

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Reports for the Year 2022 of the
St Weonards Benefice In
The Ross and Archenfield Deanery
Comprising the parishes of
Garway, Hentland with Hoarwithy
Orcop, St Weonards
Tretire with Michaelchurch and Pencoyd**





ST MICHAELS CHURCH GARWAY

Annual Report for the church of St Michael, Garway, for 2022.

No Church Warden, PCC members, 3. Nigel Deeley (Treasurer), Ruth Deeley, Tracy Somerville

Services.

No regular services. Special services, 2. Service of blessing. Advent Service. Baptisms 3. Weddings 2. Funerals 3

Report for the Parochial Church Council of

Hentland with Hoarwithy 2022

This parish has two churches which are in the St Weonards Benefice within the Deanery of Ross and Archenfield in the Diocese of Hereford.

St. Dubricius Church is the parish church situated in the hamlet of Hentland and St. Catherine's Church is situated in the village of Hoarwithy. They are both part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England.

There are 36 members on the Church Electoral Roll.

The PCC are extremely grateful to everyone who works so hard to maintain our churches and to all those who have contributed to the maintenance, running, cleaning, flower arranging and caring for both churches.

Administrative information

Vicar: Vacant during 2022

Associate Priest: Revd. Dr Frances Phillips – retired in September 2022

Revd. Sean Semple, Rural Dean is the church contact during the Interregnum

Churchwardens: Peter Pember MBE (Hoarwithy), Robin Symonds (Hentland)
Jeff Goulding (Hoarwithy)

Deanery Synod Representative: Peter Pember and Vincent Mercer

Treasurer: Robin Symonds

Secretary Hilary Ross

Gift Aid Officer: Peter Pember

Safeguarding co-ordinator Valerie Lilwall

The following served as elected members on the PCC: -
Antonia Cuthbert, Sarah Goulding, Valerie Lilwall, Vincent Mercer, Julia Pember,
Hilary Ross, Josephine Symonds, Danielle Watkins and Philip Watkins.
Independent Financial Examiner – Jayne Dunstan
Bankers: Lloyds- Ross-on-Wye

In June the Quinquennial inspections for both churches were carried out by our architects Arnold Bartosch and the PCC are waiting for the written reports
During 2022 there were six regular standard PCC meetings plus two emergency meetings and an extra meeting on August 30th with Harvey Faulkner-Aston (historic building consultant) from Arnold Bartosch (architects). Cedar Rise was bought by the PCC in November 2021 with the plan to provide disabled access and better access for all to St. Catherine's church.

A Ukrainian refugee family finally moved into Cedar Rise in August. There are six in the family a grandmother, father, mother and their three children. Thanks to villagers and the local community the bungalow was decorated and furnished for the family who have settled in well and appreciate all the assistance and help they receive.

St. Catherine's Hoarwithy have a regular service on the third Sunday of the month at 10am and St. Dubricius, Hentland on the 4th Sunday at 9.15am (both normally Holy Communion)

Hoarwithy Church had one wedding service, one wedding blessing and one baptism during the year.

At the beginning of the year the monthly benefice services were on Zoom and taken by Revd. Dr Frances Phillips.

Following the Covid restrictions in 2021 it was a welcome return to open the churches for visitors, services, functions, and activities.

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT ST DUBRICIUS FOR THE YEAR 2022

There were eleven monthly services of Holy Communion held during the year, plus the Pax Service on Palm Sunday and the annual Carol service on 18th December. All were taken by the Revd Ben Bentham except two, one by the Revd Penny Powdrill and the other by Freda Davies, when Ben Bentham was on holiday. The Revd Simon Tarleton, lately curate at St Mary's Ross-on-Wye now vicar of St Mary's Lugwardine, was guest preacher at the Pax service. A total of 132 children communicants plus 2 children attended the services of Holy Communion, 32 plus 7 children attended the Pax service and 34 plus 5 children the Carol service. £1,397.93 was the total of collections at services and £134.10 was received in donations made by visitors to the church.

It was a relief to return to our regular pattern of worship, with the pandemic of the previous two years now put behind us, if not forgotten.

With the work on reviving the decoration of the chancel now complete, together with the rebuilding of the Walker organ, it would be tempting to think that the church needed no more work to be done, but this would be a delusion, for with the fine lychgate showing obvious signs of rotting from the ground up, the substantial cost of funding its repair and restoration will have to be found. It is now felt, however, that the appearance of the chancel has been so enhanced that the listing of Grade II* would now justify a re-listing to Grade I. There is little reason to doubt that, if successful, this would improve the flow of visitors and the amount of their donations. An application to Historic England is currently being prepared by the churchwarden.

