

# The Parish of Stratton St Margaret

## And South Marston

### Report and Accounts

For the Year Ended 31st December 2019

Channels of Blessing Thy Kingdom Come Novena Flower Arranging Cleaning Sides People Home Groups Care Home Visits Baptisms Choir Oasis Morning Funerals Midweek Morning Prayer Thursday Blessings Worship Saturday Scene Meeting Point Finance Wardens Weddings Evening Fellowship Stanton Coffee Morning Music Group Organists Preaching Safeguarding Taizé Reading Boys' Brigade Coffee and Thrift Fabric Parade Services School Assemblies Christmas Unwrapped Craft Company R.E. Lessons Pastoral Care Stratton St Margaret's Festival Team Worshipping with our Methodist neighbours Services Magazine Pew Sheets Family Services Tear Fund Film about St. Margaret's Tear Fund Lent Groups Stay Days Compassion Traidcraft Renewal Of Wedding Vows Creation Tape Concerts Remembrance Sunday Training Prayer Diary Rosemary Services Book of Memories Curate Book of Remembrance Christingle Lay Ministers MCC Team Services Christ in the Passover Fellowship Meals Murder Mysteries Health and Safety. Channels of Blessing Thy Kingdom Come Novena Flower Arranging Cleaning Sides People Home Groups Care Home Visits Baptisms Choir Oasis Stanton Coffee Morning Funerals Midweek Morning Prayer Thursday Blessings Worship Saturday Scene Meeting Point Finance Wardens Weddings Evening Fellowship Music Group Organists Preaching Safeguarding Taizé Reading Boys' Brigade Coffee and Thrift Fabric Parade Services School Assemblies Christmas Unwrapped Craft Company R.E. Lessons Pastoral Care Stratton St Margaret's Festival Team Worshipping with our Methodists neighbours Services Magazine Pew Sheets Family Services Tear Fund Lent Groups Stay Days Compassion Traidcraft Renewal Of Wedding

***Seeking Sharing and Serving God Together***

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## APCM Report- Minister's Report- 2019/20

What a year this has been! I have picked out a few pertinent points. Please forgive me for the things that I miss out.

So much has gone on, so much in the background that many do not notice.

Thank you to Richard P, June, Richard S, Liz B and Liz H for all of your hard work and your service to the Kingdom of God as Church Wardens. Thank you to all of those who have supported that work. If it were a film, the credits would be running and running.

The number of people that enable our services to take place on a Sunday, whether that be sides people, musicians, people on sound desks, servers, readers, tea and coffee makers, readers, cleaners, flower arrangers, bell ringers... the list goes on and if I have missed you out, again please forgive me.

For those who have worked in the background- PCC members; Deanery Synod members; those who have looked after finances in the background (Mark, David B, Will and David T amongst others); to Ray who handles all of the fees; all those who look after the maintenance of the buildings to keep them in such good shape; thank you to Pat and Georgina in the office who keep things running and help us know what is going on and those who support the occasional services- funerals, baptisms and weddings.

Our churches continue to host a variety of services to serve the community. Weddings, baptisms and funerals continue to happen regularly and are a great privilege to undertake. It has helped create some good links in the community and offer support to those in need, and most importantly, helps to shine God's light into life for so many.

I have been particularly blown over by the hospitality offered here. For all those who have contributed to this; through refreshments after, sometimes before, services; through special events and celebrations and through opening their doors. The welcome people receive across our communities is wonderful.

Meeting Point in South Marston has been a great place to gather and reach out to the community. Coffee and Thrift on a Thursday continues to be a place that shares that welcome to all. Some of my colleagues in the Health and Wellbeing team in Swindon Borough Council have spoken highly of this activity and referred it to people they come into contact with.

For all of those who have contributed to this aspect of outreach, thank you.

Thank you to all of those that have enriched our communities- being God's blessing to each other and the community.

\*

If you were asked to make a prediction about what might happen, a beloved vicar and husband leaving for pastures new would have been a bit of a long-shot, but a global pandemic and all of its repercussions would not even have been on the list.

However, these are amongst the challenges that have been faced since April 2019.

News of Vicky and George's calling to pastures new broke in the summer of 2019 and I am sure you will agree was met with a mixture of surprise and sadness.

Vicky introduced our 'Church Blessings' and reinforced that idea of being a blessing to each other and our communities; of making Christ known in our lives in whatever way that may be- word and deed. We were blessed by her ministry.

Of course, one cannot mention Vicky without mentioning George. We were blessed by the ministry of them both- as a couple and as individuals.

They left us to move to the Diocese of Lichfield (I now know where that is!) in a healthy position of which we should be and are grateful; but they left a hole.

The final few services, and especially the farewell service on that last Sunday were emotional occasions- love and affection from all sides were in evidence to see- I know that both Vicky and George were especially touched by the messages and gifts they were blessed with.

However, things moved at a great pace to discern God's will and vision of a new Incumbent for our Parishes.

Thanks need to be shared particularly for those working together with the Church Wardens on the selection committee- Ian, Robert, Dorinda, Diane and Ros as they worked with the Diocese to put together Parish profiles, adverts, job descriptions and many other tasks before even getting to the point of the position being advertised.

Thanks also needs to be shared with Phil Ashby who came in to support us, in the background to begin with, and then in particular from January onwards. His wisdom and support were invaluable at a tricky time.

It was the greatest of pleasures to be able to announce the appointment of Rev. Elveen Mead as our new vicar in March.

Thank you to all who were part of that process. It may only take up a few paragraphs of this report, but it undoubtedly took a lot of effort- but of course was worth it in the end!

## St Margaret's Church Roof

Thank you to Andrew and to all of those involved in the refurbishment and repair of the roof at St Margaret's.

It seems like a long time ago, but we must remember the scale of the undertaking- before and after the repairs. Painstaking planning, negotiations and pitfalls were undertaken and overcome before a roof tile was removed.

I think the moving to the hall for services was an interesting learning experience. It led to different opportunities, and whilst 'not the same' was certainly not as bad as was feared. As a consequence of this, evening services during the colder winter months were held in the St Margaret's Centre. It provided a warmer, more intimate worship setting which was easier to manage in the colder and darker nights.

I am sure many of you would have noticed the differences since the roof repair.

