



The Parish Church of St. James West End

Annual Report
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended 31st December, 2022

To be presented at the annual Meeting of Parishioners and
the Annual Parochial Church meeting

St. James' Church, West End

Annual Report

and

Statement of Financial Activities

of the

Parochial Church Council

Registered Charity No 1132863

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Vicar:

Reverend Vicky Maunder

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St. James' Church, West End

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St James' Church, West End – Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2022

Legal and Administrative Information

The Church of St James, West End, is located on the A27 at the junction of West End Road with Church Hill. The postal code area in which the church is located is SO30 3AT, OS grid reference OS 466 141. It is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is St James' Church, Church Hill, West End, Southampton, SO30 3AT.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James' West End in the Diocese of Winchester is registered with the Charity Commission - No 1132863, with the working name of "West End PCC of St James". Date of registrations 21st November 2009.

The following served as members of the PCC from the APCM held 8th May 2022:

Vicar	Revd V Maunder	Chairman	(From June 2019)
Associate Priest	Revd L Galvin	Vice Chair	(From July 2015 – May 2018)
		Chairman	(From July 2018 – June 2019)
LLM	Mrs C Kidd	Safeguarding Officer	(From November 2016)
LLM	Mr A Jenkins	LLM Emeritus	(From August 2020)
Wardens:	Mr S Langridge	Vice Chair	(First elected 2018)
	Mrs D Barnes	Deputy Vice Chair	(First elected 2020)
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Mr M Thomson		(Until APCM 2023)
	Mr G Holden		(Until APCM 2023)
	Mrs C Kidd	Safeguarding Officer	(Until APCM 2023)
Elected Members:	Mrs A Clover		(Until APCM 2025) ¹
	Mr F Amony		(Until APCM 2025) ¹
	Mr S Alexander		(Until APCM 2025) ¹
	Mrs F Weston		(Until APCM 2025) ²
	Mrs J Castle		(Until APCM 2025) ²
	Ms Jill Marten		(Until APCM 2024) ¹
	Mr N Becket	Assistant Warden	(Until APCM 2024) ¹
	Mrs B McDowell		(Until APCM 2024) ²
	Mr D Forster	Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary	(Until APCM 2023) ¹
	Mrs R Owton		(Until APCM 2023) ¹
	Mr A Brooks		(Until APCM 2023) ²
	Mrs K Badcock		(Until APCM 2023) ²
	Mrs J Hollingsworth	(Co-opted July 2022)	(Until APCM 2023)

Elected members may serve a maximum of six years, then 2 year break (took effect in 2003)

PCC Secretary	Mrs S Overell	
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs M Baker	
Health & Safety Officer	Mr S Wiseman	(Until July 2022)
	Mr M Hollingsworth	(From October 2022)

Structure, governance and management

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Objectives and activities

St. James' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar Revd Vicky Maunder, in promoting the work of the ecclesiastical parish (which covers the village of West End, Townhill Farm, Harefield and part of the Bitterne area of Southampton) and the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is also responsible for the maintenance of the Church Hall. It supports the work of St. James' Church of England Primary School.

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of 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 Council; debates complicated or detailed issues prior to submitting proposals to the PCC and reviews the financial situation.

HOPE (Home and Overseas Partnership and Education) Committee. Under this committee, the Church's ministry in the wider world is addressed, with events arranged to meet the needs of others within the Church, and by setting and attaining the aims of the mission work of the Parish.

Risk Management Policy

The PCC actively reviews the major risks which the church faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining reserves, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The PCC has also examined the operation and business risk which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 and given due regard the House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Public Benefit

The PCC acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the PCC annual report. The PCC confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities they should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Church attendance

There were 148 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 44 of whom live outside the parish, as recorded on the roll on 31st December 2022. Church statistics for 2022 are listed on page 9.

Review of the year 2022

The full PCC met 6 times during the year, via Zoom for the first meeting and then in person with an average attendance of 75%. Committees met between meetings and notes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

18 members of the PCC attended the Zoom meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2022

Minutes were agreed and matters arising included agreement of a sentence in the Health and Safety policy, a report on the printed magazines and progress on adverts in the magazine. Business by Correspondence since the last meeting included decisions on Mar Thoma, payments to musicians, use of church as an emergency venue and agreement on a Christmas craft fair. Finances to the end of the year were good. Card machines for donations were discussed. Generosity was applauded although some services do still not take collections. Use of funds for improvements was mentioned but deferred to another meeting. The PCC agreed to an increase in our Common Mission Fund by £2,000 to £55K for 2022, payable by instalments. The Vicar's Report updated the PCC on music, choir and services, a monthly coffee morning and the relaunch of IGNITE youth group. Covid measures in church were discussed; it was agreed to stay as we are. Church of England Lent material to be used this year - 'Live Lent: Embracing Justice' and pamphlets have been ordered; a quiet day in Lent to be organised. For the Queen's Jubilee (2nd to 5th June) a mini Flower Festival was planned with an outdoor songs of praise and afternoon tea; St James' had been asked to take part in the beacon lighting festivities on Hatch Grange on 2nd June. Director of Music – the creation of two posts was approved and adverts would be published. The Building and Fabric report included an update on repairs to the organ (still awaiting quotations). Application for removal of the front pews to be delayed until the Covid situation improved. Since the latest repairs no leaks had been detected in either church or hall roofs. Livestreaming was being tested for improvements. All PCC members were reminded to complete a short online safeguarding training with regard to Domestic Abuse Awareness. Lifts to Church were not possible due to reasons of insurance, administration and lack of volunteers. Churches Together notes had been shared. The PCC approved HOPE support of both the Cafod 200k Walk against Hunger project and Wateraid UK Jars of Change for Lent. The Church Hall Committee notes detailed updates on hirings with restrictions to remain in place until after Easter. The church hall advert would be reinstated in the magazine. The PCC approved the appointment of Caroline Wigley as sidesperson. Vicky thanked the PCC for their attendance and closed the meeting with the Grace.

The PCC met on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 in the Church; the first full in-person PCC meeting since the start of the pandemic.

Revd Vicky Maunder opened the meeting with a prayer. 13 members were present and 7 apologies were noted. Minutes were agreed and signed. 30 people were now receiving printed copies of the magazine; all advertisers had paid their fees. Further investigations were being made into a Sum-Up machine and our voluntary increase to the Common Mission Fund would be spread over 12 months. Business by Correspondence was ratified by the PCC, including spending £244 to rectify a fault to the lightning conductor, to support the Ukraine situation by joining the Sanctuary Foundation and agreement to repairs to the Lady Chapel roof and walls. David Forster reported that finances were reasonable with the General Fund showing a surplus of £759 to the end of February. Hall hirings were not yet returning to

The date for re-election of Deanery Synod representatives was checked and found to be 2023. The annual report was received and thanks were recorded to David Forster and Sue Overell for their work on this. Approval was given for additional CCLI licences to cover the church and the hall for the broadcast of live music and for performances other than acts of worship. Music Posts – we would welcome Chris Fay as our Organist and Choir Director and Anita So as Church Alive music leader. Contracts for both to be checked. The APCM to be held on Sunday 8th May. Vicky suggested combining this with fellowship and food, and various suggestions were made. Members of the PCC who had agreed to stay in post for another term were thanked and three were invited to stand again having completed their first three-year terms. Sue Overell has agreed to carry on in the role of PCC Secretary as a non-voting member. Vicky's report covered the continued success of the Community Coffee mornings, the relaunch of IGNITE youth group, distribution of Lent booklets "Embracing Justice" and the thought-provoking Lent course. A Lenten Quiet day was planned and a guest preacher for our main Holy Week services. Confirmations and baptisms would take place at the Easter Vigil. As a Fairtrade church we should ensure use of Fairtrade products as much as possible. Approval for the Wednesday Eucharist service to become a permanent part of our pattern of services was agreed. Our support for the Sanctuary Foundation, offering aid to locally hosted Ukrainian refugees, was confirmed and we would also sign up to the Welcome Churches network. Information on the Church's response had been sent from the diocese, including websites offering help and guidance, and vacant diocesan properties were being assessed for possible use for refugees. Plans were going ahead for our participation in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee community event on Hatch Grange and helpers were required. A report on the 2021 Living in Love and Faith course and a summary of the feedback to be sent to Bishop David. Inclusive Church was discussed and we should work towards inclusion of all, including the disabled and those with dementia, as well as LGBTQ+. A small group to look at all areas of inclusion including facilities, resources and all other aspects. Building and Fabric included a quote from South Coast Organs at £22,000 for repairs to the Swell Organ. There were no obvious grants to cover this but there is legacy money available that could be put towards the repairs. Any repair work would require a faculty. It was agreed that we should refurbish the current organ and not opt for a digital instrument. Lady Chapel leaks – repointing work including inspecting tiles in the hidden roof gully with repairs was required. Retirement of the church architect would require a new appointment. A replacement memorial bench in the Old Burial ground was approved. Noel and Donna were keen for volunteers to take over the weekly live-streaming of services now that the system was working properly. A volunteer was required to look into bringing hard-wired broadband into the church building, including finding out what needs to be done and getting quotes for the work. Safeguarding - Carol was processing DBS applications as part of the Safer Recruitment process for the two music posts. All current DBS certificates to be renewable after 3 years rather than 5 years. The newly revised Social Media Policy was agreed by the PCC. Churches Together minutes and prayer points had been sent and Jane Castle highlighted Community sponsorship for welcoming refugees and helping out and the West End Walk of Witness on Good Friday 15th April - 11am start at St Brigid.

The first meeting of the PCC following the APCM was held on 18th May 2022 in the Church Hall.

New members were welcomed and appointments agreed. David Forster announced he would be standing down as Treasurer at the next APCM in 2023 and a working group would discuss recruitment of a replacement. Sidespeople for the coming year were approved, Church Alive welcomers agreed and the names of the Pastoral Team were noted for Diocesan records. The PCC were reminded of declarations they must sign and that all sidespeople, welcomers, Pastoral team, and Choir were required to undergo DBS training. Matters from the previous meeting included new music contracts which had been agreed and signed; CCL licences were now up to date. Business by correspondence had included services for the APCM and agreement of worshipping community figures for submission to diocese. The Standing Committee met on 3rd May to discuss plans for the Platinum Jubilee, appointment of a new church architect, repairs to the Lady Chapel, the proposal for work to the organ, the phone to be used for livestreaming and making safe the area outside the hall for Stay and Play. A fixed broadband connection

was also sought. Finances showed a surplus to the general fund but a deficit on the hall fund. Vacant hire slots will be discussed by the hall committee. Covid restrictions in church were discussed and it was agreed that we should be more flexible, with mask wearing to be a personal choice. Clergy would continue to intinct wafers rather than reintroducing the common cup. The Peace would continue to be signed. The vicar's report mentioned small numbers attending the lent course, but a well-attended quiet day. Holy Week services had been more "normal" this year with good attendance at both Easter morning services. The Maundy Thursday service with option of washing of hands or feet was very much appreciated and serving was easier with acolytes in attendance. Bishop Geoff joining us for the Holy Week services had been appreciated by many and having baptism and confirmation as part of the Easter Vigil had gone well. Holding the Annual Meetings during a Service of Praise had been very successful and there had been much positive feedback, with double the number of attendees. Unfortunately, the Zoom connection had not worked properly and more time for open questions was requested next time. Earlier availability of the annual report prior to the meeting was discussed. PCC agreed that the Annual Meeting will be held within a service again next year. More joint services were requested by some but there were strong views; the PCC agreed to support joint services for Mothering Sunday, the Annual Meeting and Harvest each year. It was felt that livestreaming Evensong on the days when the Eucharist service was a joint service might be appreciated. Vicky was keen to include our younger church members to take an active part in services and she would contact our 9.30am families to ask their views on this. Many events were planned for the Queen's Jubilee and for this reason we would not have any additional Patronal Festival Day celebrations this year. Vicky proposed holding a Vision Day. Offering our hall as a meeting space was to be encouraged. A faculty would be sought to cover repairs to the Swell Organ at £25,000 cost. A survey had been completed by Virgin Media for broadband installation. Raised beds in the churchyard for the children to plant up during their activity times were agreed. An inspection of the churchyard trees was planned. Progress with the parish safeguarding review and the new safeguarding dashboard system was reported. Prayer meetings and the closeness between our neighbourhood churches was mentioned under Churches Together. The HOPE Lent Appeal, and the first Christian Aid Lunch in two years, had gone very well.

