

The Parish of  
St Nicholas  
Chislehurst  
in the Diocese of  
Rochester



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

Welcoming  
Inclusive  
Serving



St Nicholas  
Chislehurst

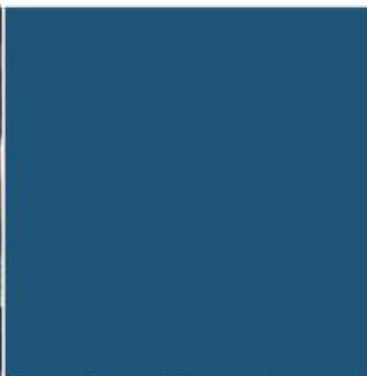
# ANNUAL REPORT

20  
22

For Year Ended 31 Dec 2022

bringing **People & God** together

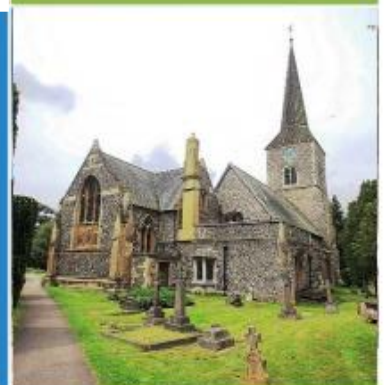
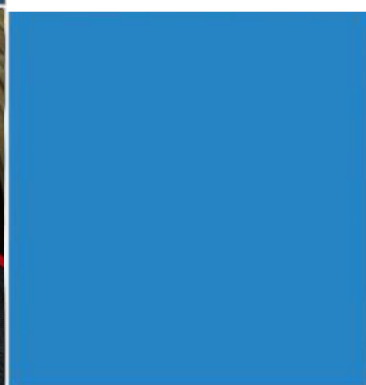
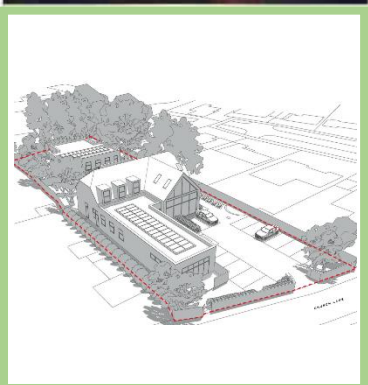
AN INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH SEEKING TO KNOW & SHARE THE LOVE OF GOD



Welcoming  
Inclusive  
Serving  
St Nicholas  
Chislehurst

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A VILLAGE HALL  
*for all*



SEEKING TO KNOW & SHARE THE LOVE OF GOD

St Nicholas' Parish Church, Chislehurst  
Registered Charity No. 1131855

# Annual Report and Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2022



**Rector** (*installed as Rector in February 2022; previously Priest-in-Charge*)

The Rev'd Dr Jonathan N Bauer  
The Rectory  
2 Cardinal Close  
Chislehurst BR7 6SA

**Parish Office**

St Nicholas Village Hall  
Church Lane  
Chislehurst BR7 5PE

**Banks**

Barclays Bank plc  
and  
CAF Bank Ltd

**Independent Examiner**

Christopher Archer FCA  
Fidelis Accountancy and Taxation Services Ltd





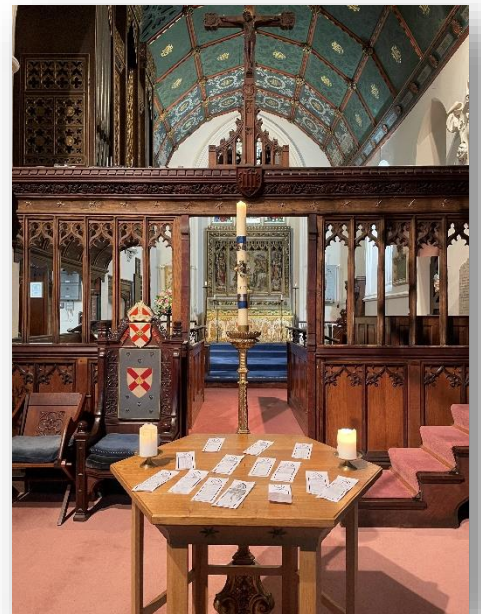
Rachel's ordination (Sept 2022)



The Knitted Nativity used at the Annual Christingle Service



The ever-popular B1 Breakfast Praise



Annual Baptism Service at Candlemas



Rachel beginning her ministry of baptism!



The long-awaited return of the Nativity Tableau

## **BACKGROUND**

St Nicholas' Church is situated within the London Borough of Bromley, and historically within the county of Kent. There has been a place of worship on this site for over a thousand years.

The current building dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, but was significantly enlarged in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in response to pressing need as well as perceived opportunities for growth and outreach.

As well as a place of constant witness to our faith in Jesus Christ, this parish church has a powerful history connecting it to stories of exploration, invention, achievement, and devotion both to God and to people.

Today we are still committed to that ongoing journey of evolution and growth – it is a pilgrimage of faith, to which our built heritage stands witness. Upon the firm foundations of the past, we rededicate ourselves and our church (the building *and* the people) as a focus of inclusion, welcome, faith, and loving service.

The Parish of Chislehurst St Nicholas is part of the Bromley Deanery, in the Diocese of Rochester, in the Province of Canterbury, within the Church of England - a member church of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number: 1131855

## **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL AND LEADERSHIP**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for the maintenance of St Nicholas Church and Churchyard, Southbeech in Old Perry Street (housing for a Curate let out until June 2022 at a commercial rent), and the Village Hall in Church Lane.

### ***Rector & Chair of the PCC:***

The Rev'd Dr Jonathan N Bauer

***Church Wardens*** Sarah Cordwell (Vice Chair of PCC)  
Wendy Lowdon

### ***Hon Associate Priest***

The Rev'd June Hurn

***Assistant Curate*** The Revd Deacon Rachel Curley (*since July 2022*)

### ***Licensed Lay Ministers***

Theodora Chamberlain  
Lynton Karmock-Golds

***Lay Reader*** Peter Ridge

## Members of the PCC:

Elected members serve for three years and can be re-elected for a further 3-year term after which they CANNOT be re-elected until a further year has elapsed (Church Representation Rules 2001)

<b>NAME</b>	<b>Year of Office</b> <i>(Term of 3 years)</i>	<b>ELIGIBLE TO STAND FOR RE-ELECTION in 2023</b>
<b>Hannah White</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2023)	yes
<b>Michaela Davies*</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2023)	yes
<b>Diane Moorman*</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2023)	yes
Vacancy		} 5 places up for election in 2023
Vacancy		

\* mid-term appointments filling casual vacancies filled by mutual consent at the elections at the APCM in 2022

<b>Barbara Russell</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2024)	N/A
<b>Annie Hannifin</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2024)	N/A
<b>Justine Grant</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2024)	N/A
<b>Carole Gray</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2024)	N/A
<b>Sarah Arnheim</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2024)	N/A
<b>John Bernays</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2025)	N/A
<b>John Grant</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2025)	N/A
<b>Sue Brandon</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2025)	N/A
<b>Sabina Oakes</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2025)	N/A
<b>Sheila Brittain</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b> (ends at APCM 2025)	N/A

### **The following members served their term (unless otherwise indicated) until the APCM in 2022:**

Lucy Diamond (resigned), Andrew Wilton, Sabina Oakes, Sue Brandon, Lloyd Anderson, Wendy Lowdon (elected Churchwarden at APCM in 2022)

### **There are up to a maximum of 3 places available for co-opted (1-year term) members:**

1. The Rev'd June Hurn
2. Jo Papa (PCC Treasurer)
3. Vacant

## **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF PCC:**

### **Churchwardens**

serve ONE year terms of office up to a maximum of SIX consecutive years:

Anthony Faulkner (term ended at APCM 2022)  
Sarah Cordwell (from 8 May 2022 – term ends at APCM 2023)  
Wendy Lowdon (from 8 May 2022 – term ends at APCM 2023)

### **Representatives on Bromley Deanery Synod (until APCM 2023)**

Theodora Chamberlain  
Mary Williams  
Peter Ridge  
Charlie Clark

### **Licenced Clergy**

The Rector  
The Curate



2022





## JONATHAN'S INSTALLATION as Rector

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Rev'd Jonathan was Installed as the 53<sup>rd</sup> Rector of St Nick's (the first being Adam de Bromleigh in 1260).

It was a wonderful occasion with 150 people joining Jonathan in the church. Once again we were delighted to see people return to church for the first time in two years. What a day to choose to return!

It was so very different from Jonathan's Licencing as "Priest-in-Charge" via Zoom the previous January.

The bells of St Nick's rang out before the formal but friendly service led by Bishop Simon and the Area Dean Victoria. Readings by Fiona Lewington representing the church and Tom Allen representing the Chislehurst community were accompanied by formal greetings and gifts from other church members and community leaders. In his sermon Bishop Simon reminded us to take time out to say "thank you" to people more often.



The Area Dean and Churchwardens led Jonathan round the church where he was presented with the keys to the church, tolled a bell and then firmly Installed in his stall. The congregation sang heartily three of Jonathan's favourite hymns and prayed for Jonathan's continued ministry amongst us. As befits St Nicholas, there was plenty of cake, laughter and a tremendous positive atmosphere in the Village Hall afterwards.



## **Aims and Purposes**

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Jonathan Bauer, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church, the Churchyard, and the Village Hall complex and grounds.

## **The Parish**

The parish has a population of approximately 4000, across 1,500 households. The parish also has a Church of England Primary School (St Nicholas), part of the Aquinas Trust Academy.

## **Risk Management**

The PCC has budgetary disciplines in place to reduce financial risk and endeavours to identify other risks which may prejudice the work of the church. Our Insurance policy is maintained with Aviva to cover insurable risks, and their advice is followed to reduce risks. The PCC oversees the Safeguarding Policy for children and vulnerable adults. Arrangements have been put in place to carry out checks on people working with these groups, in line with Diocesan guidelines. Like all Church of England churches, safeguarding and safer recruitment are paramount. The PCC is committed to ensuring that our church and hall are safe places for all who use them. For more detailed information and guidance see the Parish Safeguarding Handbook. <https://www.rochester.anglican.org> and click on safeguarding. Produced by the National Safeguarding Team, it is a comprehensive guide, summarising the key areas a parish need to address with regards to safeguarding. All PCC members as well as all church leaders have undertaken the Safeguarding training appropriate to their level of responsibility and activity as set out in the House of Bishops Practice Guidance for Safeguarding Training. During the year we ensured that General Data Protection Regulations were followed in accordance with their introduction in 2018.

Our General Fund stands at £181,920 (which includes the transfer of £108,199 from the Refurbishment Fund). This year the Church Repair Fund remains constant at £70,758 (2021: £74,232) to help spread the costs of maintaining the church building over a five-year cycle. The PCC is disappointed with the £68,743 losses on investments, but is cognisant of the fact that investments rise and fall and are a long-term commitment.

## **Public Benefit**

The Trustees (members of the PCC) take account of the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the PCC's purpose and in considering how planned activities will meet that aim. The Trustees believe that St Nicholas' Church promotes the whole mission of the Church of England in the Parish of St Nicholas, Chislehurst and beyond its boundaries, including its pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical aspects, and that in so doing provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care, and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its adherents and for everyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers
- Promoting Christian values and services by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole
- Maintaining the historic fabric and architectural heritage of the St Nicholas Church building and grounds
- Providing a quiet space that is available daily to all members of the public



## OUR VISION, VALUES, AND MISSION

**VISION** *what kind of future are we working towards?*

This is ultimately God's vision, placed on our hearts:  
"God's kingdom come, God's will be done."



**VALUES** *the behaviours and attitudes that characterise us;  
how we conduct ourselves to achieve our mission and vision*

- **Welcoming**
  - **Inclusive**
  - **Desire to serve**
- } reflected in our new logo
- Every member is encouraged to be in ministry
  - All are cherished and nurtured
  - Be a people of vision: *Proverbs 29:18 "without a vision, the people perish"*
  - In the words of the prophet Micah 6:8
    - Do justly
    - Love mercy
    - Walk humbly with God

**MISSION** *what we are trying to accomplish / the impact we want to achieve*

We are committed to working hard to be:

**AN INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH  
SEEKING TO KNOW & SHARE THE LOVE OF GOD**

### **Structure, Governance, and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Nicholas, the membership of the PCC consists of the Parish Priest, churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives, and up to a maximum of 15 members (the maximum number allowed in any C of E church) elected by those members of the congregation **who are on the electoral roll of the church**. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC usually meets 6 times during the year.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of subgroups or 'teams', each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life.