To not have buckets at the bottom of the pillars is a blessing in itself, but the whole church has felt warmer, you notice the heating as you enter !

It was wonderful to have such celebrations last year in response to the work.

It was particularly poignant, as it was one of Vicky's last services, and wonderful to welcome Bishop Viv to bless the roof. Her words of encouragement were wonderful and it felt like the blessing of work or even ministry done and ministry to be done in the future.

The local history evening was a great and very well attended event- it was moved from the centre to the church building- which was just as well because of the high numbers in attendance.

The art exhibition organised by Andrew as a celebration of the reopening of the church was a wonderful experience. Church members as well as local artists provided examples of work which highlighted the wonder of how we are created in God's image as creators ourselves. The whole weekend was a wonderful example of the church doors being open and people venturing to look at the art or even to look around the building as they were walking past.

Thank you to all those who made that evening and the exhibition possible.

## Advent and Christmas 2019

The Advent and Christmas period is always a very busy time, but amazingly rewarding at the same time. This is reflected in the amount of space taken up in this report.

Thanks to the ministry team as well as our normal pattern of worship, we were able to accommodate a large number of additional activities and services.

St Leonard's held the Advent Sunday Team Service.

Each church held their own Christingle Service which proved popular with young people and families across our communities.

Each church also held their own Carol and Lessons service on different days which meant that some people were able to attend more than one, if not all three evening services.

It was wonderful to welcome Bishop Lee to preside at the First Communion of Christmas at St Margaret's.

As well as these services there were a number of activities that took place to serve the community and celebrate this wonderful time of the year.

Carols on the Barn in Stanton Park was a wonderful occasion. Children and adults enjoyed dressing up, re-enacting the Christmas story and singing carols. Thank you to Ross and Tom at SBC Park Ranger team. As well as inviting us to be part of their activities, they also offered a wonderful donation to the Church collected during the day.

South Marston School held their Christmas service at St Mary Magdalene's. It took the form of a Christingle service, and was a really colourful occasion as they used different coloured glow sticks instead of candles.

It was also particularly great to welcome the children of South Marston school choir who sang at the Carol Service. They added to that wonderful occasion with some beautiful singing.

Many thanks to the volunteers who organised and ran Christmas Unwrapped at St Margaret's. It was wonderful to welcome children from Colebrook Juniors, Grange Juniors and South Marston schools. The sessions ran very well and were indeed well received.

It was great to welcome children, parents and carers from Grange Infants and Juniors who came to St Margaret's to have their own carol concerts. Many thanks especially to Richard and Claire who helped established links with Grange Infants to enable this to happen.

Thanks to Dan, June and Lisa as they and their teams went to local care homes to lead carol services which are loved and appreciated.

Thanks to all of those who supported and sang at Stanton Hotel's Mince Pie and Carol evening, thanks to Geoff and his playing we may have even been in tune!

On a slightly different note, thank you to those from across the Team who ventured out to sing carols at the Wheatsheaf pub. It was as always a memorable occasion- a real great way to reach out to the community.

Thank you to all of those who contributed to this wonderful time of the year. There was a lot of hard work involved across the team, but at a time when we were without a vicar the whole team really pulled through.

### Work with local schools

It has been great to extend links with local schools. As well as the Christmas events and occasions, it has been great to continue to contribute to collective worship at South Marston and Colebrook Juniors as well as getting back into Grange Infants and Juniors to offer support.

Grange Infants came to visit the church and learn, as part of their RE curriculum, about how it is used for worship. It was great to be able to use the resources that Andrew prepared as part of school engagement.

Members of our churches continue to serve on the Local Board (Governing Body) of South Marston school. This enables us to support the work of the dedicated staff of the school and be part of the strategic direction of the school.

During this year, we have also had to say goodbye to Luke Maddison who had been Head at South Marston for a number of years, leading them very successfully and always looking to build links with the local church. We all wish Marie Hendry all blessings as she takes on the role of Head of School.

### Worship

We continue to be blessed with the musical talent across our churches. Thank you to all of the organists, to the music group in various forms across the churches and the choir at St Margaret's as well as the Team Choir; they have all been a joy to hear as well as enhancing our worship.

It has been wonderful to have a breath of worship, praise and reflection. Whether that is Saturday Scene, Taize, Family Services, Evensong, BCP Communion or Common Worship services. Thank you to all of those who have contributed to this.

### Youth Work

Thank you to Teresa and all of those who support the Boy's Brigade who continue to grow and help boys and young men develop at an important time of their lives.

Thank you to all of those that continue to work with the young people in the community. Saturday Scene continues to thrive; thank you to those who have contributed to these activities; it has been a wonderful way to engage with the local community and has been a great way for people to connect with God and the Church.

## Coping With Covid

As I mentioned earlier, a year ago nobody would have imagined what the world would be like just 12 months later.

As we advised about how to conduct our services and sacraments, and then ordered to close the doors of our churches things seemed to be turning upside down. Many of us were in shock and nervous about what was to come.

However, it has also been a time when people have shone and showed the love of God in many different ways.

Within days of the lockdown being announced the Pastoral team and many members of the churches leapt into action. Names and numbers were collected and over 150 people were contacted and kept in touch with. At a time when many may feel isolated there was a team of people who reached out. For those undertaking this valuable work- thank you.

Due to Covid restrictions the Parish Office was required to close- but thank you to Pat and Georgina as they continued to work in any way they could- communicating with as many people as they could; talking to wedding couples who had to rapidly change plans and to keep as much going as they could. Thank you.

Worship has certainly changed and developed. As we were unable to leave our homes, it was good that Facebook enabled us to come together and worship a very different way. Many have contributed through recording readings and prayers; Rob has organised some wonderful recordings which has led to worship beyond just the curate speaking on the Internet. To all those who have contributed- thank you.

The use of social media and the website has enabled people to connect in ways that would have not been used before- it may even make us think about how we might enhance our worshipping community in the future.

Next year's report will, I am sure, highlight the hard work of those in our community to ensure that our buildings could safely re-open- but I would like to extend my thanks to all of those who made it possible.

This year has certainly been a year to remember. I am sure that there is much I have left out- for which, as I said at the beginning, I apologise.

I would like to thank you all for your support and hard work over the past year. I wish to particularly thank you for the support and love that you have given me personally, it is not what we planned but it has been a privilege to walk this journey with you.

