



Diocese of Truro

The Parish Church of Saint Paul's, Charlestown



Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2022

**The Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council
of the Parish of St Paul's, Charlestown.**

Church Road, Charlestown, Cornwall. PL25 3NS
Registered charity under the Church of England

'LIVING GOD'S LOVE FOR 'ONE AND ALL'

which is expressed as

- for God - loving worship;
- for one another - loving respect;
- for all - loving service



Saint Paul's is the Parish Church of Charlestown. The parish was created in 1846 from the overlarge parish of Saint Austell, then serving a population of some 3000 souls, in far fewer houses than today.



The Church lies in the centre of the village of Charlestown which is now a suburb of Saint Austell and lies to the south of the main A390.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

MEMBERS OF SAINT PAUL'S PCC 2022

PARISH PRIEST	Vacant	
CHURCHWARDENS	Mrs Daphne Johns Miss Julia Keep	Vice Chair of the PCC Resigned October 2022
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Mrs Georgina Evans Mrs Mary Fisher Mrs Daphne Johns	Safeguarding Officer Treasurer
ELECTED MEMBERS	Mrs Margaret Allison Professor Colin Bristow Mrs Pauline Carr Bristow Mrs Ann Holland Mrs Elizabeth Minors Dr John Oakley Mr Steve Rivers Mr George Trudgeon	Publicity Officer Minute Secretary Secretary to the PCC Chair of Friends Vice Chair of Church Hall Assistant Treasurer Health and Safety Officer Fabric Officer Tower Captain
APPOINTED PERSON NOT ON THE PCC	Mrs Kathy Dew	Vulnerable Adults Officer
Bankers	Santander Bank Saint Austell, 36-38 Fore St, Saint Austell PL25 5PA	
Independent Examiner	Mrs. Tina Kelly	
Architect	Robert Shaw. B.A. Dipl. Arch. Fair Winds Studio, West Pentire Road, Crantock, Cornwall TR8 5RZ	

DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT CONTROL OF THE CHURCH is exercised by the standing committee:

Mrs Daphne Johns, Vice Chair
Miss Julia Keep, Churchwarden, Resigned
Mrs Mary Fisher, Hon. Treasurer.
Mrs Elizabeth Minors, PCC Secretary, Chair of Friends.
Mrs Pauline Carr Bristow, Publicity Officer

AIMS

In law, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is required to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The specific aim of St Paul's Charlestown is to be a witness to the Catholic faith within the Church of England, drawing people from a wide area to the worship of God through Catholic teaching and practice, in particular, through its threefold ministry of prayer, hospitality and dialogue.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

ORGANISATION

The PCC met regularly during the year, and in addition there was the Annual Parochial Church Meeting ("APCM") and the formal meeting to elect the officers after the APCM. Many of these meetings were by Zoom and some were one item agendas to ensure the smooth running of St Paul's in another difficult year because of COVID 19 and the parish being in transition.

The PCC is made up of 4 ex officio members – two churchwardens, two Deanery Synod representatives [being in transition there is no Parish Priest and one churchwarden is also a member of the Deanery Synod], 8 elected members, [1 member of the PCC stood down in year owing to family commitments] There is a Standing Committee of 4 members who prepare agendas for full PCC meetings and deals with urgent business between meetings. A complete list of members who served on the PCC during the year is included on page 3.

The number on the Electoral Roll at December 2022 was 70. The number of people attending services in 2022 was on average 42 per week.

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The full name of the parish is St Paul's Charlestown. The address of the church is Church Road, Charlestown, PL25 3NS. Correspondence should be sent to the Mrs Elizabeth Minors, Secretary to the PCC, 39, Pellymounter Road, Saint Austell. PL25 4PX

The PCC is a charity registered under the Church of England.

CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION

The PCC are formally checked under child protection legislation and vulnerable adults' legislation.

As a church:

- We are committed to a respectful pastoral ministry to all within our church community.
- We are committed, within our church community, to the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable people.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any pastoral responsibility within the Church, including the use of DBS checks where legal or appropriate.

