



# Ashbourne, St Oswald with Mappleton, St Mary

Annual Report and Financial Statements  
Of the Parochial Church Council  
For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

St Oswald, Registered Charity No. 1185390

## **Ashbourne, St Oswald with Mappleton, St Mary**

### **Meeting of Parishioners – Election of Churchwardens**

12.15pm on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in St Oswald's Church Hall

#### AGENDA

1. Appointment of Clerk (to both meetings)
  2. Apologies for absence
  3. Minutes of last meeting (26<sup>th</sup> March 2023) Page 3
  4. Proposal: 'The limitation to 6 years of service for churchwardens shall not apply in this parish'
  5. Election of Churchwardens (nominations must be received before the start of the meeting)
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### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

12.25pm on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in St Oswald's Church Hall

#### AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of APCM 2023 and any Matters Arising Page 3-4
3. Report on Changes to Electoral Roll Page 7
4. Annual Report on Proceedings of PCC
  - To include: Safeguarding Page 7
  - Ministry Team Report Page 8
  - Annual Report from PCC Page 9
  - Reports from St Oswald's groups and organisations Page 11
5. Treasurers Report. Page 19
  - To include:
    - Financial Statements of the PCC for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 Pages 20ff
6. Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church Page 30
7. Report on St Oswald's Church Hall
8. Report on proceedings of the Deanery Synod Page 33
9. Election of representatives of the laity to the PCC
10. Appointment of Independent Examiner
11. Any Other Business

**Ashbourne, St Oswald with Mappleton, St Mary**

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of Parishioners – Election of Churchwardens  
11h30, Sunday 26 March 2023**

**Present: 57 people (see record book for list of names)**

**Apologies: 7 (see record book)**

The Revd Duncan Ballard opened the meeting with a prayer and welcomed those present.

- 1) It was agreed that Susan Damesin, Minutes Secretary, would act as clerk for both the meetings.
- 2) The Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 April 2022 were approved.
- 3) Election of the churchwardens: Duncan explained that the Churchwardens were elected by the Parish and were the officers of the Bishop. He congratulated Paul Elliott for his work as single churchwarden and for all the work he had carried out in that capacity. A round of applause was given for Paul Elliott who has held the role of Churchwarden either single-handed or with the help of a second warden for the past few years. Nominations for churchwarden had been received for Paul Elliott to continue as churchwarden and for Anne Ford (papers on file). Decision to appoint Paul Elliott and Anne Ford was unanimous. Thanks were also given to the many helpers who had aided Paul Elliott as he served as sole churchwarden.

This then closed the Annual Meeting of Parishioners.

**Ashbourne, St Oswald with Mappleton, St Mary**

**Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
11h40, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

1. Apologies for absence were noted – there were seven apologies. Those present numbered 57. (see record book for list of signatures)
2. The Minutes of the APCM 2022 were approved and signed. There were no matters arising from those Minutes.
3. The changes to the Electoral Roll were noted on page 14 of the Annual Report. As of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 26 March 2023, the numbers recorded for St Oswald's Church, Ashbourne are 115 and for St Mary's Church, Mappleton 22.
4. The Annual Report on the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the Parish in 2022 generally (by Janet Wright) had been approved by the PCC and had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Safeguarding Report by Celia Dickinson was circulated prior to the meeting and thanks were given to Celia for her work on the very important subject of safeguarding in the Parishes. Thanks were given by those present to all who had worked on the Ministry Team Report and the various reports from other groups and organisations connected to the Church. Congregation member Christine Price wished to acknowledge her gratitude to Gillian Elliott in agreeing to the appointment of PE for another year as Churchwarden. Thanks to the Ukrainian members of the congregation. Mike Warner wished to remind those present that we should remember we are a group of six churches and support is given to all when possible. David Spencer (Mappleton) wished to thank the group and announced his decision to step down from the PCC.

To a request made by a member of the congregation present on the subject of Ossie's Kitchen funding, Nigel Rode confirmed that Ossie's Kitchen covers its own costs and costs the church nothing at all. It is self-supporting and self-funding.

5. The Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements of the PCC for year ending 31 December 2022 – also circulated before the meeting. MHyde gave a brief explanation of the accounts, discussed our contribution to the Common Fund which stands at 60% of the amount requested by the Diocese. MHyde wished to promote the use by the congregation of the Parish Giving Scheme. To a request made by a member of the congregation, MHyde confirmed that there were 55 people at present using the Parish Giving Scheme for their donations. There being no queries on the accounts a vote of thanks was made to Michael Hyde.
6. Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the church: Circulated prior to the meeting. PE wished to acknowledge the work carried out by N. Taylor and the separate group heading up the "Place for All" project. No grant of funding had been received. Mike Almond was taking over from Nick Taylor to follow up on grant applications. PE wished to acknowledge the support he had as sole churchwarden from Andy Wright and all other members of the congregation who had stepped up. PE reported that the work on the chancel roof should be finished by Easter 2023 – the work is not the responsibility of the PCC but is funded by the Church Commissioners. Future work includes replacement of downpipes with cast iron downpipes and the upgrading of the entire sound system by 11-12 April 2023.  
  
JW wished to acknowledge the amount of work carried out by the Resourcing Forum supported by PE. Extensive work on the hall has been done and the use of the hall has increased substantially by outside people.
7. Report on Carsington Deanery Synod to be found in the Annual Report on page 21.
8. Election of representatives to the Deanery Synod. The term of the three present representatives, Peter Walker, John Elwell and Roger Harison, will terminate in June 2023. We therefore have to elect three representatives to commence their term in July 2023. The three present members wishing to stand again their appointments were proposed and seconded by Gerald Humphries and Nancy Mackman. Thanks from Duncan to those three members for their work on the Deanery Synod. Mike Warner is co-opted on to the Synod.
9. Election of representatives of the laity to the PCC. Three members of the present PCC wish to stand down, Jane Almond and Toby Gaddum for St Oswald's and David Spencer from Mappleton. At the end of their term, Celia Dickinson, Michael Hyde and Lindsay Walker, all of whom were prepared to stand again. Three new members: Rachel Gardner, proposed and seconded by Lindsay Walker and Roger Harrison, Barbara Williams, proposed and seconded by Gerald Humphries and Paul Elliott and Gary Wells for Mappleton (paperwork completed). Six names for six places – all those present in favour.
10. Appointment of Independent Examiner of accounts: Mr B. Montgomery of the firm of PKF Smith Cooper, Ashbourne was appointed as the independent examiner of accounts for another year. Thanks were noted to him for his work and to Mr Michael Hyde, Treasurer, for his report.
10. Any other business. There were comments from Arthur Williams on the considerable work carried out by Claire Critchlow followed by a round of applause. Questions were raised on the subject of events to celebrate the coronation of Charles III. General discussion on upcoming events to include line dancing evening, Teddy Parachuting in conjunction with the Ashbourne Festival. PE wishing to assemble a team to handle social events.

The Meeting closed with a blessing by Duncan Ballard at 12h50.

# Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

**Correspondence Address:**

St Oswald's Parish Office  
School Lane  
Ashbourne  
DE6 1AN

**Incumbent:**

Revd. Duncan Ballard  
3, Spire Close  
Ashbourne  
DE6 1DB

**Bank:**

Lloyds Bank Plc  
Compton  
Ashbourne  
DE6 1DY

**Independent Examiner:**

Smith Cooper  
54 St. John's Street  
Ashbourne  
DE6 1GH

## Introduction

**Background**

St. Oswald's and St Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with its clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church of St. Oswald's (except the chancel), the Church Centre and the Church of St Mary's.

**Membership**

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

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

# Ashbourne, St Oswald's with Mappleton, St Mary's Parochial Church Council

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <i>Incumbent:</i>                            | The Revd. Duncan Ballard  | until 31/08/23 2023  |
| <i>Retired Clergy</i>                        | The Revd Maggie Rode<br>The Revd Nigel Rode<br>The Revd Pip Short   |  |
| <i>Readers:</i>                              | Mr Mike Warner<br>Mrs Lynda Herbert   |  |
| <i>Churchwardens:</i>                        | Mr Paul Elliott<br>Mrs Anne Ford  | From 26/03/23  |
| <i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i> | Mr Roger Harrison<br>Mr Peter Walker<br>Mr John Elwell  | From 1/7/2023<br>From 1/7/2023<br>From 1/7/2023  |
| <i>Elected Representatives</i>               | Mrs Elizabeth Bridges<br>Mrs Susan Damesin***<br>Mr Michael Halls<br>Miss Celia Yates<br><br>Mrs Linda Barbour*<br>Miss Hayley Sims<br>Mrs Janet Wright**<br><br>Mrs Celia Dickinson*****<br>Mrs Rachel Gardner<br>Mr Michael Hyde****<br>Mrs Lindsay Walker<br>Mr Gary Wells<br>Mrs Barbara Williams | From APCM 2021<br>From APCM 2021<br>From APCM 2021<br>From APCM 2021<br><br>From APCM 2022<br>From APCM 2022<br>From APCM 2022<br><br>From APCM 2023<br>From APCM 2023<br>From APCM 2023<br>From APCM 2023<br>From APCM 2023 |

\* Electoral Roll Officer    \*\* Secretary    \*\*\* Minute Secretary    \*\*\*\* Treasurer    \*\*\*\*\* Safeguarding Officer

## **Committees**

During 2023 the PCC operated with committees as follows:

### *Standing Committee:*

The Standing Committee is empowered by law to conduct PCC business between meetings of the full Church Council. It also acts, when required, as the financial planning group. Membership consisted of Incumbent (until July 2023) 2 retired priests with PTO, Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer and another PCC member invited from a rota.