14 people attended the July meeting in the Church Hall. A candidate for the role of Treasurer had come forward to take over, Jane Hollingsworth, who had attended the finance group and made contact with David. The PCC unanimously agreed to co-opt her onto the PCC. Matters arising from the previous meeting included a mixed response from church families to an All-Age Eucharist service and the idea would be discussed again at our Vision Day (January) when we would also look further at our work with families and children. Business by correspondence had approved a recycling bin to be emptied fortnightly. The Treasurer's Report showed the general account to end June having an excess against budget of £3,149 (including the Hall deficit of -£1,225). A legacy of £5,000 was not yet shown on the restricted account. There was also a generous donation from an anonymous source towards repairs to the Lady Chapel roof. Stay and Play had received a grant towards a new banner. The Eastleigh Deanery Common Mission Fund (CMF) contribution requested from St James for 2023 would be £50,666.16. Finances in the diocese appeared to be better than expected, partly due to clergy leaving or retiring early due to the challenges of Covid and the way property and assets are valued. There was a greater need for transparency and financial information from diocese would be sent out to PCCs. The Role Description for the PCC Treasurer had been sent out and was agreed, the Parish Giving Scheme to be encouraged, and meetings held with the finance group three times a year. The new diocesan online safeguarding dashboard would see each parish completing an audit and action plan. Outstanding items were the responsibility of the vicar to oversee, including risk assessments and safer recruitment, all of which will take some time to complete. The PCC approved the action plan at level 2, with a view to moving to Level 3 next year. The Vicar's Report included a briefing on HeartEdge - a movement for renewal bringing churches together to share ideas and experiences. The PCC approved the Music Project at St James' School involving our choir director Chris Fay, with funding for the first year to come from part of the legacy left by Martin Hall. A small group had met to explore how we might connect with the schools in our parish

and perhaps work in partnership with others, including the 'Open the Book' initiative led by the Bible Society. Church Schools days would be offered again in 2023. An Organ Appeal event was agreed. The Vision Day would be held on 21st January 2023 due to time constraints this year. A mid-afternoon Songs of Praise was planned for Sunday 4th September, with the choir and Church Alive music group and Harvest Lunch on 2nd October. Events marking the Queen's Jubilee had been very positive with great attendance at the flower and wedding dress exhibition, with the barbecue and choir singing at the beacon lighting a great opportunity to share in a community event. The attendees of the Growing in Faith course had been very enthusiastic. Pastoral Team meetings also now include Bible study and discipleship input, to help encourage and nurture the team. Future events were listed, and a volunteer sought to coordinate publicity and advertising of church events. The order for the organ work had been placed and the organ would not be out of commission while the work was being carried out. A recommended builder for the roof repairs was to meet with Noel, cost should be no more than £5,000 and this amount was approved by the PCC. Work on installing broadband into the church was progressing. No problems had been noted following the annual insurance related "topple test" on the gravestones in the churchyard. A new Health and Safety Officer needed to be recruited, Steve Wiseman having stepped down. Steve was thanked for his hard work over the years.

The Church Hall committee reported that bookings had dropped drastically, with only the Cactus Club as a regular (monthly) hiring. Covid restrictions on numbers had been dropped and advertising was essential. The hall account was currently running at a deficit. It was not possible to know exactly how much power was used in the hall as there are no separate meters, although all the money is essentially church-related funds. Our facilities were competitive with other local halls; a discount could be made available to new groups wishing to hire. A key holder review had taken place. A regular fund-raising community quiz night had been suggested which may help promote the hall locally. Mar Thoma wished to greatly increase their hiring of church and hall as their congregation has grown; a spreadsheet of available dates going forward would be compiled. Their rate would be revised in November. Vicky would meet with them to discuss all the pros and cons of extending their hirings, including noise, wear and tear of equipment and time-keeping (eg not running over the allotted time). Noel said that a fundraising curry night organised by Mar Thoma had been suggested. A meeting on Inclusive Church had taken place. It was important that people understand that inclusive church challenges any discrimination including disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity or sexuality; a leaflet was distributed to the PCC. Courses for awareness were planned for all, probably in the New Year. Resources were available online. The Eco group were taking part in a survey to determine the five aspects of how we run the church, aiming for a bronze award. Churches Together covered minutes, prayer points and forthcoming projects, with the Holiday Bible Club to be run 25 -29th July at St James, a project that brings churches and community together.

There was a change of venue for September and 16 members of the PCC met in the main hall at St James' CofE School. Before the meeting, Revd Linda Galvin showed the PCC around the school and grounds, including the new Camino building, the Labyrinth, Outdoor Learning Area and Spiritual Garden. Apologies were received and Jane Hollingsworth, who had been co-opted onto the PCC at the last meeting, was welcomed. Matters arising updated the PCC that the recycling bin was now in place, Revd Vicky and Brenda were to attend an Enquirers training course in October for HeartEdge, the HEWEB Holiday Bible Club had been a success and the Songs of Praise with afternoon tea had been enjoyed by the many people who attended. David Forster reported that finances are good so far this year, with Parish Share payments up-to-date, a surplus on the accounts of over £6,700 and Voluntary income almost on budget. The first instalment of £2,020 for the organ work had been paid, with the next 30% of the cost now due. The organ work was not included in the original budget work for the year and David will add this under Major Building Repairs. Revd Linda had now been School Chaplain for two days a week for a year and gave a brief description of her involvement in activities and projects including

establishing community links with the church and the Parish Council. The music project at the school involved Chris Fay leading singing in Collective Worship on a weekly basis and also encouraging reluctant children to take part in singing sessions. Revd Vicky wished to minute that this was the first meeting since the death of Her Majesty the Queen and how we had responded to the sad news by keeping the church open as much as possible. A Commemoration Service had been held on the eve of the funeral, with a full church and lots of positive feedback. Covid Restrictions: The Gospel procession would not be reinstated as the reader would not be seen if the service was being live-streamed. The offertory would once again be brought up to the altar during the 9.30am service. The Common Cup was discussed at length but it was eventually decided that the current practice of the priest intincting the wafers should continue. The choir would continue not to sing in procession and the use of the sanctuary as choir seating would continue as Covid levels may increase during the winter months; many choir members preferred to continue with current seating arrangements. Regrettably the IGNITE youth group was not attracting new young people and those who attended pre-Covid have moved on. Revds Vicky and Linda would prefer to use resources to focus on younger, primary school aged children. A Bible club for this age group was also suggested with parents to be consulted before further action is taken. It was noted that all churches are finding it very difficult to recruit anyone to work in youth ministry. Martin Hollingsworth would take on the Health and Safety Officer role from Steve Wiseman. A publicity officer was still required. The burial of ashes and possibility of a memorial garden were discussed, as well as the creation of a way of remembering those who had passed away, possibly a book. It was decided to increase Parish Magazine advertisement rates by 5% from January with David calculating these so that Scott could send out notice to all advertisers in advance of the New Year. Noel told the meeting that work to the organ was underway and pipes had been removed ready for refurbishment. The standard heating temperature in church would be reduced to save costs; also getting into the mind-set of not leaving everything on all the time would help with bills. We had a new regular church hall booking and the Parish Council is passing on enquiries to us if they have no space. A banner advertising the hall was approved at a cost of approximately £60. Risk Assessments to cover generic possibilities had been drawn up by Noel and will be sent out to all PCC members to be approved. Churches Together reported that many churches are coming together to provide safe warm spaces due to the fuel price increases. St James' would consider this in conjunction with Churches Together and West End Parish Council. Visions and mission statements were being worked on and a Holiday Bible Club would be supported again in 2023. The PCC approved the HOPE request that Tap Twinning be supported as our 2023 Lent charity and Christians Against Poverty (CAP) will take the place of Fine Cell Work from September as one of the HOPE main charities. This year's Charity Christmas Card would support Countess Mountbatten Hospice, St James' Shelter and Missions to Seafarers. It was agreed that a session on CPR by Meon Valley Heart Start, who instruct on resuscitation in dire emergencies, would be held in the Church Hall, with Rachel Owton coordinating. Responses to a consultation document on the Vacancy for a new Bishop of Winchester were required by mid-October and links would be sent to PCC and congregations. Revd Linda advised that the Diocesan Synod were keen to share with PCCs their discussions, for example on the role of PCCs and churchwardens in clergy well-being, a new strategy on Stewardship, card readers, cost of living including energy prices and warm spaces. Approval was given to the purchase of a new music stand for Church Alive. Revd Vicky thanked the PCC for their attendance and closed the meeting with the Grace.

The Standing Committee met early in mid-November to discuss the fees review and budget to present to the PCC at the next full meeting. Also at this meeting it was agreed to recommend to the PCC that any grant offered from the Diocese towards increased energy costs be accepted. It was also agreed that the legacies of £15,000 would fund the organ repairs and the music outreach program for children (£12,000 organ and £3,000 music outreach project). This reflected both the musical interests and teaching backgrounds of all donors. A donation had been received to replace the noticeboard, which had exceeded the cost required and excess funds would be returned to the general fund.

17 members of the PCC met in November 2022 in the church hall. Since the previous meeting the Gospel Procession and offertory had been reinstated. The Standing Committee had agreed with one objection to the use of the high altar for feast days. Martin Hollingsworth had taken over the role of Health and Safety officer and had met with Steve Wiseman. He will attend a PCC meeting in the New Year. Linda Galvin had taken on the role of Publicity Officer including social media. The Meon Valley Heart Start short course instigated by Rachel Owton was planned for 19th January 2023. Two new music stands had been obtained for Church Alive. The new noticeboard had now been installed. Business by Correspondence – the Standing Committee had approved replacement of organ pipes not in a good condition; Carol would have use of the Church Hall for Anna Chaplaincy events free of charge; a full service check on the sound system and network issues was approved. Finances to the end of October including the hall showed a surplus of £7,841, however, utility bills had not yet been received. Receipts for the 10 months to end October were almost the same as the previous year. The Christmas craft event in November had raised £900. A couple of hall letting fees were still outstanding, but Gift Aid monies from HMRC had now been received. The Fees Review changes for next year had been agreed for proposal to the PCC at the Standing Committee meeting. A couple of changes were suggested and then these were approved by the PCC. David had worked on the budget figures and calculated a projected surplus of £10,605 for the general fund, but this did not take into account final utility bills for 2022 which could reduce the surplus by up to £3,000. The budget for next year 2023 had been calculated: Receipts were based on current levels of voluntary income, other giving and donations and church activities. The Parish Giving Scheme amount was lower for 2023 than for 2022 because a couple of generous givers had passed away. It was agreed to focus on Generous June again in 2023. Donations and legacy amounts are difficult to predict. Only five weddings are booked for next year. Work to the Bell Tower would be included in 2023 figures. The budget figures for 2023 were approved. The Standing Committee had met and their minutes were received.

Safeguarding policies were reviewed and re-adopted, with the Social Media policy included despite having been agreed in March, to keep it in line with re-adoption of all policies. The Health and Safety policy was approved; Martin Hollingsworth to review it in 2023. Safeguarding Audit Update & Risk Assessments were introduced outlining a more formal process of recruitment of volunteers, with Caroline Wigley preparing the paperwork for this and welcome packs. A briefing was planned at the end of November and volunteers would be celebrated at a special event each year. Copy documents were available from Vicky. Risk Assessments were all now with Martin Hollingsworth. Vicky mentioned in her report how lovely it was to look forward to events over the Christmas period. A Warm Space would be offered to those struggling in the current economic climate on Thursdays from January through to March, coordinating with West End Parish Council and other local churches. It was agreed that the Christmas Craft fair should become an annual event at St James. The PCC was encouraged to attend the Vision Day on 21st January. The “As One” initiative had been presented at Deanery level to help promote street associations with the logo “fill your streets with friendliness” and we would display a banner. St James’ had qualified for the bronze Eco Church award; now working towards silver with the Eco group meeting again in the New Year. Due to work and family commitments Asuka did not wish to continue with the organ scholarship and this has been terminated. Bob Thomason and Enid Plowman had both stepped down from the serving team. Vicky will be sworn in as a marriage surrogate for the diocese in January, supporting wedding couples who need to be married by special licence rather than by banns. Accessibility plans had been discussed in depth pre-pandemic and a PCC sub-group now needs to be formed to look again at requirements which will be brought back to PCC with proposals. The building and fabric report included updates on Lady Chapel leaks, with lack of scaffolding quotes holding up the work. There had not been any further leaks, despite the recent wet weather. Annual Fire equipment service took place in October and PAT testing of portable electrical equipment scheduled for early December, including lighting for the Christmas Tree Festival. Work to reinstall most of the organ pipes would be completed by the end of the following week. The PCC agreed that funds raised by the Friends of St James (a total of £2,090.80) could be used towards the organ and the Friends account shut down. The

remainder of the funding for the organ would come from the two legacies; £12,000 to the organ with £3,000 towards the school music project. A celebration of the refurbished organ would be held in the New Year. The Virgin Media cable was in place ready to set up. Scott gave an update on the DAC recommendations for the upkeep of churchyard trees; a visual inspection had been made. Help would be sought from the council on the few overhanging or dead limbs. The forthcoming Christmas Tree Festival would need help with stewarding and setting up. PCC Meeting Dates for 2023 were given. The two Churches Together groups of which we were part were explained. Women's' World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday 3rd March 2023. Linda advised that she was just finalising details including how Gift Aid was dealt with in respect of the card-less donations machine.

