



Registered Charity Number: 1133832



Annual Report & Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2016



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Cover picture: A community lunch was held in church on Sunday 12 June 2016, following a special service to celebrate the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II.

Vicar's Review of 2016

This report is an exciting account of how people in Rothley have been inspired by their love of Jesus Christ to implement our mission to Reach Out, to Build Up and to Send Out - that all may come to know the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. The impact of Rothley Parish Church on this community and beyond has been massive and very varied.

In 2016 we have taken forward the three strands of our vision to see the church at the heart of the community and fit for purpose in our generation, responding to the ever changing context of the parish. Our pastoral care is reaching more people; we have made significant progress in seeking how the Lord is calling us to use the wonderful resource of the church building as a place of worship, a place of heritage and a place to welcome the community; we have appointed a Children & Families Worker to lead our work with children in the church and community.

As part of this responding to the ever changing face of Rothley there have also been discussions with the proposers of the Broadnook Garden Suburb to the south of the village. This is still under planning, but as a significant part of the proposal falls within our parish we want to have plans in place to provide pastorally for the community as it grows and to reach the lost with the love of Christ.

2016 was another significant year for our ministry team. We celebrated Josh Bailey's ordination to the presbyterate in July. We welcomed Carrie Wainwright as our Children & Families Worker, moving to Rothley with her husband Jon in October. It is a joy and privilege to serve in ministry together, learning from one another and having fresh eyes to look at what we do and why. Alongside this team and the wider Ministry Team we have been developing

some new preachers and I am very grateful to Malcolm Cook, Thoralf Klein and David Salt for their willingness to explore this. In our worship we have sought to present Jesus Christ from the whole spectrum of Scripture, including the books Ezra, Ezekiel, Hosea and Proverbs from the Old Testament, Matthew's and Luke's Gospels, 2 Corinthians, 2 Peter and a topical series on discipleship and the Apostles' Creed.

Beyond the boundary of the parish, the Ministry Team have been fully involved in supporting other parishes on a weekly basis, especially where there have been clergy vacancies. This has been hugely appreciated by churches such as the Swithland and Woodhouse Group, our Mission Partners of Sibleby, Cossington and Seagrave and some of the villages of the Old Soke of Rothley: Old Dalby, Wartnaby, Grimston, Saxelbye, Nether Broughton and Six Hills. This has also involved a lot of my time supporting the appointment process for these parishes and other vacancies within our deanery.

In the next pages you will read many heartfelt thanks, which I share, to the vast number of people serving in different ways. I particularly want to add my gratitude to our Churchwardens, Frances Morrison and Ray Prince, who continue to be brilliant to work with, as do Josh and Carrie as part of the team, and to Sarah for her steadfast support and patience with me in all the many and varied calls on our home and life.

As we enter 2017, the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, engaging with the many and varied challenges of being the church in the 21st century, we want to keep before us as a sure guide, the five *solas* of that period: by Scripture alone, by faith alone, by grace alone, through Christ alone, to the glory of God alone.

Rob Gladstone

Churchwardens' Review of 2016

There is much to be thankful for as we look back at another year in the life of our church and we have been privileged to share in some special celebrations this year.

We gave thanks for Kath Pepall who cleans the church and who celebrated 25 years working with us. We were pleased to be able to mark this occasion with her in May during a 10.30am service. Kate Idle, the Old School Rooms Premises Officer, stepped down before Christmas and we thank her for her service with us.

We also gave thanks for Alison Godfrey's work with Surfers, from which she stepped down in July. She led this work for over ten years and we are enormously grateful for the time and commitment she gave. In the autumn we welcomed Carrie Wainwright as our new Children & Families Worker, a post that includes both the leadership of Surfers and work with children and families in the community.

We were delighted to welcome the new Bishop of Leicester, Martyn Snow, to our 10.30am service in June, only a few weeks after his welcome service in the Cathedral.

As usual, there has been much to do in and around the church, including pruning trees and wall repairs in the churchyard. The repair of the wall adjoining the lychgate uncovered the large block of granodiorite now on view. Following the last Health & Safety review new LED lights have been fitted in church and new emergency lighting in the OSR, as well as many other improvements which may not be noticeable but ensure the safety of everyone using our buildings. The repairs made in 2015 to the tower stonework and roof were signed off by the Heritage Lottery Fund project architect and stonemason.

Many people contribute to the life of the church in different ways. We are very grateful to Ken Arkley for his work on the reordering project. He has spent a massive amount of time on behalf of the PCC looking at plans for reordering.