Churchwardens' Annual Report for the Church of

St Catherine's, Hoarwithy for the year ended 31st December 2022

We have attracted good congregations to our third Sunday Holy Communion which we have been able to hold thanks, in the main to visiting celebrants with an average congregation of 26. We also Zoom the service for those who are unable to attend.

The Revd Nick Reid, Agricultural Chaplain, took our Harvest Festival and the Revd Gavin Douglas OBE our Carol Service. As usual we joined Kings Cople for our Service of Remembrance.

We now have a sign provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as we have Five War Graves.

The Musical and Amicable Society returned for the Easter Week Concert following the break caused by Covid.

Charles Price who was brought up in the village and became Principal of Capernwray Bible college before being Pastor of a church of 4000 members in Canada and is now a "Minister at Large" preaching globally preached at our church in June to a congregation of 71 followed by lunch at the campsite courtesy of Sarah and Jeff.

We had the first Sung Evensong in many years in August with the St Mary's Church Ross-on-Wye Choir and the Rural Dean which attracted 73 worshipers. Just after the service ended some strong men brought in the Statue of our Lady of the Water to overnight in the church before

continuing her journey the next day, on two canoes, highlighting the pollution of the River Wye. We also had an exhibition in the church giving more information.

We have had one Baptism, one Wedding and one Wedding Blessing.

Our usual hArt event happened in September and was supported by our ladies and gentlemen who provided refreshments for the visitors. This was very successful and we had a Christmas Cracker weekend with some of the hArt exhibitors again supported by our enthusiastic team who provided refreshments again a great success.

Rev Dr Frances Phillips retired at our September Communion service and we would like to thank her for all she has done for us. Through her efforts we have an excellent Community Singing group whom she is continuing to encourage. We wish Frances and Les a happy retirement.

We would like to thank all our visiting celebrants and Organist who have made our monthly services possible.

We are going through an interregnum (and hope that a Priest in charge will be appointed soon) but this has enabled us to look at new ways to provide services etc.

Various options have been explored to enable disabled access through the Cedar Rise site and after nine options it looks as though a possible solution has been found. *See 3D Illustration.*

The purchase of Cedar Rise has enabled us to share God's love by accommodating a Ukrainian Family and thanks to the support of the Community both financially and practically, including offering transport for the children and parents, the family has settled in well.



We would like to thank all those who support the Church by reading lessons, leading prayers, providing refreshments, doing the flowers and from time to time doing a deep clean.

St. John the Baptist, Orcop Report to the APCM for 2022

Services and Alternative Expressions of Faith

2022 was a challenging year. Not only did Orcop not have an incumbent priest, but also the PCC had to contend with the later stages of the Covid pandemic.

Notwithstanding these challenges, we were able to hold six of the monthly communion services normally scheduled for 11am on the second Sunday of the month. This was thanks to the kind offices of Bishop Anthony Priddis and the Revd. Crispin Pemberton, who took these services in rotation.

There were two funerals during the year, each of which attracted congregations of over 100.

A Benefice Communion service was held in October.

The average attendance at the seven communion services was 10.

An Easter Day Communion service was attended by 12 (10 Communicants).

There were no weddings or baptisms.

There were two alternative expressions of faith, conducted in the absence of an incumbent.

"Community Carols" on 17th December attracted a congregation of 32 and on 22nd December a mediaeval "Shepherds' Play" was performed in the church, attracting an audience of more than 100.

In large part due to the diligence of our Churchwarden, the year's outcome was positive under the circumstances.

Fabric. The church remains in good condition overall.

The quinquennial inspection was conducted by Arnold Bartosch in August 2022, but their report was not received until February 2023.

The most urgent issues raised are being addressed (none of great consequence)..

The French Drain is working well and the PCC is now considering the reinstatement and refurbishment of the settled pews. The quinquennial electrical inspection has been completed and improvements have been made to the lighting system.

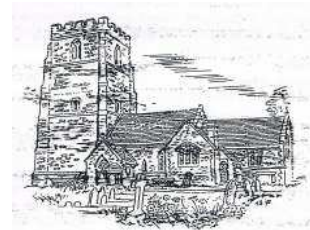
The Road Ahead

The very long and bureaucratic recruitment process for a new Benefice Incumbent is underway and it is to be hoped that a suitable candidate can be recruited in 2023.

The PCC stands ready to assist as necessary.



