

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH Bedford Park

Annual Report and Accounts 2023



Now you are the body of Christ, And each one of you is a part of it 1 Corinthians 12: 27

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This document pertains to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Bedford Park, London, registered charity number 1133805. Throughout the document we refer to the charity by the shortened names: St Michael and All Angels Parochial Church Council, or St Michael and All Angels PCC.

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS BEDFORD PARK PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

St Michael and All Angels Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Father Kevin Morris, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. This includes particular responsibility for the administration and finances of the parish, the acquisition and management of church property, the approval of an annual budget, and the care, maintenance, preservation, and insurance of the fabric of the church and its grounds, together with its goods and ornaments. All this is done within the framework of the church's mission statement:

"St Michael's exists within the Anglo-Catholic tradition to offer worship to God, to proclaim the Gospel and to share the experience of the love of God with all people."

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to serve a term of three years, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. In 2023 the PCC included three deanery synod representatives who are entitled to sit on the PCC. The PCC is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission (registered number 1133805). Members of the PCC are trustees of the charity.

Since the last APCM on 23 April 2023, the members of the PCC have been:

Ex-officio Members

Incumbent Father Kevin Morris: chair

Curate Father Brandon Fletcher-James

Churchwardens Mrs Christina Whiteway: vice-chair

Mr Peter Haigh

Deanery Synod Representative Mrs Helen Wareham

Elected Members of the PCC

Mrs. Amanda Bradley, Treasurer

Dr Alison Baker: Secretary (also deanery synod representative)

Mrs Lizzie Harris (until September 2023)

Mrs Jane Moody

Mr Jan Vermooten

Mrs Anne Mower (also deanery synod representative)

Ms Lily Assefa

Mr Jim Russell

Ms Martyn Schofield

Committees

The PCC is assisted in its work by several committees and groups:

- Standing Committee this is the only committee required by law. It is made up of the Vicar, the Wardens, the Treasurer, and the Secretary. The PCC delegates to the Standing Committee the power to transact agreed items of business between meetings.
- Charities Group co-ordinates the church's charitable giving.
- Young St Michael's covers matters relating to children's worship.
- Baptism Visitors Group undertakes baptismal visits and preparation in co-operation with the Vicar and Curate.
- Sidespeople -welcome people to services and support the smooth running of the services.

The mission of the church is also pursued through a number of other groups of volunteers including servers, readers, gardeners, flower arrangers, brass cleaners, reflections group, hospitality teams, two choirs and teams of stewards for performances and events.



Public Benefit

The church not only serves the congregation but the entire local community in Chiswick by:

- Being open to the public each day to provide a space for worship, personal prayer or quiet reflection.
- Providing a venue for community groups, concerts and functions, and by providing additional space for two local schools.
- Organising the Bedford Park Festival and the Chiswick Book Festival, which attract hundreds of local people, provide entertainment and education, and offer local businesses and charities an opportunity to showcase their work. Part of the proceeds of these festivals is donated to selected charities.
- Supporting a local food bank with regular donations.
- Fundraising for a number of charities each year.
- Publishing a weekly, online newsletter giving notice of church services and meetings, and also publicising other community events.

Achievements and Performance

Major Church Events

St Michael and All Angels had a very full programme of events in 2023. We marked all the major feast days of the Anglican Church, usually with a choral Mass. Our Sunday Mass continued to be live-streamed.

There were 4 candidates for confirmation in February and the celebrant and preacher was the Right Reverend Graeme Knowles, Honorary Assistant Bishop.

Our programme for Lent 2023 included a contemplative prayer course based on icons, a series of talks exploring the Acts of the Apostles and "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" talks at Evensong. On Easter morning around 90 people gathered outside the church for the Easter dawn vigil.

In May we held a thanksgiving Mass to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles 111. In June, at the Mass on the Green, in a public declaration of our faith, the preacher was the Rt. Reverend Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely.

On the eve of the feast of St Alban, which fell



at the midpoint of the Bedford Park Arts Festival, Father Brandon Fletcher-James celebrated his first Mass in front of a large congregation. The preacher was Fr. Jarel Robinson Brown, Assistant Curate at St Botolph-

without-Aldgate. The service was enhanced by music from a variety of traditions sung by the choir.

The Bedford Park Arts Festival concluded with the Festival Mass where the Mass Setting was Mozart's Coronation Mass, sung by the SMAAA choir with additional professional and amateur singers. The choir was accompanied by the Bedford Park Festival Orchestra, led by David Juritz.

Ten years ago, in September 2013, our organ was dedicated by the then Lord Bishop of London. This year we celebrated the anniversary of its installation with a Choral High Mass where the preacher was Fr. Giles Fraser, Vicar of St. Anne's Kew. In his introduction to the Mass, Fr. Kevin acknowledged the generosity of those who had supported the funding and building of the organ. Since then the organ has played a major part in enriching our worship and bringing joy to much of our church life.

Autumn brought our patronal festival, when children defeated the dragon in an energetic skirmish, and our harvest festival. On Remembrance Sunday, the church was decorated with the poppies knitted by parishioners some years ago and an Act of Remembrance was held at the Bedford Park memorial seat.

Advent and Christmas were celebrated with music, poetry, drama and through the liturgy.

As usual the church was packed with those who worship regularly at St Michael's as well as many who feel drawn to the church at this special time of year. Numbers attending were back to pre-pandemic level.



During the year we celebrated a number of significant birthdays and anniversaries of members of our congregation. We also celebrated the sixtieth birthday of our incumbent. Fr. Kevin Morris.

On the 40th anniversary of Fr Graham Morgan's ordination as deacon we gave thanks for his remarkable contribution to the ministry of St. Michael's. Later in the year we recognised the long service in the ministry of Timothy George, who was awarded the title of Reader Emeritus.