We continue to be grateful for the help of Ruth Gilmore, Angela Neill, Margaret Rouse, Fred Sleath and Marion Whitby on Sundays and Derek Houghton and Mary Macrae at weddings and funerals. We are blessed by our Ministry Team of both clergy and Readers and other lay leaders. We are assisted by many through the leading of prayers, music, bell ringing and those on a wide variety of rotas, as well as the PCC, its sub-committees and the wide range of activities and groups that help nourish and support us as the body of Christ as well as reach out to others. There is always a need for helpers on various rotas and in other ways so if you have even a little time to give and a desire to serve please let us know.

We give thanks for Liz Sleath as she supports so many of us going about church business. The Treasury Team goes from strength to strength, helping keep church finances in order. Paul Rowley has stepped down from assisting with church banking and we thank him for having been willing to do this and Linda Cherry for taking on this role. We welcome Wendy Lewis as PCC Secretary, replacing Liz McKechnie who stepped down after thirteen years in the role.

Last but not least, we thank God for Rob Gladstone, our Vicar. We are grateful for his encouragement and commitment to the work of the gospel in this parish and beyond. We are also grateful for Sarah Gladstone and her part in supporting him and us.

Frances Morrison and Ray Prince

Activities during 2016

Children & Families

During 2016, children's work at Rothley Parish Church was carried out by a wonderful team of six Surfers leaders and twenty-four helpers. In October, I was appointed as full-time Children & Families Worker. During the last few months of 2016, I took the time to observe and review aspects of the children's work to see which areas are going well and where we could develop and change.

Surfers

Surfers is our Sunday school for ages 3 to 11 and we currently have 27 children on the register. Weekly attendance can vary but on average we have 15 children each week. The children are split into three groups: Bubbles (age 3 to Reception), Splash (Years 1-3), X-stream (Years 4-6).

One of my priorities was to discuss resource materials with the leaders. There was a feeling of overfamiliarity with the current resource and a desire to refresh the material used. From 2017 we will be using a new resource called *Click* produced by The Good Book Company. This resource has been chosen as it provides good Christ-centred teaching and has really great children's resources and activities.

Also in the coming year, I will be organising a session for those involved with raising children in the Christian faith. This is mainly to encourage parents and guardians in their role in the growth of their children's faith in Jesus by providing support and resources. We will also be providing children's work training for all who currently serve in children's ministry and for anyone who would like to find out what may be involved for the future.

School Assemblies

From the end of October, I have had the privilege of going into Rothley Primary School once a week to lead assemblies for Year 6. I am working with the school to provide collective worship that teaches biblical aims and has outcomes that reflect the aim from the Bible passage.

Each term I will be doing assemblies in different year groups in order to get to know children in the school. This will hopefully open up opportunities and interest for after-school clubs and future holiday clubs.

Family Focus

Another development has been the introduction of Family Focus into some of the 10.30am services since November. The aim of Family Focus is to recognise that the church service is a family event where all ages are welcome and can enjoy being part of the church family. We began with the Advent period, teaching that Advent is looking back to Jesus' birth and looking forward to Jesus' second coming.

After the Family Focus, the whole church family sing a children's song that helps the children remember the teaching.

I am really thankful for the generosity of the church family, both financially and prayerfully, and for all those who give their time to serve in children's work. I am looking forward to all the Lord will be doing in 2017 and would very much appreciate your prayers for all the children's work and team.

Carrie Wainwright
Children & Families Worker

Youth

Our youth ministry has seen encouraging aspects particularly with our regular church-based young people. The outreach to young people in the village has had its challenges.

Steve Thomason has continued in the Youth Coordinator role during the year, regularly meeting with Rob and Josh to pray, discuss and plan. Steve also supports and encourages the leaders of each youth group. Six leaders completed the Diocese of Leicester Bishop's Certificate in Youth Ministry. The weekends and evenings over nine months provided encouragement, sharing with other leaders, practical sessions and guidance on leading Bible studies.

It was decided in the summer to reorganise the groups in view of the numbers of young people attending and, where possible, to meet in homes for Bible study rather than the church building.

Lindsay Thomason and Ruth Gilmore previously led *Quentin* (14-18) with three church members giving support, but this year Josh and Pippy Bailey joined Lindsay to run a new group, *Catalyst* (15-18). The group is made up of eight young people who meet after the Sunday evening service for Bible study, friendship and mutual support. Some have led Bible studies with *GridXtra* and all have been encouraged to take an active role in leading church services. One of the highlights of the year was a weekend away in Northamptonshire.

