



Report and Accounts
for the Parochial Church Council of
St Mary's Church, Ticehurst
for the year ended
31st December 2014

1. Aim and Purposes

1 St Marys Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of supporting the incumbent, the Reverend Tim Mills, 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 and churchyard of St Mary's Church Ticehurst.

2. Objectives and Activities

Our Mission Action Plan identifies four objectives:

1. Small groups to be encouraged for prayer, Bible study, discipleship and exploring aspects of faith.
2. Special services: The year to be mapped out with key festivals and to include other special services to encourage wider participation. Guest preachers.
3. Community care and contact: Care and prayer for people in our congregation and in the wider community. Events to draw people into the church fellowship.
4. Future Acts: Drawing younger people to God, strengthening and widening our outreach to families, through the appointment of a Families Worker, and developing our family-friendly services.

3. Achievements and Performance

1. Small groups

- Two home groups continue to meet weekly.
- The twice-monthly prayer meeting continues.
- A Lent group was held in St Mary's Room.
- Prayer breakfasts were held in July and November, with the specific aim of listening to God for His guidance. These were attended by thirteen to fourteen people.

2. Special Services

- As in 2013, farmers and others who work on the land were invited to join in a celebration of First Fruits on Rogation Sunday and again at a special Harvest Festival service in September. Harvest Festival was followed by lunch in the church.
- Children from the school and uniformed organisations were invited to and took part in a Children's Sunday service and mothers and children played significant roles in our Mothering Sunday service.
- Our traditional Agape Supper was held in the church on Maundy Thursday.
- In addition to our usual Remembrance Sunday procession and service we held a Service of Memories and a Lights of Love service for St Michael's Hospice.
- We continued to develop our monthly informal Morning Praise service for families. The children's choir has grown and a small music band leads the worship, enhanced by some new amplification equipment.
- Healing services with laying-on of hands were held in January, June and November, and the opportunity for prayer ministry offered after two services once a month.

- We were blessed to receive a visit from our CMS link missionaries, Paul and Christine Salaman, with their children Daniel and Isaac, in August, when they gave a memorable presentation about their work in Tanzania and shared lunch with us.
- Our choir continued to enhance our worship. They respond and adapt to the needs of all our special services, and both perform and lead us in our renowned Carol Service and stirring Good Friday evening worship.

3. Community care and contact

- The vicar has freed up some time for visiting and pastoral work, by involving our three lay readers more in preaching, and organising support from Rev Robin Tree taking the Wednesday morning services bi-monthly, together with some weddings and funerals. Priscilla Mills was licensed as our third lay reader in September, and as well as preaching has led the Lent and Alpha groups.
- Members of the congregation continue to be involved in village affairs, and there is a church page in the village magazine 'News and Views'.
- Fund-raising and drawing in the wider community:
 - The Christmas Bazaar was held in November.
 - A member of the congregation who partook in the Round the World Yacht Race held an open evening when she gave an illustrated talk about her experiences. This proved popular and she has organised a series of talks entitled 'Out of the Ordinary'.
- A Garden Gathering was held in July in the grounds of the church, with a picnic accompanied by a band and singing.
- The idea of creating a Credit Union in the village was researched and progress made towards setting one up.
- Our website continued to evolve, with some more representative photographs added to the homepage and the picture gallery.

4. Future Acts

- Consultations were held throughout the second half of the year at which the vicar gave power point presentations listing the aims and ideas for outreach to families and young people, building on the excellent foundation laid by our Children's Worker.
- Prayer breakfasts were held at which we sought to listen to where God was leading us.
- A leaflet was produced for distribution throughout our congregations.
- An advertisement for a part-time Families Worker was drawn up, to be placed in News and Views and on our website.

Assessment of progress

- The main focus of our planning in 2014 was Future Acts, as we seek to live out the next chapter of Acts in our parish. We were encouraged by the support of our congregations and to find that our prayers were already being answered in the form of ideas and offers of help. The time taken to consult people and listen to their comments has resulted in some creative ideas such as the Credit Union.
- The Garden Gathering was enjoyed by all and very well attended. We plan to repeat it at Pentecost 2015.
- We have been joined by several new people moving into Ticehurst or coming from neighbouring villages, both young and old, who have not only increased our numbers but have also been willing to play a part in our church life. Coffee in St Mary's Room after the 11.00 service offers an ideal opportunity to welcome new people.
- Our main growth areas continue to be Café Church, where there is now a group of young teenagers alongside the younger children, Morning Praise, and the informal service for families held in St Mary's Room. We hope these will be the spring-board for a Families Worker to start from.

