

The Churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas, Shaldon

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Nicholas, Shaldon

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Haldon Mission Community

Priest in Charge

*The Rev'd Carol Green
The Rectory
30 Dawlish Road
Teignmouth
TQ14 8TG*

Team Vicar (until 30th April)

*The Rev'd Jane Frost
The Vicarage
3 Moors Park
Bishopsteignton
TQ14 9RH*

Bank

*The Co-operative Bank
PO. Box 250,
Delf House
Skelmersdale
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Correspondence Address of the PCC

*The PCC Secretary,
Starboard,
71B Teignmouth Road
Teignmouth
TQ14 8UN*

Independent Financial Examiner

*Mr Brian Hamblin
25 Broadlands
Shaldon
Devon
TQ14 0EH*

Appended

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Website

www.haldonteam.org.uk

The Churches of St. Peter and St. Nicholas Annual Report for 2023

Background

St. Peter's and St. Nicholas Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for St. Peter's Church, Bridge Road, Shaldon and St. Nicholas Church and the Churchyard at Ringmore, Shaldon. The Parish is still in the legal process of becoming part of the Haldon Mission Community (including the consequential changes of Deanery and Archdeaconry) but the Rev'd Carol Green has exercised pastoral oversight and was installed on Sunday 14th August 2022 as Priest for Shaldon by the Venerable Andrew Beane, Archdeacon of Exeter.

The PCC is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. Its objectives are shared in part by the following related trusts, which are not under the control of the PCC.

Emma Robertson Trust

Bequest from the will of Miss Emma Robertson in 1931. Interest on the capital endowment is to be used for the maintenance of the structure of St. Peter's Church or for such charitable purposes in connection with the church as the trustees at their discretion think fit. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commissioners.

The present trustees are: Michael Britton (Chairman and Treasurer), Lesley Bill, Chris Morris, Sue Morris, Frances Commander and Malcolm Watson. The annual meeting was held on 22nd October. During the year the sum of £4,400 was contributed towards the general fund for church expenses.

Extence Trust

Bequest from the will of Gerald Onslow Extence in 1988. The income and capital is held in trust principally for the upkeep of the Churchyard at St Nicholas Church and for the general charitable purposes of and in the Ecclesiastical parish of St Nicholas, Shaldon as the trustees may agree. The present trustees are: Michael Britton (Chairman), Lesley Bill, Chris Morris, Sue Morris, Frances Commander and Malcolm Watson. The annual meeting was held on 22nd October. The Trust transferred £4000 to the general fund during the year.

Any disbursements from the two trusts are accounted as income in the PCC accounts.

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio, elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted at a meeting of the PCC in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

The following were elected at the Annual Meetings on 21st 2023:

Priest in Charge (ex officio)		
	The Rev'd Carol Green	
		<i>Elected until:</i>
Churchwardens (ex officio):		
	Mrs Lesley Bill	2024
	Mr Malcolm Watson	2024

Deanery Synod Representative (ex officio):		
	Mr Keith Robinson	2026
Elected Members:		Elected until
	Mrs Anne Brixton	2024
	Mrs Frances Commander	2024
	Mrs Ann Yates	2024
	Mrs Sandra Davies	2025
	Mr Chris Morris	2025
	Mrs Sue Morris	2025
	Mrs Marian Gilpin	2026
	Mrs Anne Mears	2026
	Mr Leon Winston	2026

Officers elected by the PCC.

Vice Chairman	Mr Chris Morris.
Secretary	Mrs Sue Morris.
Treasurer	Ms Helen Commander.
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Chris Morris.
Safeguarding Representative	Mrs Susan Harvey.

Committees

The PCC operates through a Standing and Finance Committee, which meets when required between full meetings of the PCC. The only committee required by law is a Standing Committee. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Formerly, the PCC also appointed a Finance Committee to oversee the general financial dimension of the work of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas by monitoring income and expenditure, producing the annual budgets and managing the Planned Giving Fund. The PCC decided in 2007 that these functions would be better combined in a single Standing & Finance Committee. Its members are the Priest -in-Charge (ex officio), the Churchwardens, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Mrs Frances Commander who would represent the financial aspects.