Breakthrough is a new group for 14-year-olds led by Steve. This group of nine young people meet for Bible study before the Sunday evening service in the Old School Rooms. Church members who have helped lead Bible studies include: Malcolm Cook, Di Milner, Fred Sleath, Ros Taylor. One of the highlights of the year was a weekend away at The Oakes Holiday Centre,

Sheffield. Once a month *Breakthrough* have a joint session with *Catalyst*.



Liz Barker runs Bible study for *Grid* (11-13) on Sunday mornings with help from church members including Jonty Pilbeam and Susan Pinkus. They have gratefully met at the homes of Ken and Jean Arkley and Phil Geeson and Rebecca Fairburn over the last year. We also provide *GridXtra* (11-13) on Thursday evenings where more time can be spent looking at the Bible and learning/understanding how being a Christian in 2016 can be exciting and challenging. Since September we have split the boys and girls, meeting alternate weeks in homes. Liz, Sarah Gladstone, Fred, Steve and some of the older young people have led Bible studies.

In the autumn we trialled a new format Sunday evening service with a contemporary approach which we hope to repeat once a month in 2017.

Hub Café is an informal café style space for young people (11-16) in the village on a Friday afternoon after school. Fred and Ros run this group supported by a rota of church members. Numbers attending have been erratic and the challenge during the year has been how to attract new younger members from the village, as the original core group are now 17 and 18 years of age. During the autumn we experimented with two sessions, an earlier one and a later one to accommodate the ages and issued publicity around the village to attract new young people.

Steve Thomason

Church/School Links

In August 2016 the school completed its first full academic year in the new building, which has become a thriving and vibrant home to nearly 400 children. The school has provided a meeting place for community groups and the church has used it for a Lent course, a Deanery meetings and PCC meetings.

In May 2016 an Ofsted inspection judged that the school continues to be ‘Good’. The inspector commented that the pupils learn about the school’s values and understand them well. They all *‘have a good knowledge of different cultures and religions and, as a result of the curriculum, pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good’*.

The school building has developed over this year to exhibit its Christian values. A tree sculpture has been installed opposite the main entrance and at Easter the children decorated pictures of eggs and wrote prayers to hang from the tree. Since then sign-writing has been added highlighting the school’s Christian values. Children and staff have produced a tiled mosaic of fish and water in the central space based on Matthew 4:19: *I will make you fishers of men*.



For the Queen’s 90th birthday the school took the theme of the Servant Queen to focus on British values and Christian values. The key focus was on the Lord’s Prayer and The Creed, with sessions led by the church leaders who regularly lead

Friday worship. In October Carrie Wainwright, our Children & Families worker, took up her post within the parish. She has been a presence within school since her arrival, beginning by leading Year 6 assemblies.

The Church continues to be represented on the Governing Body by three Foundation governors: Malcolm Cook, Kate Croden and Jackie Wainwright. Together with Rob Gladstone, who is an ex officio member, this group meets regularly with members of the school staff to see how the Christian foundation is shared, and explore ways in which this might grow and deepen. All Governing Body meetings begin with a Bible passage and, recently, the opportunity to share concerns and thanks in private or public prayer. Please continue to remember the staff, children, parents and governors in your prayers.

Jackie Wainwright

Church Reordering

In 2015, the PCC considered how the church building could be better used as a place of heritage, a place of worship, and a place to welcome the community. In the same year the Quinquennial Inspection identified the need for an “accessible” toilet and also there is a need for hygienic facilities to serve refreshments in church.

A sub-committee of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) visited the church in February 2016 and advised the PCC on the way forward. During 2016 a number of ideas were developed to address these needs and, after consideration by the PCC, the congregation were consulted on a number of possible options in September. The supported possible options were incorporated in a Provisional Outline Plan (POP) for the whole church building which provides an overview of possible changes. The views of the DAC on this provisional plan will be sought in 2017 enabling further development of the plan.

Ken Arkley

Building Up

From Jesus the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (Ephesians 4:16)

Housegroups have been a major expression of Jesus' work, equipping his people through Scripture to love each other. A new group has been launched this year, and several existing groups have gained new members. Several members have received support through illness from their group. Housegroups are an extension of all we seek to be as the body of Christ in Rothley. We pray this will continue.

Whilst we endeavour to facilitate Bible study through housegroups, youth groups etc., we also encourage personal study. There is a **daily Bible reading** link on the church website, and for those who prefer **Bible reading notes** in printed format, we continue to facilitate the procurement and distribution of various Bible reading books. We currently have 37 individuals using this service, which Rafe Cherry continues to coordinate.