- Although we didn't engage in as many fund-raising activities as usual in 2014 our planned giving increased by nearly £10,000, which was very encouraging. A leaflet was produced entitled "Who pays for St Mary's?" and distributed at all the Christmas services.
- We thank God for the many generous people in our parish, who are also willing to sponsor or fund individual needs and projects, together with those who give generously of their time.

Conclusion

2014 was a year of consolidating the previous year's initiatives, such as Morning Praise and our programme of special services, while formulating plans for a new vision for the parish, as mentioned in last year's conclusion, Future Acts. We are thankful for the progress made so far and look forward with faith to future developments.

4. Financial Review

1. Preamble.

The Accounts, which have been prepared in a format to comply with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, are called Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2014 and consist of a Profit and Loss Account for the General Fund, and the other Funds under the control of the PCC and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the year. The Financial Statements were previously presented on a cash basis, and for 2014 are shown on an accruals basis. 2013 figures have been adjusted to reflect the accruals basis.

2. Profit and Loss Account

Overall, Profit has increased, from £10.4k to £11.4k. This is due to a substantial rise in Planned Giving, lower Church Maintenance costs, offset by lower fundraising receipts.

3. Receipts

1. Planned Giving comprises Standing Orders, Direct debits, Gift Aid envelopes, and the weekly envelopes, whether gift-aided or not. Receipts under this heading, together with the amount received from collections and other giving (including the church safe) show a substantial increase over 2013, from £49.9k to £60.8k, a 22% increase. Gift Aid has been accrued for 2014.
2. Legacies and Donations are marginally down on 2013 (£7.3k from £7.9K).
3. Fees received (weddings, funerals etc) were up nearly 50% (£11.3k from £7.6k).
4. Fundraising is substantially down, from £28.6k to £3.8k following the very successful Swallows Oast Dinner in 2013. Understanding that such events require intense effort, we look to a successor committee to arrange a similar event in the coming year.
5. Income from investments is marginally down (from £4.0k to £3.7k) and the Flimwell Parish contribution, to clergy expenses, has been accrued. Miscellaneous income, £2k, is at the same level as 2013.

4. Payments

1. The Diocesan Quota (or Parish Allocation) is the largest single outgoing, at £39.2k in 2014, up from £37.8k. St Mary's has, with full Deanery agreement, paid a substantially lower Quota than would be our full due, and we have taken the decision, funds allowing, to narrow this shortfall by £2k a year. The first such increase will be reflected in the 2015 Quota.
2. Salaries are similar in 2014 to 2013, at £4.7k.

- c. Church maintenance has again been lower, at £9.3k, down from £14.1k, with the largest item being the boiler replacement. We have been budgeting for £20k. This may be overly conservative but the Quinquennial Inspection takes place later this year and we will take this opportunity to set the future maintenance budget based on a longer term view of the state of the fabric of our church.
- d. Other fees to Diocese, up from £2.4k to £2.8k reflect the increase in number of weddings at St Mary's.
- e. Heating and Lighting is lower, at £5.0k in 2014, down from £8.2k; likewise Management and Administration is down, from £7.6k to £6.7k in 2014.
- f. Fundraising costs have fallen away to near zero in 2014, £6.9K in 2013, because there has been less fundraising activity.
- g. General Donations, £2.5k are similar to 2014. We show specific donations, at £1k, separately.
- h. Shown on the Balance Sheet, but not in the Profit and Loss Account, is an unrealised capital gain on investments of £4.6k.
- i. Income exceeded expenditure by £11.4 in 2014, (£10.4k in 2013) allowing loan repayment of £8k during 2014.

