

THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PARISH OF BOLLINGTON IN THE DIOCESE OF CHESTER 2017/2018

This report is prepared in order to fulfill the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 and associated Regulations.

Vicar: The Reverend Canon Veronica Hydon
St Oswald's Church,
Bollington Road
Bollington, Macclesfield SK10 5EG

Churchwardens: Christine Osbaldiston
Hilary Young

Inspecting Architect: Mark Pearce
Lloyd Evans Pritchard Ltd
Chartered Architects
No 5 The Parsonage
Manchester, M3 2HS.

Bankers: NatWest Macclesfield Branch
PO Box 65
2 Chestergate, Macclesfield SK11 6BS

Insurance Company: Ecclesiastical Insurance Company St. Oswald's Policy No. 04/XPG/9078684

Independent examiner: Mr. Barry Matthews

Membership (PCC)

Ex Officio		Current Members	Elected	Term Ends
Revd. Canon Veronica Hydon	Vicar	Sally Garnett	2015	2018
Anne Coomes	Reader	Julie Brunt	2016	2019
Christine Osbaldiston	Churchwarden	Rachel Lake	2016	2019
Hilary Young	Churchwarden	Beverley Nixon	2016	2019
Anthea Wilkinson	Deanery Synod 2017	Maggie O'Donnell	2016	2019
Sue Berry	Deanery Synod 2017	Angela Williams	2016	2019
		Jacqueline Pengelly	2016	2019
		Kenneth Bennett	2017	2020
		Christopher Ward	2017	2020
		Cheryl Bush	2017	2020
		Alison Grimshaw	2017	2020

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS, Monday 30th April 2018

For the Election of Two Churchwardens

1. Apologies
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 24th April 2017
3. The Election of Churchwardens for 2017/2018

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING, Monday 30th April 2018

1. Apologies
2. The Minutes of the last APCM held on Monday 24th April 2017
3. The Electoral Roll
4. Church Fabric & Furnishings Reports
5. Report on the Financial Affairs of the Parish and the Presentation of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017
6. General Parochial Reports to be received.
7. The Vicar's Report to the Parish
8. Election of Tellers and of Lay Representatives to the PCC.
9. The Appointment of Sidespersons
10. The Appointment of an Auditor to the Parochial Church Council
11. Questions / Matters of Parochial Interest

The Elections of Parochial Church Council Secretary and Treasurer, and the Electoral Roll Officer, take place at the first main meeting of the newly elected PCC

THE ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

From the Diocesan Registrar, Helen McFall

I hereby give notice that the Venerable Ian Bishop., the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, or his duly appointed Commissary will hold a Court for Admitting Churchwardens and Sidespersons to their Offices. All services to commence at 7.30pm.

Tuesday 1st May, Chadkirk/ Mottram/Stockport, VENUE: St Paul, Stalybridge

Wednesday 16th May, Cheadle/Macclesfield, VENUE: All Hallows, Cheadle

Monday 21st May, Congleton/Nantwich, VENUE: St Mary, Astbury

Thursday 31st May, Bowden/Knutsford, VENUE: St Philip & St James, Alderley Edge

Churchwardens, present and new are cited to attend at the Court aforesaid, the present ones to make and give their Presentments and the new ones to make and subscribe the Declaration required by law for the due execution of their office for the ensuing year.

- a) Sidespersons are cited to attend at the aforesaid Court to make and subscribe the said Declaration
- b) Parochial Church Council representatives are invited to attend

Dates of future PCC Meetings: 7.30pm Monday 18th June 2018, Monday 24th September 2018, Monday 26th November 2018, Monday 28th January 2019, Monday 18th March 2019. Ministry Team Meetings: 7.30pm Monday 4th June 2018, Monday 10th September 2018, Monday 12th November 2018, Monday 14th January 2019, Monday 4th March 2019

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (“ Vestry Meeting”)

held on 24th April at 7.30 pm in St. Oswald’s Bollington

Present: Reverend Canon Veronica Hydon, Sue Berry, Margaret Booth, Jennifer Burdekin, Michael Burdekin, Cheryl Bush, Sheila Capper, Anne Coomes, Alison Grimshaw, Luise Hermann, Joan Kendrick, Sue Matthews, Beverley Nixon, Maggie O’Donnell, Christine Osbaldiston, Jackie Pengelly, Jean Reader, Nicola Scott, Ann Stringer, Chris Ward, Elaine Ward, Sue Whitehurst, Angela Williams, Dave Williams, Hilary Young, Julie Brunt
Apologies: Jenny Baker, John Baker, Pauline Henshaw, Eileen Hooley, Jenny Riley

The minutes of the previous year's Vestry meetings were approved and signed as a correct record.