Prayer & Praise continues to be an encouraging time for folk to come together and pray for the life of our church. These are informal times led by a variety of church members on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month, starting at 6.30pm in church, and are open to anyone, whether you want to voice your prayer or pray silently. The prayer topics have been many and varied, but always seeking to maintain a prayer-covering over our church's life and growth, its leaders, and its various events. It has been encouraging to meet with folk who share a desire to see God at work in our church family & community.

Rothley **Mothers' Union** (MU) have again donated cream eggs and chocolate bars to hospital and mental health patients, provided refreshments for the Chaplaincy

Department at Glen Parva Prison and raised funds for various MU projects. We joined in the Diocesan celebrations for MU's 140th anniversary, and were host to our Diocesan President, Margaret Rouse, as she visited every branch in the Diocese on a Prayer Pilgrimage to meet and pray with members. Our aim is to uphold marriage and Christian family life, and endeavour to offer practical help and prayer support where needed.

Pastoral care has been provided more effectively since the introduction of a pastoral coordinator in 2015, mainly through improved communication with the Ministry Team and carers, particularly in emergencies. A single point of reference has been helpful for people to request help, as demonstrated by the number of visits and contacts, increased by 10% since 2015. Housegroups, MU, Parent, Carer & Toddler Group have been both a source of information and invaluable in providing practical, emotional and spiritual support to those within their own circle and to others.

The **Prayer Circle** provides immediate, confidential prayer support for anyone in times of particular stress or need. There are information cards at the back of church near the Build notice board; please take one. This year we have had around 70 requests and hope that you will use us as a source of comfort and strength at difficult times.

The annual **Quiet Day** was held at the Rosmini Centre, Ratcliffe on the Wreake. Valerie Joyce led the day with the theme *Did Jesus tell Jokes?* We were invited to come and see, laugh and learn. 17 people attended.

Three **bring & share lunches** were held during the summer, following the 10.30am service. This was a chance for church members to meet informally, share food and fellowship, and get to know one another better.

Linda Poole

Reaching Out

A monthly service is held at **Babington Court** and also now at **Cedar House** Care Home.

We have celebrated 12 **baptisms** this year. It has been exciting to see families welcomed into the life of the church - either reaffirming commitments made to Jesus in the past or meeting him for the first time. This remains a crucial element of our witness to the village.

The **Bethany Group** offers bereavement support, mainly following funerals taken by our Ministry Team. Uptake is mostly, but not exclusively, from within the church family. The annual Memorial Service provides an increasingly significant and appreciated part of our support within our fellowship and community. It enables remembrance of loved ones in the context of Christ's love, hope and care, providing a tangible demonstration of our fellowship's concern for those who have been bereaved.

While evangelism has continued, it has been some years since a Christianity Explored course was run in Rothley Church. The introduction of a new course in 2016 telling the story of Jesus Christ to those who don't yet know him coincided with prayer and discussion, leading to a **Life Explored** course for 2017.

The **Men's Breakfast** organising group meet monthly for Bible study and prayer. We also use this time to plan 'big breakfast' events when we invite speakers to address topical issues, including this year Tom Hutchings from Sileby on 'Do Christianity and Politics Mix?' and David Wilson on 'Serving the Servant Queen'.

Following a review, the men's group continued to provide Christian speakers during the year; introduced prayer to the meetings; organised more informal fellowship events and changed our name to **Rothley Church Men's Group**.

Speakers included Alison Armstrong, Josh Bailey, Richard Jayes, Chris Mount, Colin Slater and Jamie Wilson. We celebrated our 20th anniversary in October with Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds, as our speaker.

The **Parent, Carer and Toddler Group** meets weekly during term time and continues to flourish. Church and non-church families attend and parents chat while children enjoy a wide range of activities. The fourth Thursday of each month is *Little Fishes* with a Bible story, Christian songs and themed craft activity.

The church building was kept open during British Summer Time and **Quarter Days** were marked: a Lady Day lecture was given by Terry Sheppard on the forced break-up of the Rothley Temple Estate; for Midsummer Quarter Day, music for a summer's evening by the Kingfisher Chorale; Michaelmas coincided with harvest with stunning floral displays in church and offerings for the Soar Valley Community Food Project; the Carols by Candlelight Service meets the Christmas Quarter Day with the telling of the Christian story in Scripture and music.

For the **Queen's 90th birthday** copies of the Bible Society publication *The Servant Queen* were purchased to enable the community to learn about the Queen's Christian faith and a community service and lunch were held in church.

Wednesday Club (for the retired) has held meetings throughout the year with informal fellowship, food and speakers.