These committees/teams are:

1. Standing Committee (statutory)
2. Hall Team
3. Property Team
4. Finance Team
5. Churchyard Team
6. Safeguarding Team

Each is responsible to the PCC and each report back to it regularly with minutes or a summary of their decisions, being received by the full PCC and discussed / ratified as necessary.

## Pastoral Introduction from the Parish Priest

*The Rev'd Dr Jonathan N Bauer, RECTOR*

The **Annual Report** (with all its officially and legally required reports, including accounts), as well as our **Review of 2022** makes for a celebration and expression of gratitude for all that we have achieved together, under God, over the last calendar year.

Reporting on the year past is always both a privilege and humbling honour. Having completed two years among you as your priest, I could not be more proud of the way in which everyone has played their part in so many ways in supporting the work of faith in our parish, in our part of Chislehurst.

There is SO much to be thankful for.

Here's a summary of the key moments that come to mind:

In 2022:

- We continued our journey into our new 'normal' – with **church attendances steadily growing** once more
- We grew our **church database to almost 1000 contacts**
- The weekly **E-news sent to 385 email addresses**
- We continued developing **plans to re-envision our Village Hall facilities** as a key part of our outreach and ministry resourcing, and submitted a pre-planning application to Bromley Borough Council – thanks to an incredible gifted and committed team of professionals from among our church household and beyond
- Significant **work on the roof and stonework of church**, including interior redecoration and damp repairs
- Continued to develop a comprehensive **PCC Handbook** and updated all our policies
- Continued to **grow our monthly parish Breakfast Praise** and reconnected with our young families and attracted new ones
- Installed a **contactless card reader and introduced Giving by Text**
- **Given over £11,000 to support work with local Ukrainian refugees** (thought local partnerships with St John's, Sidcup and the Ukrainian School in Chislehurst) as a result of the Bruce Hurn Art Sale
- Had a hugely **successful Christmas Fair** in support of our mission / charitable giving
- **Delivered 56 "Life Event" services**: baptisms, weddings, funerals and burials / burial of cremated remains) with 11 marriage services already booked for 2023
- **Welcomed over 100 guests at our special All Souls' memorial service** for the bereaved
- Children from St Nick's school have been fully welcomed back into church for **Class Eucharists, celebrations throughout the year, and Carol Services**
- **Home communions** and services at Faulkner House, Duke of Kent Court, Fairlight Nursing Home continued and developed further
- St Nicholas' become the lead church in the **development of a district-wide befriending project (Two's Company)** and a Coordinator appointed
- Continued with the **monthly parish meal (Soup Lunch)**
- **Launched the St Nick's CATs** (Carers and Toddlers) Group
- A rigorous **pattern of worship maintained** in order to ensure breadth and sustainability across a very wide range of liturgies and traditions
- **Admitted 13 children and young people to communion**
- Completed a very successful **Alpha Course**
- Re-branded our Sunday School as **"Junior Church"**
- **Received and installed Rev Rachel, our new Curate**, for a three-year training post under the direction of the Rector as her Training Incumbent





This is, across another year, an incredible amount of work, ministry and life together, as a church, and I (and all of us) owe a debt of thanks and appreciation to those who have given so sacrificially of their time and resources to “make church happen”: not least our Ministry Team and, in particular, for the wonderful support of Rev June, our long-serving honorary assistant priest, our churchwardens and PCC members, our Parish Administrator, Director of Music, and all whose ministry and work goes on largely unseen, but very is much appreciated.

The Annual Report is our chance to tell everyone what God has been doing in our church. The various and interesting reports which make up this Annual Report are a celebration and honouring of that work. So, on behalf of us all, and in Christ’s name, **thank you** to all who have taken time out of their busy schedules to offer reports and, more especially, to all who continue to worship, pray, serve, and share leadership with me at St Nicholas.

**“The Annual Report is our chance to tell everyone what God has been doing in our church.”**

It is also important, to take a moment, to look back, remember, and give thanks for the members and friends of our church household who have died. In this reporting year, we pray particularly for the repose of the souls of:

*Daphne Sloan, Anita Anderson, Brenda Pocha, Leslie Priestly, Ron Drew, Maureen Fricker, Elizabeth Heath, Paul Slowey,*

May they, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through God’s love and mercy, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

So, may we, together, commit to making our world a better place as we seek to be Christ’s people in this place, but reaching out far beyond. There is much to do.

The Annual Report is an opportunity to publicise to you, the congregation, and to the parish as a whole, all the challenges and opportunities of the previous year. It is also a chance for me to **encourage** all of you for whom your relationship with Christ is a foundation and a rock on which to build, as we continue to grow a church that is welcoming, inclusive and serves humbly.

I am deeply honoured, proud, and humbled to be your Rector.

*Jonathan+*

### **From the Assistant Curate**

*The Rev’d Deacon Rachel Curley*

“Deacons are called to serve the community in which they are set.” Before I started my curacy at St Nicholas church I thought I understood the role in which a Deacon in the Church of England was called for, how wrong I was, it is bigger, wider, and even more of a privilege than I thought it would be. In the six months since I started as a lay minister way back in July 2022, leading up to my ordination in September I have lived and breathed the role of a Deacon, serving the community in which I came to minister among. My first tasks here among you was a Commitment Prayer Service for a couple due to marry abroad, that was on day minus one when Jonathan+ had tested positive for Covid, that was a great initiation on how to unlock church and where the lights were, and of course how the sound system plugs in and works! Day one was writing and leading the July breakfast praise, and what a welcome I received from you all, everywhere I looked a face was smiling back at me!



My Ordination in September was one of the most amazing experiences in my life, albeit one that is hard to put into words, and I really can't wait for my ordination to the Priesthood which, God willing, will be on 30th September, followed by the first time I shall Preside at the Eucharist. During these past months I have walked alongside the happy, and the blessed, I have married those in love, I have ministered to the broken hearted. I have Baptised children, I have sat with the dying, comforted their loved ones, and helped guide the grief stricken through funerals.

I have encouraged children to follow Jesus through ministry in school assemblies, teaching in the school twice a month with a Leading Lights Course, and I have worked closely with our Junior Church team. I have helped our children to understand Holy Communion, and what it means to share in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during our Admitting Children to Holy Communion classes, and I look forward to running this course again later on in the year.

Leading Choral Mattins and Evensong for the first time was terrifying, having never sung solo anywhere, expect for bad karaoke, but with Michael and the choir's support, I have gained confidence and enjoy these services.

One of the biggest privileges of my ministry is sharing in pastoral visits, home Communion and Administering to the sick at home or in hospital.

In September I led my first Alpha course, with on average 12 people attending weekly, this was an amazing experience for all of us, and has led to the group continuing to meet monthly for Bible Study. I look forward to running another Alpha session later on in the year and hopefully also a Youth Alpha as well.

The next project I am planning is a Lent Bible Study which I am going to base around the Book *Still Standing* by Rachel Mann, which was inspired by the film *Rocketman* based on the life of Sir Elton John.

Each one of you deserves my grateful thanks for every kindness shown to me and my Mum, Pamela since we joined you. However a special mention must go to our Churchwarden's Sarah and Wendy for their love and support, and also to Anthony who along with Jonathan+ and Sarah agreed that I should indeed be offered the position of Curate here at St Nicks.

Rev'd June has walked by my side offering advice, wisdom, and friendship, for this I am extremely grateful, and to our Rector, what a privilege it is to minister alongside Jonathan+ the faith he shows in me, and his encouragement is unwavering, which is enabling me to learn so much from someone who is so experienced and a genuinely kind, caring and quite amazing Priest, I could not ask for a better start to my ministry than the one I have here with you all.

God bless

*Rachel+*





## **Electoral Roll Report** *submitted by Giles Cordwell*

Every six years, a completely new Electoral Roll is produced - and this last happened in **2019** (so the preparation of a completely new Roll is not due until 2025).

In the intervening years, the Roll is revised to take account of those who have either died, moved out of the parish or new people, who are qualified, joining the Church Electoral Roll.

### **In 2022 this resulted in 265 names on the Roll:**

- 8 new names were added
- 12 were removed (either as a result of death or there ceasing to be a qualifying eligibility to remain on the Roll)
- 87 (33%) are resident in the parish
- a further 94 (35%) in the rest of Chislehurst
- 84 (32%) are non-resident in the parish but actively worship at St Nicholas' Parish Church



The number on the Church Electoral Roll determines the numbers we are permitted on the Deanery Synod and also determines the number of lay members on the PCC. As we have more than 200 on our Roll, we are allowed 4 Deanery representatives and up to the maximum of 15 members lay representatives on the PCC.

Church Electoral Roll Application Forms are available from the Parish Office.

The challenge for the year ahead is to ensure a single, accurate copy of the Roll and to ensure that new members understand their eligibility to apply (and are encouraged to do so).



## **PCC Secretary's Report**

*Submitted by Annie Hanifin*

The Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the Parish Priest in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

### **Membership**

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

Members are elected for a three-year period, and may stand again (without break) for a second successive term (and therefore a maximum of 6 years), after which they are not eligible for re-election until at least one year has passed. The PCC may also co-opt up to THREE additional members, as set out in the Church Representation Rules as amended in 2020.

Details of the membership of the PCC during 2022 are set out elsewhere in this report.

### **Sub-Groups**

The PCC has set up various sub-groups which carry out particular functions on behalf of the PCC:

#### *Standing Committee*

This is the only committee required by church law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.



#### *Finance Team*

Works with the Treasurer to ensure good financial management and effective stewardship of resources.

#### *Property Team*

Oversees the extensive work required to maintain our built heritage, properties and grounds.

#### *Safeguarding Team*

To ensure that current good practice and legislation is adhered to ensure Safeguarding training and awareness is of first concern for everyone in the community of St Nicholas' Church.

#### *Events Team*

Involved in the planning and smooth running of church and community events.

#### *Hall Development Team*

A new team set up to oversee the development of the new Village Hall, involved in initially submitting plans and then grant applications, fundraising and project management.

#### *Village Hall Team*

Committee that works on the maintenance of the hall and the smooth running of all aspects of the village hall life.

#### *Churchyard Team*

Oversees the general good maintenance of the churchyard and Memorial Garden.

### **PCC Meetings during 2022**

The full PCC met 6 times during 2022 (dates below) with good attendance on most occasions. The Standing Committee and Teams met regularly and reports of their activities were received and discussed where necessary by the PCC.

24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

14<sup>th</sup> March 2022

8<sup>th</sup> May 2022 – Annual Meetings

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 – attendance 75%

18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 – attendance 77%

12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – attendance 77%

14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – attendance 73%

### **SAFEGUARDING**

The parish of St Nicholas, Chislehurst is committed to implementing the House of Bishops' safeguarding policies and good practice guidance. A formal statement 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) to adopt the House of Bishops' "Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement" has been agreed by the Parochial Church Council.

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church.



### **Our Commitments, as a PCC:**

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.



### **Churchwardens' Fabric Report including the Property Team Report**

*Submitted by Sarah Cordwell and Wendy Lowdon  
and Anthony Faulkner*



### **CHURCH**

- Plaster work behind the pulpit and part of the Lady Chapel wall was repaired along with roof repairs. Luckily good dry weather enabled this work to be finished well ahead of schedule and didn't impact Jonathan's Installation service in February 2022.
- Internal ceiling repairs were undertaken following a plaster fall.
- A ramp for safe evacuation of wheelchair users was acquired and training given to the Welcomers.
- Jonathan's name as our Rector was engraved on the appropriate tablet.
- New vestments (in memory of Colin Saxby) were received and blessed.
- A silver pyx (in memory of Sheila Brittain's Father) was received and blessed, to be used for the gluten-free communion wafers.
- Sound system enhancements now enable us to play music from mobile phones which is particularly useful at weddings and funerals. A new sound mixer, microphones and speakers were installed.
- Our Best Practice Maintenance Schedule continues to keep track of regular maintenance items.
- We are grateful to the Property Team for their hard work during the year.

### **VILLAGE HALL**

- A hive heating monitor was installed to enable better control of the heating, given the increase in costs.
- Hiring of the hall has seen an uptake in bookings, especially ad-hoc parties. The bridge club has not returned to the hall, but other users are now in situ.

## **SOUTHBEECH**

- The quinquennial inspection took place before Rachel and Pam moved in.
- A program of repairs was noted, and work continues in this area. Unfortunately, due to a number of circumstances there is still work that needs to be completed.

## **CHURCHYARD**

- A planned programme of work by our churchyard team continues when possible.
- Some tree work has been completed.
- New contractors for the grass mowing of the Churchyard were appointed.
- The restoration of the Janson drinking fountain in the corner of the churchyard has been completed and is well used by the community.
- Plans continue to replace the noticeboards in the Churchyard.