Copies of all the reports, documents and meeting minutes mentioned above are available from the PCC Secretary on request.

Church Statistics

Church Statistics for 2022 (Previous year figures are recorded in brackets)	2022*	2021*	2020*	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Baptisms	31	(3)	(5)	(39)	(38)	(34)	(34)	(39)	(47)
Confirmations	4	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(7)	(0)	(0)	(4)
Weddings	12	(6)	(4)	(14)	(15)	(13)	(13)	(13)	(21)
Funerals & Burials	23‡	(7)	(9)	(20)	(12)	(15)	(15)	((17)	(19)
Easter Communicants	151	(69)**	*	(161)	(162)	(159)	(134)	(136)	(133)
Christmas Communicants	100	(84)**	*	(140)	(159)	(187)	(168)	(134)	(116)

* Unfortunately, because of the Covid-19 pandemic where due to lockdowns and restrictions public worship was either suspended and offered on-line or offered with limited congregation numbers, reliable statistics were not available for this year.

** Congregation numbers were restricted at these services because of Covid-19

Financial Review:-

The statement of accounts are on the following pages. This is a very brief summary: -

General Fund – Unrestricted funds

We were extremely lucky that in 2022 despite the economic situation and the cost of living increase, our voluntary income has increased slightly due to the generosity of our donors. Our collections at services are gradually improving with more weddings, funerals and baptisms taking place in church and the return of visitors at services. We are extremely lucky that over 80% of our regular congregation give via the Parish Giving Scheme and we are fortunate that everyone was able to maintain their levels of giving through difficult financial times, thank you all! Church Activity revenue has greatly improved over the previous year, parochial fees improved as more weddings were held as lockdown restrictions were lifted, parish magazine revenue was improved but mostly due to timing of receipts for the 2023 adverts being received in late 2022 instead of early 2023. Activities for generating funds increased as more fundraising events were organised, notably the Christmas craft sale, the Christmas Tree Festival and the Jubilee event held at Hatch Grange/Barbeque. Since completion of the Project Aurora the 200 Club now raises funds for the general fund. Overall our total unrestricted income in 2022 was £ 6,333 higher than in 2021.

At the end of 2022 we had 61 members giving regularly through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which was one more than at the end of 2021. About half of these have opted to inflation link their giving and we would encourage the others to please consider doing this or consider a review of your giving. We would still like to encourage any of our members who haven't joined this scheme yet to please consider doing so, especially those who use the yellow gift aid envelopes or the online giving on a regular basis. If you would like more information on this efficient and easy method of giving then please speak to the treasurer. Bank branches are closing down all the time and it may become increasingly difficult to bank cash donations in the future.

Thank you to those of you not in PGS who donate through the online giving portal through Give a Little/Sum-up. we hope that you will continue to use this method in the future if you are not able to contribute using the preferred PGS direct debit system.

Our general unrestricted costs in 2022 were £ 83,415, i.e. £ 444 more than in 2021. This was despite a reduction in our parish share/common mission fund from 58,070 to 52,966 after a change in our Affluence rating from band D to band C (see note 3 on page 22). The PCC agreed to make an additional contribution of £2,000 to help support other parishes encountering financial difficulties. Therefore, our total payment was 54,966. Against this saving were increases in utility bills and small increases in other areas.

The overall result for Unrestricted funds in 2022 meant that £ 14,522 was added to our reserves.

General Fund – designated funds

These are funds that the PCC put to one side for either specific purposes or in the case of legacies, awaiting a special project to use them for.

In 2022 our income for the designated funds were £ 8,322, being £5,000 from a legacy and £ 3,322 in donations for the organ repair works. In addition, as noted below in the Restricted account note, £ 5,031 was transferred from the Restricted account into the Designated fund towards the organ repairs.

Expenditure from the Designated fund was £ 23,129, being £1,692 for a new noticeboard (a generous donation of £ 2,500 was given in 2021 to pay for this and the surplus of £ 808 transferred to general funds in 2022 per the wishes of the donor) £ 350 for the St,James' School music project (part use of the legacy received in 2022) and £21,087 for the organ repair works (the final payment will be made in 2023).

The overall result for Designated funds in 2022 meant that £ 14,807 was taken from reserves/unused legacy funds.

Hall Account

In 2022 the church hall finances continued to be affected by a lack of regular bookings as a result of several lettings that never recovered after the pandemic and despite continued efforts by the hall committee to find new ways of advertising our facilities. The shortfall of £ £1,045 was taken from reserves, and the hall account continued to pay its 25% contribution towards the gas & electricity costs and 10% of the insurance cost.

Restricted Account

Financial transactions for the Building & Fabric fund, the Flower Fund, the Organ Fund and the HOPE Committee are all recorded through this account. In December the balance of the Friends account of £ 2,090.80 and £2,940.59 from the Building & Fabric fund were transferred from the Restricted account into the General designated fund to pay towards the organ repair costs as agreed by the PCC.

Reserves policy

The PCC has now adopted a formal policy on reserves which is: "St.James' Church West End aims to keep uncommitted net financial assets in the range between the equivalent of 3 and 6 months average routine costs and promises to take corrective action within 3 months if uncommitted net financial assets fall outside these limits." Receipts and payments are reviewed on a bi-monthly basis by the PCC via Finance reports distributed by the Treasurer.

The Parochial Church Council would like to thank you all for your generous support again during 2022.

Approved by the PCC on 23/3/23 and signed on their behalf by Revd Vicky Maunder
(PCC Chairman)

Signed: V. Maunder Date: 28/3/23

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St James' Church, West End for the year ended 31st December 2022 set out on pages 13 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of PCC of St James' Church, West End are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of PCC of St James' Church, West End as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

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



16.3.23

K Gomes MAAT
Independent Examiners Ltd
Unit 2 ,The Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham

West End P.C.C of St.James'
Statement of Receipts & Payments
For the year ending 31 December 2022

	2022							2021
	General Fund	General Fund	Hall Fund	Restricted account	200 Club account	Fees account	Consolidation adjustment	Total Funds
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Restricted funds	Restricted funds	(see note 12)	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>								
Voluntary income	76,585	5,000		5,558				87,143
Church activities	12,328		3,366	2,535	1,540	29,122	-10,978	37,913
Activities for generating funds	8,930	3322		1,385				13,637
Income from investments	94		19	25				138
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	97,937	8,322	3,385	9,503	1,540	29,122	-10,978	138,831
								109,220
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>								
Church activities	80,940	23,129	4,430	2,371	1,540	30,052	-10,978	131,484
Costs of generating funds	1,935							1,935
Governance costs	540							540
Charitable activities	0			1,471				1,471
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	83,415	23,129	4,430	3,842	1,540	30,052	-10,978	135,430
								124,270
NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	14,522	-14,807	-1,045	5,661	0	-930		3,401
								-15,050
<u>Transfers between funds</u>								
Transfer from Restricted account for Organ repairs		5031		-5,031				0
Transfer surplus of Noticeboard donation	808	-808						0
Brought forward as at 1st January 2022	22,974	20,841	10,463	8,490	0	1,720		64,488
								79,538
Carried forward as at 31st December 2022	38,304	10,257	9,418	9,120	0	790		67,889
								64,488
Note:- A full analysis of the individual accounts are found on pages:	15	15	16	17	18	19		

West End PCC of St.James'

Statement of Assets & Liabilities for the year ending 31st December 2022

	General Account	General Account	Hall Account	Restricted Account	Fees Account	200 Club Account	2022 Total Funds	2021 Total Funds
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	£	£
Cash funds								
Bank Current Accounts	4,569	0	350	2,181	790	0	7,890	7,694
Bank Deposit Accounts	33,735	10,257	9,068	6,939	0	0	59,999	56,794
Total Cash funds	38,304	10,257	9,418	9,120	790	0	67,889	64,488
Other Monetary assets (See page 20)								
HMRC Charities Tax claim -4th Qtr 2022	649						649	848
Church hall letting fees			128				128	200
Total	649	0	128	0	0	0	777	1,048
Liabilities (see page 20)								
Independent Examiner fee	600						600	540
Payments due to Missions				559			559	593
Wedding deposits					790		790	1,720
Church hall security deposit			50				50	50
Total	600	0	50	559	790	0	1,999	2,903

See note 1 - page 21/22

Non monetary assets

Inventory assets i.e furnishings, fittings and equipment including a Photocopier and various garden machinery, for Ecclesiastical use, are vested in the Vicar and Churchwardens as custodian trustees.

Signed



David.J.Forster
PCC Treasurer

15/03/2023

West End P.C.C of St.James'

General Fund - Receipts and Payments Account (Unrestricted & designated funds)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary income</u>				
Planned giving - gift aided	47,102		53,863	
Gift aid envelopes - one offs	2,976		1,815	
Income tax recovered on gift aided giving	14,056		14,593	
Income tax recovered on gift aided giving - designated	0		500	
Planned giving - non-gift aided	4,047		2,612	
Collections at services	2,739		1,789	
Grant from Diocese - Energy costs	1,825		0	
Donations	3,840		4,767	
Legacy Gifts (designated)	5,000		0	
Donation for noticeboard (designated)	0	81,585	2,000	81,939
<u>Church activities</u>				
Parish magazine sales & advertisements	1,846		1,179	
Parochial fees	6,532		3,460	
Heating fees	690		360	
Video/zoom/service sheet fees	297		88	
Refreshment donations - general	895		198	
Refreshment donations - Community Café	279		0	
HMRC - Furlough grants	0		2,634	
Trading (Books, Votives, Concert lettings etc)	1,789	12,328	646	8,565
<u>Activities for generating funds</u>				
Christmas craft sale	1,085		1,953	
Christmas Tree Festival	3,899		0	
Organ repair fundraising (designated)	3,322		0	
Jubilee event	2,521		0	
Table top sale	0		506	
200 Club	924		295	
Other	501	12,252	343	3,097
<u>Income from investments</u>				
Bank Interest		94		3
TOTAL RECEIPTS (Unrestricted £97,937 & Designated £8,322)	106,259		93,604	

Payments

<u>Church Activities</u>				
Diocesan Common Mission Fund (CMF)	See note 3	54,966	60,070	
Churches Together subscription		40	0	
Clergy expenses	See note 4	514	324	
Ministry team training		100	218	
Church running expenses - Insurance		3,161	3,010	
Church running expenses - gas & electric	See note 5	5,518	3,916	
Church maintenance		1,044	1,832	
Churchyard maintenance		43	0	
Upkeep of services		1,795	920	
Photocopier & paper costs		620	249	
Organist & relief organists		5,413	6,234	
Church Alive musician		1,138	0	
Choir & music		359	395	
Support costs - admin & stationery	See note 6	906	457	
Support costs - Parish administrator	See note 4	3,276	3,182	
Support costs - Parish magazine	See note 4	504	489	
Support costs - Childrens work		482	530	
Support costs - Pastoral team		103	0	
Outreach work & books		582	208	
Communications		0	60	
Refreshment supplies		335	200	
Sum-up charges (ref online donations)		41	57	
Noticeboard renewal (from designated funds)		1,692	0	
School music project (from designated funds)		350	0	
Organ repair costs (from designated funds)		21,087	0	82,351
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>				
Fundraising costs	See note 7		1,935	80
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Account examination fees			540	540
TOTAL PAYMENTS (Unrestricted £ 83,415 & Designated £ 23,129)		106,544	82,971	
EXCESS (-SHORTFALL) RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		-285	10,633	
Bank Account as at 1 January 2022 / 2021		43,815	33,182	
Transfer from Restricted a/c - donation towards organ repairs		5,031	0	
Bank Account as at 31 December 2022 / 2021		48,561	43,815	
Balance represented by:				
Unrestricted funds		38,304	22,974	
Designated funds		10,257	20,841	
		48,561	43,815	