Monthly **Wednesday Lunches** provide fellowship over a hot meal and occasional **Welcome Suppers** enable those new to our church family to get to know us better.

Thank you to all the leaders, members and helpers of our outreach groups working to further God's kingdom here in Rothley.

David Salt

Sending Out

The aim is to present to everyone in Rothley Parish Church the challenge of where and how we are seeking to serve the spread of the gospel beyond our immediate context. As members of the worldwide church we have God's heart for the nations and seek to send and support Christians so that others might hear and know God's love in Jesus. We do this through: raising awareness; supporting organisations and individuals who promote the spread of the gospel; encouraging the sending out of individuals.

Raising awareness: Twice a year we produce a **bulletin** providing the latest information on the organisations we support; our **notice board** is updated throughout the year; every Sunday the church notice sheet includes **prayers** for one of our supported organisations. The **Send Committee** will be glad to try to answer your questions: Ros Taylor, Margaret Leverment, Wendy Ferguson, Kathryn Garnett, David & Sue Wilson.

In May we were delighted to have Bishop Isaiah and his wife, Ezereda, from Kiteto, Tanzania with us for a second visit. The bishop preached at our 10.30am service and gave a presentation afterwards, telling us of the encouragements and challenges in his diocese. In November we welcomed Bridget Rennie from the Triangle Project which supports vulnerable people in Leicester with hot meals, clothing and spiritual care on a weekly basis. We started to support Triangle financially in 2016 and are exploring how we could also support practically.

Supporting organisations: Details of the local, national and international organisations we support financially can be found on page 29. We also support the Soar Valley Community Food Project through food collections and harvest gifts. This project has been jointly run with the Baptist Church for over two years, providing not only food, but help with money issues, drug

and/or alcohol dependency, signposting to other services, and friendly encouragement. In May we held a collection for Christian Aid Week. Our Fair Trade stall at the back of church enables the congregation to practically support a fairer deal for producers in developing countries by buying fairly traded groceries, cards and gifts.

Sending out individuals: During the summer, two of our young people, Anna Garnett and Sam Gladstone, went to Tanzania with Go Make a Difference. They took part in building projects and ministry to children and young people, and were challenged and excited by their experiences. They appreciated the generous donations from the congregation towards the projects.

In July Margaret Leverment visited our link dioceses of Mount Kilimanjaro (DMK) and Kiteto in Tanzania with a group from the Diocese of Leicester. Members of our church donated items which were gratefully received by churches, pastors, schools and individuals, and also a generous cash gift which went to support theological training in Kiteto. It was challenging and humbling to see Christian commitment, joyful worship in poor rural churches, and how much can be accomplished with so little. Margaret was present at the ordination of some of the first locally-trained pastors in Kiteto and visited the very basic new theological college at St Philip's Church, where Bishop Isaiah presented the students with their first Swahili text books, purchased with money from our church tithe.

In September Mike Ferguson, an experienced anaesthetist, volunteered for a month with Mercy Ships off the coast of Benin, West Africa. Mike worked on board *Africa Mercy* with a team of volunteer medics providing free life-changing operations for hundreds of local people.

Ros Taylor

Safeguarding

Rothley Parish Church's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was reviewed in August 2016 by Alison Godfrey and Kate Croden, and changes made in accordance with Diocesan recommendations. This was ratified by the PCC in November and is displayed permanently in the church and Old School Rooms. The Child Protection Handbook is available in the church office for reference. Kate continues as Child Protection Coordinator and Independent Person.

Wendy Ferguson has recently been appointed as our Vulnerable Adults Coordinator, taking over from Carolyn Raffan. We thank Carolyn for her time and work in this area. A new Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy was ratified by the PCC in January 2017 and is also displayed in church. This policy is in line with our commitment to be a welcoming church community and to safeguard and protect all who come into contact with us.

Lisa Cook continues to undertake the administrative role associated with safeguarding, especially keeping Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) applications up to date. These applications are now completed online, with Lisa assisting where necessary. The Diocese maintains a central record of all those DBS checked. Keeping DBS checks up to date is vitally important and many thanks to Lisa and everyone involved in our children's and youth work for completing these. We now have over 80 people covered by these checks. Approximately 20 people received safeguarding training (C1 level) in March 2016 and an additional session has been arranged for 18 March 2017. We continue to follow the Safer Recruitment Policy issued by the Diocese when appointing new volunteers and paid workers for children's, youth and adult work. This has been promoted strongly by the Diocese during the past year.