### *Forums.*

During 2023 only the Resourcing Forum met.

### *Resourcing Forum*

To provide support and guidance to the PCC on the appropriate maintenance and management of the church premises (church and church hall) and grounds, and on the best use of our financial resources.

## **Electoral Roll**

The Electoral Roll Officer (ERO) records those members of St. Oswald's Church, Ashbourne and St. Mary's Church, Mappleton who are eligible to vote in church elections. The ERO reports at every Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting and provides a regular update of its current total of numbers from both churches.

During 2024, a revision only of the Electoral Roll was prepared. A completely new Electoral Roll is required to be compiled in 2025.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 28th April 2024, the numbers recorded for St. Oswald's Church, Ashbourne are 119 (115 at APCM 2023 meeting) and for St. Mary's Church, Mappleton are 20 (22 at APCM 2023).

This is a combined total of 139 Electoral Roll members for both churches.

## **Annual Report on Proceedings of the PCC and activities of the parish (2023)**

### **Safeguarding (Annual Report on 2023)**

The Safeguarding umbrella of St Oswald's Ashbourne and St Mary's Mappleton churches aims to prevent abuse from happening and respond well and appropriately if it has occurred. This work is led nationally by the Church of England, locally via the Derby Diocese team and within parishes by the clergy, church wardens, Team Leaders and Parish Safeguarding Officer. Details of local & national teams are displayed in our churches, weekly on the Ashbourne Churches News and on the noticeboards.

There are monthly zoom meetings to provide support from the Derby Diocese team in Derby for the Parish Safeguarding Officers. This team also provide training for all involved with

Safeguarding. With this in mind the members of the church leading groups, assistants, the PCC and clergy have DBS checks 3 yearly (this used to be 5 yearly). This is a rolling programme.

In November we acknowledged Safeguarding Sunday in our prayers at St Oswald's.

Training regarding Safeguarding continues and is a requirement of the Church of England. Post Covid this is predominantly via Zoom. In person training is available for those unable to access a computer. A new training course is now being delivered to make people more aware of problem of Domestic Abuse. This has to be delivered in person as it may raise sensitive issues.

Celia Dickinson

## **Ministry Team Report**

For the first six months of the year, it was good to have Reverend Duncan leading the Ministry Team and continuing to build on his personal recovery following his return to post the previous August.

Throughout the year the 10.30am and 6.30pm Sunday Services continued at steady, pre Covid level as did the monthly 'Breakfast Church' led by Andy and Janet Wright and Ashdon Tombs. The weekly recorded Services, thanks to Tony and Deirdre Wilmore, were available on the website and Newsletter and continued to attract an average of thirty views a week. Much else happened throughout the year as well as from the following particularly significant events.

The Wedding Preparation Day was again successfully held in February.

Our much appreciated 'Walk of Words', thanks to Pip Short, re-appeared for another six-month season at the start of Holy Week during which our Services culminated with the Maundy Thursday evening and Good Friday Services ahead of the three Services on Easter Sunday morning.

In May we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III with Services in Church and a Coronation Tea Party on the Bank Holiday Monday.

In June we welcomed Pam Rhodes of 'Songs of Praise' TV fame for an evening of favourite hymn singing followed a week later by 'Teddy Parachuting' Saturday. Despite the 'Parachuting' it became obvious that, mainly due to changes in school age admissions and need for parents to be working, despite appeals for new leadership, after many years, the days of the 'Edward Bear' Mother and Toddler group are numbered.

It was with sadness, but not a surprise, when Duncan announced in June that his last Service at St Oswald's and the Ashbourne Group of Parishes would be at the end of July before taking up a new appointment with the Church of Wales in the Diocese of Llandaff. A group from St Oswald's made a weekend outing of attending Duncan's Induction on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September. So began the Interregnum or period of 'Vacancy'.

It has been a privilege for myself and Maggie, to be asked to resume Ministry leadership together with Reader Mike Warner and, owing to health, a lesser extent Reverend Pip Short. In times such as these it is consistency that holds a Parish and church community together and that has been, and continues to be, our aim and focus.

Summer ended with an excellent Art Exhibition in Church swiftly followed by the Harvest Festival Services, including with the Ashbourne Young Farmers, the Mayor's Civic Service, Remembrance Sunday, Pet Service and then, as usual, our well supported Services during Advent and the Christmas Season. We are grateful to Archdeacon Nicky Fenton for having led our Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

There were fewer weddings, baptisms and funerals in 2023 compared with the post Covid catch up in 2022. One most special funeral in the year was that in November for Charles

Haycock when bell ringers and choir helped to make it a celebration of appreciation of Charles' lifetime of service to St Oswald's Church.

Throughout the year our work with St Oswald's School has continued with the school, often accompanied by parents, coming into Church once a month for a Service as well as the two education sessions we are delivering, in church, to each Year group. Special thanks to Janet Wright and Sandra Taft for all their support in delivering these sessions. In addition to these and the monthly leading of Collective Worship in School, the start of the autumn term saw Reverend Nicola McNally, newly installed as Priest in Charge of Peak Five Parishes, lending a hand by leading A Royal School of Church Music project, 'Hymnpact', in the school.

The focus of this report is upon what happened at St Oswald's but it should not be overlooked that there is Ministry responsibility and supported activity in five other churches and two Church Schools within our Group in addition to what is reported here.

On a quick overview of the year, we have to say that it has been a challenging one, even without including the less helpful effects of Storm Babet which I am sure will be reported elsewhere, but they are challenges to which we, as a church community, have risen to in confidence and an assurance of faith with our congregations remain consistently strong.

No report such as this would be complete without words of thanks, not least to our Church Wardens, Paul and Anne, Michael Hyde our Treasurer for fifty years, to Parish Administrator Claire, Andy Wright for his management of the Church Centre, Celia Dickinson for Safeguarding, Michael our organists and choir, our Servers, Sidespersons, flower team and bell ringers, our PCC and Janet Wright our PCC Secretary, our Outreach activities, Carers Count, Ossie's Kitchen, Ossie's Potters and so many others who do so much to make St Oswald's the wonderful church community, at the heart of our town, that is so much a privilege to serve.

Rev'd Nigel Rode  
On behalf of Ministry Team  
Rev'd Maggie Rode, Rev'd Pip Short, Reader Mike Warner

### **Annual Report from the PCC**

The PCC met 7 times during the year with Standing Committee meeting between. The average attendance was 16 (out of 22). On an additional occasion the PCC were consulted by email (as all had access to e-mail) when a rapid decision was needed.

At the beginning of the year the Resourcing Forum proposed a budget which was unanimously accepted. At subsequent meetings the Treasurer could report with reference to that budget. This became especially important in early months when energy prices were high (See Treasurer's Report). The Bishop gave special permission to hold Holy Communion services in the Hall if the weather was very cold, but we didn't need to use this provision.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy discipline Measure 2016 (to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on Safeguarding). It continued to receive Safeguarding Reports from its Parish Safeguarding Officer at each meeting and the Officer ensured that safeguarding training for those who needed it was up to date. In October, 6 people completed Safeguarding Leadership training together and this prompted a proper review of our Safeguarding policy and practice.

The Resourcing Forum planned and monitored several projects to improve the fabric of St Oswald's church, Church Centre and grounds. (See report on 'Fabric, Goods and Ornaments' and Hall report). The replacement of lead on the Chancel roof was completed

along with replacement of rainwater goods (fall pipes and hoppers). Inside the church, cleaning was once again undertaken by a group of volunteers. A new sound system (largely paid for by a generous donation) was installed and the boiler system controls needed some maintenance. Water meters were installed for Church and Church Centre. Derbyshire Dales District Council began more regular maintenance of the churchyard, and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission supplied a sign to indicate that there were war graves there. The new group 'Ossies Potters' began looking after beds and borders.

