



**The Church of St Paul,
Grange-over-Sands**

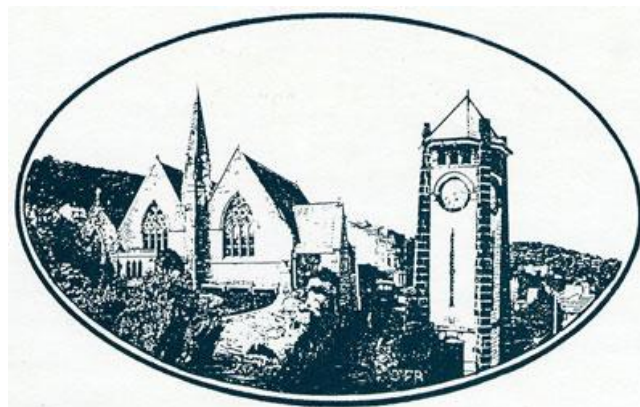
**Annual Report & Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council
year ended 31st December 2023**

Interim Team Rector:
The Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster

Bank: Lloyds TSB

Independent Examiner: Redhead Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Market Street, Broughton-in-Furness
Cumbria LA20 6HP

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**PARISH CHURCH OF ST PAUL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS
MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (VESTRY MEETING) HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2023 AT 7.00pm IN CHURCH**

There were 16 parishioners present at the meeting.

The meeting opened with prayer, led by Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster, Chairman of the meeting.

A presentation of a card and bottle of sherry was made to the PCC Secretary, Rosemary Hoyle, in thanks for, and to mark her 30 years in that role.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Revd Annette Miller, Jackie Bailey, Penny Ward, Sue Fleetwood, Pat Rye, Mollie Bell, Barbara Ramsden and Helen Hill.

2. Minutes of the Last Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 April 2022

These had been included in the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022, which had been circulated to parishioners in advance of this meeting. The minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record of that meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

Thanks were expressed to Brian McCann for taking on the role of Churchwarden last year, and for all the work he has done throughout this time.

4. Election of Churchwarden

There were vacancies for two Churchwardens; however, only one nomination had been received.

Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Brian McCann	Margaret Ratcliffe	Judith Mitchell

There being no further nominations, Brian McCann was duly, unanimously elected by those present at this meeting for a term of one year. Brian will be officially admitted as Churchwarden by the Archdeacon of Westmorland and Furness, Venerable Vernon Ross, at a service to be held later in the year.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST PAUL, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS
MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH CHURCH MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 2023 AT 7.00pm IN CHURCH**

There were 16 parishioners present at the meeting.

The meeting opened with prayer, led by Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster, Chairman of the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

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2. Minutes of the Last Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 April 2022

These had been included in the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022, which had been circulated to parishioners in advance of this meeting. The minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record of that meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports

- (a) Secretary – Rosemary Hoyle – pages 7-11 of the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022. John Millican reported that an amendment to one of the figures in the Charitable Giving statement had been made on page 10 to the figure in the Financial Review General Fund paragraph ‘organ maintenance’ which should read £826.40. There being no further comments, the report was accepted by those members present and thanks were expressed to Rosemary for producing this report and her work throughout the year.
- (b) Treasurer – John Millican – pages 23-31 of the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022. John reported that there was a surplus in the General Fund of £16,850.36, and a loss in the Designated Building Fund of -£2,328, making a total surplus for the year of £14,522.36. At the year end, 31 December 2022, the total balance of funds was as follows: General Fund £53,082.84; Designated Building Fund £17,810.47, making a total balance of £70,893.31. Thanks were expressed to John for his work. Jonathan stated that it was good to have such a healthy balance, but that we should be looking at how best to use this money going forward. Items which will require financing currently are work to the hopper windows, the purchase of a defibrillator, works to the central heating boiler, looking into the possibility of secondary double glazing in part of the church, audio-visual equipment and increasing our Parish Offer in future years. The Accounts were adopted unanimously by members present at this meeting.
- (c) Electoral Roll – Susan Jackson – page 14 of the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022. Susan reported as follows: A new roll was produced in April 2019 and 124 names were registered. The 1st revision was completed on 30 March 2020, there had been 9 additions and 8 removals (7 deceased, 1 moved) ie 125 names registered. The 2nd revision was completed for the April 2021 APCM. There had been a further 9 removals (6 deceased, 3 moved) the number on the 2nd revision in April 2021 was 116. The 3rd revision was completed for the 2022 APCM, there had been 3 additions and a further 6 removals (3 deceased, 3 moved) the number of names registered last April was 113. The 4th revision has been completed for this APCM, during the year there had been 5 removals (3 deceased and 2 moved) and 2 additions. The number of names registered is now 110. The Electoral Roll Certificate will be published in church and numbers returned to the Carlisle Diocese. It was noted that of the 110 members registered on the Electoral Roll, 90 are regular church attenders, those that do not attend regularly have long-standing

association with the church. We need to look at ways to increase the number on our Electoral Roll, including those who do not wish to come to church regularly, but have an interest in maintaining the church in the community. Thanks were expressed to Susan for her work in maintaining our Electoral Roll. It should be noted that Susan wishes to retire from this role and is asking for someone to shadow her, with a view to taking over the role in due course.

- (d) Fabric – Colin Milner – page 13 of the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022. Colin wished to express his thanks to Trevor Brockbank, who maintains the grounds at Fell Church. The PCC is currently looking at replacing Trevor’s lawn mower. St Paul’s and the Fell Church are both in a pretty good state; there are issues of dampness at St Paul’s, but these are long-standing. New LED light bulbs have been purchased and will replace the old low-energy bulbs as they come to the end of their lives. Thanks were expressed to Colin for all his work on the fabric of both church buildings throughout the year.
- (e) Deanery Synod – Rosemary Hoyle – pages 15-17 of the Annual Report and Financial Statement 2022. Rosemary’s report of Deanery Synod was an abridge version of the minutes of the four meetings held during 2022.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Redhead Accountancy Ltd were unanimously appointed as our Independent Examiner for the year 2023. It was noted that the fee charged for the 2022 examination had been reduced to £270 (from £516 the previous year), no doubt partly due to the very precise records that John Millican provides to them.

6. Elections

- (a) PCC Members – up to 6 for 3 years

Five nominations had been received:

Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Colin Milner	Margaret Ratcliffe	Sylvia Otway
Brian McCann	Bill Jackson	Margaret Caseley
Pauline Ramsbottom	Rosemary Hoyle	Pauline Wheatley
Doug Ratcliffe	Tony Simpson	Fiona Whalley
Judith Mitchell	Allan Wilson	Stewart Charlton

There being no further nominations, the above five persons were unanimously appointed for a term of three years.

We welcome Pauline as a new member to the PCC, representing Fell Church, and Doug as a returning PCC member.

- (b) Sides-persons

The following were unanimously elected as sides-persons for the year 2023/24:

Kath Bush Eileen Burke Audrey Gorman Susan Jones-Darlington Tony Simpson Alan Wheatley	Chris Brown Carol Calveley Mike Hill Judith Mitchell Penny Ward	Pat Brown Sue Fleetwood Bill Jackson Margaret Ratcliffe Fiona Whalley
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(c) Deanery Synod – 2 representatives for 3 years

Two nominations had been received:

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Brian McCann	Audrey Gorman	Rosemary Hoyle
Mike Hill	Sue Fleetwood	John Millican

There being no further nominations the above two persons were duly, unanimously elected as Deanery Synod representatives of St Paul's and the Fell Church for a term of three years.

7. **Any Other Business**

Judith Mitchell wished to express thanks on behalf of St Paul's to the late Sue Wymer, for her work in Grange Church of England Primary School over several years. Sue had given dedicated service to three schools in the peninsula and will be greatly missed. Judith felt that it should be a priority of the PCC to maintain regular clergy, as well as lay contact with our school. It was agreed that the PCC would look at how and who we can allocate to this, bearing in mind the recently appointed Youth Leader, Andrea Mason. Brian suggested that a meeting with Andrea, himself and Judith in the first instance might give us a better idea of what may be feasible.

