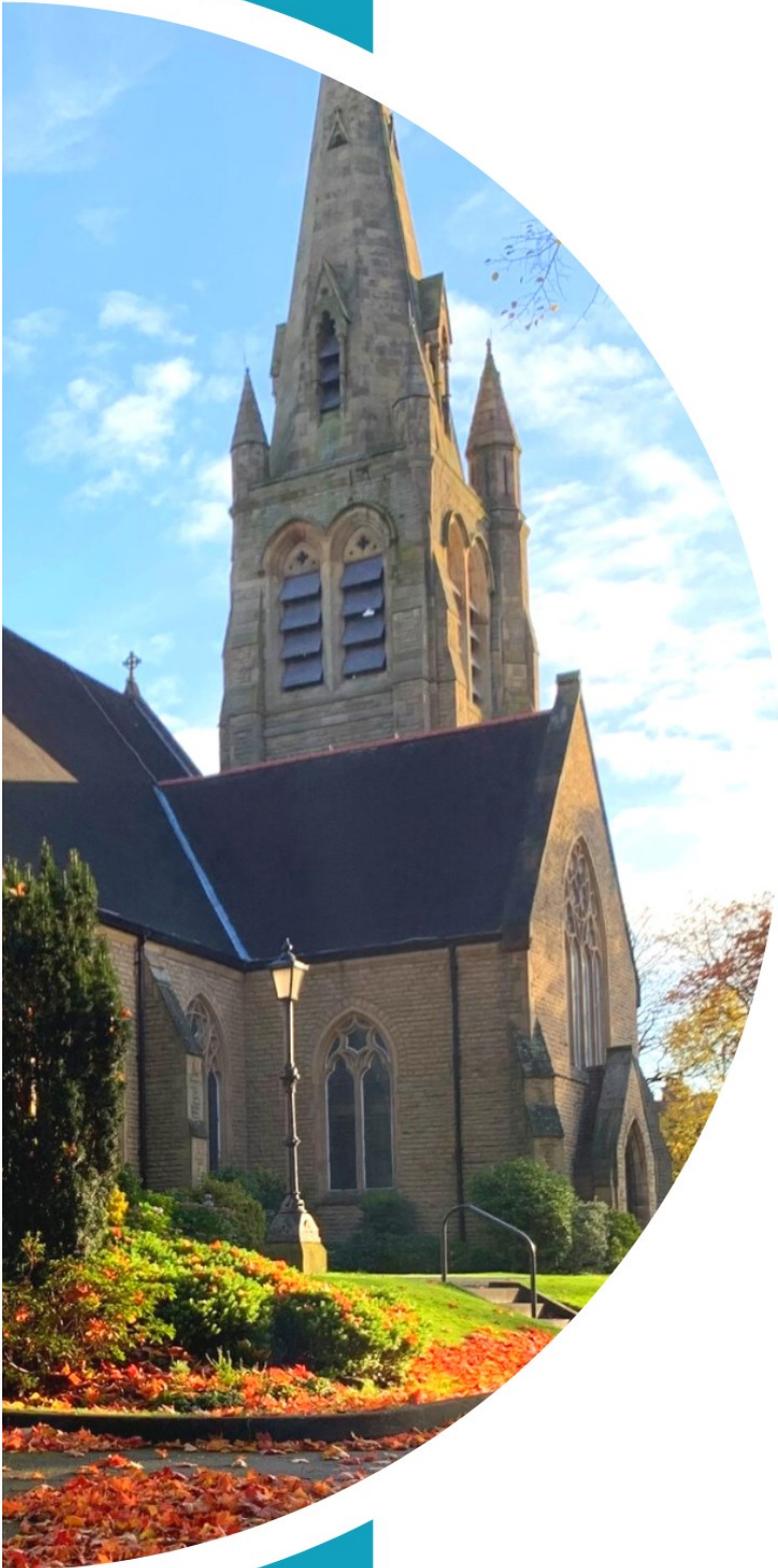


# ANNUAL REPORT

& FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS

## 2022



Registered Charity No. 1133105  
44 Moss Lane, Sale, Cheshire, M33 6GD  
[stmarysaom.org](http://stmarysaom.org)



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## Left 'footed' horses and the Kingdom of God

I love watching most sports, but horse racing is not one of them. It doesn't help that I'm allergic to horses but that is another story. That's not to say there is nothing to admire or learn from horseracing – every day is a school day, so they say, and I was recently reading about the origins of the saying *horses for courses*.

Horse racing courses in the UK are not standardised in the way that, say, an athletics 400 metre track is. Some are fairly straight with sweeping bends. Some have tighter bends. Some are clockwise, others are anti-clockwise. Some are fairly flat, others have rises and dips. Some have uphill finishes which can really test stamina. Add in whether a course tends to be firm or on the soft side depending on the weather. Combine all those possible variables and you can get a great variation in racing conditions. Racehorses also tend to gallop with either the left or right leg leading and a horse which favours a clockwise course may perform less well going anti-clockwise. A horse with a long stride but poorly balanced will do better on a straight, flat, course and loathe tight bends and sharp rises or dips which upset the stride. So racehorses may do a lot better on some courses than others, Therefore it is up to the trainers and owners to select the most suitable course for their horses to give them the best chances - horses for courses.

Figuratively the phrase means picking the best person for a particular job, the best response for a situation, or the best means to achieve a specific end.

I think that is a fair reflection of church life; encourage those with the God given gifts for a particular job or ministry, pray for the best response for a situation or the best means to see God's kingdom coming.

It is not a bad framework to use for this review of our church life in 2022 and to look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2023...

### UKRAINE, ORANGES AND THE WORLD ON OUR DOORSTEP

In February 2021 Russia invaded Ukraine. Apparently, the expectation in the Kremlin was that it would be a relatively quick and easy operation akin to what happened when they annexed Crimea in 2014. Back then there was little fight within Ukraine itself along with international outrage and bluster but no action. Not this time. As millions were displaced and fled the country Europe mobilised in support, through governments but more especially through the compassionate action of ordinary, everyday folk. Churches throughout Europe prayed not just for Ukraine but their best response to the situation.