The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St. Weonards 2022 Report & Accounts



St Weonards benefice website: www.stw.org.uk

Aim and purposes

St. Weonards Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting, the mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church and churchyard at St Weonards.

Objectives and activities

The primary object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is committed to enabling people to worship at our church, and to become part of our parish community. Our services and worship seek to put the Christian faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning activities we consider the Diocesan focus: encouraging people to live out their faith by sharing God's love in our community and the world through:

- worshipping God and praying for His help and guidance;
- caring and serving people in all life's situations;
- recognising and responding to those in need;
- inspiring and learning through each other's strengths and gifts;
- working to safeguard the integrity of creation

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Weonards Church.

Achievements and performance

Context

St Weonards benefice was suspended from 15 May 2021 for a period of two years, to allow the Ross & Archenfield Deanery leadership team to develop a deanery pastoral plan. In July 2022, the Bishop and the Archdeacon decided that, although the Rural Deanery had not completed the Deanery Plan, the post of Priest-in-Charge of the St Weonards Benefice should be advertised.

After an open meeting, the Churchwardens' Council began the process of drafting Benefice and Parish Profiles, and a Statement of Needs, to be circulated to aspiring candidates for the post. The Churchwardens are very grateful to the Archdeacon for his ongoing advice, to the PCC's and members of the congregations for their contributions and photographs. The outcome was a document which accurately and honestly reflected the diversity of our communities, and our shared ideas about the way forward.

Developing Vocations

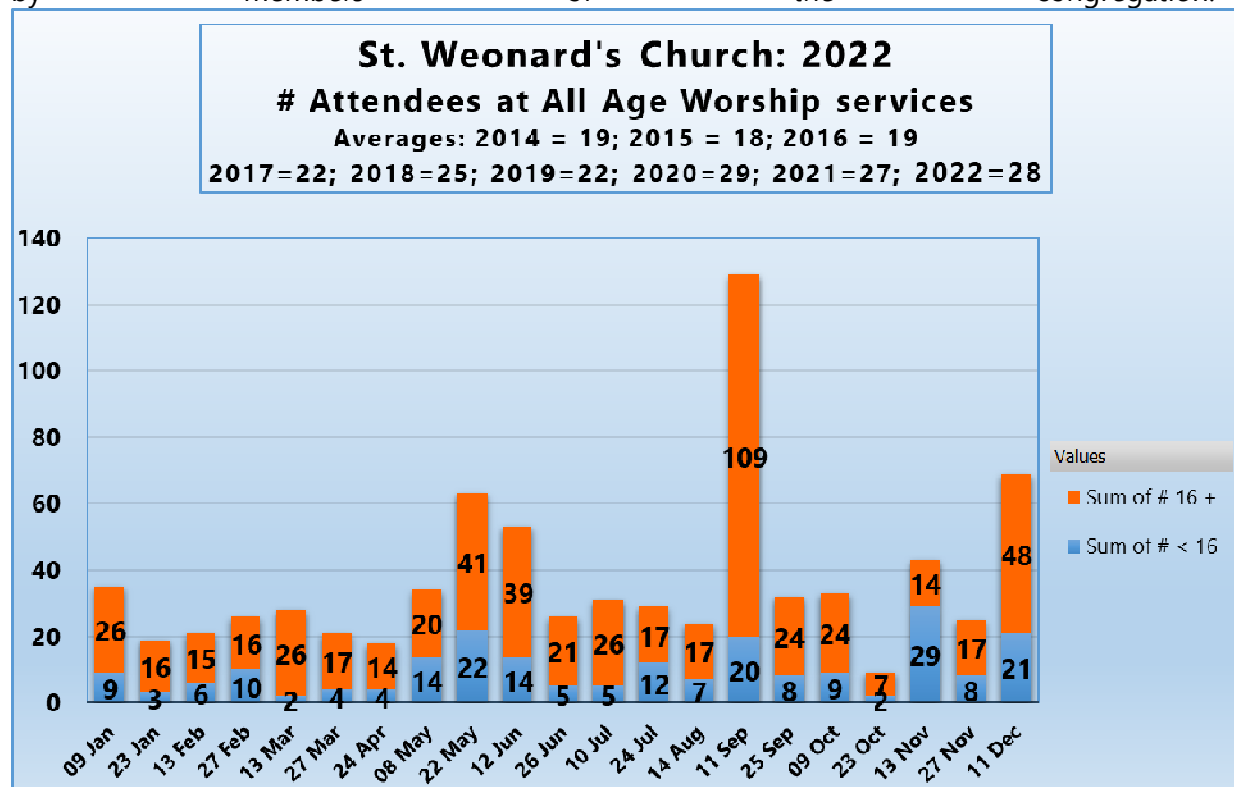
An exciting development for the parish is that our All-Age service leader, Alex Herbert Mynors has been accepted for training to the priesthood. She has started her part-time course, and we have benefited from the increased depth and thoughtfulness that is developing as a result of her training.

