

St John the Baptist Church, Bishopsteignton
Reports to the APCM, Sunday 12th May 2024

Report of the Church Electoral Roll Officer

As a result of their death or moving away from the village, the names of 6 people were removed from the Roll. Mrs Linda Read was added. The Roll stood at 71 on 31st December 2023.

Roger Avery

Churchwardens' Report of Church Fabrics, Goods and Ornaments

This year has seen us embracing numerous changes. We said a sad farewell to the Reverend Jane Frost and Richard who moved to pastures new in May, but we wished them well. We are glad to have Elizabeth and Peter Burren as Curates, and we are greatly benefitting from their work in the Haldon team. With eight churches in the team we have accepted the necessity for alterations in service times. Most of our Holy Communion services are now at 9.30 am but we managed to keep our third Sunday 10.30 service with our Methodist friends. The reinstatement of the Common Cup in December 2022 was also a blessing so our services have gradually got back to normal this year.

The planning for a production of A Christmas Carol started in December 2022 and proved to be a massive undertaking.... the removal of pews being only a part of it! However it was an enormous success and many thanks to Ian and his team who worked so hard. The village loved it.

Our year proceeded with all the usual celebrations and services... Lent lunches and Easter weekend, the King's Coronation, a Village Festival Concert , Summer teas, Harvest Festival, All Souls and Remembrance day....all went well and everyone who helped with and supported these events deserve pats on the back!

We had considerable issues with the heating over the winter but thankfully the problem has been resolved, at least temporarily . All information concerning church maintenance can be found in the Fabric Committee report where the boiler usually takes pride of place!

The Churchwardens owe a debt of gratitude to all who keep our church ticking over ... and not just the clock! All members of the PCC, the Sacristy ladies , Fran and Valerie with their home visits, the Stewards on Sundays ,Mike and Jeff who save us so much money doing repairs and winding the clock, the Fund raising committee who have worked tirelessly to add to the coffers, those brave people who do Open the Book in two local schools, everyone who cleans and polishes ,and of course Nick without whom there would be no music ... we are most grateful for all your commitment.

All the contents of the church are recorded in the NADFAS document and we are not aware of anything missing!

Liz McNamara and Keith Hutchings

Reports from Church Organisations

Bellringing

Bellringing has continued to be buoyant and we have been able to ring for the majority of 9.30 and 10.30 services. There are 15 people who ring more-or-less regularly and the standard is now better than I have ever known it. There have been 7 visits from ringing bands from other churches and several from individual bellringers who have been on holiday in the area. We acted as hosts for the monthly Kenn Deanery "Open Towers" in August. The annual inspection showed that the bells and frame continue to be in good condition. The tower is affiliated to the Association of Devonshire Ringers.

Roger Avery, Tower Captain

Choir

The year 2023 proved to be a significant one for the Choir. We moved away from the post-pandemic pattern of occasional appearances for special services on to a much more regular and permanent basis.

In mid-March we reinstated our Friday evening practices and resumed singing at all of the traditional formal Sunday Holy Communion services. Happily, we were back in the choir stalls in time for Easter and the Rev Jane Frost's last few weeks with us.

When the time came for Jane to leave us at the end of April she unfortunately went down with covid so we could not do anything musically special for her here in Bishopsteignton. A few weeks later, however, a Farewell Service for Jane and Richard was held at St Michael's. We joined with the Teignmouth choir members for that service.

The musical highlight of the year was the special Diocese of Exeter Ordination of Priests service at St Michael's in September. There were five ordinands drawn from different parts of the Diocese, including Elizabeth Burren from Teignmouth. The service was led by the Rt Rev Jackie Searle, Bishop of Crediton. We combined with choir members from Teignmouth and Shaldon, making about eighteen of us in all. During the communion we sang anthems by Bach and Elgar. It was an uplifting experience and the service ended with feelings of joy and hope for the future.

The autumn season for us included singing at Harvest Festival and again on Remembrance Sunday. Almost before we knew it, Christmas crept up on us again. We were very busy with carol-singing at Bishopsteignton House, our own Carol Service in church, the late Christmas Eve "Midnight in Bethlehem" service and again on Christmas Day morning. These were all events of great joy and we were very happy to be here keeping our choral tradition alive.

We are a small, friendly group and always welcome enquiries from anyone interested.

