2018 the Roll stands at 216 broken down as 62 for St John's, 144 for St Mary's, 5 for St Paul's and 5 joint registrations. This is an increase of 3 over the year. Prior to discontinuation of the old Roll

in April 2013, the Roll stood at 320 broken down as follows; 73 for St John's, 224 for St Mary's and 23 for St Paul's. This indicates a decrease in Roll numbers of 104 over the last five years.

Michael J Hampshire Electoral Roll Officer

FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2017 there was no significant change in the total amount of income and expenditure of the Parish from the previous year.

Income from giving decreased with the loss of a number of church members in the year. This was compensated by the increased amount from fundraising — over £21,000 was raised by the small team of fundraisers.

Expenditure also decreased in the year – there was no major repair or maintenance work that needed to be funded and the cost of gas and electricity also decreased as some supplier contracts came to an end and contracts with new suppliers were negotiated.

As planned we were able to increase our contribution of the parish share paid to the diocese to £70,000 (2016: \pm 60,200 / 2015: \pm 34,200).

We are grateful to all who financially support the parish and a special thank you to our small team of fundraisers for all the hard work that they do.

David Brooke Treasurer

BUDGET AND STRATEGY REPORT

The Budget and Strategy Team have met at monthly intervals except for December and August. Forecast and Actual budgets were produced and reviewed at each meeting along with the income and expenditure each month for each church. Savings were made wherever possible and spending on energy has been simplified by having the same contracts for the same period of time for each church.

At Harvest Festival each year we plan to hold a Stewardship campaign and last year this resulted in about 20 people increasing their giving and this will bring in an extra £60 a week, with others promising to increase their giving in the New Year.

Unfortunately, we have lost some people who were very generous in their donations. We are grateful for a large restricted bequest from Margaret Richardson which will help enormously with essential work at St Mary's.

In November four members of the team went along to individual parish consultations at the Share Surgery. The Archdeacon talked about keeping in touch and being realistic, that our regular monthly contribution to the parish share is appreciated and they were pleased that £70,000 is our aim to be paid for 2017 and suggested that £71,000 would be realistic contribution for 2018. The Archdeacon said that is commendable to have a target and in the long term the diocese will write off our debts. In December we realised our target and have paid £70,000 towards our parish share.

Jo Beacroft Mitchell, one of the members of the panel, worked out that our contribution per person is below the average contribution (average is £6.4) and this could be that we have a high proportion of pensioners in our congregation.

The members of the panel were keen to develop St Paul's and advised us not to do small projects but have business plan and vision for the full-scale project.

The total raised by the fundraising team in 2017 was £21,189 and we are grateful to them for working so hard to raise this fantastic amount. During the coming year there are more planed events and we hope that all our congregations will support them.

We must thank David Brooke and Peter King for their excellent accounts and budgets and for keeping us on track and hopefully another successful year in 2018.

Revd. Hugh Baker

WARDENS' REPORTS St John's Church

It has been another very busy year in the life of St John's Church.

Maintenance wise the heaters and fire extinguishers and the lightening conductors have all had their annual service and the gutters have been cleared. Our annual fire safety assessment is due to be done in the next couple of weeks.

This year we employed the services of Wild About Gardens in the Spring to keep up with the churchyard garden maintenance and this was kindly funded over the growing season by the Friends of St John's. Everyone agrees they have done a wonderful job.

We would also like to thank Hopton In Bloom for their work in the Churchyard and looking after the Millennium Window Garden and the garden by the East Window.

A churchyard inspection was completed early in the year by the warden and there had been no change to the gravestone safety.

It has been brought to our attention that there are a further two trees that are diseased and require felling and we are working towards getting this work done and replacement oak trees planted with the help of one of the neighbouring property owners.

Unfortunately, the vestry door became a problem this year as it slipped from its ancient hinges and became difficult to get in and out of. This is serious as it is a fire exit and the only means of entry and exit once the main doors are secure. We have had a temporary repair done so it is useable and a new door is now being made as it is not repairable. The Friends of St John's have once again kindly agreed to fund this important work.

The meeting room is a valuable community asset and used by several groups for meetings; Hopton in Bloom each Wednesday morning, our Team Parish Pastoral Team, St John's Business meetings, Croft House Management Committee, Preschool Committee meetings and more recently meeting of the Friends of St John's.

We have had some very well attended notable services over the year including the Dedication Service and lunch when we said farewell to David and Denise Alderson and thanked them for their service to Mirfield Team Parish and to St John's in particular. Jessica Malay made a fitting tribute speech on our behalf and they were presented with garden centre vouchers that we had a collection for.

The Harvest Festival and Songs of Praise along with the auction after at Hopton Club were a huge success and the church looked lovely.

The Autumn Fayre was once again a success with lots of people attending.

The church was again beautifully decorated over the Christmas period with all the services well attended. Hopton Pre- School visited and the Crib service was attended by children of all ages.

The Sunday School continues to be a joy and well attended and our thanks go to Anne Heeley for her hard work, dedication and enthusiasm each week.

Finally, the Churchwarden would like to thank all the members of the St John's Business Team for their continued support over the past year when we have been down to just one warden and a challenge to keep up to everything for one person.

Also, I would like to thank the Friends of St John's for their support.