Worship and prayer

We continued to hold lay-led All-Age Worship services at 10.00am on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. We were delighted to welcome worshippers from across the benefice and beyond. Attendance peaked on 11 September for a baptism and communion (109 adults + 20 children and young people). Average attendance is 28 across the year (20 adults + 8 children and young people). We have streamed all our All-Age services live via Zoom, which has been much appreciated by those unable to be with us in person.



Nine of our All-Age services were with Communion; we are grateful to visiting officiants including Bishop Richard Jackson; Assistant Bishop David Thomson; the Dean of Hereford Cathedral, Sarah Brown; Archdeacon Derek Chedzey; retired priest Brian Phillips; and the assistant curate at Ross-on-Wye, Tiffany Jackson. An important aspect of these occasions is the opportunity to enjoy fellowship after the services with delicious refreshments provided by members of the congregation.



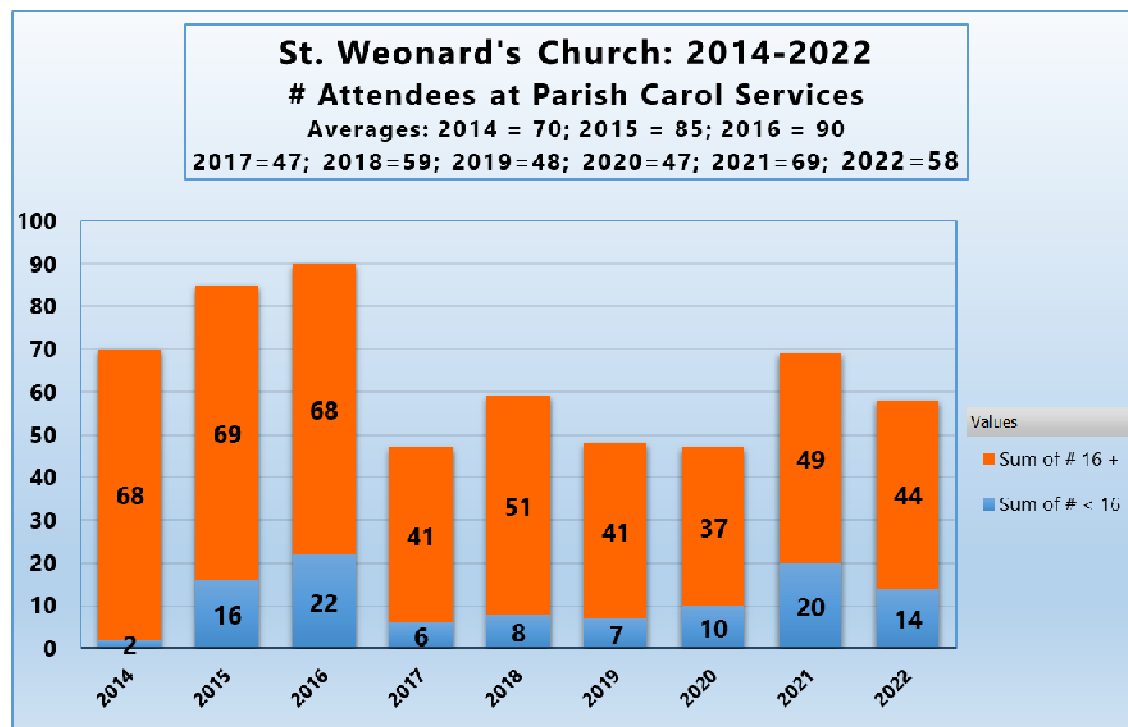
We were delighted to welcome the friends and families of children who were baptised in the church: Charlotte Nichols, George Thornley and Max Partridge. In May we were privileged to witness the marriage of Lloyd Gregory and Melissa Chamberlain.



Many hundreds of people came to remember and give thanks for the lives of three much-loved individuals: Rees Williams, John Bevan, and Keith Bevan.

Other special services included:

- Easter Day family communion, led by Archdeacon Derek Chedzey (52 adults + 15 children and young people)
- Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and for the Accession of Charles III, led by Bishop David Thomson
- Harvest Festival, led by Bishop Michael Westall (30 +11)
- Parish carol service (44 +14)
- Christmas Eve crib service (58 +29)
- Christmas Eve 'midnight' communion, led by Bishop David Thomson (50 + 3).