Election of Church Wardens

There being no other nominations, Christine Osbaldiston and Hilary Young were proposed, seconded and duly elected unanimously to serve for this coming year. The Vicar expressed heartfelt thanks for all their hard work and support.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) opened at 7.45pm

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.

Electoral Roll

Jackie reported that one hundred and thirty two members were now on roll, including eight new members. The names of five members have been removed as sadly they are now deceased.

It was thought that next year a complete statutory revision of the electoral roll may be required.

The Church Fabric and Furnishings Report from the Churchwardens was noted.

The Financial Report as submitted by our Treasurer Sally Garnett was noted with much appreciation for all Sally's dedication and skill in fulfilling this role.

Jennifer Burdekin asked if further decorative little pots could be made available as used for another Lent Fundraiser, alongside the Smarties tubes which are currently used.

Choir Report - Anthea reported that very sadly we have experienced two gaps in membership this year, owing to the tragic death of Sue Bennett and to the fact that Lilian Hughes has now moved into a residential care home. The meeting unanimously expressed its thanks to all the musicians, in particular to Luise for her continued encouragement of our ad hoc orchestra which plays at Family Communion on the third Sundays of each month, and to also Anthea for choosing the hymns and convening the choir.

Vicar’s Report:

In addition to her written report, Veronica asked members to keep both our Church Schools in our prayers, as one had recently undergone an OFSTED inspection and the other is currently advertising for a new Head Teacher.

As part of the three yearly rotation, four vacancies were noted on the PCC and, there being no other nominations, the following people were duly proposed, seconded and unanimously elected: Ken Bennett, Cheryl Bush, Alison Grimshaw and Chris Ward. Veronica expressed her thanks to Jenny Riley and Jean Reader for their past years of faithful service (they have each come to the end of their term of office and did not wish to seek re-election).

The Vicar also thanked:

- Maggie for all her GAP work which contributes to our increasing ability to pay the bills.
- Beverley and Hilary for all their work with the Praise and Play Toddler Group
- Beverley and all volunteers who help with the RICH Group

Election of Deanery Synod Representatives:

Sue Berry and Anthea Wilkinson indicated they would be happy to stand for a further three years and were proposed, seconded and duly elected unopposed.

Appointment of Sidespersons:

Alison Grimshaw volunteered to join the current list of Sidespeople, being particularly keen to serve at Family Services along with Nicola Scott and Nicola Norton. Having been proposed by Anthea Wilkinson and seconded by Joan Kendrick, the full list of nominees was appreciatively accepted by the meeting.

Appointment of Auditor

Barry Matthews has indicated he will be happy to continue in the role. Barry was proposed by Anthea Wilkinson and seconded by Dave Williams. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting and the Treasurer was asked to convey our thanks to him once again.

Any other business

Anne Coomes is due to be licensed to our parish as Reader on Saturday 21st October 2017 at Chester Cathedral. Brian Reader will also be licensed on this same occasion as Reader Emeritus and we are very pleased to welcome both of them officially taking regular slots on our preaching rota. Anne has now also volunteered to be in charge of coordinating parish publicity and as such all notifications need to be sent to Anne who will channel them appropriately. Veronica expressed her gratitude to Anne and Brian for all their support and hard work.

Anthea Wilkinson asked if there was an update of the potential date for the organ repair as a wedding is scheduled to take place on May 13th. Chris Ward kindly offered the use of his electric piano to use whilst the organ is out of action. Martin has agreed to let us know nearer the time when the work is likely to be done. Bollington Festival Choir is holding a concert here in November and has generously nominated our organ fund as the recipient for their charity donation.

Chris Ward asked if the broken window pane behind the organ pipes could be repaired at the same time as the organ work is undertaken. He also sought clarification of whether or not we need a faculty for the organ repair. Christine Osbaldiston agreed to investigate this further.

Veronica announced there would be a short refresher session on 20th May at 10am for all who assist with the administration of the chalice.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Julie Brunt. PCC Secretary

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

The Electoral roll is the basis for church representation and permits church members to attend the APCM and stand for the PCC and act as sidespeople. The numbers are also used as a basis for the permitted numbers of lay members on the PCC and the number of Deanery Synod representatives.