Karen Batty Churchwarden

St Mary's Church

After over a year of amendments to the faculty for the vestry and nave works, this was finally approved. The new furniture is now in situ and looks excellent, and we hope more comfortable than the previous. The vestry works are in progress and these will make things easier and also look much improved.

The application for works to the East End was refused by the Heritage Lottery Fund in December.

The recording of the Radio Leeds Carol Service proved a great success with over 450 people attending.

The old Nativity set was looking old and worn and in parts dangerous, Helen was put in touch with someone who restored them. These are once again like new and have been returned to church.

Further enquiries to be made re: monies kindly donated by the late Margaret Richardson.

Christmas services were again well attended and the church looked splendid. The Valentine's Day service was successful as was the Mothers' Day service.

The boiler has been proving troublesome. The fans have been very noisy and the engineer has said that nothing else could be done with them. He promised to send information concerning new ones, which are very expensive, but suggested that the best way forward was to install a new system.

Ruth Edwards and Anne Richardson Churchwardens

St Paul's Church

St Pauls continues to be used for regular worship with the Mirfield Team Parish joint services, Midweek communion and the Christingle service on Christmas Eve. At Easter the Church hosted the Mandy Thursday Passover Meal and the last hour service on Good Friday.

The 'Pet' service that was held in July was a great success and the Thursday morning Communion, which is held in the lower vestry is well attended with an average of 12 weekly communicants.

There has been one Funeral and a Christening at the church this year.

St Pauls hosts a number of outreach projects as part of the Hope2014 and the LYCIG initiatives.

The Tiny Tots group who meet every Wednesday morning.

The Walking group who now meet on a weekly basis and use the church as their base.

The St Pauls Film Club- this is a new venture that was launched in July at the Art Festival, it has great potential and a wide selection of films have been shown on a monthly basis.

We joined the Comoddle sharing group this year; this scheme is administrated by Kirklees and gives us access to numerous items of equipment that we can borrow from other groups. We have so far loaned our display boards, chairs and tables to a number of local charities and had two enquiries about hiring the Church.

The Church continues to promote itself for use by the Community for a number of events:

The Mirfield Roundtable held their Beer Festival in the Church in Early July.

The Art Festival followed a week later with the Church being used for a Star Trek convention, outside theatre and music and a cabaret evening.

There have also been a number of concerts and private functions throughout the year.

The church was used for a series of wreath making workshops before Christmas, this was a great success and we hope that it will become an annual event.

We have applied for funding from the Bishops fund and the Co-op in support of a 'drop in' cafe in the lower vestry, both applications were unsuccessful.

The building works adjacent to the Church are nearing completion, Darren Smith has kindly resurfaced the car park and drive and is currently in the process of replacing the old church notice board and installing new outside lighting. These works have made a great difference to the accessibility of the church and smarted up the outside space, we are very grateful to Darren Smith Builders.

The temporary repair to the northern gulley which was installed following the theft of lead in 2014 has been patched up again and is holding, although it continues to leak and delamination and water ingress continues during the winter period, we will continue to pursue various funding options. It is hoped that works highlighted in the Quinquennial and the internal lighting and sound system can be addressed in the coming year.

St Pauls continues to grow and reach out to serve the community.

Tim Grace Churchwarden

MINISTRY TEAM REPORT

2017 saw the formation of two Ministry Teams helping to determine parish vision, planning for the future and endeavouring to provide the best possible pastoral care.

Ministry and Mission Team

Members of the team meet monthly and share responsibility for certain areas of the church's life such as future planning, outreach, and children's work.

The team has been instrumental in forming the Action Plan for our Team Parish and monitoring its effectiveness and progress. This started with identifying who would take lead roles in achieving the objectives, for example in planning Family Services, or Film Club or Team Parish lunches. A year's calendar was formulated to ensure effective preparation and advertising.

Several members of the team have assisted in running a 'Start' course which is an Enquirers' course aimed at encouraging discipleship and growth, after which three members of the group were confirmed.

Another course that was run by the team was one on Bible Study.

A Men's group was formed as part of our aim for outreach.

Links have been re-established with Hopton School.

The Team Parish stall at Mirfield Show celebrated successful events of the year as well as making information readily available about the Team Parish itself.

As in 2016, the three teams, originally formed as part of the Hope initiative, have continued their work seeking to encourage and share information about services and current and future events with those on the fringe of our church community.

The main focus of *The Church in the Community Group* has been the formation of a Film Club showing films in St Paul's as well as at the Family Fun afternoons at St Mary's.

The Healthy Walking Group continues to have a substantial membership and holds very successful walks on the first and third Saturday of each month. These walks now use all three churches as their starting point moving on to the next church after a couple of months.

Details about the Children and Families Group are covered under the report of Our Work with Children and Youth.

Pastoral Team

Members of the Pastoral Team meet monthly. Good practice for pastoral visiting and safeguarding for all is discussed. Members of the team wear name badges for identification and carry visiting cards so that contact details for the Team Parish are readily available.

Regular visiting of those members of the congregation who are housebound is organised and Home Communion taken to those who wish. Those people who are ill or who have not been seen at church are contacted to see whether the church can offer any help and we are indebted to members of the congregation who alert us to those in need.

Pastoral visiting includes taking communion to Woodlands Care Home until its closure and also to Hopton Cottages Care Home.