## **RECTORY**

- The Rectory is the responsibility of the Diocese, as owner. No major works took place in 2022.

The Churchwardens wish to thank the numerous volunteers for their time and expertise in helping to maintain the Church, the Hall, Southbeech and Churchyard to a high standard.



## **Bromley Deanery Synod Report 2022**

*submitted by Charles Clark and Peter Ridge*

St Nicholas Chislehurst is one of 13 churches in the Bromley Deanery. Deanery Synod is a meeting of clergy and laity from each PCC within the deanery and usually occurs thrice per annum. It acts as an intermediary between PCCs and Diocesan Synod. It also elects the Deanery's Lay Representatives to Diocesan Synod. The Area Dean and Synod Chair is *the Rev'd Canon Victoria Pask* (Vicar of St. Mark's Bromley), and the Synod Lay Chair is *Mrs Cath Johnston* (Licensed Lay Minister from Christ Church Chislehurst). Further information about the deanery including minutes of each synod can be accessed on <https://bromleydeanery.simdif.com/index.html>.



In addition to the Rector, St. Nicholas Chislehurst's Representatives to Deanery Synod are Peter Ridge, Theodora Chamberlain, Mary Williams, and Charles Clark. Their term of office ends at the 2023 APCM.

*Summary of Meetings throughout 2022:*

### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March at Christ Church Chislehurst**

- Presentation from the Diocesan Called Together Manager Claire Boxall.
- 'Save The Parish' leaflet handed out to all.
- The Venerable Katrina Barnes appointed interim Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley until a new archdeacon is appointed in late 2022 / early 2023



## **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at Christ Church Chislehurst**

- Excellent presentation from the CEO of Welcare, Anna Khan on the history, background and work of Welcare. She thanked the Bromley churches for the considerable financial support they give to the charity. Welcare are looking for a suitable Trustee to represent the Bromley area and another with Social Work experience.
- Cath Johnston gave an update on Diocesan Synod.
- Noted that General Synod met in York 8-12 July.
- Revd Henry Everett, previously Vicar of Paddington: St Mary Magdalen and St Peter; now Vicar of St George's, Bickley. Fr Henry's induction and installation took place at St George's on Monday 25 July at 7pm.
- Revd Amanda Spence, as Priest-in-Charge (Rector-designate) of St Mary the Virgin. Amanda recently completed her curacy in St Paulinus, Crayford. Licensing date tba
- Our daughter church, Christ Church celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## **Thursday 24 November:** *a joint meeting led by the Bishop of Rochester also with the Deaneries of Orpington and Beckenham*

- This last meeting of the Bromley synod was a joint affair with the other deaneries to welcome the Rt Rev Dr Jonathan Gibbs in person as the new Bishop of Rochester. Jonathan is a gifted speaker with an engaging manner. His journey to faith began in chapel Sunday School, it wavered in his teens but started to blossom at university when he heard a talk by an evangelist. After university he worked in Paris with young people, which led to the call to become a minister. After a brief biography of his first parishes he spoke of his spell in Europe for the Intercontinental Church Society as Chaplain when no doubt his fluency in French was a great asset. He returned to England to be incumbent at Heswall, a town on the Wirral before being elevated to Bishop of Huddersfield.
- After his work in the North which he enjoyed, he is now excited to come South as our Bishop. He understands that this is large diocese with a wide variety of situations from rural to urban and from rich to poor. He is an evangelist at heart and wants to share in the growth of God's people, reaching out to those who need to have Jesus in their life.
- Jonathan's three-year stint as Lead Bishop for Safeguarding will finish this March 2023. He shared with us his own experience of abuse as a nine-year-old. Its impact on him contributed to his ability to empathise with other victims where Safeguarding had failed. He was aware that there had been some very serious cases in parts of Kent but he complimented the diocese for the current Safeguarding regime, its management and the education they provide.
- At the end there was an opportunity to ask questions. Inevitably they were all about the forthcoming General Synod. Jonathan was wholly supportive of the motion that would enable same-sex couples to come to church after a civil marriage or civil partnership to give thanks, dedicate their relationship to God and receive God's blessing. But he made clear that he shared the position of those whose understanding of the Scriptures would **not** allow them to support marriage services in church for same-sex couples.

## **Safeguarding Report** submitted by Susie Hemming-Clark (PSO)

It is a formal legal obligation for the PCC in its report to the APCM to state whether or not the PCC “has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and clergy discipline measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults)”.

With the combined hard work of all in the Safeguarding Team, we have complied with the above.



### **Responsibilities of the Incumbent and PCC**

The Incumbent and PCC have a duty of care to ensure the well-being of the vulnerable in the church community and within this are required to:

- Adopt and implement the House of Bishops’ Policy on safeguarding children or the Joint Safeguarding Principles and a Parish Policy and procedure on safeguarding children and adults who may be vulnerable. A dated copy must be sent by email to the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.
- Adopt a Parish Safeguarding Officer(s) (the ‘Designated Person’ with special responsibility for safeguarding children and adults), to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Ensure that the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and anyone having regular contact with children and vulnerable adults is appointed according to Diocesan Safer Recruitment Guidelines, is trained and supported, provided with a copy of the parish safeguarding policy and code of practice for church workers.
- Deal promptly with allegations or suspicions of abuse in accordance with the Disclosures and Allegations policy in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.
- Display the Diocesan and Parish Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, the contact details of the PSO(s) named person on church premises and wherever possible on the church website.
- Ensure that known offenders or others who may pose a threat to children and young people are effectively managed and monitored in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.
- During an interregnum ensure that information about all safeguarding matters is securely stored before passing on to the new incumbent. The departing incumbent should give the information to the PSO(s) who will inform the new incumbent when they take up post.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Review the implementation of safeguarding children and adults’ policy, procedures and good practice, at least annually

ITEM	Topic/Project - Aims	Impact	Notes/Highlights
<p><b>Team Membership</b></p>	<p><b>Expand the committee</b> to ensure sustainable management of all safeguarding issues at St Nicholas' Parish Church (St Nicks)</p> <p>Regular meetings to continue 6 weekly, these may be more frequent according to the need.</p>	<p>Continuity Safety Sustainability Clarity</p>	<p>Rev Rachel Curley joined the committee last year and is a welcomed new member Sadly Samantha Johnson resigned from her role as Deputy PSO. The team currently meets every 6 to 8 weeks. The Team members continue to oversee our safeguarding process and any issues that have arisen that as a safeguarding team we may need to address and to escalate to our local Diocese safeguarding adviser.</p>
<p><b>Digital focus</b></p>	<p><b>Safe storage of data &amp; documents</b> The shared file system (Cloud based) is up and running and was the Aim for 2022 to ensure there is shared safe space for working on policies and documents. The database for recording training and DBS records has been completed. The aim is to continue to use this database so there is robust oversight of volunteers who have or have not completed their DBS renewal and training</p>	<p>GDPR Time Saving Collaborative working encouraged  Safe storage</p>	<p>All information is now stored securely and safely in the shared Drive. This has allowed the team to have easy overview with spread sheets in the drive.  All the information is stored following GDPR guidance.</p>
<p><b>DBS Process</b></p>	<p><b>Process / Resources</b> Senior management team contact Sue Wilkinson who then initiates the DBS process. Sally is the lead for processing the DBS, who then clarifies the volunteer's documents as the final part of the process.</p> <p><b>Eligibility Requirements</b> The roles that are required to have DBS checks are laid out clearly by the Church of England Safeguarding policy. Not all roles require a DBS check. Since last Annual report we have completed all the PCC members DBS are up to date except for one member (in process)</p>	<p>Legal responsibility Sustainability</p>	<p>Having a full safeguarding team up allows the DBS checks to be completed as required. All volunteers should have checks and training renewed on a 3 yearly basis.  The team have worked hard to ensure new DBS and renewals are being completed in a timely manner. Engaging some of our volunteers has been a challenge at times.</p>



<p><b>Safeguarding Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>Present the Safeguarding Team and process in church</b></p> <p>This occurred in November 2022 using the resources from 31:8</p>	<p>Congregation engagement Awareness</p>	<p>This reminds our church community about our individual and community responsibility to keep everyone safe. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. This has been promoted by government and the church of England safeguarding polices. This year's Safeguarding Sunday coincided with the admission of children to communion which enabled us to reach out across the community further with presence of not only our own church members but visitors to the church.</p>
<p><b>Safeguarding Communications</b></p>	<p><b>Promote the safeguarding statement &amp; process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Church</li> <li>- Throughout community</li> <li>- Online</li> </ul>	<p>Awareness Communication Approachable</p>	<p>We continue promote this through the various formats below -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weekly Notice Sheets</li> <li>- Website</li> <li>- Leaflets</li> <li>- Social Media</li> <li>- Poster throughout the church buildings</li> </ul>
<p><b>Safeguarding Training</b></p>	<p><i>Training:</i> The aim is to ensure all the volunteers who require training have completed in a timely manner and complete their three yearly update if they remain in their role.</p> <p>The Safeguarding Team advises volunteers and role-holders of what courses need to be completed when the volunteer takes up their role and will remind the volunteer when their next training is required: Training currently includes: Basic Awareness Foundation Leadership and safer recruitment Domestic abuse awareness.</p>	<p>Development Legal</p>	

I am extremely grateful to the Team who supports me in my role as Parish Safeguarding Officer. Without their work and support – often behind the scenes – we would not be able to manage, process and oversee the many DBS checks and training that must be completed by many of our volunteers. To continue to be compliant we ask that our volunteers respond in a timely way to all requests from the Safeguarding Team regarding training and DBS checks. Thank you.

## TEAM REPORTS *if not covered elsewhere in this Report*

### Finance Team

*meets quarterly*

Overseen by

*Sarah Cordwell*

Group Aims

*Management and oversight of church finances*

We were delighted to welcome Joanne Papa as our new treasurer this year and remain deeply grateful for Peter Ridge's time as Treasurer. Thankfully, like Peter, Jo has a good sense of humour!

Whilst the church's assets overall are the same as before Covid, income from donations is a worrying 12% down and shows no sign of improving unless we all contribute a bit more to our church.

We continue to look for ways of saving money at a time when energy bills could increase by as much as £12,000. New heating controls have been installed in the hall and the heating in the church is on for far fewer hours.

Our contribution to the Diocese remains in excess of that required but the excess is now smaller. Similarly our donations to charities have been reduced; which is very disappointing.

We are greeted when we enter church, not just with a warm smile from our Welcomers, but the new Contactless Card Reader. This was installed as fewer and fewer of us carry cash and we were concerned that we might be losing donations without an easy way to take card/phone payments. Since it was installed on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, we have received over £3,000 in donations via the machine, exceeding all expectations.

Counting cash remains an issue, with the closure of HSBC in Sidcup and the forthcoming closure of Barclays in Chislehurst. Not only do we have to pay higher amounts for banking cash and cheques, but there remains the inconvenience and risk of travelling greater distances to pay these into a bank. We repeat our appeal for those who donate cash to consider giving via Planned Giving or via the Contactless Card Reader



### Churchyard Team *meets monthly (usually), 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month*

Overseen by

*Alex Roeder*

Group Aims

*To keep the churchyard clear of rubbish and maintain the trees and plants, so that the churchyard remains accessible and safe for public use.*

#### *Achievements of 2022*

- Dying conifer by vestry and another diseased tree removed
- Magnolia reduced in height and taken away from church structure
- Most trees are being trimmed below the 6' mark, so that there is more visibility across the churchyard
- Various rambling roses cut back to nothing.
- Exposed more graves by removing excessive planting.



#### *Hopes and Aspirations for 2023 and beyond!*

I would hope to get some younger volunteers!

And aspire to keeping the churchyard as neat and viable as possible for the future.

The mortuary shed is in need of some shelving and a clear out.

We would like to get some form of wheeled leaf Collector, so that any of the volunteers can use it, thus reducing the physical manual raking, which monopolises our time all year round, and only the younger helpers can do.

There are a few fence posts that need supporting and we'd like to see that happening this year.

We'd also like to remove more of the inappropriate trees and bushes growing out of and damaging graves, but this is dependant on more person power.

Do get in touch (via the Parish Office) if you can help with the work of this important Team!

**Village Hall Team** *meets quarterly / as needed*

Overseen by *Steve Ripley*

Group Aims *To keep the Church Hall premises running, safe, and used as much as possible, while plans for the new Hall are being developed*

#### *Achievements of 2022*

Costs of maintenance and improvements have generally been kept to a minimum; unfortunately this has not been the case for energy, where expenditure over the three months to January '23 increased by some 150% compared to the previous year.