It promises to be an interesting year ahead too. With Elveen's arrival an exciting new chapter begins.

**Mark**



## St. Margaret's churchwarden's report 2019 / 2020

Preparing this report gives us the opportunity of reviewing the challenges and successes during 2019.

One of our successes was being able to move back into St. Margaret's Church for our services. We had been worshipping in St. Margaret's Centre while the work on the north roof of our grade 1 listed building was in progress. We are grateful to the many people who helped move books, communion items, music etc. from the Church and set up the Centre so that we could hold our services there.

It was with grateful hearts that we began preparations for a grand re-opening with a service of Thanksgiving and Dedication of the Refurbished Church Roof for Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. We invited local dignitaries and press with a special invitation to the Bishop of Bristol, The Right Reverend Vivienne Faull.

The evening was a great success and Bishop Viv gave a meaningful address while blessing our roof. As usual mouth-watering refreshments were on offer allowing everyone to stay, chat and look around the Church.

A huge thank you to those who sponsored the evening and who have purchased Roof Tiles over the last few years to boost the funding.

A further celebration took place in Church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October with an exhibition called Stairway to Heaven and our grateful thanks go to Andrew Martin and a team of helpers who set up such a wonderful event and provided refreshments in the Centre.

Members of our congregation and local artists provided many eye-catching items: Paintings and Drawings of the Church including stages of the renovation; Floral displays depicting various events which take place in our Church – one being a display of wedding flowers on a ladder; Poems and Writings some in the most beautiful calligraphy.

In March, we invited the Mayor, Junab Ali to explain his role as Mayor and the links between Islam and Christianity. It was very interesting to hear about the way our brothers and sisters' worship.

Our Bell Towers and ringers are important to the life of our Church and it was with great sadness that we had to say goodbye to John Cornwell, a long-standing member of the Bell Tower and a valued member of our Church family and Building Committee. John will be sorely missed.

We have been very blessed to have Vicky and George with us for many years but in October 2019 Vicky took up a new role of Vicar of Cannock, Huntington and Hatherton. It was very sad to see them go but moving to that area allowed them to buy a house nearer to their family.

So, on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October a coach party of us from the Stratton Team Ministry headed off to St. Luke's Church in Cannock for Vicky's licensing. The service was led by the Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt Rev Michael Ipgrave and what a beautiful Church St.

Luke's is. We received a very warm welcome with refreshments before the service started (because of the long journey) and it was wonderful to see Vicky and George looking very relaxed. Also, to greet Helen again and see her and Mark walking in the procession together.

The singing was very uplifting and after the reception, George led the Stratton Team Ministry in our Church prayer and of course, the musical Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen. What a way to say farewell to Vicky & George.

As is our Christmas custom, St. Margaret's Church was decorated with large overhead star candle frames to hold the red candles to light the church. The paths were lit with candle jars making the walk to the Church awesome. We welcomed the local schools in for their carol services and to walk through the Nativity story. This is known as 'Christmas Unwrapped' and is set up in various parts of the Church with a speaker – the children get the chance to do an activity and ask questions.

Our 2019 Christmas Eve Midnight Communion was led by the Bishop Lee and was a meaningful start to this special season.

As Churchwardens we are responsible for the continuity of the services and the running of St. Margaret's and Coleview during an Interregnum and we are especially grateful to our Ministry Team, who are Mark Tidey, Lisa Lodwick, Alison Burston and Dan Read who bring their own special gifts enabling them to share a breadth of spiritual knowledge and a variation of church services across the Team.

We also have a duty of care to all of you, making sure you are safe while worshipping in our Churches and grateful thanks go to our deputy Wardens David Horne and Ian Jones, Bill Kingdon our Health and Safety officer, and Mike and Mary Boshier our Safeguarding officers across Stratton Team Ministry.

Bristol Diocese are one of the few Dioceses in the country who support ongoing Safeguarding training and development, and with Mike and Mary's guidance and the appointed representatives at each church, Stratton Team Ministry are up to date.

We thank God for the plethora of talent we have in our Churches that is being used daily to enhance our worship and a HUGE thank you to everyone who is contributing in any way. If you do feel you would like to join our team of volunteers, we would love to hear from you.

We welcome feedback and please contact us if you have any suggestions of how we can improve our worship.

As we go forward as the church family in 2020 and during an interregnum, let's pray that we will continue to be a blessing to each other and our communities.

**Yours in Christ**  
**June Lewis and Richard Pflieger - Churchwardens**

## South Marston Church Wardens Report 2019

2019 saw the departure of Vicky and George to pastures new. This came some what out of the blue. We wish them both well and send a huge thank you to them both for their many years of service and leadership they have given to the team. Mark continues in his curates position and with the lay team ministers continues to provide weekly services during this interregnum. During the interregnum the Revd. Philip Ashby, interim minister in the Swindon deanery, will be helping in the team to provide weekly services and pastoral care. At the time of writing, advertisements have been placed inviting applicants to apply for the vacant team vicar role.

My thanks to those who help in the services, leading services, reading, organ playing, setting up equipment, serving tea and coffee, giving out books and service sheets. We are small in number but we all get stuck in when the need arise.

Numbers in the congregation remain small, but we are a dedicated group.

Meeting point continues every month, celebrating its 11th birthday in October. It is a chance to meet and catch up on local news and events, with excellent refreshments. Remember it is on the second Saturday of the month, starting at 10am.

Monthly services continue in the same format: 1st Sunday, Family service, 2nd Sunday, Holy Communion, 3rd and 5th Sundays, joint team service within the parish, 4th Sunday, Holy Communion BCP service. A warm and friendly welcome awaits at any of the services, if you would like to join us.

2 weddings took place this year. 4 funerals were held, plus one which ended at the crematorium. 2 baptisms services took place over the year and we held 1 Taize service.

The school continued to hold several services in the church throughout the year. These included Easter, Leavers, Harvest, Christingle and Christmas plays. All these were well attended by the parents/grandparents and the local community.

The church remains unlocked during the day so that the community can use it for quiet prayer and reflection. Thank you to Donald and Carolyn who lock it and to Tina, William and Diane who cover us when we are on holidays.

Thank you to the gleam team who regularly clean the church, To the flower ladies who continue to decorate the church throughout the year, especially during festivals. It really makes the church come alive with their arrangements. Also, a big thank you to Jenny and Colin McEwen for keeping the glebe under control with their mowing skills. It makes such big difference walking up to the church.