The new roll will be reported at the APCM.

CHURCH FABRIC AND FURNISHINGS REPORT

Christine Osbaldiston – Churchwarden

The church building is generally in a good condition.

During the year all general maintenance has been carried out. Allan Stringer has cleared the gutters, the boiler has been serviced, all electrical equipment PAT tested, fire extinguishers checked and Ken Bennett has varnished the new entrance doors.

Using a portion of Joan Barton's legacy a small shed has been purchased for storage of the gardening tools. Thank you to John Rickman and Chris and Elaine Ward for keeping the surrounding grounds tidy. The mowing of the grass is carried out by Suzanne Wainwright.

In July last year the organ was refurbished. This involved the removal of the bellows and transporting them to Liverpool for re-leathering.

As per our last Quinquennial inspection the repairs to the East end of the church have now been carried out. This involved replacing the wire window grilles to the vestry windows, and the large east window, with polycarbonate and repointing the lower plinths and window sills. The rainwater downspout was cracked, this was removed, repaired and repainted.

There is now a defibrillator outside the office at Bollington Cross School which we can use if required. The code is on the first aid notice at the back of church and also on the first aid box. Several members of the congregation attended a training session at the school.

We held two major cleaning days, one in the autumn and again in spring. Thank you to everyone who came to help.

Thank you to everyone who volunteers their services, either in the general running of the church building or assisting at services. Also thank you to Veronica for encouraging us to fulfil these tasks in order that the church may continue to grow here in Bollington.

FINANCE REPORT 2017

From Sally Garnett, PCC Treasurer

This report should be read together with the audited Accounts for 2017 printed towards the end of the Annual Reports.

Deficit

The accounts for 2017 show that we have paid out £215 more than we received during the year. This trend seen in recent years has improved for our regular expenditure of a deficit of £5,904 (2016: deficit £14,384), but cannot be sustained indefinitely.

Our major item of expenditure is the Diocesan quota which amounted to nearly £62,800 this year. The amount we pay does not only cover the stipend of our Vicar (around £24,000 pa) but also contributes to the central diocesan costs of administration, schools and parochial support, clergy pension contributions, housing and on-going training.

This is the minimum that we must cover by income before we add in our 'running costs' such as electricity, gas and water etc. These regular payments (including the diocesan quota) total £78,777. Our regular income for the year was only £72,873, leaving a 'regular' deficit of £5,904

A review was made of giving in October 2016 where a positive and welcome response was received regarding an overhaul of our giving and revised pledges which has increased our annual giving by £7,178, an 18% increase. We will also see the increased gift aid associated with this in our accounts for 2018. During the year we concluded our Organ restoration fund for essential repairs to the organ bellows and the kitchen refurbishment project is ongoing. Bollington Town Council made a generous grant of £680 towards the maintenance of the Churchyard and Columbarium, and this with further donations from the congregation is much appreciated. A generous donation has been made into a Pastoral Relief Fund to be used specifically for pastoral support, in thanksgiving for personal financial assistance previously received. We received nearly £10,200 in respect of reclaimed Gift Aid which shows the importance of everyone who is able to do so making a Gift Aid declaration if possible. Many parishioners arranged and took part in various fundraising projects in the year for general funds, raising £3,033. The PCC very much appreciate the volunteer time given and the generosity of those attending.

Charity Giving

The amount that we raised for various charities during the year is shown in note 6 in the 'Notes to the Accounts' section which form part of the audited accounts.

Reserves

The accounts show that our reserves at the end of the year were £72,433 of which £29,480 are in restricted funds and the remaining £42,953 are unrestricted for the PCC to use as it sees fit in the running of the Church.

GENERAL PAROCHIAL REPORTS

ST JOHNS CHURCHYARD

Chris Ward

After Cheshire East Council turned down our request to take on the maintenance of the churchyard in 2016, arrangements were made for the Community Payback Team to cut the grass regularly through the growing season. This was carried out successfully during last year and, at the time of writing, the grass is short allowing access to all graves. It is a very large graveyard so several visits are required to complete the whole area. We hope this arrangement will continue this year.

The church's obligation for maintenance extends to the safety of the churchyard and its memorials, in order to comply with Churchyard Regulations. Regular and fully documented safety inspections will be carried out at intervals, to identify:

- Risks from trees in order to carry out safety work where necessary (in line with any Tree Preservation Order)
- Dangerous headstones and monuments
- Any breaches of Churchyard Regulations.