There has also been a small group meeting online every other week to pray for our benefice, churches and local communities. Towards the end of the year, we welcomed Shirley Cooke from Hereford who led contemplative prayer on a number of Monday mornings.

On 29 May, we held a Jubilee Sing! Concert.

In July, the Churchwardens welcomed the Archdeacon for his triennial visitation. The Archdeacon was extremely positive about the way that the Church was maintained and gave useful advice about storage of official records.

Caring & serving and responding to community needs

Our wonderful Assistant Minister Revd Dr Frances Phillips provided pastoral support across the benefice until her retirement on 30th September. We thank her for her dedication to our communities, and for leading us with such wisdom during the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath. We wish Frances and husband Les a healthy and happy retirement.



We have continued to make collections for the Hereford Food Bank.

Safeguarding the integrity of creation

As a church, we seek to respond to the fifth Anglican 'mark of mission', to 'strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.' Following our **Eco Church**¹ bronze award in 2020, we have continued to try to work out and integrate the core themes (Worship & Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community & Global Engagement, and Lifestyle) into our common life as a church.



Volunteers

We would like to thank all who have contributed so generously to the life of the church during the past year.

We thank Peter Hallewell for leading our team of ringers; it's lovely to hear the bells ringing out across the valley during Thursday evening practices. New volunteers always welcome!

Choral and organ music continue to form an integral part of worship in our services and the parish and wider benefice is grateful to Richard Mynors for the commitment and professionalism that he brings to all aspects of our church music.

¹ <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/>



Many thanks to our many volunteers:

- our skilled flower arrangers who make the church so lovely, organised by Gillie Hallewell
- people who welcome congregations
- those who prepare the communion table and wash the church linen
- the Lewis and Williams families for providing refreshments
- Stephen Herbert for maintaining the St. Weonards benefice and A Church Near You websites and St Weonards Church Facebook page.
- Alex Mynors Herbert for leading worship and preparing the 'MailChimp' e-newsletters
- David & Ginnie Thornley for in keeping an eye out for visitors to the church
- Laura Pritchard, Marina Heathfield and Alžbeta Taylor for the regular cleaning
- Tracy Knights for maintaining the churchyard in excellent order
- The Muldowney family for helping to clear the church roof valley gutters, carrying out major repairs to two sections of the church roof and pointing the exterior stonework to reduce the ingress of damp
- We would like to express our particular thanks to our hard-working Treasurer and Gift Aid Officer Stephen Herbert, our Secretary Fiona Mynors and our Churchwardens Richard Mynors and Anna Williams.

Safeguarding

The PCC has adopted the Church of England's 'Promoting a Safer Church: Safeguarding Policy Statement', and ensures that safeguarding is a standing order agenda item at every meeting. We are grateful to our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Fiona Mynors, for her work in this key area. The PCC considers that it has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Deanery & Diocesan Synod

We thank Richard Mynors for acting as our deanery and diocesan synod representative. This role provides an important link between the parish and wider church structures.

Mission & outreach

We aim to share God's love in our community and the world and show Jesus Christ to those around us in practical ways through tithing, giving at least 10% of our voluntary income to mission work outside the parish. Our principle is to give to Christian organisations working at diocesan, national and international levels. In 2022, the PCC made gifts of £750 to the Hereford Food Bank², £750 to We Are Farming Minds³, £500 to Foundation Matters⁴ to support Oran Christian working at Pine Lake, £500 to the Church Mission Society⁵ to support Revds Simon and Sarah Cawdell going to serve in northern Uganda. The PCC also made a donation of £100 to the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust⁶.

Ecumenical relationships

The ecumenical opportunities of linking with neighbouring Baptist and Methodist Churches were limited by COVID-19. We have continued to welcome families from these congregations to our All-Age services. There was a joint walk of witness from Pencoyd to Llanwarne Church on Palm Sunday (10 April).

Fundraising events

Our Harvest Festival bring and share supper raised £288, and the Christmas Hamper draw £228. The PCC is especially grateful for the return of 'Faye's Bingo' evening in the Village Hall, which raised an amazing £1,734 in aid of the Churchyard Fund.

Thank you to all those who supported these events.



Grants

The PCC is very grateful to the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust (HHCT) for a grant of £4,000 for urgent repairs to the north roof and south porch of the church.