The Hall has remained operational and open for use throughout the year; in particular....

- the sheds were tidied and their use reviewed
- a remote control heating device (Hive) was installed
- various repairs were made to doors, lights, plumbing, fencing, and parking lines;
- hire publicity, terms/conditions, and rates were reviewed and updated
- Barbara Russell helped with gardening
- John Bernays was instrumental in obtaining a replacement piano
- safety checks were made on the fire precautions, emergency lighting, and the boiler
- after relying on voluntary holiday cover for the cleaner for more than a year, Selina has found someone to take on this role

#### *Hopes and aspirations for 2023*

We look forward to the building of a new hall, with hope and faith.



## REVIEW of 2022

### Achievements and Performance (activities and ministries)

#### Worship and the Household of Faith

2022 has been a full 'normal year' of accessible worship. We discontinued, completely, our streaming of live services and pre-recording of others. Although many appreciated these online services, despite repeated calls for assistance with the technology and people-power required to continue this, none came forward and it was agreed that we bring our online provision to an end. YouTube has continued to be used as a way of enhancing our worship provision and this has been appreciated by many.



Attendances at worship continued to increase steadily and this has been positive and encouraging. Several new members have joined the church, including new families.

Our worship 'diet' has remained varied and, we hope, connects with people from a wide spectrum of traditions. Although the 'worship of worship' is to be avoided at all costs, we take seriously that not all people worship in the same way through the same liturgies. Our worship should be as varied as we are, while being cognisant of the ministry resources we have.

I am particularly grateful to the teams who help enhance our worship across our many services: the Choir and Director of Music, the Third Sunday Singers, our small but faithful team of servers, Eucharistic Assistants, the Breakfast Praise Team – and all who share in making our worship a genuine sacrifice of prayer and praise. We can rightly be proud of the way in which the musical skills and talents, as well as the creative thinking of many, really blesses us as a worshipping community.

In 2022 we were also blessed to have the Rev Rachel Curley join us as our Curate. Her presence and growing ministry have made a significant impact on the worshipping life of the parish, our mission and ministry among children and young people, as well as in the wider community we serve. It is a joy to have her as a ministerial colleague.

#### *B1 Breakfast Praise (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday) and Worship for All (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday)*

Breakfast Praise continues to be one of our major successes.

The reference to 'B1' is a nudge to us to think about the prayer of Jesus (in John 17:21) that his followers should "**be one**", just as Jesus and the Father are one. Our two child-centred acts of worship in the month are Breakfast Praise and the Worship for All Eucharist on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

We take a rest from *Breakfast Praise* and *Worship for All* in August.



#### *Eucharistic Ministers*

Eucharistic Assistants are authorised by the parish priest (on behalf of the Bishop) to assist with the administration of Communion at the Eucharist. They can administer **both** the bread **and** the wine (under normal circumstances).

We have now restored the sharing of the common cup, and continued with the use of pre-intincted wafers ('dipping' is no longer allowed)



Those currently authorised for this ministry are:

Alex Holtom  
 Caroline Soars  
 David Turnbull  
 Mary Williams  
 Pippa Jinks

Peter Appleby  
 Philippa Robinson  
 John Grant  
 Tris Barker

Annie Hanifin  
 Mark Wilson  
 Susan Wilson  
 Sheila Brittain

**Retired / withdrawn**

Julian Heal  
 Ruth Cox  
 Ann Dyer  
 Margaret Brown

**Moved away**

Mark Currans  
 Luke Sehmer

## Worship statistics

### TOTAL ATTENDANCES AT ALL WORSHIP IN 2022

...at ALL main acts of worship (not including baptisms, weddings, funerals)

**ADULTS**                    **6,813**

**CHILDREN**                **1,685**

**Total Sunday attendances (adult) in 2022** *(with comparisons)*

2019	2020 <i>Covid-19 pandemic closed the church from 23<sup>rd</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> July</i>	2021 <i>In-person worship resumed on Easter Day (4<sup>th</sup> April), with some online services continuing</i>	2022
<b>8,369</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan – 15 <sup>th</sup> March <b>1,582</b> <i>(one fifth of the year)</i>  12 <sup>th</sup> July – 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov <b>589</b> <i>in-person attendances</i>  <b>7,980</b> <i>projected</i>	<b>3,679</b> <i>(actual, based on 9 months)</i>  <i>Projected for 12 months:</i> <b>4,599</b>  <b>54%</b> <i>of where we were pre-pandemic</i>	<b>5,296</b>

2021

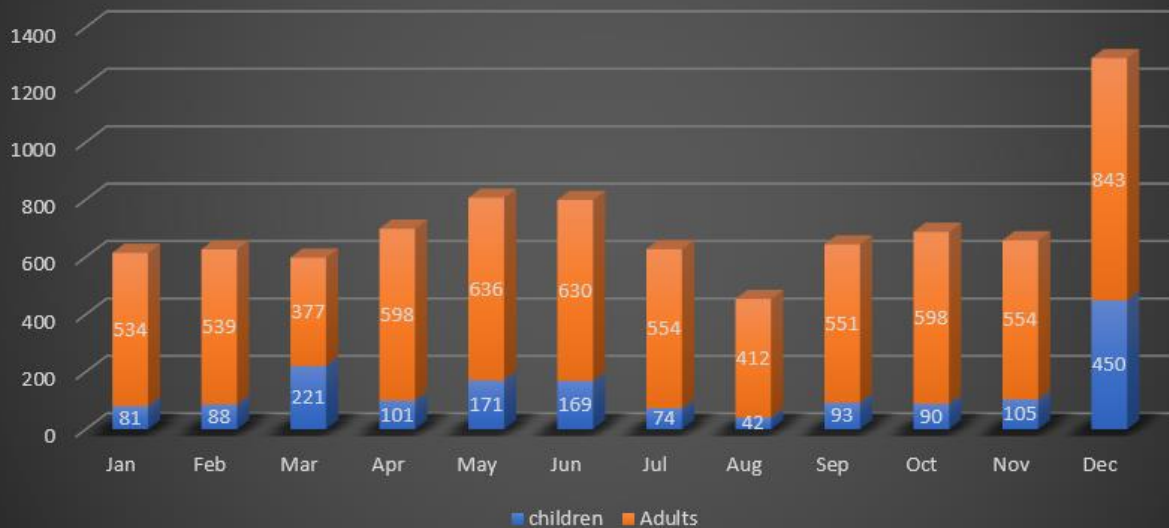


2022

### Attendances of Adults and Children Apr - Dec 2021



### Attendances of Adults and children Jan - Dec 2022



Attendances are notoriously difficult to fully capture, and ‘special’ services sometimes skew the figures. Nevertheless, the above graphics show a healthy picture of attendance across the church year.



#### St Nicholas’ Church School

The Rector works closely with the Head Teacher, Mrs Sophie Sear, at our Church School, ensuring that there is good representation from the church in the school. Our Curate, Rachel, and the Rector regularly take school assembly and lead worship, and we have welcomed the children into church for various services and celebrations including a Leavers’ Service, class Eucharists, Carol Concerts and so on.



**ST NICHOLAS**  
CE Primary School  
Part of the Aquinas Trust

The Rector also spends time with the staff and senior leadership team consulting and advising on matters concerning religious and spiritual formation and maintaining ongoing links between St Nicholas’ Parish church and its school.

We are blessed with representation from our church on the Governing body of our school—these are vital links for which we are very grateful.

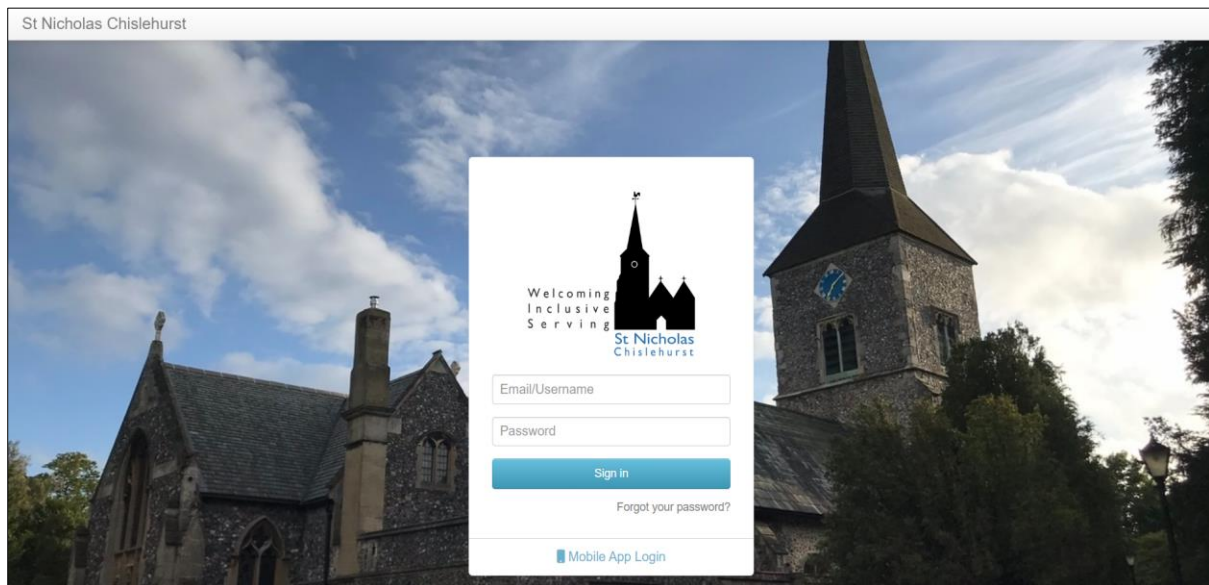


## PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

At the core of our church's life, its mission and its ministry is an effective system of administration and communication. In this parish (as in many Church of England Parishes) we use the iKnow Church suite of administration and communication.

It is absolutely crucial that all our church members with basic computer skills and internet connectivity maintain their profiles – including a photograph. We are so grateful to all those who have taken the time to do this – it has made such a difference in welcoming new clergy to the church (ie both the Rector and the Curate) in helping us to match faces to names. With over 980 contacts, this is invaluable!

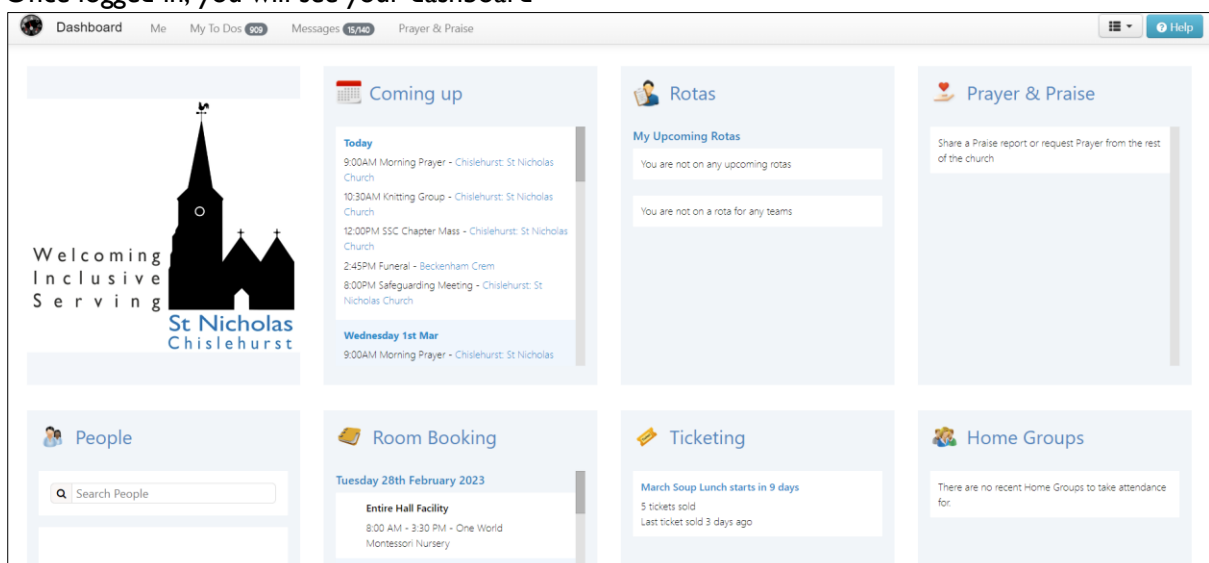
Access to our iKnow system is through the following:  
<https://stnicholaschislehurst.myknowchurch.co.uk/>



### Log in screen

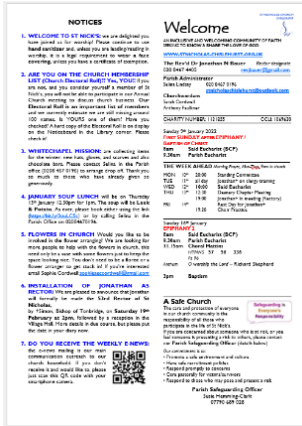
Once at the login screen, simply enter you email address (if you are registered with us), and enter your password. If you've forgotten it or don't have one, just click on "Forgot your password?"