West End P.C.C of St.James'

Church Hall - Receipts and Payments Account (Designated funds)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>				
<u>Church activities</u>				
Hall letting Fees	3,151		1,363	
Stay & Play donations for hall hire	165		0	
Security deposits	50	3,366	0	1,363
<u>Income from investments</u>				
Bank Interest		19		1
Total Receipts		3,385		1,364
<u>Payments</u>				
<u>Church activities</u>				
<u>Church Hall running costs</u>				
Gas	1,011		765	
Electricity	828		541	
Water Rates	608		81	
Insurance	351		335	
PRS licence	238		0	
Refuse collection service	393		340	
Sundries	226	See note 8	78	
Building repairs & maintenance	271	See note 9	1,515	
Cleaner	323		369	
Cleaning Materials	131		30	
Refund security deposits	50	4,430	0	4,054
Total Payments		4,430		4,054
Excess(-shortfall) Receipts over Payments		-1,045		-2,690
Bank Account as at 1 January 2022 / 2021		10,463		13,153
Bank Account as at 31 December 2022 / 2021		9,418		10,463

West End P.C.C of St.James'

Restricted Account - Receipts & Payments (Restricted Funds) **For the year ended 31 December 2022**

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>				
<u>Voluntary income</u>				
Donation - Building & Fabric/Lady Chapel roof	5000		0	
Donations - Project Aurora	0		430	
Donations - Flower Fund	431		287	
Donations - HOPE work	30		95	
Stay & Play grant	75		0	
Income Tax recovered on Flower Gift Aided donations	0		7	
Income Tax recovered on Aurora Gift Aided donations	0		107	
Income Tax recovered on HOPE Gift Aided donations	22	5,558	56	982
<u>Church activities</u>				
Fees - Organ fund	735		385	
Fees - Flower fund	1,800	2,535	905	1,290
<u>Activities for generating funds</u>				
HOPE committee events	1,385		1,364	
Project Aurora fundraising events	0		146	
200 Club fundraising - for Aurora Project	0	1,385	727	2,237
<u>Income from investments</u>				
Bank interest		25		2
TOTAL RECEIPTS		9,503		4,511
<u>Payments</u>				
<u>Church Activities</u>				
Friends of St.James' - Stonework repairs	0		702	
Flower Fund - cost of flowers etc	1,620		1,367	
Organ Fund - organ tuning & repairs	180		0	
Organ Fund - humidifier servicing & repairs	520		471	
Stay & Play costs	51		0	
Project Aurora - Lights & AVC	0	2,371	22,324	24,864
<u>Fund-raising trading costs</u>				
Project Aurora - fundraising costs	0	0	0	0
<u>Charitable Activities</u>				
HOPE - payments to mission partners & charities (See note 10 for details)		1,471		1,427
TOTAL PAYMENTS		3,842		26,291
Excess (-Shortfall) Receipts over Payments		5,661		-21,780
Bank account as at 1 January 2022 / 2021		8,490		30,270
Transfer to General fund towards Organ repairs		-5,031		0
Bank account as at 31 December 2022 / 2021	(Note 11)	9,120		8,490

West End P.C.C of St.James'

200 Club - Receipts and Payments Account (Designated funds) (see note 12) For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>				
<u>Church activities</u>				
200 Club monthly subscriptions		1,540		1,620
<u>Voluntary income</u>				
Bank compensation		0		50
Total Receipts		<u>1,540</u>		<u>1,670</u>
<u>Payments</u>				
<u>Church activities</u>				
Monthly cash prizes		616		648
Surplus to Aurora fund	See note 12 C	0		727
Surplus to General fund	See note 12 C	924	295	1,670
Total Payments		<u>1,540</u>		<u>1,670</u>
Excess(-shortfall) Receipts over Payments		0		0
Bank Account as at 1 January 2022 / 2021		0		0
Bank Account as at 31 December 2022 / 2021		<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>

West End PCC of St.James'

Fees Account - Receipts and Payments (Restricted Funds) (see note 12)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
<u>Receipts</u>		
<u>Church activities</u>		
Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance (Priest Fees)	5,625	3,900
Priests Travel fees	180	170
Marriage document delivery fees	90	50
PCC Fees - General	6,532	3,460
PCC Fees - Heating	690	360
PCC Fees - Video/zoom/service sheets	297	88
Wedding deposits collected	9,522	3,282
PCC Fees - Organ Fund	735	385
PCC Fees - Flower Fund	1,800	905
Organist Fees	2,731	1,131
Verger Fees	920	560
TOTAL RECEIPTS	29,122	14,291
<u>Payments</u>		
<u>Church activities</u>		
Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance (Priest Fees)	5,625	3,900
Priests Travel fees	180	170
Marriage document delivery fees	90	50
PCC Fees - General	See note 12 C 6,532	3,460
PCC Fees - Heating	See note 12 C 690	360
PCC Fees - Video/zoom/service sheets	See note 12 C 297	88
PCC Fees - Organ fund	See note 12 C 735	385
PCC Fees - Flower Fund	See note 12 C 1800	905
Organist Fees	2,731	1,131
Verger Fees	920	560
Wedding deposits redeemed	10,372	4,375
Cancelled wedding deposits trf to PCC	80	120
TOTAL PAYMENTS	30,052	15,504
Excess (-Shortfall) Receipts over payments	-930	-1,213
Bank account as at 1 January 2022 / 2021	1,720	2,933
Bank account as at 31 December 2022 / 2021	790	1,720

West End PCC of St.James'

Analysis of Non Monetary Assets 31/12/22

General Account

HMRC Charities -Tax recoverable on Gift aided donations - 4th quarter 2022	649.10 (see attached)	Received 19/1/23
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Hall Account

2022 hire invoices:-

Invoice 22/038 dated 07/12/22 - Matt Fiddes Martial Arts	80.00 (see attached)	Received 21/2/23
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Invoice 22/040 dated 27/12/22 - Matt Fiddes Martial Arts	48.00 (see attached)	Received 21/2/23
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777.10

Total Non Monetary Assets as at 31/12/22

777.10

Analysis of Liabilities 31/12/22

General Account

Independent Examiners Ltd - Fee for 2022 review	600.00
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600.00

Hall Account

Church hall letting deposit - Paula Medway/Zumba - paid 7/6/14	50.00
--	-------

50.00

Restricted Account

Balance of HOPE Committee fundraising to be paid 2023	559.41
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559.41

Fees account

Advance Wedding Deposits 2023-2024	790.00
------------------------------------	--------

790.00

Total Liabilities as at 31/12/22

1,999.41

West End PCC of St.James' - Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

The Financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards. In preparing the financial statements the PCC follows best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the "Receipts and Payments" basis as prescribed by the Charity Commissioners and they meet the appropriate legal requirements.

Funds

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not normally invest separately for each fund.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan CMF (Common Mission Fund) (formerly known as parish share) is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognized when it incurred and is accounted for gross.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

The following assets are recognized but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:-

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property and listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment where the PCC is free to dispose of such assets without faculty and where the original cost exceeded £1,000.

The following assets are recognized and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:-

Amounts owing from HMRC (Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs) where a formal claim has been made.

Any other amounts owing to the PCC including Church Hall lettings and insurance claims.

Legacies where formal notification of entitlement and amount has been received at 31 December by the PCC.

Closing bank balances as shown in the receipts and payment accounts.

The following liabilities are recognized in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:-

Any loans or overdrafts advanced to the PCC.

Creditors for goods and services where the supply has been received but not invoiced by 31 December.

Payments due to Mission partners/Charities where fundraising events have taken place as part of the current yearly projects but not yet paid out to the missions/charities.

Fees for Pastoral services conducted (Marriages and Funerals) but not yet paid out.

Advance Marriage fees collected for payment out in the next financial year.

2. Church Activities - Trading

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Mar Thoma hire of church	£ 800	£ 340
Election hire of church	£ 0	£ 160
Hire of church for concerts	£ 490	£ 0
Votives	£ 278	£ 63
Lent book sales	£ 61	£ 35
Traidcraft commission	£ 0	£ 15
Sale of goods	£ 160	£ 33
<u>Total</u>	<u>£ 1,789</u>	<u>£ 646</u>

3. Diocesan CMF (Common Mission Fund) (formerly Parish Share)

The 2022 CMF request of £ 52,965.71 was paid in full. There was a decrease of £ 5,104.04 compared to 2021. St.James' PCC made an additional voluntary payment of £ 2,000.00. So the total CMF payment for 2022 was £ 54,965.71. For 2022 the CMF was again calculated at Deanery level under a system which takes into account the Church Membership of a parish and the Affluence category of the parish (for St.James' category C - evenly to unfavourably placed).

4. Payments to PCC Members

The following payments have been made to PCC members or related parties during the year:-

Rev. L. Galvin	£ 514 for expenses of office	(£ 324 in 2021)
Mrs. Kate Badcock	£ 3,276 for Parish Administrator role	(£ 3,182 in 2021)
Mrs. Kate Badcock	£ 504 for Parish Magazine support role	(£ 489 in 2020)

No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties. No material transaction took place between the PCC and a PCC member or any person connected to them.

5. Church Running Expenses – Gas & Electricity

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Gas	£ 3,032	£ 2,294
Electricity	£ 2,486	£ 1,622
Total	<u>£ 5,518</u>	<u>£ 3,916</u>

6. Support Costs – Administration & Stationery

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Stationery/Printer ink	£ 118	£ 186
Zoom licence	£ 106	£ 0
Gift Aid envelopes	£ 93	£ 0
Microsoft licence	£ 80	£ 0
Postage	£ 11	£ 0
Other	£ 7	£ 0
Dropbox	£ 96	£ 96
Website domain	£ 0	£ 26
Wifi	£ 324	£ 69
Gratuity/gifts	£ 36	£ 0
Archive boxes	£ 0	£ 45
Data Protection fee (ICO)	£ 35	£ 35
Total	<u>£ 906</u>	<u>£ 457</u>

7. Fundraising trading costs

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Table top sale refreshment costs	£ 0	£ 70
Barbeque gas	£ 0	£ 10
Christmas Market	£ 72	£ 0
Jubilee event costs	£ 760	£ 0
Lottery licence for 200 Club	£ 20	£ 0
Christmas Tree Festival	£ 1,083	£ 0
Total	<u>£ 1,935</u>	<u>£ 80</u>

8. Church Hall Sundry costs

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Fridge repairs	£ 84	£ 0
Sanitary bins	£ 39	£ 78
Dishwasher servicing	£ 103	£ 0
Total	<u>£ 226</u>	<u>£ 78</u>

9. Church Hall building repairs & maintenance

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Light bulbs	£ 0	£ 27
Heating servicing/repairs	£ 100	£ 237
Paint	£ 0	£ 70
Electrical repairs	£ 0	£ 802
Cistern repairs	£ 0	£ 104
Light fitting replacement	£ 102	£ 0
Shed cladding	£ 69	£ 0
Roof repairs/replace ridge tiles	£ 0	£ 275
Total	<u>£ 271</u>	<u>£ 1,515</u>

10. Analysis of payments made to Missions partners and Charities from Restricted funds

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Kitchen Table Charities Trust	£ 300	£ 0
The Society of St.James'	£ 105	£ 89
Mission to Seafarers	£ 105	£ 89
Wessex Countess Mountbatten House	£ 105	£ 88
Rainbow Trust	£ 0	£ 50
Kings community church - food bank	£ 0	£ 120
Medicins sans Frontiers	£ 0	£ 100
Fine Cell Work	£ 300	£ 100
Solent MIND (Lent appeal)	£ 0	£ 546
Southampton Womens Refuge	£ 0	£ 50
Eastleigh Young Carers	£ 0	£ 50
Revitalise	£ 0	£ 50
Christian Aid	£ 0	£ 95
Hampshire & IOW Air Ambulance	£ 50	£ 0
Wessex Cancer Trust	£ 50	£ 0
West End Youth Clubs	£ 100	£ 0
Wateraid (Lent appeal)	£ 256	£ 0
Yellow Door	£ 50	£ 0
Southampton City Mission	£ 50	£ 0
Total	<u>£ 1,471</u>	Total <u>£ 1,427</u>

In addition to the above monies raised, during 2022 St.James' paid directly into the bank account of The Children's Society £ 928.50 collected at our 2022 Christingle services and £ 165.44 from the Children's Society home boxes. Also during 2022 £ 1313.05 was banked into the Christian Aid bank account, being £ 216.00 from the Christian Aid lunch and £ 1097.05 from donation envelopes in church.