Initial visits to Baptism families at St Mary's are now made by two members of the team, as has happened for some time at St John's. It is felt that this is an important link with families as information about children's work in the Parish can be readily shared and faces recognised at subsequent events.

Support for those in need in the wider community has continued this year initially supporting the Salvation Army food bank but latterly the Welcome Centre in Huddersfield.

Kath Crossley

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Synod has held three meetings in the past twelve months, with the first meeting being held at St John's Church, Carlinghow.

It has become the normal practice over the last year to hold joint Synod meetings with the Birstall Deanery, as this saves time and money arranging for speakers to attend and venues etc. Before meetings conclude, the two Deaneries separate to have their own meetings to discuss any items which are applicable to their own Deanery.

The meeting at Carlinghow was centred on the subject of dementia. The talk was given by Mr Adrian Ellwood; he spoke at length about how people with dementia are perceived by normal people. But what is normal? He asked us to consider our attitude to people with mental issues and what we could do to help them. The second meeting was held on the 13th June 2017 at St Saviour's Church Brownhill.

A presentation was given by Liz Morton of the Diocesan Children and young people/ families support team. She said the Church of England had commissioned a survey to explore the relationship between the Church and young people

Amongst the key conclusions were that church's need to be more inclusive of all ages in both leadership and worship, to encourage youth workers and leaders and recognize that young people are equal members of the body of Christ. The third meeting of the year was held at St Michaels All Angels church, Thornhill on the 12th October.

A presentation was given by Richard Noakes, the Director of Education for the Leeds Diocese who spoke at length about how much the church is involved in education in the Diocese. We have two hundred and forty-two church schools, approx. 24,000 thousand children in our schools and 7,000 staff, so it is a large operation.

He stated that the main strategy was to educate those in leadership roles in schools and church's which would enable them to pass on to both children and adults the national church's vision of education which is one of wisdom, vision and safeguarding. Two other items were discussed. Members were given a question slip, on which they were asked to write down a question for Bishop Nick to answer at the next Synod meeting in February 2018.

After the Deaneries had split up for their own meetings, Simon Cash, Area Dean for Dewsbury, asked for his thanks to be passed on to PCC's that the Deanery had one of the best percentage payments of Parish Share (At that time) of any deanery in the Diocese. Unfortunately, the diocese was still facing a shortfall in parish share income which was a major worry.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm

Barry Hambling, Ruth King Richard Smith, Deanery Synod Representatives

OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

2017 has seen the continuation of Children's workshops, Children's Church at St Mary's and Sunday School at St John's as well as Tiny Tots at St Paul's.

Children's Workshops

This year we have held five events, four of which were Children's workshops again focusing on biblical and seasonal themes

The children hear a story and then the rest of the time is filled with activities related to that story interspersed with plenty of games. Our most popular workshops tend to be those at Easter and at Christmas.

Although attendance was quite small the picnic and games in July was enjoyed by everyone including our Community Police who called in to meet us and stayed for a welcome cup of tea and biscuits.

Our Tiny Tots group has three main leaders plus other adults who help out on an occasional basis. We meet every Wednesday morning at St Paul's. Numbers attending have been quite small but we feel that this is an important ministry: a support group offering welcome and friendship to new mums.

We manage to create a meaningful play space despite the room which in its present state is not really suitable for children and young babies.

The volunteers that support our **Children and Families** group are now somewhat fewer in number and we particularly miss Myra Turner who was one of our most willing workers and a staunch supporter of all we are trying to achieve. We would welcome any one who would like to join us to help. Many thanks must go to all the volunteers who do help regularly with our workshops and children's activities—without them we could not continue.

Schools

Work with schools continues to be an important part of the Team Parish's ministry. Hugh has led weekly assemblies in Crowlees and has also been into school to speak to children in the Reception class about Christmas and about Easter. Helen is Chair of Governors at Crowlees and is working closely with staff and governors to support the nurture of Christian families. Helen has now trained with the Diocese and can deliver safeguarding training to churches and schools. In the summer term I helped again at the after-school JAM (Jesus and me) Club.

Pupils from Crowlees School have visited St Mary's to further their studies of Christianity as well as supporting services such as Harvest Festival. Castle Hall pupils from all year groups have visited St Mary's in connection with their studies of Christianity as well as to fulfil the requirement of their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development.

Crowlees, Crossley Fields and Castle Hall have continued to use St Mary's for rehearsal and concerts. We have now published an annual schedule of family-friendly events and services which we have distributed widely to families through occasional offices, seasonal activities and schools. Notable highlights include: The Pet service at St Paul's; the Live Nativity; a service about Love; and journeying with Jesus.

Children's Church at St Mary's

St Mary's Children's Church takes place during the 9.45am service each week and uses themes based on the lectionary supported by materials from the Roots series as well as Young Church Mag colouring pages and puzzle booklet. A team of eight regular volunteers take turns to lead the sessions starting with a welcome and prayers when we light our candles, then saying sorry for things we have done wrong or things we have not done, then going on to our Gospel story followed by activities. We round off our session with prayers. The children enjoy sharing the peace with members of the congregation and also kneeling at the rail for a blessing. A highlight for the children is the Show and Tell session towards the end of the service when they all want to take a turn telling the congregation what we have learned and showing what has been made.

My sincere thanks go to all our leaders who prepare such interesting and challenging sessions which help our children to grow in Christ.