The Church Centre Hall was increasingly busy, booked during the day and in the evenings. An electrical inspection of the whole building was completed, a new heater installed in the Office, and CCTV updated.

In October the Church Centre (along with adjacent Alms Houses) was flooded. The excellent efforts of an army of volunteers cleaned and kept the Hall open temporarily, whilst a major restoration and development project was negotiated with the Insurance company for 2024.

At St Mary's, Mappleton high electricity use was traced to a storage heater and a major water leak at the entrance to the churchyard was repaired (with retrospective Faculty permission). A QR code was provided to encourage donations from visitors. Churchyard maintenance remained costly. Overdue electrical and PAT testing (highlighted by the Quinquennial Inspection) were completed.

The pattern of regular services included Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion (with a robed choir) & 6.30pm Choral Evensong, a weekly online service of Morning prayer (with thanks to Tony and Dierdre Wilmore), daily online Morning and Evening prayer (with thanks to Lynda Herbert), a monthly 9am Breakfast Church in the Hall, and a monthly service of Holy Communion at St Mary's Church. St Oswald's Sunday morning and evening services were preceded by bellringing. After the 10.30am service the congregation were offered refreshments in the Church Centre Hall. Festivals and special occasions were accompanied by a 'Walk of Words' along the churchyard paths (with thanks to Revd Pip and her team)

There were social activities throughout the year. An evening of Line Dancing plus a supper caused much hilarity. We celebrated the Coronation of King Charles with a Flower Festival and Afternoon Tea, open to all, in the Church Hall. Pam Rhodes came to lead a Songs of Praise, with refreshments in the Hall afterwards. Teddy Bear Parachuting (from the church roof) marked the start of Ashbourne Festival and drew the usual large crowds. The church also hosted one of the Festival concerts. Summer lunchtime concerts in church were popular and some benefitted from a new baby grand piano purchased with generous donations and a legacy. A successful Art Exhibition of work from local amateur artists (from the congregation and beyond) was held in church. A MacMillan coffee morning was held in the Hall. Towards the end of the year the ever-popular Christmas Tree festival included trees from even more of the local schools and community groups, and that brought in many visitors. St Oswald's also hosted the start of the Ashbourne Arts Lantern Parade and hundreds of children and adults gathered to carry a lantern.

Both an Open Garden and a Clothing Collection raised money for the church (With thanks to Michael Halls and Claire in the Office)

Focussing on the needs of our local community, Ossie's Kitchen began serving meals twice a month, Carers Count met once a month, and a new group, 'Ossie's Potters', began work in the church grounds. Citizens Advice Bureau used the Church Centre to meet clients. Flowers and food which Marks and Spencer would throw away, were collected, and made available after the Sunday morning service (Thank you Irene and helpers)

Links with local schools were maintained and strengthened. St Oswald's Primary School came into the church for a service almost every month in termtime for a service they

planned. In addition, every school year group made 2 morning visits to church as part of their RE curriculum. Revd Nigel, Janet Wright, and Sandra Taft helped them tackle topics which varied from a church Treasure Hunt to creating the sounds of Holy Week or answering questions such as 'What is it like for someone to follow God?', 'Why does Christmas/Easter matter to Christians?'

Separate reports about each of our regular activities follow – this report is not complete without them.

News and information was shared on our website and in a weekly newsletter. In 2023 it was acknowledged that not everyone had access to such technology, so a few printed copies of the newsletter were made available each week. For this and many other tasks we are grateful to Claire Critchlow our administrator.

Half way through the year the Revd Duncan secured the post of Ministry Area Leader in Cowbridge, Diocese of Llandaff. He attended his final PCC meeting in July which closed with a service of Holy Communion. On his final Sunday, he and Ellie were guests at an afternoon tea. The packed hall was evidence of just how much they had both meant to the community of Ashbourne and its surrounding villages. Members of other churches in Ashbourne joined him for a special Evensong later the same day.

As we moved into an Interregnum Revds. Nigel and Maggie Rode took responsibility for the parish once again. The Archdeacon met with members of the PCC for initial discussions about the post to be advertised and the process of appointment which will probably take at least a year.

We are so grateful to Revds. Nigel and Maggie for taking this on as well as Ossie's Kitchen. Thank you too, to the other members of the Ministry Team who made this possible – Revd Pip Short, Mike and Lynda. We were delighted to support the renewal of Mike Warner's Reader's Licence.

Janet Wright

Approved at PCC meeting on 15-04-24

## **Reports from St Oswald's Groups and organisations**

### **Bellringers**

Throughout the last year the bells of St Oswald's have rung regularly for morning and evening services, for special services including Remembrance Sunday, practice night, weddings, to announce the passing of the Queen and for the Proclamation of King Charles. For the passing of the Queen the bells were rung fully muffled with an open backstroke on the tenor, a new experience for the ringers.

The ringers outing this year was arranged by Peter Dickinson and visited the 5 towers of Church Broughton, Sudbury, Rolleston on Dove, Tutbury and Stretton, with lunch at the Spread Eagle in Rolleston. Whilst some towers had bells that the group enjoyed ringing other towers proved to be a little more tricky and made us appreciate our own ring at St Oswald's. It was nice to be joined by other ringers for the day including Maurice, a previous tower captain of St Oswald's, and his wife Pamela. Roy and Andrew – ringing masters for the tower have led the ringing practices, where the ringing this year has been mainly rounds, call changes, plain bob doubles,

minor and triples, Grandsire, Stedman, plain hunt, and good striking. Ringers have progressed in their method ringing, learning to ring a method from varied bells and including the bobs and singles. Ringing practices continue to be well supported with 17 ringers attending some weeks.

We have been pleased to welcome Heather and the return of Andrew to our band this year. Hopefully with their experience and support the band will be able to increase their repertoire over the coming year. We are also pleased to welcome David and Jonathan from Brailsford tower who regularly join our practice and support our service ringing.

Roy and Rose attended a course for teaching bell ringing and are now awaiting their first learners to try out their new skills. New ringers are always welcome.

On Bell Sunday a camera was mounted in the belfry allowing us to show a live feed of the bells ringing onto the TV in the church. Many of the congregation were interested in this, having never seen the bells before. The camera remains in the belfry and the live feed has been requested for another occasion.

The bells and framing continue to be managed and maintained by David our Steeple keeper.

After 52 years of ringing St Oswald's bells Kath Brown has stood her bell for the last time and hung up her rope. Kath had been Tower Captain for a number of years and taught numerous new ringers, she has rung 24 peals (and at 3 hours each that's 72 hours!) and over 200 quarter peals (another 150 hours!). The ringers thank Kath for her dedication, skill, and knowledge.

Here's to another year of ringing, an increase in the methods rung, an improvement in the striking and all mixed with chatter and fun.

Gill Elliott

### St Oswald's Bookstall

The bookstall is currently run by myself, Sarah Morris, following Emma Silvey's move to new pastures in the summer.

I am also supported with this by Irene Wilson who has taken on displaying second-hand books for donation at Sunday morning coffee.

### Aims & Objectives

These remain as previously, with the addition this year of point 3:

1. to provide a source of **Christian literature and cards** to the church congregation and visitors
2. to **raise money** for the work of the church through sales of general and local interest books and cards
3. to source stock where possible such that we additionally support **other charities**

### 2023 Figures

|                 | <b>2023</b>    | <i>2022</i>    |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Expenditure (£) | 980.43         | <i>807.00</i>  |
| Sales (£)       | 2210.00        | <i>2810.00</i> |
| Profit (£)      | <b>1229.57</b> | <i>2003.00</i> |

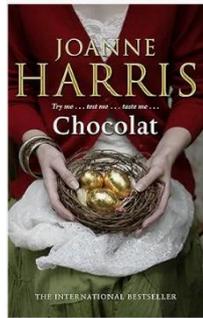
We continue to work through significant quantities of old stock, particularly guidebooks.

Possible reasons for decline in sales:

- perhaps lower numbers of congregation supporting the stall
- perhaps lower numbers of tourists than in past years
- trend towards e-books and e-cards reducing demand
- competition from other stores in town selling cheap cards.