The funds collected and payments made from the 2022 Charity Christmas card (£363.70) will be shown in the 2023 accounts.

11. Analysis of Restricted Account balance

<u>Balance by fund:-</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Building & Fabric	£ 5,008	£ 2,924
Friends of St.James'	£ 0	£ 2,091
Flower Fund	£ 1,169	£ 558
Missions/HOPE	£ 559	£ 593
Music Fund	£ 519	£ 519
Organ Fund	£ 1,841	£ 1,805
Stay & Play	£ 24	£ 0
Total	<u>£ 9,120</u>	<u>£ 8,490</u>

12. Consolidation adjustment: Fees account & 200 Club account (Restricted funds)

The Fees account is specifically used to record the collection of fees due for marriages and funerals and other occasional offices. The receipts are collected into this account and then payments made to the various recipients of these fees. This account is also used to record deposits taken for future marriage bookings. The PCC's portion of these fees are then transferred into the relevant account (see general and restricted accounts). In order to avoid the reporting of income and expenditure twice, an adjustment column has been added to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) to adjust for this. In 2022 this equated to £ 10,054. The 200 Club surplus of £ 924 was also transferred into the General Fund, giving a total adjustment of £ 10,978. These items are indicated by a C on the receipts and payments accounts for the Fees account and the 200 Club account.

Vicar's report and reports from Churchwardens and other organisations associated with St James

(Please note that any accounts mentioned hereafter do not form part of the audited accounts)

VICAR'S REPORT

I was once given some wise advice about starting in a new parish as the vicar. Think of the parish as a garden I was told and don't make any changes in the first year, as you never know what beautiful flowers are hidden that will blossom later on. This year, at last, we emerged from the covid pandemic, and I got to appreciate some more of the beautiful blooms at St James. There was no West End Carnival, but the famous St James BBQ was part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on Hatch Grange in June and in December we were able to hold the much-enjoyed Christmas Tree Festival with 34 Christmas Trees decorated by church and community groups. Both events were a brilliant opportunity to work with the wider community. In September Queen Elizabeth II died aged 96 and we opened the church daily during the period of national mourning for people to visit to pray, light a candle and write in the book of condolences and we held a very well attended commemoration service in church to enable the community to come together to grieve.

Bishop Geoff Annas preached the Triduum in Holy Week and baptised and confirmed 4 candidates at the Easter Vigil service which was a joy. Confirmation classes were followed up with the brilliant Holy Habits course by Andrew Roberts. As we emerged from the pandemic, we continued to be cautious, keeping covid measures in place, and not planning too far ahead. We found times to reconnect as a church family with a bring and share lunch after our Annual Meeting in May and a Songs of Praise service and tea in early September.

After the isolation and trauma of the pandemic we continued to focus on pastoral care and the Pastoral Team, ably led by Carol Kidd, met bi-monthly over the year for training, Bible study and to support each other. Carol has also developed her Anna Chaplain role over the year and made connections with a number of older folk in the local community.

Feeling God calling us to connect with the schools in our parish we explored setting up an 'Open the Book' Team. This led us to a partnership with Southampton City Mission which has been fruitful. We support them with their schools work in Harefield Primary School and Townhill Junior School. Rev'd Linda now has an increased chaplaincy role of two days a week in our church school which has been invaluable to them.

This year we were blessed to make two excellent appointments to lead our music in the church: Chris Fay as our new Choir Director and Organist and Anita So as our Church Alive Music Leader. We took the opportunity God was giving us in Chris' appointment and in the gift of two legacies (given by previous Music Director, Martin Hall and choir members, Pat and Mike Raynor), to introduce a music project in our church school. Chris has been leading a weekly 'Songs of Praise' collective worship with support from Rev'd Linda and I, to encourage singing and help the children understand and appreciate Christian hymns and songs. We hope this is a blessing to the school and will encourage a love of church music in the children. The rest of the legacy money went towards repairs to the swell organ.

Life has felt fragile as we adjusted back to more normality post pandemic and being rooted in our worshipping life as a church family has been central. Thank you to everyone who has generously given their gifts and time to our church life over the year. There are so many of you, but particular thanks to the Ministry Team, Rev'd Linda Galvin, Carol Kidd and Alan Jenkins, the Church Wardens, Scott Langridge, Diana Barnes and Noel Becket, our Treasurer David Forster, our PCC Secretary Sue Overell and our Children's Work Lead and Church Hall Manager Jan Barrett. This year several parishioners' earthly pilgrimages came to an end. We remember with love Gerry Plant, Pat Halifax, Trevor Wilmshurst and Doug Brown. Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Rep RRevd Vicky Maunder

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT ON THE FABRIC AND FURNISHINGS OF THE CHURCH

We were all busy in the Spring, with members of the congregation pitching in to help with cleaning the church in March, and tidying the grounds in May. Many hands really do make light work, and we were also thankful for the team who brought out refreshments for the workers. We are very grateful to those who have supported the upkeep of the church grounds and building throughout the year, including those who regularly clean the building, mow the lawns and make safe the pathways and car park in the winter, removing the leaves.

A more permanent improvement was the artificial grass laid at the rear of the hall, where the Stay and Play children might go outside in good weather.

The Taizé cross was hung in the Lady Chapel in place of the Picture of the Last Supper, which has temporarily been moved to the Sanctuary.

Noel, our Assistant Churchwarden, has responsibility for the building, and Scott and Diana are very grateful for his expertise and knowledge. Technical improvements include a Virgin Media fibre optic cable being installed in the Vestry, and tuning and servicing for the organ (before the planned refurbishment in 2023). Inspections and servicing have ensured that our fire extinguishers, central heating, audio visual system and all electrical equipment are working well and safe to use. Gutters, including hidden gullies, and drains are cleared carefully to ensure that rain runs smoothly off our buildings.

We now have a new Health & Safety Officer, Martin Hollingsworth, who has set about the task of checking our property and activities with great enthusiasm.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, we now have a splendid new Noticeboard on the path side of the hedge, so it's a lot easier to read, without having to lean over the prickly hedge. Four locking windows for posters enable us to keep our parish information interesting and up-to-date.

Diana Barnes / Scott Langridge / Noel Becket



During the year the CT HEWEB group of 14 churches met 6 times to encourage, inspire and pray as one church together. Throughout the year of 2022 there was a great variety of serving our local communities and celebrating connecting with the local communities around the Churches through:

Regular weekly and mid-week services of the word and Eucharist;

Festival services for Easter, Pentecost, Birth of Jesus at Christmas;

Holding Advent and Lent preparation and introspection seasons.

Thy Kingdom Come prayer times in preparation for Pentecost.

Christian Unity and Persecuted Church focus services.

Building new ways for the future and re-connecting in worship after and with Covid; Serving local neighbours through Tea Parties with the aim of forming Street Associations; Coffee mornings, Safe Warm Spaces, Anna chaplaincy.

School chaplaincy; Schools ministry with SCM and Open Book, provision of Summer Lunches for school children in Hedge End. Youth clubs, café; Messy and Children's Church, Tree Trails, Creative Worship spaces.

Supporting Syrian and Ukrainian refugee families. Families from Hong Kong and Afghanistan.

Connecting as Borough Church at Eastleigh Parish Church, as the 5 Borough Council Church Together areas. Roof Top Encounter prayers for the whole Borough.

We give thanks to our Lord for the coming together and gathering as one in Christ in so many ways; worship and prayer, study and service.

Giving thanks to all leaders and friends meeting bi-monthly throughout the year.

Many thanks to Sash Vale for maintaining and updating published details through the Facebook page for Churches Together in Hedge End, West End and Botley and through the web page www.hewebchurches.co.uk

Jane Castle

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Elected Members: Carol Kidd, Matthew Thomson and Geoff Holden

Linda Galvin is the Deanery Synod Secretary

Three meetings of the Synod took place in 2022 at Fair Oak, Netley Abbey and Boyatt Wood, thankfully all of them in person.

At the first meeting, Chris Hill, Mission Trainer, Winchester Diocese spoke about his work which involves training lay and ordained people in all aspects of mission and ministerial development. There are good opportunities available within the Diocese if anyone wants to undertake such training. Discussion also took place about the approach the Deanery should follow in order to achieve its required financial contribution to the Diocesan Common Mission Fund. There are considerable differences in ability to raise the necessary funds between the parishes in the Deanery even after affluence allowances are taken into account.

At the second meeting, members reported on how their churches were progressing in meeting the requirements for Ecochurch awards. It was felt that assistance from the Diocesan Environmental Group would be useful. The Area Dean, Richard Wise, reported on progress being made to sort out organisational problems at Diocesan level in the absence of a Bishop.

At the third meeting, Martin and Gina Graham gave a presentation on the "As One" project which aims to form street associations to increase social interactions between neighbours. There was a discussion on how parishes could work together more. It was also reported that the Diocese in future would be ecumenically linked with the Democratic Republic of Congo rather than Uganda as had been the case previously. Details still had to be worked out.

[As a later update, Eastleigh Deanery met 97.4% of its 2022 financial obligation to Diocesan Funds, considerably higher than the average.]

Geoff Holden

On behalf of St James' Deanery Synod representatives

ECO GROUP REPORT

For some time, we have been re-using paper, and using and selling Fairtrade products, but we have made quite a lot of progress in the past year. The Flower Team has found a sustainable alternative to plastic 'oasis', or they use chicken wire, for flower arranging; our cleaning materials are sustainable where possible, and we have all become much more conscious of what we're using and how to improve.

We were still not sure if we had made enough progress to become an Eco-church, so we were surprised and delighted to be given a Bronze Award! We had to complete a Survey on 5 topics, and here are our scores:

Worship & Teaching: GOLD,

Buildings: Silver,

Land: Silver,

Community & Global Engagement: Bronze,

Lifestyle: Bronze.

So, there are a lot of areas in which we're doing well, but there is plenty of room for improvement, and it shouldn't be too difficult to move up to a Silver Award. Perhaps we could hold some events that include the community in recycling etc. The group will be meeting in the summer, and will be considering ideas both for how the church is run and improving our individual lifestyles in terms of saving energy and reducing our carbon footprint. If anyone would like to run an event, or to join the small team working on making our church and its people more ecologically aware, you would be most welcome.

Diana Barnes

FLOWER ARRANGERS' REPORT

Looking back on another year now over; it was certainly quite a year. 2022 started slowly, with pedestal arrangements going back into church after Christmas, a spring clean of the south porch and the two flower sheds having a sort out. A wedding preparation morning was held in February, when we discussed with couples getting married the flowers and pew-ends they might like, showing photo examples. We have been badly hit by the fact that the actual cost of flowers rose over the previous year by 30% due to various factors, after-effects of both Covid and Brexit. This meant we had to look more closely at the types of blooms we used and the quantities. With March upon us and discussions about what we could do for Easter in April; we decided to fill wooden crates with foliage and flowers for the window sills; the choir stalls featured jam jars inside of containers, all of which helped with the cost. April saw our first wedding, with a further twelve weddings from May until November - a busy time. In June, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we made plans for a celebration of wedding dresses featuring flower arrangements through the seven decades of Her Majesty's reign. The response was amazing! We were hoping for at least one dress per decade, but ended up with twenty-six dresses, many of which had been worn at weddings at St James', and the community were so enthusiastic we also had a display of photographs of all the weddings of those who sadly no longer had their dresses. Along with the flower arrangements through the decades, there were mounted photographs and crowns made of flowers; the church and flower team certainly celebrated the Queens Platinum Jubilee in style. In July we held our Patronal Festival for St James, with the pedestals featuring blue and white arrangements with scallop shells. Weddings continued through the summer and then September was upon us, and our attention was drawn to an article in the Church Times about sustainable church flowers, the use of "oasis" floral foam and the carbon footprint of flowers. This got the flower team thinking that we should do something, so for Harvest we decided to not use floral foam anymore; a big step but as usual we are always up for the challenge.

After a few small teething problems, we succeeded and have not looked back. This was not only saving on the cost of oasis which had increased to £14.00 a box but helping in a small way slowing the damage that is being done to our planet. We are now working towards being Sustainable Church flower Ambassadors.