We also commemorated the lives of some of our parishioners who had recently died: in particular, David Beresford and Ruth Fairbanks Joseph. Other members of the congregation who died during the year were Jane Dredge and Josephine Batt. We were sorry to hear of the deaths of Ken Phayre, for many years a caretaker at St Michael's, and Jim Staines who carved the wooden crib figures used at Christmas services.

Our main church events and many of our outreach events have been recorded in a fascinating photographic archive created by Jim Cox. Some of his pictures appear in this report and others are on our website.

Church Attendance

Average attendance at Sunday Mass during 2023 was around 135 adult worshippers. This

does not take into account the numbers joining services online.

The Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll is the church's official register of those qualified to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, where elections are held for the PCC and for representatives on the Deanery Synod. The Electoral Roll is intended to enable the congregation to be part of the whole church and to participate in decision-making. At a more personal level, being on the Electoral Roll is an act of commitment to St Michael's and to the wider Church. A copy of the current Electoral Roll is displayed in the church porch.

At the end of December 2023, the Electoral Roll stood at 291, an increase of 13 from the previous year. During the year 2 members died and there were 15 new members. There are still new, regular members of the congregation who are not on the Roll. When asking people to join it is clear that some are not aware of its existence or purpose, so work is needed to promote it.

Vicky Brooke is our Electoral Roll Officer, and we should like to thank her for her work this year.

Deanery Synod

There were three meetings of the Hounslow Deanery Synod in 2023. All were in-person meetings. The topics covered were:

- · Disability and the Church
- Working with Farsi-speaking Christians in London.
- An interview with Bishop Emma Ineson, Bishop of Kensington.

Children's Ministry (contributed by Miriam Morris)

Young St Michaels is for young babies up to young adults. There are four groups meeting on Sundays:

Youth Church for children aged 11 and over.

They meet on most Sunday mornings during term-time. The sessions are led by Julia from Best4Learning, and after games and refreshments, she leads a discussion on a particular theme, such as coping with stress, or how to be kind to yourself and others. Each week there are around eight young people, who find the sessions very helpful.

Children's Church for children aged 4 - 11.

This group meets in church on Sundays during term-time and processes out during the first hymn. The sessions are led by a roster of parents, and start with lighting candles and prayers similar to those used in church. The reading is the gospel of the day. There is a discussion on the reading, and various activities such as role play, quizzes or crafts. The children return to church for Communion and then present what they have



learned to the congregation. There has been an average of eight children each week.

Creche for pre-school children.

The crèche is available during term-time except when there is a family service. It is run by Ros Lister, helped by the parents and carers of children, who are expected to stay with their child. Each week the children learn about different aspects of God's love as shown in creation and the community we live in through play, songs and crafts. Over the past year there has been an average of ten children, along with their parents, each week.

Confirmation Classes.

These are held between October and February for children (usually aged 10 or 11) going forward for confirmation and are led by Martyn Schofield and Charlotte Howells.

Other Activities Little Angels for pre-school children, and their carers.



The group is led by Tassy Russell, assisted by several very loyal volunteers. They meet during term-time for singing, play and socialising. This is the only activity where we ask for a small contribution towards costs. The group has been well-attended, and we are looking for some more volunteers to help.

In addition to the regular meetings, we have various events open to all children and young people and their parents/carers – for example the summer party and the fireworks party, both in the Vicarage Garden.

We are immensely grateful to the members of the congregation who lead and support these activities, which introduce our young people to the SMAAA family and foster their spiritual growth.

Outreach

Green Days, SMAAA's summer fete, were well attended in 2023 and included all the regular stalls, activities and a craft fair. A succession of local musical acts kept large crowds entertained throughout the two days. Organising Green Days requires an enormous amount of work. Our thanks go in particular to Nicola Chater and Vicky Brooke and to the many volunteers who ran stalls, hosted refreshment tents and carried out the essential administrative tasks behind the scenes.

The Bedford Park Arts Festival provided two weeks of concerts, drama, film, poetry, art and photography. This year the tradition of holding a house concert was revived and painting workshops were introduced for the

first time. As ever, the Open Gardens were the most popular event. We are very grateful to Nicola Chater and Tassy Russell for drawing up the programme and organising the events and to Dinah Garrett for leading on hospitality.



The 15th Chiswick Book Festival, directed by Torin Douglas, took place in September. It ran over eight days at venues across Chiswick and included over 60 events and, in addition, a children's festival. A hugely varied range of topics brought big audiences to hear popular speakers such as Alan Titchmarsh, Clive Myrie, Jess Philips, Michael Frayn, Nadiya Hussain and many others.

The festival was supported by a large team of volunteers from St Michael's and from the wider community. Our thanks are due to all of them, and particularly Torin Douglas, Jenny de Montfort, Lisa Read and Sue Buchan for the work they put into this event.

Other outreach activities included a "Big Sing" on Coronation Day, organised with the support of the Tabard Pub and donations going to SMAAA charities, and a lecture commemorating William Yeats arranged through the church.

Music at SMAAA (contributed by Jonathan Dods)

Music plays an important part in life and worship at St Michael's. There are at least three sung services every week; Mass and Evensong with congregational singing, and voluntaries and incidental music, accompanied by the organ, and Compline on Tuesday evening with singing led by members of the choir. We are grateful to Anne Mower and John Leeds for maintaining this pattern of worship.

The organ continues to be a beautiful and reliable instrument for leading our worship. It attracts young people to learn as well as established organists to play for services and concerts. This has given us a pool of organists to call on. We are grateful to William Brooke, Oliver West, Jack Spencer and to the other organists who played during the year.