Nicholas Gardiner, Organist & Choirmaster

Flower Report

The small group of "Flower Ladies" continue to enjoy arranging flowers to brighten the church and once again were fortunate during the summer months to be able to use flowers from our own gardens - always useful as it saves having to draw on our own fund. We don't do special flowers for funerals but always attempt to make sure the pedestal is looking good. However last year we understood that the funeral that was taking place was for a late member of the congregation who loved Dartmoor so we took great pleasure in creating an arrangement using hedgerow grasses, bracken, etc. which was greatly admired so later in the year we might consider doing something along the same lines again.

We have been fortunate to have been joined by 2 new ladies from the village who have brought new ideas which are always welcome.

Margaret Rawlings

Parish Chronicle

The Chronicle has maintained its popularity with an amazing number of articles from different organisations in the village. The number of pages has frequently been up to 44. The introduction of the directory helps to keep you all in touch with what is going on in the village and who to contact.

We have 635 copies printed each month. The subscription for 2024 will be renewed on 1 July. At a cost of £10 for 12 months it works out at 83p per month. Excellent value!!

Many thanks are due to my wonderful team of distributors who go out in all weathers to deliver between them 626 copies each month. And to Carol Kingman and Pam Tate for giving up their time every month to batch them up. Many thanks to Avril who has now retired but who helped out both delivering and batching the chronicles over many years.

A special appreciation goes to Jill Eversett, our printer. She has the patience of a saint and does an amazing job keeping me in order and juggling the articles to fit in the required space.

Keith Hutchings

Social and Fundraising Report

We are still a team of three, but in 2023 we held or facilitated more events than had recently been possible. This was only due to help and support from both St John's church members and some non-church members. Not all events raised actual funds, as the *social* and outreach elements are also part of our brief. Funds raised

by the S&F team are allocated to the restricted Church Building Fund unless otherwise agreed before an event. This covers the fact that we are supported by many non-church members and the team feels that it is fair to everyone to stick to this arrangement for now. **Overall, £2,088 was raised** (£1,198 in 2022) for repairs and maintenance of St John's building. In addition, £68 for the General Fund was achieved via Devon DHCT Coffee Morning.

APCM 3rd May (evening): refreshments were provided and served before and after the meeting to encourage more attendees. This proved reasonably successful.

PLANT SALE 20th May: by kind invitation of Chris Hunt (parishioner) this was held at Stockmeadow House. This was a great success thanks to Bindy for her tremendous "potting on" efforts beforehand. It raised **£400**.

SUMMER TEA 29th July: this was held in the Community Centre. With thanks to those who supported this lovely afternoon by being waitresses and/or making cakes and to 'The Cream Tea Society' who again supplied the clotted cream and jam, the afternoon raised **£340**.

DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST Coffee Morning 9th September: we hosted this and as mentioned raised **£126** for DHTC of which £68 was returned to us.

HARVEST LUNCH 16th September: This was an ecumenical lunch hosted by Mal Worral and her lovely team of helpers in the kitchen (all parishioners). We were only required to wait at tables: Mal did the shopping and all catering tasks. It was intended as a non fund raiser, with the idea that any profit that Mal was able to make should go to a charity of her team's choice. In the event, they chose to donate the **£103** profit to St John's repairs for which we were extremely grateful.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 18th November: This annual event once again proved very popular with church and non-church members. We were pleased to be able to provide a table for Bishopsteignton Scouts who were raising funds for the forthcoming Scout Jamboree. Again with special thanks to the bakers, helpers, donors and punters, the event raised an amazing **£720**.

SEASONAL CONCERT OF MUSIC AND SPOKEN WORD 18th December: this most enjoyable evening was totally organised by Helen Garrett (parishioner). Helen and the 'Singing for Fun Choir' with friends gave us a real treat of seasonal delights. An estimated 150 people attended resulting in **£525** being donated. We owe Helen a big thank you for this 'new' event and hope that it will be repeated sometime.

All these events were made possible by the kindness of volunteers who came forward to help and we would like to say a sincere 'thank you' to them all.

Belinda Wollen, Hilary Corlett and Finella Whitehorn

Welcome Pack

The Welcome Pack scheme has been running for 19 years, 861 packs have been delivered to newcomers up to December 2023. Volunteers deliver the packs, which is always done in person to give a Christian welcome to the village. The packs are always well received and appreciated. 25 were delivered in 2023. We rely on members of the church and villagers to let us know about any newcomers.