### Activities this year

- second hand books at Sunday coffee which has raised £138.91 of the profits
- Lent 2023 – sales of “Chocolat” book and DVD to support Lent course
- Spring onwards – introduced painted and photographic cards by local amateur artists from the congregation
- June - £34.10 made at Teddy Parachuting; e-mail to school to advertise presence
- Advent –sales of candles and pre-ordered advent calendars
- Christmas - sales of Leprosy Mission Cards with 10% profit to St Oswald’s (Traidcraft, the previous supplier, has ceased trading)



### Going forwards

Aware of the challenge to keep sales going I plan to:

- keep working on refreshing product displays to keep as attractive and eye catching as possible; in the longer term perhaps a reconfiguration of the layout of the stall/position in church to increase its visibility
- focus book purchases on the lines which seem to sell best, in addition to the Christian books; – local guides, walking books in the spring/summer, craft/cooking/outdoors, children’s books
- add in second hand books donated which fit within this scope and are in very good condition (with “preloved” stickers to alert buyers to this next to the price label)
- provide Leprosy Mission catalogues leading up to Easter and Christmas to see if there is any interest in pre-ordering of cards and gifts.

### Thanks go to:

Emma Silvey for her help with the practicalities and creative ideas.  
 Irene Wilson for her tireless support with the second hand books on Sundays.  
 Michael Hyde for his excellent support with the invoices and claims.  
 Members of the congregation who support the stall!

Sarah Morris

## **Breakfast Church**

Breakfast church met throughout the year, on the second Sunday of the month, in the Church Hall. Families were welcomed with breakfast (cereal, toast, bacon or sausage baps, pancakes, coffee, tea, juice) and had the opportunity to chat and catch up. We celebrate birthdays, and light a candle as we move into a period of worship with songs, an activity/talk and prayers. Our themes were chosen from 'Messy Church' ideas or parts of Jesus' teaching. The worship followed a recognisable pattern which we are led through 'on screen'. Numbers attending remained in the high twenties to low thirties (with children representing half that number) and many of the families are 'confirmed regulars'.

We had welcome help and support in some months from Irene Wilson and Lindsay & Peter Walker and, whenever they can make it, Nigel and Maggie Rode.

The Breakfast Church team,  
comprising Gill Elliott, Ashdon Toombs, Janet and Andy Wright

## **Carers Count**

'Carers Count' met on the first Wednesday of each month throughout the year where anyone who is caring for another, be it at home or in professional care, is welcomed to join us for a couple of hours respite with plenty of tea and coffee, fun and laughter as well as the mutual understanding and support from those sharing, or who have shared, similar experiences.

Many of those attending have become good friends so the mutual support is extended beyond the monthly gatherings.

During the course of the year, and through our association with Ossie's Kitchen, we were able to introduce those attending to a representative of Citizens' Advice, which proved to be beneficial. We were also pleased to re-establish the link, broken since pre-Covid, with the Derbyshire Carers Association. Their representative was also able to provide guidance, useful information and support for Carers. The Derbyshire Carers Association also promoted two of our monthly sessions as being one of their 'Coffee Mornings' with the added attractions of participatory demonstrations of 'Soap Making' and 'Making of Face Masks and Body Scrub' which proved to be quite fun as well as bringing some new Carers to us.

The November meeting was another fun session, designing and making our own Christmas cards and decorations, led this year by Sue Crossfield.

Attendance at the monthly meetings in the Church Centre usually numbered between ten and fourteen, the exception being December when eighteen enjoyed a Christmas Lunch at the 'Shoulder of Mutton'.

Enormous thanks go to each of our Carers, for it is what they put into the meetings that gives so much value to others, especially when encouraged by Anne Ford, our esteemed pastoral leader.

MR&NR

## **Choir**

I begin by thanking each member of the choir for their enthusiasm, loyalty and commitment. The impact on our worship and in the community is huge. The average attendance at choir practice on Friday evenings is 20, Sunday morning 16 and Sunday evening 19: the figures are very similar to 2022. About nine of these choristers will be at both Sunday services each

week. However, the average age of the choir has increased, the ability to have holidays and family visits is noticeable and the engagement of new people is an ever-obvious conundrum.

The Rev Nicola McNally is working with children and staff on the 'Hymnpact' programme in St Oswald's Primary School. This is an RSCM programme which links children into church. It is all very much in the early stages but it is good to know that the children are enjoying the sessions. Roger continues to support the music in Clifton School.

I want to place on record my thanks to Roger and Hugh for personal support at all times, especially with playing the organ. It will come as no surprise to you that organists from St Oswald's help to ensure there is real music in many of the churches in the locality. Roger also very kindly ensures that the recorded services have musical input throughout the year.

The Summer Recitals last year were revived very successfully: look out for yet more talent from the beginning of June.

Our dedicated team of choristers managed to sing 175 anthems (122 different anthems) covering 94 Sunday services including 12 full Choral Evensongs plus midweek special services and the coronation of King Charles. We were able to surprise Duncan with "You'll never walk alone" at his final service here in July. We have learned new music including the St Thomas Mass as our mainstream Communion setting as well as catching up with music not sung for at least four years. We were again able to sing at Callow Hall and Haddon Hall last Christmas. Pastoral care underpins all we can do and achieve with a healthy dose of expectation and challenge.

We are always pleased to see returning choristers not to mention singing for their weddings! We are so fortunate to have such a great choir leading our worship. I greatly appreciate what each chorister brings to the life of St. Oswald's church and its outreach into the wider community. Ashbourne should be proud of its musical beating heart.

I have completed 25 years in this role, so St Oswald's should give consideration to the future. Changes will happen and that needs to be underwritten financially. It is an investment rather than a cost that music here continues to be so important.

We were so sorry to see Duncan go but are very grateful for his full support of the choir. Support and encouragement for the choir by our ministry team and congregation is vitally important so thank you all. Thank you everyone.

Michael Halls

### **Connect Group**

The 'Connect Group' encourages us to connect with one another, discussing agreed material we may have read during the days before, learning from one another and growing our faith, whilst sharing highs and lows – and cake and drinks!

We meet weekly (with breaks when most of us are away/busy), and alternately in 2 homes. A typical session would begin with 'check in' where we each had the opportunity to share the highs and lows of the previous week. We would then spend time discussing, or reflecting on, something we'd agreed to study that week, breaking for refreshments at a convenient point. We finish with prayer for each other.

We have regularly been a group of 7 but our homes would take one more if anyone would like to join us.

Janet & Andy Wright

## **Flower Arrangers**

We have welcomed new members who have now joined our 4 teams. Ruth Sinclair one of our long standing arrangers has resigned.

It has been a fairly quiet year with no major events.

We continue to do more elaborate work and more arrangements for the major festivals, Easter, Harvest and Christmas, making the church look beautiful,

Easter the flower cross dominates filled with daffodils and other spring flowers. Much admired by all who visit the church.

Harvest brings lots of colour. At Christmas we do less arrangements as with the Christmas tree Festival there is less space.

Chancel flowers are usually donated, and a list of names and dates kept, people can also choose to have them by St Oswald's area if they so wish.

We are always grateful for any donations. Equally we are pleased to have 'out of date' flowers from Marks and Spencer.

There was one wedding this year where some of the arrangers were involved.

It is not always possible for one of us to be present at the wedding introduction day in February, but as observed from previous years by the time that most brides attend that day they have already decided on a florist and they often do the church arrangements. Otherwise brides seem to be happy with what we already have in church. I have asked that in view of personal absence, information be given out so that we can be contacted.

We look forward to the coming year and would like to encourage more people interested in flower arranging to help us.

Elizabeth Bridges  
Chairman/Secretary

## **Mothers Union**

Ashbourne Mothers Union Report 2023 Ashbourne Mothers Union had 29 members in 2023. Afternoon meetings were disrupted this year due to clashes in dates with Ossies Kitchen and the hall being out of action after it flooded. We did however hold our annual communion service, led by Rev Maggie Rode in April. In further meetings we shared our favourite poems and faith and learnt how to keep ourselves safe from scammers. The evening group visited Tissington Hall, held a murder mystery evening a Chinese supper and treasure hunt round the town. Flowers were prepared for Mothering Sunday in conjunction with the flower arrangers. Money was raised for the MU Summer of Hope Appeal at a cream tea. Members have continued working throughout the year with Ossies Kitchen, Breakfast Church, Baptisms, Careline, Carers Count, and in many areas of church and community life.

Nancy Bell

## **Ossie's Kitchen**

2023 dawned amidst the misery of the energy and economic crisis and the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Our contribution to addressing the energy and economic crisis was to go from a fortnightly to a weekly service each Tuesday through to the end of March providing our typical freshly cooked three course meals each Tuesday to seated Guests and home-delivered meals. In that period, we provided nine hundred much appreciated meals. In the three months period, as nationally called upon and in collaboration with the other churches in the town, each Tuesday we provided a warm space with hot drinks, table games and company. Funding support from Foundation Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales CVS of contributions to core costs of heating and energy costs during this period were much appreciated.