Monthly lunchtime organ recitals are held throughout the year. They are well attended and donations go to the SMAAA music fund. They are becoming more widely known as cultural and social events and we are grateful to all the recitalists, both from this country and abroad, who put so much time into preparing interesting programmes.

The adult choir is the main choir of the church, singing at Mass and Evensong once a month and at major feasts. The choir continues to grow in number, skill and repertoire, providing appropriate music of a good quality for our liturgies.



Singing in the choir is fun, but it is also a big commitment, with weekly practices and practices before services as well as time spent learning music at home. We are grateful to members of the choir for the time and care they take to enrich our services with music.

We also provide music at weddings, funerals and memorial services during the week. We

aim to provide exactly the right music to the highest standard for these services. We would like to thank all the professional singers and instrumentalists who make these services so special.

The choristers is our children's choir. All children aged 7-15 are welcome to join. Choristers rehearse weekly during termtime and sing at family Mass once a month and at the Christmas Eve Crib Service and at the Bedford Park Festival. They learn chorister skills like listening and moving together and they work towards their Royal School of Church Music medals. The choristers are led by Vicky Brooke, and we should like to extend our thanks for the work she does with them.

St Michael's is enormously grateful to Jonathan Dods for all that he does in planning, playing, conducting and generally supporting this very important aspect of our ministry and outreach.

Staff

Anna Benson and Claire Barrell share the work of the Parish Office. This year much of their work has been supporting the wardens as they deal with both planned and unexpected maintenance of our fabric and upgrading some of our infrastructure. There has been a substantial number of weddings and baptisms which, whilst very welcome, add to the work of the office. We are indebted to the office staff for dealing with the numerous demands on their time and for continuing to handle a heavy flow of enquiries from the congregation and the public with patience and courtesy.

We had four part-time caretakers this year and we have benefitted from the range of practical skills which they have demonstrated in keeping our building in good order. We are grateful for their reliability and good humour in coping with the various problems thrown up by a well-used and complex structure which is over 140 years old.

Statement of Responsibilities of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accountancy Practice).

In preparing these financial statements, the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless it is not appropriate.

The PCC is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Financial Review (contributed by Amanda Bradley)

Our finances comprise five distinct areas of activity: the church, the parish hall, our festivals, the Quick Road property, and investments.

The Church

2023 income from our regular monthly donors totalled £115,005 (2022: 113,545), of which 60% comes through the Parish Giving Scheme (rather than standing orders or direct debits to the church bank account). This reduces the administration burden on SMAAA as Gift Aid is claimed by the scheme on our behalf and it also enables donors to

request that their regular donation is adjusted annually in line with inflation.

Collections at our services increased by 16% to £13,479 (2022: £11,645) now the congregation has largely returned to pre-Covid levels. Other donations increased by over £10,000 however, mainly due to the "Chip In" campaign, which raised over £11,000. This campaign included some generous individual donations which were gratefully received. Income from church lettings and concerts also increased by 20%. No legacies were received in the year.

We reduced our Common Fund contribution to the London Diocese by £3,000 this year to £93,000. This reflects the additional costs we are bearing by paying 50% of the salary and associated costs of our Curate. As in prior year, the St Michael & All Angels Bedford Park Trust generously agreed to fund 50%, as well as reimbursing a further 50% of relocation fees incurred by the Curate in 2022. We remain deeply grateful for the Trust's ongoing support. Despite this reduction, our contribution continues to exceed the standard cost of a London parish (2023: £91,300). Standard parish costs have increased 4% year on year, due to property maintenance cost increases across the Diocese and training and support costs at Diocesan level. The PCC considers that it is important for St Michael's to continue to help support those less well-resourced churches which are unable to meet the standard cost, hence ensuring our reduced fee still exceeds both the standard cost of a London parish and the Diocesan estimated cost of running our church.

The church suffered some unexpected costs this year, particularly the felling of the robinia tree and repairs to the outgoing heating system in Q1 2023. These unexpected costs increased expenditure by just under £17,000 this year. While most of these costs were offset by additional income from the "Chip In" campaign, church-related expenditure exceeded church-related income in the year by £11,000. The restoration work on the north side of the church remains an outstanding need, identified at the last Quinquennial

Inspection, having been postponed for yet another year due to our lack of funds. A new boiler had to be installed in the year following its predecessor's demise. The cost of this has been capitalised and will be spread over the boiler's anticipated useful life.

Throughout 2023, the church continued to support its sister church, St Peter's, Acton Green, including providing part of the cost of its Parish Administrator, Tassy Russell.

The Parish Hall

Income from the Parish Halls in 2023 increased to £139,364 (2022: £129,840) predominantly due to an inflationary increase to school rental fees. However, community rentals suffered a small decrease in the year due to the inability to rent the hall out during school hours and in the summer holidays due to the full kitchen refit. Hall costs saw a reduction at £101,016 (2022: £104,872).

The kitchen refit was undertaken in the year at the request of the local school who use the hall under licence. In accordance with the licence terms, the school reimbursed us for the kitchen's installation cost, with the asset being owned by the church. The kitchen has been capitalised on the balance sheet while the reimbursement has been held as deferred income, for release slowly over the asset's life. This will allow the asset depreciation and reimbursement income to be matched in the income statement each year, reflecting the cash and profitability neutral substance of the transaction.

25% of the hall management and administration costs has been charged to the church account as a reasonable approximation of the Parish Managers' time in supporting the activities of the church. This arrangement goes some way to ensure that more of the direct costs of the church are funded by the congregation.