*An English Language class well underway*

For St Mary's and SWCC the church was able to get behind the initial response of Inga Lee, a native Ukrainian but long time church member with us. Inga was able to travel out to Poland several times to act as a translator at a church run hostel near the border. As a church it gave us a focal point for prayer and financial giving. Inga

continues to be involved in the housing of Ukrainian refugees in her role with Samaritan's Purse.

The second phase of our response was when Ukrainian refugees started arriving in Trafford. Simon and Amelie Latham galvanised the church to prepare Welcome boxes. This was followed up with offering English Language classes at St Mary's. A team of volunteers and helpers have provided a warm welcome, help with the language, and a safe place to interact with

others. These incredibly popular courses have expanded to include many different nationalities. We have an All Nations (international) Small Group. At their annual bring and share lunch just before Christmas the invitation was extended to the language classes. It was a wonderful afternoon as folk from 11+ nationalities joined together.

One Turkish lady was there with her family. She was invited to the Christingle service and loved the sense of celebration and life. Hats off to the Ferro's and their amazing team for the annual preparation of hundreds of oranges – it has grown to a much loved and valued ministry in itself. It was from the Christingle service that our Turkish lady joined the Faith Matters course to explore the Christian faith (one of around 35 people to do the course in the past 12 months or so). In the meantime, she has joined the Heartbeat Café team and helps occasionally at Caterpillars. I love this story – it highlights the role of gifted and passionate Christians, praying for the best response for a situation and a good means to see God's kingdom coming.

In the course of the year there are literally thousands of stories that church members are a part of. Many times, we are not even aware of our role – it is the small moments of a welcome, or invitation, or a smile or a prayer or an act of service. In such actions we display our faith and partner with God's Spirit to see His kingdom coming. Thank you to each and every one of you, for who you are in Christ and all that you do to serve Him and see His kingdom come. We are the church; a diverse group of people brought together in Jesus. We have flaws but our heart is to follow Him, whoever we are, whatever our gifting, wherever we are from.

At a recent 9.30 service, I asked people about their nationality – it was wonderful hearing the responses ring out around the church. Further

investigation show we have over 25 nationalities as a part of our church (as well as the 4 nations of the UK, there are French, Ukrainian, Brazilian, Egyptian, Indian, Jamaican, Pakistani, South Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Hong Kongese, Nigerian, Ghanaian, Zimbabwean, Iranian, Turkish, Lebanese, Malay, New Zealanders, Thai, Filipino, Zambian and not forgetting Finnish!).

The world is now on our doorstep... What might that mean for our mission and ministry going forward?

The world is now on our doorstep - that is remarkable and a significant shift over the last 10 years or so. What might that mean for our mission and ministry going forward?

## THE BUFFET CONUNDRUM

How do you choose in a buffet restaurant when faced with an array of goodies? When there is just too much to have everything, what is your method for selecting something? First thing you come to? What others seem to be going for? Or surveying all the options first and then prioritising? You probably won't be surprised to know I have it down to a fine art... and I've passed on my wisdom in this area to my children, so it is now a part of family folklore when we go out together.



*International celebrations at the All Nations Christmas Lunch*

In such actions we display our faith and partner with God's Spirit to see His kingdom coming.

When there are so many good things happening around St Mary's and Sale West, how do we choose what to invest our time in? Thinking back to *horses for courses* for a moment can help us make wise choices. What are your God given gifts and what is your fit for a particular role or ministry? What is a good response from the church for a particular situation or what is an effective means to see God's kingdom coming?

One of my aims in this past year was to put in place diverse, thriving ministry and fellowship opportunities which are attractive and open to all adults in the church. They cover people of all ages and stages of Christian development who are actively participating and growing in their faith. Stock the buffet abundantly!

There are now 4 Ministry Event Teams made up of 3-5 people covering *First Encounter*, *Family*, *Workplace* and *Spiritually Mature*. Their role is to plan events that add to the buffet and provide good food to nourish folk in that stage of their faith journey.

**First Encounter** events are for folk new to church or exploring faith; events like the Christmas Tabletop Sale, Faith Matters and the 'I am Mark' performance.

**Family** events have included the summer church picnic, the Parenting course and the Light Party.



*Shoppers browsing the Christmas Tabletop Sale*

**Workplace** events are being planned for this coming year to encourage and support folk in their work environments.

Events for the **Spiritually Mature** aim to equip people to serve well in ministry. A recent prayer ministry training event has allowed us to start up prayer ministry teams at all of the St Mary's services once again.

Hopefully there is something for everyone but without overwhelming or overcommitting people. There is a choice based on both faith and life stage.

## INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

We choose to invest our time, loyalty and money in things that will have an impact for ourselves, families, and wider world. Thank you for being a part of St Mary's and Sale West Community Church - it wouldn't be the same without you!

Giving - of ourselves and our money is all about ministry; it is every service we have, each sermon preached, baptism families welcomed, Junior Church or Fuel sessions run, and the Gospel preached through Faith Matters and our Small Groups. Ministry is every bereaved family supported, each visit and home communion to the sick and housebound, School assemblies and classes held. Giving, in all its forms, makes ministry possible.

There are some obvious financial challenges facing us in the year ahead; the cost-of-living increases that also impact us as a church mean that we need to see some financial breakthroughs this year.

If you consider St Mary's your church home and are not yet giving financially will you consider joining our Stewardship scheme? And if you are already giving but have not reviewed it this year, could you prayerfully assess whether there is scope to adjust your giving?

The ministry of our church changes lives both in our church and in the wider world. There is much for which we as a church can rejoice and be thankful and we continue to look forward to an exciting and challenging time under God.

With every blessing,  
Steve

The ministry of our church changes lives both in our church and in the wider world.

# PCC REPORT

## WRITTEN BY EMMA ATKINSON

St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working with the incumbent, the Revd. Stephen Rankin, in furthering the mission of the church in the whole parish: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and Church Centre.

PCC members and deanery synod representatives are elected each year at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Roles on the PCC are then elected at the first PCC meeting following the APCM.