A special thank you to my wife, Pat, for her constant support and her cake skills.

Having spent the last 33 years as Church Warden I have seen many changes. The one constant in all those years has been the church building itself. I have decided that I will be stepping down from Church Warden duties from the AGM. None of us are getting any younger and although I shall still be around and attending services, I will

relinquish the responsibilities of being a Church Warden from this year. I just want to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped me over the last 33 years, it has made being a Church Warden, easier and a pleasure at South Marston.

**God bless you all  
Richard Sansum**

## PCC Secretary's Report for the year 2019- 2020.

It has been an extraordinary year. We held PCC meetings in May, July, September and November 2019, also January and March 2020, but the May, July and APCM (due in April) 2020 were cancelled due to the Covid 19 shutdown.

Revs Vicky and George Fleming departed on 6<sup>th</sup> October and we had a transition period from then until Rev Elveen Mead joined us with her family on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

During the time of transition and the Covid 19 virus Rev Mark Tidey held us all together as a united church, together with Rev Phil Ashby who joined us for the services before the shutdown, and greatly assisted by members of our worship and ministry teams.

The churches were closed in April during shutdown but have been open for prayer at specific times and dates from June, and one service at each of the 3 churches has been held on Sunday since July. We have also had daily online services led by Mark and Elveen. Zoom house groups have continued throughout the Covid period, and the main Church administration work has been carried out electronically and online. Due to the circumstances, a new electronic system is being considered enabling every function of church life to be in one central place and accessed by whoever needs to use it. This has password levels and will comply with all data regulations and security.

Richard Pflieger, June Lewis and Richard Sansum continued an extra term as church wardens during the transition and agreed to continue until Elveen is settled and the next APCM meeting in 2021. David Horne and Ian Jones have been acting as Deputy Churchwardens and been a great support to the team as well.

During the transition we had meetings with the Archdeacon, and the job role of the new incumbent has been slightly altered to consider the new housing planned in our area and the closure of Honda and other local businesses. The church is to see a stronger role in mission, giving special attention to South Marston.

We have had good attendance at our PCC meetings. The last meeting in September, and Elveen's first PCC meeting was held in the church rather than the hall to take account of social distancing, and we all wore masks. Rev Mark Tidey was given a presentation in appreciation for his work during the transition and Covid shutdown.

The continued strength and love within this team has grown despite adversity and change, and many silver linings have come about. We hope to grow both spiritually and in strength under Elveen's mantle.

**Ros Mitchell  
PCC Secretary**

## **Churchwardens:**

Stratton: Richard Pflieger and June Lewis    South Marston: Richard Sansum

## **Joint PCC members:**

David Horne, Ian Jones, Andrew Martin, Mark Whitfield, Dan Read, Christine Lyne, Pat England, Lisa Lodwick, Bill Kingdom, Karl Glover, William Hiscocks, Dorinda Balchin, Diane Whitfield, Mary Crichton.

## 2019 Music report for APCM

**St Margarets Music Group** has continued as an established ensemble with 2-3 solo instruments, guitar, bass and piano. It has played at most team and family services plus some of the special evening services (e.g. those taken by the house groups). It has tried to develop the repertoire more, as well as add some singers on occasions. A separate group plays and sings at Stanton, helping to lead family services very effectively.

Music at most remaining Sunday services, weddings and funerals has been provided by our three **organists** Geoff, Alison M and myself but we are grateful to Christine and Peter who each cover one service in the team per month, and Martin who has played at some evening services.

**St Margarets Choir** has under Geoff's experienced musical leadership helped strengthen the worship in one to two Sunday morning services a month plus occasional services such as Carols by Candlelight and some weddings.

The **Team Choir** has brought together singers from all our churches (and a few friends from outside the team) to mark some of the special services with more challenging four part choral anthems by composers as diverse as Rutter, Tchaikovsky and Ogden as well as leading the hymns and carols. Some singers have also contributed informally to some of the sung evensong services, leading the canticles in parts. We thank Angela and Rob B for their help with conducting and rehearsing.

**Taize** evening services have given opportunities to sing chants in parts, rounds and with added vocal and instrumental solos to create the simple candlelit atmosphere of this very special international community devoted to contemplative prayer and reconciliation. Special services took place in February, at Ascension/Pentecost time and on Remembrance Sunday. Many thanks to Alison B for her help leading and planning those.

All groups would welcome **new members** – especially tenor and bass singers and instrumentalists – there are opportunities for percussion players, and those who play piano or keyboard even to a fairly basic level or can lead with a guitar, to help with some of the smaller and less formal services across the team.

We thank Judith who has decided to step down after several years coordinating the choir logistics, and Martin and Sue who have both stepped back a little from their accompanying roles for the time being. However, huge thanks are due to all those who contribute to the musical worship of our church whether mentioned above or not, and to everybody who has been willing to try new things outside their comfort zone and take risks to enrich our varied musical life.

**Rob South**

## Buildings Report 2019

Very little to report on the buildings this year, so this report is the same as last year.

General maintenance has taken place throughout the year by Richard and myself.

A special thanks to the gleam team, who clean the church once a month. It always makes a difference to the inside.

Thanks go to the Parish Council who pay for the grass to be cut in the churchyard.

A special thanks to Colin and Jenny McEwen who cut and maintain the glebe.

The boiler has been running pretty well. The timer has had to be replaced but at the moment all is running ok.

There are a lot of things that could be done at St Mary's, decorating, loo, etc. With a very small group of people involved with the church, it is very difficult to get these things off the ground. If you would like to see improvements to the fabric of the church, have some time on your hands, please do contact us.

**William Hiscocks**

## Tower Report 2019

I Have recently taken a step back from bell ringing for the foreseeable future. I will continue to be the stand in Tower Captain for South Marston.

Bell ringing practice continues jointly with Stratton tower. Held most Wednesday evenings throughout the year, at Stratton. The bells are easier to ring at Stratton, plus we have the advantage of being more enclosed, with heating. A great benefit on a cold December night.

Wendy Sears at Stratton, continues to be a tremendous help with organising ringers for weddings, services and opening up Stratton tower for visiting bell ringers. A special thank you to Wendy for all her support.