Once logged in, you will see your dashboard



Every registered person on our system can manage their profile, details, and contact preferences through this screen. It couldn't be easier. Our iKnow system automatically generates rota reminders, and is a useful communication hub. We encourage EVERYONE to sign up and sign in! There is also a free app for smartphone users (just search for iKnow church).

### Weekly Notice Sheet



The Notice Sheet is printed each week and available in our church at worship. It continues to be a significant communication tool and liturgy resource for readings at the main Sunday worship. It is also circulated electronically each week via e-news.

### E-news

To supplement the Notice Sheet we have also developed an on-line e-news system which allows us to circulate the weekly Notice Sheet ahead of each Sunday and to include a range of interesting articles and opportunities to respond to items of interest.

The e-news is currently sent out to 392 email recipients. Due to the technology embedded within the e-news system we are able to track who has been sent what communications and, more importantly who has opened (and hopefully read!) each e-news edition!



### Final remarks

The ongoing task ahead of us is to offer our worship space (our church), and St Nicholas Village Hall as resources to our community, and for us to serve as an **open, welcoming, and inclusive** community of faith. When we are clear in our **vision, values, and mission** we will grow in confidence and the ability and desire to share what we have with others who have yet to know the joy of worship and fellowship in the gathered household of faith.

I hope you feel, as I do, that our parish is continuing to go from strength to strength, and that you will want to play your part in continuing to welcome one another and new members / guests among us with generosity of spirit, warmth of welcome, and openness of heart:

*'All who arrive as guests are to be welcomed as Christ, for he is going to say, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.' (Rule of St Benedict)*

As we build on 2022, 2023 will be a year of vision-building and parish development as we look towards the future and our place within our local community. **If we do what we've always done, we will get what we've always got...**there is still much more goodness to come if we will grow the vision and dream the dream.

Researchers have concluded that, while there is no single recipe, there are common ingredients strongly associated with growth in churches **of any size, place or context.**

These are:

- Good **leadership**
- A clear **mission and purpose**
- Willingness to self-reflect, to **change and adapt** according to context
- **Involvement** of lay members
- Being intentional in **prioritising growth**
- Being intentional in chosen **style of worship**
- Being intentional in **nurturing disciples.**

***All of the above are linked to growing churches***

I hope you'll want to be part of helping us to continue to grow, not only in number but in depth of spirituality too.

The PCC and I are extremely grateful to all those parishioners and friends of St Nicholas' Parish Church who contribute in so many different ways to enhance the life and ministry of our church, especially all those whose work is faithful, but often goes unnoticed: ***you are very much appreciated.***

***For all that has been, "thank you", and for all that will be, let's say a resounding "yes"!***

**The Rev'd Dr Jonathan N Bauer**

A PRAYER

**My church....I will help make it what it is.**

It will be friendly, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to worthy causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them.

It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith,

and a church with a noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is,

am filled with these same things.

So Lord, with your help, I will dedicate myself  
to the task of being the things that you call our church to be.

**Amen.**



## Ministry through Life Events

### 56 Life Events took place during 2022

+ wedding blessings, + memorial services

Life events (baptisms, weddings, funerals) provide powerful opportunities for ministry and pastoral care to be exercised by our church. Chiefly, the Rev'd Rachel Curley, the Rev'd June Hurn and the Rector exercise this ministry on behalf of the whole Church. Due to the nature of the pandemic, many life events were cancelled, and/or attendance curtailed. This caused significant distress to many; the resumption of Life Events, without restriction, has enabled us to minister fully, once again, to those at key moments in their life journey.

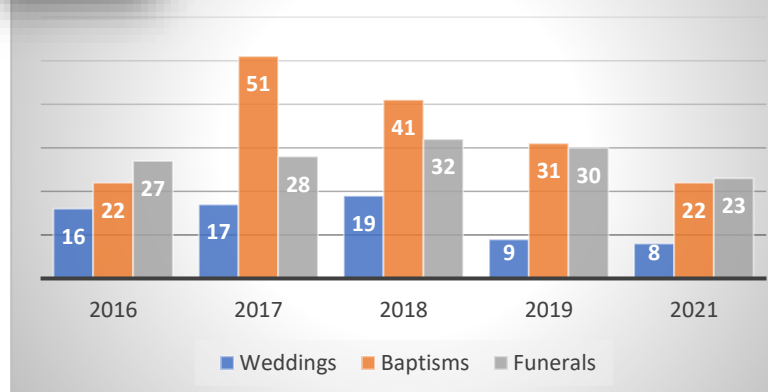


### In 2022 we conducted the following:

Marriages	11
Blessings / re-affirmations	3
Baptisms	22
Funerals	14
Burials of Ashes	9



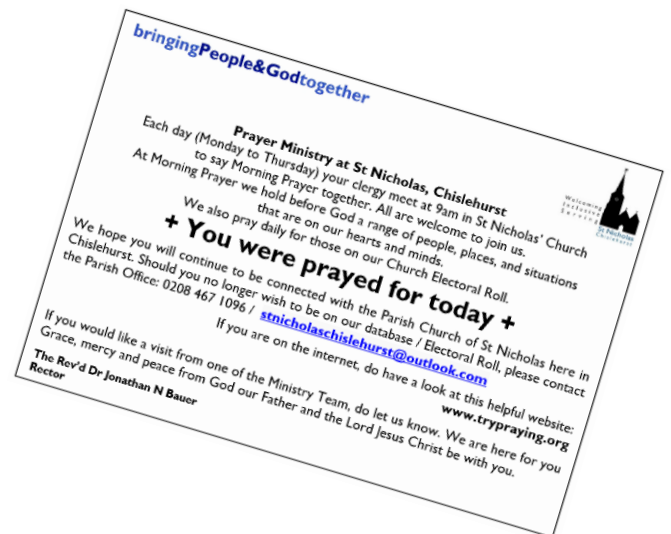
### Life Events: 2016-2021



## Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is a key part of our life together – both within, and beyond, the congregation. Both formally, and informally, St Nicholas' responds to human need and the needs of our members in a variety of ways:

- Pastoral visits by the clergy, including the taking of Holy Communion to the housebound
- Prayer ministry / intercessions / prayer lists
- Informal visits by church members to other members
- Taking services in local nursing homes and sheltered accommodation / retirement apartments including:
  - Cedarmore Court
  - Faulkner House
  - Shepherd's House
  - Fairlight & Fallowfield
  - Duke of Kent Court
- Sending monthly cards to those on our prayers lists, ensuring they know we pray for them regularly and offering opportunities to receive a visit and/or communion (thanks to Sheila Brittain for overseeing this monthly task)
- Visits to local hospitals and hospices
- Responding to requests from the community, especially those new to the area
- Preparing the dying for their death
- One-to-one bereavement support (the Rector is a qualified and experienced Bereavement Support worker and therapist)
- Offering pastoral liturgies in response to need, including the All Soul's Memorial Service.
- Working with Churches Together in Chislehurst and Bickley to explore the development of a Befriending Service for the lonely and isolated
- The Community Soup lunch (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month in the Village Hall)



## Mission and Evangelism and outreach

It has been said by a former Archbishop of Canterbury that “the Church of England exists primarily for those who don't belong to it.” It's a powerful reminder to us of our calling to **serve**.

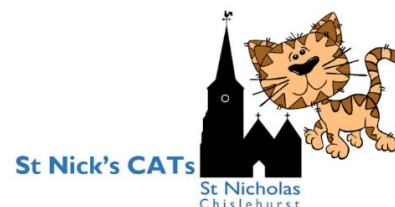
At St Nicholas' we are growing in confidence as we continue to look beyond ourselves and ensure our support of people with a wide range of needs, beyond our own church community.

This includes:

- Mission / Giving to other charities
- Support for Christian Aid
- Practical support for Whitechapel Mission

Each of our church members, too, are ambassadors of the church and representatives of Christ in their respective locations, communities, and relationships. Mission and ministry and outreach are not the reserve of 'the professionals', they are **Gospel imperatives for all of us**.

# Carers and Toddlers Group



Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month  
in the Village Hall (term-time only)



Overseen by *Filomena Dunstane*

In the Autumn of 2022, after a long hiatus, St Nick's Toddler Group was re-launched as the St Nick's CATs (**C**arers **A**nd **T**oddlers) Group.

This group had always been popular (prior to the pandemic) and we were keen to re-establish its presence and to serve younger families in the community.

We have re-used many of our current resources and toys and it has proved to be increasingly popular.

Light refreshments are offered and the opportunity to meet with other carers, offer space for children (babies to school age) to play and socialise together appears to be very much appreciated.

Since launching, £195 has been accumulated (after costs) and this will be re-invested in the group to ensure its ongoing support and development.

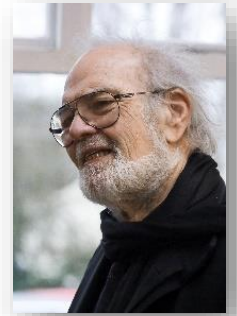
In the coming months we aim to keep growing, introduce other people from community, maybe a health visitor, a breast-feeding expert, a sleep expert, and even some dancing!



## Choir & Director of Music

meets every Friday, 7.30pm-9pm for rehearsal (in church)  
Sings on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 9.30am  
and also on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 6pm, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 11.15am  
Occasionally at weekday services

Overseen by *Michael Bell – Organist and Director of Music*  
Aims of the Group *To contribute, musically, to the enhancement of worship  
for the praise and glory of God.*  
Report submitted by *Michael Bell BA FRCO*



It comes as some relief to be able to write that St Nicholas Church Choir can still be heard on at least two Sunday mornings per month at the 9.30am Parish Eucharist Service. This follows the prolonged silence of the various previous lockdowns. On the third Sunday of the month the choir sings instead at 11.15am for Choral Matins. Also on the first Sunday of the month Choral Evensong is at 6pm. Otherwise weekday evening services on Feast days (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Ascension Day, Easter Eve and Christmas Eve) are also usually 'choral'. During this year the Choir has sung at far fewer weddings and funerals than had been the case in the previous three decades. We acknowledge with gratitude the assistance at this year's Remembrance Sunday services of a number of the 'Third Sunday Singers' members. Nonetheless the loyal enthusiasm and musical ability of the present members remains undiminished and the performance of traditional four-part singing for soprano/alto/tenor/bass in hymns, psalms and anthems to a high standard has fortunately been just possible to maintain over the past year. Grateful thanks in recognition of their considerable contribution to worship is readily recorded here.

Rehearsals are on Fridays (7.30 - 9pm, in church). NEW RECRUITS are urgently welcome in all voices. Please contact the Organist & Director of Music for further details.

*Michael Bell*



**Parish Administrator** *In the Parish Office, Mon-Fri, 9am – 1pm.*  
Overseen by *The Rector*  
Report submitted by *Selina Lindsey*



2022 has been another year of challenges to keep our administrative standards high, hopefully.

With the arrival our new curate Rachel+, this has been a massive help and support to Jonathan+ and she has mirrored his enthusiasm by generating new and old pastoral care for St Nicholas and a lot more printing and folding for me.

The bookings for parties in the hall have increased tenfold and the hall is booked out most Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The news of a possible new hall has generated a positive buzz around Chislehurst with calls to the office trying to pre-book a space for meetings, art clubs, dance, singing etc. A new Community Village Hall will benefit a lot of people and will pay for itself in the end.

We have now caught up with all outstanding baptisms (pre-Covid) and from July 2021 - December 2022 we baptised 42 children.

Mailchimp is a fabulous system enabling everyone to click and see everything that is happening at St Nicholas, with a total of 392 subscribers.

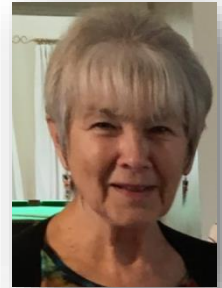


## Third Sunday Singers

Overseen by  
Aims of the Group

Report submitted by

*meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month*  
*Muriel Partridge*  
*To sing during communion and to lead the*  
*congregation hymns on the third Sunday in the month*  
*Muriel Partridge*



## Achievements this year

Loyal attendance and commitment to helping worship on the third Sunday every month.