Role	Name	Office held
Incumbent	Revd Steve Rankin	Chair, S, F
Church Plant Associate Vicar	Revd Nathan Gregory	
Head of Operations (co-opted)	Emma Atkinson	PCC secretary, HR, BM, P
Readers	Brian Macfaden	Treasurer, S, F, HR BM
	Outi Rankin	
Pastoral Workers	Gill Hart	
	Mags Holt	
	Ann McBurney	P
Wardens	Anne Keast	S, F, BM
	John Vaughan	S, F
Deanery Synod	Avtar Diggwa	
	Jeff McBurney	F, P
	Ian Thwaites	
	Rosemary Sigee	F
Elected members	David Atkinson	M
	Jeremy Barnes	F
	Janet Darlow	
	Graham Fosh	HR
	Joan Heys	Assistant Treasurer, F, BM
	Lorna Hitchin	Vice Chair, S, F, P
	Francis Hyde	
	Helen Jarvis	F
	Elaine Jones	S, M, P
	Matthew Kay	
	Barbara Shimmings	

(S - Standing committee, F - Finance committee, HR - HR committee, M - Missions committee, BM - Butterflies Management committee, P - Policies Review committee)

## PCC MEETINGS

8 PCC meetings took place during 2022, 6 were in-person, and 2 were over zoom. The APCM took place in April and was held in-person. Items discussed at the PCC meetings included:

- Safeguarding reports
- Missions giving
- Maintenance
- Ministry updates
- Quinquennial Report
- Butterflies Pre-School

## STAFFING

The PCC employs a Head of Operations, Receptionist & Parish Administrator, Data Administrator, Parish Finance Officer, Children's Pastor, Parish Youth Worker, Café Manager, Church Centre Caretaker, Saturday Cleaner, and nine staff to run the Pre-School Group 'Butterflies'. A verger is also included on the payroll on a zero-hours basis.

## ELECTORAL ROLL

The number on the electoral roll at the 2022 APCM in May was 431

## WARDEN'S REPORT

WRITTEN BY JOHN VAUGHAN &amp; ANNE KEAST

The two previous Wardens' Reports have started by referencing the problems of the Covid pandemic but they seem to be behind us now despite the fact that individuals continue to be struck down by the virus. We continue to have a small section of the church reserved for mask wearers although those who use it are now very small in number. The return to normality has not taken us back to pre-Covid times. Numbers attending our services are stabilising at around 100 for the 9.30 service, 65 for the 11.15 and 50 for the 7pm service. Our 9.30 livestreamed service sees around 65 tuning in each week. The pandemic also caused a number of people to reset and withdraw from previous duties or change the way they served in the church. In consequence we have a number of vacancies on our service teams and continue to pray that these will be filled.

In addition to our normal services we were blessed, again, with some wonderful Christmas services. The high standards set for the decoration of the church were maintained and we are fortunate that we have so many committed people. The wardens would like to thank all those volunteers who help make our church work so effectively. The cleaning and gardening teams; Deputy Wardens and sidespeople; pastoral workers; technical support; and those who make refreshments. We also give thanks for the skill of our worship leaders and musicians, who bring us such joy, and for those on the intercessory rota. A great joy on Sunday morning is to hear and see the children running about the place. Great thanks are due to the many wonderful people who nurture and guide our young people. We have also been blessed this year by Nathan's arrival and we continue to pray for the success of his wider role in church planting. We add our thanks to the whole of our Ministry team, to Steve and Julie and Alex and for the sterling service provided by the office staff.

One of the joys of St Mary's is the multi-cultural, multi-generational congregations that we have. If everybody spoke their own language at once

our church would be like the aftermath of the collapse of the Tower of Babel. But that was something that divided people, what we have is something that brings people together and we give thanks for the initiatives that support multi-culturalism here including the language classes run so successfully.

One of the joys of St Mary's is the multi-cultural, multi-generational congregations that we have.

This year saw the delayed Quinquennial Review. As expected, a number of premises issues were revealed some of which will require remedial work this year and other items being things that we can defer until a future date. A building of the age of this church takes a considerable amount of energy and money to maintain. We are grateful to Norman and Alec for all that they do in keeping the place in such good condition. Two major items of work were carried out in the last year: repairs to the roof of the hall and improvements to the car park and external drains. This year we need to address some stonework issues and do some extensive guttering renewal. These are not easy things to do given the listed nature of the building and the physical problems of accessing parts of the structure and the PCC has committed a sizeable budget this year to the work although, inevitably, more could be spent. We also face in the coming year a huge increase in our energy costs as fixed price contracts come to an end and we need to address the energy efficiency of the church and consider how that might be improved.

All of us need to consider how we can serve to further our mission here.

As we move forward into 2023 we do so from a position that many other churches would be envious of. We have strong service numbers; a building which is fundamentally sound; committed volunteers; and a brilliant clergy team. We cannot be sanguine though and all of us need to consider how we can serve to further our mission here.

Finally, Church Wardens don't go on for ever and this year Anne Keast, who has served in the role for four years, retires. She has been a wonderful asset in the role. Hard working and dedicated, a ready smile and a wonderful friend to work alongside. Thank you Anne.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## WRITTEN BY BRIAN MACFADEN

We give thanks to God for His ongoing provision for our work in Sale, through the generosity of His people. In 2022 many parts of church life recovered following the COVID-19 pandemic. Donations increased, our children and youth work grew, and we increased the hours of our youth worker.

With Revd Nathan Gregory joining us as our new Associate Vicar at the start of 2022, we paid the full Parish Share for two clergy throughout the year.

In 2022 our expenditure exceeded our income by £22,536. At 31st December 2022 we held cash at the bank, including short term deposits, of £141,123.

As our vicar writes there are some obvious financial challenges facing us in the year ahead; the cost-of-living increases that impact us as a church mean that we need to see some financial breakthroughs this year. If you consider St Mary's your church home and are not yet giving financially will you consider joining our Stewardship scheme? And if you are already giving but have not reviewed it this year, could you prayerfully assess whether there is scope to adjust your giving?

We approach the challenges and opportunities of 2023 with confidence in God's continuing provision and your support.