Potentially unsafe graves were identified in an inspection carried out in November last year, using the St Johns Churchyard Plan on the St Oswald's website to fully identify ownership. In all, 75 graves were noted, 30 of which we consider may need attention. Overextended graves which convene the Churchyard Regulations, open graves and any that could be a tripping hazard have also been noted, as well as graves undermined by saplings that may cause damage and/or instability.

Any laying down of dangerous headstones has to be done with the agreement of the family who own the monument or otherwise by approval of the Diocese, via a Faculty application. The laying down will be carried out by a suitably qualified person.

Following concerns from residents of Church Street and Vine Street registered through the Diocesan Office that trees in the churchyard were blocking out the light, one lime tree was pollarded and another was removed on the advice of Steve Mitchell and the Council Tree Officer.

In the columbarium, ingress of water through the coping stones on the top of the new memorial wall was thought to have caused the flaking of paint on the face of the wall. In an attempt to cure this, the coping stones have been replaced by larger overhanging stones over a damp proof membrane.

CHUB (Churches and Pubs Club)

Jean Reader

We had a good 2017 with three outings and a Friendship Lunch.

On 25th April, we went to the lovely village of Ashford in the Water to view the Church of Holy Trinity, which dated back to before the reformation. After our talk we retired to The Ashford Arms for a very good lunch.

On the 6th June, we travelled to Hope to visit St. Peter's where we had a most in-depth talk from the Church Warden who was very proud of his Church. Just a short walk in the rain took us across the road to The Old Hall Hotel for another good lunch.

On 18th July, we visited Rostherne and were given coffee and cakes by Rev'd Philip Robinson and his wife in the vicarage. We then went to St. Mary's Church with another very interesting speaker; the love for the Churches we visit is very powerful. We were also surprised when we went through the north door and saw the very attractive mere which is the deepest in Cheshire. We then travelled to Little Bollington for a good meal at The Swan with Two Necks.

The 12th September, saw our return to The Deanwater Hotel at Woodford for a very good meal and a Short Review of the year's outings; all in all a good year for CHUB.

MOTHERS' UNION

Jean Reader

St. Oswald M.U. is now a very small group, but we soldier on. We also do our best to help, where possible, the Macclesfield District M.U.

We enjoyed our Drive and Dine in August, and enjoyed a good meal at the Egerton Arms at Chelford. We had a change of venue for our Christmas Meal. A decision was made to go to The Cotton Tree, where Jane provided a very good meal which was most enjoyable.

Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in the vestry; all are welcome especially new members and non-members.

CHOIR REPORT 2018

Anthea Wilkinson Choir Leader

In last year's report it was with sadness I reported on the reduction of the choir due to death and illness and again I have to report the loss of Judy Hyde as a regular choir member due to her advancing dementia. Judy's

strong soprano voice was a great asset to the choir and is sadly missed but my thanks to her for her contribution to the worship at St Oswald' Church.

So I feel I need to capitalise the following plea –**CHOIR MEMBERS URGENTLY REQUIRED!**

Apart from the family worship service on the first Sunday of the month the choir continues to support the congregation chorally but with only eight members absences for holidays, illness or weather (!) have an adverse and stressful effect. Although regular attendance at 7.0 on Thursday evening for rehearsal and being able to sight read are advantageous they are by no means essential so PLEASE, PLEASE if you feel you could put in more than an occasional appearance and can hold a tune speak to me or any choir member.

Although we are extremely well served by our three organists new blood would also be welcome in this role but for now my thanks to Martin, Jennie and Jennifer for their musical contribution both before, after and during services. Thank you to Dave, Chris, Brian, Ken, Maggie, Jean and Sue for their continued membership of the choir.

GROWTH ACTION PLANNING (GAP)

Maggie o'Donnell

Our emphasis throughout the year has been on introducing events that would encourage the wider community to join with us in enjoyable activities and simply discover or rediscover what goes on in their local church.

In May of last year we hosted our first 'Big Brekkie' in support of Christian Aid. Many thanks to Lorraine and her willing band of helpers who provided for us so well.

Last summer on the first Sundays of May, June and July we introduced 'Tea and Cake Afternoons', which were well attended and enjoyed, as well as providing a welcome addition to church funds. Many thanks to everyone who made the delicious cakes and who helped in making tea, serving and washing up.

In July we held our first ever Pet Service. A joyous occasion well attended by dogs both great and small as well as a miniature horse, a laid-back llama and a variety of smaller creatures. We are indebted to Anne Coomes for her hard work in organising this and also thank everyone who gave a short talk about their work with animals.

