

The Parish of Bollington Annual Reports



2024/25

THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PARISH OF BOLLINGTON IN THE DIOCESE OF CHESTER 2024/25

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

Vicar: Rev. Nancy Goodrich
St Oswald's Church,
Bollington Road
Bollington, Macclesfield SK10 5EG

Churchwardens: Christine Osbaldiston
Jackie Pengelly

Inspecting Architect: Mark Pearce
Kepczyk Pearce Sanderson
75 Wilmslow Road
Handforth
Cheshire SK9 3EN

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
Rev Nancy Goodrich	Vicar	Christopher Ward	2022	2025
Anne Coomes	Reader	Elaine Houghton	2022	2025
Christine Osbaldiston	Churchwarden	Angela Williams	2022	2025
Jackie Pengelly	Churchwarden	Linda Iverson	2023	2026
Anthea Wilkinson	Deanery Synod 2023	Richard Raymond	2023	2026
Anne Coomes	Deanery Synod 2023			

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS 13th April 2025

For the Election of Two Churchwardens

1. Apologies
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on Sunday 14th April 2024
3. The Election of Churchwardens for 2025/26

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING, 13th April 2025

1. Apologies
2. The Minutes of the last APCM held on Sunday 14th April 2024
3. The Electoral Roll
4. Safeguarding
5. Church Fabric & Furnishings Reports
6. Report on the Financial Affairs of the Parish and the Presentation of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024
7. General Parochial Reports to be received.
8. The Vicar's Report to the Parish
9. Election of Tellers and of Lay Representatives to the PCC.
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, the Electoral Roll Officer and sidespersons will take place after this meeting

THE ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION

It is a legal requirement for ALL Churchwardens, whether newly elected or continuing, to be sworn into office each year, and this happens at an Archdeacons Visitation Service.

All Visitation Services will begin at 7.30pm. Macclesfield Archdeaconry dates below.

Date	Deanery	Venue
Monday 2nd June	Cheadle/Macclesfield	St Michael and All Angels, Macclesfield SK10 1HW
Wednesday 11 th June	Chadkirk/Stockport/Mottram	St John's, Dukinfield SK16 5PT
Monday 16 th June	Knutsford/Bowden	St Mary Magdalene, Ashton upon Mersey M33 6GD
Tuesday 24 th June	Congleton/Nantwich	St Mary, Acton CW5 8LE

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS HELD ON THE 14th APRIL 2024

For the Election of two Churchwardens

Minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated to the congregation for consideration. It was unanimously agreed that they were an accurate record and they were duly approved and signed.

Election of Church Wardens – two nominations had been received prior to the meeting.

Christine Osbaldiston proposed by Angela Williams and seconded by Derek Gascoigne

Jackie Pengelly proposed by Angela Williams and seconded by Derek Gascoigne

In the absence of any other nominations the above were approved to service during the coming year.

The vicar thanked the churchwardens for their help during the past year.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) held on the 14th April 2024

Held on completion of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Present :- Rev Nancy Goodrich, Christine Osbaldiston, Jackie Pengelly, Irene Mill, Ray Mills, D Webster, E Hooley, A Hooley, A Coomes, S. Matthews, A Stringer, J Reader, B Reader, S Capper, J Burdekin, M Burdekin, A Wilson, E Houghton, E Clayton, A Wilkinson, L Heard, M O'Donnell, A Mather, L Iverson, C Ward, E Ward, J Kendrick, D Gascoigne, Rev J Earles, S Rendell, V Genders

Apologies were received from – R Raymond, J Riley, A Williams, J Thorpe, N Goodrich

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed as an accurate record.

Electoral Roll – Jackie Pengelly reported that as of today there are 108 recorded on the roll, 21 of whom are non-residents of the parish.

Safe Guarding – Christine Osbaldiston reported that work has been done on safeguarding. Any problems should be reported to Christine or the Vicar. To date there have been no issues of which we are aware of.

The following items are reported in the Annual Report made available to members ahead of the meeting.

General Parochial Reports:

Financial Report

St. John's Churchyard

Children's Ministry

Choir Report

CHUBB Report

Church Magazine

Church Website

Church Noticeboard

Vicar's Report

As a church we need to grow as we have the potential to be bigger.

Christine thanked Anne Coomes for the work she does preparing the Parish Magazine each month.