### COMPARISON TO 2021

Most of the giving we receive comes through regular standing orders and stewardship envelopes, and we saw a 4.7% increase from last year (£280,244 in 2022 vs £267,633 in 2021). 31 people started donating regularly to our work during the year, and this financial growth is enabling us to continue growing our work.

Income from Collections, the Cafe, and Church Centre lettings have recovered well following the pandemic.

In a year of significant energy cost increases we are fortunate to be on fixed price electricity and gas contracts. These end in mid 2023 and mid 2024 respectively.

As planned we were able to catch up on major maintenance items following the COVID-19 restrictions in 2021.

Butterflies Pre-School Group had a deficit of £3,867 (surplus of £8,018 in 2021). The surplus or deficit varies year by year depending on the number of children attending. The PCC as Treasurer of the Glebelands Trust made a donation of £40,000 to Butterflies Pre-School Group following a challenging year.

### RESERVES

All charities are expected to hold an appropriate level of reserves, which we use for:

- Working capital to balance our income and expenditure streams.
- Planning ahead by accommodating variations in our income from year to year.
- Meeting maintenance needs and responding to opportunities as they arise.

In January 2021 the PCC adopted a policy to maintain approximately 3 months of regular expenditure in our reserves. At the end of 2022 our reserves were 3.3 months of regular expenditure (4.8 months at end of 2021). The reduction is primarily due to planned maintenance.

The trustees are confident that, with continuing regular income from church members, there are sufficient reserves to support ongoing commitments for the next twelve months.

### INVESTMENT POLICY

Cash not required for day to day operations is held on deposit with the CBF Church of England Investment Fund.

No funds are held as custodian trustee.

# MISSION GIVING REPORT

WRITTEN BY BRIAN MACFADEN

As a church we donate 10% of the giving we receive to missions, both here in the UK and overseas. We see this as our stewardship, or good management, of the money we receive from God, just as we encourage church members to steward their income.

This year we donated £27,248, which is 10% of the previous year’s giving.

The Missions Committee oversees how we distribute these funds, together with the PCC. Most of the mission budget is given as regular support to organisations and individuals where there is a link with our church. We also retain some funds to allocate flexibly during the year.

This is where our support was donated in 2022. Our mission partners are shown in bold.

## OVERSEAS MISSIONS

<b>Church Mission Society</b>	<b>£800</b>
<b>Tim &amp; Miho Walker - Overseas Missionary Fellowship</b>	<b>£1,800</b>
<b>Simon and Sue Yeomans - Operation Mobilisation</b>	<b>£4,600</b>
<b>Open Doors</b>	<b>£1,600</b>
<b>Philippines Outreach Centre</b>	<b>£2,500</b>
<b>Hope for Justice</b>	<b>£1,500</b>
<b>Acts - Education in Africa - Burundi School</b>	<b>£1,600</b>
David & Mary Robinson - Thai ministry	£700
Dan and Rachel King - Wycliffe Bible Translators	£500
A Rocha – Christian conservation	£100
FEBA (Arab world gospel radio)	£100
Tearfund (Relief & development work)	£100
Hope Centre Poland supporting Ukranian refugees	£1,200

## UK MISSIONS

<b>Boaz Trust</b>	<b>£1,600</b>
<b>Youth for Christ</b>	<b>£4,000</b>
New Wine	£500
Redeeming Our Communities	£240
Bible Society	£1,400
Church Pastoral Aid Society	£1,200
Universities & Colleges Christian Fellowship	£300
Trafford South Foodbank	£428
Fusion	£300
Churches Together in Sale	£30
Evangelical Alliance	£150

From a Christmas Table Top Sale we donated:

Tearfund	£363
Sale West Community Urban Trust	£363
Care for the family	£31

We also gave a grant of £7,000 to Sale West Community Urban Trust.



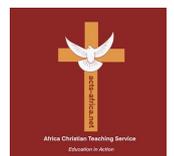
HOPE FOR JUSTICE



Open Doors



Trafford YOUTH FOR CHRIST



# SAFEGUARDING REPORT

WRITTEN BY MAUREEN CAIN

## Promoting a Safer Church

Policy Statement of the Church of England

The word 'safeguarding' refers to all aspects of keeping people safe, primarily children and young people but also vulnerable adults. This is a really important aspect of safeguarding as many of us can be considered as vulnerable during our lives. So a vulnerable adult is not just someone who is considered vulnerable because of their mental or physical condition which may be permanent. A person experiencing trauma in their lives such as illness, divorce, bereavement, redundancy, financial hardship etc will be vulnerable in many circumstances and this situation, if known, should be respected in conversations and other association.

Connect the Church's mission & theological foundations with what good Christian behaviour & community looks like in a safeguarding context

In conjunction with the office I provide a report at each PCC meeting containing the numbers of people completing on-line training modules and also the numbers of concerns which have been reported.

### MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We have Safeguarding teams comprised of Church staff and volunteers. We meet to discuss issues arising, changes required and to refresh our understanding of recent guidance. For example at our recent team meeting we have been putting guidance in place for Mentoring programmes, Young Helpers Consent Forms and a Code of Conduct for young people relating to keeping themselves safe with particular reference to the use of social media.

### TRAINING AND RECORDING SYSTEMS

We follow the Diocesan advice regarding training and we can report that a substantial numbers of our Church members have completed the required on-line training modules. The office keeps effective records of these and other regulatory requirements with prompts for the necessary renewals every three years.

Integrate our own faith, beliefs, and values with those underpinning good safeguarding behaviours.

With this in mind, and with our developing work with international communities, I am asking that many more people in our church complete the Basic Awareness and Foundation on-line training courses so that they are aware of this responsibility in all circumstances, particularly relating to their own responses.

We have confidential systems for recording Safeguarding concerns and the actions taken. We keep these records updated and reviewed appropriately.

### Together at Last

It's safe to say that it has been a busy year for Children's Ministry! Here is a flavour of what has been going on...

#### SCHOOLS WORK

Schools work has returned to its pre-pandemic "busy" level with a steady stream of workshops, weekly assemblies, Christmas, Easter, Harvest and End of Term services booked in throughout the year. We have especially loved welcoming school year groups from Firs Road to come and explore our beautiful church building, hear more about God and ask questions.