The Bedford Park and Chiswick Book Festivals

The Bedford Park Festival raised over £30,000 in support of the Church, the Bedford Park Trust and our three Church charities. Revenue was slightly lower than 2022, mostly due to the very hot weather causing reduced

footfall over the Green Days weekend. The Chiswick Book Festival was a great success, returning to pre-COVID income levels and raising over £17,000. A further £3,000 in sponsorship was received in March 2024, bringing the final amount raised to just over £20,000. Payments of £5,000 went to each of the three charities supported by the Festival: Read for Good, Koestler Arts and Read Easy Ealing. In addition, Chiswick Book Festival supplementary events were held in October and December raising over £3,000 in support of the WB Yeats Bedford Park Art Project. This brings the total raised for charity partners by our 2023 festival activities to over £33,000. We are deeply grateful to Alyson Mitchell for her dedicated work as Festival Treasurer for both events.

Quick Road Parish House

The parish house in Quick Road required a full kitchen refit, redecoration, and maintenance work to bring it to an appropriate standard for both future Curates and their families, and to enable us to rent it out while our Curate lives in a smaller flat rented by the PCC. While the costs of this refit have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their expected useful lives, the upgrade necessitated a cash outflow of over £45,000. It is expected that some of this will be recouped from the profit arising on the rental income after considering the cost of renting alternative Curate accommodation.

Investments

The church invests a portion of its cash reserve in an ethical investment fund, managed by CCLA. In 2023, we enjoyed a £7,963 gain on this investment. This offset the £6,433 loss suffered in 2022, returning the fund to around its 2021 position. From its inception in 2020 when interest rates were low, until the balance sheet date, our investment with CCLA has resulted in an overall net gain.

Balance Sheet

Cash in the bank at year-end of £229,119 has reduced significantly on 2022 (£279,601) at the year-end, predominantly due to the capital expenditure required on Quick Road and the boiler. There is also an increase in current liabilities (2023: £117,331; 2022:

£58,714). This is due to £67,475 of deferred income from the kitchen, a further £18,838 of deferred income from school rentals due to phasing of payments through the academic year and £8,000 of deferred income from prepaid rental income on Quick Road rentals. There was also an accrual of £4,500 pertaining to the final charitable distributions from Chiswick Book Festival as well as the proceeds of the 2023 Advent Appeal which was still ongoing at year end.

At the balance sheet date, the parish held net current assets of £127,910 (2022: £231,398). The PCC is satisfied that the parish has sufficient resources, along with income received in 2023, to meet its liabilities as they fall due. However, the various repairs required to the fabric of the church and its properties in 2023 has underlined the ongoing need to fundraise to pay for the upkeep of our historic buildings. Accordingly, in March 2024, the PCC created a designated church fabric fund, both to finance the upkeep of our historic buildings and to finance the required north wall repairs. Ongoing cost control and attention to fundraising are required to maintain an adequate buffer against any unexpected financial headwinds which may arise.

Reserves Policy

It is the PCC's policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds wherever possible equal to six months' expenditure. At present, we are a little below this, holding 5.8 months' expenditure. The PCC is responding to this with tighter budgetary control and a greater focus on fundraising in 2024. The PCC will continue to monitor adherence to this policy in 2024. It is our policy to invest a judicious amount of our reserves, currently held in a CCLA ethical fund account.

Charities Group Report 2023 (contributed by Andrew Mitchell)

The Charities Group at St Michael's has had another busy year, raising funds for our three 'core' charities – the Upper Room, Swinfen Telemedicine and Chiswick Crosslight – as well as our 2023 Lent Charity (Hogarth Youth Centre). We also coordinated many other donor activities, in support of Christian Aid, Disasters Emergency Committee, Ealing Food Bank and others.



We were delighted to welcome two new members - Jacks Edwards and Bud Merryweather - who have brought fresh energy and new ideas to our work. We are always looking to expand our capacity and anyone interested in joining us should contact Andrew Mitchell for further information.

In October we held a successful quiz evening, with more than 80 friends and supporters in attendance. During Lent we raised almost £2,000 for the Hogarth Youth Centre through donations and two Lent lunches, one of which was kindly organised by Vicky Brooke and the Choristers. Our three charities also benefitted from the Big Sing for the King event, marking His Majesty's Coronation.

During Advent, the church generously allocated collections from the Crib and the Nine Lessons & Carols services in support of our work and our charities Advent calendar miniatures. We are deeply grateful to the artists for their generosity. With the help of Andrew Pears, we sang carols outside Turnham Green tube station in December and raised almost a thousand pounds in the process! Finally, retiring collections at two Advent services were ring-fenced for charities working in Gaza and in the Ukraine.

On Charities Sunday, the SMAAA congregation heard presentations from Katherine Davies of Swinfen and Michele Rooney of Crosslight Chiswick. I am sure

many were moved by what they had to say and donations on the day reflected this.

Special thanks must go to Ros Lister who organised fundraising during Christian Aid week. She has also agreed to run our annual poppy appeal on behalf of the Royal British Legion. As a group, we co-ordinated the Harvest Festival donations and the collection of clothing for the Upper Room. We benefitted again from a share of the proceeds of the Bedford Park Festival. Finally, we supported the Book Festival team who once again raised a significant amount for literacy charities.

Looking forward, we have already delivered our first fundraiser of 2024 – the very successful 'Cake & Catwalk' event held in the church in January, so we are already off to a flying start! The Ealing Food Bank will be our Lent Charity for 2024.

As well as thanking my Group colleagues for their hard work and commitment throughout the year, special thanks go to the Parish Office team, Anna Benson and Claire Barrell, to Torin Douglas for PR support, and to Amanda Bradley and Alyson Mitchell for looking after the finances, and many, many other volunteers who helped on an *ad hoc* basis. We really couldn't have done it without them!