- We will respond without delay to any complaint made that a person for whom we were responsible has been harmed, cooperating with police and the local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate healing ministry.
- We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will care for and supervise any member of our church community known to have offended against a vulnerable person

RISK ASSESSMENTS

In order to continue to identify major risks, the Standing Committee continually review risk assessments procedures are in place to manage those risks and minimize their impact on the life of the church. Updates are made as necessary.

FINANCIAL RISK

The Standing Committee take into account the nominal annual budget to ensure short term viability. Actual results compared with budget are reported to the PCC. The investments are reviewed regularly. Investments are only to be made in approved low risk funds approved for charity use. All assets are to be insured and levels reviewed annually and approved by the PCC. The PCC will approve internal controls for annual accounts, cash and cheques and implement more internal controls within the parish as and when required. The accounts for 2022 can be found in Appendix ix.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Procedures are in place for recording accidents Procedures are reviewed on an annual basis and formally reported to the PCC. A full report can be found at Appendix ii

OPERATIONAL RISK

In the event of the church becoming unusable for a limited period there are arrangements for services to be held in Saint Paul's Church Hall.

All formal risk assessments listed within the PCCs Risk Register are reviewed annually.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956

MINISTRY AND MISSION

The primacy of Saint Paul's Church is the worship of God and to do this we endeavour to be fully inclusive for everyone who comes to **"Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"**

The Christian community has had a place of worship in Charlestown since 1846. We seek to proclaim the gospel, maintain public worship and serve God in this place. Our ministry is to:

- the people of the parish
- newcomers moving into the parish

- those who come to work locally
- visitors, including locals, those on holiday and from across the world

1. Saint Paul's, Charlestown is in the Deanery of Saint Austell, the Archdeaconry of Bodmin and the Diocese of Truro. 2022 saw a year in 'transition' with a great deal of time being taken up with preparing a 'Statement of Needs' and 'Person Specification' for a new Parish Priest. Following the interview process the Revd Canon Paul Arthur was appointed to be Priest in Charge of Charlestown, Par and Treverbyn. We look forward to his installation on the 13th February, 2023.
2. As well as the care of the ecclesiastical parish we have an important part to play in the wider life of Charlestown and the surrounding area as a whole. It is important to form partnerships with local churches and secular bodies that will complement our ministry rather than be confined by existing structures. We care for the church which is situated a short walk from the harbour. As a church community we endeavour to engage fully with wider secular life and importantly with the local schools.
3. Whilst we have a wider role we are also rooted in the lives of our local community. These factors help us to ensure that we do not become a narrow preserve but rather we are a place for all God's people attracting those from the community.

Saint Paul's has a mission to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, through both the Word and our deeds to love the Lord our God and to love his children - our neighbours - in fellowship. In order to do this our objectives are to provide the following public benefits:

TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD AND BE OPEN TO HIM THROUGH

- Regular public worship open to all
- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation and helping people who have asked for assistance with prayer
- To continue to review our services in order to enhance the beauty of our worship, and make our occasional offices more accessible to those with no experience of church

TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOURS AND BE OPEN TO THEM

- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved
- Taking 'Open the Book' into schools when we are invited.
- Providing the Carers and Children group 'First Steps'
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church in its broadest sense.
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas by increasing our mission giving

TO LOVE EACH OTHER THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- To undertake a programme to better understand 'Christian Stewardship' both in the terms of money and time.
- To endeavour to encourage joint activities with our sister churches of Saint Mary's and the Good Shepherd together with and Saint Peter's Treverbyn from the time of the arrival of our new parish priest.

IN 2022:

- **Deanery Synod** St Paul's was well represented at Deanery Synod meetings in 2022. A full report appears in Appendix iv.
- **The PCC** met regularly and acted the business of the church
- **We welcomed** people throughout the year. It was a great joy to see more members of the congregation gradually having the confidence to return following the COVID pandemic and once again to welcome visitors.
- **The opening** of the church for daily prayer and visitors from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm continued to be a great joy to both parishioners and visitors. We record our thanks to Mrs Hazel Beynon for unlocking and locking the church daily.
- **People** worked tirelessly for the greater good of the church, congregation and wider community.
- **We have much to be thankful for** especially all those who support Saint Paul's in any way through prayer, deeds and financially.



ENRICHING OUR COMMON LIFE.