We love working with St Mary's School and this year we are working together towards a Diocesan Church and School Partnership Award. The award will look at how our church and the school currently work together and how we can help children and their families grow faith, worship together and love our neighbours.

#### CATERPILLARS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP

Our Tuesday afternoon Parent and Toddler Group has been growing steadily since we reopened in September 2021. Since the beginning of this year, our numbers have increased so much that we have had to extend our hall space into Willow to accommodate the number of families/carers who come from all over South Manchester to chat, rest, recharge, play and wiggle! I think I can speak for the Caterpillars team when I say being part of this group, ministering to local families and seeing the children grow is an absolute joy.

Ministering to local families and seeing the children grow is an absolute joy.

#### GROWING FAITH

We know that faith doesn't just happen on Sunday so our vision is also to help, equip and support families in how they can help build faith in the home throughout the week. Church members and visitors can find help and top tips on our "Family Life" board in the foyer. In Junior Church, children receive "take-home" sheets throughout the year with passages and prompts of what they could chat to God about and Family Devotionals to get the whole family talking. In September, some of our parents and Junior Church volunteers joined BRF's online "Parenting For Faith" course where we heard the wisdom of Rachel Turner and her team on how we can help equip, support and nurture our children as they journey in faith.

#### JUNIOR CHURCH

What an awesome group of children we have in Junior Church! We have had so much fun together it is hard to think of just one highlight, but I think the general overall blessing from this past year was just how wonderful it was to feel part of a big church family again. We have worshipped together, celebrated together, prayed together, learnt about God together, camped together and had the occasional water fight!

Love or hate the "St Mary's Birthday Song", it has been great to bring the children into the 9.30am service on the second Sunday of each month to celebrate birthdays as a Church Family.

Last year we did a series on prayer and asked our wider Church Family if Junior Church could pray for them. The children were (a little



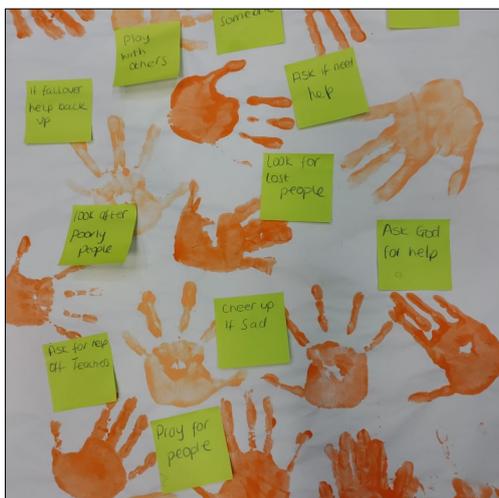
*The hall waiting for our Caterpillars to arrive!*

terrified) and amazed when we received over 100 prayer requests! It was just beautiful to see how the children chatted to God, listened, painted and drew the prayers. What a blessing it is to intercede for others, we loved praying for you and to hear of testimony afterwards of answered prayer has helped the children grow in confidence knowing that God listens to them too.

As we look ahead to this year, we know through prayer and prophetic words that God loves

these children and sees them as spiritual warriors. This is such an exciting prophecy and is shaping our vision, to find ways to help our children not only learn more about who God is, but also to experience and deeply connect with a God who loves them beyond measure.

We can't wait to see what God is going to do in 2023! Please keep Children's Ministry in your prayers; for our children, their families and our lovely volunteers.



*Junior Church exploring ways to pray together*



*Families enjoying the Light Party*

## YOUTH

WRITTEN BY ALEX STEWART

Last year saw a lot of great things happen; we started a Sunday morning group, Fuel Sundays, which has been amazing and we've seen so many young people grow in their understanding of church and faith. We used resources produced by NUA which really encouraged young people to think about what they believe, value, and understand about their faith.

Cross-Roads has grown in fellowship, and we have looked at the Gospel of Luke and the book of Ruth. We hope to expand our young people's Biblical knowledge whilst showing how the Bible is still relevant today!

Fuel on Friday had its annual Christmas meal organised by Beth, one of our Nazarene

placement students. This was a fantastic night filled with fun, laughter, and good food!

The big picture for our youth, and the vision God has set before us following New Wine, is to bring the youth and the church together, becoming even more of a church family. We want to see young people becoming engaged in the wider church; serving in Sunday services or through the social action projects we have done, such as the Christmas cakes we decorated to give away to Sale West at Christmas. I pray we see this vision come to light, through God's guidance, and that we see Him be glorified even more next year.



*A selection of Christmas Cakes decorated by our young people and donated to Sale West*

## SALE WEST COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

WRITTEN BY CAROL DODGSON

We have been bringing people together in community and creating a wonderful ‘family feel’ this year through activities, resources, mentoring, and learning opportunities and through integrating people from all walks of life. The impact has been reduced social isolation, peer support, friendships, help with life’s struggles and experiencing Christians who are living out their faith by loving their neighbour – who wouldn’t feel drawn to that?! We are bringing people into a place of mutual support and encouragement - it makes no difference who you are. Everyone is welcome and everyone receives unconditional positive regard.

The impact has been reduced social isolation, peer support, friendships, help with life’s struggles and experiencing Christians who are living out their faith by loving their neighbour

### MENTORING SUPPORT

We have a number of trained volunteer mentors who offer support to people to help them with a particular issue or to set and achieve a life goal over 12 months or more.

We are very closely connected with other partners in our community and have been able to signpost people into other support where appropriate.

Since January 2022, 371 adults/children have engaged in our face-to-face activities with a support network of over 20 wonderful volunteers.

The results of a recent questionnaire showed that 92% of those attending our groups said they felt supported, 77% said that they felt less isolated, and 85% said that their self-confidence had improved. 100% of people said they had made friends.

We were fortunate to be able to take two of our families to New Wine in the summer – and what an amazing experience!! Being part of the church family, receiving excellent teaching, experiencing physical and emotional healing and deciding beyond doubt that God is real and good. Awesome!

Our current model of support includes:

### CREATIVE GROUPS

We encourage and motivate people to learn new skills, talk, and create friendships. We make soup together with people (who can) bringing a vegetable or two to throw in!