Kate Croden/Wendy Ferguson

Choir and Music

The theme of my report has a predictable feel. It reflects the constant of choir and organ which has, for countless years, been the staple musical bedrock of the traditional Church of England. Since the 1960s, there have been a number of attempts to transition from this style to try and engage new people into church and to generally modernise the worship. Rothley Parish Church does strike a good balance with the music, both ancient and modern. Every single piece of music is thoroughly planned and researched to ensure that the Scripture referred to in the services is closely matched and provides the outlet by which we can sing praise to God.

Almost all of our young choristers are children of already established church families. Without their parents, it is highly likely that there would not be such a good membership. We need to draw in more youngsters from outside and this is an area that I hope to make some progress with in 2017. I know this will be very challenging. The adult choir remains constant and a number of the youngsters move up to the adult choir ranks.

We are living in changing times, yet our church is a constant and safe presence. It provides structure, order and stability, yet we need to further retain and build-up our church. Is what we do musically bringing people to faith? My hope is that it helps provide the glue by which we combine Scripture and song to form true worship.

I know from personal experience that music, whether playing an instrument or singing, can be the vehicle by which people who would not otherwise come to church get involved. It can provide the starting point to a spiritual journey. I look forward to 2017 and hope that any changes we make provide the encouragement that people need to enter the building and be built and nurtured in their faith.

Simon Murphy

Bell Ringers

It has been another good year for the bell ringers at Rothley. The bells have been rung for every Sunday morning service, as well as weddings and practice nights. Various visiting bands have rung in the tower and many of our ringers have been to other towers to learn and share.

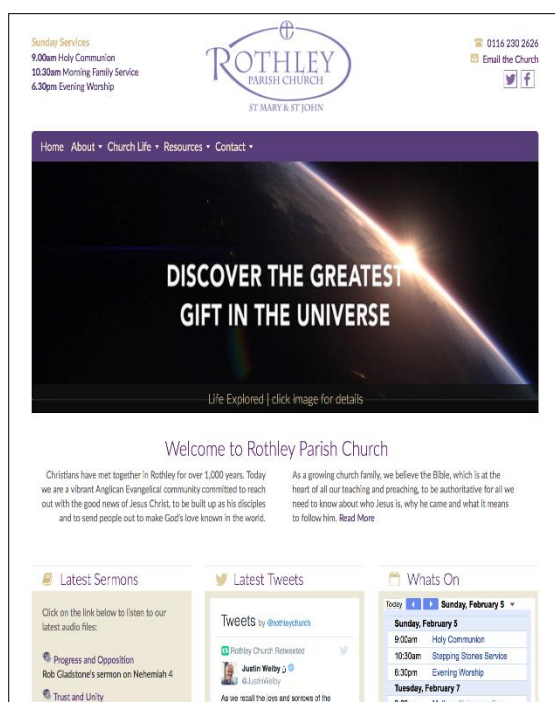
We have recruited two more learners that are almost ready to ring on Sundays, plus a couple of youngsters who are extremely keen!

Over the next few months, we will continue to train, hopefully get some ringers onto a residential course in September, and continue work on installing a simple simulator to help learn more quickly.

The ringers are grateful for the support of the wider church community and are looking forward to another successful year.

Ian Maynard Smith

Website and Social Media



In 2016, the **church website** was completely redesigned, using a more modern and welcoming format. The new

website went live in March 2016 and provides the ability to display on desktop computers as before, but now also enables visitors to view and navigate the website easily on mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones.

Between March and December 2016, there were 70,826 page views of the new website, which is a more than tenfold increase over the previous website for the whole of 2015.

During 2016 we also started publishing Sunday sermons on the website in MP3 audio format. The sermon recordings can be played directly from the website or downloaded and played back offline. In addition, Sunday sermons are available through the Rothley Parish Church **podcast** which can be accessed on a Windows PC, Mac, iPad or iPhone via our free iTunes podcast or on Android devices via *Subscribe on Android*.

In 2017, we intend to add more content about the life and work of the church to the website, and we also hope to be able to publish sermon recordings online more quickly.

The church **Twitter** account **@rothleychurch** is used more as a communication tool with the wider village, promoting services and conveying church messages at special times of the year. We currently have 156 Twitter followers.

We also have a church **Facebook** page, with 36 current members, for news, views and information about the church and its activities.