The above issue is linked to the, as yet, unresolved process of dissolving the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry and forming four new benefices:

1. Cartmel Priory
2. Grange-over-Sands and Field Broughton with Lindale
3. Allithwaite and Flookburgh
4. The Leven Valley Churches – Haverthwaite, Finsthwaite and Staveley

Progress has been slow, but Jonathan is hopeful that now the issue regarding the future of Revd Rachel Stavert has been resolved, it will be possible to move forward with the formal consultation process. Rosemary will be sending a draft letter to Archdeacon Vernon Ross, asking him to write to each PCC in the Team seeking written consent to dissolving the current CPTM and forming the four new benefices listed above. This process has to be finalised before we can go forward to forming a new Mission Community with our ecumenical partners, as required by the Diocese of Carlisle. There is a very real feeling of frustration amongst the whole congregation of both churches at the amount of time that has elapsed since Revd Canon Nick Ash left in September 2016.

Members present at this meeting wished to state that we are very fortunate to have Jonathan with us and thanked him for all the work he has done through the year to try to drive through the above process and much progress has been made in relationships between the individual parishes.

We will ask Archdeacon Vernon to come to our July PCC meeting to speak to us about the process once more and possibly to preach at a service after this, when he can inform members of the congregation about how the process works and a likely timescale.

Members present are also insistent upon the Grange Rectory (or another building) being reinstated into any future Pastoral Measure, as we feel strongly that we need a clergy presence in Grange-over-Sands, the largest community on the peninsula.

Brian thanked Jonathan and Sarah for all the work they have done throughout the past year, for which we are very grateful. Thanks were also expressed to Margaret Ratcliffe for all that she has done at Grange Primary School over the year; Margaret will be stepping down from this role now. Brian also thanked all those who have helped him during his first year as our Churchwarden, in particular, Mike Hill and Rosemary Hoyle.

There being no further business, the meeting finished by saying 'The Grace' at 7.55pm

**ST PAUL'S CHURCH, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Administrative Information

St Paul's Church is situated on Church Hill, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6BD. It is part of the Diocese of Carlisle within the Church of England and part of the Windermere Deanery. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a Registered Charity registered with the Charity Commission, No: 1136108.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Associate Priest:	Revd Jonathan Brewster	Moved August 2023
Associate Priest:	Revd Annette Miller	(from October 2022)
<i>Reader Emeritus:</i>	Joyce Leach	
<i>Warden:</i>	Brian McCann	
<i>Deputy Warden:</i>	Vacant	
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i>		May 2023 to May 2026
	Brian McCann	
	Mike Hill	
<i>Elected Members:</i>	Rosemary Hoyle	Secretary APCM 2021 to APCM 2024
	John Millican	Treasurer APCM 2021 to APCM 2024
	Colin Milner	From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026
	Brian McCann	From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026
	Judith Mitchell	From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026
	Audrey Gorman	From APCM 2022 to APCM 2025
	Sue Fleetwood	From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024
	Susan Jones-Darlington	From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024
	Margaret Ratcliffe	From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024
	Penny Ward	From APCM 2022 to APCM 2025
	Pauline Ramsbottom	From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026
	Doug Ratcliffe	From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Objectives and Activities

Within the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry, St. Paul's Grange-over-Sands PCC has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in sharing the love of God pastorally, evangelistically, socially and ecumenically. It also has the responsibility of maintaining fabric, buildings and grounds of St. Paul's Church and the Fell Church.

Church Attendance

There were 113 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll reported to the Annual Meeting held in 2023. There were 99 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll reported to the Annual Meeting held in 2024.

Average Sunday attendance in both churches was 68, after omitting those Sundays where baptisms were held and attendances "spiked". Attendances during the month of October 2022, was 69, compared with 70 in 2022.

In addition to the above figures, Home Communion was distributed, where deemed to be safe to do so, to approximately 10 members of our congregation during the year.

Review of the Year

The PCC met eight times during 2023. There are 15 PCC members, which includes our Associate Priest, Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster, who moved on to become Dean of Carlisle Cathedral in September. We have not had an incumbent designated to the parish for seven years, though there is hope that interviews for a new Team Vicar will take place in the near future. We were very pleased that Revd Annette Miller's Licence was renewed to the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry for a further year.

The Standing Committee met in the alternate months to the PCC, to discuss items delegated by the PCC and prepare the Agenda for future meetings.

Throughout the year, the PCC continued to work towards dissolving the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry and forming new benefices, along with the other parishes involved, along with our Archdeacon. The new proposal put forward in 2022 which, going forward from the dissolution of the current Team, would form four new benefices: (1) Cartmel, (2) Grange-over-Sands and Field Broughton with Lindale, (3) Allithwaite and Flookburgh and (4) the three Leven Valley parishes (Finsthwaite, Haverthwaite and Staveley), continues to go through the formal process.

As we await the arrival of a new Team Vicar our annual PCC Away Day has been put on hold until that person has settled into their new role, and we hope to be able to hold this later in 2023.

St Paul's Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on Wednesday, 19 April 2023, when we re-appointed Brian McCann as our Churchwarden. It would be good if we could have two Churchwardens, or a Deputy Churchwarden. However, we are fortunate to have an excellent team of sides-people, who have taken on additional duties to alleviate pressure on the Churchwarden at services and other church events, and many willing volunteers who carry out many tasks to keep our church clean and tidy and running efficiently, and we thank them for their time and willingness to help.

Lay-led services have continued, normally on the third Sunday of the month, with a small group of people from St Paul's leading the worship, and a speaker, utilising both our own congregation and also inviting people from outside the Church, such as Jane Walmsley from Thornleigh Christian Hotel, Anita Peat a Reader from Kendal Parish Church, Revd Annie Grey from Anna Chaplaincy, Ruth Briddock who has previously served as churchwarden in an Anglican church when she worked in Turkey, near to the site of the recent earthquakes; Canon Dr Alison Fleetwood, the Diocesan Healing Adviser, Revd Roy Rutter – dementia-friendly churches, Pam Martin – Eco-Church and Michael Hardie from the Leprosy Mission.

These services have been well received by our congregation and are an excellent way to encourage those leading the service on their own spiritual journey.

St Paul's Church has very strong links with the Church-aided Primary School, with regular visits to the school by volunteers from the Church who run a weekly lunch-time club, and several people who go into school to assist the pupils with their reading. The school visits St Paul's Church to learn about the church and its work, and also hold services at both St Paul's and the Methodist Church in Grange. We have three members of our congregation who are Foundation Governors at the school.

We have two representatives from St Paul's on the committee of Churches Together in the Cartmel Peninsula. This group meets regularly and organises events during the year, involving all the churches in Grange.

St Paul's held its annual Spring Fair and Christmas Fair in 2023, both raising a good amount towards the upkeep of our Church buildings. These are also good social occasions, that welcome the local community into our Church.

The main fabric projects to maintain and enhance the fabric of our two churches were as follows:

- A defibrillator has been installed in St Paul's Church and training in its use will take place early in 2023.
- Works to renovate the hopper windows in St Paul's to enable them to be easily opened.

Further details on fabric can be found in the Fabric Report presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – page 13 of the Annual Report and Accounts 2023 document.

The PCC is trialling the use of a QR code in St Paul's Church for 12 months and will review its success then and also look at the possibility of installing a contactless-giving machine. The PCC is now using online banking, which saves the church a significant amount of money which would otherwise be incurred through bank charges. Our Church Treasurer, John Millican is in regular contact with the Diocesan Finance Officer, Ric Jaques and John Thompson, the Diocesan Stewardship Officer.

We are so grateful to Charles Edmondson, one of our organists, for continuing to organise concerts in St Paul's Church, which normally attract an audience of around 50. These concerts are very well received. Charles continues to play for our services, together with Ian Thompson. Sadly, Ian has now retired as at the end of December 2023 and we wish to publicly acknowledge our thanks to him for all the time and effort he has put in over the past few years. Our Church Choir now has nine members.

As well as our series of concerts in the church, we have also held many other social events throughout the year, including a concert given by the Bay Community Singers, several local walks, regular 'Cake and Cuppa' meetings in Church, monthly craft afternoon sessions, with special thanks to Pip Woon for organising these, and we celebrated our 10th anniversary of the Christmas Tree Festival at St Paul's, which raised £1,575.24 and was shared between St Mary's Hospice (for a cuddle bed, in memory of Sue Wymer) and Bay Search and Rescue.

The sub-committees of the PCC continue to meet regularly throughout the year and work very well by discussing matters which need attention in greater detail and putting forward recommendations to the PCC. The two sub-committees are the Worship sub-committee and the Social sub-committee.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In addition, our Safeguarding officer, Judith Mitchell, has ensured that all safeguarding training is up to date and the DBS certificates are current.