Governance

Cleray

Father Kevin Morris is our Vicar. Father Fabrizio Pesce is Associate Vicar and Father Brandon Fletcher-James is our Curate. Father Graham Morgan, Mother Maggie Davidge-Smith and Mother Sarah Lenton are Honorary Assistant Priests. Our Sacristan is Anne Mower who is also a Reader, and Graham Holderness is a Licensed Lay Preacher.

The PCC in 2023

The PCC met nine times in 2023. Average attendance was 74%, an increase on the previous year. All meetings were held in person and two meetings were "special" meetings called to deal with a single, urgent issue.

Meetings start with Mass and always include a financial report and a report on safeguarding. This year financial issues were dominated by unexpected deterioration in our infrastructure, particularly the need to replace our boilers, and inflationary price rises which created pressures on our budget. The final stages of the refurbishment of the Quick Road property and the agreement with our new tenant were major items on the agenda. We continued to plan for the installation of a memorial garden and improvements to the side chapel. We also revised and re-issued our Time and Talents booklet.

We held an "away morning" in October where we spent time identifying the various groups, both formal and informal, who contribute to our church life. This highlighted for us the way in which St Michael's is able to draw on a substantial pool of skills and expertise within our congregation. We recognised a need to constantly replenish this pool and to both thank and support our volunteers. With this in mind, we started a series of presentations from group leaders at Mass, highlighting what they do and inviting more people to get involved. So far, we have had presentations from our flower arrangers and the leader of Little Angels.

At the APCM 2024 some PCC members will come to the end of their term of office and stand down: these are Helen Wareham and Alison Baker who will both continue for a further year as deanery synod representatives, and Jane Moody and Lizzie Harris (who resigned autumn 2023). We are very grateful to all of them for their contribution to SMAAA in their different capacities.

Health and Safety/Risk Management
During 2023 the PCC re-appointed Chris
Bradley as Health and Safety Officer and
approved an updated Health and Safety
Policy. This now includes enhanced
procedures for protective security, i.e.
what to do in the case of a terrorist attack

or finding a suspicious item. We should like to thank Chris for the invaluable advice he provided during the year, particularly for our two festivals.

Jane McCabe was also re-appointed as Safeguarding Officer and Jim Russell as Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checker and approved the Safeguarding Policy. We receive a report on safeguarding as a standard item on the PCC agenda. This ensures that we are in compliance with our duty to: "have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults." In addition, Jane McCabe attends the PCC once a year to enable the members of the PCC to ask questions and to make sure we are aware of any new guidance. This year she talked to us about a new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard which has been issued by the Church of England. She has begun working through it to ensure we are up-to-date and to identify areas where we need to do more work. She is also helping us to think through how we minimise risk to staff and volunteers who are working alone in the church. We have repositioned our policy on our website, so it is more easily accessed. Our thanks go to Jane for keeping us aware of these important issues and guiding us through changes in policy.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

These regulations have been in force since 2018. Two new data controllers for the church were appointed at the beginning of the year but unfortunately one has moved away from the area. Dan Klein, working remotely, continues as our main source of advice about updating our policies. The Standing Committee is alert to data protection issues and addresses problems which occur. There was one reported breach of the regulations during 2023 which was dealt with promptly.

Church mailing lists keep names unseen in emails except for small working groups,

where members have positively opted into disclosure. We take care to alert people to the fact that a service is being streamed and will be posted online: there is normally a statement on the weekly pew sheet.

The Church Building

The wardens, working with the caretakers, have ensured that no significant damage or deterioration to the fabric has occurred during the year. There have been some ongoing problems with leaks in the roof which we have traced to the gutters and how they are positioned on our Victorian building. In the summer it became necessary to fell the Robinia tree near the public footpath as we were advised it was becoming dangerous.

The church boilers have been replaced and we are now making adjustments to the controls, so we use them as efficiently as possible. We are looking at ways of improving the lighting round the exterior of the church to increase security. We have postponed work on the north wall of the church until we have sufficient funds available.

Environmental Issues (contributed by Helen Dods)

2023 marked a definite step up for St Michael's in terms of our response to the climate crisis. Helen Dods was appointed Eco Champion to steer progress towards carbon net-zero, the PCC adopted an Eco Mission Statement supporting work to improve our environmental credentials, and we formed an Eco Group to undertake work towards achieving our Bronze 'Eco Church' award.

Activities included: installation of watersaving devices in all toilets on the premises; installation of draft excluders at the front and back church doors; improvement of paper recycling facilities in the vestry; and the establishment of a monthly litter pick along Turnham Green Terrace. We have also been pleased to support other eco-initiatives, such as the use of ceramic vases by the Flower Group (rather than oasis) and advising on the installation of two new hydrogen-compatible boilers. In addition, the Eco Group has been gathering information on alternative heating and lighting solutions, including heat pumps and solar panels, which will inform the next phase of activities.

The Church of England now requires us to calculate our annual energy footprint, and to work towards reducing it to net-zero. In 2022 our carbon footprint was 42.2 tonnes of CO_2 emissions; for 2023 this dropped to 30.9 tonnes. This is partly explained by the breakdown of the old boilers in March 2023, which led to the heating being 'switched off' earlier than usual.

The drop can also be attributed to positive actions, such as encouraging church users to switch off lights and the installation of energy-efficient equipment as part of the refurbishment of the upstairs kitchen. A 'smart' electricity meter was installed in autumn 2023, which resulted in a reduction of our estimated usage and a refund. It is hoped this, and similar efficiency initiatives will continue to have an impact and drive our usage down further over the next few years.