September saw the return of our Garden Party, which raised more than £1000. Despite the poor weather it was a very enjoyable afternoon enhanced by the playing of the Moss Rose Training Band.

Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way. This month we also held a successful MacMillan Coffee Morning. Again thank you to all involved.

In October we held a 'Posh Tea' at which we celebrated Veronica's significant birthday. Thank you to the ladies who worked so hard to provide this treat.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic' was a new venture held in November. It was very well attended and enjoyed by both children and adults. The recently formed Puppet Group gave an excellent retelling of 'The 3 Bears'. Thank you and well done to everyone involved.

In February of this year we held our Taize service in memory of Sue Bennett. Our thanks go to Chris Ward, Sue Whitehurst and the Music Group for their hard work.

This year our latest initiative is the introduction of a Parish Prayer Group which meets on the third Friday of the month in a members house. If you would like to take part or have a prayer request please contact Maggie (572711) or Anne (571144).

We continue to hold GAP meetings every three months at which everyone is welcome. See the GAP noticeboard for dates.

We are always looking for new ideas and welcome your opinions about our activities.

CHURCH WEBSITE www.stoswaldbollington.org.uk

Dave Williams

The website comprises two main parts: St Oswald's Blog, which includes news, sermons, obituaries, etc. and the "traditional" part which includes the home page, the calendar and the searchable archives. Although these two parts are closely connected, analysis of views by visitors is measured differently. Google Analytics tracks users on the "traditional" parts of the website and shows that there are currently about 325 different visitors per month and about 3500 page-views per month. WordPress statistics show that the blog pages get about 150 visitors per month. Probably there is a great deal of overlap between these visitor statistics, with visitors exploring both parts of the site.

The archive is currently the most visited part of the site. It includes parish records (baptism, marriage and burial registers), memorial inscriptions in St John's churchyard, and the Bollington Online War Memorial. Interest in family history and in the centenary years of WW1 are attracting visitors to the website. The more visitors we get, the higher our website appears in search engine lists.

The blog usually gets about half a dozen items added each month. At the left of each blog post there is a list of words and phrases. Click on one of these to find other posts associated with the same phrase. Why not get into the habit of checking it out? The more you look at our website, the higher our profile gets! If you would like to get involved in (for example) adding posts to the blog or updating the Calendar, please contact me. Maybe you would like to run your own website one day? Here is a chance to learn about how to do it!

Children's Ministry Report 2017/18

Beverley Nixon

Another successful year, growing and developing our children and family's ministry.

Worship – We continue to have a good attendance of children and their families at both our Family Worship and Family Communion services. The older children are becoming confident in doing readings and prayers at both these services now. Recently, we have encouraged some to take on the roles of servers during the Eucharist. They have assisted the sacristans with some of the jobs in the Sanctuary during communion on a regular basis.

Parent and Toddler Group – Praise & Play continues to do well on Tuesday mornings. Last September a number of the older children left us to start school, so the average age this year has decreased with the majority being under two. We now have two new Parent Facilitators – Claire Jacobs and Helen Lockheart have taken over from Alison and Nichola who did a sterling job last year but have had to move on. Thank you, ladies, for your help in keeping the group running smoothly.

RiCH –We are now into our fifth year of the popular after school club for 11 – 14 year olds. This year we were very excited to be asked to work with Tytherington High School as part of their enrichment programme. This has meant one or two minor adjustments to our timings but essentially the group carries on as before. Hot Chocolate and homemade cake are served shortly after arrival and we now have our own RiCH Grace which the children take it in turns to lead. Our new acquisition of a Pool Table has proved a hit, as well as the variety of craft activities, which at Christmas included making a Traditional Pomander. Special thanks here goes to Sue Berry for her constant flow of great ideas and help in planning the programme.

Outreach and missionary – We continue to encourage families into church through our annual family events such as the Good Friday Craft Trail, Summer Fundays, All Hallows Eve Light Party and Christmas Eve Crib Service. During Advent this year our woolly Mary and Joseph travelled the length of Bollington with their Donkey, hosted by various Bollington businesses along the way. Their journey was, much like the original one, beset with a few difficulties, but they arrived at St Oswald's in time for Christmas, much to my relief!