St Paul's Church is signed up to easyfundraising, which started in December 2011 – so far £619.67 has been received.

I, as PCC Secretary, would like to take this opportunity to thank all PCC members for their attendance and contribution at meetings during the year.

Charitable Collections 2023

Barrow Foodbank	£ 40.81
DEC Turkey Syria Earthquake	£ 20.00
Christian Aid	£ 239.88
British Red Cross Libya Morocco Appeal	£ 73.00
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£ 117.00
Children's Society (Christingle)	£ 461.25
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 73.10
WaterAid	£ 405.00

Sub total £1,430.04

Charitable Giving 2023

DEC Turkey Syria Earthquake Appeal	£ 500.00
Christian Aid	£ 130.83
Tear Fund	£ 172.50
Rossall School (School Concert Proceeds)	£ 76.84
Prayers For Children - For Baptism Babies	£ 21.57
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£ 33.00
British Red Cross Morocco Libya Appeal	£ 60.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 30.00
Burneside Brass Band	£ 150.00
Leprosy Mission	£ 100.00
Bay Search & Rescue	£ 787.62
St Mary's Hospice Sue Wymer Cuddle Bed Appeal	£ 787.62
<u>Sub total</u>	<u>£ 2,849.98</u>

Secular Collections 2023

None in 2023 Sub total Nil

TOTAL **£ 4,280.02**

Financial Review

General Fund

The total receipts for the year were £66,926.16 and the payments out were £58,659.39 plus charitable giving of £2,849.98, giving an in-year surplus of £8,416.79.

The above expenditure included items listed below. Some items attracted Listed Places of Worship (LPOW) grants whereby VAT is refunded, in which cases the total costs and the net costs after receipt of the LPOW grant are shown. The items are for St Paul's except where stated otherwise :-

- Defibrillator in cabinet and pads - £2,571
- Quinquennial Inspection Fee - £912
- Organ maintenance - £811.20 or £676 net of LPOW grant
- Boiler Service for St Paul's - £549.60 or £458 net of a LPOW grant
- Loudspeaker in the choir area - £361.30
- Fire Alarm - £354.30 or £335.91 net of a LPOW grant. Another LPOW grant will be claimed for this work because some of it was carried out after the latest grant application was made
- Lawnmowers for the Fell Church and for St Paul's, costing £253.99 and £94.98 respectively, total £348.97.
- Front Door Lock - £258.80 or £215.67 net of a LPOW grant.
- Robinsons Electric - Electrical work including lighting repairs - £218 or £198.83 - net of a LPOW grant. Another LPOW grant will be claimed for this work because some of it was carried out after the latest grant application was made.

- Fire Extinguisher service at St Paul's and at the Fell Church - £153.60 or £135 net of a LPOW grant. The grant applies to St Paul's but not to the Fell Church.
- Shelves in choir robing cupboard - £45.04.

Designated Building Fund

£2,100.00 was spent on repairs to leaded lights and hopper sections of windows in St Paul's Church. This was offset by a Listed Places of Worship grant of £350.00 giving a nett cost of £1750.00. This gives a reduction in the fund of £1,750.00.

At the end of 2023, the Church was left with the following balance of funds:

General Fund	£61,499.63
Building	£16,060.47
Total	£77,560.10

The expenditure incurred was in pursuit of the objectives of the Church in providing Christian Ministry in the Parish of St Paul, Grange-over-Sands. A detailed commentary on the figures is given in the Treasurer's Report, and the formal Statement of Assets and Liabilities providing a breakdown of the assets held, and the receipts and payments for the year is appended to this Annual Report.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, as far as may be possible, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. It is our policy to invest our funds with a CCLA Savings Account. A revised Reserves Policy was adopted by the PCC during 2009. At the meeting held on 11 July 2012, the PCC accepted the Reserves Policy document previously circulated. This called for reserves to be maintained, as far as possible, of:

- 6 months of normal expenditure including routine maintenance and renewals
- the next 12 months Parish Offer
- any identified special building maintenance or renewal items falling due in the next two years.

Do remember to look at the Church website which is an excellent source of information and is very attractive www.grangepcc.co.uk and don't forget that we also have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS>

Approved by the PCC at their meeting on 3 March 2024

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST, REVD ANNETTE MILLER

This is less of a report and more of a look back over the year of 2023 in the five parishes which I serve.

As every other year 2023 was a busy year.

Our churches are blessed with many people who make regular Sunday worship possible. There has been, both individually and jointly, many uplifting services. It has been wonderful to join the church families at services which has included celebrating Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, Patronal festivals at Finsthwaite, Field Broughton and Grange. It was particularly noticeable that the events and services leading up to Christmas Day, especially the Christingles and Carol services were well attended and enjoyed by both regular church members and people from the local communities. The year finished with a joint service on 31st December in St Paul's, Grange.

In addition to Sunday worship, there has been a wide variety of events around the churches which has given the opportunity for fellowship in the wider communities. Here are a few memorable ones. Concerts organised by Charles Edmondson, a concert given by the Burneside Brass Band and the Christmas Tree Festival in Grange. The lunch club at Haverthwaite. Field Broughton has held events in the Parish rooms including an Epiphany lunch and undertaken its two regular walks to beat the parish boundary. Staveley celebrated the first Holy Communion of Christmas with mince pies and mulled wine following the service. A local Finsthwaite couple held a BBQ for the village and were married the following day in St Peter's Church.

Under the chairmanship of Rev'd David Edmondson the Cartmel Peninsula Churches Together had an active year. The churches in the area came together to worship and enjoy fellowship including during the week of prayer for Christian unity and for the Lent lunches. Thanks to David, a monthly time of worship and fellowship has been re-established in two local care homes and we celebrated Pentecost with a party on St Charles' field.

In July after a joint service and lunch at St Anne's we said farewell to the Brewster family as Jonathan left our parishes to take up his new appointment as Dean of Carlisle Cathedral. His installation as Dean in September was attended by a good number of us.

The year was not without sad times. It has been a privilege to be able to offer some small support to those who have suffered ill health and those who have grieved on the death of loved ones.

The year ended with the appointment of the Rev'd David Wilmot to the CPMT. He will have special responsibility for Grange and Field Broughton with Lindale. We give thanks to God for his appointment, and we continue to pray for the appointment of a person to lead and nourish the Leven Valley church families.

Rev'd Annette Miller - APCM 2024

FABRIC REPORT FOR THE PAST YEAR:- 2023

St Paul's Church and Fell Church Fabric

(Quinquennial Inspection process of the St Paul's building took place in March 2021 (However the full invoice was only received and paid this July)

All financial costs associated with fabric and garden matters are included in the report compiled by our PCC secretary and treasurer entitled "Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year 1 January to 31 December 2023"

St Paul's Church building is really in a good state fabric wise, with the exceptions of the west wall, the flower room and the cleaner's room which have had problems with damp, flaking plaster and water ingress for many years now. There is no evidence that these are dangerous or even getting dramatically worse.

St Paul's Church Fabric and Gardens

Throughout the year of 2023 the following aspects connected with the church fabric have been completed;- In February our sound system amplifier was improved by Alex Linney who also installed a new loudspeaker in the choir. The hopper windows were serviced and extensively cleaned so that they open and shut in a better manner. An entrance notice of direction has been fixed to the church wall in the car park.

In February we experienced a problem with one of the chandelier lights, of which we are still awaiting *Robinsons Electric* to come and fix.

The Churchwarden has obtained a further two electric convector heaters as an attempt to make the choir area a bit warmer for those who sing here in the winter months. These seem to work well.

We have had a change of C/H boilers service providers for the 2023 annual servicing. *(Our former contractor "O'Connell & Bean" for many years, have since ceased trading.)*

An interior defibrillator was purchased and fitted in September of which, by the end of the year, we await the necessary training in how to use this.

The back door was relieved of jamming and a new front door lock fitted to enhance church security. The building now has a QR card-stand installed just inside the front entrance.

A decision has been made by the PCC to retain the old litho-copier, upon our church administrator's recommendation, in case of an emergency. Later in 2023, a newer model photocopier was installed to replace old one. Linda Brown inserted some frosted plastic paneled windows between the office and the passage at no costs. This gives the office additional security and privacy.

In November, stacking shelves were purchased to fit inside the choir-robing cupboard to afford the church more storage. The choir robes were recycled.