St Peter's Church, Acton Green (contributed by St Peter's Wardens)

St Peter's Church, Acton Green, is a standalone parish with strong links to St Michael's. Father Kevin Morris is the Vicar of St Peter's. The Associate Vicar of St Peter's is Father Fabrizio Pesce.

A variety of community activities at St Peter's continues to attract a growing congregation. There are two Children's Church groups (pre and post confirmation) on Sundays, and the church hosts classical concerts and choral performances, an annual Christmas Fair, monthly cake and book sales plus various standalone events such as a disco for the local community children, Harvest Supper, and children's concerts.

Father Fabrizio runs Mindfulness and Christian Meditation courses, as part of his Centre for Mindfulness and Spirituality. The 'Little Fishes' playgroup continues to thrive and has its own social media presence. It has been running on a Friday as part of Ealing Council's 'Warm Spaces' scheme. The Little Fishes group has run the Children's Corner as part of Green Days for the past two years.

The monthly coffee morning draws new people into the church for a chat and homemade cake.

SMAAA into 2024

We have a number of major projects to take forward in the coming year and beyond. We have made good progress with our plans to improve the appearance of the side chapel and to widen the path leading to the south door of the church, making it safer and more wheelchair friendly. We have also progressed work on the memorial garden and hope to complete all three projects during 2024.

Inflationary price rises have put severe pressure on our budget, and these will continue into 2024. We will be refurbishing parts of the church hall and hope this will increase the number of lettings. We hope to make changes to the Bedford Park Festival which will increase our revenue and there will be other fund-raising initiatives. If these are successful, we hope to make improvements to our website and our sound system.

Several of our volunteer groups have recruited new members in 2023 and we intend to continue to ensure that St Michael's relates to and involves its congregation in many different ways.

Conclusion

St Michael and All Angels Church is a church where sacramental ministry is important, and the Eucharist is the focus of our church life. It is a welcoming, supportive and inclusive church which provides, through daily worship, a spiritual home to an

increasingly diverse congregation. We have been particularly pleased to see our ministry to children and young people grow and flourish over the past few years.

Under the leadership of the Vicar, St Michael's, offers guidance and inspiration to parishioners and maintains a strong outreach programme into the community. We commit ourselves to a Christian theology which engages with contemporary issues, and we have a particular ministry celebrating the arts.



It is our hope to grow stronger in our faith through worship, more hospitable through our fellowship, deeper through discipleship, broader through our ministry, mission and evangelism and more generous in our giving.

Alison Baker, PCC Secretary March 2024

Alisa & Dala

Fr. Kevin Morris, Vicar March 2024

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS PCC, BEDFORD PARK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS PCC, BEDFORD PARK

I report to the Members on my examination of the financial statements of St Michael and All Angels PCC, Bedford Park (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Members of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Sydh

Seema Siddiqui BSc FCA Reddy Siddiqui LLP

183-189 The Vale

Acton

London

W3 7RW

Dated: 24 March 2024

St Michael and All Angels PCC Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Š.	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Incoming Resources	2	1	ul.	ы	₩.	#
Incoming resources from donors	Za	152,994	ı	.1	152,994	138,534
Other voluntary incoming resources	2b	3,339	3,806	12,747	19,892	27,691
Income from charitable & ancillary trading	2c	311,127	ı	Ĭ,	311,127	292,138
Other ordinary incoming resources	2d	5,500	ı	t	5,500	3,054
Total Incoming Resources		472,960	3,806	12,747	489,512	461,417
Resources Expended Charitable Givings	(A)	32.585	ı	12 74.7	75 332	871.15
Activities directly relating to the work of the Church	35	187,006	5,306	800	193,112	186,206
Fund raising	30	204,919	š	ş	204,919	207,110
Church management & administration	30	23,253	ı	ı	23,253	23,772
Total Resources Expended		447,763	5,306	13,547	466,615	454,856
Investment Gain / (Loss)		7,963	ı	1	7,963	(6,433)
Quick Road Rental Income		13,586	ı	L	13,586	5,050
Excess of Income over Expenditure		46,746	(1,500)	(800)	977,77	5,179
Quick Road and Hall Redecoration		1	(22,518)	8	(22,518)	8
Balance as at 1st January 2023		812,960	171,989	2,000	676'686	984,770
Balance as at 31st December 2023		859,706	147,971	4,200	1,011,877	686,949

St Michael and All Angels PCC Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Notes		
		2023	2022
		£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	883,968	758,551
Current Assets			
Debtors & Prepayments Cash at Bank	7	16,122	10,511
+ unrestricted		229,119	279,601
		245,241	290,112
Current Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(117,331)	(58,714)
		(117,331)	(58,714)
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		127,910	231,398
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		1,011,878	989,949
Net Assets	-	1,011,878	989,949
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds	2 & 3	859,706	812,960
Designated Funds	Ls	147,971	171,989
Restricted Funds	Z _b	4,200	5,000
	=	1,011,877	989,949

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17 th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by

The Revd Kevin Morris

Incumbent

Amanda Bradley Trustee & Treasurer

The notes on pages 19 to 28 form part of these accounts.

St Michael and All Angels PCC Notes to the Financial Statements Year to 31 December 2023

Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include financial instruments at fair value, with any movement in fair value being recognised as a gain or loss on the investment. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The PCC continues to be a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The PCC considers that there are no material uncertainties about the Church's ability to continue as a going concern.

b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Practice

In preparing the accounts, the PCC have considered whether, in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102, a restatement of comparative items was needed. No restatements were required.

c) Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Designated funds are sums set aside out of general funds for specific designated purposes. The funds can be transferred back to general funds at any time. Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific purpose. The funds may only be expended on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

d) Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised on an accruals basis.