WORSHIP. Our public worship and liturgy are of central importance to us and are firmly rooted in the Liberal Catholic tradition. Accordingly, vestments are worn at all celebrations of the Eucharist and incense is used and bells rung. Considerable care is taken in the preparation and delivery of public worship, reflecting the importance we attach to it as a key part of our ministry and mission. We aim to achieve and maintain excellence and

dignity without pomposity. We are very grateful to the retired clergy who have willingly led our services.

Music is central to our Parish Mass [9.30 am Sundays] and in addition, sung Eucharists are offered on such days as Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. There is liturgical provision for other times such as Holy Week.

There is significant lay involvement in the provision of public worship [please see the reports]

Our worship is enhanced by the commitment of the 'Holy Dusters' who, week by week, clean the church at 8.00 am on a Friday morning. This is a much valued hidden ministry.

MUSIC. Our loyal choir has participated in services throughout the year, and sung a variety of hymns from an impressive repertoire. This has been built up over many years at St Paul's and elsewhere.

It has been pleasant working with our Clergy team. We always strive to tailor our music selection to their specific requirements, together with our own research Sunday by Sunday. Our ultimate goal being relevant music for the occasion, suitable and welcoming for frequent visitors, and most importantly a broad and varied programme for our regular Congregation.

We are looking forward to discussing with our new Parish Priest our ideas for the future, and look forward to his views, and the wealth of experience he will bring to us. My thanks to all your support.

Paul Manuel, Organist.

BELL RINGING. The year for the ringers has been a good one. July saw the 50th anniversary of the installation and dedication of our ring of bells. Congratulations are due to Sheila, Paul and George who have had the privilege of ringing at St. Paul's for over fifty years.

We were able to ring for the majority of our services, and for four weddings.

Later in the year we welcomed Chris, our new ringer. He has settled in very well, and now we are again able to ring all of our six bells.

George Trudgeon, Tower Captain.

FLOWERS. Apart from Advent and Lent, throughout 2022 St Paul's has been beautifully decorated with flowers. Thank you to everyone who has contributed by with taking a turn on the rota or helping on festivals.

Dorianne Forsdick

SERVERS. This year we were again able to be at each Sunday mass. It has been a great pleasure to help our band of retired priests who have once again taken our services.

David Wenmouth and George Trudgeon

VISITING. Currently, the retired clergy who have been such a great support to us during our period of transition have visited those who through illness or infirmity are no longer able to join us for services in Church. There is also informal contact, through visiting or by telephone by members of the congregation to others whom we no longer see at Services or who are known to be sick or lonely. A plan has been outlined to form a group of people to perform these duties and for a record to be kept. We will now seek guidance from our new Parish Priest as to how we should proceed with this. Pre baptism visits are made by our baptism visitor with follow up at the Baptism Service and the opportunity for the family to join First Steps Parent and Toddler group.

We hope to create a welcome card or letter to be taken to new residents, giving the opportunity for a visit if they wish, again we hope to seek guidance for this.

Since the pandemic there has been no regular lunches or coffee/cake meetings except for after the Sunday service. It is felt that this is something we should discuss with a view to the future.

Pauline Carr Bristow

COMMUNICATIONS During 2022 we continued with our electronic communications using our Website, A Church Near You and Facebook pages.

Pew Sheets have been published both by 'hard copies' and on the net to enable news to be distributed as widely as possible.

Alan Bannon

CHURCH FABRIC The Churchwarden/Fabric Officer's Fabric Report appears at Appendix iii. We record our thanks to all who assist in helping keep the Fabric of the church in good order.

REGULAR INSPECTIONS

All the normal routine inspections and related maintenance work have been carried out during the year, including electrical equipment, fire safety equipment, security alarms, bell frame, lightning conductor, boiler/heating system.

CHURCH HALL The Church Hall is well used by both church and community and is in demand. A report appears at Appendix vii

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP. Sadly, the Bible Study Group did not meet in 2022 however it is hoped to regroup in 2023.

Georgina Evans

CRAFT GROUP, FRIDAY LUNCHES AND COFFEE MORNINGS. Sadly, since the Covid Pandemic it has not been possible to continue these activities. We will review the situation once Fr Paul, our new Parish Priest has joined us.