A problem with the church roof was first noticed this year, but this is now ongoing into 2024, when we hope that contractors will complete the work to prevent rainwater entering into the sanctuary area of the church. In order to identify precisely where the slipped tiles and other roof issues were, the contractors used a drone!

Church Gardens During 2023 these were maintained by a very small number of congregation members, on an individual basis, and as well we held a boon day in October. Jon Miller continued to cut the lawn throughout the season after the PCC had bought a new electric lawn mower. Contractors looked after the portion of the church garden that was re-planted in memory of Derek.

Fell Church Fabric and Grounds (2023)

The former allotment adjacent to Trevor's has now returned to grass at no costs. A petrol lawn mower was bought to replace the broken one that Trevor had used for so many years, but, unfortunately, owing to ill health, Trevor has had to now give up mowing. For the 2023 season we have managed to undertake grass cutting ourselves.

Inside the building the electric lights have been improved by *Robinson's Electric*
Colin Milner

ELECTORAL ROLL

A new roll was produced in April 2019 and 124 names were registered.

The 1st revision was completed for the 2020 APCM, the number on the roll was 119 there had been six removals and one addition.

The 2nd revision was completed for the 2021 APCM, the number on the roll was 116 there had been three removals, no additions.

The 3rd revision was completed for the 2022 APCM, the number on the roll was 113 there had been six removals and three additions.

The 4th revision was completed for the 2023 APCM, the number on the roll was 110 there had been five removals and two additions.

Susan Jackson

Electoral Roll Officer

FROM THE REGISTERS

There were 119 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll reported to the Annual Meeting held in 2022. There were 113 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll reported to the Annual Meeting held in 2023.

Average Sunday attendance in both churches was 70, after omitting those Sundays where baptisms were held and attendances "spiked". Attendances during the month of October 2022, was 77, compared with 68 in 2021.

During 2022 there were 9 funerals at St Paul's and 2 funerals at Fell Church; 2 weddings at St Paul's and 5 Baptisms at St Paul's.

In addition to the above figures, Home Communion was distributed, where deemed to be safe to do so, to approximately 10 members of our congregation during the year.

Brian McCann

Churchwarden

LAY READERS

There is one Reader Emeritus in the parish, Joyce Leach with permission to officiate

Joyce supports the mission and ministry of the team by supporting and encouraging others and occasionally helping with services, continuing pastoral work and being involved with the life of the church .

Joyce Leach

WINDERMERE DEANERY SYNOD

March 2023 Meeting

Deanery Levy - the Levy has decreased by 50% thanks to the availability of a Trust which supports expenses related to the Network Youth Minister.

Parish Offering Report - Rev James Richards reported. A Paper was circulated (Attached)

The paper gave a clear picture of where monies for ministry come from and how they are spent. It also illustrates the cost of supporting a variety of types of ministry. The real terms value of Parish offer has reduced by 40% over the past 14 years. In 2022 our Parishes paid the full amount that they offered. Offer for 2023 has increased by 4.5%. Paying regularly by Standing Order is hugely helpful to the Diocese and its accounting processes. The process for calculating Parish Offer is changing (as is its name). Mission Communities will increasingly collaborate over deciding what their `Ministry Offer` will be in the future. The question of whether details of what each Parish is `Offering` might be made more widely available across the Deanery was again raised. Rev. James promised to investigate what might be possible.

Central Lakes Mission Community – Revd Beverly Lock has retired and a replacement is due to be interviewed in April. (Ambleside, Brathay, Langdale) Contemporary Worship and Choral Evensongs are being held. Pilgrimage Walks continue. We look forward to welcoming a Curate to Langdale Vicarage in July. Also, a Self-Supporting Curate is due to be appointed.

South Lakes Mission Community – James Richards reported that he was hopeful that forthcoming, small initiatives will lead to the building up of the Mission Community.

Cartmel Peninsula Mission Community – Revd Jonathan Brewster. A moving forward together event was recently held. Well attended and an encouraging day for the 65 people who attended. In tandem with this, the Mission Community (with ecumenical colleagues) is slowly emerging. The dissolution of the Cartmel Team is moving forward slowly. Ecumenical Lent Groups/Lunches are happening. All in reasonable heart. Revd Annette Miller has recently begun offering a much-valued ministry.

Deanery Network Youth Ministry – Chris Mason submitted a written report as follows:

Cartmel Peninsula - Helen Hoyle left her role as Community & Youth Leader in December, this has left a gap in support for Network Youth Church but CTYT and St Mary's Church, Allithwaite have moved quickly to try and fill the post. I am involved with recruitment. Several things are on hold until a replacement can be found.

- Cartmel Priory School. I have taken on responsibility for Year 7 Collective Worship which takes place every Monday morning.
- Friday Night Youth. This group continues at St Marys Allithwaite and I am in the process of recruiting a volunteer leader.

Central Lakes Mission Community

Monday Night Youth. This is still continuing in Ambleside; we have been baking and looking at film clips on who is Jesus.

Contemporary Worship Service

I am on the planning group of the Mission Community Contemporary Worship Service. One of my roles is to see how we can make it appealing for young people.

South Lakes Mission Community

Experiencing Easter. I am involved with Experiencing Easter, to take place at St Marys, Windermere before Easter.

Drop In. Discussions are taking place regards starting a Young Persons Drop In out of St Mary's Church, Windermere, after school. The hope is to start in May.

Schools

I am involved in various ad-hoc school activities. I am building a team of people to lead the Year 6 Priory Day to take place in Autumn 2023 at Cartmel Priory Church.

In June/ July we will be having year 6 transition across the Deanery as well as Prayer Space at Cartmel Priory School.

Legacy Week -The Stewardship Adviser, Sophie Hodge is promoting Legacy Week 23-30 April, inviting parishes to sensitively promote this significant means of giving. The meeting viewed a Video produced by Sophie.

Bishop Rob addressed the meeting about the `God For All` Agenda; offering elements of the material given at the Bishops` recent Roadshow. Key Themes include: Ministry Development. Growing Younger. Schools. Church Planting & Pioneering. Buildings. Eco Strategy. Digital. He answered questions, in particular with regard to the forthcoming process to appoint a new Bishop of Carlisle.

July 2023 Meeting

Up to date figures not available at the moment. 29th July is the deadline for 2024 Offers. The request is that we commit to meeting the increase for the two years following. Diocese is wholly committed to local ministry- but our offers do not entirely cover these costs (the Diocese is subsidising ministry from other sources).

Since the meeting, James has received Ministry Offer figures and has added this:

Of the 23 parishes in the Deanery, fourteen are paying by Standing Order. Up to the end of May, one parish had paid in full, 15 parishes had paid five payments, 4 parishes had paid (approx) four payments, 1 parish had paid two tenths of its offer, and two parishes had made no payment.

So the parishes of the Cartmel Peninsula Mission Community collectively had paid just over a third of their offer, Central Lakes just under 40% and South Lakes 40%. The total offer for the year across the Deanery as a whole is £428,472.

Ministry Strategy – Mission Communities

Central Lakes (Helen Hoyle)

Recently welcomed Emily Bagg & Chris Smith at their recent Ordination.

Rev Andy Smith is the new Team Rector of the Loughrigg Team (September 6th Licensing). Choral Evensong is being held across the Mission Community.

South Lakes (James Richards)

After School drop-in for Lakes School Students has begun experimentally.

Peninsula (Jane Maycock)

Three new Benefices are being created. Profiles are being produced with a view to advertising for new clergy. Jonathan Brewster is departing for Carlisle. Moving towards becoming a Mission Community is still very much in mind. Jane also reported on the work of the Vacancy in See Committee; appointing a new Bishop of Carlisle in December (hopefully announced in the new year at some point).

Deanery Network Youth Ministry (Chris Mason)

Peninsula: Small group meeting on Friday / Cartmel Priory school work ongoing. A half day transition time at Allithwaite.

Central Lakes: Looking forward to working with Rev Andy Smith. Involved with the contemporary worship.

South Lakes: Drop-in at St. Mary`s Windermere has begun. Much to be encouraged about `The Big One`: A Youth event will be held in Keswick in September.

Anna Newlove (Net Zero Officer) Anna gave a presentation relating to the `Tread Gently` part of the Diocesan Vision.

November 2023 Meeting

Ministry Strategy-Mission Communities

Central Lakes

Andy Smith has begun in Ambleside.