Income from investments

Interest is accounted for on receipt.

St Michael and All Angels PCC Notes to the Financial Statements Year to 31 December 2023

e) Resources Used

Donations

Donations are accounted for when payable.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan quota is accounted for when payable.

f) Fixed Assets

Consecreated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecreated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Expenditure on Consecreated and beneficed property is written off when incurred.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings.

Church Halls and Other Property is stated at historical cost. No provision is made for depreciation as there is likely to be a long unexpired life and high residual value in each case (based on current values). Routine additions and replacements to Church Hall contents are charged to expenditure.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Depreciation is charged over the useful economic life of the asset on a 10% to 33% straight line basis depending on the asset.

		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023 E	Total Funds 2022
Note 2: Incoming resources from donors		ı	ā	ā	3	ia.
Voluntary income	Za					
ned giving		115.005	1	ı	115 005	113 5/5
Collections at all services		13,479		i	13.479	11,645
Sundry Donations		24,510	ı	ı	24,510	13,344
		152,994	E	88	152,994	138,534
Other voluntary incoming resources	2b					
Candles		1,017	1	1	1,017	1,044
Legacies	77		1	1	ı	3,000
Fees		316	1	ı	316	7.477
Music Income		1,506	3,806	ì	5,312	4,056
Little Angels		200	I	ı	200	401
Special Appeals		2	I	12,747	12,747	11,713
		3,339	3,806	12,747	19,892	27,691
Income from charitable & ancillary trading	2c					
Bedford Park Festival		100,744	ı	1	100,744	105,314
Chiswick Book Festival		51,304	ı	ı	51,304	43,531
restival Supplementary Events		3,533	ı	1	3,533	•
Rentals, concerts & other trading activities		16,182	1		16,182	13,453
Parish Hall Lettings		139,364	1	1	139,364	129,840
		311,127	8	8	311,127	292,138
Other ordinary incoming resources Miscellaneous	2d	5,500	,	,	5.500	3.054
		5,500	88	5	5,500	3,054
Total Incoming Resources		472.960	3.806	171 61	615 687	461 617

Note 3: Resources expended	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations	3a	I	ĺ	i	ı
Charitable Givings	32,585		12,747	45,332	37,768
Activities directly relating to the work of the Church Ministry	32,585	3	12,747	45,332	37,768
Ministry.					
Curate (50% of salary)	18,150	1	ı	18,150	9.00%
Diocesan quota	93,000	1	1	93,000	96,000
Clergy expenses	4,200	ı	1	4,200	4,200
Other Ministry expenses	(604)	ä	1	(404)	7,065
Education	3,668	ı	ı	3,668	4,061
Worship	6,640	ı	1	6,640	7,096
Music (including organists)	15,930	3,806	ī	19,736	22,620
Publicity	551	ı	ı	551	548
Church running cost	29,767	ı	i	29,767	17,416
Expenditure on St Peter's	3,744	,	ī	3,744	3,874
Memorial Side Chapel Space	ı	ı	800	800	4,080
Memorial Garden	1	1,500	ſ	1,500	. 1
Repairs, maintenance & renewals	11,764	8	ŧ	11,764	10,241
	187,005	5,306	800	193,111	186,206
Fund raising	3c				
Costs of Bedford Park Festival	70,089	ı	ī	70,089	70,187
Costs of Book Festival	33,814	ı	ı	33,814	32,051
Costs of Hall Lettings & Parish Office	101,016	8	ı	101,016	104,872
	204,919	8	100	204,919	207,110
Church management & administration Administrator Salaries & overheads	3d 22.25.2	ì		22.25.2	077 00
	23,253		9	23,253	23,772
iotal Resources Expended	447,763	2,306	13,547	466,615	454,856
Investment Gain / (Loss)	7,963	ı	ı	7,963	(6,433)
Quick Road	13,586	1	ı	13,586	5,050
Net Resources (comprising total incoming resources (Note 2) less total resources expended, plus investment related income)	vestment related income) 46,747	(1,500)	(800)	44,447	5,180
Administrator salaries & overheads represent 25% of total staff and office costs.	nd office costs.				

Note 4: Designated and Restricted Funds Analysis

		Designated	ted		Restricted	cted
	Legacies	Quick Rd	Music	Total	Special	Chapel
		and Hall	Fund	Accidence Section	Appeals	Memorial
	•	Decorating	c	•	•	Space
	ri	H	41	-41		41
Balance as at 1st January 2023	149,470	22,519		171,989		5,000
Incoming resources from donors Activities for generating funds	ı	1	3,806	3,806	12,747	ą
	1048	corr	3,806	3,806	12,747	1
Expenditure	(1,500)	(22,519)	(3,806)	(27,825)	(12,747)	(800)
	(1,500)	(22,519)	(3,806)	(27,825)	(12,747)	(800)
Net operational (deficit)/surplus	(1,500)	(22,519)	I	(24,019)	t	(800)
Intra-fund transfers	I	ı	3	ê	8	i
Balance 31st December 2023	147,970	888	888	147,970	959	4,200

The legacy expenditure in the year pertains to the Memorial Garden project.