The Vicar gave thanks to Richard Raymond for producing the Financial Report which was duly accepted. It was also agreed to appoint Richard Raymond to be the Treasurer again – all were in favour.

All were in favour of Barry Matthew continuing to be the auditor.

A question was asked as to why we do not have fund raising events. The Vicar responded saying that this is due to lack of resources and usually the people who come are mostly people from church who already give to the church.

There were no new elections for the PCC.

Simon Thomas has decided to step down from being a member of the PCC.

Secretary – There were no nominations, so the position is left unfilled.

Jackie Pengelly thanked the Vicar for all the support she gives to the churchwardens which is gratefully received.

The meeting closed at 12.20

ELECTORAL ROLL

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

The New Electoral Roll will be reported at the APCM.

SAFEGUARDING

We as a parish are committed to the Safeguarding of children, young people and adults. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies. Our Safeguarding Officer is Christine Osbaldiston.

The Parish Safeguarding dashboard has now been set up by the diocese and we as a Parish are now registered to use it.

There have been no safeguarding issues during 2024 of which we are aware.

CHURCH FABRIC AND FURNISHINGS REPORT

Jackie Pengelly – Churchwarden

The Boiler has been repaired and serviced with no major repairs.

The Fire Extinguisher's continue to be serviced on a yearly basis and they are checked monthly, to date all is in order.

The organ is in need of repairs but these cannot take place until sufficient funds are in place.

Ken Bennett in the summer kindly sanded and treated the entrance door with Sikkens paint which was recommended by Pott Shrigley Joinery. A letter of thanks was sent to Ken.

Thanks must go to a group of volunteers who clean the church on a monthly basis.

Thanks also to the ladies who provide refreshments on Sunday and Thursday mornings after the services.

The AV system was purchased last year and has been used by the church when required.

We have been very lucky as apart from small repairs the church has remained in a sound and good condition.

Discussion has taken place regarding a new outside noticeboard, this is still ongoing and will hopefully be in place very soon.

FINANCE REPORT

From Richard Raymond, Hon Treasurer

The figure that dominates each year's church accounts is the Diocesan contribution otherwise known as the Parish Share. This is the amount of money that we pay to the Diocese and along with the other 272 parishes this makes up 80% of the Diocesan income. They then budget to spend this money on clergy stipends (salaries), clergy housing and pensions, training, and central support services including help for parishes who cannot afford their Parish Share.

Last year we managed to pay 65% of our Parish Share, £49,000 of the £75,344 that was the total levy.

All our other parish expenditure on utility usage, printing and church admin totalled £20,740 which was £200 less than 2023. There is not much else we can do to lower this figure.

Our total income was slightly higher than 2023 bolstered by the fundraising for the AV equipment. The planned giving and service collections were nearly £3,000 higher than last year which in these difficult financial times was encouraging.

It is worth noting that at the end of the year our bank balance was £23,572 of which over £8,000 was in restricted funds. Whilst the Organ Fund has increased in the expectation of needing to do some work on the instrument, our churchyard fund has now diminished to nothing.

Once again, I record my thanks to Ann Stringer, the wardens, and the Vicar for their support throughout this year, and for the practical help that they give to the financial side of the church's running.

Barry Matthews acted as the Independent Examiner of the accounts, and I thank him for his speedy and comprehensive work. I propose that the APCM appoints him for a further term in 2026.

GENERAL PAROCHIAL REPORTS

ST JOHNS CHURCHYARD

Jackie Pengelly

Individually the Churchwarden's inspect the churchyard and columbarium on a regular basis.

The Payback Team are still doing an excellent job maintaining the churchyard, although sometimes they cannot get access due to vehicles parking in the church entrance.

More signage is required informing visitors to please take any rubbish home with them as the Payback team are not allowed to take rubbish away.

The pathway around the church has been attended to by the owner of the church.

Ben Moorhouse, the Tree Surgeon still goes from time to time to inspect the trees.

On the whole the columbarium and churchyard are looking well cared for.

CHILDRENS MINISTRY

Christine Osbaldiston

All Age Worship

The All Age Worship service is held at 10.30am on the first Sunday of every month. This short informal service, with interactive prayer stations appeals to all ages, especially the children, when the prayer stations include chocolate. Once again we had the visit of the donkey on Palm Sunday and we held a Pet Service in August.