Paul Parkinson, David Salt, Stephen Thomason

Diocese and Deanery

At diocesan level, the highlight of 2016 was welcoming our new bishop, Martyn Snow, at a service in the cathedral in May. The first half of this event was inside the cathedral and relatively formal, while the second half was an outdoor celebration of the Christian faith in the cathedral precincts. The clear focus from our new bishop is the need for confident Christian discipleship and he has already produced a user-friendly strategy document designed to help make this a reality. The assistant bishop, Christopher Boyle, is to retire in May 2017, and the Archdeacon of Loughborough, David Newman, has been appointed as Warden of Launde Abbey. Mike Harrison, Director of Mission and Ministry, was appointed Bishop of Dunwich in 2016 and he has been replaced by Dr Stuart Burns. Change is in the air and Bishop Martyn has already made a positive impact for the gospel. When he visited Rothley Church for a 10.30am service in the summer his deeply-rooted longing to see people coming to know the Lord Jesus Christ was clear.

At Deanery level, Canon Rob Gladstone remains Area Dean of Goscote as well as Vicar of Rothley. There have also been a considerable number of personnel changes here, most notably in our mission partners, Sileby, Seagrave and Cossington, where Duncan Beet has been appointed to replace Richard Hopkins as Rector. In the Fosse Team, David White has retired as Team Rector and Lorna Brabin-Smith, Team Vicar, has moved to Lincoln Diocese. Bishop Martyn attended a Deanery meeting at Rothley School in the summer with a wide-ranging question and answer session. Another noteworthy Deanery Synod meeting was held at Wanlip where we had an excellent presentation on the Soar Valley Community Food Project and Money Advice. This stimulated great interest right across the Deanery and taught us practical ways of showing the love of Jesus.

David Wilson

The Old School Rooms (OSR)

The Old School Rooms, the home of the original Rothley Primary School since Victorian days, has been our church hall since the early 1970s when the infants moved up to Mountsorrel Lane and the Diocese acquired the building for our use. Since refurbishment in 1998, the building has been used by church and community groups, as well as by individuals for parties and one-off meetings and it houses the church office.

Although it is frequently hired out, we try to make sure there is availability for church meetings but it is difficult to get the balance right, as the times it is required for church use vary and some of our community bookings are long-term. During 2016 Kate Idle has been our Premises Officer, for which we thank her, particularly popping in between bookings when possible. However, Kate no longer has time for the job and we are once again looking for a replacement.

We now have a team of volunteers who assist with maintenance: Nigel Gilmore, Jeff Hardy and Barry Higgott. Special thanks to Gordon & Sheila Harrison who gave their time at the end of the summer to conquer and remove the weeds that had invaded the back yard. In the summer, following a fire officer survey, we had new emergency lighting installed which is easier to maintain. Thanks, as always, to Mike Banks for keeping an eye on the bookings and producing necessary paperwork; also to Fred Sleath for setting the heating in the winter, and for Barbara Sutters undertaking to keep the place ticking over in the absence of a permanent Premises Officer.

As usual, a plea to church members not to assume they can have use of OSR without checking first with Mike, and to clear up on leaving, checking lights, taps etc. are all switched off and all doors locked.

Liz Sleath

Trustees' Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2016

Objectives and activities

The purpose of Rothley Parochial Church Council (PCC), as set out in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended, is to co-operate with the incumbent, Canon Rob Gladstone, in promoting in the parish of Rothley the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Rothley Parish Church:

- offers Christian worship in the Anglican tradition
- maintains a village-wide pastoral care role
- supports the work of the village school through its governors and direct involvement
- maintains teaching and social activities for all age groups
- co-operates and works with the other three Christian denominations in the village for the benefit of the whole community

Rothley PCC is the guardian and maintainer of St Mary & St John Parish Church, a Grade II listed building, actively promoting to the general public its significance and history through a regular pattern of quarterly open events.

In planning and undertaking its work, Rothley PCC has taken account of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements

In June 2016 Rothley Parish Church took the lead in the village celebration of the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. Commemorative booklets were given to each pupil in the village school and larger commemorative books were placed in community venues around the village. Some of our regular weekday community groups held themed events. Invitations to a special church service on Sunday 12 June were delivered to every house in the village. Local organisations took part in the service, which was followed by a community lunch in church. We are very grateful to the Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund, Churches Together in Rothley and Rothley Parish Council for grants and donations.

Work is well under way to fulfil the maintenance requirements of the October 2015 Quinquennial Inspection Report on the church building. 19 out of 51 report items have been completed in 2016 at a cost of £3,113. Further work is planned in 2017.

Possibilities for reordering the inside of the church building for the benefit of the whole community have been researched during 2016. Scale drawings and edited images were used in a consultation with the congregation. Further research on the feasibility of the favoured options continues.

The requirements of Health and Safety legislation have continued to be addressed during the year in both the church building and the Old School Rooms.