In normal times we aim to do a revision of the wording and phone numbers every six months to ensure the contents are relevant. The costs of producing the Welcome Packs are met from the Parish Chronicle income.

Many thanks to those who deliver the packs, advise us of newcomers, and the 'checking team' (Anne Whitaker, Margaret Rawlings, Sarah Robbins, Hilary Corlett and Sue Stevenson) for keeping the packs up to date.

Tony Corlett

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Administrative Information:

St John the Baptist Church is part of the Haldon Team Ministry, Kenn Deanery in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 3, Moors Park, Bishopsteignton, TQ14 9RH.

PCC Membership:

Team Rector: The Rev'd Carol Green

Team Vicar: The Rev'd Jane Frost (until 31st March)

Team Lay Minister: Mr Richard Frost (until 31st March)

Church Wardens: Mr Keith Hutchings (who also has responsibility for *Safeguarding*) and Mrs Liz McNamara

PCC Treasurer: Mr John Plumb

PCC Secretary: Dr Roger Avery

Elected Members: Mr Ian Boyd, Mrs Hilary Corlett, Mr Jeff Gibson, Mr Alan Gillespie, Mr John Stevenson, Mrs Belinda Wollen.

Deanery Synod Representatives of the PCC: Mrs Liz McNamara and Dr Roger Avery

Structure, governance and management

The PCC comprises ex-officio, elected members (there are currently no co-opted members) in accordance with The Church Representation Rules and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. It is a *body corporate* established by the Church of England. A 3 year term of office applies to elected members. It is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Church Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Safeguarding

The Parochial Church Council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). A copy of the church's Safeguarding Policy is displayed on the Notice Board.

Committees

The Fabric Committee, chaired by Mr John Stevenson, with The Church Architects, Benjamin and Beauchamp, manage the major works required to the church. This committee reports directly to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for co-operating with the Team Rector and the Team Vicar in promoting, within the ecclesiastical Parish, the mission of the Church, pastoral and ecumenical.

Achievements and performance

Church Membership: As at 31st Dec 2023 the Church Electoral Roll stood at 71.

Review of the Year 2023

The PCC held 4 full meetings in 2023, together with shorter meetings following the APCM and a joint meeting of PCCs from across the Haldon Team at St Michael's Teignmouth on 19th September. Average attendance for the 6 meetings was 79%.

The PCC have met the full Common Fund request of £36,492 in 2023. Social & Fund Raising events have continued to be held, and are reported elsewhere in this document.

The Rev'd Carol Green
Team Rector

Keith Hutchings
Churchwarden

Liz McNamara
Churchwarden

Treasurer's Report to the PCC Year Ended 31st December 2023

Financial Review

Our expenditure for 2023 was £66,791 and our receipts £44,940. Our income benefitted from over £1000 donated at two community events held in the church. Our church running costs increased by 46% to almost £17,000 in the year. Our unrestricted general fund loss was £21,851 on our day-to-day activities. The end of year valuation of our investment account increased the value of our investment by £5,030. This reduces the apparent operating loss to £16,821. £3,600 was incurred in 2022 and shown as creditors in the 2022 accounts.

The focus of our fund raising for the church, building and roof funds through the Harvest Appeal, 100 Club and other activities helped balance our operating deficit and reduced the overall impact on our Financial Assets to £10,404.

Our financial figures are reviewed at each PCC meeting. Essentially in 2023, we required about £1,280 a week to cover our costs. Our weekly income was about £400 per week less than required.

The common fund assessment or parish share at £36,492 in 2023 and was based on a band A per capita figure of £663.66 or £11.70 per week. Our assessment uses a participant number of 59. We estimate the number of contributing members has fallen through 2023 to 50. However, the parish share for 2024 will be based on £12.67 per week. Members need to review their level of offering. Contributing through the Parish Giving scheme would enable annual increases in line with inflation.

In 2018, the PCC transferred £30,000 into the CBF Church of England Investment Fund with a view to this being left in reserve for more than five years. The remainder of our funds are largely available at short notice from our CCLA C of E, Deposit account. We transferred £10,000 out of our deposit account during 2023 and finished the year with a very much reduced bank balance in our current account.

The Treasurer values greatly the help and support of the Assistant Treasurer. It is a team effort.

Reserves Policy

The PCC continues to maintain an Emergency Fund of £10,000. The monies held in the Tower fund and the Building Maintenance fund (£39,987) will not go far in addressing the priority requirements likely to be identified in the Quinquennial Inspection report just published.