Providing a full service each week put a tiring strain on our volunteers so we were pleased that by the end of March the weather had improved, the crisis demand eased and we were able to revert to a fortnightly Service which we continued for the rest of the year. During the first six months of the year, we continued to welcome fifteen to twenty Ukrainian Guests to each sitting. It was a privilege for us to be alongside these individuals and families and to be able to offer practical help through accessing furniture and home furnishings for new homes that had been arranged through our close working relationship with 'resident' Citizens Advice Outreach Worker. As the year has progressed it has been pleasing to see that their lives have become more settled in that not only do they have homes, but have jobs, are studying and in some cases returned to Ukraine. Whilst this is a good news story, we now miss their company and attendance but feel privileged that, as we did with the Covid crisis, we have risen to the challenges been able to provide support at a time of need. Since we first opened the doors in 2019 we have encouraged the local GP Surgeries and District Nursing Team to tell patients that we are here to help address loneliness, social isolation and general Well-Being and as a result, we have had a few referrals and have been pleased to welcome new Guests. However, since the recent introduction of the role of Social Prescribing we are pleased to report an excellent working relationship with the Social Prescribers based with Derbyshire Dales CVS and have been delighted to welcome a number of new Guests who, together, currently account for some twenty per cent of our regular Guest attendance. We would like to think that Social Prescribing will be an increasingly valued support to the vulnerable in our society and we look forward in playing our part in people's Well-Being.

An exciting development in our addressing loneliness and social isolation has been the forming of 'OSSIE'S POTTERS' a gardening group that meets on alternative Tuesday afternoons for light gardening duties around the church grounds. This has already proved to be much appreciated, particularly amongst the Guests referred through Social Prescribing, as another opportunity to help general Well-Being. We are grateful to Derbyshire County Council Well-Being for 'seed corn' (no pun intended!) funding of this new project.

In October, Storm Babet brought a flood to the St Oswald's Church Hall, which with the amazing support of volunteers from the Church, Ossie's Kitchen and the community, the hall was cleared of water, cleaned and restored to use within ten days, which meant no disruption to Ossie's Kitchen. However, technical reports have since determined that the Hall needs to be closed for two months at the beginning of 2024 which will bring another new challenge but one which we will meet and overcome.

In all, 2023 has been another challenging but very rewarding year not least that, in June, we marked our fourth birthday by having provided ten thousand meals and, in November, being advised that we have been Nominated for The King's Award for Voluntary Services, more of which we will hear about during next year. None of this would have been possible without our Guests and our wonderful team of fifty volunteers and the good will of many in the community for their donations and encouragement. Here's to another exciting year ahead.

NR.

### **Ossie's Potters**

As a progression on from Ossie's Kitchen it has been recognised that friendships and a sense of community were forming as a result within the group. In conversations it was found that several guests were interested in simple gardening projects. In line with the Ossie's Kitchen philosophy to overcome isolation, loneliness and mental health issues this is carried forward into an environment of working together in a co-ordinated manner, respecting others with the benefit of personal dexterity all in the fresh air and close to nature with a genuine interest in gardening.

Following conversations with Fee Unwin from the Derbyshire Dales CVS, Adult and Social Care I was encouraged to apply for funding through the Living Well Grant. This was successful and initially £250 followed by a second payment of £300 was received. This was received to help with the purchase of equipment and plants. I do know that the Integrated Care Board are interested in the progression of this group.

So on 25th July 23 the Ossie's Potters actually were born. Meeting every other week, simple garden tasks were identified and undertaken ie potting up geraniums and placing around the Church and Hall, bulbs planted, getting the West Door border in good order, and siting bird boxes to encourage wildlife in to our environment. The Potters were even represented in the Christmas tree festival in Church. Borders by the Priest's door have also been cleared, made good and replanted. More latterly, permission has been sought from the PCC to site a couple of raised beds by the Hall, and it is hoped to refresh by the North Door, to smarten appearance for those walking by on Mayfield Road.

Numbers attending the group - initially started with three guests from Ossie's Kitchen and myself - hitting a high in good weather a total of 9. More recently it has settled at a number of 6 - 7 per session. Following chosen activities, the day is usually completed with well earned refreshments.

Those members of the group can have a sense of satisfaction and achievement that is seen by the public with the benefit of increased personal well-being, and it all adds to the the fact that St Oswald's Church and it's environment is loved and cared for.

Anne Ford

### **Walking Group**

2023 started well for the St. Oswald's Walkers with a 6 mile walk followed by our annual New Year lunch. The following seven monthly walks varied in length from 8 to 12 miles and in ascent from 500 to 1800 feet. We covered a variety of terrain, from river banks to moorland and fields, and visited sites such as the stone circles at Arbor Low and Nine Ladies at Stanton Moor.

In May we successfully completed our eighth long distance walk, a now annual event, the Friends Way 1, 62 miles following the route of George Fox's journey from Barley in Lancashire to Sedbergh in Cumbria. The scenery was splendid throughout and included the ascent of Pendle Hill, Sawley Abbey, Malham Cove, the beautiful valleys of the rivers Ribble and Wharfe, and Dentdale. We also visited some interesting churches such as St Michael In Hubberholme (originally dedicated to St. Oswald), St. Michael in Kirkby Malham, where we were warmly welcomed by the vicar and enjoyed welcome tea making facilities and shelter from the rain, and at the end of our walk St. Andrew in Sedbergh, where George Fox preached in the churchyard.

Our goal in 2024 is the North Cotswold Diamond Way in May.

Since the summer our regular numbers have dwindled somewhat for various reasons and we are keen to recruit enthusiastic new walkers to our happy band. Details of forthcoming walks are published in the church newsletter and can always be obtained from group members. Transport can usually be arranged when necessary.

In addition to our longer walks on the last Saturday of each month we have for nearly two years held a "Ramblers" walk on the second Monday for those preferring a shorter distance of about 5-6 miles – details of these walks are also in the newsletter.

Finally, both of our groups welcome members of all our local parishes We look forward to hearing from you!

Jackie Burns.

## **Treasurers Report**

& Financial Statements of the PCC for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

**Financial Statements for St Oswalds are on pages 20 - 26** (Received and approved at PCC meeting on 15-04-24), followed by accounts for Ossie's Kitchen.

The finances for Mappleton, St Mary's are accounted for separately from Ashbourne St Oswald's.

### **The Treasurer's comments on the several funds in Receipts and Payments:**

**Bellringers Fund** – A small increase of £142.50 during the year with the balance standing at £3,507.

**Choir Fund** – A small increase of £54 to £3,042.

**Fabric Fund** – A totally unexpected receipt was a legacy of £100,000 from the Will of the late Phyllis Margaret Jagger of 96 High Street, Uttoxeter who died on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The replacement of downpipes by Geoff Nightingale cost £16,475 who also replaced the lead on the chancel roof, the cost of this being met by the Church Commissioners. A Feurich Baby Grand Piano was purchased at a cost of £11,000. The end of year balance was £275,893.

**Flower Fund** – The opening balance of £681 increased by £1,000 to £1,681 as £1,000 was returned by the Flower Arrangers.

**Organ Fund** – An increase of £642 to £4,267.

**Special Purposes Fund** – Most of the opening balance of £20,963 was spent during the year and the end of year balance was £1,530. The audio system cost £14,688 with £12,500 coming from the anonymous donation with Gift Aid. The electrical inspection and necessary work of the Church Hall cost £10,364. A legacy of £2,000 was received from the estate of the late Mr G Halls and donations of £649.40 were received in memory of Mr C Haycock.

**General Fund** – Planned giving in 2023 was approx. 5% more than the previous year. There were modest cost increases and the early costs of £4,033 attributable to the October floods resulted in a break even result in the General fund.

This was only possible by our not paying in full the Common Fund amount of £86,096 requested by the Diocese. This figure includes St Mary, Mappleton and St John who paid £1,000 each. St Oswald paid £46,788 so the overall amount paid was 56.6% of the requested amount.

It was decided we would give an increased £3,500 to missionary and other charitable organisations. This was allocated as follows:  
USPG £1,000 for the Church of North India  
£1,000 to Ace Youth Trust  
£1,000 to The Salvation Army  
£500 to Ossie's Kitchen.