At Harvest the church looked beautiful with pedestals arranged with no oasis and choir stalls, window sills using foliage from everyone's gardens, dahlias from the local allotment holders and flowers purchased or grown locally where possible. We used wheatsheaves and had a display of pumpkins, gourds and vegetables and on the back font knitted scarecrows and pumpkins creating a great attraction for the children. Weddings continued into October and planning was in full swing for the long-awaited Christmas

tree festival (postponed from 2020 due to Covid). Poppy arrangements were in church in November for Remembrance and we also did some arrangements in the churchyard for those lost in the war in Ukraine. Then Christmas, with Christmas trees everywhere, pedestal arrangements, arches inside church and outside, window sills and choir stalls all decorated the end to 2022. Perfect!

Lyn Spratt

HOPE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

H HOME
O OVERSEAS
P PARTNERSHIP
E EDUCATION

After a difficult two years of remote fundraising, HOPE were very pleased to get back to enjoying social gatherings again.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel a planned Brunch in February and Discovery Trail in April but the Barbecue and Treasure Hunt in July was well attended. We were very grateful to our team of volunteers who cooked the food and organised the treasure hunt which raised £229.10 for our charities. In October our traditional Harvest Lunch buffet raised £379.

We were able to raise awareness for Fair Trade Fortnight and sold Fairtrade produce in church. The Christian Aid Lunch and donations through envelopes in church raised £1,313.05.

Mothering Sunday Teas in a Bag raised £128.50 and we were able to send £256.04 to Wateraid through the Lent Appeal.

Our Charity Christmas Card raised £363.70 and the proceeds were distributed to our named charities, Society of St James, Countess Mountbatten House and Mission to Seafarers. Donations to the Christingle Services and charity boxes raised £928.50 for the Children's Society.

We endeavour to donate Pots of HOPE to local charities and gave £50 pots to Hampshire Air Ambulance, Wessex Cancer Trust and West End Youth Clubs in West End village and Townhill Park.

We were able to send £150 to each of our main charities Kitchen Table Charities Trust and Fine Cell Work.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us and we look forward to 2023 and hopefully many more opportunities to raise funds and awareness for charities both at home and overseas.

Fiona Weston

MUSIC REPORTS

Choir and Organ

I was appointed Organist and Choir Director in May 2022, but I already had a good idea as to what the job entailed since I had been helping out since January that year – taking choir rehearsals and playing for the occasional service. I was unavailable in late March and early April, but thanks to some talented deputies, the Holy Week and Easter services were ably led by choir and organ.

The choir's mainstays are the 09:30 Sunday morning service and Evensong on the first and third Sundays of the month. For most of 2022 we were still operating under Covid conditions, with socially distanced rehearsals and services, but thankfully we have recently returned to normal, which has meant that we rehearse far more comfortably and confidently. We have gradually added more choir items into the morning service, and hope that these are an enhancement to the worship. The small group of Evensong singers does a fine job in leading that service with its challenges of responses, psalms and canticles.

We have also got out and about, performing the Jubilee song at the beacon lighting in June, the Royal School of Church Music Festival in October, the Remembrance Service in November, and the Christmas lights switch-on in December. In addition, we had a busy December, preparing music for the Advent and Christmas carol services at church.

When I started at St James's it was painfully obvious that the organ was in need of some TLC, as half of it wasn't functioning properly and some strange sounds were coming from it. A focus for the second half of the year was to fund-raise in order to get it fixed, and with a contract awarded to a local firm, the work was duly completed in early 2023. The organ, which is a fine instrument, is now back to full power and was rededicated at a joyous and well attended event in February. I hope you enjoy hearing the instrument put through its paces every week. I certainly enjoy playing it, so thanks to those who donated.

We are blessed to have a choir of talented and loyal singers who enhance the worship so effectively. As with all choirs, we are always on the lookout for new members, so if you'd like to join us, please get in touch. We rehearse on Tuesdays at 1930 for an hour.

Chris Fay

Church Alive Music

This is the first year I have joined the Church Alive Music Group. It is a very warm and musical place here. I have enjoyed immensely playing with this ensemble group. The 6 valued members now playing together are Debbie Thomson (singer and guitarist), Matthew Thomson (singer), Diana Barnes (singer), Mary Blake (trumpeter), William Saunders (harmonica player) and Jon Bagley (guitarist) and I play the piano. We shared traditional as well as modern hymns, most of which relate to the selected theme of the service. We encourage children and adults to join with their musical instruments, the best opportunity to bond musically in Christ.

Hope to see more people engaging with us.

Anita So

PALS (Parishioners at Lunch on Sundays)

In 2022 for some summer months our meetings were skipped due to bank holidays etc, with several regular participants having other commitments and numbers not warranting a booking. The previous year we began to feel a little less welcome in the Master Builder, and had migrated to the Southampton Arms. However, towards the end of the year, again we felt it was time to 'move on'. So, in the early part of the year, we tried the Glasshouse Restaurant at In Excess, Fair Oak as Rita and one or two others liked the 'conservatory' area which was airy and very pleasant, the food good and prices very reasonable. Unfortunately, when we arrived as a group, the weather was cold so the staff had kindly reserved a table inside for us where it was warm. It was all laid out with a 'cloth' (paper – but made us feel special) – they allowed us to order separately but our meals were brought to the table together, with excellent service. The food was good and less than we had been paying so we patronised the Glasshouse on several occasions. Unfortunately, towards the end of the year, it seemed the chef had changed and the quality of the food not as good as it had been and for the last meeting of 2022 we tried the Dolphin Inn at Botley. Although more expensive than previous venues, the food and service were excellent and for the start of 2023 we have continued to patronise the Dolphin. Number-wise, we seem to have settled on a regular 8 or so with another 4 coming when they could.

The group was originally started for those parishioners who were going to be home alone for Sunday lunch and didn't want to go out on their own to a carvery or restaurant. I am aware that since our start in 2018 we have had many newcomers to St James and wonder if they are aware of the PALS (Parishioners At Lunch on Sundays) group and perhaps would like to join us. There's no commitment, cost or anything else involved other than wanting to 'go out for lunch' occasionally, with company. (You don't have to come every time!) We usually try to meet on 4th Sunday, leaving the church car park about 12:25 to arrive at a venue for around 12:40 to eat about 1pm. We can normally arrange lifts for those without cars, but some people

prefer to travel independently. If you'd like to join us just let Rita have your email address (if possible) and you'll get a reminder about a couple of weeks beforehand (though sometimes I forget and it's a little shorter notice!).

Rita Payne

PASTORAL TEAM REPORT 2022

St James' West End Pastoral Team members during 2022-202 were:

Carol Kidd, Brenda Holden, Betty Wood, Enid Plowman, Janet Barrett, Linda Playford, Peter Littlejohns, Maura Knights, Debbie O'Brien & Margaret Ball.

The team supported Revds Vicky & Linda in a wide variety of ways:

- Phone or face-face visits with members of the congregation suffering from ill-health or experiencing difficult circumstances, unable to attend worship in person & feeling isolated, anxious, or lonely.
- Several pastoral workers hold the Bishop's Certificate required for taking Home Communion to the sick in their own homes or residential nursing care.
- Brenda, Carol & Peter prepare and lead regular Care Home & sheltered housing services. Other team members provide much appreciated support.
- Jan, Betty & Lyn are baptism visitors & have received specific training.
- Carol provides funeral ministry as requested; with the team supporting at the annual "All Souls" & organising the "Special Lives" services.
- Christmas & Easter cards are distributed to all on the pastoral visit list; plus, individual cards at significant times & anniversaries throughout the year.
- The St James' Community Coffee Morning was launched January 2022: an informal, drop-in for people of any age from this parish or beyond. It is held on the 'second' Friday morning of each month & provides an opportunity for anyone to pop in & enjoy a cuppa, cake & chat!

Five pastoral team meetings were held in 2022 & included training & updating, reflecting on our pastoral ministry, supporting each other & also sharing in prayer & Bible study.

All team members agree to abide by safer recruitment guidelines, have clear DBS certificates & complete safeguarding modules as directed by Winchester Diocese.

Depending on the situation, visits can be in the person's own home, in nursing or care home, hospital or hospice, at church or at a mutually agreed parish venue.

If you feel called to explore being a part of this essential ministry Vicky, myself or Brenda can guide & advise you. Please note you can request a phone call or visit from a team member by contacting: 07842244876 / stjameswe.pastoral@gmail.com

Anna Chaplaincy: additional to the above parish pastoral work, since 2021 I am a commissioned volunteer Anna Chaplain for older persons of Harefield & West End.

An interdenominational, community-based approach to ministry for older people, Anna Chaplaincy is part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF), providing spiritual support to older persons of all faiths & none.

Referrals come from the BRF, from individuals or members of their families, as well as from other professionals e.g., Admiral Nurses or the local Care Navigators & the Southampton Carraway charity.

Would you like to help me in my ministry? Please get in touch if you would be interested in training as an Anna Friend. To find out more about Anna Chaplains & Anna Friends: <https://www.annachaplaincy.org.uk/>

Carol Kidd

LLM / Anna Chaplain / Pastoral Team Coordinator

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORK

At St James' we continue to provide a range of opportunities for children to engage with the church.

On Sundays we provide two sessions for children; at 9.30 we have a traditional Sunday school style group in the hall in which we retell the story that corresponds with what is happening in church and use activities and crafts to help us understand it. During the more informal 11am Church Alive service we offer a break-out session to explore the meaning of the story of the day, usually through activity or craft. Once a month we offer an activity morning on a Saturday, over 2022 these have had a variety of themes, including Harvest, Christmas, Candlemas, All Saints plus many more. These mornings attract all ages; it is a lovely opportunity for children and adults to spend time together.

We continue to provide the tree trail in the church grounds as an outreach tool, it continues to be popular and we have received positive feedback from people that use it. Each month the trail has a different theme which has included Christmas Traditions, The Tell Me Tree, Recycling, Easter....

A new initiative that started in the last year has been for a group of us to join with and support Southampton City Mission on their school days, involving us going into a school with them to support them as they lead various days of exploring the Christian faith, they deliver Assemblies, Question of Faith days, Transition support days, Grow Communities and CAP Money Kids. These days are always rewarding and a chance to plant seeds of faith. We recently had a child come to an activity morning who had experienced a Question of Faith day and wanted to find out more with her mum. (Please see below under Schools Team Report for more details).

Unfortunately we are not able to run our youth group at the moment, which is disappointing but it is something we continue to pray for and we hope that an opportunity to start up again will not be too far away.

Thank you to everyone who supports our children's work; we are truly blessed to have such a great team.

Jan Barrett

SCHOOLS TEAM REPORT

In 2022 Revd Vicky, through Churches Together, made contact with Southampton City Mission. They run a food and clothing bank and also liaise with schools all over Southampton, to take Christianity into schools. They work with the schools as part of the curriculum for religious education and invite local churches within the schools' catchment areas to help with volunteers. A small team from St James' went to a meeting on 8th September at Waltham Chase Methodist Church to meet with other church volunteers from all over Southampton, some who had been involved before and some new, (which included us), so we could see how things worked and the plan for the year ahead. There are certain assemblies like Harvest where we are in school for a just few hours, explaining faith to the children through a Bible story, some activities and dressing up. Then there are Question of Faith Days, where we are in school all day, again this is part of the curriculum, usually one a month, again based around a bible story with activities and sometimes a short film and dressing up. During 2022 we have been involved in:

2 Harvest Assemblies, 2 Question of faith days, 1 day in October called "Ideas about God", and in November a "Nativity Journey".

A further 6 Question of Faith Days have been booked for 2023 taking us up to June with further dates for the rest of the year following after a mid-year meeting. The two schools we are involved with are Harefield Primary School and Townhill Junior School both in our parish. As volunteers we are so pleased to be able to help the Southampton City Mission Team and interact with the children from the local area; in some cases following these events the children have attended St James activity mornings and Christingle services.

We look forward to another positive year.

Lyn Spratt

STAY AND PLAY

We have had a very successful year with our Stay and Play “wiggle and stretch” parent and toddler group. Over the year our numbers have grown and we regularly now get over 18 families attending every week. The children and adults enjoy a time of free play and activities in a safe setting with a healthy snack time followed by a short story and singing. We are charging £1.50 per family and this covers activities/ resources and healthy snacks. Any small profits are given to the church on a monthly basis. Our aim is to offer a nurturing Christian environment for children to develop friendships and social skills and to give adults an opportunity to talk and communicate / support each other.