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

There was a lack of provision in the area so we have partnered with the social prescribers linked to the local GPs, as well as St Martin’s Church to create a structure and purpose to life for people who have lost a loved one. We do this using creativity, nature, music, a structured course, community, and finding a place of peace.

### MEN’S MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

In response to a need in the community we have created a men’s support group. This is facilitated by a trained counsellor who creates a supportive space for men to drop in, chat and benefit from being a part of weekly peer support sessions.



One of the Creative Groups crafting together

# DISCIPLESHIP COMMUNITIES

WRITTEN BY ANN MCBURNEY

## SMALL GROUPS AND NEW LIFE GROUPS

We have 16 Small groups and 2 New Life groups, this year most are meeting in person, with just a couple of groups finding zoom meetings more convenient. In January Steve and I met with the group leaders, we had a fantastic turn out with all groups represented. This was an evening of shared ideas, prayer, challenges and chocolate.

At the leaders meeting we also heard more about the All Nations New Life group, and the amazing food which was shared at a pre Christmas social gathering. Social events are such a valuable asset to all our groups, making stronger bonds with group members. Perhaps you could consider a social and extending the invitation to other friends or family members who don't attend the usual Bible study group. This might need some inventive thinking as I know many groups are a tight squeeze!

## HUDDLES

There are 14 Huddles at present with another hoping to start up soon. The various Huddles work in different ways, using faith based books on a variety of subjects, or delving deeper into a book from the Bible. The one I am part of is trying out the Lectio five-session course run by Peter Greig from the 24/7 prayer team, this uses video clips and discussion.

There is a strong sense of community and drawing closer to God coming out from all areas of Discipleship, If you would like to connect with a group, are considering being part of a four person huddle, or would like to know more about any of our Discipleship communities please do contact Ann McBurney by emailing [ann.mcburney@hotmail.com](mailto:ann.mcburney@hotmail.com) or complete the form which can be found on our website, [www.stmarysaom.org/communities](http://www.stmarysaom.org/communities).

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## MISSION PARTNERS

WRITTEN BY MARY ROBINSON

We read of famine in Africa, earthquakes in Turkey, and desperate immigrants arriving on our shores. At St Mary's we have a small part in bringing a message of hope to our needy world.

The church financially supports main 9 mission partners in a variety of ministries. These include **Philippines Outreach Centre** supporting destitute orphans, and **Herridge Trust** training needy Burundi youth in practical work skills. **Dan King** in Tanzania helps African linguists translate the Scripture into numerous African dialects. **Sue and Simon Yeomans** mobilise Canadian missionaries for Europe and beyond. **Open Doors** supports persecuted Christians worldwide and Church Mission Society supports the Anglican Church providing quality training for clergy.

In the UK, **Hope for Justice** has a growing work rescuing trafficked people around Europe, **Boaz Trust** supports needy asylum seekers in Manchester, **Tim and Miho Walker** are reaching Japanese students and **Trafford Youth for Christ** support young people on our doorstep.

Church members also help with Betel Trust, Barnabas homeless ministry, **Thai Outreach UK** and other missions.

Church members are updated through the monthly mission updates with a weekly mission prayer in most services and on the intercessions page on the church website. There's a Mission Display in the church foyer (please look!), and a dedicated page on our website for mission.

We've welcomed the visits of Chrissy from the Philippines, Tim and Miho talking about their Japanese ministry, and Sue and Simon from Canada.

The Mission Group meets regularly to learn, pray and think how to support our Mission Partners better. 'The fields are ripe unto harvest, but the labourers are few!' Matthew 9:37. May we keep looking outwards, sharing the message of hope!

## COME FLY WITH ME WRITTEN BY FIONA PALMER

We have had an exciting twelve months at Come Fly With Me. We met on Zoom on the first Thursday evening of each month during term time. Using Zoom continues to enable many more people to join than might be able to commit to an in person meeting and the numbers attending have remained very encouraging. Being on Zoom we have welcomed various folk from all four services at St Mary's and also from other churches.

The aim of the evenings is always for folk to grow in confidence in hearing from God. At each meeting we started by worshipping the Lord together, we then listened to a short teaching slot with a different theme each month. This was always followed by breakout groups where, with an experienced leader and in a safe environment, we practiced some aspect of

listening for words of knowledge for each other or different situations. At feedback we heard of some amazing words that were so accurate the recipient could not doubt that the Lord was speaking to them through a member of their group. The Lord has also released new gifts in folk throughout the year, with people hearing from God in completely new ways.

Everyone is most welcome at Come Fly With Me. If you would you like to grow in the gift of the prophetic please come and join us for an evening: each session stands alone and there is no commitment or need to sign up. If you are not too sure about it, you could come and observe and weigh it up for yourself to see if this is an experience and opportunity in prophetic prayer of which you would like to become part. Please do come and be blessed...

## HEARTBEAT CAFE WRITTEN BY CATHY SNOWDON

The Heartbeat Café has welcomed both regular and new customers back now that Covid restrictions are fully lifted. It has been particularly encouraging to meet new people whether they come for the food or possibly needing a listening ear.

Caterpillars parent and toddler group brings in young parents, and their children often enjoy the "Child's Packed Lunch Bag". Loyalty cards were offered to encourage new parents into the café. Occasionally Butterflies also use the café area.

It's been lovely to see the return of Pictor School pupils enjoying their toast and drink with their teachers. We have also been visited by pupils and staff from Manor High College, more cake was needed on those days!

In November the Café opened during the Christmas Tabletop Sale and it was very well attended. The fantastic volunteers worked all morning serving a slightly limited menu, but nevertheless still popular. The conversation group have practised their English language ordering drinks on Thursday mornings for a number of weeks. It has been great to be a part of that outreach, so much so we now have a volunteer from that group!



*The Kindness Coffee board ready for action*

The monthly afternoon teas have been proving to be popular with bookings taken for future dates. The introduction of our "Kindness Coffee" board has been well received. It gives customers the opportunity to bless others by gifting or enjoying a drink bought by someone else thinking of them.