Puppet Ministry Group – This was a new venture for 2017 and has started very well. We have performed 'The Parable of the Sower' at a Family Communion; Goldilocks and the Three Bears at the Teddy Bears Picnic and 'Easter Voices' at the Good Friday Craft Trail. We were also invited into Bollington Cross [twice!] to perform for the schoolchildren. I see this as a new and innovative way to reach the younger generation, whether by participating or watching, with stories from the Bible.

Children's Choir – Our latest venture was to create an informal Children's Choir to encourage some of the older ones to sing and perform Christian hymns and songs. The group is being run by Suzie Holloway and they meet on a Wednesday afternoon between 4 and 4.30pm. Despite having only been formed for a few weeks, they have already performed at the school, supporting the Puppet Group, and at the Easter Sunday service.

My sincere thanks go to all the cake bakers, helpers and supporters, without whom this ministry would not be a success. I hope that we can continue to develop and grow it well into the future.

The Vicar's Annual Report 2018

Firstly I would like to thank all those who have faithfully worshipped together and served God here in so many and varied ways here at St Oswald's during the past year. Without the selfless individual and corporate exercise of your gifts and talents, our church and community life would be so much the poorer, far less effective and certainly not half as much fun! Over the past twelve months we have been blessed with engaging and challenging preaching, from both our newly licensed Readers, Anne and Brian, as well as from Canon Roy, even when he has been enduring a tiresome burden of ill-health over such a prolonged period. We continue to benefit hugely from the work and dedication of Beverley, our Children & Families' Worker, and the other willing volunteers who enable us to offer care and support for a whole variety of young people and families.

We have held several "firsts" of what we hope might become regular features of our life and worship, including our Pet Service in July (particularly popular with the dogs who enthusiastically applauded when invited to do so by the Vicar) and featuring a local friendly llama; several delicious servings of Sunday Afternoon Teas & Cakes over the summer months, including the opportunity to have a go at ringing the hand bells; our Teddy Bears' Picnic in November (with an engaging re-enactment of the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears by some of our young Puppet Group members); our accomplished Children's Choir, an excellent initiative of Suzie one of our young mums; our emerging young Servers' Team who now assist at the altar for most of our main Sunday Eucharistic services (and not forgetting Toby who got up early

enough to be boat-boy, assisting our thurifer Matthew at the Dawn Eucharist on Easter Day!); our "Big Brekkie" for Christian Aid Week (hosted by Lorraine); and an enjoyable autumn Parish Pilgrimage Walk from Prestbury to Bollington going "the pretty way", thanks to our intrepid leaders Ruth and Kerrian.

All these activities of course go alongside the regular tasks of maintenance and care of our church building, its effects and adornments, and its surrounding gardens, not to mention those who keep an eye on (and actively help tend) our Churchyard and Columbarium at St John's in Church Street. Thanks to so many of you who give your time and effort to keep us functioning well, often working quietly behind the scenes, including those who take the trouble regularly to open and close the church on Wednesdays to allow other people to enjoy coming in during the day simply to pray or meditate as they wish. Thank you to the PCC and Deanery Synod members, the various cleaning teams, the church linens' laundress, the flower arrangers, the musicians and choir members, our readers and intercessors, our caterers and washers-up, our Deputy Wardens and Vergers, the Website Manager, our weekly sheet printer and other publicity people, Katharine our longsuffering Church News Editor and her team, our Sidespeople and Sacristy assistants, Maggie our GAP co-ordinator, Bev our Safeguarding Officer, Julie our PCC and Deanery Synod Secretary, Sally our Treasurer and the wider finance team including Ann, Janet and Chris our Parish Giving Officer, Allen our sexton, Jean our Faith Hour leader, our Christian Aid Co-ordinators Richard, Margaret and Anthea and all the street collectors, our WHAM Nightshelter and Street Angels volunteers, our CHUB outing co-ordinators, and so many others, too numerous to mention but nonetheless appreciated!