**ST OSWALD'S PCC - ASHBOURNE**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)**  
**As at: 31 December 2023**

|  |              | Balance                         | Previous<br>balance |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Investments</b>                             |              |                                 |                     |
| <b>6520: CCLA (CBF) Investment Fund Shares</b> |              |                                 |                     |
| Fabric Fund                                    | Restricted   | 192,059.29                      | 190,079.47          |
|  |              | <b>192,059.29</b>               | <b>190,079.47</b>   |
| <b>6530: CCLA (CBF) Fixed Interest Fund</b>    |              |                                 |                     |
| Fabric Fund                                    | Restricted   | 37,934.68                       | 35,929.84           |
|  |              | <b>37,934.68</b>                | <b>35,929.84</b>    |
|  |              | <b>Investments</b>              | <b>229,993.97</b>   |
|  |              | <b>229,993.97</b>               | <b>226,009.31</b>   |
| <b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>                |              |                                 |                     |
| <b>6501: Bank current account</b>              |              |                                 |                     |
| Bellringers Fund                               | Restricted   | 3,506.93                        | 3,364.43            |
| Childrens Fund                                 | Designated   | 300.00                          | -                   |
| Choir Fund                                     | Restricted   | 3,041.84                        | 2,987.83            |
| Fabric Fund                                    | Restricted   | (89,911.85)                     | (36,089.88)         |
| Flower Fund                                    | Restricted   | 1,681.22                        | 681.22              |
| Church Centre                                  | Restricted   | 20.00                           | 20.00               |
| Organ Fund                                     | Restricted   | 4,266.79                        | 3,624.79            |
| Special Purposes Fund                          | Designated   | (5,489.58)                      | 13,962.89           |
| General fund                                   | Unrestricted | 57,885.60                       | 20,563.19           |
| Agency collection                              | Restricted   | 20,399.95                       | 10,840.95           |
|  |              | <b>15,720.90</b>                | <b>19,975.42</b>    |
| <b>6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account</b>        |              |                                 |                     |
| Fabric Fund                                    | Restricted   | 115,810.16                      | 14,703.85           |
| Special Purposes Fund                          | Designated   | 7,000.00                        | 7,000.00            |
| General fund                                   | Unrestricted | (22,605.75)                     | (5,000.00)          |
|  |              | <b>100,204.41</b>               | <b>16,703.85</b>    |
|  |              | <b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b> | <b>115,925.31</b>   |
|  |              | <b>115,925.31</b>               | <b>36,679.27</b>    |
| <b>Agency Accounts</b>                         |              |                                 |                     |
| <b>6699: Agency collections</b>                |              |                                 |                     |
| Agency collection                              | Restricted   | 20,399.95                       | 10,840.95           |
|  |              | <b>20,399.95</b>                | <b>10,840.95</b>    |
|  |              | <b>Agency Accounts</b>          | <b>20,399.95</b>    |
|  |              | <b>20,399.95</b>                | <b>10,840.95</b>    |
|  |              | <b>Grand Total</b>              | <b>325,519.33</b>   |
|  |              | <b>325,519.33</b>               | <b>251,847.63</b>   |

**ST OSWALD'S PCC - ASHBOURNE**  
**Receipts and payments**  
**Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

| Note   | From<br>To | 01 January 2023<br>31 December 2023 | 01 January 2022<br>31 December 2022 |
|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Special - Special Purposes Fund (Designated) Fund</b> |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Receipts</b>  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Other voluntary receipts                                 |            |                                     |                                     |
| Donations appeals etc                                    |            | 640.00                              | 5,000.00                            |
| Legacies   |            | 2,000.00                            | 5,003.14                            |
| Donations in memory                                      |            | 9.40                                | 55.00                               |
|  |            | <u>2,649.40</u>                     | <u>10,058.14</u>                    |
| Total Other voluntary receipts                           |            |                                     |                                     |
| Gift Aid recovered                                       |            |                                     |                                     |
| Taxrecoverable on Gift Aid                               |            | 2,500.00                            | -                                   |
|  |            | <u>2,500.00</u>                     | -                                   |
| Total Gift Aid recovered                                 |            |                                     |                                     |
| Receipts from church activities                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Fundraising  |            | 470.31                              | -                                   |
|  |            | <u>470.31</u>                       | -                                   |
| Total Receipts from church activities                    |            |                                     |                                     |
|  |            | <u>5,619.71</u>                     | <u>10,058.14</u>                    |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                                    |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Payments</b>  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church Repairs & Maintenance                             |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church major repairs - installation                      |            | 14,688.02                           | 1,870.00                            |
|  |            | <u>14,688.02</u>                    | <u>1,870.00</u>                     |
| Total Church Repairs & Maintenance                       |            |                                     |                                     |
| Hall Repairs & Maintenance                               |            |                                     |                                     |
| Hall + major repairs - structure                         |            | 10,364.16                           | 3,940.00                            |
| Hall + major repairs - installation                      |            | -                                   | -                                   |
|  |            | <u>10,364.16</u>                    | <u>3,940.00</u>                     |
| Total Hall Repairs & Maintenance                         |            |                                     |                                     |
|  |            | <u>25,052.18</u>                    | <u>5,810.00</u>                     |
| <b>Total Payments</b>                                    |            |                                     |                                     |
| Excess of income and endowments over Expenditure         |            | (19,432.47)                         | 4,248.14                            |
| Brought forward balance                                  |            | 20,962.89                           | 16,714.75                           |
| <b>Total carried forward balance</b>                     |            | <b>1,530.42</b>                     | <b>20,962.89</b>                    |
| <b>Children - Childrens Fund (Designated) Fund</b>       |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Receipts</b>  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Receipts from church activities                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Fundraising  |            | 300.00                              | -                                   |
|  |            | <u>300.00</u>                       | -                                   |
| Total Receipts from church activities                    |            |                                     |                                     |
|  |            | <u>300.00</u>                       | -                                   |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                                    |            |                                     |                                     |
| Excess of income and endowments over Expenditure         |            | 300.00                              | -                                   |
| Brought forward balance                                  |            | -                                   | -                                   |
| <b>Total carried forward balance</b>                     |            | <b>300.00</b>                       | -                                   |
| <b>Bellmings - Bellmings Fund (Restricted) Fund</b>      |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Receipts</b>  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Other voluntary receipts                                 |            |                                     |                                     |
|  |            | -                                   | -                                   |
|  |            | <u>300.00</u>                       | -                                   |



| Note   | From<br>To | 01 January 2023<br>31 December 2023 | 01 January 2022<br>31 December 2022 |
|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Gift Aid recovered                               |            | 50.00                               | -                                   |
| Tax recoverable on Gift Aid                      |            | 50.00                               | -                                   |
| Investment Income                                |            |                                     |                                     |
| Fixed interest income                            |            | 429.80                              | 1,032.55                            |
| Deposit fund interest                            |            | 472.10                              | 242.72                              |
| Total Investment Income                          |            | 901.90                              | 1,275.27                            |
| Receipts from church activities                  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Fundraising                                      |            | -                                   | 335.23                              |
| Total Receipts from church activities            |            | -                                   | 335.23                              |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                            |            | <b>1,01,715.29</b>                  | <b>9,626.82</b>                     |
| <b>Payments</b>                                  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church Running Expenses                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church running - insurance                       |            | 2,450.73                            | 5,533.68                            |
| Total Church Running Expenses                    |            | 2,450.73                            | 5,533.68                            |
| Church Repairs & Maintenance                     |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church major repairs - structure                 |            | 19,619.02                           | 4,986.00                            |
| Church major repairs - installation              |            | 12,381.20                           | -                                   |
| Total Church Repairs & Maintenance               |            | 32,000.22                           | 4,986.00                            |
| <b>Total Payments</b>                            |            | <b>34,450.95</b>                    | <b>10,519.68</b>                    |
| Excess of income and endowments over Expenditure |            | 67,264.34                           | (892.86)                            |
| Brought forward balance                          |            | 204,643.28                          | 229,913.04                          |
| Transfers to/(from)                              |            | (17,985.16)                         | -                                   |
| Adjustments                                      |            | 21,979.82                           | (24,376.90)                         |
| <b>Total carried forward balance</b>             |            | <b>275,892.28</b>                   | <b>204,643.28</b>                   |
| <b>Choir - Choir Fund (Restricted) Fund</b>      |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Receipts</b>                                  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Other voluntary receipts                         |            | 1,014.00                            | 200.00                              |
| Donations appeals etc                            |            | 12.00                               | -                                   |
| Choir fund                                       |            | 1,026.00                            | 200.00                              |
| Total Other voluntary receipts                   |            | 1,026.00                            | 200.00                              |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                            |            | <b>1,026.00</b>                     | <b>200.00</b>                       |
| <b>Payments</b>                                  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church Running Expenses                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Organist & choir                                 |            | 180.00                              | -                                   |
| Choir music & vestments                          |            | 251.99                              | 42.52                               |
| Administration                                   |            | 540.00                              | -                                   |
| Total Church Running Expenses                    |            | 971.99                              | 42.52                               |
| <b>Total Payments</b>                            |            | <b>971.99</b>                       | <b>42.52</b>                        |
| Excess of income and endowments over Expenditure |            | 54.01                               | 157.48                              |
| Brought forward balance                          |            | 2,987.83                            | 2,830.35                            |
| <b>Total carried forward balance</b>             |            | <b>3,041.84</b>                     | <b>2,987.83</b>                     |
| <b>Organ - Organ Fund (Restricted) Fund</b>      |            |                                     |                                     |
| <b>Receipts</b>                                  |            |                                     |                                     |