Kath Crossley

Sunday School at St John's 2017

St John's Sunday School meets every Sunday during the 11.15am service. On average there are seven regular attendees and occasional visitors. There are four regular leaders: Anne Heeley, John McMullan, Julie Murphy and James Taylor and other members of the congregation will help out when needed. Before the service the children help by greeting members of the congregation and by ringing the bell to summon worshippers. They also help to collect the hymn books after the service.

The children gather in the Meeting room for Sunday School which always starts with a prayer before the children complete their activities although they do break off to share the peace with the congregation. The children enjoy showing their work to the congregation; they say a prayer and sometimes they sing a song.

Anne Heeley

ST MARY'S COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre continues to thrive.

Though a lot of work is required to keep it up to date, we have been very fortunate to receive substantial grants, one from the Coop and one from Asda.

The one from the Coop for over £5000, together with other grants and funds, is enabling us to go ahead and build a disabled toilet. Work has already started on this project.

Following this, works will begin to bring the Hall up to date with fire regulations, consisting of a new suspended ceiling, new fire-retardant stage curtains, new fire proof doors, and then redecoration, with new lights

We are very grateful to Asda for their grant of over £19,800, which is allowing us to do these works.

Anne Richardson

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Our aim at the beginning of the year was to raise £20,000, a huge task, we thought, but we are delighted to say that £21,000 was raised. A very big thank you to anyone and everyone who contributed over the year in any way. We have now started for the coming year and look forward to your help and support once again.

Elvis came again in January and this raised over £1500.

The next big effort is the welcome return of Black Dyke Band (March 22nd) and following this, on Saturday 28th April, sees the visit of Brighouse and Rastrick Band.

Ruth Edwards

MARA LINK REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

Peter Gordziejko – St Mary's Mara Link Officer

ST MARY'S AFTERNOON TEAM GROUP

Losing Myra was a great sadness for our members, and she is missed very much.

Numbers have increased and we regularly have about 20.

Sometimes we chat, and sometimes it is a hive of activity. At the moment some of our members are knitting flowers for the Mirfield Arts Festival which will take place in July.

Anne Richardson

CROFT HOUSE ROOMS CHARITY

At the formation of the Team Parish in 2007 a document was drawn up to ensure Croft House continues to be managed effectively and the new PCC proposed that the Managing Trustees of Croft House Rooms Charity be the Croft House Rooms Management Committee, the eight members of which are determined as follows:-

- 1. The two Wardens of St John's be members
- 2. The Treasurer of the UHCA (Upper Hopton Community Association) be a member
- 3. The UHCA elect three representatives every two years
- 4. The PCC of the Mirfield Team Parish elect two representatives.

A quorum for any meeting shall comprise two members representing UHCA and two representing the PCC and one other member.

The Management Committee of Croft House Rooms Charity, the Managing Trustees, is responsible for letting the Rooms and for the recurrent expenditure involved in running the Rooms. The UHCA have free tenure of the Rooms and are responsible for the maintenance of the building and grounds and for capital expenditure.

The membership of the Management Committee of Croft House Rooms Charity is as follows:-

- 1. Christine Breare (Chair) (Trustee) Co-opted
- 2. Karen Batty Warden (from Sept 2015)
- 3. David Alderson Warden (from May 2013 to May 2017, when he retired as Warden)
- 4. Michael Hampshire (Secretary) (Trustee) elected by PCC
- 5. Sue Auckland elected by PCC
- 6. Kathryn Cockerill Treasurer of UHCA

- 7. Roger Leedham elected by UHCA, November 2014
- 8. Gail Auty (Trustee) elected by UHCA
- 9. Joan Hemmingway (Trustee) elected by UHCA, November 2011
- 10. Andrea Leedham co-opted as Booking Secretary from Nov 2015
- 11. Jane Tolson co-opted as Treasurer from Sept 2016

The Committee set the new fee structure for 20018/19, effective from the 1 March 18 and informed all the tenants where appropriate. A new store room extension has been built by UHCA behind the kitchen. The building work was started early in 2015 and was mainly undertaken by volunteers apart from the foundations. This was completed in 2017.

The accounts for the year, 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017, were approved in January 2018. These showed an income of £9,306 against an expenditure of £16,301, which includes donations in total of £10,374 to UHCA to help meet the cost of Flooring; Tree Surveys and Felling; Roof repairs and Refurbishment. These donations leave a yearend cash balance of £10,479 at 1 September 2017. At January 2018 the cash balance was £13,341.

Health and Safety is regularly considered at each Committee Meeting and a new Fire Risk Assessment was introduced in Jan 2018 to include two new CO2 fire extinguishers to deal with electrical fires and two new smoke alarms one mounted in each of the Storerooms.

In October 2016 a tree survey was carried out by JCA Ltd (Arboricultural Consultant) on the trees surrounding the Croft House grounds. From the total of 82 trees around Croft House they recommended that 28 should be removed and others pruned due to disease and to reduce the congestion to the benefit of the healthy trees. It was also recommended that the removal of four trees was a high priority due to their health, position and safety.

The cost of the Aboricultural Consultant of £600 was equally split between Hopton in Boom, UHCA and Croft House Rooms Charity. The report was submitted to Kirklees Council for approval and the go ahead for the work was given in November 2016. Thanks are due to Richard Auty who felled 19 trees for free to help reduce the costs. The Tree Surgeons removed the difficult trees in Jan 2017 at a cost of £700 to complete the work.