The committed, loyal, hard working team of volunteers have been amazing, each bringing their own skills and talents. We enjoyed a Summer afternoon tea and New Year get together as a thank you to them. New volunteers are always welcome.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY MAGDALENE,  
ASHTON-ON-MERSEY WITH SALE WEST COMMUNITY CHURCH,  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND DIOCESE OF CHESTER**

**Registered Charity No. 1133105**

**Year ended 31 December 2022**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Under charity law, the trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements for each financial year which properly present the state of affairs of the charity and of the excess of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, generally accepted accounting practice entails that the trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements comply with the trust deed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its activities.

The trustees are required to act in accordance with the trust deed of the charity, within the framework of trust law. They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, sufficient to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time, and to enable the trustees to ensure that, where any statements of accounts are prepared by them under section 132(1) of the Charities Act 2011, as amended by the Charities Act 2022, those statements of accounts comply with the requirements of regulations under that provision. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the PCC



Revd Stephen Rankin

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY MAGDALENE, ASHTON-ON-MERSEY WITH SALE WEST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2022

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 19 to 26.

## RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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.



Mrs Susan Suchoparek FCA

30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

## *For the year ended 31 December 2022*

There were no restricted funds in 2022.

	Note	TOTAL 2022	TOTAL 2021
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2		
Voluntary income (direct giving)		288,893	272,480
Other voluntary income		2,634	4,158
Gross income from events and activities		138,573	133,232
Other ordinary income		10,316	10,571
Income from trading		41,542	28,226
Income from investment		971	27
Other income	4	347	7,806
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>£483,276</b>	<b>£456,500</b>
<b>RESOURCES USED</b>	3		
Grants		35,005	39,112
Support costs		40,088	26,588
Directly relating to the work of the church		368,836	302,265
Fund raising and publicity		295	107
Church management/administration		61,589	60,194
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>		<b>£505,812</b>	<b>£428,266</b>
Net incoming resources before gains/(losses) on investments		-22,536	28,234
Net gain/(losses) on investments:			
- Transfer of investment ( <i>see note 9</i> )		-	131,420
- Release of endowment ( <i>see note 9</i> )		-	-131,420
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>-£22,536</b>	<b>£28,234</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 January		£606,659	578,425
Transfer between funds		-	-
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 December</b>		<b>£584,123</b>	<b>£606,659</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	437,128	437,128
		<b>£437,128</b>	<b>£437,128</b>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	7,543	5,904
Short term deposits		74,820	73,849
Cash at bank and in hand		66,304	90,946
		<b>£148,667</b>	<b>£170,699</b>
LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	-1,672	-1,168
NET CURRENT ASSETS	6	<b>£146,995</b>	<b>£169,531</b>
NET ASSETS		<b>£584,123</b>	<b>£606,659</b>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	9	584,123	606,659
Restricted	10	-	-
		<b>£584,123</b>	<b>£606,659</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23rd March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



The Revd Stephen Rankin (Chairman)



Ms Lorna Hitchin (Vice Chair)

*The notes on pages 22-26 form part of these accounts*

# CASH FLOW STATEMENT

## for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year	-22,536	28,234
Adjustments for:		
Interest receivable and similar income	-971	-27
Interest payable and similar charges	-	-
Increase/decrease in other debtors	-1640	821
Decrease/increase in other creditors	+504	-391
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>-£24,643</b>	<b>£28,637</b>
Cash flows from investing activities	971	27
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>£971</b>	<b>£27</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b> (Interest paid)	-	-
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	-23,672	28,664
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January	164,795	136,131
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>	<b>£141,123</b>	<b>£164,795</b>

### ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	66,303	90,946
Short term deposits	74,820	73,849
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>£141,123</b>	<b>£164,795</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## For the year ended 31 December 2022

### NOTE 1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations together with Charities Statement of Recommended Practice Financial Reporting Standards 102 (SORP FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### Funds

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

The purpose of any restricted funds is noted in the accounts.

The accounts include transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe an affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Incoming Resources

##### *Voluntary income and capital sources*

Collections are recognised when made.

Amounts receivable under covenant are recognised only when honoured by the covenanter.

Income tax recoverable on covenanted or gift aid donations is recognised when claimable.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its entitlement and the likely amount due.

Funds raised by events are accounted for gross.

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

##### *Other ordinary income*

Rental income from the letting of church premises is accounted for when earned.

Parochial fees due to the PCC for weddings, funerals etc are accounted for on an event by event basis.

*Income from investment* - Dividends and interest are accounted for when due. Tax recoverable on such income is accrued for on the same basis.

*Investment gains and losses* - Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

#### Application of Resources

*Grants* - Grants and donations are accounted for when paid.

#### Fixed assets

##### *Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings*

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(c) of the Charities Act 1993.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be an inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off.

*Other land and buildings* - Other land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC for its own purposes is valued at cost. No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance or minor improvement is written off as incurred. Improvement expenditure in excess of £40,000 is capitalised.

*Other fixtures, fitting and office equipment* - Individual items with a purchase price of £5,000 or less are written off in the period in which the asset is acquired. Equipment with a purchase price of more than £5,000 is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years.

#### Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less any provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the Central Board of Finance or at the bank.

## NOTE 2 - INCOMING RESOURCES

There were no restricted funds in 2022

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
2(a) Voluntary income (direct giving)		
Planned giving	218,547	204,879
Income tax recovered on Gift Aid	48,161	45,604
Giving received gross of Income Tax	13,535	17,150
Collections (open plate) other than planned giving	8,649	4,847
	<u>288,893</u>	<u>272,480</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income		
Fund raising income	836	1
Donations, appeals	812	658
Legacies	-	-
Grants received	986	3,499
	<u>2,634</u>	<u>4,158</u>
2(c) Gross income from events and activities		
Lunch Fellowship	-	-
Church Bookstalls	26	-
Pre-School Group	125,697	129,782
Flower Fund	125	-
Social Fund	585	595
Café	10,062	2,456
Caterpillars	1,370	355
Off Limits	708	44
	<u>138,573</u>	<u>133,232</u>
2(d) Other ordinary income		
Service fees	2,716	2,353
Administration service charges	400	400
VAT recovered	-	888
Rent received	7,200	6,430
Other income	-	500
	<u>10,316</u>	<u>10,571</u>
2(e) Income from trading		
Church Centre lettings	41,542	28,226
	<u>41,542</u>	<u>28,226</u>
2(f) Income from investment		
Interest received	971	27
	<u>971</u>	<u>27</u>
2(g) Other income		
Job Retention Scheme	347	7,806
	<u>347</u>	<u>7,806</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b><u>£483,276</u></b>	<b><u>£456,500</u></b>