Our ministry and outreach in this parish greatly benefits from our two church schools and our links across the whole Bollington Family of Schools, including our continuing close relationship with Dean Valley Community School. It is great to be able to report that both Bollington Cross School and Bollington St John's School received excellent results from the statutory Church Schools' SIAMS inspections carried out through the Diocese during the past twelve months. We are blessed in having hugely dedicated staff, parents and governors, whose efforts combine to offer a good and inspirational education to all the children of Bollington. We said a sad but fond farewell to Mrs Julie Downing who retired from Bollington Cross School in July 2017 after 15 years' dedicated service, but were delighted to welcome Mr Yenson Donbavand as her equally energetic and innovative successor as Head Teacher in September 2017. Please also uphold in your prayers the children, governors and staff of Bollington St John's School, and in particular Mrs Melanie Walker our excellent Head Teacher there, who continues to develop Bollington St John's in educationally imaginative and financially effective ways, enabling the school to go from strength to strength since the dissolution of the Federation which took effect at the behest of Pott Shrigley School on 28 February 2017. Last summer we invited over 300 of our primary school children to take part in another Schools' Experience Week, following the Story of Moses, complete with searching the bullrushes, praying beside the burning bush, enduring the plagues, enjoying a Passover feast, daring the crossing of the Red Sea and finally receiving the Ten Commandments. Special thanks to Bev, Hilary, David and Becca for enabling another memorable Experience!

Over and above our established and evolving routine of church life, in the coming months we look forward to seeking faculty permission from the Chancellor of the Diocese for the continuance of our Mission Project which aims to enhance the hospitality of St Oswald's Church building. Under the expert guidance of our volunteer project manager, Richard Raymond (known to many of you as our Deanery Lay Chair and joint organiser of the award-winning East Cheshire Hospice Christmas Tree Collection) we are looking to create an improved kitchen facility within the porch of the former main entrance to St Oswald's, building some new wall-hugging storage cupboards at the west end of the nave in place of the now out-grown servery kitchen and former loo space, and adding a new part-glazed fire escape door into what is currently the window immediately adjacent to the old porch (for which alteration we have already been granted planning permission by Cheshire East).

Our architect's outline plans have now been given the blessing of the PCC and it is exciting to announce that more than one third of the cost of this Mission Project will be met by the recent grant of £20,000 we

have now successfully claimed from the Diocese as part of the net proceeds they obtained following the sale of the old Vicarage on Shrigley Road and the subsequent purchase of a new house on Waterwheel Way (which will become the home of future Vicars of Bollington at some point after I retire!). At our PCC meeting in November 2017, there was broad agreement that this Mission Project is much needed since our present facilities for hospitality are now inadequate for St Oswald's evolving ministry and mission. At that meeting, some anxieties were properly expressed about where to find the remainder of the funds for these necessary works. Once the working drawings have been received back from our church architect, the Diocese have advised that we should be eligible to apply for grant funding from a whole variety of charities aimed at supporting community development, but clearly we will also need to tap into the goodwill of the wider Bollington community through imaginative fundraising efforts and events, in order to achieve our goal. As we heard at that same PCC meeting, in the late 1990's when it seemed that St Oswald's dream then of installing an accessible loo and a limited tea/coffee making facility was running into difficulty due to lack of funds, both Maggie and Angela remembered how the Assistant Curate challenged the St Oswald's Committee to nevertheless take "a leap of faith" and to continue on with their proposed plans. Fortunately the Committee members responded positively to this rallying cry and, amazingly, the full amount of money needed to complete that improved amenity did indeed materialise in time to celebrate the Millennium! The resulting internal construction at the west end of the nave has served the church well for nearly two decades. However, as we entered the 21st Century and our other two church buildings became unsustainable, St Oswald's had to take on the responsibility of becoming the Parish Church and is now the sole focus of worship, witness and service for Anglicans here in Bollington. This change has required us find a new way to maximise our floor space at St Oswald's once again, to find more efficient and effective ways to offer hospitality, and to increase our ability to meet the needs of the many established groups and future missionary activities that we now aspire to support as part of our church life within the local and wider community. Using PCC funds as unanimously agreed in 2009 from the sale of Holy Trinity, Kerridge, Phase One of our development plans, our "new" extension, was completed in 2012 to give level access to St Oswald's building, better toilet facilities and some additional storage space. We were then fortunate to benefit from a very generous memorial gift which enabled the design and creation of our striking community mosaic. The whole extension was properly blessed during the last Bollington Festival by Bishop Peter who ceremoniously placed the final signature tessera into the splendid mosaic at a celebratory service in May 2014. So as we anticipate hosting another range of enticing events during the next Bollington Festival in May 2019, we are keen to bring in the necessary remainder of the funds to enable Phase Two, the development of our new kitchen, to be completed in time! Over this coming year may we rise to this renewed challenge, alongside our everyday fundraising needs, and so enhance our capacity for hospitality and service towards others, all for the bringing about of God's Kingdom here on earth, as it is in heaven.