We have rung for two weddings at South Marston in 2019. Again, my thanks to all who have given their time to come and ring for these events. It does get more difficult to

get ringers for a wedding when everyone leads such busy lives. Wendy with her contacts proves invaluable.

Stratton continue to ring at Sunday services, even with small numbers. Well done ringers. Unfortunately, we do not have the numbers at South Marston to ring on a Sunday.

We have had a few visiting ringers to South Marston this year, ringing various quarter and full peals.

A special mention to our former Tower Captain, Darran Ricks. He purchased a set of ropes from Worcester cathedral and installed them onto the South Marston bells. The added advantage of these is that they have nylon ends which stops them from being affected by the weather. Normal traditional ropes shorten or become longer depending on the weather conditions. He also did some general maintenance and tuning of the bells. So, a big thank you to him and his two helpers.

Bell ringing is a very traditional skill and is not difficult to master. Anyone who would like to learn or just to give it a go, come along to our practice nights.

**William Hiscocks**

## Treasurer's Report 2019

The final accounts are being prepared at the time of writing this report, but will show a fall in income of just over 11%, down from £14089 to £12492. The majority of this (£1005) is from voluntary receipts (monthly & weekly givers and collections). Less weddings and funerals, mean less fees collected, resulting in a fall of £437 in fees.

Payments out fell by £548, meaning that the church "made a loss" of £1077 in 2019.

Outgoings remain fairly fixed. Diocesan quota, Insurance, Oil make up the bulk of the payments. Receipts continue to shrink meaning that reserves are being eaten into. A trend that cannot continue indefinitely if we want a viable church in the future.

Again, my thanks go to the small number of people who give regularly to the church, either on a monthly, weekly or yearly basis. Although small in number, it is you who allow this church to remain open. There are always increased financial pressures on any organisation, the church is no different.

Once again, the diocesan quota has been paid in full at £8952, the same as the previous year. Increasing financial pressure on the Diocese means that we are always asked to pay increasing amounts as our share. The standing committee has decided with the PCC to increase our quota in 2020 to £9140. A small increase but within their calculation parameters of what we should be paying. We have for the last few years paid our pledge in full, hopefully 2020 will be no exception.

2020 will be a challenge to meet all our fiscal demands. If you want to see a church in the village, open and being used, we need your help. By giving a regular monthly

amount of £10, £20, £50 (there is no upper limit) helps us to budget. Taxpayer? Gift aid your gifts and we can claim the tax back from the chancellor, increasing your gift by 25%. Individually it shows we care for our church, collectively it makes the church viable. Please ask for details of how you can make a difference.

Please hold St Mary's in your prayers for the challenges that lay ahead this year.

**William Hiscocks**  
**Treasurer**

## Deanery Report 2019

Deanery meetings are open to all members of the congregation but only nominated Deanery representatives are allowed to vote.

It is a great chance to meet people from across the Swindon Deanery, see what other churches are doing and see how we can gain from their expertise and compare best practice. Why re-invent the wheel?

We also get to hear about things that are coming from the Bristol Diocese and get a chance to put our views before the information is rolled out. It is also a chance for the Deanery to get involved with issues that affect our communities.

### **Who is the Deanery?**

A Deanery is a geographical area within a Diocese. In the Bristol Diocese there are seven deaneries each led by an Area Dean. The Swindon Area Dean is Rev. Captain Clive Deverell.

The Swindon Deanery has Uganda links with the Dioceses of Kampala and Luweero and that link was 50 years old in 2019. There is also a Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) made up from elected people from the Deanery members who represent the Deanery at Bristol Diocese level.

What does a Deanery Representative do? Attend Deanery meetings, usually 3 per year.

Meetings are held at a different Church each time and start with a brief worship session then an update on any major issues and this time Honda is at the centre of our discussions. There is always an update on our links with Uganda and there is always a guest speaker.

After an open time for questions, the meetings end with prayer.

The information discussed at the Deanery meetings are brought back to our PCC's next meeting.

### **13th June 2019 - St. Mary's Purton:**

There was an update on the Deanery Academy and a brief discussion about Bishop Lee's meeting with Honda.

The link with Uganda is now 50 years old and a team of visitors will be arriving in Swindon during October.

The guest speaker was Stephen Youngs from the Arthur Rank Centre who gave a presentation about how it is an established charity set up by the Rank Organisation to help local Churches.



He gave us an overview of the areas where they could help.

### **12th September 2019 – St. Peter’s Penhill:**

Safe Families for Children – Chris Allcock came to explain how they would like to set up links with Swindon Borough Council and the local Churches. They work with isolated and struggling families.

Living Wage – the motion was brought to the meeting and after one amendment was carried. It would then be taken to the Diocesan Synod and call upon companies within the Bristol Diocese to become accredited as Living Wage employers.

The Area Dean, Clive Deverell thanked Vicky and George Fleming for their service to the Swindon Deanery and wished them well as they move on to Cannock.

Mark Tidey promoted ‘Beat the Street’ to encourage us all to walk more.

### **6th November 2019 – The Deanery Academy, Witchelstowe**

The Bishop of Bristol, the Revd Vivienne Faull was the guest speaker and gave an excellent reflection on the bible reading.

It was heart-warming to hear Bishop Viv’s journey of faith and she has such a sense of humour.

There was an update on the Uganda visitors who came to Swindon in October and then a brief update on the Swindon Deanery Academy School.

At St. Margaret’s and Coleview we currently have three representatives - Lisa Lodwick, Dan Read and myself but we would welcome new people to come forward.

**With many blessings.**

**June Lewis – Deanery Representative**

## **Health & Safety Report**

There was one reported minor accident at our church last year (a fall).

Our target, of course, is zero accidents/incidents. In efforts to achieve this objective we have, over the past 12 months, carried out the following:

- A thorough safety inspection of the church building and grounds.
- Following-up on safety inspections and risk assessments, the taking of actions to eliminate potential hazards.
- Inspection of portable electrical equipment.
- A risk assessment to ensure that clock-winding (in the tower) is carried out safely.
- A fire risk assessment, and the checking of our fire extinguishers.
- Creation of role descriptions to make sure there is role clarity for key positions in the PCC.
- Checks to confirm that we properly comply with our policy on protection of Personal Data.

All church users are asked to help us achieve our aims by acting safely and reporting any concerns to a member of the PCC.