## NOTE 3 - RESOURCES USED

There were no restricted funds in 2022

	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
3(a) Grants		
Overseas missionary societies	12,300	13,400
Overseas relief and development agencies	3,263	1,900
Home missions and other church societies	11,651	11,788
Secular charities	7,791	12,024
	<hr/> 35,005	<hr/> 39,112
3(b) Support costs		
Parish training and mission	2,930	424
Junior Church/Youth	2,542	2,454
Children's Pastor	23,454	21,725
Youth Pastor	10,290	1,782
Equip Interns	873	203
	<hr/> 40,088	<hr/> 26,588
3(c) Directly relating to the work of the Church		
Parish Share	132,367	108,960
Clergy expenses	2,579	2,132
Clergy housing costs	8,230	6,516
Church & Services costs	13,356	13,658
Church Utilities	6,508	4,331
Church Centre running costs	21,862	19,582
Church Bookstalls costs	-	-
Lunch Fellowship costs	-	-
Pre-School Group costs	129,564	121,764
Social Fund costs	501	339
Flower Fund costs	56	-
Café costs	10,807	5,521
Off Limits costs	-	44
Caterpillars costs	1,115	474
Administration	6,571	6,163
Major repairs	35,322	12,781
	<hr/> 368,836	<hr/> 302,265
3(d) Fund raising and publicity		
Cost of stewardship/fundraising	295	107
	<hr/> 295	<hr/> 107
3(e) Church management and administration		
Secretarial/administration salaries	59,964	58,759
Employer pension costs	1,625	1,435
Professional Fees	-	-
	<hr/> 61,589	<hr/> 60,194
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>	<hr/> <b>£505,812</b>	<hr/> <b>£428,266</b>

## NOTE 4 - STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages, Salaries, National Insurance and Pensions	198,165	174,551

During the year the PCC employed a Children's Pastor, Youth Worker, Pre-School Group Manager and Assistants, Café Manager, Head of Operations, Parish Finance Officer, two Receptionist & Parish Administrators and two Cleaners, none of whom earned £60,000 p.a. or more. Procedures set out in our Conflicts of Interest Policy have been followed in any matter involving a related party to a trustee.

	2022 £	2021 £
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme claim February	347	7,806

This is shown under "Other Income"

## NOTE 5 - FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

	2022 £	2021 £
Freehold land and buildings – balance at 31 December	437,128	437,128

The freehold land and buildings as at 31 December 2022 comprise the houses located at 23 Rydal Avenue, Sale, and 109 Ascot Avenue, Sale.

## NOTE 6 - ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets	437,128	-	437,128
Current assets	146,995	-	146,995
Fund balance	£584,123	-	£584,123

## NOTE 7 - DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Debtors	7,543	5,904

## NOTE 8 - LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	-	185
Accrued Income	-	-
Accrued Agency	1,672	983
	<u>1,672</u>	<u>1,168</u>

## NOTE 9 - UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance brought forward at 1 January	606,659	571,852
(Deficit)/surplus in year	-22,536	34,807
Transfer from restricted	-	-
Balance carried forward at 31 December	<u>£584,123</u>	<u>£606,659</u>

## NOTE 10 - RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance brought forward at 1 January	-	6,573
Income in year	-	-
Resources used in year	-	6,573
Balance carried forward at 31 December	<u>-</u>	<u>£0</u>

There were no restricted funds in 2022. The restricted fund in 2021 was closed that year.

## NOTE 11 - LINKED CHARITY

The PCC is the trustee of an unregistered charity called the All Saints Church of England School, known as the Glebelands Trust. The charity owns a piece of land and property on Glebelands Road Sale which is rented out. Net income is applied at the discretion of the PCC. Total reserves as at 31 December 2022 were £139,077 (£146,996 at 31 December 2021). The PCC as Treasurer of the Glebelands Trust made a donation of £40,000 to the Butterflies Pre-School Group during the year.



To find out more about St Mary's and Sale West Community Church, find us online:

[stmarysaom.org](http://stmarysaom.org)  
[@stmarysaom](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysaom)

To speak to a member of our team:

## CHURCH OFFICE:

**Telephone:** 0161 291 9283

**General enquiries:** [office@stmarysaom.org](mailto:office@stmarysaom.org)

**Finance enquiries:** [finance@stmarysaom.org](mailto:finance@stmarysaom.org)

## STAFF:

### Vicar:

Steve Rankin, 0161 973 5118 | [srankin@stmarysaom.org](mailto:srankin@stmarysaom.org)

### Church Plant Associate Vicar:

Nathan Gregory, 0161 425 6796 | [nathan.gregory@stmarysaom.org](mailto:nathan.gregory@stmarysaom.org)

### Head of Operations:

Emma Atkinson, 0161 291 9283 | [operations@stmarysaom.org](mailto:operations@stmarysaom.org)

### Children's Pastor:

Julie Loynd, 07579805797 | [childrens.pastor@stmarysaom.org](mailto:childrens.pastor@stmarysaom.org)

### Youth Worker:

Alex Stewart, 07883 383 063 | [youth.pastor@stmarysaom.org](mailto:youth.pastor@stmarysaom.org)

### Sale West Children and Families Workers:

Carol Dodgson, 07579805623 | [caroldodgsonsalewest@gmail.com](mailto:caroldodgsonsalewest@gmail.com)

Shauna Hancock, 07579782880 | [shaunasalewest@gmail.com](mailto:shaunasalewest@gmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Brian Macfaden, 0161 962 0375 | [treasurer@stmarysaom.org](mailto:treasurer@stmarysaom.org)