Note 5: Fixed Assets							
	Parish	Parish	Office	Boiler	Quick Road	E	
	For	Honse	Equipment		Fixtures	Kitchen	Total
Gross Book Value	сų	CH.	Cil	대	CĻĮ	대	cu
At 1 January	589,407	158,910	54,422	1	ı	1	802,739
Additions	ı	ı	324	14,867	54,104	72,295	141,590
Disposals	ı		ı	1	1	. 1	. 1
	589,407	158,910	54,746	14,867	54,104	72,295	944,329
Depreciation At 1 January	e e	1	44,187	1	55	9	44,187
Charge for the year	ŧ	ı	3,619	372	7,363	4,820	16,174
		604	47,806	372	7,363	4,820	60,361
Net Book Value 2023	589,407	158,910	0,940	14,495	46,741	67,475	883,968
Net Book Value 2022	589,407	158,910	10,235	100	eas	603	758,551

Fixed Assets Additons

The fixed asset additions in 2023 represent the installation of a new boiler to the church, the refresh of the Parish House at 33 Quick Road, mainly the installation of a new kitchen and carpets and the installation of a professional kitchen in the Parish Hall. These assets are depreciated at a rate of 10-33% depending on the asset's useful economic life.

The Parish House

The freehold land and buildings represent the Parish House situated at 33 Quick Road, Chiswick.

The Parish Hall

The valuation of the Parish Hall represents the cumulative costs to 31 December 2023 of the redevelopment.

Consecrated and Benefice Property

This is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Total Funds Total Funds 245,241 883,968 Restricted Funds 4,200 Designated Funds 147,971 Unrestricted Funds 93,070 883,968 Note 6: Analysis of Net Assets by Fund Current Assets Fixed Assets Curr Non

2022

758,551 290,112

			11	
(58,714)	9	989,949	10,511	(58.714)
(117,331)	1	1,011,878	16,122	(117.331)
ı	ī	4,200		ı
ı	ī	147,971	1 1	1
(117,331)	ı	859,707	16,122	(117,331)
Current Liabilities	Non Current Liabilities		Note 7: Current Assets Within Current Assets: + Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	Note 8: Current Liabilities Within Current Liabilities: + Creditors & Accruals

church for the hall's usage. The resulting income has been deferred over a five year period to match the useful economic life of the fixed asset. payment by the school for the new Parish Hall kitchen, paid for by them in accordance with the licence agreement between the school and the The majority of creditors and accruals pertains to deferred income from Chiswick and Bedford Park School. Of this, £67,475 relates to a

117,331

117,331)

58,714)

Note 9: PCC Employees & Members

The PCC employed two parish managers on a job share, one part-time festival administrator (Tassy Russell), and two caretakers, none of whom were paid more than £60,000 for these services. We also engage the services of two self-employed caretakers on an ad hoc basis.

The Vicar was paid a total of £4,416.50 (2022: £4,240) in allowances and expenses in 2023.

In 2023, £492 was paid in expenses to Fr Brandon - Curate, of which £150 was collections from the congregation for his ordination. Anne Mower, PCC member, was paid £60 in verger's fees.

Note 10: Independent Examiner's fees

Independent Examination fees are £1,800 inclusive of VAT (2022 £1,800).

Note 11: Related Party Transactions

appointed in March 2023. Michael Pownall is a former PCC Treasurer. The objects of the Trust are i) to further the religious and pastoral work of worship and other aspects of its ministry. The PCC has received the declaration of Trust and the audited financial statements of the Trust for the The other trustees are Eileen McGregor (a former member of the PCC and former churchwarden), Michael Pownall, and Peter Wolton, who was Fr Kevin Morris is a trustee of The St Michael & All Angels Church Bedford Park Trust, a registered charity (number 1099117) founded in 2003. the Church of England in the ecclesiastical parish of St Michael & All Angels, Bedford Park, and ii) to support the ecclesiastical parish of St Michael & All Angels, Bedford Park in its responsibility for maintaining and developing the fabric of the buildings used by the parish in its year ending 31st December 2023.

At the year end, all dues were paid to St Michael and All Angels Church Bedford Park Trust.

public benefit by the provision of a public artwork. In October 2023, the church hosted a production of Shylock, resulting in a donation of £519 to the Nobel-prizewinning Irish poet & dramatist WB Yeats, and ii) to promote the enhancement & improvement of the area of Bedford Park for the the history & heritage of Bedford Park for the benefit of the public, by the provision of a public artwork in commemoration of the life & works of Yeats Bedford Park Project in February 2024. The objects of the Trust are i) to advance art & to advance education in the works of WB Yeats & Fr Kevin Morris is also Chair and a Trustee of the WB Yeats Bedford Park Project, a registered charity (number 1172224) founded in 2017. The other trustee in the year was Cahal Dallat. Torin Douglas, who oversees the Chiswick Book Festival for the PCC, became a trustee of the WB the WB Yeats Bedford Park Project. In December 2023, the church hosted the Inaugural WB Yeats Lecture, raising £2,496 for the WB Yeats Bedford Park Project which was a creditor in the accounts at year end. This figure was paid to the project on 19 February, 2024.

Bedford Park Festival Administrator and church children's worker, running the LIttle Angels group. Anne Mower's grandson, Kristian Dario was Two PCC trustee's family members perform paid work for the church. Jim Russell's wife, Tassy Russell was paid £3,943 in her two roles as paid £540 for ad hoc caretaking work.

It is the current policy of the PCC that all legacies received be passed on to the Trust, except where the donor has made a specific designation. In 2023 no legacies were received, (2022 £3,000)

St Michael and All Angels PCC

Note 12: Capital Expenditure Commitments

There are no capital commitments outstanding as at 31 December 2023.

Note 13: Other Commitments

At 31 December 2023, the PCC has a lease rental obligation to pay 12 quarterly instalments of £669 plus VAT to BNP Paribas. Financial Services Limited for the photocopier in the Parish Office.

Note 14: Loans

No outstanding loans.

Note 15: Restricted & Other Restricted Funds

Special Appeals

Charitable donations raised and payable to the three charities supported by the Church and certain other charities.

Other Restricted Funds

Other than previously disclosed, there are no restricted funds at the present time.