Church Attendance

Regular Sunday worship attendance remains on a downward path, principally as a result of a total absence of a "next generation" of younger families. Sadly, this is reflected in so many aspects of our parochial church life, particularly in musical and ecumenical activities and the opportunities for children to be taught and inspired to grow in the Christian Faith. We recognise that this issue has been a common experience for some time for all churches and denominations, both in our Mission Community and far wider; we also recognise that there are no "quick fixes" and that, with limited resources of people and money, it is necessary to work with our fellow churches in developing a Mission Community response. It is also recognised that it is important to sustain traditional church life for the remaining "older generation". Special worship opportunities such as our Crib and Christingle service do still attract larger attendances but these need careful and lengthy preparation and publicity.

Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll was updated on 6th May 2023. At the date of revision there were 53 Members on the Electoral Roll, two fewer than in 2022. Of these, 39 people were resident in the parish and 14 people were non-resident. Two persons have left the roll through death or moving away.

Review of the year

The full PCC met four times (including the meeting after the APCM) during the year with an average attendance of 88.5%.

Other items of business were conducted by correspondence in accordance with Rule M29 of the Church Representation Rules 2020.

The Standing and Finance Committee met between the PCC meetings when required and reported its deliberations to the subsequent meeting of the PCC.

The principal items for the PCC's attention this year have been:

Thanks to other clergy and members of the laity

The PCC wishes to place on record its thanks to those members of the clergy whose contributions have enabled continuation of the full range of services. We are indebted to the Venerable Andrew Beane, the Rev'd Marcus Braybrooke, the Rev'd Elizabeth Burren, the Rev'd Peter Burren, the Rev'd Helena Cermakova, the Rev'd Jack Eastwood, the Rev'd Caroline Luff, the Rev'd Nigel Mason, the Rev'd Paul Smedley and the Rev'd Brett Ward.

Our gratitude is also extended to Lay Readers and other members of the laity, Richard Frost, Edward Goodman, Lesley Heffer, Hugh McCormick, Anna Venables, Jane Wibberley, John Wibberley and Peter Wood who undertake a range of tasks, including leading worship.

Churchyard, Ringmore

The PCC, as always, records its gratitude for the continuing care of the Churchyard. It may not be appreciated by those, who are not directly involved, how much time and effort has to be devoted to this work.

Musical Events in St. Peter's

The PCC is pleased to report that a number of musical events took place in the church during the year. The Shaldon Singers gave their two usual concerts, a Spring Concert in May, at which Handel's *Messiah* was performed, and a Christmas concert in December which included Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

The Shaldon Festival in June featured performances by the Montenegrin Guitar Duo, Trio Bohemo, Chinike! Wind Quintet and a piano and cello duo comprising Joanna MacGregor and Adrian Brendel. The Mardi Gras Jazz Evening on 21st February, with John Shillito and his Riviera Ramblers raised money to support Teignmouth Mutual Aid Community Larder.

Other events included two performances by the Torbay Symphony Orchestra and a Winter Warmer Arias and Songs, which also featured Rowcroft Hospice and Teignmouth Youth choirs.

There was also a series of five organ recitals, highlighting St. Peter's renowned organ, in July and August, given by Derek Whitty, Stephen Wellington, Ian Bartlett, Andrew Teague and Ian Curror.

These were well attended and raised money in aid of youth work at St. James' pop-up café.

St. Peter's choir is still looking for new members and there are vacancies in all parts.

The PCC would like to express appreciation for the considerable voluntary time and effort expended in organising and staging these events.

Fund Raising Activities

Soup Kitchen

The only major charitable endeavour undertaken in 2023 was the Annual Soup Kitchen outside the Pharmacy just before Christmas.