Messy Church

During 2025 we held five Messy Church sessions. These were held in January for Epiphany, Good Friday, September to celebrate harvest and October for Halloween. Thank you to everyone who has helped with organising the activities, providing food and most of all tidying up afterwards.

Little Owls

Our baby and toddler group continues to meet each Tuesday during term time from 9.30am to 11.00am. Thank you to Jennifer Rowley and Lesley Fearnley for their help.

CHOIR REPORT

Anthea Wilkinson

St. Oswald's choir continues to practice before each Sunday service where a choir is needed and then to support the singing at the ensuing service. Having lost Ken Bennett as a regular member our full complement is now just nine, thank you Ken for your support which also extends to the remaining choir members and organists, Jennie, Jennifer and Martin. They not only accompany the hymns but enrich the services by playing before and afterwards.

We continue to welcome anyone who would like to join the choir, either as a 'one off' for a particular service, enabled by the pre-service practice, or on a more permanent basis. Speak to any choir member if you are interested.

CHUB REPORT

Derek Gascoigne

It was a good year for visits. All were very well attended with an average of 26 per visit.

The year started well with a visit to St. Mary's, Alderley Edge. We then dined at the Churchill Tree Inn, in the grounds of what used to be ICI at Monks Heath.

The second visit was to St. Mary's Church at Astbury, after which we went on to the Cock and Pheasant in Bollington.

On our third visit we went to Peak Forest in Derbyshire to the Church of King Charles and Martyr, where, before a very interesting and informative talk on the church and parish, we were regaled with some splendid home-made cakes, tea and coffee. After this we dined at the Hanging Gate in Chapel-en-le-Frith (which apparently means Chapel in the Forest).

The season ended with the Friendship Lunch at the Drum and Monkey in Alderley Edge.

That meal ended with my resignation as leader of Chub. At our meeting in February it was decided to keep subscriptions at £5 per year and to donate to each church visited the sum of £40. The meeting closed after Sandra Edwards volunteered to be the new leader.

CHURCH MAGAZINE

Anne Coomes

The magazine has been distributed to 124 homes across Bollington, as well as Mount Hall and Ingersley Court this past year. This provided a valuable on-going 'Christian presence' in our community.

Our editorial team now consists of Nancy Goodrich, Christine Osbaldiston, Jackie Pengelly, Ann Stringer, and Anne Coomes.

We want to thank Ann Stringer for her eye-catching front covers. She does a great job in making them both colourful and always relevant to the church year.

It's been great to welcome Jenny Eade's new regular column to the magazine, in which she shares her perspective on faith from a curate's, educator's, and artist's point of view!

Thanks also to our other occasional contributors: Richard Raymond, Chris Ward and Richard Jones, for their fun stories and articles on various aspects of local church life, from bellringing to fund-raising to the installation of church cupboards!

A big THANK YOU to Brian Reader, who has recently retired his column commenting on Ann's illustration each month. His spiritual insights on the milestones of the Christian year have been much appreciated.

Our happy relationship with Mick and Pam at IAM Print at the Adelphi last year continues. They manage to print our magazine in double-quick time each month, which makes life easier for Christine Osbaldiston, who collects it and then manages the distribution!

Speaking of distribution, the only way our magazine 'gets out there' is through the generous efforts of a whole team of people who give their time to walk the streets of Bollington in rain and wind every month to pop the magazines through dozens of letterboxes.

We could not do without them, and so a BIG thank you (in alphabetical order) goes to:

Christine Bowers, Alex Ireland, Andrew Kirkham, Sue Matthews, Christine Osbaldiston, Jackie Pengelly, Ann Stringer, and Sue Whitehurst.

John Rickman distributed the magazine for years, and also took on the big job of organising the advertising. He deserves a big round of thanks for all those miles he has walked, and all the efforts he went to, to collect the money for us. We wish him a happy and very well-deserved retirement!

Finally, advertising. Many local companies so generously support us with their yearly adverts. Because of them, we are now able to pay for the cost of production without being a burden on church funds.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Anne Coomes

If you have not seen the website for a while, it is worth a visit.

Just go to: <https://stoswaldbollington.org.uk>

The website is run by a small team: Nancy Goodrich, Christine Osbaldiston, Jackie Pengelly and Anne Coomes. It is managed in two sections. Nancy and Anne oversee the 'pages' on the site, and Jackie and Christine manage the calendar events and children's pages.