Georgina Evans

FRIENDS OF SAINT PAUL'S. 2022 has seen the Friends endeavouring to 'regroup'. For the first time in three years we were once again able to hold our 'Summer Flower Festival'. A number of concerts were held however the one by 'Green Matthews' which we hoped would attract a large audience was postponed because of the performers having Covid. This has been rescheduled for May 2023.

The Friends thank everyone who supports them in their endeavours to assist Saint Paul's by fund raising to keep the fabric in good order and will always welcome suggestions of fund raising ideas.

Elizabeth Minors,

Chair of the Friends of Saint Paul's

Food Bank Donations of food, drinks and toiletries generously donated by parishioners have continued to be delivered regularly throughout the year to St Austell Food Bank. Particularly large deliveries were taken at Easter, Harvest, and Christmas time. The generosity of people at St Paul's is always very much appreciated but has been even more so this year with more families finding themselves in financial difficulties.



Daphne Johns, Co-ordinator.

'First Steps' After a break of two years during the height of the COVID pandemic, First Steps began again in April 2022. Some of our children had, of course moved on to school and government grants to encourage mothers back to work meant that some families had taken advantage of this and moved to childcare groups. The response to a group such as ours opening up again was very good however and we began again as before, with numbers reaching 23 children throughout early Summer and after the Summer holidays. As before we follow the seasons with our activities and incorporate bible stories and events whenever we can, with periods of free play, craft activities, a snack and drink break, then songs, rhymes, stories and a prayer to end the twice monthly two hour session.

Pauline Carr Bristow



APPENDIX I

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

There were 70 people on the Electoral Role as of December 31st 2022.

Georgina Evans
Electoral Roll Officer

APPENDIX II

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

CHURCH

There have been no 'Reportable Incidents' for the year. Any non-reportable accidents or injuries have been logged in the Accident Book.

We at St Paul's are fortunate to have medically trained persons within our congregation who are ready to assist if required.

There is no change relating to the damp/wet conditions percolating from the slate-stone flooring. There is nothing practicable to be done regarding this situation. We continue to draw attention to this risk by means of 'Hazard Notices' displayed around these hazardous areas.

A new sensor operated light has been fitted above the main church door on the north side. This is designed to illuminate the interior entrance when dark.

Construction Design Management cover will be handled through Robert Shaw, our architect, and the main contractor for the northside roof project. This document will be available to St Paul's prior to the commencing of the project.

Electricity

- All circuits have been certified, together with the annual PAC testing being carried out.

Church Yard

- Where necessary, old signs have been replaced stating that persons should only use the Pathways provided.

Covid-19 Response for 2022

- In accordance with the Church of England and The Government guidelines, St Paul's Church has acted upon the advice given.

Stephen D Rivers,
Health and Safety Officer

APPENDIX iii

FABRIC REPORT

Church Roof and Interior

Due to staff shortage and sickness within Gloweth Builders Ltd., the reroofing project for the northside has been delayed until early to mid-April 2023. Unfortunately, this has resulted in St Paul's northside roof having to face another winter of adverse weather conditions. The single downpipe from the gutter is inadequate resulting in blockages and overflows. The guttering over the old vestry has collapsed. Robert Shaw, our architect, is aware of these issues and together with Gloweth Ltd., we will aim for a far better guttering system within the project. This is a major part of the project

Leaks have been experienced on the southside of the building. This has been investigated and found to be coming from the middle upper window. The problem usually occurs during a strong south-westerly storm. This, unfortunately, must be looked at as a separate project.

The blocked gutters and downpipes were cleared in November.

Old Church Hall

Naturally Learning continue to maintain the hall and play area in good order. It has recently been reported that there are problems with the old sash windows in the lower floor area. I have not investigated this yet, but consideration to the problem should be given within the coming year. Investigation should also be given to the soakaway which manages the run-off water from the building.

The PCC is responsible for the structural maintenance of this building.

Church Storage Room in Old Church Hall

This area is retained separately from Naturally Learning Nursery. It remains in good order. Damp has been eliminated following the installation of airbricks and the internal floating floor.

Mills Family Trust – Mount Charles Road

Flat 5A. The hall area has now been redecorated, following the vertical damp proofing put in place last year. On-going roofing work is still required to the slates, soffit boards and guttering. We have requested quotes from builders but as yet unable to find a builder to undertake the work.