John Plumb

Parochial Church Council of St. John the Baptist Church, Bishopsteignton

FINANCIAL STATEMENT for the Year ended 31st

Receipts and Payments Accounts

December 2023

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS	Note	Unrestrict ed	Designate d	Restrict ed	Total	Total
		Fund	Fund	Fund	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving (envelopes and standing Orders)		21414			21414	24459
Collections at services		1765			1765	2093
Legacies		0			0	0
All other giving/voluntary Inc Frost receipts		936	1542	3205	5683	10143
Gift Aid recovered		5898		1011	6909	9544
		30014	1542	4216	35772	46239
Activities for generating funds						
Parish Chronicle (sales and advertising)		7718			7718	7774
100 club income				3075	3075	3240
Harvest Gift Day				4043	4043	4975
Church Fund Raising inc for Church Building		204		498	702	1524
Church activities:						
Fees for weddings, funerals, etc for St John's		2429	180	672	3281	2308
Fund raising for charities		151			151	60
Other church activities		327			327	0
Other Sources of Funds:						
Exeter Diocese Energy Grant		0			0	2200
Contribution from Other Parishes St Nectans		0			0	45
VAT (LPOW for Church Building) rebate		0			0	0
		10829	180	8288	19297	22126
Investment income						
Interest on deposit and current Accounts		4097			4097	1646
Total Receipts		44940	1722	12504	59166	70011

PAYMENTS				2023	2022
Church activities:					
Diocesan parish share	36492			36492	33354
Church running Expenses	16835			16835	11535
Clergy expenses	291			291	787
Salaries	1095			1095	950
Routine building maintenance			4378	4378	5120
Roof Repairs	0			0	0
Garden of Rest Maintenance			1596	0	1200
Organ		252		252	234
Mission Giving and donation	146			146	160
Misc & Administration charges	312			312	215
Bells Costs			0	0	0
Haldon Team Community Admin and Photocopier	4928			4928	69
Costs of generating funds:					
Chronicle expenses	6498			6498	6462
Fund raising expenses inc 100 Club	194		1582	1776	1571
Total Payments	66791	252	7556	73003	61657
Excess of Receipts over Payments	-21851	1469	4948	-13837	663
Net Gain on investments	5030	-	-		-3981
	-16821	1469	4948	-13837	0
Transfers between funds	16821	-3821	-13000	-	-
		-2352	-8052	-10404	4372
Net assets 1 January		140494	56562	197056	192684
Net assets 31 December		138142	48510	186652	197056

**Parochial Church Council of St. John's Church, Bishopsteignton
Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2023**

Statement of assets and liabilities		2023	2022
	Note	£	£
Assets			
Cash funds		121	79
Bank current accounts:			
Co-op Current Account 1		14777	22843
Lloyds 100 club account		2711	4218
Deposit account		123982	129885
Assets retained for Church use		141591	157025
Investment Assets			
CBF Church of England Investment Fund 754.62 share at market value 31 December		45061	40031
Total Net funds		186652	197056

The following creditors and debtors details are for information only, and are not adjusted in the annual receipts and payments figures. They are included to aid understanding of the financial position as at the year end

Creditors

100 club pre paid for 2023	545	625
Frost*	5	
Quinquennial fees	1049	
Travel expenses funerals	21	
E D Fees	80	
Zerographic	0	1833
St Michaels Haldon Team Office & Admin	0	1761
Clergy Expenses and retired clergy fees	59	0
Organist fee – salaries	0	0
Verger Fee Weddings	120	0
	<u>1879</u>	<u>4219</u>

Debtors

St Nectans	165	165.46
Rural parishes contribution to Haldon Team photocopier contract	0	
	<u>165</u>	<u>165</u>

Haldon Team Community Fund Account Year ended 31st December 2023	2023	2022
Balance Jan 1st	147	228
RECEIPTS		
Haldon Team Mailings and Rector Advert		35
PAYMENTS		
HTM Mailings and Advert	149	116
Haldon Team Community Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st December 2023		
Statements of Assets and Liabilities		
Bishopsteignton PCC Coop Current Account	-2	147

Note Frost collection had £5 remaining at year end

**Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of St. John's Church, Bishopsteignton,
Parochial Church Council.**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 1 to 3, prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- To follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)b of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

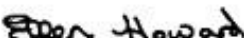
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Mrs Ellen Howard

Westholme
North Street
Martock
Somerset
TA12 6DH