Passon Play planned for 2024. Rydal Hall going well.

South Lakes - No Report.

Peninsula

Appointment of Mark Houston to Flookburgh & Allithwaite. Grange & Field Broughton with Lindale - no progress as yet.

Deanery Network Youth Ministry

Chris Mason sent apologies for absence.

Written report was read by the Rural Dean. Lunch Clubs at Lakes Schools and Cartmel Priory Schools. Drop-in at Windermere St. Mary. Cartmel Peninsula Celebration of Youth Ministry. Pizza Party and Light Party held at Allithwaite.

Good News for Everyone (formerly Gideons) gave a short presentation and offered to visit parishes to share something of their work.

Sophie Hodge Gave a presentation about Stewardship and Legacy Giving.

FELL CHURCH

2023 was a normal year for us in some respects: the usual 48 services, that is one Holy Communion and one Matins each month, totalling 303 attendances overall with an average congregation of 13 at communion and 11 at matins, slightly lower than previous years. However, it is amazing that we can record such as we have had an abnormally high number of setbacks this year due to illness and accidents.

Out of our 14 or 15 regular worshippers nine have suffered from heart, abdominal, joint or limb malfunction or family issues, necessitating hospitalisation and being away from home.

Incidentally, all but one are once again with us.

Considering the number of roles to be covered (cleaning, refreshments, sides-persons, readers, sacristan, PCC member, intercessors, leading services and, not least, musician) it was amazing that we could hold normal services and it is pleasing to say we are almost back in full swing.

We are grateful to several other people who help keep us going; Bill for clock winding, John, who relieves us of managing our finances; Colin in the garden, the ladies who supply our altar requirements, and Emma who, from Northumberland, provides 3-monthly rotas of duties and hymns to ensure we run smoothly.

We have enjoyed using our new small booklets with the Book of Common Prayer service of Holy Communion, reduced to just the passages in regular modern-day use, and we continue saying Matins at our lay-led services. What a joy it is when we include the BCP General Thanksgiving: ...'We give you thanks for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life...' we feel indeed blessed.

Barbara Ramsden

GRANGE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school continues to thrive, and we are proud to be associated with such a special school. The governing body benefits from several governors from church who have a wide range of expertise and experience between them. Brian McCann, Gill Webster Judith Mitchell are all governors. The school follow the Christian vision reflecting their motto Achieve, Believe, Care and through the values of Love, Hope and Trust.

Governors and church members continued to give support at school via hearing readers, library duty, working on the school grounds and generally helping the school. The school is also financially supported via a church trust where money is used to assist with costs for families with low incomes, eg residentials, uniform and nursery costs.

With the sad loss of Sue Wymer, Benefice Schools Minister, collective worship is led by a variety of external visitors, eg Revd Jo Rand from the Grange Methodist church, a representative from Northern Inter Schools Christian Union & Andrea Mason our new local Christian Youth Worker on a weekly basis. In addition, Colin Milner former Head teacher of Grange school gives assemblies with a nature and Christian theme as a parishioner. I attend Collective Worship on a regular basis at the school as part of governor monitoring. The school has also created displays for church, based on the Christian values of Hope and Love.

Our church has strong links through school assemblies and lunchtime clubs. The school services all continue in church again with the whole school Easter service, the Leavers service in July, the whole school Harvest service in October, school participation in the Civic Remembrance service and the end of term Christmas service. The lunchtime club continues to thrive led by Audrey Gorman and Margaret Radcliffe with good levels of attendance (10) in KS1. After school church events have been held termly led by Revd Annette Miller and team, eg a new Outdoor Pet Service in July which was well attended, a LIGHT craft session in November and an event is planned for Easter.

The school also entered 2 trees in the Christmas tree festival and all the children were invited to the annual Christmas Eve Christingle service in aid of the Children's Society. A Pancake party was held, led by Fiona Whalley and myself for Grange school and parishioners.

All 7 local Church of England schools attended the Year 5/6 Priory Day at Cartmel Priory, held annually in September with assistance from parishioners.

The school had a 'Good' Ofsted inspection report in September 2023 supported by governors and the school were pleased with the result. Governors continue to support the school via monitoring and practical advice.

Judith Mitchell

Foundation Governor 2024

LUNCH-TIME CLUB

Lunch-time Club has continued to be held at school on Mondays during the Autumn and Spring terms. The format has changed slightly since September, as the classroom we used is no longer available; so it is now held in the Library. This has led to the formation of two smaller groups, who attend on alternate weeks. However, the children continue to enjoy the stories, colouring and puzzles usually based around the Sunday readings.

Audrey Gorman

PASTORAL TEAM

The members of the Pastoral Team continue in their mission to keep in regular touch with all parishioners, whether regular attendees or those unable to get to church for whatever reason. We are always grateful to hear news of anyone who has been missed so that we can catch up with a phone call or a home or hospital visit. Anyone in need of special prayers can have their name added to the Prayer Points on the weekly pew-sheet and the prayer tree is available in St Paul's for prayer requests. These names are used regularly in our intercessions during services, but only when permission has been sought first.

We continue to provide home communion each month to those who cannot get to church. This is a simple service lasting about 30 minutes, usually on the first or second Wednesday following the Communion service in the Lady Chapel where the elements have been consecrated. Reserves are always available in the aumbry – the special cabinet on the wall in the Lady Chapel.

'Cuppa and Cake' is now a popular and regular event on the first Wednesday afternoon each month throughout the year. It is advertised in the library and on the external notice board and is open to anyone who would like to join us, including visitors on holiday. Invitations are available at the back of church to be given to neighbours and/or friends. We usually number between 20 and 25. There is no charge and no plate for donations, although the offer of some home baking is always appreciated!

The weekly emailing of the pew-sheet with readings continues to be sent out to over 90 recipients, and is much appreciated, not least by former members of our congregation who have moved away. Please let us know of any changes to email addresses or of anyone who you think might appreciate our news. If anyone requires a large print version of the pew-sheet, please have a word with Linda.

We see pastoral care as a most important part of parish life. If there is anyone who feels called to this ministry, then please contact one of the team.

Penny Ward

HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT MARCH 2023/ MARCH 2024

Unfortunately, March 2023 started off with the resignation of Steve Parkinson as Health and Safety Officer, due to work commitments. I would like to thank Steve for all his support during his term in office.

Our main priority was to get someone to replace him, but this has proved difficult, and we are still looking for someone to fill this important role. We have advertised the role in our monthly magazine and weekly pew sheets. Our possible next step is to get someone from outside the church to fill the void.

May meeting: we had problems with the boiler, but it was pointed out to us by Oncore, who service the boiler, that the motor in the boiler room was insecure and could prove to be dangerous. They sorted this out.

Health and Safety was brought up at all our other meetings, but nothing arose other than the fact that we urgently need a Health and Safety Officer.

Brian McCann

Churchwarden

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

During 2023 we continued to follow the Diocesan Policy for Safeguarding, covering everything that each Parish must comply with.

We are committed to provide for the safety, wellbeing and proper development of children and vulnerable adults. Over the year safeguarding updating and new checks were carried out for PCC & school volunteers as required using the new Thirtyone-eight online facility. The PCC and Pastoral Team have included safeguarding in their meetings.

The Parish DBS database and Training database continue to be updated and details sent to the Diocesan office. The updated Church of England Safeguarding policy 'Promoting a safer church' is adopted by the PCC and we follow the safeguarding checklist.

No safeguarding cases were reported in 2023.

Training courses, where required, have been completed eg Safer recruitment, Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse and Leadership. Face-to-face Basic & Foundation training course was held at Grange School in July 2023 for PCC members and local churches. A joint course was also presented in September by Bidy Hibbert from St Peter's Field Broughton with Lindale and myself, who are both accredited Carlisle Diocesan trainers, as we have completed the Carlisle Diocese 'Train the Trainer' course.

A meeting of local Parish Safeguarding Officers was held in May with representatives from Flookburgh, Field Broughton with Lindale, Staveley-in-Carmel and Grange-over-Sands, and this contact continues.

Hand sanitising also continues to be maintained in 2023 as part of COVID management.

Judith Mitchell

Parish Safeguarding Officer

STEWARDSHIP 2023 (FIGURES FOR 2022 IN BRACKETS)

Total giving to the Church through the weekly envelope scheme and by Bank Standing Order was £36,546.88 (£37,512.28).