The Rooms are well used by the community and comprise a wide variety of regular activities. These include Preschool Classes every weekday, various Art Classes, Guitar Group, Keep Fit, Yoga, Pilates, Drop in Centre and the WI. In addition, there are one-off private bookings for a range of activities including Parties, Weddings, Funerals, Christenings and Charity events. Croft House is extensively used to support the local activities of Upper Hopton Community Association (UHCA), Hopton in Bloom and the Church Team Parish. These activities provide social events and they are sometimes combined with fundraising. Some notable events include Carols Round the Tree, Christmas Party for the elderly, Garden Trail and the Village Fete.

Michael Hampshire

MODERATOR'S REPORT FROM THE CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MIRFIELD AND DISTRICT FOR 2017

Our first act of joint witness in 2017 was the Christian Unity Service held at Community of Resurrection. As usual we were exceedingly well looked after by the brothers.

Thank you to Rev Fr Dennis Berk for meeting the challenge of Moderator. He is moving to pastures new in the near future and will be missed by the Management Team.

We said goodbye to Rev James Woolford from Wellhouse Moravian Church in January. We also said goodbye to Rev Terry Pottle from Zion Baptist Church when he retired in August and returned to his native North East. We were able to attend their final services and send our good wishes them and their families.

We have had a busy year starting with our Good Friday gathering in front of the Library with songs led by the Salvation Army Band, followed by a Walk of Witness to St Paul's. Thanks to Rev Hugh Baker for his inspiring interactive service. The Hot Cross Buns given to the Townsfolk went down well as usual.

Our next event was Christian Aid Week when we shared fellowship with shoppers at Mirfield Co-op during a two-day collection. Other events were also held.

Pentecost praise was at Wellhouse and was ably led by Rev Kenneth Evans who keeps trying to retire!

We decided not to have a presence at Mirfield Show because several Churches had their own stands. However, Trinity hosted a stop-off point for people to have a drink, use toilets and baby changing facilities (not to mention take the weight off their feet). Thank you, Rev Alison Crookes and her team.

We provided help to build Wellhouse's Bonfire and three of our team helped at the Round Table Bonfire. Thank you, Alison, Chris and Hugh, because we received a donation of £150 from the proceeds.

Quite a lot of Churches took part in the Love in a Box initiative for Samaritan's Purse. The Salvation Army provided a collection point and over 200 boxes were sent off at the beginning of November.

It was decided that Churches should make their own arrangements for Advent.

We have a rota for attending all the Residential Care Homes in the area, and arrangements at Hopton Care Cottages still needs to be fine-tuned.

As well as the bi-monthly team meetings the clergy meet for a working lunch on a regular basis although the busyness of the clergy has prevented this from taking place over recent months. CTM still facilitates Matrix; and for the second year we hosted REWIND at St Andrew's for some of the pupils at old Bank School.

And finally... we worried that the Angels Project from last year would be a hard act to follow; but we came up trumps because we distributed more than ever in a true Churches Together initiative.

Thank you to the Leadership Team Members for all their hard work, and I look forward to another constructive year.

With every Blessing Cliff Allchin

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The Bishop of Huddersfield, Johnathan Gibbs visited St John's in February

Again, this year our Village in Bloom team have been awarded a gold award which is evident in many locations around the village. Well done to all the team and good luck for the annual garden trail on Saturday 8 July.

This year the churchyard has been strimmed by the two gardeners from Hopton Brow and grateful thanks for the hard day's work after the daffodils had died back. We are in the process of finding another gardener to take on the churchyard.

We have had two donations towards a cupboard to be made from some wood leftover from the disused pews and are awaiting a costing. Donations have been received from Anne Heeley and the funeral of the late Barbara Senior.

This year we lose our Warden, David Alderson as he and his wife Denise move to the Dales. David has done a great deal of work in obtaining faculties for the alteration project in his work as Church Warden and one of the initial team who set up the healthy walking group from the Hope 2014 project.

We also lose Professor Jessica Malay from the village as she and her husband Dave have moved to Huddersfield. Jessica has also been hard at work in obtaining faculties with the alteration project and some funding grants for this. Jessica is due to complete her ministry training in 2018.

We wish them all well in their moves and look forward to seeing them soon.

Many thanks to all who support the Friends in many ways.

Mrs Sue Auckland Hon Secretary

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Committee members: John Daniels (Chairman), Helen Walker (Secretary), Lauren Montgomery-Bell (Treasurer), Rev. Hugh Baker, Steve Bell, Diana Brown, Ruth Edwards, Tim Grace, Stuart Wrathmell

- Committee continue to promote the group. Donations/membership fees are greatly appreciated and help to pay for things such as the recent surveys and reports from experts.
- The Friends took part in the National Heritage Open Days in September 2017. This was part of the National Heritage Open Days events. Unfortunately, there was rain for most of the weekend, but the event was still a success. Trips were organised to the top of the church tower, Chris Conway led walking groups on Saturday and Sunday using the local Frances Stott trail leaflets. Pottery finds from the archaeological digs of 2014/15 were on display and information on hand from the group archaeologist Stuart Wrathmell. A talk was given by Hilary Brook local author and historian about the Mirfield area which was interesting and appreciated by the audience.
- We plan to be part of the 2018 National Heritage weekend which will take place a week later than
 usual on the 15 and 16 September. A display of the different birds and butterflies found on the St
 Mary's site was on show in the church.
- Successful AGM November 2017. At the AGM Hilary Brook gave a talk about tobacco clay pipes. Hilary
 is an expert on clay pipes and is interested in the pipes found at the archaeological digs. One is an