I am able to lead the group with the assistance of my fantastic helpers : Sally, Lyn, Maura and Chris, and I am so grateful to them for their help in making the group work so well.

Penny Beeby (Stay and Play leader) and Team

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

During 2022-2023 DBS applications have been processed for persons beginning in roles where a current clear DBS is mandatory. Please note that Winchester Diocese now require that DBS certificates are renewed via a fresh application every 3 years for persons continuing in such a role [previously this was a 5-year requirement].

All holders of a DBS for paid or volunteer work on behalf of St James' West End have been advised that it is necessary to complete safeguarding training, this is provided via the CofE National Safeguarding Training Portal.

The National Church and Diocese have strict guidelines for Safer Recruitment; it is now necessary to report evidence of compliance on the St James' Church Safeguarding Dashboard which is viewable by the Diocesan Safeguarding Department. For several years these guidelines have been observed and implemented in this parish for paid employees. However, some elements of the process have been lacking, for example the requirement to gather references and hold written records of meetings held by the leadership team with new volunteers. Within my remit as PSO I have been advising the clergy on this matter for several years. I am therefore pleased to express my thanks to Revd Vicky Maunder and Caroline Wigley for their work in developing a pathway for recruitment which will ensure that anyone who is already in named role, and all new volunteers and employees, will in future be appropriately led correctly through the safer recruitment process. This will meet best safer recruitment practice and importantly make sure essential time is made for encouraging and supporting, listening to, and appraising, all who offer time and talents here at St James'.

Safeguarding Training is being constantly reviewed and updated by the CofE. There is a subsequent requirement for a higher number of persons involved in the life of the church to complete online modules. Thank you to all who have responded to my instructions and provided proof of undertaking and achieving a pass mark.

I will be continuing to advise and guide those yet to complete the necessary training, and am only too willing to offer support to all who, for whatever reason, do not feel able to access and follow the set online modules.

At the November 2022 meeting, the PCC approved and readopted the parish safeguarding policy and guidelines; these can be read via the church website where you will also find useful helplines and advice. Copies of the approved documents are also available on the church and hall noticeboards. All are advised to read these as safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Carol Kidd
PCC Parish Safeguarding Officer

SAINT JAMES' SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

Since starting to work two full days in school a lot is being achieved in our links between the church and local community. Regular meetings are held in the Parish Office and two visits by the children, one on a visit to see how the Parish Council were maintaining their green spaces and one to install a display concerning Global Neighbourhood. We were also pleased to welcome our PCC to a meeting on the school premises, when they were also given a tour of the school.

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Revd Linda Galvin

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT ON THE FABRIC AND FURNISHINGS OF THE CHURCH

We were all busy in the Spring, with members of the congregation pitching in to help with cleaning the church in March, and tidying the grounds in May. Many hands really do make light work, and we were also thankful for the team who brought out refreshments for the workers. We are very grateful to those who have supported the upkeep of the church grounds and building throughout the year, including those who regularly clean the building, mow the lawns and make safe the pathways and car park in the winter, removing the leaves.

A more permanent improvement was the artificial grass laid at the rear of the hall, where the Stay and Play children might go outside in good weather.

The Taizé cross was hung in the Lady Chapel in place of the Picture of the Last Supper, which has temporarily been moved to the Sanctuary.

Noel, our Assistant Churchwarden, has responsibility for the building, and Scott and Diana are very grateful for his expertise and knowledge. Technical improvements include a Virgin Media fibre optic cable being installed in the Vestry, and tuning and servicing for the organ (before the planned refurbishment in 2023). Inspections and servicing have ensured that our fire extinguishers, central heating, audio visual system and all electrical equipment are working well and safe to use. Gutters, including hidden gullies, and drains are cleared carefully to ensure that rain runs smoothly off our buildings.

We now have a new Health & Safety Officer, Martin Hollingsworth, who has set about the task of checking our property and activities with great enthusiasm.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, we now have a splendid new Noticeboard on the path side of the hedge, so it's a lot easier to read, without having to lean over the prickly hedge. Four locking windows for posters enable us to keep our parish information interesting and up-to-date.

Diana Barnes / Scott Langridge / Noel Becket



During the year the CT HEWEB group of 14 churches met 6 times to encourage, inspire and pray as one church together. Throughout the year of 2022 there was a great variety of serving our local communities and celebrating connecting with the local communities around the Churches through:

Regular weekly and mid-week services of the word and Eucharist;

Festival services for Easter, Pentecost, Birth of Jesus at Christmas;

Holding Advent and Lent preparation and introspection seasons.

Thy Kingdom Come prayer times in preparation for Pentecost.

Christian Unity and Persecuted Church focus services.

Building new ways for the future and re-connecting in worship after and with Covid; Serving local neighbours through Tea Parties with the aim of forming Street Associations; Coffee mornings, Safe Warm Spaces, Anna chaplaincy.

School chaplaincy; Schools ministry with SCM and Open Book, provision of Summer Lunches for school children in Hedge End. Youth clubs, café; Messy and Children's Church, Tree Trails, Creative Worship spaces.

Supporting Syrian and Ukrainian refugee families. Families from Hong Kong and Afghanistan.

Connecting as Borough Church at Eastleigh Parish Church, as the 5 Borough Council Church Together areas. Roof Top Encounter prayers for the whole Borough.

We give thanks to our Lord for the coming together and gathering as one in Christ in so many ways; worship and prayer, study and service.

Giving thanks to all leaders and friends meeting bi-monthly throughout the year.

Many thanks to Sash Vale for maintaining and updating published details through the Facebook page for Churches Together in Hedge End, West End and Botley and through the web page www.hewebchurches.co.uk

Jane Castle

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Elected Members: Carol Kidd, Matthew Thomson and Geoff Holden

Linda Galvin is the Deanery Synod Secretary

Three meetings of the Synod took place in 2022 at Fair Oak, Netley Abbey and Boyatt Wood, thankfully all of them in person.

At the first meeting, Chris Hill, Mission Trainer, Winchester Diocese spoke about his work which involves training lay and ordained people in all aspects of mission and ministerial development. There are good opportunities available within the Diocese if anyone wants to undertake such training. Discussion also took place about the approach the Deanery should follow in order to achieve its required financial contribution to the Diocesan Common Mission Fund. There are considerable differences in ability to raise the necessary funds between the parishes in the Deanery even after affluence allowances are taken into account.

At the second meeting, members reported on how their churches were progressing in meeting the requirements for Ecochurch awards. It was felt that assistance from the Diocesan Environmental Group would be useful. The Area Dean, Richard Wise, reported on progress being made to sort out organisational problems at Diocesan level in the absence of a Bishop.

At the third meeting, Martin and Gina Graham gave a presentation on the "As One" project which aims to form street associations to increase social interactions between neighbours. There was a discussion on how parishes could work together more. It was also reported that the Diocese in future would be ecumenically linked with the Democratic Republic of Congo rather than Uganda as had been the case previously. Details still had to be worked out.

[As a later update, Eastleigh Deanery met 97.4% of its 2022 financial obligation to Diocesan Funds, considerably higher than the average.]

Geoff Holden

On behalf of St James' Deanery Synod representatives

ECO GROUP REPORT

For some time, we have been re-using paper, and using and selling Fairtrade products, but we have made quite a lot of progress in the past year. The Flower Team has found a sustainable alternative to plastic 'oasis', or they use chicken wire, for flower arranging; our cleaning materials are sustainable where possible, and we have all become much more conscious of what we're using and how to improve.

We were still not sure if we had made enough progress to become an Eco-church, so we were surprised and delighted to be given a Bronze Award! We had to complete a Survey on 5 topics, and here are our scores:

Worship & Teaching: GOLD,

Buildings: Silver,

Land: Silver,

Community & Global Engagement: Bronze,

Lifestyle: Bronze.

So, there are a lot of areas in which we're doing well, but there is plenty of room for improvement, and it shouldn't be too difficult to move up to a Silver Award. Perhaps we could hold some events that include the community in recycling etc. The group will be meeting in the summer, and will be considering ideas both for how the church is run and improving our individual lifestyles in terms of saving energy and reducing our carbon footprint. If anyone would like to run an event, or to join the small team working on making our church and its people more ecologically aware, you would be most welcome.

Diana Barnes

FLOWER ARRANGERS' REPORT

Looking back on another year now over; it was certainly quite a year. 2022 started slowly, with pedestal arrangements going back into church after Christmas, a spring clean of the south porch and the two flower sheds having a sort out. A wedding preparation morning was held in February, when we discussed with couples getting married the flowers and pew-ends they might like, showing photo examples. We have been badly hit by the fact that the actual cost of flowers rose over the previous year by 30% due to various factors, after-effects of both Covid and Brexit. This meant we had to look more closely at the types of blooms we used and the quantities. With March upon us and discussions about what we could do for Easter in April; we decided to fill wooden crates with foliage and flowers for the window sills; the choir stalls featured jam jars inside of containers, all of which helped with the cost. April saw our first wedding, with a further twelve weddings from May until November - a busy time. In June, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we made plans for a celebration of wedding dresses featuring flower arrangements through the seven decades of Her Majesty's reign. The response was amazing! We were hoping for at least one dress per decade, but ended up with twenty-six dresses, many of which had been worn at weddings at St James', and the community were so enthusiastic we also had a display of photographs of all the weddings of those who sadly no longer had their dresses. Along with the flower arrangements through the decades, there were mounted photographs and crowns made of flowers; the church and flower team certainly celebrated the Queens Platinum Jubilee in style. In July we held our Patronal Festival for St James, with the pedestals featuring blue and white arrangements with scallop shells. Weddings continued through the summer and then September was upon us, and our attention was drawn to an article in the Church Times about sustainable church flowers, the use of "oasis" floral foam and the carbon footprint of flowers. This got the flower team thinking that we should do something, so for Harvest we decided to not use floral foam anymore; a big step but as usual we are always up for the challenge.

After a few small teething problems, we succeeded and have not looked back. This was not only saving on the cost of oasis which had increased to £14.00 a box but helping in a small way slowing the damage that is being done to our planet. We are now working towards being Sustainable Church flower Ambassadors.

At Harvest the church looked beautiful with pedestals arranged with no oasis and choir stalls, window sills using foliage from everyone's gardens, dahlias from the local allotment holders and flowers purchased or grown locally where possible. We used wheatsheaves and had a display of pumpkins, gourds and vegetables and on the back font knitted scarecrows and pumpkins creating a great attraction for the children. Weddings continued into October and planning was in full swing for the long-awaited Christmas

tree festival (postponed from 2020 due to Covid). Poppy arrangements were in church in November for Remembrance and we also did some arrangements in the churchyard for those lost in the war in Ukraine. Then Christmas, with Christmas trees everywhere, pedestal arrangements, arches inside church and outside, window sills and choir stalls all decorated the end to 2022. Perfect!

Lyn Spratt

HOPE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

H HOME
O OVERSEAS
P PARTNERSHIP
E EDUCATION

After a difficult two years of remote fundraising, HOPE were very pleased to get back to enjoying social gatherings again.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel a planned Brunch in February and Discovery Trail in April but the Barbecue and Treasure Hunt in July was well attended. We were very grateful to our team of volunteers who cooked the food and organised the treasure hunt which raised £229.10 for our charities. In October our traditional Harvest Lunch buffet raised £379.

We were able to raise awareness for Fair Trade Fortnight and sold Fairtrade produce in church. The Christian Aid Lunch and donations through envelopes in church raised £1,313.05.

Mothering Sunday Teas in a Bag raised £128.50 and we were able to send £256.04 to Wateraid through the Lent Appeal.

Our Charity Christmas Card raised £363.70 and the proceeds were distributed to our named charities, Society of St James, Countess Mountbatten House and Mission to Seafarers. Donations to the Christingle Services and charity boxes raised £928.50 for the Children's Society.

We endeavour to donate Pots of HOPE to local charities and gave £50 pots to Hampshire Air Ambulance, Wessex Cancer Trust and West End Youth Clubs in West End village and Townhill Park.

We were able to send £150 to each of our main charities Kitchen Table Charities Trust and Fine Cell Work.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us and we look forward to 2023 and hopefully many more opportunities to raise funds and awareness for charities both at home and overseas.