Singing at the Christmas Fair.

We rehearse each month, in advance of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, and we welcome all potential new members.

## Comments from members

“We’re all about sharing joy in and through music.”

“We’re supportive, encouraging and we enjoy our singing.”

“We love being part of the Third Sunday singers, such a friendly group, we enjoy the informality.”

“I enjoy the friendship, fellowship, the variety of music and the joy of making music together.”

“I like the informality from choosing our music through to our practices. It is simply fun.”

“It’s an opportunity for a group who particularly enjoy singing to contribute to our service on Worship for All Sunday.”



## Hopes and Aspirations for the future

To continue our service on the third Sundays. To extend our repertoire of music  
To participate in special services if required.



## Ecumenical Relationships

St Nicholas’ church is a member of Churches Together in Chislehurst and Bickley (CTCB)



The following people serve as representatives from St Nicholas’:

1. The Parish Priest
2. Barbara Adie (CTCB Secretary)
3. Frances Follin
4. Philippa Robinson (CTCB Treasurer)



Barbara Adie



Philippa Robinson



Frances Follin

### *Aims*

As representatives of all the churches in the area, we aim to show those in Chislehurst and Bickley that our faith is relevant and active, and to share our faith with the people in our community.

### *Achievements in 2022*

#### **Churches Together:**

- has a Facebook page and Twitter account so churches can advertise services and events, etc
- continues to financially support the Chislehurst Debt Advisory Service
- benefits from the 2gether shop, which funds Chislehurst Youth for Christ and actively supports the group
- promotes churches through a presence at the Chislehurst Summer Fair, Walk of Witness on Good Friday and production of an annual Christmas card



Thanks to Rev. Dr Jonathan Bauer and a small steering group, the Two's Company befriending project got off the ground this year. A Project Coordinator, Danielle Francis, was appointed and the project should go live with its first volunteers in 2023.

At the June AGM, Anthony Faulkner stood down from the committee. Barbara Adie took over the role of secretary and Frances Follin became our additional representative. Our other representatives are Rev. Dr Jonathan Bauer (Church Leader) and Philippa Robinson (Treasurer).

### *Hopes for the Future*

To be an active and visible sign of our faith and God's love in Chislehurst and Bickley. To secure funding for the Two's Company Befriending Project to enable its further development and growth.



#### **Knitting Group**

Overseen by

Group Aims

*meets every Tuesday, 10.30am – 12noon, in the Bull's Head Pub*

*Barbara Adie and Carol Gray*

*To provide a warm welcome and an opportunity for those in the community interested in knitting to meet, share creative ideas and support each other.*

The knitting group continues to attract new members and reached 22 by the end of 2022. Each new member receives a warm welcome and soon finds a shared interest. Those who haven't knitted for a while make a start on squares for blankets and soon move on the scarves, hats and toys. A member of our group has set up a knitting group in Shepherd's House, providing an enjoyable community activity, producing blankets for refugees living in a deprived area of SE London.

Full of enthusiasm, projects for the Christmas Fair started in February. The result was a wonderful display of goods for sale. We continue to support Children in Distress and Whitechapel Mission, providing blankets, hats and scarves. In December, we were able to provide 'Pew' blankets to help members of the congregation keep warm in church.

Social get togethers are also important and we met for a soup lunch in August and ended the year with our annual Christmas lunch at the Bull - a wonderful way to celebrate our achievements. Our thanks go to the Bull for continuing to host this vibrant and chatty group.



### *Hopes for the Future*

To diversify our products and develop some eco-friendly projects, making the best of the skills in the group.



### **Junior Church and Creche**

Overseen by

Report submitted by

*2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's of the month,*

*9.30am in the Village Hall*

*Sarah Armstrong and the Team*

*Sarah Armstrong*



### *Intro*

Junior Church takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and occasionally on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, in the Village Hall; the Junior Church team meet approximately four times a year

We use ROOTS to support the planning of our sessions which include songs, prayers, crafts and games.

We listen to the Bible story or message that is being heard in the main church and we adapt it for our youngest members to understand.

We discuss the key messages being shared and think about how this relates to our own lives.

The children are encouraged to reflect on how they can best follow the word of God and the messages of Jesus.

We then share our creations with the main body of the Church towards the end of the service, once we have re-joined our families.

Some of our creations are displayed for others to see at the back of the church where the bell ringers practice.

### *Aims of the Group*

- To bring the word of God to our youngest members of the Church
- To support young people and families to form positive relationships with other members of the parish
- To encourage young people to think about the stories and messages from the Bible and reflect on how this relates to their own lives

### *Achievements of 2022*

- Bringing new and established members of our Junior Church (previously known as Sunday School) back together post-pandemic



We share stories from the Bible together



We think about how to relate the stories to our own lives;





We talk about how our world is important to us;



We work on bigger creations together sometimes;



We play games and have lots of discussions around the stories and passages we learn about;



We all help putting everything away too!

- Putting on our first Nativity since the pandemic



- Having clear systems in terms of registration forms and registers to ensure we can monitor attendance and keep our young people safe

*Hopes and aspirations for the future*

- To build a strong team of volunteers to lead our sessions each month so we can have a consistent offer of separate sessions for younger and older children- we currently have to amalgamate the groups on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday as we do not have sufficient volunteers consistently to lead each group
- To continue to share the word of God with our youngest members of the Church through stories, games, songs and activities
- For our children to continue with us into young adulthood and to build on the foundations of faith shared in Junior Church
- To have a healthy, regular attendance of young people coming to our sessions, building strong relationships within our community.

## Soup Lunch

Overseen by  
Report submitted by  
Group Aims

every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, 12.45pm for 1pm in St Nicholas Village Hall (not during August)  
The Rector; Rota managed by Barbara Adie  
Barbara Adie  
To provide an opportunity for members of the church and wider community to meet socially, find companionship and chat over a shared lunch; to meet up with old friends and make new ones



### *Achievements of 2022*

The Community Soup Lunches are now a firm fixture in the calendar and continue to attract a core clientele. With the Covid virus still circulating numbers fluctuate, but are creeping up as more people feel able to mix again.

Dates and types of soup are advertised in advance for the year and attendees are encouraged to book tickets online or phone into the Parish office to book their place.

We now have a core team of willing volunteers making soup, cakes and helping on the day. Service flows smoothly and engaging with guests is a key element of the lunch.

We aim to create a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere with guests often helping out when they arrive and everyone sitting and chatting together over the meal.

A special effort was made in December, with a Christmas theme, including table decorations, crackers and mince pies. The highlight however was having 40 children from St. Nicholas Primary School coming to sing Carols. Emotions ran high, tears were shed as everyone joined in with 'Hark the Herald Angels sing'.

Our thanks go to Head Teacher, Sophie Sears (who helps at the lunches in school holidays) and Katie Harris (the music lead) for supporting our request and allowing us to end the year on a high.

### *Hopes and Aspirations for the Future*

To advertise more widely and to encourage more of the local community to attend the lunches, which offer friendship, support and a warm space.



## Baptism Helpers

Coordinated by  
Aims of the Team

*Baptisms are usually held at 3pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.*

*One Baptism Helper is present to assist at each baptism.*

*Jackie White*

*To assist the clergy in preparing for and welcoming baptism families into the church. They provide not only practical help, but also a ministry of welcome, representing the wider congregation*

Report submitted by

*Jackie White*



22 baptisms were held at St Nicholas Church during 2022. Baptism services are joyful occasions uniting family and friends and baptism parties range in size from around 20 to 100. During the baptism each child receives a baptism shell, inscribed with name and date of baptism, and a baptism candle. A memento sock is donated and these are hung around the bottom of the font. The team of 8 helpers is comprised of mothers and grandmothers within the church. Baptisms services are always uplifting and it is a pleasure and privilege to help.



**Mothers' Union**      *submitted by Dorothy Baldwin and Sally Hayhow*  
Overseen by              *Dorothy Baldwin and Sally Hayhow*

We have met every month during 2022, either inside the The Bull's Head or in their Garden during the good weather. Our numbers have remained consistently at a dozen at every meeting.

We decided to keep the programme more informal for the time being, having realised that fellowship was our greatest priority.

We have enjoyed a variety of talks, notably one from our Curate, Rev Rachel, who also led our Advent Meditation. We had an outing to Otford for lunch, a quiz from Lynton, another based on the Christmas story from Dorothy and most importantly, we have spent time together. Two new members have joined us and more are always welcome.



### **Memorial Garden**

Overseen by              *Sue Thorogood*  
Report submitted by    *Sue Thorogood*

The Memorial Garden is a special place in our Churchyard and a place of solace for the families whose loved ones are interred there.

To maintain it to a high standard involves a lot of work and during the summer months I am assisted by a wonderful team of volunteers. However, it can be very high maintenance in the autumn and winter when a copious amount of leaves fall on the garden so we would really appreciate extra help at that time of the year. I would therefore be pleased to hear from anyone who can give an hour or so of their time now and again. Please let us know via the Parish Office.

We also have a rota for cutting the grass in the spring and summer months and this takes each volunteer about 30/40 minutes once a month. John (my husband) has been doing this for twenty years but following an accident he cannot continue so PLEASE can someone come forward to replace him? We do really hope so.

Finally it would assist us considerably if those who leave floral tributes in the garden could clear them away when they die. This garden is a special place for many of you so please help us to keep it neat and tidy for all who come and appreciate its beauty and tranquillity.



### **Bell Ringers** *report submitted by Maralyn Evans*

Overseen by    *Maralyn Evans*  
Meets            *Ringing for some Sunday mornings and (hopefully) on Wednesday evenings*  
Group Aims    *To support ringing for services and special events with main bells, Ellacombe chimes and handbells.*

- Kent Association AGM held at St Nicholas.
- Bells inspected by Taylor's and deemed to be in good condition. Next inspection due November 2024.
- Rang for 10 weddings.
- Tolloed muffled bell for the late Queen's funeral.
- Quarter Peal rung by visiting Bromley Tower.
- Discovery of a set of historic hand bells in the clock tower. Paper submitted to PCC resulting in confirmation of church ownership. Peter Appleby researched church records see image of Warden's Account (entry 1887).



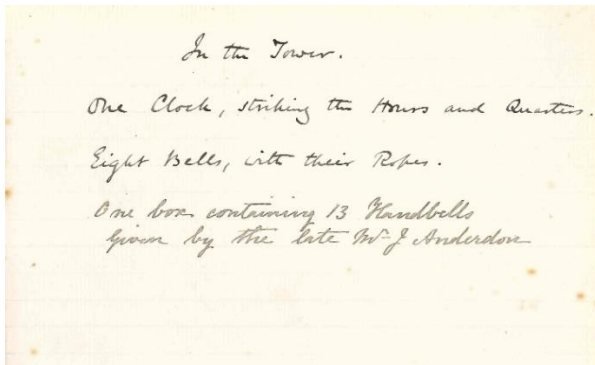
- Rang Ellacombe chimes for Nativity Tableau.



Ellacombe chimes



St Nicholas' Handbells



### *Hopes and Aspirations*

Lewisham District Practice to be held at St Nicholas on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

We now have 4 committed ringers with 2 new learners at Eltham so hopefully soon we will again be able to ring 6 bells on a Sunday morning.

In celebration of the King's Coronation on 6 May if sufficient ringers are available, we plan to 'Ring for the King' on the main bells as well as joining an international simultaneous ringing of the Ellacombe Chimes.

Plans to ring muffled bells for Remembrance Sunday 2023

We are in the process of having the handbells valued with a view to them being included in the church insurance cover then obtaining funds to have them restored/repared.

We would like to involve the Junior Church and possibly St Nicholas' Primary School in learning to ring these.

Consider a school visit for Year 5 and 6 pupils to raise awareness of bell ringing as a hobby. We are planning a practice session for all the team to be able to ring the Ellacombe Chimes.

**CHLOE** *report submitted by Ann Dyer and Muriel Partridge*  
 Overseen by *Ann Dyer and Muriel Partridge*  
 Meets *once a month, Sept-July, 2.30pm in various members' homes*  
 Group Aims *to share friendship, fun, and refreshments*

“CHLOE”  
 (Chislehurst Ladies Over Eighteen)



Every September we have a planning meeting to consider suggestions for activities which the members would like to attend.

Regular events are:

- Poetry
- a film
- a London walk
- a musical afternoon

These are popular and will be repeated but new ideas are added each year.