**Mike Curtis,  
Health & Safety Officer**

## Safeguarding Report for the APCM October 2020

Since the last report in March 2019, Mary and Mike Boshier, Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs), have been keeping a close eye on all aspects of safeguarding for the Parishes of St Margaret's Stratton, St Leonards Stanton, St Mary Magdalene South Marston and Coleview. Aably assisting us are the 'eyes and ears' in the parishes, Chris and Anne Pope for Stanton and Mary Crichton for South Marston. The 'eyes and ears' are the close personal local contact in the churches who can pass safeguarding concerns onto us. We thank them for their vigilance.

We have been keeping all members of the two PCCs current with their DBS certificates. These are all now up to date and every member with a leadership responsibility within the three churches has a current DBS certificate. Three certificates have been renewed this year. That process of renewal will be undertaken as the certificates become due.

A Safeguarding Report is presented to every PCC meeting for both the Stratton and South Marston PCC and the Stanton Fitzwarren PCC to keep all members up to date with safeguarding developments and information.

Since the last report, training has continued. Mike Boshier has attended a Bristol Police course on Child Exploitation Awareness and is now in a position to recognise and act upon any referrals connected with this issue. Please would all members of the parishes keep an eye open for any children who seem to be distressed over time and pass the information on to Mike or Mary Boshier for investigation.

The leadership team involved with the Saturday Scene completed their Foundation Safeguarding Course training at the start of February. All other groups and leaders are up to date with the training levels required. Safeguarding Training generally has been reviewed and updated by the Church of England

The annual audit of the Safeguarding policy has now been superseded by an online auditing tool called the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This is a live document available to the PCCs and monitored by the Diocese. It is overseen by the Clergy, Parish Safeguarding Officers and by the Church Wardens of all the churches in the Stratton Team Ministry. The policy itself was reviewed and updated during March and will be renewed and updated again in January 2021.

The thrust of our work continues to ensure that all members of all three churches are safe to worship and go about their church business without risk. To that end, Mike and Mary would ask every member of every church, both leaders and congregation, to recognise their personal responsibility in making Safeguarding their concern. There is no option to leave a concern to someone else. If there is an identified issue, it must be passed on to the PSOs to be investigated and acted upon as a matter of urgency. "If you see something, say something" should be a point of action for everybody.

Mary and I would ask all of you to observe and exercise an attitude of informed vigilance. In that way, everyone will be as safe as possible. If you have a cause for concern no matter how trivial you think it might be, please talk to the 'eyes and ears'

in your church or contact the PSOs Mike or Mary via the parish web site email address or call on 07799835437.

**Mike and Mary Boshier  
Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs) Oct 2020**

## St Margaret's Social Committee

Our year began on the 16th March with the Fellowship Meal. As the menu was such a success last year, we decided to do the same again, Beef in Guinness, with the committee making various desserts, which everyone enjoyed.

The Passover Meal followed on the 18th April, the lamb casserole was served with the various herbs etc. and fruit crumbles for dessert. A special evening. Both of these events were well attended and everyone enjoyed them.

Mark Tidey very kindly organised a Quiz for us at the beginning of June, we served a Ploughman's Supper during the interval. Everyone enjoyed the supper and the quiz was a great success.

This was quickly followed by the Cream Teas at the end of the month, the weather was kind to us and several people were sat outside. We were very pleased to welcome the Music Group who played for us during the afternoon and finished with some of the popular dances, everyone had a great time.

We had a very busy October beginning with the visit from the Bishop of Bristol on the 1st October. This was a Dedication Service for the new roof. We served canapes with wine and soft drinks.

On the 6th October we sadly said goodbye to Vicky and George with a Bring and Share Supper, as this was Harvest Sunday, we decided not to have the lunch as usual but to concentrate on the Supper for Vicky's leaving. It was a very pleasant evening which we enjoyed despite the sadness of the event.

On the 10th October some of the committee helped with the food for the Stratton History Group evening which was held in the Church. This was extremely well attended; it was good to see the Church full.

Our final event for 2019 was an Afternoon Tea in the centre on 7th December, unfortunately this was very poorly attended and the stall selling jig-saw puzzles made more money than the Tea. Very disappointing.

The money raised from the Fellowship meal and the Passover meal went to the Tearfund. The money raised on the other events during the year was for Church funds.

**Carole Horne  
Committee Member**

## 5th Swindon Boy's Brigade Company.

We have had another busy year with Junior Boys joining other Junior Boys at the Gloucestershire Battalion Junior camp at Barton Hall, Somerset, during the May half-term holiday.

Three Boys and two staff went to St. Ives, for the Battalion Company camp in July.

Mrs. Maureen Glover decided to step back from the weekly BB meetings, although she comes to see us from time to time, to do cooking or craft with the Junior Boys. At our last meeting before the start of the summer holidays, we held a barbecue for the Boys and their families. A chance to get together, and say goodbye to Maureen with cake and gifts. Adam Jenkins takes over as officer-in-charge of the Junior Section.

The Anchor Boys and Junior Section have new programmes issued since the summer, so we have been getting used to using these with the Boys over the past term, with new badges and ideas.

On the 5th October 2019, we joined the rest of the Gloucestershire Battalion in celebrating 125 years of the Boy's Brigade in the County. There was a display at the Holy Trinity Church, Cheltenham, and the President of the Boys Brigade, Lord Griffiths of Bury Port, was our guest of honour. At the end of the evening, he presented badges and awards to the Boys. We are proud of Sam and Andrew, who have earned their Presidents Badge, the second highest award a Boy can earn.

We are grateful to Stratton St. Margaret Parish Council for awarding us a grant, which allowed us to take the Junior and Company Sections to the Rockstar climbing wall, in Stratton. The Boys had a great evening, some trying climbing and abseiling for the first time.

In December, we took some of the Boys to the pantomime, the Wadams production of "Rumpelstiltskin." Some families joined us and we had a fun afternoon. New Boys joined the Anchor Boys and Junior Sections over the past few months, which is the most Boys we have had in these sections for some time, which is encouraging. Thanks to the staff for all their hard work and commitment, for the time taken planning and preparing for each meeting.

We are grateful to the Clergy and congregation of St. Margaret's Church for all their continued support of the 5th Swindon Boys' Brigade Company, as we continue to advance Christ's Kingdom in Stratton St. Margaret's.