| Note                                     | From<br>To | 01 January 2023<br>31 December 2023 | 01 January 2022<br>31 December 2022 |
|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Activities for generating funds          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Bookstall sales - fund raising           |            | 2,210.00                            | 2,810.83                            |
| Church hall fund raising                 |            | -                                   | 329.77                              |
|  |            | 2,210.00                            | 3,140.60                            |
| Total Activities for generating funds    |            |                                     |                                     |
| Receipts from church activities          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Fees for weddings and funerals           |            | 5,577.00                            | 7,188.29                            |
| Church hall lettings - objectives        |            | 13,037.70                           | 6,283.00                            |
| Fund raising                             |            | 2,552.14                            | 2,491.00                            |
|  |            | 21,166.84                           | 15,962.29                           |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>                    |            | <b>106,954.63</b>                   | <b>104,592.06</b>                   |
| <b>Payments</b>                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Cost of generating funds                 |            |                                     |                                     |
| Bookstall costs                          |            | 980.43                              | 807.04                              |
|  |            | 980.43                              | 807.04                              |
| Total Cost of generating funds           |            |                                     |                                     |
| Missionary and Charitable Giving         |            |                                     |                                     |
| Giving to missionary societies           |            | 1,000.00                            | 1,262.76                            |
| Giving - relief and development agencies |            | 1,740.00                            | 1,000.00                            |
| Special collections                      |            | -                                   | 408.53                              |
| Home mission                             |            | 1,000.00                            | 1,000.00                            |
|  |            | 3,740.00                            | 3,671.29                            |
| Total Missionary and Charitable Giving   |            |                                     |                                     |
| Common Fund                              |            |                                     |                                     |
| Common Fund                              |            | 46,788.00                           | 46,788.00                           |
|  |            | 46,788.00                           | 46,788.00                           |
| Total Common Fund                        |            |                                     |                                     |
| Clergy and Staffing costs                |            |                                     |                                     |
| Salary of parish administrator           |            | 7,450.28                            | 6,871.35                            |
| Working expenses of clergy               |            | 1,592.51                            | 1,128.08                            |
| Water rates - vicarage                   |            | 416.17                              | -                                   |
| Vicarage - water                         |            | -                                   | 301.59                              |
|  |            | 9,458.96                            | 8,301.02                            |
| Total Clergy and Staffing costs          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Church Running Expenses                  |            |                                     |                                     |
| Education                                |            | 59.50                               | 105.00                              |
| Church office - telephone                |            | 583.04                              | 556.56                              |
| Organ/ piano tuning                      |            | 274.00                              | 644.00                              |
| Church maintenance                       |            | 3,799.07                            | 4,181.73                            |
| Cleaning                                 |            | 251.16                              | 1,410.01                            |
| Upkeep of services                       |            | 1,255.44                            | 1,040.02                            |
| Organist & choir                         |            | 4,133.00                            | 3,818.60                            |
| Administration                           |            | 1,656.19                            | 1,931.88                            |
| Printing & stationery                    |            | 1,518.92                            | 483.92                              |
| Copier rental                            |            | 1,008.00                            | 1,008.00                            |
| Bank charges                             |            | 293.51                              | 265.31                              |
| Church running - electric                |            | 3,577.58                            | 3,500.87                            |
| Church running - gas                     |            | 6,668.79                            | 3,044.48                            |
| Church running - water                   |            | 167.33                              | 95.20                               |
|  |            | 25,245.53                           | 22,065.58                           |
| Total Church Running Expenses            |            |                                     |                                     |
| Hall Running Costs                       |            |                                     |                                     |
| Hall running - electricity               |            | 3,246.88                            | 1,438.90                            |
| Hall running - gas                       |            | 2,522.08                            | 1,420.55                            |
| Hall running - insurance                 |            | 1,120.00                            | 1,020.00                            |
| Hall running - maintenance               |            | 3,049.64                            | 5,777.12                            |
| Hall running - cleaning                  |            | 5,345.98                            | 5,685.89                            |

| Note   | From<br>To | 01 January 2023<br>31 December 2023 | 01 January 2022<br>31 December 2022 |
|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Hall running - water                             |            | 866.87                              | 461.22                              |
|  |            | 16,151.45                           | 15,803.88                           |
| <b>Hall Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>            |            |                                     |                                     |
| Hall + major repairs - installation              |            | 804.00                              | -                                   |
| October 2023 Flood                               |            | 4,033.60                            | -                                   |
|  |            | 4,837.60                            | -                                   |
| <b>Governance Costs</b>                          |            |                                     |                                     |
| Governance costs examination/audit fee           |            | 36.00                               | 30.00                               |
|  |            | 36.00                               | 30.00                               |
| <b>Total Payments</b>                            |            | <b>107,237.97</b>                   | <b>97,486.61</b>                    |
| Excess of income and endowments over Expenditure |            | (283.34)                            | 7,105.45                            |
| Brought forward balance                          |            | 14,926.39                           | 7,820.94                            |
| Transfers to/(from)                              |            | 17,956.16                           | -                                   |
| Adjustments                                      |            | 2,004.84                            | -                                   |
| <b>Total carried forward balance</b>             |            | <b>34,643.05</b>                    | <b>14,926.39</b>                    |

## GRANTS &amp; DONATIONS RECEIVED : FINANCIAL YEAR ALLOCATION

Note :

|                                       | £   | £   | £           |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------|
|                                       |     |     | 2023        |
| 1 Foundation Derbyshire b/wd<br>c/fwd | 0   | 900 | 900         |
| 2 Monday Lunch b/wd<br>c/fwd          | 0   | 667 | 667         |
| 3 DDCVS<br>c/fwd                      | 0   | 500 | 500         |
| 4 DDCVS<br>c/fwd                      | 0   | 405 | 405         |
| 5 Derbyshire CC<br>less c/fwd         | 398 | 550 | 152         |
| 6 PCC of Ashbourne<br>less / c/fwd    |     | 500 |             |
|                                       | 500 |     | 0           |
| <b>Allocated to 2023</b>              |     |     | <b>2624</b> |

Notes:

- 1 Foundation Derbyshire; Economic & Energy crisis
- 2 Monday Lunch : transport 2023
- 3 DDCVS Warm Spaces Hall cost
- 4 DDCVS Cost of Living Transport
- 5 DCC - Ossie's Potters Project
- 6 PCC of Ashbourne reserved for transport 2024

**OSSIE'S KITCHEN**

Notes: £ £ £

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

1st Jan to 31st Dec 2023

**Operational****Grants**

|   |                       |     |  |
|---|-----------------------|-----|--|
| 1 | Foundation Derbyshire | 900 |  |
| 3 | Derbyshire Dales CVS  | 500 |  |

**Donations**

General meals &amp; groceries 6231

**Expenditure**

|                          |             |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| FareShare                | 1939        |             |
| Additional Meal supplies | 1142        |             |
| Consummables             | 1209        |             |
| Hall                     | 3050        |             |
| Equipment                | 293         |             |
|                          | <u>7633</u> | <u>7631</u> |

-2

**Transport****Donation & Grant**

|   |                      |     |  |
|---|----------------------|-----|--|
| 2 | Monday Lunch         | 667 |  |
| 4 | Derbyshire Dales CVS | 405 |  |

**Expenditure**

|                     |             |             |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Community Transport | 1170        |             |
|                     | <u>1170</u> | <u>1072</u> |

-98

**General****Donations**

|             |      |  |
|-------------|------|--|
| Various     | 1603 |  |
| In Memoriam | 1919 |  |

**Expenditure**

|                       |            |             |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|
| Volunteer recognition | 338        |             |
|                       | <u>338</u> | <u>3522</u> |

3184

**Ossie's Potters****Grant**

|   |               |     |  |
|---|---------------|-----|--|
| 5 | Derbyshire CC | 152 |  |
|---|---------------|-----|--|

**Expenditure**

|                             |            |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Plants & Gardening Supplies | 152        |            |
|                             | <u>152</u> | <u>152</u> |

0

**Surplus in period to reserve**£ 3084

**OSSIE'S KITCHEN**

Notes:

£            £

**BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 2023**

|              |                           |      |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| Cash at Bank | PCC Agency A/c            | 7504 |                           |
|              | Ossie A/c                 | 3676 |                           |
| Cash in Hand |                           | 41   |                           |
| Debtor       |                           | 0    |                           |
| Creditors :  | Grant received in advance |      | 397                       |
|              | Donation c/fwd            |      | 500                       |
|              | Expense                   |      | 0                         |
| Reserves :   | Brought forward           |      | 7240                      |
|              | Surplus on Activity 2022  |      | 3084                      |
| 7            | Debit General Reserve     | 9000 |                           |
|              | Credit Equipment Reserve  |      | 9000                      |
|              |                           | £    | <u>20221</u> <u>20221</u> |

Note :

7 Designated Reserve for major equipment replacement.

Prepared : 240113



EXAMINED Paul Elliott  
15/2/24

## **Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of St Oswald's Church 2023**

Report for the APCM April 2024 Covering January 2023 to December 2023

### **St Oswald's Ashbourne**

#### Introduction

There has been little change of significance since the last APCM.