Gift Aid tax recovery brought in another £9,435.83 (£10,173.81), giving a total of £45,982.71 (£47,686.09). (The Gift Aid figure is boosted by £1,003.55 (£760.60) from claims made on gifts outside of the stewardship scheme).

As last year, 10 people give regularly to the Church using the weekly envelope scheme, and 64 people by Bank Standing Order.

I will continue the envelope scheme for those people who do not wish, or are unable to use the Standing Order facility, but if you feel that contributing to the Church by Standing Order may be for you, I would encourage you to proceed, and if you require any assistance, I will be more than happy to help. (I have forms to set up Standing Orders for those who are unable to do it online through their internet banking.) Also, if you are a U.K. Tax Payer, and haven't filled out a Gift Aid Declaration Certificate, again forms are available from me.

On behalf of Saint Paul's may I thank you all for your continued and greatly appreciated support.

Chris Brown

Stewardship Secretary

CAR PARKING 2022

This year a total of 42 permits, (including complimentary permits for Clergy), were issued for parking at St. Paul's, generating a total of £1,440.

Costing £45 for a full 12 months of convenient parking in the centre of town, this represents great value for the permit holder and provides a most welcome additional income stream for the church. (Less than £1 per week, it now costs £1.20 plus for one hour in any other car park)

Please remember to display your permit when parking, and enjoy the convenience of this ideal location.

Chris Brown

ST PAUL'S CHURCH CHOIR

We are very grateful to Charles Edmondson and Ian Thompson, for covering all our services during 2023. Sadly, Ian retired at the end of the year, and we will miss him and his wonderful playing at our services.

Our choir members are: Rosemary Hoyle, Sylvia Otway, Joyce Leach, Christine Parkinson, Margaret Wilson, Helen Hill, Heather Morgan, Margaret Lang and Jill Wigfall. Susan Simpson and Christine McCann join us when they are able to.

We are still affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) and this enables us to join in any of their events, as well as receiving a regular magazine and a booklet listing suitable hymns for each Sunday service throughout the year (very useful to Rosemary who produces the service rota for St Paul's church).

Being a member of the Church Choir is a big commitment – we are expected to be there every Sunday and also at other services throughout the year, such as Easter, Christmas, Ascension Day, etc and not forgetting weddings and funerals. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our Church Choir for their loyal and dedicated service throughout the year.

Rosemary Hoyle

CARTMEL PENINSULA CHURCHES TOGETHER

As the more observant will notice our name has been changed to be more inclusive. We have been working away quite quietly over the past year to do what our name suggests, under the chairmanship of the Rev'd David



Edmondson. The committee meets every 3 or 4 months in the various churches and anyone can attend and will be made very welcome. The other churches are well represented, but St Paul's only ever has Penny or myself present. The joint initiatives are important as we move forwards to a mission community on the peninsula.

This year we have welcomed Andrea Mason as the new Churches Together Youth Trust Community and Youth Leader. She was licensed at a special service in St Paul's to celebrate youth ministry, and she has been very active both in the school environment and with out-of-school clubs. She works to extend the work that husband Chris is already doing. One project which involves them both as well as many volunteers is the Annual Schools Day in Cartmel Priory. This year the theme was the *Little Kingdom Parables* and it involved 142 Year 5 and 6 children from all the peninsula primary schools. It was again, a very successful day.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January was observed with short services each day around the various churches, and during Lent the Friday soup lunches again moved round the churches together with the Cross of Unity. Donations at the lunches were shared between Christian Aid, Tearfund and Cafod. The World Day of Prayer in March took place at St Mary's Church in Allithwaite, the service being devised by the women of Taiwan.

The sunrise service on Easter Day saw a faithful few who enjoyed the hot cross buns afterwards. We held a Pentecost event on St. Charles field where people could take their lunch and listen to the band. There were also activities for children. This may become an annual event if it is deemed to be popular.

Our thanks must go to Jean and Mick Malkin for their commitment to *Praise on the Prom* which has been very popular during July and August. More thanks also to the Rev'd Sue Nicol for her Advent and Lent Quiet Mornings held in the Methodist Church which are always appreciated. We held the usual Remembrance service in St Paul's Church but the parade to the War Memorial could not take place as there was no Police presence. People made their own way down to the ornamental gardens for the laying of the wreaths.

Sadly, our Christmas Carol service at Boarbank was badly affected by the sudden heavy snow-storm in December, with only 20 people managing to make the journey. During December The Venerable Penny Driver held a series of four meditations for Advent, based on the stained glass windows in St Paul's Church.

During the year David Edmondson and his wife, Hazel, started a regular group to visit Cartmel Grange Care Home and the Old Vicarage in Allithwaite, leading a short act of worship with the singing of popular hymns. All the churches are represented in the monthly visits, and residents who join in seem to enjoy it.

Finally, the ecumenical group of Co-workers for Mother Teresa continued their bi-monthly collections in the town for the Barrow foodbank, with bumper donations at Harvest and Christmas. The small group also meet regularly once a month at St Charles' Church for prayer.

Margaret Ratcliffe

Cartmel Peninsula Churches Together Representative

WORSHIP SUB-COMMITTEE

The committee comprises 8 members and has met six times during the period of this Report. Joint services across the Team have been held on the 5th Sundays, with St Paul's hosting a Songs of Praise in July and a post-Christmas service in December, and in May pupils from Rossall School led a Choral Evensong.

Ecumenical services were organised for the Coronation in May and Remembrance Day in November, and in October we hosted a Celebration of Youth Ministry.

For our young people, a special Pet Service and Thanksgiving for Creation was held at the Primary School in July, with end-of-term services in St Paul's in April, July and December, and a harvest service in October.

On the third Sunday of each month, we have organised services led by a member of the congregation with speakers on the following subjects:

- Anna Chaplaincy
- The Gathering – Kendal Parish Church
- Tearfund
- Harvest
- Living in Turkey
- Healing
- Dementia
- Ecochurch
- Leprosy Mission

Services on a Wednesday morning have continued, with the third Wednesday in the month being shared with our Methodist friends, the venue alternating between the two churches. When no clergy person has been available, Audrey Gorman has led us using the special service the Committee has devised.

Throughout the year we have had three baptisms and a member of our congregation has been confirmed. We have also produced a BCP service booklet for use at the Fell Church.

We are indebted to Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster, Revd Annette Miller and our retired clergy for leading our worship and helping to maintain an average Sunday congregation of 55-60 at St Paul's and 15-20 at the Fell Church.

Penny Ward

Chair of the Worship sub-committee

SOCIAL MEDIA

Web site – <https://www.grangepcc.co.uk/>

Our web site is regularly updated with reports and photographs of all our events, with an on-line diary and link to the community. The What's On page includes our weekly pew-sheet and the monthly rotas for services both in the parish and across the 'benefice'. The Parish Magazine is also now available on-line. If you have not already accessed it, can I recommend that you do so and see the amount of information that is available. A number of useful queries have come in from outside the parish via the contact page.

We are very grateful to Judith Mitchell, Margaret Turner and Colin Milner for supplying photographs.

If you notice any mistakes or omissions, please let Penny know.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS>

We also have a Facebook account, with regular posts. If you take any photographs of church events, please pass them to Rosemary so she can use them.

A Church Near You - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12405/>

This web site also includes details of both St Paul's and the Fell Churches.

Penny Ward

PARISH MAGAZINE

The monthly magazine is a source of communication around the parish, and over 100 copies are regularly produced. At £1 a copy we feel it is good value, and we hope that it provides interesting reading. It is available for collection from St Paul's and also from the railway station bookstall – for which we are grateful to Gillian and Geoff Benson. We rely on our advertisers to subsidise the cost of its production. While the use of colour enhances its appearance, this comes at a cost, and we are always open to suggestions of new advertisers. At present we are covering the printing costs, but not, of course, Linda's time. We would also welcome annual subscriptions.

Each issue includes details of the month's services, both at St Paul's and The Fell Churches, and across the Team, and news of forthcoming events with posters. The first item is always a letter from a clergy person, and we are indebted to those who have filled this spot in place of the Priest! The series on 'How I came to Grange' has proved interesting, and again we are grateful to those who have contributed – we are now up to no. 20! It has been fascinating to read the many different 'roads' that have led folk to settle here. Reports of various events in St Paul's are included, along with photographs; any blank spaces are usually filled with a prayer, a poem or some saying.