Finally, I would like once again to express my sincere thanks to our two dedicated and equally hardworking Churchwardens, Christine and Hilary, who have greatly encouraged me in my calling as your parish priest (now beginning my twelfth year here!) and who, alongside the other members of your Ministry Team, continue to share a positive vision for the future thriving and growth of our church community here in Bollington and beyond.

Parish of Bollington PCC
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2017
Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Planned giving	1	37,926.76		37,926.76	31,851.72
Collections at services, etc		9,154.93		9,154.93	8,053.22
Donations	2	1,244.00	16,016.25	17,260.25	11,823.06
Fund raising	3	4,455.14		4,455.14	2,799.39
Gift Aid recovered	4	9,136.61	1,043.52	10,180.13	10,868.36
Fees		8,489.00		8,489.00	8,053.00
Miscellaneous	5	843.71		843.71	1,083.81
Dividends and interest		59.45	0.00	59.45	0.00
Special collections	6	1,563.19		1,563.19	1,117.08
Total Receipts		£ 72,872.79	£ 17,059.77	£ 89,932.56	£ 75,649.64
Payments					
Diocesan quota		62,795.88		62,795.88	61,264.32
Clergy expenses		2,646.30		2,646.30	3,299.40
Other expenses		2,566.10	308.93	2,875.03	2,588.85
Churchyard		0.00	1,482.18	1,482.18	680.00
St Oswald's Church		7,638.93		7,638.93	9,015.70
Fundraising Expenses/Floats		1,421.90		1,421.90	357.48
Miscellaneous		490.68		490.68	68.50
Special Projects	7	0.00	9,579.57	9,579.57	2,024.65
Special Collections etc	8	1,217.19		1,217.19	1,478.76
Quinquennial repairs	9	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,103.60
Total Payments		£ 78,776.98	£ 11,370.68	£ 90,147.66	£ 91,881.26
Deficit for the year		-£5,904.19	£5,689.09	-£215.10	-£16,231.62

S Garnett
Treasurer

B Matthews
Auditor



Parish of Bollington
Notes to the accounts
for the year ending 31st December 2017

- 1 Standing orders and planned giving envelopes.
- 2 This includes donations to the PCC, donations in Memory, donations for RICH, Churchyard VAT Refund for prior year quinquennial works, Organ Fund, Kitchen Refurbishment and Pastoral Relief Fund
- 3 2017: Fundraising mainly relates to the Concert Evening, Special Teas, Garden Party and commission from easyfundraising and The Leprosy Mission purchases
- 4 The Gift Aid restricted funds are for the Organ Fund and RICH group
- 5 Miscellaneous relates to entries to the Book of Remembrance, coach income to Chester and junior church activities
- 6 Special collections
- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Crisis | £364.87 |
| East Cheshire Hospice | £50.00 |
| Christian Aid (Lent Lunch) | £387.21 |
| Christian Aid Week | £202.50 |
| Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy | £202.81 |
| Christingle service for The Children's Society | £356.00 |
| Total | £1,563.19 |
- 7 The special projects are the Organ Fund (now complete) and Kitchen Refurbishment Project
- 8 This figure does not agree with note 6 because not all receipts and payments are made in the same accounting year.
- 9 These are the repairs of a capital nature highlighted under the quinquennial report and funded by the Sales of St John's and 2012 appeal assets. A VAT refund was received in 2017 and included in note 2 above

SP Garnett Treasurer

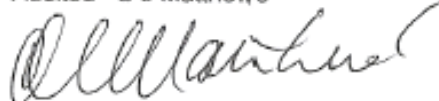
B Matthews Auditor



Magazine Account - 1st Feb 2017 - 31st Dec 2017

Income		Expenditure		
<u>Magazines</u>	<u>Adverts</u>	<u>Printing</u>	<u>Diocesan Leaflets</u>	<u>Parish Pump</u>
12.00	425.00	176.77	59.64	40.00
75.00	445.00	176.77	59.64	
9.00	300.00	176.77	59.64	
17.00		176.77	59.64	
18.00		234.66		
12.00				
18.00				
3.00				
18.00				
18.00				
27.00				
36.00				
12.00				
63.00				
12.00				
5.00				
63.00				
33.00				
3.00				
9.00				
147.50				
Totals	610.50	1,170.00	941.74	238.56
01-Feb-17	1,064.91	Balance		
	1,780.50	Income		
	2,845.41	Sub-total		
	1,220.30	Expenditure		
31-Dec-17	1,625.11	Balance		

Audited - B J Matthews



21st January 2017