- early example 17th century. Stuart Wrathmell gave an overview to members about the Heritage Lottery Fund application.
- Helpers supported the Mirfield Show church stall which had heritage information leaflets, books and items for sale.
- The committee funded reports and survey prepared by the church architects and a structural engineer relating to the Medieval church tower. This informed the committee of the cost to repair/stabilise the medieval tower. We have costs for the rebuild of the collapsed Dunbottle Lane wall and costs for an archaeological dig on top and near to the medieval mound (Castle Hall Hill). The total needed is more than £240.000.
- The committee have applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant to cover the costs related to the medieval church tower, Dunbottle Lane wall and an archaeological dig. This is a big project. We plan to involve local schools and volunteers. We await the result of the first stage of the application which should be in March. The process is lengthy, and it is likely to be 2019 before things start to progress should the application be successful. Stuart Wrathmell has been instrumental in making the application and his advice invaluable.
- Late March should see another clearance day organised on Castle Hall Hill. The volunteers and graveyard gang made a significant difference by clearing saplings and bracken from the mound. This was done on clearance days throughout the year. The native daffodils will be flowering on the mound in a few weeks' time.
- Signs were put in the graveyard asking dog walkers to keep their dogs on lead and not allow them to
 foul or walk on graves. Although this is still a difficult area to manage, the signs seem to have improved
 the situation.

John Daniels, Chairman Friends of St Mary's Community Heritage Site

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Once again, we have had an interesting variety of speakers. Although Barbara Oxley resigned last AGM she had already prepared the list of speakers for this year.

The talks included My Life as a Norland Nanny, A Yorkshire Tribute, Tales from Yetton, Our new Diocese, Work as a Pastoral Minister, Kirkwood Hospice, The Church of England Diocese of Leeds and R.N.L.I. In July members of Cawthorne M U were invited to Barbara Oxley's birthday party. They brought beautiful cakes with them. In Accord entertained.

Our 2 Coffee Mornings raised £488.70 for funds and the 2 separate raffles raised £164 for Old Bank School Breakfast Club, some of the money to be spent on buying board games.

We have given 45 Bibles to babies christened this year in Mirfield Team Parish.

Once again, we had sunny weather for our Afternoon Tea and raised £340 for the M U Summer Appeal.

In March members got busy knitting items for the Premature Baby Unit at Halifax and 23 blankets, 22 cardigans, 124 caps and 6 photograph albums have been taken. The nurses really appreciated them. Boxes have again been filled for the Samaritans Appeal.

In December 14 members went to the Advent Service at Cawthorne. It was a lovely service and the Vicar said how sorry he was that Mirfield's MU was closing. We had a buffet tea in the church hall before the two taxis brought us home.

We have had between 25 and 30 members attending meetings each month as there has been a lot of illnesses this year and sadly Eva Dunwell, Margaret Murdoch and Myra Turner have passed away. But on a happier note some ladies have celebrated very special birthdays.

Once again we had a thank you card and photograph from the Queen (I don't know what the postman thinks to the Buckingham Palace stamp on the envelope) for her and Prince Philips' 70th wedding anniversary card.

Joan Eddings Secretary

PANTOMIME

Mirfield Team Parish Church Pantomime were again thrilled with the success of the 2017 production of 'Little Red Riding Hood'. Ticket sales remained high with the last 3 performances having sold out. We were thankful to again have help from various people backstage and front of house which ensured the production would be a success.

Chorus numbers were kept at a more manageable 18 plus 13 cast members and with hard work from choreographer Carys Ervine and musical director Wendy Storey there was again a mixture of modern and traditional songs and dances with a "hit" finale.

All the performers and production team worked hard rehearsing through from September 2016 to the performances in February 2017.

We were proud to again be involved with St Mary's church family service on 22 January 2017 giving the congregation a taste of some of the big musical numbers, working under a banner of Christian fellowship and commitment.

However, the highlight of the Pantomime year was our nomination in the My Mirfield Awards for which we narrowly missed out winning our category of best community event.

This unexpected end to the 2016/17 Pantomime year meant we were ready and raring to start our 69th production of 'Puss in Boots'.

Laura Hawksworth

8THMIRFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Our year began with a bit of a celebration of Chinese New Year and some baking as we tried to make fortune

cookies amongst other things. I was genuinely surprised at how these went and actually tasted a whole lot better than the slightly cardboard textured ones that get handed out in foil wrappers at restaurants and takeaways.

At least our Cubs are now ready for being thrown into a Great British Bakeoff technical challenge which featured the self-same cookies for the participants (with slightly less success than our Cubs if I might add!).

Jumping through the year, we have done quite a bit of baking/cooking and have successfully produced flapjack, mince pies, biscuits, pancakes and



chocolate orange buns. Many thanks also to all the volunteers who offer to come and judge the baking exploits.