Our thanks go to Andrew Little for his diligence in supplying us with figures for rainfall each month since 2012. It is really interesting to see that the annual total of 1,782mm for 2023 is so far above all previous years - although I guess we might have expected that! It is also fascinating to compare the monthly figures since 2017 - 304mm was the highest, recorded in October 2021, 263mm in February 2020, and 259mm for last December.

A new entry is for tried and tested recipes – contributions welcomed! We are, of course, always open to offers of interesting material!

The magazine is available on the web site - <https://www.grangepcc.co.uk/>

Penny Ward

Parish Magazine Editor

SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

St Paul's is a very welcoming social church and a good number of social events were held once again in 2023. We had new Craft afternoons with Pip Woon, walks with Sarah Brewster through the year, Cuppa & Cake each month and many musical events. The Patronal lunch & Harvest lunch were well attended by 50 parishioners and the high standard of catering continues!

Charles Edmondson played a series of wonderful Organ and Piano concerts during the spring, summer & autumn which were well attended. A Tapestry of Words & Music was held and we listened to wonderful readings and music. The Burneside Brass Band was a new addition to the calendar; it was a fantastic November concert.

In May and November, the church fairs were held again with many stalls – bric-a-brac, books, cakes, a brilliant raffle, tombola, a special plant sale, flowers, and scarves etc and the café raising over £2,000 for church funds including the new defibrillator.

In December the Christmas Tree Festival organised by Margaret Ratcliffe and Gill Webster was begun with the official opening concert attended by 250 people and Cumbria Life! There were 34 trees from organisations across the community with a special tree from the Ukraine Support Group which were displayed in church for over 3 weeks with over 740 visitors. This raised well over £1,575 for the Sue Wymer Cuddle Bed at St Marys Hospice and Bay Search & Rescue.

Thankyou also to our wonderful parishioners who provide refreshments & food at our social events throughout the year.

The social committee met on 5 occasions to organise events.

Articles continue in Grange Now every month, our Facebook page & Website shows church events, we participate in Cartmel Peninsula Churches Together and are on 'A Church Near You'. We look forward to events in 2024 as we welcome Revd David Wilmot and his family.

Judith Mitchell

Chair of the Social sub-committee

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM

We are very fortunate to have a team of 15 people who give at least one hour per month to keep our church looking clean and tidy. The congregation and visitors to the church are very grateful to these people for their dedication and commitment. Those involved, as well as myself, are:

Barbara Pettit	Margaret & Allan Wilson	Christine Bassinder
Margaret Turner	Audrey Gorman	Carol Calveley
Eileen Burke	Pat & Chris Brown	Margaret Ratcliffe
Fiona Whalley	Sandra Barton	

Rosemary Hoyle – Cleaning Team Co-ordinator

FLOWER TEAM

The Flower Team have had another busy year ensuring that the flowers in church are changed on a regular basis. The price of fresh flowers has continued to rise over the year, but we are fortunate to have a selection of silk flowers, which enables us to vary the arrangements and colour schemes.

One of the highlights of the year was devising the purple and white scheme for the King's Coronation. We are grateful to the volunteers who step in to help us on the special occasions, such as Easter and Harvest.

Audrey Gorman

EASYFUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

St Paul's Church is signed up to easyfundraising, which started in December 2011 – so far St Paul's Church has received £618.45 - £38.13 in 2023. The more people who sign up to easyfundraising and use this facility every time they buy online with a supplier who links with easyfundraising, the more money we can raise for St Paul's, at no additional cost to yourselves.



Rosemary Hoyle

A NEW 'CRAFTY' INITIATIVE

In May Pip Woon invited anyone interested to join her one Thursday in the social area at St Paul's to share ideas and skills in a craft workshop, while also enjoying a cuppa and a chance for chat. Advertised as not being about the product but all about the process and the fun had along the way, the session proved so popular that it became a regular meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. So far, the group of 'crafty' folk have produced some beautiful results.

- Outdoor and indoor bunting for publicising events
- Paper boxes for gifts
- Friendship bracelets for the primary school
- Poppies for Remembrance Day
- Decorations for the Christmas tree
- Paper stars for decorating the church

The sessions will begin again in April, so do go along and join in. No experience is needed, just some enthusiasm – and useful to bring with you a pair of scissors!

Pip Woon

TREASURER'S REPORT

BACKGROUND

The church finances are made up of three funds. There was a fourth fund which as below was exhausted on 11th October 2023. Each of these funds must be covered separately in the accounts. Details of these funds are as follows:

- **The general fund** – this fund is for the 'normal' everyday receipts and payments of the church.
- **The designated building fund** – This is for larger repairs to the fabric of the churches of St Paul and the Fell Church.
- **The holding fund** – This contains £100 of deposits for wedding fees.
- The ring-fenced **Cartmel Team Peninsula Ministry (CPTM) designated fund** which as above was exhausted on 11th October 2023. It was used only for the running costs of the CPTM and was run by the CPTM churchwardens assisted by the PCC of the Parish of St Paul. The fund was moved with the agreement of the CPTM churchwardens into the St Paul's Lloyds Bank account on 13th October 2022 from its former account with Barclays Bank. This was because Barclays Bank needed documentation such as minutes of CPTM meetings and future budgetary details to permit normal operation of the account to continue. Because of the low level of activity in the CPTM it was impossible to provide these documents and it was decided to move the fund into the Lloyds Bank account. On April 6th 2023 agreement had been received from all the CPTM parishes that had contributed to the fund that it be used to pay the expenses of clergy working in the CPTM. No contributions were then being made into the fund. Consequently the fund was exhausted as above on 11th October 2023.
- **Restricted funds** – These are funds which can only be used for a purpose which was specified such as when a donation was made. There are no restricted funds.

The church funds are held in two separate bank accounts, Lloyds and CCLA. The Lloyds current account is the most used one and is used for the many routine transactions. The majority of the funds are held in the CCLA deposit account to maximise interest.

GENERAL FUND

Income in 2023 was 3.4% higher than in 2022. This compares with the increase in 2022 of 16.7% and the reduction of 4% in 2021, when the churches were closed for 3 months.

Approximately 70.7% of St Paul's income in 2023 was derived from stewardship giving, church collections and the related gift aid compared with 75% in 2022. Approximately 20.8% came from fundraising events, car parking and church lettings, one-off legacies and donations, and fees from funerals and weddings compared with 19.5% in 2022. Approximately 8.5% came from printing and advertising, magazine sales, refreshments, flowers, sundries and interest compared with 5.5% in 2022.

Fee income reduced in 2023. There were six funerals in 2023, although because of the 2022 year end, fees were received for eight. This compared with twelve funerals and one thanksgiving service in 2022. There were two weddings in 2023 compared with three in 2022.

Income from regular stewardship, gift aid and GASDS, printing and advertising, car parking and church lettings, refreshments and flowers decreased.

Income from collections and offertory, donations, parish magazine sales, sundry receipts, fundraising and interest increased

A significant portion of the Parish's income is used in paying the parish offer. This was £22,000 in 2023 compared with £20,000 in 2022 and in 2021 and £36,294 in 2020. Expressed as a proportion of total income this represented 31.5% in 2023 compared with 29.8% in 2022, 35% in 2021 and 60% in 2020.

Wages including organists' fees were higher because there were no contributions from the CPTM to the Parish Office as in 2022.

In 2023 as in 2022 there were no parish payments. These were made in previous years towards the CPTM running costs such as for clergy expenses. In 2023 clergy expenses were paid from the CPTM fund but in 2022 they were paid by the Parish of St Paul but were offset by contributions from the parishes of Finsthwaite, Staveley in Cartmel, Haverthwaite and Field Broughton.

During the year £2,849.98 was donated to various charities and £1,430.04 was also collected on behalf of and paid to specific causes as detailed in the PCC report.

A new contract started with Smart Office Systems Limited and with Siemens Financial Services Limited in July 2023 for the hire of a new office photocopier. This gives approximate cost savings of 18%.

In July 2023 the Parish entered the Church of England Energy Basket. New contracts with Total Energies Gas & Power for the supply of electricity and for gas started in October 2023 and in November 2023 respectively. The prices for these contracts give an annual saving of approximately 7%. However Total Energies Gas & Power took over the gas supply 20 days late causing the Parish to incur high out of contract charges from the previous supplier. Only partial compensation has been awarded causing the annual saving to reduce to about 6%. Full compensation is to be sought.