The PCC also received a small grant of £30 from the St Weonards Religious Education Trust to cover the cost of cabling to allow All-Age Worship services to be streamed live from the church.

Church fabric, building and churchyard

Our church architect Richard Lamb RIBA AABC, of Hook Mason and Co, conducted the church's last Quinquennial Inspection in June 2018. The report noted that the church was in a fair condition and did not highlight any significant matters requiring urgent attention. However, it recommended that the PCC address the residual damp issue through the installation of French drains as soon as possible, and to continue to undertake routine maintenance.

² <https://herefordfoodbank.co.uk/>

³ <https://www.wearefarmingminds.co.uk/>

⁴ <https://www.foundationmatters.org/>

⁵ <https://churchmissionsociety.org/people-in-mission/sarah-and-simon-cawdell-uganda/>

⁶ <https://www.hhct.co.uk/>

Following Richard Lamb's retirement, discussions with his colleague Chris Woodall and our contractor Phil Muldowney noted that the presence of damp has been reduced recently. This is largely because we have adopted a policy of leaving the church door and a north window open, to enable a through-draught. However, it was agreed that, following the clearance of soil and vegetation from the floor-level gutters around the church, all the stonework up to one metre should be re-pointed. These two decisions will probably have a similar effect to the proposed installation of French drains, at a much-reduced cost.

It was also noted that the roof was leaking over the kitchen, and that the lowest courses of stone tiles on the north roof were sagging in various places. While the repair of the former problem was straightforward, the latter needed inspection by a structural engineer. He recommended replacement of sections of the 15th century outer wall-plate with new pieces of oak. This was a major operation, and several of the heavy stone slates needed replacement following breakage. We were relieved when the engineer confirmed that the north aisle roof was structurally sound, and that most of it had not moved significantly in 550 years.

The pointing of the east sections of the church has been carried out, but the west sections have been postponed.

While the work on the roof was being prepared, it was noted that the floor under the north choir stalls had mysteriously risen by 6 or 8 cm. This is due to the enlargement of some oak floor tiles which had become damp. Recently the floor has dropped significantly, but not completely. Work on this problem will take place shortly, after which a 3rd roof repair, over the porch, will be needed.

Finance for these problems has been carefully managed by a combination of using reserves, a generous grant from the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust, and a number of individual donations, some of which have been substantial. Further grant application will be necessary, and a fund-raising occasion is planned for July 2023.



Garren Services (Tracy Knights) continued to mow and strim the churchyard and green burial space in accordance with the grassland management plan recommended by the charity

caring for God's Acre⁷. Visitors often comment positively on the 'well cared for' feel of both the church building and the churchyard.

Financial review

Total incoming resources were £45,589, 68% higher than in 2021. Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £29,052 (+10% vs 2021), of which £20,489 came from voluntary donations (2021: £17,828), and £4,018 from recovered Gift Aid and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. Total tax-efficient planned giving through the Parish Giving Scheme and by standing order increased by 9% to £12,624. The PCC is grateful for all donations and wishes to recognise with particular thanks those who chose to give in a planned way. These steady commitments keep the mission and ministry of the church alive. The value of collections taken during church services varies significantly depending on the number and type of service: with fewer 'occasional office' services in 2022, collections declined by 29% to £1,643.

The PCC is extremely grateful for a number of substantial individual gifts in 2022 to support the major repair work to the north aisle wall plate, and to all those who supported 'Faye's Bingo' raising £1,734 for the Churchyard Fund.

Total expenditure jumped 97% to £45,854 in 2022, reflecting one-off capital repairs to the church building of £20,165. The PCC was pleased to be able to honour its Parish Offer commitment of £15,450, a 3% increase on 2021. This was to ensure that the St Weonards benefice was able to make a realistic contribution towards the cost of its stipendiary ministry, knowing that weaker finances in some neighbouring parishes meant they could not offer as much as they wished to. Insurance cover continued to be provided through Trinitas Church Insurance Services, with the premium increasing by 10.9% to £2,254. The PCC made charitable gifts to support Christian mission totalling £2,600, being 12.7% of unrestricted voluntary income (2021: 12.1%).

Overall, payments exceeded receipts by £265 in the year (2021: net receipts of £3,784), represented by a net deficit of £(9,010) in unrestricted funds, and a surplus of £8,745 in restricted funds. Total PCC funds carried forward at year-end declined by 0.7% to £37,651, of which at least a fifth will be needed to meet the costs of short-term repair works to the chancel floor, south porch and roof.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to aim to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately six months' regular unrestricted payments, equivalent to around £12,500. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow, to meet emergencies, and to ensure that Parish Offer contributions can be paid in full on time. The cash balance of £13,397 held in general unrestricted funds at year-end exceeded this target by ~7%. The balance across three restricted funds was £9,254. All these funds will be used to further the ministry of the church within and beyond the parish in future years, as well as to meet ongoing repair costs. The next Quinquennial Inspection report from our church architect will be due in 2023, and his report is likely to recommend works totalling several thousand pounds.