But the year has not all been about food, we have also made things, camped, hiked, played games, paraded, taken part in district activities, done badges, painted, done athletics (including the Poppy Run I wrote about recently) and deciphered codes (to name but a few).

One of the highlights (certainly for me anyhow) occurred during our Autumn term when we decided to do the Artist Badge and as part of it we did something a bit different and set the Cubs a challenge of making a stop motion film. Each "Six" was given a Lego set to use as the main star, but then constructed film sets, story lines and story boards to work to.

Over a 2 week period the Cubs then posed, snapped, constructed and dubbed their films. Stories included police chases, demolitions, scissor attacks, football games and shark attacks. The end results were brilliant and far exceeded my expectations.



Our summer term began with a bit of fire lighting and outdoor cooking after we had foraged for natural ingredients and made our own camp bread and wild garlic butter (watch this space as I will provide more details in a Spring edition of the magazine). Again, I may be biased, but I have to say it was delicious, and even a torrential downpour did not extinguish the fires or our enthusiasm.

Over the Summer we took part in the district Old n Bold camp and though the weather left a bit to be desired, we had a great camp and everyone enjoyed the weekend.

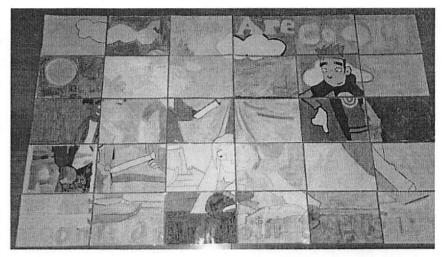
We followed this a few weeks later with our Pack Holiday which was at Scammonden Activity Centre. Though we had a gorgeous

weekend regarding the weather, we were plagued by midges and I am not 100% sure that all my bites have healed even now. I only mention this so it stays at the forefront of my mind when it comes to booking again (or not!) in 2020.

One evening that is always great fun is our "newspaper night". In essence, we see how many activities we can come up with that just use a newspaper (think quiz, paper hats, towers, balancing etc). Mind you, I do always get funny looks when I have to buy 8 copies of the same paper, but only after having read it from cover to cover (not as critical now that "page 3" is no more, but better safe than sorry!).

We have also had quite a number of Cubs who achieved their Chief Scouts Silver Award (Cub Scouting's highest award) and attended the District Ceremony over the Summer – well done to everyone who completed this award. It is no easy task and is certainly not "a given" by any means.

Finally, I know I have already mentioned our Artist Badge and the films we made, but I just want to go back to it for a brief moment. We also undertook an activity that involved making our own giant jigsaw / collage. Each Cub was given a small segment of a picture and told to take it home and copy it onto a piece of A4 paper. They can choose the style and the medium (pen, paint, charcoal etc) but none of them knew what they were drawing. Once all the pieces were returned we reconstructed the giant artwork and saw what we got. I know the lines and the colours do not match, but



actually, when you take a step back, what you see is an excellent simile for Cubs.

We are all different in our own ways and individually one Cub may not make that much of a difference, but when we are all together something strange happens (particularly with our Cubs!!). The differences do not seem to matter and we become something bigger than the sum of our parts. We become 8th Mirfield.

2017 might have been our 101st year of Cub Scouting but I think we are bigger and better than ever! We would be very grateful for anyone who would like to take on the role of leader – particularly for Cubs and Scouts. Please get in contact if you would like to get involved.

Here's to 2018 and another great year of (Cub) Scouting.

Chris Wilding – Akela (Cub Scout Leader) – 8th Mirfield (St Mary's) Scout Group

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

INCOMING RESOURCES	Notes	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted <u>Funds</u> £	Total <u>2017</u> £	Total <u>2016</u> £
Voluntary Income Activities for Generating Funds Investment Income Other Incoming Resources	2 3 4 5	102,165 84,594 10 -	277,388 9,118 283	379,553 93,712 293	150,061 82,952 312
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCE	<u>es</u>	186,769	286,789	473,558	233,325
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Fundraising Costs	6	369	7,037	7,406	5,538
Charitable Activities	7	84,402	1,454	85,856	153,328
Governance Costs	8	82,075	298	82,373	69,651
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPEND	<u>ED</u>	166,846	8,789	175,635	228,517
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		19,923	278,000	297,923	4,808
TRANSFERS Gross Transfers Between Funds	3	•	•	•	-
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISE	D GAINS	19,923	278,000	297,923	4,808
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS Gain(Loss) on Investment Asset			-62	-62	354
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		19,923	277,938	297,861	5,162
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds at 1st January 2017	,	48,006	20,853	68,859	63,697
Total Funds at 31st December 2	017	67,929	298,791	366,720	68,859

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017

	Notes		2017 £		2016 £
FIXED ASSETS			L		~ .
Investments	12		6,996		6,789
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors Cash at Bank and in Hand	13	6,337 355,535		20,314 57,030	
Cash at bank and in hand		361,872	-	77,344	
CREDITORS: Amounts Falling D Wthin One Year	ue 14	- 2,148	_	15,274	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			359,724	-	62,070
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURREN	<u>VT LIABILI</u>	<u>TIES</u>	366,720		68,859
CREDITORS: Amounts Falling D After More Than One Year	ue				-
			366,720	-	68,859
The Funds of the Charity:					
RESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS	16		298,791		20,853
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General Funds	16	67,929		48,006	
			67,929		48,006
			366,720	-	68,859