#### Fabric

During 2023 progression of the priority items raised by the Quinquennial Inspection conducted by Mark Parsons our Church Architect in September 2020 were undertaken.

Progress was made on the items identified as follows:

#### Priority Items

1. Installation of Roof Alarm protection for the lead sheeting on the church roof was completed in 2021.
2. The interior of the spire is suffering from "wind scour" which needs to be attended to. The stone is being eroded by wind entering via the lucarnes (unglazed openings) which can be addressed by fitting windbreaks. These will replace the existing bird-netting, many of which are already in need of repair. Identification of a project manager and contractor is still outstanding.
3. The lead sheeting on the Chancel roof is wearing thin and is slipping giving rise to occasional leaks, most notably over the organ console. In addition, the overlaps between the sheets were considered to be inadequate for the pitch of the roof. The Church Commissioners accepted Chancel Repair Liability and they appointed our architect to manage the project to relay the lead on the Chancel roof. The contract commenced in September 2022 and was completed in July 2023.

#### Less Urgent Items

In no particular order, other items to address are:

- Trip hazards and uneven patches in places on the footpaths, from the gates and around the SW corner of the building. Responsibility for repairing the footpaths has taken most of 2021 to resolve between Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC). DDDC accepted responsibility and undertook repairs to the tarmac to the southwest corner of the church.
- The wooden block flooring in the Nave and S Transept requires relaying or replacing. This has been included in the "Place for All" project.
- Some drainpipes and gullies required attention to refix and/or unblock and these have been addressed. During 2023, all drainpipes and gullies were unblocked and all lead downpipes were replaced with cast steel. This action also reduced the risk of lead theft.
- Pointing work is required in numerous places. Quotations for this work were obtained but the contractor withdrew due to retirement. Repointing of the Chancel was undertaken as part of the Chancel reroofing project.

- Some floor tiles in the Chancel by the choir stalls, require repair or replacement. No action to date.
- All the doors require treatment with linseed oil and repainting the ironwork. Quotes have been obtained, but alternative advice received indicates that the doors should not be treated.
- The South Transept door requires attention to improve its attachment to the doorway. During 2022 the South door was rehung with new hinges.
- The gates require redecorating (DDDC responsibility). No action to date.
- Access to the Boiler House is hazardous and requires upgrading. Boiler house steps have been cleaned. Further attention is required.

#### Additional Fabric Items

In addition to the Quinquennial items the following issues were addressed during 2023:

- The Church sound system was upgraded to a digital system with new wiring. This was completed in May 2023.
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 the Church Hall and the Church boiler house were flooded. This caused damage to the church heating electrics and as a result the heating pressurisation system had to be replaced.
- In November 2023 the Church heating boilers were serviced and the burners upgraded to the latest modification level.
- In December 2023 the Church lightning protection system was tested.

#### Goods and Ornaments

The only change to the Inventory is the addition of a Feurich F162 Baby Grand Piano valued at £10,800, purchased in June 2023, which will be used for services and recitals.

#### Church Hall

On 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023 the Church Hall was flooded when the Henmore Brook overtopped the wall at the South end of the car park and the flood water was retained by the Environment Agency embankment. As a result there was extensive damage to the contents and the fabric of the hall. In a matter of days the hall was cleaned and operational thanks to volunteers from the church. However, following a survey commissioned by our insurers, a major restoration project is being undertaken which is planned to be completed by May 2024. As part of the project, alterations to toilets and the old kitchen are being undertaken.

### St Mary, Mapleton

#### Introduction

There has been little change of significance since the last APCM.

#### Fabric

During 2023 progression of the priority items raised by the Quinquennial Inspection conducted by Mark Parsons our Church Architect in December 2022 were undertaken.

Progress was made on the items identified as follows:

#### Priority Items

1. Arrange for the electrical system to be inspected and certified for a new 5 year period by a registered inspection electrical contractor. The testing of the electrical system was completed in October 2023 with some rectification required.

### Less Urgent Items

In no particular order, other items to address are:

1. Rake out and repoint joints/cracks in NHL mortar to southwest short return wall at the side of the tower and at high level at the northeast corner of the nave's east end at cornice level.
2. Redecorate church notice board and treat oak church yard gates.
3. Relay stone paving slabs to the front of the tower entrance.
4. Carefully restore the Medieval glass panel in the centre north nave wall. Removing the 1960's 'recorded' reeded glass 'quarry'
5. Redecorate the nave west wall and upper tower entrance to the balcony.

### Goods and Ornaments

No changes to the Inventory have been recorded.

### Paul Elliott and Anne Ford – Church Wardens

April 2024

### **Report on St Oswald's Church Hall**

2023 saw a continued increase in use of the Church Centre Hall by various groups, clubs, and one-off private functions (like children's birthday parties). Regular users included Beavers, Guides, Slimming world, Dance classes, 'Mini Bears' Ossies Kitchen, Carers Count support group, Citizens Advice Bureau, Art, Book Club, Parkinsons Support Group, Stroke Club and Tai Chi. Together these generated an income of £12000 during the year.

Maintenace costs included the annual fire safety inspection and, in 2023, the 5-year electrical testing inspection, which resulted in the need to replace both the main hall and the kitchen electrical distribution and circuit breaker supply boards. Naturally there have been other more minor replacement items including light bulbs, curtain rails, the odd toilet flush pump.

All in all, the fabric of the building was maintained in good condition until the river Henmore took a detour through the entire building in early October. It left a bit of a mess! However, within 24 hours, an army of volunteers descended on the now very muddy hall and cleaned it all 'within an inch of its life', resulting in the hall being back into use within a week. However, the hall was damaged and required extensive remedial work to be done to strip out, dry and then replace all the damaged woodwork, contents, plaster, and some fixtures and fittings. This work began on January 2<sup>nd</sup>2024.

[At the time of writing this report in March 2024, restoration and improvement work is well underway, funded primarily by our insurers. In the meantime, all the hall users referred to earlier in this report have been relocated to one of the Methodist Church Hall, the Elim Church Main Hall, the Empire Hall or, in the case of Slimming World, to church.]

Andy Wright

## **Carsington Deanery Synod**

### **Carsington Deanery Synod Report 2023**

Carsington deanery held three synods in March, July and November.

As usual we began, we a round up from parishes of good news and what worked well and what didn't.

The first synod of 2023, we welcomed Acting Archdeacon Nicky Fenton, Nicky shared her thoughts and priorities with us. Nicky told us that she is a resource to us, to support parishes, clergy and wardens and help if there is a particular need.

We then met Aidan Watson who is the Strategic Lead for Youth Ministry. Aidan spoke to us about growing faith and growing younger and how important it is to learn from younger generations because a church that is good with younger generations is great with all generations.

In July we welcomed Bob Davies who works with the traveller community. Traveller communities are frequently the subject of prejudice, there are many different groups and cross groups. Bob encouraged us learn more about the Romany way of life.

Phil thanked Mike Warner for all his time on the deanery synod – 40 years!

We also said a sad farewell but wished Duncan & Ellie Ballard all the best for their future, as they move to South Wales. Phil thanked Duncan for his leadership and support.

Our final synod of the year was a 're-set' as it had been a challenging few years in the deanery. We appointed Rev Nicola McNally and Rev Lisa Taylor to Diocesan Synod. John Paulson stepped down from Lay Chair after many years in the role and Peter Walker was nominated and duly elected. We discussed PTO representation and Carsington Deanery could have two representatives, Rev Pauline Key and Helen Hayes were elected.

We are always grateful for reports from our Diocesan and General Synod representatives.

We move the location of the meetings around the Deanery throughout the year to encourage as many folk to come as possible. We would like to thank those who have hosted the meetings over the past year.