*Hopes and aspirations*

To increase our membership and continue with similar activities



## **New Village Hall Development Project**

*report submitted by the Rector*



**A VILLAGE HALL**  
*for all*

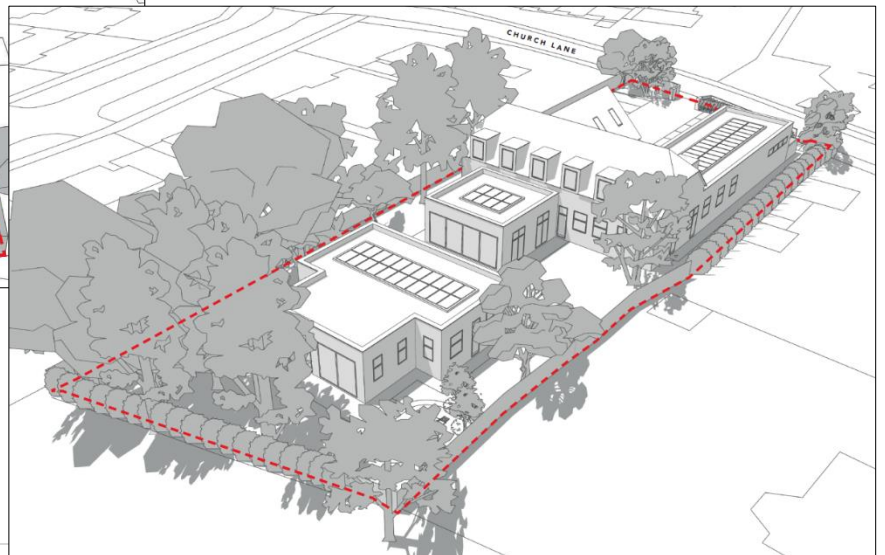
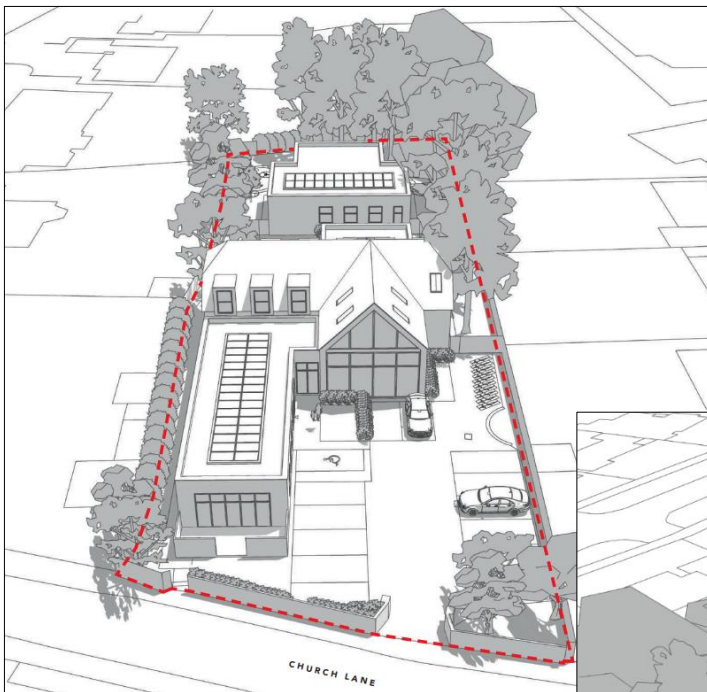
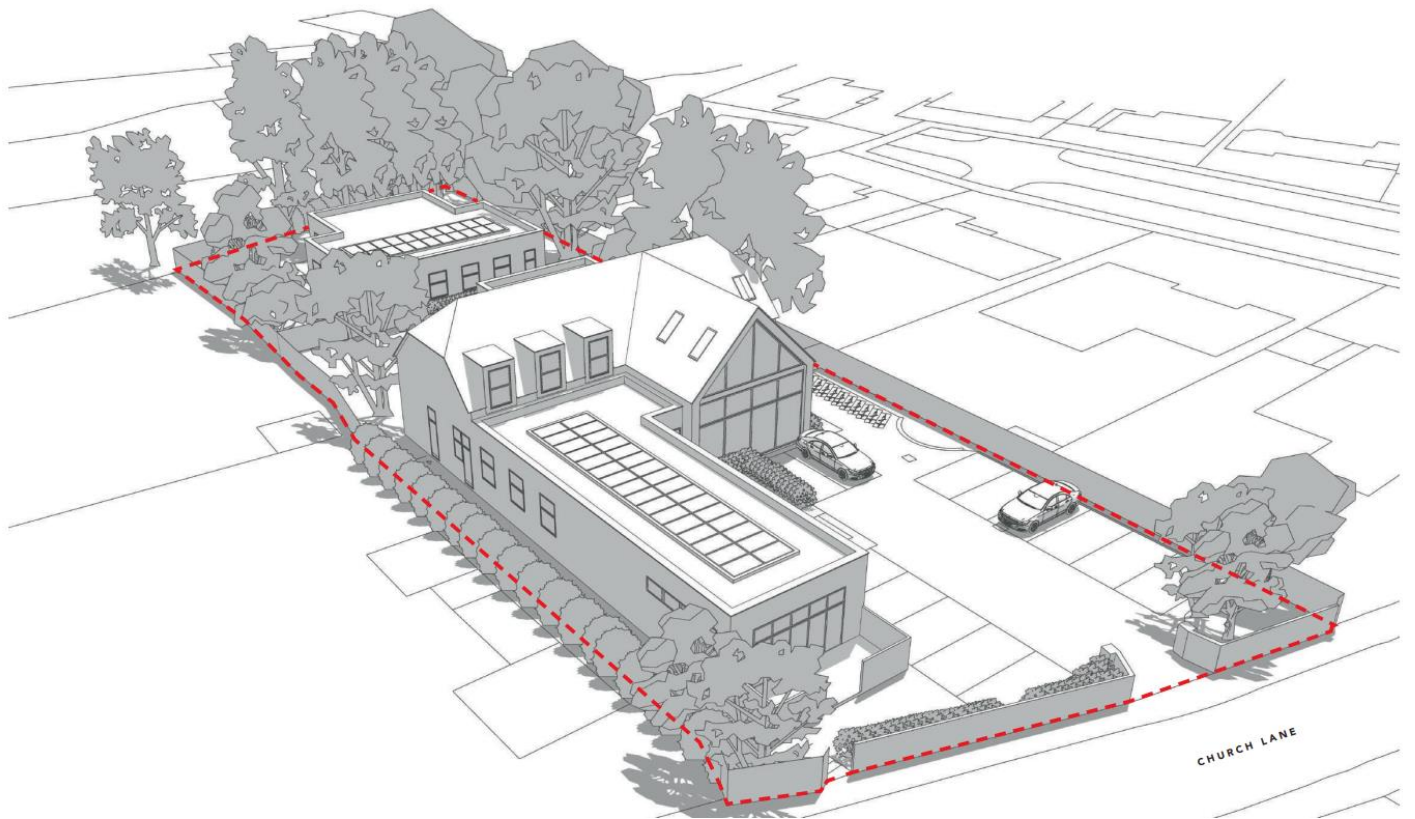
Redeveloping St Nicholas' Village Hall is long overdue. There have been ideas of redevelopment for at least 25 years but none have come to fruition.

Since introducing the concept at the Annual Meetings in 2022, there has been overwhelming and unanimous support from the PCC and the church community, and wider community at large.

Our current Hall is incredibly popular and is a valued space serving the community of Chislehurst (and sometime beyond). Due to its popularity and its limited space and functionality, its high usage means that the Hall is often unavailable to us a church for significant parish events or hospitality. For this, we very often have to rely on the goodwill of our valued and long-standing users who work with us to be as flexible as possible – when they can. This makes it a challenge to offer times when we can plan events like a fellowship lunch on Sundays, evening group meetings in the main hall space, midweek community lunches and coffee mornings, etc.

To that end, plans have been drawn up which maximise the plot of land, incorporating both a small hall and a main hall facility with offices and meeting rooms, and kitchen. As careful stewards of what we have, the plans also include provision for two apartments on the first floor of the complex to provide well-needed supplemental income. It is important that, going forward, we seek to maximise the potential income from the built resources we have to ensure we secure a strong future for our church and its outreach to the community.

# Preliminary 'Concepts'







The outline concept drawings have been on display, in church, for the most part of 2022 (since May 2022). Almost all the feedback has been incredibly positive.









Two consultation meetings have already been held:

- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September – invited guests from the local community, inc local councillors, MP, senior diocesan clergy, representatives from local organisations ‘with an interest’
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October – for all interested parties

As a result of these, the Hall Development Team (pictured below), finalised our initial proposals and moved towards the submission of pre-planning to Bromley Council. There is also a dedicated page on our church website regarding our Hall plans:

<https://www.stnicholas-chislehurst.org.uk/stnicholasvillagehall>

**The Hall Development Team**

			
Rev'd Dr. Jonathan Bauer Rector	Sarah Cordwell Churchwarden	Wendy Lowdon Churchwarden	Andrew Stone Team Member
			
John Grant Team Member	Manos Adoniadis Team Member	Adam Baskett Team Member	



Feedback from pre-planning (once received) will be shared and the next steps taken toward establishing a funding programme / funding team. The overseeing of the project and its development over the next few years will be a major part of our shared life together.

Throughout 2022 there have had to be a large number of surveys and professional consultations which come at cost. The PCC budgeted £14k for this. At the end of 2022, we had spent just over £13,838 – ie a little under budget.

I would like to pay tribute to the incredible Hall Development Team with their many and varied skills, interests and professional backgrounds who have helped push the project forward in such a wonderful, creative, and impassioned way. On behalf of us all, “Thank you”.

This will be a significant and major focus of the life of St Nick’s throughout the coming years – but one, I hope, which will make clear our desire to **serve** our local community, to **welcome** ALL, and to offer **hospitality** with generosity and love.

We really hope our new hall will be a **Village Hall for All**

*The Rev’d Dr Jonathan Bauer*

*CHAIR*

# **Independent Examiner's Report**

## **to the trustees of The Parochial Church Council**

### **of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Chislehurst**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Chislehurst (the Church) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Church, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



**Christopher Archer**

**Date 14 March 2023**

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales  
Fidelis Accountancy and Taxation Services Ltd  
The Vicarage, Rose Lane, Mossley Hill, Liverpool, L18 8BD

# ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	2021 £
<b><u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>						
Voluntary income	3(a)	119,092	3,683	-	122,775	109,956
Activities for generating funds	3(b)	26,507	3,353	-	29,860	22,041
Income from Church activities	3(c)	13,752	-	-	13,752	11,350
Income from investments	3(d)	1,869	-	9,764	11,633	10,646
Other income	3(e)	<u>17,980</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,155</u>	<u>26,152</u>
Total incoming resources		<u>179,200</u>	<u>7,211</u>	<u>9,764</u>	<u>196,175</u>	<u>180,145</u>
<b><u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u></b>						
Church activities	4(a)	199,610	7,415	3,816	210,841	177,601
Exceptional costs	4(b)	-	-	-	-	4,031
Governance costs	4(c)	<u>626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>626</u>	<u>602</u>
Total resources expended		<u>200,236</u>	<u>7,415</u>	<u>3,816</u>	<u>211,467</u>	<u>182,234</u>
<b><u>NET INCOMING RESOURCES</u></b>						
Before other recognised gains & losses		(21,036)	(204)	5,948	(15,292)	(2,089)
<b><u>NET (LOSSES)/GAINS ON INVESTMENTS</u></b>	7(b)	<u>(21,592)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(47,151)</u>	<u>(68,743)</u>	<u>80,671</u>
<b><u>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</u></b>		(42,628)	(204)	(41,203)	(84,035)	78,582
<b><u>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</u></b>		6,000		(6,000)	-	-
Balances brought forward 1 January 2022 (2021)		<u>349,566</u>	<u>1,527</u>	<u>636,171</u>	<u>987,264</u>	<u>908,682</u>
<b><u>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</u></b>						
31 DECEMBER 2022 (2021)		<u>312,938</u>	<u>1,323</u>	<u>588,968</u>	<u>903,229</u>	<u>987,264</u>