It is always well attended and many villagers make the annual pilgrimage and give generously to the charities we support - £520 was raised. This year we continued to support the Leonard Stocks Centre in Torquay; however, we now divide the amount raised to include a second local charity. This year was the turn of the Mutual Aid Larder who support Teignmouth & Shaldon families who are currently struggling.

The event is supported by Ode and other soup-makers. Our pitch outside the Pharmacy is ideal, and our continued thanks go to Sue Mullins for allowing us to invade her space.

We were blessed with good weather - it is not always guaranteed!

Lent Course 2023

A series of lent talks on the theme "Noticing Jesus Today" was given on Wednesday afternoons at St Peter's. This took the form of talks by different people about music, art and literature culminating in a presentation and discussion about encouraging people's awareness of Christian spirituality in this generation.

Ukraine Social Hub

The social hub continues to meet every Saturday morning in St. Peter's between 10.30 - 12.00 noon. Thanks to generosity of the regular team, excellent cakes and proper coffee, this has become a time of chat and laughter. A number of our Ukrainian guests now speak excellent English and we are often joined by local non church members or visitors just having a look round.

Coronation of King Charles III

On Saturday 6th May the BBC broadcast of the Coronation service was screened live in St Peter's followed by a picnic lunch in the church.

On Sunday 7th May there was a special joint service of Holy Communion to mark the Coronation.

Display of Student Photographs and Artwork

From 27th June to 3rd July St Peter's held a display of Student Photographs and Artwork by Teignmouth Community School sponsored by Teignmouth Rotary Club.

Team Vicar Appointment

On 23rd October an early evening reception was held at St Peter's as part of the orientation programme for the candidate for the Team Vicar appointment and his family.

School Harvest and Christmas Services

This year we again welcomed the School Harvest and Christmas celebrations to St. Peter's. We have a good relationship with Shaldon Pre-School who love to bring the children to church for major Christian festivals - for Christmas, harvest and Easter. Last year with the help of the church flower team led by Jacquie Goldby they made the Easter Garden and Rev'd Carol told the Easter story with their assistance.

Crib and Christingle Service

The Crib and Christingle service took place on Christmas Eve and raised £259.16 for the Church of England Children's Society.

Christmas Praise Service

The collection at the St Nicholas Christmas Praise Service raised 280.03 for Teignmouth Mutual Aid Community Larder.

Voluntary activities

The PCC wishes to thank those regrettably diminishing numbers of people who help to maintain the life of the churches within the parish including those who act as Sidespersons, those who read lessons at our various services, those who do intercessions on a monthly basis, and our choir and servers. Without their dedication our worship would be much diminished. The PCC also thanks those who give their time to clean the churches and their contents, those providing flower arrangements, the Sacristans, who do so much that many people are completely unaware of, those involved in the production and distribution of the "Parish News" and those who organise special services.

At St. Nicholas, special thanks go to those who give their time to select and organise the music and, in the absence of a live organist, operate the organ for regular Sunday services.

Independent Examiner

Brian Hamblin was appointed as Independent Examiner (as defined by the Charities Act 1993) at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 21st 2023.

Finance

2023 has been another difficult year financially, with the cost of fuel still rising and no Diocesan Energy Grant to offset the increase. Our giving has not increased, more of this later. This has meant that we have to dip into our reserves to pay for the upkeep of our churches and services.

Looking at the financial statement, receipts are slightly lower than 2022.

Payments have increased, our Common Fund contribution being increased by about £3,500 and we have paid more for church management. Overall there was a deficit of over £15,000 for the year. Most of our giving can be gift aided and we must thank Keith Robinson for making the regular submissions to claim this from HMRC for us. This has remained fairly steady except that we have lost some regular givers.

Our charity giving has been good and the church has been used for many outside events, which contributes to our income.

Looking forward we need to address the fact that we spend more than we receive. We can keep using our reserves, but these are diminishing.

We have been given a contactless device for taking donations and this has proved an excellent way of receiving more money. I must thank Chris Morris who has spent many hours making sure the device works properly for us. An example of when it proved to be useful was at the Christingle service on Christmas Eve, when about half the money collected was via this device. Many people do not carry cash with them anymore, so being able to use a contactless card reader is a very useful additional way for the church to continue to receive donations.