Fiona Weston

MUSIC REPORTS

Choir and Organ

I was appointed Organist and Choir Director in May 2022, but I already had a good idea as to what the job entailed since I had been helping out since January that year – taking choir rehearsals and playing for the occasional service. I was unavailable in late March and early April, but thanks to some talented deputies, the Holy Week and Easter services were ably led by choir and organ.

The choir's mainstays are the 09:30 Sunday morning service and Evensong on the first and third Sundays of the month. For most of 2022 we were still operating under Covid conditions, with socially distanced rehearsals and services, but thankfully we have recently returned to normal, which has meant that we rehearse far more comfortably and confidently. We have gradually added more choir items into the morning service, and hope that these are an enhancement to the worship. The small group of Evensong singers does a fine job in leading that service with its challenges of responses, psalms and canticles.

We have also got out and about, performing the Jubilee song at the beacon lighting in June, the Royal School of Church Music Festival in October, the Remembrance Service in November, and the Christmas lights switch-on in December. In addition, we had a busy December, preparing music for the Advent and Christmas carol services at church.

When I started at St James's it was painfully obvious that the organ was in need of some TLC, as half of it wasn't functioning properly and some strange sounds were coming from it. A focus for the second half of the year was to fund-raise in order to get it fixed, and with a contract awarded to a local firm, the work was duly completed in early 2023. The organ, which is a fine instrument, is now back to full power and was rededicated at a joyous and well attended event in February. I hope you enjoy hearing the instrument put through its paces every week. I certainly enjoy playing it, so thanks to those who donated.

We are blessed to have a choir of talented and loyal singers who enhance the worship so effectively. As with all choirs, we are always on the lookout for new members, so if you'd like to join us, please get in touch. We rehearse on Tuesdays at 1930 for an hour.

Chris Fay

Church Alive Music

This is the first year I have joined the Church Alive Music Group. It is a very warm and musical place here. I have enjoyed immensely playing with this ensemble group. The 6 valued members now playing together are Debbie Thomson (singer and guitarist), Matthew Thomson (singer), Diana Barnes (singer), Mary Blake (trumpeter), William Saunders (harmonica player) and Jon Bagley (guitarist) and I play the piano. We shared traditional as well as modern hymns, most of which relate to the selected theme of the service. We encourage children and adults to join with their musical instruments, the best opportunity to bond musically in Christ.

Hope to see more people engaging with us.

Anita So

PALS (Parishioners at Lunch on Sundays)

In 2022 for some summer months our meetings were skipped due to bank holidays etc, with several regular participants having other commitments and numbers not warranting a booking. The previous year we began to feel a little less welcome in the Master Builder, and had migrated to the Southampton Arms. However, towards the end of the year, again we felt it was time to 'move on'. So, in the early part of the year, we tried the Glasshouse Restaurant at In Excess, Fair Oak as Rita and one or two others liked the 'conservatory' area which was airy and very pleasant, the food good and prices very reasonable. Unfortunately, when we arrived as a group, the weather was cold so the staff had kindly reserved a table inside for us where it was warm. It was all laid out with a 'cloth' (paper – but made us feel special) – they allowed us to order separately but our meals were brought to the table together, with excellent service. The food was good and less than we had been paying so we patronised the Glasshouse on several occasions. Unfortunately, towards the end of the year, it seemed the chef had changed and the quality of the food not as good as it had been and for the last meeting of 2022 we tried the Dolphin Inn at Botley. Although more expensive than previous venues, the food and service were excellent and for the start of 2023 we have continued to patronise the Dolphin. Number-wise, we seem to have settled on a regular 8 or so with another 4 coming when they could.

The group was originally started for those parishioners who were going to be home alone for Sunday lunch and didn't want to go out on their own to a carvery or restaurant. I am aware that since our start in 2018 we have had many newcomers to St James and wonder if they are aware of the PALS (Parishioners At Lunch on Sundays) group and perhaps would like to join us. There's no commitment, cost or anything else involved other than wanting to 'go out for lunch' occasionally, with company. (You don't have to come every time!) We usually try to meet on 4th Sunday, leaving the church car park about 12:25 to arrive at a venue for around 12:40 to eat about 1pm. We can normally arrange lifts for those without cars, but some people

prefer to travel independently. If you'd like to join us just let Rita have your email address (if possible) and you'll get a reminder about a couple of weeks beforehand (though sometimes I forget and it's a little shorter notice!).

Rita Payne

PASTORAL TEAM REPORT 2022

St James' West End Pastoral Team members during 2022-202 were:

Carol Kidd, Brenda Holden, Betty Wood, Enid Plowman, Janet Barrett, Linda Playford, Peter Littlejohns, Maura Knights, Debbie O'Brien & Margaret Ball.

The team supported Revds Vicky & Linda in a wide variety of ways:

- Phone or face-face visits with members of the congregation suffering from ill-health or experiencing difficult circumstances, unable to attend worship in person & feeling isolated, anxious, or lonely.
- Several pastoral workers hold the Bishop's Certificate required for taking Home Communion to the sick in their own homes or residential nursing care.
- Brenda, Carol & Peter prepare and lead regular Care Home & sheltered housing services. Other team members provide much appreciated support.
- Jan, Betty & Lyn are baptism visitors & have received specific training.
- Carol provides funeral ministry as requested; with the team supporting at the annual "All Souls" & organising the "Special Lives" services.
- Christmas & Easter cards are distributed to all on the pastoral visit list; plus, individual cards at significant times & anniversaries throughout the year.
- The St James' Community Coffee Morning was launched January 2022: an informal, drop-in for people of any age from this parish or beyond. It is held on the 'second' Friday morning of each month & provides an opportunity for anyone to pop in & enjoy a cuppa, cake & chat!

Five pastoral team meetings were held in 2022 & included training & updating, reflecting on our pastoral ministry, supporting each other & also sharing in prayer & Bible study.

All team members agree to abide by safer recruitment guidelines, have clear DBS certificates & complete safeguarding modules as directed by Winchester Diocese.

Depending on the situation, visits can be in the person's own home, in nursing or care home, hospital or hospice, at church or at a mutually agreed parish venue.

If you feel called to explore being a part of this essential ministry Vicky, myself or Brenda can guide & advise you. Please note you can request a phone call or visit from a team member by contacting: 07842244876 / stjameswe.pastoral@gmail.com

Anna Chaplaincy: additional to the above parish pastoral work, since 2021 I am a commissioned volunteer Anna Chaplain for older persons of Harefield & West End.

An interdenominational, community-based approach to ministry for older people, Anna Chaplaincy is part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF), providing spiritual support to older persons of all faiths & none.

Referrals come from the BRF, from individuals or members of their families, as well as from other professionals e.g., Admiral Nurses or the local Care Navigators & the Southampton Carraway charity.

Would you like to help me in my ministry? Please get in touch if you would be interested in training as an Anna Friend. To find out more about Anna Chaplains & Anna Friends: <https://www.annachaplaincy.org.uk/>

Carol Kidd

LLM / Anna Chaplain / Pastoral Team Coordinator

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORK

At St James' we continue to provide a range of opportunities for children to engage with the church.

On Sundays we provide two sessions for children; at 9.30 we have a traditional Sunday school style group in the hall in which we retell the story that corresponds with what is happening in church and use activities and crafts to help us understand it. During the more informal 11am Church Alive service we offer a break-out session to explore the meaning of the story of the day, usually through activity or craft. Once a month we offer an activity morning on a Saturday, over 2022 these have had a variety of themes, including Harvest, Christmas, Candlemas, All Saints plus many more. These mornings attract all ages; it is a lovely opportunity for children and adults to spend time together.

We continue to provide the tree trail in the church grounds as an outreach tool, it continues to be popular and we have received positive feedback from people that use it. Each month the trail has a different theme which has included Christmas Traditions, The Tell Me Tree, Recycling, Easter....

A new initiative that started in the last year has been for a group of us to join with and support Southampton City Mission on their school days, involving us going into a school with them to support them as they lead various days of exploring the Christian faith, they deliver Assemblies, Question of Faith days, Transition support days, Grow Communities and CAP Money Kids. These days are always rewarding and a chance to plant seeds of faith. We recently had a child come to an activity morning who had experienced a Question of Faith day and wanted to find out more with her mum. (Please see below under Schools Team Report for more details).

Unfortunately we are not able to run our youth group at the moment, which is disappointing but it is something we continue to pray for and we hope that an opportunity to start up again will not be too far away.

Thank you to everyone who supports our children's work; we are truly blessed to have such a great team.

Jan Barrett

SCHOOLS TEAM REPORT

In 2022 Revd Vicky, through Churches Together, made contact with Southampton City Mission. They run a food and clothing bank and also liaise with schools all over Southampton, to take Christianity into schools. They work with the schools as part of the curriculum for religious education and invite local churches within the schools' catchment areas to help with volunteers. A small team from St James' went to a meeting on 8th September at Waltham Chase Methodist Church to meet with other church volunteers from all over Southampton, some who had been involved before and some new, (which included us), so we could see how things worked and the plan for the year ahead. There are certain assemblies like Harvest where we are in school for a just few hours, explaining faith to the children through a Bible story, some activities and dressing up. Then there are Question of Faith Days, where we are in school all day, again this is part of the curriculum, usually one a month, again based around a bible story with activities and sometimes a short film and dressing up. During 2022 we have been involved in:

2 Harvest Assemblies, 2 Question of faith days, 1 day in October called "Ideas about God", and in November a "Nativity Journey".

A further 6 Question of Faith Days have been booked for 2023 taking us up to June with further dates for the rest of the year following after a mid-year meeting. The two schools we are involved with are Harefield Primary School and Townhill Junior School both in our parish. As volunteers we are so pleased to be able to help the Southampton City Mission Team and interact with the children from the local area; in some cases following these events the children have attended St James activity mornings and Christingle services.

We look forward to another positive year.

Lyn Spratt

STAY AND PLAY

We have had a very successful year with our Stay and Play “wiggle and stretch” parent and toddler group. Over the year our numbers have grown and we regularly now get over 18 families attending every week. The children and adults enjoy a time of free play and activities in a safe setting with a healthy snack time followed by a short story and singing. We are charging £1.50 per family and this covers activities/ resources and healthy snacks. Any small profits are given to the church on a monthly basis. Our aim is to offer a nurturing Christian environment for children to develop friendships and social skills and to give adults an opportunity to talk and communicate / support each other.

I am able to lead the group with the assistance of my fantastic helpers : Sally, Lyn, Maura and Chris, and I am so grateful to them for their help in making the group work so well.

Penny Beeby (Stay and Play leader) and Team

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

During 2022-2023 DBS applications have been processed for persons beginning in roles where a current clear DBS is mandatory. Please note that Winchester Diocese now require that DBS certificates are renewed via a fresh application every 3 years for persons continuing in such a role [previously this was a 5-year requirement].

All holders of a DBS for paid or volunteer work on behalf of St James' West End have been advised that it is necessary to complete safeguarding training, this is provided via the CofE National Safeguarding Training Portal.

The National Church and Diocese have strict guidelines for Safer Recruitment; it is now necessary to report evidence of compliance on the St James' Church Safeguarding Dashboard which is viewable by the Diocesan Safeguarding Department. For several years these guidelines have been observed and implemented in this parish for paid employees. However, some elements of the process have been lacking, for example the requirement to gather references and hold written records of meetings held by the leadership team with new volunteers. Within my remit as PSO I have been advising the clergy on this matter for several years. I am therefore pleased to express my thanks to Revd Vicky Maunder and Caroline Wigley for their work in developing a pathway for recruitment which will ensure that anyone who is already in named role, and all new volunteers and employees, will in future be appropriately led correctly through the safer recruitment process. This will meet best safer recruitment practice and importantly make sure essential time is made for encouraging and supporting, listening to, and appraising, all who offer time and talents here at St James'.

Safeguarding Training is being constantly reviewed and updated by the CofE. There is a subsequent requirement for a higher number of persons involved in the life of the church to complete online modules. Thank you to all who have responded to my instructions and provided proof of undertaking and achieving a pass mark.

I will be continuing to advise and guide those yet to complete the necessary training, and am only too willing to offer support to all who, for whatever reason, do not feel able to access and follow the set online modules.

At the November 2022 meeting, the PCC approved and readopted the parish safeguarding policy and guidelines; these can be read via the church website where you will also find useful helplines and advice. Copies of the approved documents are also available on the church and hall noticeboards. All are advised to read these as safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Carol Kidd
PCC Parish Safeguarding Officer

SAINT JAMES' SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY

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Revd Linda Galvin