**Teresa Daghish.**

## Saturday Scene

Saturday Scene is a monthly fun-filled afternoon at the Centre where children and their parents/carers learn about the Christian faith in an informal way, using crafts, games, activities, and story telling. The 2019/20 sessions have been concentrating on Old Testament characters, such as Jacob and Joseph. After starting with craft activities, a short learning and worship session reinforces the day's theme before the children tuck into Saturday afternoon tea.

Over the last year it has been rewarding to see families returning month by month, and new friendships being formed.

Thanks are due to a huge team that make Saturday Scene possible - those who prepare and run the crafts, and those who lead the worship session. Special thanks are also due to Mark Tidey (aka The Music Man), Pat England and Carole Horne in the kitchen, and David Horne for setting up the Centre each time.

Church members are more than welcome to come and see Saturday Scene in action  
**Karen South**

## Evening Fellowship Group Annual Report

During the past year, we have heard very interesting and varied stories from 'our own folk' – Bill and Sheila's individual stories, a talk about India (with curry) from Mary Read, and an explanation of the Science of Cooking from Angela Breakspear to name just three. We have also had a Quiz from Karen and Sue and had a very enjoyable evening meal out.

We are looking forward to some more interesting and unusual topics including What it means to be Jewish, and Stratton of Old.

I would also like to thank everyone for their help, suggestions and support in running this group.

Don't forget, we meet (nearly) every second Tuesday evening of the month, starting with a short time of prayer and it's open to everyone. You can find details in the Church magazine each month or contact me for more information.

February 2020

**Anne Pope**

Tel: 722187

Mob: 07790 730685

Email: eannepope@gmail.com

## Residential and Care Home Visiting Report 2019.

In the last year St. Margaret's Team has continued with regular monthly visits to Weymss Lodge, Church View, Herbert Harvey Court and Midwinter Gardens where we have been made most welcome by staff and residents. The number of people attending the services has remained steady but has varied at times of illness and sad loss of some of the regular residents. The services we provide, including Communion, are a most important mission as they offer comfort and enjoyment to the residents judging by their appreciate comments. We have received thanks from staff, relatives and other visitors who occasionally join us for the Service.

Thanks are due to the team Pearl Jell, June Lewis, Jeanne Read, Mary Carter, Chris Marchant, Graham Haines and Lisa Lodwick. A special thanks to Geoff Walters for his musical support in the December Carol Service and Graham for his musical contribution. Thanks also to other Church members who came to join us.

The dates and times of our visits can always be found on the Weekly Notice Sheet and anyone wishing to help us in this worthwhile mission would be most welcome.

**Dan Read**

### Herbert Harvey Court

We've had another good year of monthly services at Herbert Harvey Court (sheltered accommodation in Coleview). These are hour-long services of simple communion, singing hymns, sharing poems, having Bible readings and prayers, and I think those of us who lead the services enjoy them as much as the residents! There's a really warm friendly atmosphere, with plenty of laughs, and several of the residents very kindly provide refreshments at the end (thank you especially to Peggy for the naughty cream eclairs!). Particular highlights are Graham's thought-provoking stories and songs, the poems read/written by Dan, Pearl and June (and sometimes, rather touchingly, by the residents themselves), and the lively Christmas Carol service (thank you especially to Geoff for playing so wonderfully for us!).

If anyone would like to join us on our Wednesday afternoons, do get in touch - I'm sure you'll be welcomed.

"We've sadly not been able to meet since March 2020, but we've stayed in contact by phone, and during the summer Lisa has been visiting some of the residents and chatting with them on the doorstep/just inside the individual flats (keeping to social distancing guidelines, of course!). We've at least said a prayer together, but miss the previous fellowship of the communion services.

**Lisa Lodwick**

## Grange Drive Home Group

It's been a real blessing to be able to continue our Wednesday evening meetings - we're all different personalities, but share a desire to learn together and grow in faith. Last Lent we joined the other home groups in watching and discussing the film "The Greatest Showman" - a bit different from our usual studies, but we agreed it would definitely be worth trying something similar in the future. There was a lot to get through each week, but it was very thought-provoking - and quite a bit of fun at times!

For the rest of the year we've been studying Paul's letter to the Romans - also very thought-provoking, and with some really lovely and encouraging passages, but also quite hard work, and dare I say it, not quite so much fun!

However, it's also good to have time to chat together over coffee and cake at the start (special thanks to our hosts Pearl and Janet, and to Anne-Marie for some delicious cakes!) and share a time of prayer at the end. I think we all value the support and encouragement we give to each other on our journeys through life.

"Sadly we've not been able to meet since March 2020, and it's unlikely we'll be able to meet again as a group until March 2021 at least, but we're trying to stay in touch in various ways in the meantime."

**Lisa Lodwick**

## Electoral Roll Report – APCM 2020 (October)

Numbers on roll at 26 September 2020:	110
Previous report 15 April 2019:	111
ADD late renewals from 2019	+2
SUBTRACT moved away this year	-2
..... deceased this year	-1 (mercifully NOT COVID)
NETT	-1

**Andrew Martin**  
**Electoral Roll Officer**  
**28 September 2020**

## St Margaret's Church Flower Arrangers

We have a regular team of 14 flower arrangers maintaining a rota for Altar flowers and arrangements for the special events in the Church calendar.

Mothering Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas.

2019 proved challenging as we in the St Margaret's Centre for services during the re-roofing of the Church. We tried to maintain an arrangement for the Sunday services from January to June. We were busy once back in the Church with several events to arrange for with the celebration of the finished Church roof when the Bishop of Bristol

came to bless the roof, Harvest, Vicky and George leaving service followed by the Stairway to Heaven event where we arranged flowers depicting the theme. The arrangements certainly showed that we have learnt a lot from the inspiration that Dorothy Albinson has given us with her demonstrations.

We hope to build on that during 2020 and if anyone would like to join us or interested in further information please contact Richard Pflieger.

**Richard Pflieger.**

## Annual Report from Stratton St Margaret's Baby & Toddler Group

Stratton St Margaret's Baby and Toddler Group meet in the St Margaret's Centre, on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10.00 am until 11.30am. Providing a small meeting place for local parents and carers to socialise and bring their little ones to play, the group caters for children aged from Birth up to school age. A home corner, cars, tent and tunnel, dolls, books, puzzles and a baby corner are regularly on offer and the children have enjoyed a variety of crafts each week with activities such as play dough, painting, colouring and making cards and models.