⁷ www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/

The PCC's policy is to invest surplus short-term current account balances in interest-earning accounts such as the CCLA CBF Church of England Deposit Fund or the CAF Bank Gold account. Other surpluses that can be invested over the medium to long-term are invested in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011). The PCC is currently exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Weonards, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. Church of England regulations require that a new electoral roll is drawn up every six years; this was last done in 2019. All those who attend our services regularly 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. It is our aim to ensure that new members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met six times during the year including the APCM, with an average attendance level of 68%. The UK & overseas mission sub-committee is responsible to the PCC, but did not meet separately during 2022, as all charitable giving decisions were made by the PCC as a whole.

Readers of this annual report should also note that the St Weonards Old School Religious Education Fund was established by The Diocese of Hereford (Educational Endowments) Order 1998 under statutory instrument number 1334, the trustees being the vicar and churchwardens of St Weonards. This Fund is entirely separate from the PCC's financial statements, but is deemed to be connected to St Weonards PCC due to the vicar being chair of both boards. The trustees of this Religious Education Fund "shall apply the income, and may apply the capital thereof, for educational purposes related to the Parish of St. Weonards in connection with the provision of religious education in accordance with the tenets of the Church of England by means of a Sunday School or otherwise."

Administrative information

St. Weonards Church is situated in the heart of St. Weonards village. It is part of the St Weonards benefice within the deanery of Ross & Archenfield in the Diocese of Hereford.

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

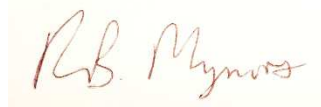
Ex-officio members:

- Incumbent: Vacant
- Churchwarden: Sir Richard Mynors
- Churchwarden: Mrs Anna Williams (from April 2022)

Elected members:

- Mrs Gillianne Hallewell
- Mr Peter Hallewell
- Mrs Alexandra Herbert
- Mr Stephen Herbert (Treasurer & Gift Aid Officer)
- Mrs Christine Lewis
- Lady Fiona Mynors (Secretary & Parish Safeguarding Officer)
- Sir Richard Mynors (representative on Deanery Synod)
- Mrs Claire Peveraro-Morris (from February 2022)
- Mrs Anna Williams

Approved by the PCC on 3 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Sir Richard Mynors

Churchwarden

THE PARISH OF TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH AND PENCOYD

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council for the financial year to 31 December 2022

GENERAL The Benefice has been in interregnum for a further year. But we enjoyed the lifting of isolation restrictions for the Covid pandemic and resumed services in our three little churches of St Denys, Pencoyd and St Mary, Tretire with St Michael at Michaelchurch also in the Parish though under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. The Parish is a member of the St Weonards Benefice group.

MEMBERSHIP: Members of the PCC are elected annually at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with Church Representation Rules. During the period the following offices and officers were held:

Chairman: None (Church warden)

Church Wardens / Vice Chairmen: Miss E Malcolm

Members: Mrs K Handby (Treasurer & Gift Aid officer), Mrs R Evans, Mr M Evans, Dr J Oubridge, Mrs M Oubridge (Deanery Synod representative), Mrs. L Miles, Mrs. M Walton

Safeguarding Officer: Dr J Oubridge.

Archenfield Deanery Synod Representative: Mrs M Oubridge

Accounts Examiner: Nigel Richard Evans.

Bankers: National Westminster Bank.

Electoral Roll: There are currently 26 members on the Roll.

CHURCH SERVICES AND ATTENDANCE:

In the Year 2022 we have continued the pattern of Evening Prayer each month, alternating between St Denys Pencoyd and St Mary's Tretire. These are ley-led.

The annual evening service at St Michaels, Michaelchurch took place in June and was taken for us by Rev Brian Phillips. This is always a much loved and well attended service.

In collaboration with the Church Wardens of the Benefice we have enjoyed hosting the occasional Benefice Service. For these Communion services we have enlisted the help of Rev Phillips, Bishop David Thomson (retired), and on one occasion we received Communion by Extension, which Fiona Mynors was kind enough to arrange by taking the sacrament for blessing earlier in the day at St Mary's Ross-on-Wye. This was welcomed by those attending.