Shop. Our new tenant has made significant improvements to this property and garden area. The trustees have worked well with the tenant to make much needed repairs, both structurally and cosmetically, to improve the church asset. There is still ongoing work to be carried out, which will be looked at during this coming year.

The Forge. Following an inspection of an old rotting wooden beam, the beam has now been removed and a new RSJ structural beam put in place.

Stephen D Rivers
Fabric Officer

Daphne Johns
Churchwarden



APPENDIX iv

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2022

The first meeting of 2022 was held via zoom. An Implementation Group had been formed in order to implement the Deanery Plan and was comprised of Mike Rowe, Anji Screech, Jules Williams, Julia Keep, Roger Paine, Paul Arthur, Howard Flint, Graham Downes, Jonathan Rowe, Kelly Betteridge and Angela Butler.

A talk was given about the work of CAP (Christians Against Poverty) in the local area. Debt relief was the main focus and also the need for befrienders or chaperones and financial support for the initiative. Contact details were given so that people who needed help could be referred to CAP.

The July Meeting was also held via zoom. Carol Edelston gave a talk entitled "Living in love and Faith." The C of E is undertaking a review relating to questions about how identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the Christian Faith.

Ruth Marriot had been appointed as Director for Renewal and Change and Transitions Advisors had been appointed to finalise Parish Profiles for Treverbyn, Charlestown and Par and also Tywardreath and Golant. Implementation Sub Teams were also being created to deal with five main issues: Poverty and LICF, Intergenerational Ministry and Transforming Mission, Leadership and School of ministry, Money and Buildings.

The Final Meeting of the year dealt with an update on the Deanery Implementation Plan and a talk by Jenny Wreford on "Generous Giving", set within the context of giving in response to a generous God.

In relation to clergy deployment:

Eastern Area: Revd Shona Hoad has been appointed to serve part time in Tywardreath and Golant. A further part time post is being pursued for Fowey.

Central Area: Revd Paul Arthur has been appointed to Charlestown Par and Treverbyn.

Western Area: There will be a part time appointment to Roche and St Dennis, one full time appointment to St Stephen and St Mewan, and a house for duty post for Goran, Caerhays, Mevagissey and St Kew.

The **Money Group** had met and it had been decided that as soon as the new MMF call to the Deanery was known, initial call to the groupings would be made. Then individual groups of churches (such as Charlestown, Par and Treverbyn) would decide how this would be split amongst themselves.

Georgina Evans

On behalf of St. Paul's Deanery Synod Representatives



APPENDIX V

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The PCC of St Paul's will comply with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishop's guidance in relation to Safeguarding. Parish Safeguarding Policy

Parish Safeguarding Policy The above policy was updated on November 10th 2022. It must be done on a yearly basis.

DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks and Safeguarding Training

DBS checks must be renewed on a 3 yearly basis. All those that need to be updated have been completed.

Safeguarding Training must also be renewed every 3 years. Several members of the PCC have now completed CO Basic Awareness and C1 Foundation online courses and the remainder will complete theirs in the coming weeks. The First steps Leader, the Open the Book Team and the Tower Captain should also complete a C2 Training Session via zoom. It is also a requirement from the Diocese that all PCC members should undertake the **Domestic Abuse online training module** as soon as possible. This can be easily accessed via the **Diocesan Safeguarding Briefing (15th edition)** which was emailed to all PCC members on November 11th, 2022.

Safeguarding Pocket Guides and Important Safeguarding Contact Details

All PCC members and the majority of the congregation have been given copies of the above so that they are aware of what to do and particularly who to contact in the event of a safeguarding concern. Details are also displayed on the two main notice boards at church and in the Church Hall.

Safer Recruitment and People Management: SRPM

Revd Andy Earl, a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, came to talk to the PCC about Safeguarding and SRPM and to answer questions on the topics. He was able to explain about aspects of SRPM which members were finding difficulty with, for which the PCC were grateful.

*Georgina Evans, Parish Safeguarding Officer
On behalf of St. Paul's Parochial Church Council*

APPENDIX vi

WORSHIP IN 2022

For another year no facts and figures can suitably reflect the worship of Saint Paul's.