5. Balance Sheet

- a. The overall Balance Sheet has risen over the year from £103k to £119k, due to the surplus for the year and the unrealised increase in our investments.
- b. The Church Fabric Fund and the Dora Luckin Fund are invested in income shares and have increased from £11.2k and £78.3k to £11.8k and £82.4K, an overall increase of £4.8k.
- c. Gift Aid now receivable is estimated to be £12.3k, with £3.9k due from Flimwell. Liabilities are £5.9k.
- d. There remains £6k to repay on the loans taken out for the building of St Mary's Room, which will be settled in 2015.

5. Reserves Policy

A Quinquennial Inspection is due in 2015. The PCC will instruct that this inspection also be costed, and until the report following this inspection is received and considered, the reserves policy is considered provisional.

Thus, on a provisional basis, the PCC seek to maintain a overall reserves at a level equal to twelve months expenditure. Of this amount, 75% shall be held in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund and 25% in cash (including interest earning deposits).

We slightly exceed these levels at present. When working capital items are excluded, cash and investments total £114k, approximately 17 months expenditure on a historical basis. However with our plans for Future Acts, our reserves will fall back to twelve months expenditure. Investment funds at present total £94k, 82% of reserves, somewhat higher than the 75% of our provisional policy.

The PCC will review this policy when the forward costs of church maintenance become clear, from the upcoming Quinquennial Inspection.

6. Volunteers

Thank you to our Wardens **Judy Symons and Sheila Minet** for all they have done through the busy year. **Jacky Ward** as Deputy Warden has contributed greatly during the year. It has been good to see a team emerging, meeting monthly, to progress church business. Joining the wardens each month we have **Simon Smith** our treasurer and **Geoffrey Barratt**, Deputy Warden in charge of the Fabric of the church. A big thank you to **Simon Smith** for being our treasurer which represents an enormous input into the running of the church.

Simon is supported so well by **Isobel Tucker** our Assistant Treasurer.

Thank you to **Geoffrey Barratt** for looking after the fabric of the church and church yard so well.

Thank you to **Judith Whiteman** for being such a good PCC secretary. Judith has also been facilities manager for St Mary's room.

The Patrons: Keith Millar and Jim Sellick for their support during the year.

To Di Freeman as our administrator who works tirelessly to make sure all our publications are top quality and who supports to various people in the parish through her creative endeavours.

Kristin Stevenson for being our children's worker putting in so much time and effort to create, relevant helpful times for the children which we have then enjoyed seeing the fruit of.

Thank you to **Kristin Stevenson** and **Marian Cook** for the holiday club.

Our Reader David Bowles for leading services and preaching and under the 'Future Acts' umbrella investigating ways we can help families in the village, developing a link with the Hastings and Rother Credit Union.

Our Reader Alec Syngé for his very positive input into preaching and leading services.

Our Reader Priscilla Mills licensed on the 20th of September 2014 at Chichester Cathedral. Now along with Mary Hallett training for Spiritual Direction

Thank you to the **Reverend Robin Tree** who has been so willing to help out when Tim is on Holiday, to take wedding services and bi-monthly take the Wednesday service, Newington Court and Cross Lane house communion services.

Thank you to all the PCC members and all who serve on the Deanery Synod.

Thank you to the Café Church team. **Andy Jones, Tracy Jones Annabel Pryke, Tim Pryke, Kristin Stevenson, Priscilla Mills, Phoebe Mills.**

Tamsyn Hayward for leading on 1st Steps.

David Billinghamurst who so faithfully locks up and opens the church.

Jacky Ward our choir director who leads them so well and inspires all of us through their singing to enter into the musical worship, bringing great blessing to us. Thank you to the entire choir who put in so much time and effort to be able to do this.

Richard Karn for being such a good organist, helped by, **Ray Hallett** and **Mark Bromley.**

Rick Pentecost for leading the music group at the 4th Sunday service.

Thank you to Rick and Jane Pentecost for putting on the musical garden party on the 20th of July which was a great success, appropriately it will be on Pentecost Sunday this year.

For the members of the group – **Sally Bowles, Angela Howitt, Jane Pentecost, Stuart Wood.**

Jane Pentecost – who is now our Music Team Co-ordinator running the Junior Choir now a regular feature of the 11am service on the 4th Sunday and choosing the songs for the Worship group.

Thanks to all those who read the lessons in the church.