The IT side of things continues to be run by Tim Sparks, an IT consultant who worships at Holy Trinity Hursfield.

Our latest stats on the site are that so far this year we have been visited about 647 times – which makes it well worthwhile!

CHURCH NOTICEBOARD

Anne Coomes

As we all know, the church noticeboard has been in need of improvement and updating.

And the good news is that a new church noticeboard is on the way! We have now completed the first rough draft and are waiting for the sign-maker to get back to us.

We hope to have the new board in place within the next few months.

Macclesfield Deanery Synod

2024 Annual Review

There were three meetings of the Macclesfield Deanery Synod in 2024, the first of which was held at Holy Trinity, Hurdsfield on 12 February. The speaker was the Diocesan Strategic Programme Director Jon Pocock. He spoke about the work that was being planned following the Diocesan Vision Plan.

On 7 July we met at in the Church of the Resurrection, Upton Priory where we had a social evening to allow new members of the Synod to mingle and get to know other members. News from around the Deanery included the results of elections to the Diocesan Synod and a number of clergy moves.

The Diocesan 'Treasure the Treasurer' event led by Sharon Taylor-Booth and Bessia Kanengoni came to All Hallows church in Cheadle Deanery on 19 November. It was a joint meeting with our Deanery focussed on parish treasurers but expected to have interest for all Synod members.

During the year we bade farewell to the Rural Dean Revd John Harries as he and his wife Judith retired away from the Deanery. On 19 March Bishop Sam licensed Revd Simon Gowler as the new Rural Dean in a service at Rainow.

In other clergy moves in the Deanery, we welcomed Revd Anna Cerval-Pena as Vicar at Sutton, said farewell to Revd Jonny Frost in July, and welcomed Revd Liz England to the parishes of Bosley, Wincle and Wildboarclough in September. In October Revd Canon Vivien Gisby was appointed Assistant Curate to the Macclesfield team parishes and in December Revd Simon Gowler was licensed as Priest-in-Charge at St Paul's.

The Rural Dean and Lay Chair continued to represent the Deanery on the Macclesfield Archidiaconal Mission and Pastoral Committee and the Diocesan Synod.

Richard Raymond

Deanery Lay Chair

March 2025

VICARS REPORT

Worship in Bollington Parish Church continues to be filled with joy and the presence of God. The Sunday worship is in Spirit and in truth and enabled by our wonderful organists, choir, preachers, welcomers, intercessors, refreshment providers, bible readers and by all the people who attend. It is uplifting. People who come go out with a sense of having gathered in the presence of God who is faithful.

We are a small church with few resources, but a big heart and God is able to do so much more than we can imagine through us and with us. We were blessed in 2024 to have 2 Churchwardens and a Treasurer, with Christine, Jackie and Richard doing so much and with dedicated members of the PCC. Financially, the 2024 reports show that we are not making ends meet and Bollington is not fully funding its own church, depending on support from other communities across Cheshire.

However, it is very exciting, in 2024 it continued to feel like we are pushing at open doors, God is at work here in Bollington pouring out a new confidence, a new sense of purpose and a new joy. The challenge is for us to join in with God, to follow in faithful prayer and in action, opening up to what God is doing, to who God is bringing, and how God is building the kingdom of heaven on earth, here, through us.

Some of the highlights of 2024:

The highlight of 2024 was the ordination as priest in Chester Cathedral of our curate The Rev'd Dr Jenny Eades after which, Rev Jenny has begun to preside at Holy Communion and we have all been helping her new sacramental ministry develop and flourish.

God has been at work in 2024 in deepening and strengthening the worship from school children with lots in church. Highlights include the Easter Experience which saw children from St John's School and Bollington Cross School being immersed in the Easter story together. The Advent Spiral worship saw every child in St John's and Bollington Cross the opportunity to participate and create silent candlelit worship.

Church in the Pub in Bollington, where we meet with local people, some from other churches, discussing Everyday Faith questions and praying together with the community and for the community, continued monthly throughout 2024, with usually someone new participating each month. There are people who come to this who wouldn't normally be in a church service.

Lent bible study, the Pilgrim Course "The Beatitudes"— a good group of up to 13 people, including as many men as women.