Following COVID 19 we gradually saw our congregation growing in confidence to return to worship and we were able to resume our normal pattern of Sunday worship together with other services such as those on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Ascension Day and Remembrance Sunday. The return of a full schedule of Christmas was welcomed with great joy.

The attendance at 8.00 am Mass averaged 9 communicants, and the Parish Mass 40. On Easter Day there were 75 people present with 60 communicants. At Midnight in Bethlehem there were 59 people present with 53 communicants and 22 communicants on Christmas Day.

Members of the congregation read the lessons and lead the intercessions. There are Eucharistic Ministers who administer the chalice.

We have one 'Local Worship Leader' whose participation has, thankfully, not been required as we have a team of retired clergy who so willingly preside at services. We are truly blessed by them and all they have and continue to contribute to the life of Saint Paul's.

OCCASIONAL OFFICES. Holy Baptism is usually administered on Sundays at 11.15 am. with the occasional Baptism during Parish Mass. With the large attendance at Baptisms, it is difficult to fit them into the Parish Mass. In 2022 there were thirteen Baptisms.

There were three marriages with many again being postponed owing to COVID 19 and fifteen Funerals.

Appendix vii

CHURCH HALL Following the disruption of events last year, due to Covid restrictions, it is good to report that both regular and new hirers have steadily returned throughout 2022, showing the 2023 calendar as almost full.

The previous booking/caretakers resigned in June 2022. At this time, the Trustees took the decision to separate the jobs and engage a cleaner and a booking clerk. Both positions are currently working well.

The Trustees have met regularly throughout 2022. Ongoing work to maintain the high standard of the hall is being discussed to insure the viability of the Hall for the future.

Janet Rivers

pp. John Oakley, Vice Chair of the Trustees

Appendix iix

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

2022 marked our second year without a parish priest. In the past eleven years we have been without "a shepherd of our flock" for more than half of the time nevertheless, life at St. Paul's has continued as normal. Although a small number of our congregation have not returned to worship regularly following the Covid pandemic some new members have joined us regularly at Sunday worship. Their feedback is very positive. Thanks to the loyalty and commitment of our team of retired clergy, every month we have held our 8am Book of Common Prayer service and our weekly Sunday Masses. In the circumstances, services been well attended. Numbers attending our Easter, Harvest and Christmas were particularly pleasing. The church was full for our ever popular, Christingle service. We owe our visiting clergy a deep debt of gratitude. We are indeed well blessed. Variety is the spice of sermons.

Social occasions, during the pandemic, including Sunday morning coffee and Harvest Supper were very, much missed, and it is a great joy to say that these have now returned however Friday lunches and coffee mornings are still to return. After a break of two years the July Flower Festival returned. Outreach work, staying connected with the housebound and those living alone became a priority.

Reports included in this report show that life at St Paul's continues despite the challenges. A team of loyal devotees keeps the church clean, ("thank you" Georgina and her team) well maintained, ("thank you" Steve and his team) well-organised, and efficiently administered (a huge "thank you" to Elizabeth). We thank them all: choir, Paul, our organist, servers George and David, readers, intercessors and bellringers. The PCC has continued to meet regularly. St. Paul's is well blessed. Members bring an impressive range of skills and expertise to the team and the life of St. Paul's

Towards the end of the year Julia Keep moved on to 'pastures new'. We thank her for her contribution to St Paul's in the time she was with us especially as a churchwarden and church hall trustee

Undoubtedly, the pandemic has had a detrimental effect on church finances. St Paul's is fortunate indeed to have the much-needed support of regular income from church-owned property. This income is a significant factor in our solvency.

Towards the end of the year, we were delighted to interview and appoint, together with the parishes of Par and Treverbyn, a new Parish Priest, Fr Paul Arthur. We look forward to welcoming Fr Paul early in 2023. Once more, we will have the opportunity to move Charlestown forward and bring new growth and energy to this parish that has so much potential.

Sustained by our faith, with hope and optimism we face with confidence whatever 2023 holds.

Daphne Johns

Lay Chair, Saint Paul's PCC

The Parish Church of Saint Paul's, Charlestown

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2022