We continued to hold services in the Parish for Easter, Harvest and Christmas, which are well attended and appreciated in the tradition of the annual calendar.

CHURCH FABRIC: both churches are regularly cleaned and thereby inspected. Tretire has a team of Parishioners who kindly come together to prepare the church prior to use, which makes for an enjoyable social time from what can be time consuming drudge when done alone. We are grateful to Sue Snell who always makes sure that Pencoyd is gleaming for services. No major fabric activities have been required in 2022.

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish of Tretire with Michaelchurch and Pencoyd adopted the Church of England's Safeguarding Policy in 2016. Since then, it has had a Safeguarding Officer who has attended all necessary courses and received the appropriate certificates. Most members of the PCC have attended courses in basic safeguarding. Official notices are displayed on our church noticeboards and safeguarding is a regular item on our PCC agenda.

EVENTS: Mr. and Mrs. Handby kindly invited the PCC to provide refreshments to visitors to their garden under the NGS scheme. Despite challenging weather, a good sum was raised. Mrs. Walton once again provided delicious hot food for our Harvest supper and auction with a team of residents. This is always a popular community event. Later a Pub Quiz held locally gathered a good group of participants from a wide area and we are again so grateful to Mrs Walton, along with Kathy Handby and the teams for all the hard work and dedication that goes into making these such successful events.

TREASURER'S REPORT for year to December 2022.

This financial year of 2022 saw a welcome return to regular services and our fund raising events were able to be held once again following the lifting of all Covid-19 lockdown restrictions. As a result our General Income for the year was back to level we usually generate at would normally expect to raise, at £13041. Additional income of £2,894 making a total income of £15,935 for the year.

General Expenditure was £14,996, as the cost of insurance and electricity have increased substantially. The bank balance at the year-end was £19,528 which is slightly more than the previous year.

Dividend income from Charifund accounts with M&G and Schrodgers continue to produce a vital income but was reduced by the withdrawal of £10,000 of the capital growth profits from the Tretire Fund to assist in the funding of St Mary's roof repairs in 2021. The investments have recovered considerably from the falls following the Covid crisis.

As in previous years, the Parish Share and Insurance are the major outgoings but we did increase the parish offer this year to by 10% to £10,000 per year.

The Parish is not yet included in the Diocesan Parish Giving Scheme but the Stewardship Scheme brings in regular income by standing order each month and continues to provide a very important source of revenue.

It was possible to hold three events this year. In July the Gardens were opened at Michaelchurch Court for the National Gardens Scheme and all refreshment proceeds were donated to our churches raising £780 despite it not being a sunny day. In October the usual Harvest Service followed by Supper & Produce Sale raised £726 in Sales & Donations, a truly generous sum. The third event was our ever popular Quiz held at the Red Lion Pub which raised the brilliant sum of £500

Our Charitable giving this year was reinstated and sent the St Michael's Church service collection & donations from the wall safe to the Churches Conservation Trust which amounted to £453, plus £175 to UNHCR and £30 membership to Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust (HHCT)

So we made a profit of £939, an improvement on the previous year when we made a loss so have now regained a stable financial position having returned to more usual financial revenues. However, our PCC members & supporters are all ageing and less able to provide as much help as in past years so we have some challenges ahead in continuing to hold fund raising events without some younger people to assist in the next few years.

Donations and Gift Aid are an essential part of our income and support of the ministry of the Church in Tretire and Pencoyd, and the constant support of our friends and parishioners is very much appreciated.

Kathy Handby

Treasurer

**St Weonards Group
Accounts
For the year ended 31
December 2022**

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Subscriptions from Parishes (at £45 per month)	540		1755	
Fees charged by Parishes	4612		11107	
Expenses recovered from elsewhere	0		0	
Expenses recovered from Parishes	173		0	
Donations from Parish Magazine	1000		800	
Donations from elsewhere	530		237	
Bequest from B Taylor	0		1000	
CBF Deposit Account Interest	51		2	
		6906		14901
Payments				
Fees to Hereford Diocesan Board of Finance	2181		3220	
Fees to Parishes	3281		11573	
Fees to Professionals	375		150	
Clergy Expenses	580		0	
Open Door / St Michael's Hospice	0		0	
Sundry Expenses	248		345	
		6665		15288
Surplus/Loss for the year		241		-387
Opening Balance as at 1 January 2022		7888		8275
Closing Balance as at 31 December 2022		8129		7888
General Funds		8129		6888
Restricted Funds		0		1000
		8129		7888