We must also thank Keith Robinson and Chris Morris for their work on the Stewardship campaign (see below) and we should see the fruits of their work during 2024.

Stewardship Campaign

A stewardship campaign took place at the Shaldon churches in the late autumn.

Everyone on the electoral roll and some others who give regularly were sent a letter from the Rector, a leaflet setting out the current financial situation and forms for completion.

Four new standing orders were completed and 13 people increased their standing orders.

We calculate that, as a result, the annual income of the parish will increase by approximately £6100 when gift aid is added. We were also pleased to discover that the parish income has increased by around £400 because of the new card reader at St. Peter's.

We noticed that there are a few regular givers whose details we do not have. We hope to find out these details so that we can both keep in touch with the people pastorally and, if they are taxpayers claim gift aid on their donations.

The new pledges were presented at the altar of both churches at the festival of Christ the King. Overall, the campaign was effective, but as the Treasurer will point out, there is still a shortfall in our accounts which we will need to strive to correct

Deanery Synod Report

Our Deanery Synod representative Keith Robinson reports that we are now part of Kenn Deanery. This met every four months during the year, although Keith was not able to attend all the meetings due to his knee surgery.

Talks were given on Christians Against Poverty and the Anna Chaplaincies, the latter being of particular interest to the Haldon Team given their work in providing pastoral support among the elderly.

At the April meeting there will be a discussion on how we all approach mission and ministry to share good practices and to support one another.

Future of the Church - Younger People

This group was set up by the PCC to look at what we can do try to secure the future of the Church in Shaldon. We report to the PCC.

We look particularly at what we do to engage with a wider group of people than our regular congregation. This includes:

- The Praise services at St Nicholas.
- The ecumenical service and walk of witness on Good Friday.
- The All-Souls Service.
- The Christmas Services.
- The use of the Church for the local community-e.g. exhibitions, music events.

During Advent a posada (a knitted nativity scene) was passed around the classes of the school and among local businesses as a reminder of the meaning of Christmas. A diary was kept and there were many interesting entries.

The group has further ideas and would welcome suggestions from the congregation.

Safeguarding representative's report

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. (This is a duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). Our Safeguarding representative is Susan Harvey who is responsible for Safeguarding matters throughout the Haldon Team.

Her report this year for the Mission Community gives an overview of the status of DBS checks and safeguarding training compliance in our church community.

She also draws attention to the findings of Professor Alexis Jay's recently published report "The Future of Church Safeguarding". Professor Jay makes a series of recommendations to introduce a genuinely independent safeguarding model for the Church of England as soon as possible.

Discussions are currently taken place at Synod.

Sue says that we are continuing to monitor our compliance with safer recruitment guidelines including the ongoing line management and performance reviews of the two employees we have in our community. She is also looking at how well we are prepared as volunteers for discussions about suicide, self-harm, and depression and she is in discussions with our Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor regarding appropriate training and guidance. She thanks everyone for their ongoing support.

Sue's full report can be found on the Haldon Mission Community website.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Carol Green

Date:

28 April 2024

Appendix

Churchwardens' Fabric Report 2023

For both our churches, the annual fire extinguisher servicing and PAT testing of the electrical appliances took place.

St Peter's

The Quinquennial recommendations for work by the stonemason remain to be carried out when the stonemason's commitments permit. An energy audit has been undertaken in accordance with Diocesan policy; the advice will be considered by the PCC as part of responding to a major problem that has occurred with the heating boiler at the beginning of 2024 and as part of the ongoing efforts to progress the outstanding lighting scheme. Both of these matters involve Faculty approval.

St Nicholas

No major work has been necessary.

Both churches

General annual maintenance work has been carried out and, in accordance with the PCC's longstanding policy/practice, minor problems and repairs have been promptly investigated and remedied.



Signed by the Churchwardens:

Signed on behalf of the PCC:



Date: 28 April 2024