The notes on pages 49 to 55 form part of the accounts

# ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Note	£	£	£	2022 £	2021 £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>						
Tangible	7(a)	60,260	-	232,500	<b>292,760</b>	292,760
Investments	7(b)	<u>197,696</u>	-	<u>342,631</u>	<b>540,327</b>	<u>609,070</u>
		<u>257,956</u>	-	<u>575,131</u>	<b>833,087</b>	<u>901,830</u>
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>						
Debtors & prepayments	8	14,072	-	-	<b>14,072</b>	5,455
Short term deposits		28,107	1,323	13,837	<b>43,267</b>	58,670
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>31,953</u>	-	-	<b>31,953</b>	<u>36,146</u>
		<u>74,132</u>	<u>1,323</u>	<u>13,837</u>	<b>89,292</b>	<u>100,271</u>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b> due within one year	9	(19,150)	-	-	<b>(19,150)</b>	(14,837)
<b><u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		<u>54,982</u>	<u>1,323</u>	<u>13,837</u>	<b>70,142</b>	<u>85,434</u>
<b><u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u></b>		<u>312,938</u>	<u>1,323</u>	<u>588,968</u>	<b>903,229</b>	<u>987,264</u>
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>						
<b><u>Unrestricted:</u></b>						
General		181,920	-	-	<b>181,920</b>	106,875
Designated:						
Church Repair Fund	11(a)	70,758	-	-	<b>70,758</b>	74,232
Church Hall Building	11(b)	60,260	-	-	<b>60,260</b>	60,260
Refurbishment Fund	11(c)	-	-	-	-	108,199
<b><u>Restricted:</u></b>	14	-	1,323	-	<b>1,323</b>	1,527
<b><u>Endowment</u></b>	12	-	-	588,968	<b>588,968</b>	636,171
		<u>312,938</u>	<u>1,323</u>	<u>588,968</u>	<b>903,229</b>	<u>987,264</u>

Approved by the PCC on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 and signed on its behalf by,



**The Revd Dr Jonathan N Bauer (Rector)**

The notes on pages 49 to 55 form part of the accounts



# ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS *For the year ended 31 December 2022*

### 1. CHARITY COMMISSION REGISTRATION

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Nicholas, Chislehurst was registered with the Charity Commission on 28 September 2009, with Registered No. 1131855. It is required to file its annual report and accounts with the Commission and must also send these to the Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

### 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP FRS102 (2016). The policies are set out in full on page 55 of this report.

### 3. INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	2022 £	2021 £
<b>(a) Voluntary income</b>					
Planned giving	71,051	-	-	71,051	72,012
Tax recoverable	19,754	-	-	19,754	18,271
Collections at services	17,741	3,648	-	21,389	7,212
Donations	10,546	35	-	10,581	6,461
Legacies	-	-	-	-	6,000
	<u>119,092</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,775</u>	<u>109,956</u>
<b>(b) Activities for generating funds</b>					
St Nicholas Fair	-	3,353	-	3,353	3,895
Church Hall hiring	26,507	-	-	26,507	18,146
	<u>26,507</u>	<u>3,353</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,860</u>	<u>22,041</u>
<b>(c) Income from Church Activities</b>					
Fees	8,976	-	-	8,976	11,056
Parish magazine	11	-	-	11	39
Social events	4,765	-	-	4,765	255
	<u>13,752</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,752</u>	<u>11,350</u>
<b>(d) Income from investments</b>					
Dividends & interest	1,869	-	9,764	11,633	10,646
	<u>1,869</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,764</u>	<u>11,633</u>	<u>10,646</u>
<b>(e) Other incoming resources</b>					
Curate Housing Grant	4,750	-	-	4,750	-
Southbeech rental income	6,586	-	-	6,586	23,400
LPOW VAT relief	6,644	-	-	6,644	2,446
Flower income	-	175	-	175	306
	<u>17,980</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,155</u>	<u>26,152</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<u>179,200</u>	<u>7,211</u>	<u>9,764</u>	<u>196,175</u>	<u>180,145</u>

# ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 4. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2022 £	2021 £
<b>(a) Church activities</b>					
Mission and charitable giving	3,553	7,036	-	<b>10,589</b>	12,400
Ministry:					
Parish Offer to Diocese	75,000	-	-	<b>75,000</b>	83,700
Clergy working expenses	2,349	-	-	<b>2,349</b>	1,183
Clergy housing costs	4,467	-	-	<b>4,467</b>	3,325
	-	-	-	-	-
Church services & music	13,989	-	-	<b>13,989</b>	10,427
Church:					
Insurance	3,043	-	-	<b>3,043</b>	6,359
Utility costs	5,733	-	-	<b>5,733</b>	3,589
Repairs & maintenance	6,338	-	259	<b>6,597</b>	5,879
Major works	34,283	-	-	<b>34,283</b>	6,665
Southbeech costs	-	-	1,254	<b>1,254</b>	1,089
Churchyard upkeep	3,091	-	2,303	<b>5,394</b>	8,191
Parish magazine	-	-	-	-	150
Church Hall running costs	16,084	-	-	<b>16,084</b>	19,045
New Church Hall Planning costs	13,838	-	-	<b>13,838</b>	-
Cost of social events	2,319	-	-	<b>2,319</b>	183
Administration	15,523	-	-	<b>15,523</b>	15,236
Flower Expenses	-	379	-	<b>379</b>	180
	<u>199,610</u>	<u>7,415</u>	<u>3,816</u>	<b><u>210,841</u></b>	<u>177,601</u>
<b>(b) Exceptional costs</b>					
Sequestration costs	-	-	-	-	586
Costs of letting Southbeech	-	-	-	-	<u>3,445</u>
	-	-	-	-	<u>4,031</u>
<b>(c) Governance costs</b>					
Independent examination	420	-	-	<b>420</b>	400
Bank charges	<u>206</u>	-	-	<b><u>206</u></b>	<u>202</u>
	<u>626</u>	-	-	<b><u>626</u></b>	<u>602</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>200,236</u></b>	<b><u>7,415</u></b>	<b><u>3,816</u></b>	<b><u>211,467</u></b>	<b><u>182,234</u></b>

**5. STAFF COSTS** (included in the above figures) for the administrator, the hall cleaner and the organist/choir master amount to £23,370 (2021 - £20,145). The stipends of the Rector and the Curate are paid by the diocese.

**ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)** For the year ended 31 December 2022

**6. TRANSACTIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE PCC AND RELATED PARTIES**

Note 4(a) shows the total of PCC payments for the Rector and Assistant Curate towards their working expenses and housing costs. The total stewardship income from members of the PCC in 2022 was £8,779 (2021 - £9,094). Groundforce1, a company closely connected to one member of the PCC was paid £3,115 for grass cutting and trimming at the Churchyard.

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

**(a) Tangible assets used by the PCC**

Freehold land and buildings: Cost at 1 January 2022 and at 31 December 2022

**£292,760**

The Curate's house at Southbeech, Old Perry Street, BR7 6PL was purchased in 2001 for £232,500.

St Nicholas Village Hall was given to the PCC in 1921, mostly rebuilt in 1977 and extended in 1987.

The total historic cost was £60,260. Neither sum is being depreciated.

**(b) Investments – movements during the year: -**

	£	Represented by shares in CBF Church of England Funds:	£
Market value on 1 January	<b>609,070</b>	Global Equities Investment Fund	<b>68,258</b>
Net loss on revaluation	<b>(68,743)</b>	Investment Fund (Equities)	<b>472,069</b>
	<b><u>540,327</u></b>		<b><u>540,327</u></b>

<b>8. DEBTORS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Debtors and prepayments	<b>2,556</b>	-
Tax recoverable	<b>10,169</b>	4,655
VAT recoverable	<b>1,347</b>	800
	<b><u>14,072</u></b>	<b><u>5,455</u></b>
<b>9. LIABILITIES due within one year</b>		
Goods and services	<b>9,236</b>	4,687
Donations allocated out of 2022 (2021) income	<b>9,914</b>	<u>10,150</u>
	<b><u>19,150</u></b>	<b><u>14,837</u></b>
<b>10. GIVING TO MISSIONS &amp; CHARITIES</b>		
Church Mission Society	-	2,000
Welcare in Bromley	<b>1,308</b>	1,000
Children in Distress	<b>1,000</b>	2,000
Whitechapel Mission	<b>729</b>	2,100
Association of Christian Resource Organisations serving Sudan (UK)	-	1,250
Children's Society	<b>1,889</b>	2,000
Church Army, Marylebone Women's Hostel	<b>1,308</b>	2,000
DEC Ukraine Appeal	<b>590</b>	-
Churches Together In Chislehurst & Bickley	<b>300</b>	-
Compassion UK	<b>1,308</b>	-
His Charity	<b>1,308</b>	-
Salvation Army	<b>669</b>	-
Poverty & Hope	<b>100</b>	-
Assistance to poorer parishes and other items	<b>80</b>	<u>50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>10,589</u></b>	<b><u>12,400</u></b>



# ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued) For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Opening Balance £	Income in year £	Expenditure in year £	Inter Fund Transfers £	Investment Result £	Closing Balance £
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
General	106,875	173,390	(165,952)	89,199	(21,592)	181,920
<b>Designated</b>						
Church Repair	74,232	5,810	(34,284)	25,000	-	70,758
Hall Building	60,260	-	-	-	-	60,260
Refurbishment	108,199	-	-	(108,199)	-	-
<b>Restricted</b>						
Minor funds	1,527	175	(379)	-	-	1,323
Away Giving		7,036	(7,036)	-	-	-
<b>Endowments</b>	<u>636,171</u>	<u>9,764</u>	<u>(3,816)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(47,151)</u>	<u>588,968</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<u><b>987,264</b></u>	<u><b>196,175</b></u>	<u><b>(211,467)</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>(68,743)</b></u>	<u><b>903,229</b></u>

### DESIGNATED FUNDS FOR CHURCH BUILDINGS

Financial provision is being made via designated funds for future non-annual repairs and renewal.

- (a) **Church Repair Fund** - The Fund stood at £74,232 at the start of the year. A further £25,000 has been transferred from General Fund to spread the burden of anticipated exceptional costs over a five-year cycle. As part of this the PCC makes regular deposits into diocesan accounts as recommended by the diocesan surveyor, for future quinquennial fabric repairs to the Church and the Curate's house. In the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 £28,474 was spent on major repairs to the church which has been taken out of the fund. This leaves a balance of £70,758 in the fund at the end of the year.
- (b) **Church Hall** - The hall is run on a self-financing basis to generate sufficient funds to meet any major work on the fabric of the Hall. The annual income and expenditure and the resultant financial surplus or deficit from its operations is accounted for within the General Fund Statement of Financial Activities. The designated fund represents the historic book value of the building which as such is an illiquid asset.
- (c) **Church Refurbishment Fund** - The fund stood at £108,199 on 1st January 2022. This money was put aside for a particular project which has now been overtaken by plans for the new church hall. It has been decided by the PCC to move these funds back into the General Fund.

### 12. ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Capital funds which the PCC has no power to expend (permanent), or which may be spent in certain circumstances (expendable). The income is available for specific purposes as follows:

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| (a) Churchyard fund - to maintain 26 graves in St Nicholas churchyard  | } | Permanent endowments<br>market value<br><b>£86,093</b> |
| (b) Fabric Trust - for repairs to the church fabric  |   |  |
| (c) Nussey Trust - for church maintenance  |   |  |
| (d) Clergy House Trust - an expendable endowment. It holds the curate's house (see note 7(a), investments of <b>£245,601</b> and short term deposits <b>£13,837</b> . The income arising is available to the PCC and the capital is available for ecclesiastical purposes in or near the parish under the oversight of the Diocese as custodian trustee. It has been decided by the PCC to transfer £6,000 from this fund into the General Fund. |   |  |
| (e) Hawes Trust - it is agreed that the capital may be invested in an accumulating fund, provided that the two family graves are maintained. The capital may be used after May 2059 (Market value <b>£10,936</b> ).  |   |  |
| (f) Also included in the Endowment Funds total is the Curate's House at Southbeech (see note 7 – £232,500)   |   |  |

### **13. CONNECTED CHARITIES**

Monies handled by the St Nicholas branch of the Mother's Union are not included in these accounts.

### **14. RESTRICTED FUNDS**

- a) The church holds a fund of £603 available to meet the objects of 'Chislehurst Relief in Need' (2021 - £603)
- b) In the year the Flower Fund had income of £175 and expenses of £379, leaving a balance of £720 (2021 - £924)

# **ST NICHOLAS CHISLEHURST PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*For the year ended 31 December 2022*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and SORP FRS102 (2016). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

## **Fund Accounting**

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments that is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor.

Unrestricted funds are income funds that are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. Funds are designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Designated funds remain unrestricted, and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

## **Resources expended**

Donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is recognised when it is incurred.

## **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with the s.10 (2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

## **Incoming resources**

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. The Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are readily quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

## **Charities Act 2011**

Moveable church furnishings held by the rector and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £5,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

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St Nicholas Church, Chislehurst



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