At the end of 2023 the general fund balance was £61,499.63 compared with £53,082.84 at the end of 2022.

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Building Fund

£2,100 was spent on repairs to leaded lights and hopper sections of windows in St Paul's Church. This cost was offset by a Listed Places of Worship grant of £350. The fund value was £17,810.47 at the start of the year and £16,060.47 at the year end. This gives a reduction over the year of £1,750. This fund is reserved by the PCC for any necessary building or work required to the fabric of both churches in the parish.

Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry (CPTM) Fund

At the start of 2023 the balance of this fund was £1,779.00. As in the Accounts Report the fund was spent on clergy expenses and was exhausted on 11th October 2023 to give a zero balance.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

There are no restricted funds.

HOLDING FUND

The holding fund comprises a wedding deposit of £100.

BANK BALANCES

The total amount in the banks across all of the funds is £77,660.10 at the end of 2023 compared with £72,772.31 at the end of 2022.

The full annual accounts compiled to satisfy the requirements of the Charities Act and subject to Independent Examination are displayed on the church notice board.

John Millican - Treasurer

**The Parish Church of St Paul,
Grange over Sands**

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Parish Church of St Paul, Grange over Sands, Parochial Church Council.

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 30 to 33.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the members of the Parochial Church Council concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- which give us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Redhead Accountancy Ltd
Bank House
Griffin Street
Broughton-in Furness
Cumbria
LA20 6HH

Receipts and payments account

General Fund

	Year ended 31 December 2023	Year ended 31 December 2022 *
	£	£
Receipts		
Stewardship	37,331.43	38,792.78
Collections & Offertory	2,650.07	2,238.10
Tax Refunds	9,436.23	9,777.10
Legacy and Donations	3,498.54	1,945.10
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>		
Fees from weddings and funerals	2,196.33	3,178.27
Parish Magazine Sales	902.24	842.30
Printing and Advertising	694.30	960.24
Car Park and Church Lettings	1,525.00	1,820.00
Refreshments	954.79	1,037.13
Flowers	6.47	14.70
Fund Raising Event	7,311.40	6,145.15
Sundry Receipts	720.00	345.00
Interest	2,699.36	521.03
Total Receipts	69,926.16	67,617.50
Payments		
Parish Offer	22,000.00	20,000.00
Parish Payments	0.00	0.00
Deanery Levy	372.50	50.00
Wages	11,891.00	8,446.70
Utilities	4,054.92	3,742.34
Insurance	3,925.12	3,666.42
Clergy Expenses	7.91	1,119.50
Building Maintenance	3,819.28	3,502.51
Services/Altar/Books/Music	4,315.76	1,395.75
Office/Postage/Stationery/Telephone	4,746.23	4,526.83
Refreshments	235.10	101.29
Flowers	383.00	304.25
Fundraising Expenses	1,518.18	532.28
Independent examiner fee	270.00	576.00
Sundry	1,120.39	795.33
Total Payments	58,659.39	48,759.20
Excess receipts of payments	11,266.77	18,858.30
Charitable Giving	-2,849.98	-2,007.94
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	8,416.79	16,850.36
Balance b/f from St Paul's Grange over Sands at 1 March 2019	-	-
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	53,082.84	36,232.48
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	61,499.63	53,082.84

Receipts and payments account – Designated Fund

	Year ended 31 December 2023		Year Ended 31 December 2022	
	Building Fund £		Building Fund £	
Receipts				
LPOW Grant	350.00		1,238.00	
Donations			1,605.00	
Gift Aid			400.00	
	<u>350.00</u>		<u>3,243.00</u>	
			-	
Payments				
Albion Glass	2,100.00		5,571.00	
Border Floor				
	<u>2,100.00</u>		<u>5,571.00</u>	
Excess of receipts over payments	(1,750.00)		(2328.00)	
Transfers between Funds	-	-		-
Surplus / deficit for the period	<u>(1,750.00)</u>		<u>(2,328.00)</u>	
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	17,810.47		20,138.47	
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	<u>16,060.47</u>		<u>17,810.47</u>	

Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Asset and Liabilities

As at 31 December 2023

MONETARY ASSETS

	General Fund	Designated Fund Building	CPTM	Holding Account	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
CCLA	51,791.62	16,060.47	-	-	67,852.09
Lloyds	9,708.01	-	-	100.00	9,808.01
	61,499.63	16,060.47	0.00	100.00	77,660.10

As at 31 December 2022

MONETARY ASSETS

	General Fund	Designated Fund Building	CPTM	Holding Account	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
CCLA	38,980.26	16,172.47	-	-	55,152.73
Lloyds	14,102.58	1,638.00	1,779.00	100.00	17,772.31
	53,082.84	17,810.47	1,779.00	100.00	72,772.31

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.
2. There were no non-monetary assets, liabilities or provisions for donations at 31 December 2023.
3. There is no record of the historical cost of any other non-monetary assets.

St Pauls Church Grange over Sands

Trust Fund Accounts 2023

The accounts set out below report the transactions and assets of the additional non-church funds for which the Rector and Churchwardens have been charged with responsibility.

C of E School Foundation Managers

	2023 £	2022 £
Receipts		
Interest	523.32	156.85
Payments		
Disadvantaged support	806.71	740.00
Excess of receipts over payments	<u>(283.39)</u>	<u>(583.15)</u>
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	12,231.95	12,815.10
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	<u>11,948.56</u>	<u>12,231.95</u>
Represented by:		
Cash at bank		
Nat West A/c 83281266	344.27	237.48
CDBF Ac D 01274	4,731.24	4,731.24
+ CCLA A/c CB3038489	6,873.05	7,263.23
	<u>11,948.56</u>	<u>12,231.95</u>

Bertha Trotter Bequest

	2023 £	2022 £
Receipts		
Interest and bank compensation	880.20	249.93
Donations		
Payments		
	75.00	0.00
	<u>805.20</u>	<u>249.93</u>
Excess of receipts over payments	<u>805.20</u>	<u>249.93</u>
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	19,352.35	19,102.42
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	<u>20,157.55</u>	<u>19,352.35</u>
Represented by:		
Cash at bank		
Nat West A/c 83289569	175.14	100.14
CDBF Ac D 1942	16,767.10	16,031.43
CCLA A/c CB3039786	3,215.31	3,220.78
	<u>20,157.55</u>	<u>19,352.35</u>

SAINT PAUL'S GRANGE-OVER-SANDS WITH LINDALE AND FELL CHURCH 2020 – 2022 MISSION ACTION PLAN

FOCUS AREA	ACTIONS	WHO (report back to PCC)
A – Prayer and Worship	1. Keep range and type of services under review in accordance with church and secular calendar. Constantly review ways to make services and events more comfortable and welcoming to all groups. Involve laity in services as far as possible and in line with skills and interests.	Worship committee
B – Maturity in Faith	1. Encourage generosity in giving by church; ensure all are aware of causes and organisations supported. Encourage generosity in giving by congregation; develop new ways of giving (Standing Orders, electronic cards, etc); campaign to make a step leap in levels of giving towards national average; try to make year-on-year giving at least keep up with inflation.	Treasurer/PCC
C – Quality of Relationships	1. Support and work co-operatively with Team Parishes and ecumenical partners in move towards Mission Community/ies. Work enthusiastically with other churches in CTiG and CPTM; publicise and attend joint services and events wherever possible. 2. Use key events to engage our own congregation and to attract others, eg Christmas Tree Festival, Concerts, Remembrance Service.	PCC/CTiG reps Communications committee/ CTiG reps/All Worship committee/ Communications committee/All
D – Community Service	1. Increase the number of people in pastoral group and give full support to their activities with Home Communion, visiting sick, etc; seek to extend the scope of this work. Proactively seek out the lonely and distressed and offer our healing hands 2. Keep major social issues within Grange and Lindale under review to identify opportunities.	Pastoral Group/PCC/All Clergy/Standing committee
E – Evangelism	1. Keep work at school actively under review to increase engagement, continuing with Lunch Time Bible Club. Support schools with church members on governing bodies, work inside schools where possible and in church; enable end-of-term services and encourage congregation to attend. 2. Explore ways to facilitate the use of Fell Church by schools and social groups.	PCC and All Worship committee
OTHER	1. Review buildings to maintain and improve where appropriate (West wall, sound system, St Paul's heating, draught exclusion).	PCC/CW/Colin Milner