Easter was special in 2024. Palm Sunday saw a huge attendance at the All-Age Worship Service which included a donkey for the second year. A Lent Lunch. We held a Holy Week ecumenical workshop. We had a very moving Good Friday service, a well-attended Easter Messy Church for children, a good group of people celebrating the early service on White Nancy, despite the hour changing, and a good attendance for Easter Day Holy Communion.

Through the inspiration of our Licensed Lay Minister, Anne Coomes, we held a collection for Easter Eggs. We raised money to be able to buy real eggs from a farmer in Nairobi to be delivered to feed the children in two orphanages on Easter Day and for Ascension Day.

We held an outdoor Sunday morning joint worship at the mini Bollington Festival involving children.

There is a group of lovely people who give the church a regular monthly clean which makes it sparkle.

We did a big clean up of St John's churchyard, with dozens of bags of waste taken to the tip (remember that?) and the compost bin removed which was full of rubbish.

We held coffee mornings for Christian Aid and Macmillan Nurses and an afternoon tea in the vicarage garden. The church building continued to be well used by singing groups and hosting concerts.

It was an honour to welcome members of the local Ukrainian community along with people from Bollington, civic guests and uniformed organisations to the Civic Service.

We had a continuing of good ecumenical relationships with joint study days with St Gregory's RC and joint Taize worship for peace.

2024 saw us begin to have an open church on a Wednesday with Sacred Space, an afternoon time of meditation and reflection. This has been regularly attended by people who don't come on a Sunday morning.

The Thursday worship continues to bring us during the week with a regular congregation and a very relaxed and accessible Holy Communion.

Pastoral ministry continues with funerals, weddings, baptisms and burials of ashes. Funerals in church have been very well received. We held an All-Soul's service to remember loved ones and we held a service in St John's graveyard.

2024 saw us begin running a bereavement group run in partnership with the Middlewood doctors practice, showing us how much the church building is a healing place of peace and comfort.

Little Owls baby and toddler group continues to be a much-needed place for the little ones and their carers to meet together, particularly for those under pre-school age.

After all the fund raising we are delighted to have a screen in church. We have begun to experiment with ways of using it to enrich our worship.

We had a very high attendance at Christingle held on a Friday and very good numbers coming to church over Advent and Christmas. We sang carols in Mount Hall and in the Cock and Pheasant pub. The new morning time for the Christmas Eve crib service continues to be popular. The Kazoo orchestra on Christmas Day will never be forgotten.

St Oswald's Bollington

Receipts and Payments Accounts

1.1.2024 - 31.12.2024

GENERAL RECEIPTS

	£
Planned giving	29,495.00
Friends	5,239.00
Service collections	6,549.92
Other donations	2,932.71
Gift Aid	0.00
Magazine income	1,577.10
Fundraising	4,160.03
Other income	790.00
Fees	7,726.00

Sub-total GENERAL RECEIPTS (A) £58,469.76

GENERAL PAYMENTS

	£
Diocesan contribution	49,000.00
Ministry costs	4,387.33
Church repairs	891.97
Church running costs	9,370.96
Church administration	1,436.07
Church activities	2,547.31
Magazine costs	2,006.34
Mission giving	100.00

Sub-total GENERAL PAYMENTS (C) £69,739.98

Receipts less Payments (A-C) -£11,270.22

FUND RECEIPTS

	£
Churchyard	124.20
Organ	2,150.00
Pastoral relief	0.00

Sub-total FUND RECEIPTS (B) £2,274.20

FUND PAYMENTS

	£
Churchyard	3,641.20
Organ	0.00
Pastoral relief	0.00

Sub-total FUND PAYMENTS (D) £3,641.20

TOTAL RECEIPTS (A+B) £60,743.96

TOTAL PAYMENTS (C+D) £73,381.18

BANK

	£
Opening balance - 1 January	36,209.56
Total receipts	60,743.96
Total payments	73,381.18
Closing balance - 31 December	£23,572.34

FUNDS

	£
Unrestricted	15,311.54
Churchyard	19.09
Organ	3,101.71
Pastoral relief	5,140.00
Total in Funds	£23,572.34

ASSETS

	£
NatWest Bank PLC	23,572.34
Other	0.00
Total Assets	£23,572.34



Richard Raymond - Hon Treasurer
Dated 2.2.25



Hon Auditor
Dated

10.2.25