The group has been in some form of existence for over 30 years with new parents taking over the running of the group when children start school. The children have the opportunity to socialise, learn to share and make new friendships. The parent/carers benefit too. The group can be a good way to integrate into your community.

Approximately 15 - 25 children attend each session, at the group parents/carers stay with their children, and are responsible for them at all times. We charge just £2 per family for the session; this money goes towards the cost of renting the hall, providing refreshments for the adults and, healthy snacks, crafts and toys for the children.

We have also successfully obtained grants from the Stratton Parish council to cover rent costs, child friendly tables and chairs. This has been of great benefit when attendance drops off. The annual Christmas party was a big success.

**Georgina Martin,  
Volunteer Mum**

## St Margaret's Pre-School Annual Report

St Margaret's Pre-School continues to offer affordable children within the heart of the stratton community. We are based within the St Margaret's Centre and open Monday to Friday. We have spaces for children aged 3-4 years old and limited spaces for 2 year olds. We encourage the children to enjoy a range of activities following the EYFS curriculum.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Elveen, the children are enjoying her visits and we would also like to say Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us with our Toddler church visits over the past year.

**From All the staff at St Margaret's Pre-School.**



Appendix 1 The Parish of Stratton St Margaret with South Marston  
Financial Statement for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

# The Parish of Stratton Saint Margaret with South Marston

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

## General Funds Receipts & Payments Account

	Notes	2019		2018	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>					
Voluntary receipts	1	85,880		92,332	
Receipts from activities for generating funds	2	3,151		2,461	
Receipts from Church activities - fees		<u>4,546</u>		<u>5,368</u>	
			93,577		100,161
<b>Payments</b>					
Grants	3	1,600		2,230	
Church activities	4	80,045		80,192	
Church management and administration		<u>7,040</u>		<u>8,134</u>	
			<u>88,685</u>		<u>88,556</u>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>			<b>4,892</b>		<b>11,605</b>
<b>Bank current and deposit accounts 1 January</b>			<u>22,865</u>		<u>11,260</u>
<b>Bank current and deposit accounts 31 December</b>			<u>27,757</u>		<u>22,865</u>

## The Parish of Stratton Saint Margaret with South Marston

### Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

#### Designated & Restricted Funds

St. Margaret's Church	Designated Funds		Restricted Funds							Totals
	Rector's Discretion Fund	Building Fund	Sound System	Day Window	Restoration Fund	Flower Fund	Choir Fund	Organ Fund	John Cornwell Legacy	
Interest Receipts	0	10	5	1	303	2	4	15	0	340
	0	0	379	0	159,041	50	80	105	238,404	398,259
	0	10	384	1	159,344	52	84	120	238,404	398,399
Payments	0	0	40	0	273,668	0	0	1,070	0	274,778
	0	10	344	1	-114,324	52	84	-950	238,404	123,621
Balance 1 January 2019	200	5,386	2,390	284	157,152	1,086	2,301	8,872	0	177,681
Balance 31 December 2019	200	5,396	2,734	285	42,838	1,138	2,385	7,922	238,404	301,302

#### St. Mary Magdalene Church

St. Mary Magdalene Church	Restricted Funds		Totals
	Fabric Fund	Bell Fund	
Interest Receipts	1	4	5
	0	71	71
	1	75	76
Payments	0	10	10
	1	65	66
Balance 1 January 2019	729	3,013	3,742
Balance 31 December 2019	730	3,078	3,808

# The Parish of Stratton Saint Margaret with South Marston

## Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2019

#### Monetary Assets

				Totals	Totals
				2019	2018
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	£	£
	£	£	£		
Bank current accounts	27,621	5,596	23,324	56,541	48,444
Bank deposit accounts			2,666	2,666	2,660
Central Board of Finance			273,524	273,524	153,184
Cash in Hand	136			136	0
	<u>27,757</u>	<u>5,596</u>	<u>299,514</u>	<u>332,867</u>	<u>204,288</u>

#### Debtors

Income Tax reclaim		5,530	4,751
Team expenses		225	225
Advertising in magazine		90	40
Fees		174	142
Value Added Tax		0	14,640
Recovered expenses		0	76
Gas		800	0
Electric		135	
		<u>6,954</u>	<u>19,874</u>

#### Creditors

Clergy expenses		0	329
Door mat hire		205	195
Hire of village hall		52	50
Electricity		0	30
		<u>257</u>	<u>604</u>

The financial statements include £6,000 paid to Mrs Pat England the Parish Administrator who is a member of the PCC.

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 3rd March 2020 and signed on its behalf by



Rev'd Mark Tidey



Richard Sansum



Richard Pileger

## Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

### Notes to the General Fund Receipts & Payments Account

	2019	2018
	£	£
<b>1) Voluntary receipts</b>		
Gift Aid planned giving	49,262	48,063
Non-Gift Aid planned giving	7,781	6,891
Collections & other giving	8,003	10,380
Income Tax recovered	15,776	20,098
Thrift Club donations	2,803	3,177
Sundry donations	2,255	3,723
	<u>85,880</u>	<u>92,332</u>
<b>2) Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>		
Fund raising activities	2,753	1,947
Sale of magazines	398	514
	<u>3,151</u>	<u>2,461</u>
<b>3) Grants</b>		
Church overseas	730	1,474
Home missions	845	731
Secular charities	25	25
	<u>1,600</u>	<u>2,230</u>
<b>4) Church activities</b>		
Diocesan parish share	65,112	63,972
Church running expenses	4,563	4,736
Church maintenance	127	887
Insurance	4,104	4,145
Cost of services	1,531	1,703
Young families work	781	433
Team expenses	3,210	3,836
Fund raising & publicity	617	480
	<u>80,045</u>	<u>80,192</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF STRATTON SAINT MARGARET WITH SOUTH MARSTON  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stratton Saint Margaret with South Marston Parochial Church Council (the PCC) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the charity trustees of 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 PCC'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**

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

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act ; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Paul J Crowley FCA  
Derrick Newman Limited  
29 Bath Road  
Swindon  
SN1 4AS

4 March 2020