Thanks to all the vergers.

Thank you to all sidespeople.

Thank you to all those who provide coffee and tea after the services this really is now such a lovely part of our fellowship together. Thank you **Judy Symons** for looking after

this rota and for those on it and those who help. **Julie Lawes, Diane Proctor, Priscilla Mills Lynette Swift Anne Clifton. Vera Gadsden, Rosemary Hunneybell, Wendy Pugh, Andrea Pilcher, Valarie Pennygar.**

Thank you to **Judy Symons, Priscilla Mills** and **Mary Hallett** for organising the prayer Breakfasts.

Thank you to all who provide the donuts for after the 9.30am Family service.

Connie MaCauliffe for running a Beta group during the year and for **Sheila Minet** who hosts this.

Thank you to **Liz Woodsell** for running 'Beatitudes' another homegroup.

The flower arrangers under the leadership of **Elizabeth Denning.**

The cleaner **Philip Kennaird and family.**

Marion and Andrew Cook who look after the altar frontals and cloth.

The brass cleaners under the leadership of **Muriel White.**

John Poole for looking after the New Graveyard

Bruce Mackenzie who keeps the records for the graveyard and Garden of remembrance and handles so well all enquires about the graveyard – family histories and interment of Ashes type questions.

Thank you to **Bruce and Sheila Mackenzie** for arranging the visit of the Salamans family, our CMS link missionaries, on the 31st of August 2014.

Ann Cook for the Jacobs sheep in the graveyard we look forward to them coming back with their lambs.

Thank you to **Barbara Humphries, Pru Guthrie, Jan Wood** for cleaning the purifiers.

A big thank you to **Barbara Humphries** for being the verger at weddings and funerals.

Thank you also to **Barbara** for cleaning St Mary's room so well.

To **Sally Warlow** for running the Christmas Bazaar so well, a year in which the amount raised went up.

Thanks to **Sheila Synge** being the FSW rep for the church.

For **Rosemary Hunneybell, Diane Proctor,** and **John Symons** who look after the Fairtrade stall.

Nina Southgate who has taken on board the collection boxes for the Children's Society.

Sheron Croft for looking after the collection for Caring and Sharing so well.

Kristin Stevenson our Safeguarding Officer with **David Stevenson** as Lead recruiter.

The bell ringers and our Tower Captain **Andrew Cook.**

The Foundation Governors of the School **Joanne Williams, Deborah West and Tim Mills.**

Thanks to Women's Breakfast committee **Priscilla Mills, Andrea Pilcher, Lynette Swift, and Julie Lawes** who are planning a breakfast in October this year.

For **Julie Lawes** and all who visit folk in our community.

Isobel Tucker for faithfully playing the piano at School assemblies during the year.

A special thank you to **Marian Cook** for heading up the team of Assembly takers. Who are: **Sheila Mackenzie, Sheila Minet, Marion Cook, Jacky Ward, Priscilla Mills, and Tim Mills.**

Dorothy Richardson for handling the Electoral roll.

For those who help provide a welcome after the services.

To **Andrew Thomlison** who does such a great job to welcome folk at Baptism services. Small groups are an important part of our church – studying the bible and sharing together:

Thank you to **Geoffrey Pugh** for running last year the 'Finding a Voice', Kings Speech Lent course and this year (2015) to Priscilla Mills for running the Lent course called 'Finding Happiness'.

The St Mary's Lane group called "Beatitudes" led by **Liz Woodsell.**

Thank you to those who lead the intercessions. The quality has been great. Thanks to **Alec Synge, Priscilla Mills, Sheila Minet, Geoffrey Pugh, Judy Symons, Sheila Mackenzie, Sheila Minet, John Symons, and Mary Hallett.**

Jacky Ward for running St Mary's and St Augustine's fellowship.

Sheila Mackenzie last year for running the Lent lunches (they took a sabbatical this year 2015) and setting up for the Maundy Thursday Supper.
Thank you to the Wealden Consort for coming again to perform in St Mary's Church.
Thank you **Jacky Ward** for arranging this.
Thank you to **Lynette Swift** for setting up the series of talks entitled 'Out of the Ordinary'. We look forward to the rest of the series.
Thank you to **Christine Farrally** who maintains our website and to Judy Symons for encouraging new photos to be added.
For **Geoffrey Barratt** for being our Independent examiner last year and **John Hastings** this year (2015).

7. Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

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 Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), the reader, churchwardens, the Treasurer, Synodical representatives and members. Churchwardens, Synodical representatives and members are 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 Treasurer is elected by the PCC.

The vicar and churchwardens meet weekly to consider worship, mission and outreach and fabric. The Treasurer joins the weekly meeting once a month, when finance matters are considered.

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 met eight times during the year with an average level of attendance of 80%. Where necessary, committees, reporting to the PCC, may be established to consider specific matters.

8. Administrative Information

St Mary's Church is situated in Ticehurst, East Sussex. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is : The Vicarage, Church Street, Ticehurst, East Sussex. TN5 7AB.

Telephone number : 01580 200316

Email address : vicar@ticehurstflimwellchurch.org.uk

Website : www.ticehurstflimwellchurch.org.uk

Profit and Loss Account

£

	2014 Outturn	2013 Outturn	2014 Budget	% Actual/ Budget	2015 Budget
Income					
Planned giving, collection & tax recovery	60,799	49,915	65,000	94%	75,000
Legacies and donations	7,334	7,877	8,000	92%	8,000
Fees	11,265	7,617	8,000	141%	8,000
Filmwell contribution	2,000	1,929	2,000	100%	2,000
Income from investments	3,746	3,974	4,000	94%	4,000
Fundraising	3,813	28,602	10,000	38%	10,000
Miscellaneous	2,025	2,003	2,000	101%	2,000
	<u>90,982</u>	<u>101,917</u>	<u>99,000</u>	<u>92%</u>	<u>109,000</u>
Expenditure					
Parish Allocation	39,173	37,848	39,400	99%	42,000
Other Fees to Diocese	2,800	2,434	2,700	104%	2,700
Salaries	4,676	4,546	5,000	94%	5,000
Future Acts	0	-	2,500	0%	15,000
Clergy expenses	3,924	5,255	5,500	71%	5,500
Church Maintenance	9,328	14,101	20,000	47%	20,000
Church heating & Lighting	5,011	8,207	6,500	77%	6,500
Management & Administration	6,703	7,619	7,700	87%	7,700
Fundraising costs	23	6,885	600	21%	600
Books, Posters etc	129	594	2,100	120%	2,500
Donations	2,511	2,449	1,800	238%	1,800
Specific donations	1,000	-			
Miscellaneous	4,279	1,604			
	<u>79,558</u>	<u>91,542</u>	<u>93,800</u>	<u>85%</u>	<u>109,300</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>11,424</u>	<u>10,375</u>	<u>5,200</u>		<u>(300)</u>
St Mary's Loan repayments	8,000	9,000	9,000		5,000
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>3,424</u>	<u>1,375</u>	<u>(3,800)</u>		<u>(5,300)</u>

Balance Sheet

£

	31/12/2014	31/12/2013	31/12/2012
Investments			
- Church Fabric Fund	11,792	11,196	10,025
- Dora Luckin Fund	82,449	78,279	70,091
- Bessie Covell Fund	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>7,886</u>
	94,241	89,475	88,002
Cash			
- Bank Current	550	550	540
- Bank Reserve	16,153	20,157	14,255
- Bank Extension	2,159	1,199	680
- CBF Deposit Fund (music)	1,789	<u>1,789</u>	<u>1,779</u>
	20,651	23,695	17,254
Gift Aid Receivable	12,316	9,792	2,526
Flimwell receivable	3,929	1,929	1,833
Liabilities			
- Donation due (Christingle)	1,000	399	392
- Fees to Diocese	2,918	2,523	2,621
- Miscellaneous Ex- penses	2,000	4,940	889
	(5,918)	(7,862)	(3,902)
Loan (Extension)	(6,000)	(14,000)	(23,000)
	<u>119,219</u>	<u>103,029</u>	<u>82,713</u>
Opening Funds	103,029	82,713	
Surplus for Year	11,424	10,375	
Capital Gain	<u>4,766</u>	<u>9,941</u>	
	<u>119,219</u>	<u>103,029</u>	