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total <u>2017</u> £	Total <u>2016</u> £
Gifts, Donations and Legacies Grants	12,037	276,350	288,387	10,677 27,727
Gift Aid and Planned Giving	55,347	590	55,937	63,376
Income Tax Recoverable	13,395	148	13,543	14,150
Collections	7,590	-	7,590	8,711
Fees, etc	13,796	300	14,096	16,311
VAT Refunds	-	· •		9,109
	102,165	277,388	379,553	150,061
3. ACTIVITIES FOR	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
GENERATING FUNDS	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u> 2017</u>	<u> 2016</u>
	£	£	£	£
Fund-raising	23,725	2,671	26,398	22,368
Parish Centre and Room Hire	47,105	-	47,105	48,319
Flat Rent	5,925	-	5,925	5,700
Pantomime	7 920	6,448	6,448 7,830	6,436 129
Parish Centre Donations	7,839		7,839	
	84,594	9,118	93,712	82,952
4. INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
T. III TO THIS THE	Funds	Funds	2017	2016
	£	3	£	£
Bank and Building Society Interest	10	15	24	33
Dividends Received	-	269	269	279
	10	283	293	312
5. OTHER INCOMING	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
RESOURCES	<u>Funds</u>	Funds	<u> 2017</u>	2016
	£	£	£	£
Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-
Parish Share Adjustment		-	•	
				-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

6. FUNDRAISING COSTS	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Sundry Events Pantomime	369 -	168 6,869	537 6,869	472 5,066
	369	7,037	7,406	5,538
7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Upkeep of Services	7,581	1,454	9,035	8,409
Church Running Expenses	26,128	•	26,128	34,013
Church Maintenance	6,352	_	6,352	30,044
Charities	8,081	•	8,081	3,274
Parish Centre Expenses	36,210 50	-	36,210 50	34,837 50
Flat Expenses Tower Costs	50	_	50	11,052
Bell Costs	•	•	•	31,649
	84,402	1,454	85,856	153,328
8. GOVERNANCE COSTS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
Parish Share	70,000	-	70,000	60,200
Clergy Costs	1,042	-	1,042	1,115
Administration Costs	11,033	298	11,331	8,336
	82,075	298	82,373	69,651
9. STAFF COSTS			2017	2016
			£	£
Musical Director			4,800	4,800
Office			2,800	2,645
		-	7,600	7,445

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year. The Musical Director and Office Staff are engaged on a self-employed basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

10. FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

The PCC hold an endowment property at Church House, Church Lane, Mirfield, it consists of a first floor flat and a ground floor meeting room, office and storage. There are also small and large halls. The property has an insurance value of over £1,000,000.

11. GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENT ASSETS Gain (Loss) on investments from:	Unrestricted <u>Funds</u> £			Total 2016 £	
Disposals Change in Market Value	-	-62	-62	354	
	•	-62	-62	354	

12. INVESTMENTS

All the investments are quoted investments listed on a recognised stock exchange. All the investments are held primarily to provide an investment return for the charity.

	<u> 2017</u>	<u> 2016</u>
	£	£
Market Value at 1st January 2017	6,789	6,156
Additions at Cost	269	279
Disposals at Market Value	-	•
Gain (loss) on Investment Assets	-62	354
Market Value at 31st December 2017	6,996	6,789

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

13. DEBTORS		2017 £	2016 £
Prepayments and Accrued Income Income Tax Recoverable		2,475 3,862	12,638 3,699
VAT Refundable		6,337	3,977 20,314
14. CREDITORS		2017 £	<u>2016</u> £
Accruais and Deferred Income Loans		2,148 -	3,274 12,000
	,	2,148	15,274
15. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	General <u>Funds</u> £	Restricted Funds £	Total <u>Funds</u> £
Investments	70.077	6,996	6,996
Current Assets Current Liabilities	70,077 - 2,148	291,795	361,872 - 2,148
Net Assets at 31st December 2017	67,929	298,791	366,720

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1st	Incoming		Dutgoing		Gains and	At 31st
	<u>Jan-17</u>	Resources	R	esources	Transfers	<u>Losses</u>	Dec-17
	£	£		£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds							
Choir Guild	11,624	3,355	-	1,920	-	-62	12,997
Bells	7,905	525		-	•	-	8,430
Charity	408	•		-	-	•	408
Pantomime	8,500	6,448	-	6,869	•	-	8,079
Churchyard	3,018	•			-	•	3,018
St Mary's Appeal	- 10,602	211		-	-	-	- 10,391
Richardson Legacy	-	276,250		-	•	•	276,250
	20,853	286,789	Ξ	8,789	-	-62	298,791
Unrestricted Funds							
General Funds	48,006	186,769	- '	166,846	-	-	67,929
•	48,006	186,769	_ ^	166,846		•	67,929
TOTAL FUNDS	68,859	473,558		175,635	•	-62	366,720

Restrictions Imposed and Purposes of Restricted Funds

Choir Guild Expenditure on Choir and Music
Bells Maintenance of St Mary's Bells
Charity For Gifts to Charitles
Pantomime Pantomime Costs
Churchyard Churchyard Maintenance
St Mary's Appeal Major Repair Work to St Mary's Church
Richardson Legacy Major Repair Work to St Mary's Church