The PCC's plan to employ a Children & Families Worker in the parish came to fruition during 2016: Carrie Wainwright started on 1 October 2016 on a three-year contract. The budget for three years is £89,076, of which £43,500 will be covered by a grant from the Diocese of

Leicester Growth Fund and £23,500 has been put aside from reserves. An appeal was made to the congregation during October 2016 to raise the balance of £22,076. The PCC is encouraged by, and grateful for, a very generous response, with £27,413, including Gift Aid tax recoverable, pledged over three years. This more than secures the role for the three-year period. The creation of this post was a priority in 2016 because the population of the village is growing rapidly through the building of new family homes.

An indication of the scale and importance of the contribution made by volunteers to the work of Rothley Parish Church is evident in the narrative reports of church activities which form the first part of this Annual Report.

Financial review

Rothley Parish Church's principal source of funding is the regular donations of its congregation, together with the related recovery of tax through Gift Aid and the additional relief available on cash donations through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS). In addition, we have been fortunate to receive a grant of £56,600 in 2015/2016 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for repair of the church tower, and in 2016 to be awarded a grant of £43,500 from the Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund over three years for work with children and families in the parish.

The most significant regular expenditure is the Parish Contribution to the Diocese (£85,079 in 2016), which supports ministry across the Diocese and provide funds to pay for clergy housing, stipends and pensions. The Parish Contribution is considered to be a gift offered by the parish and the amount must be decided by the PCC annually.

The PCC recognises the continuing necessity to try to keep income and expenditure in balance and of encouraging the congregation to review levels of giving to keep pace with increasing costs. Having seven people working together as a treasury team has created more capacity to monitor budgets and contracts, and control expenditure, as well as providing good internal controls in our financial procedures.

Fund overview

Rothley Parish Church held a balance of £113,458 at 31 December 2016, made up as follows:

	31/12/2016	31/12/2015
	£	£
Unrestricted Funds		
General Fund	42,727	23,012
(Unrestricted) Designated Funds		
Children & Families Designated Fund	18,769	-
Choir Fund	2,542	2,114
Church Reordering Fund	10,503	-
Donations & Legacy Fund	-	60,481
Organ & Music Fund	14,297	13,198
Quarter Days Heritage Events Fund	2,865	-
Quinquennial & Fabric Fund	7,735	-
Wednesday Club	115	216
Total Unrestricted Funds	99,553	99,021
Restricted Funds		
Children & Families Restricted Fund	6,027	-
Goscote Deanery Fund	1,031	1,028
Heritage Fund	-	10,139
Heritage Lottery Grant	-	(7,909)
Wedding Bibles Fund	-	264
Youth Fund (formerly Ministry Fund)	6,847	8,391
Total Restricted Funds	13,905	11,913
Total funds	113,458	110,934

During 2016 four new Designated Funds and one Restricted Fund have been created, and one Designated Fund and three Restricted Funds have been closed.

Children & Families, Church Reordering, Quarter Days Heritage Events and Quinquennial & Fabric Designated Funds have been opened, the first two in order to set aside money for two major projects, the third to fulfil our commitment to the Heritage Lottery Fund to continue to promote the heritage of the church for ten years, and the fourth to cover planned repairs to the church building. The new Designated Funds enable the PCC to better monitor and manage its available funds across the various areas of work.

The Donations & Legacy Fund was not a properly Designated Fund as it had no stated purpose. The PCC, therefore, in closing this Fund, used part of the contents to set up the new Designated Funds and the balance to ensure more adequate reserves are held in the General Fund, as required by our Reserves Policy, outlined later in this document.

The Children & Families Restricted Fund has been created to receive grant income and specific donations for work among children and families in the parish.

The Restricted Heritage Fund for repairs to the church building has been spent this year and closed; the Designated Quinquennial & Fabric Fund now fulfils the purpose. The Heritage Lottery Grant project was completed in 2016; the remaining transactions brought the Restricted Fund balance to zero and it has been closed. The Restricted Wedding Bibles Fund has been spent and closed. Funding for wedding Bibles in the future will be addressed by the PCC later in 2017.

The PCC would like to acknowledge, with gratitude, legacies received during 2016 from the late John Sheppard and Lysbeth Graham.

General Fund

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income:		
Donations	106,097	101,448
Tax recovery	23,919	22,231
Legacies	2,611	-
Grants	570	631
Trading & fees	6,995	9,169
Old School Rooms	6,343	8,792
Investments & Feed-in Tariff	6,879	1,359
Other income	731	304
Total income	154,145	143,934
Expenditure:		
Tithe & other awards	13,002	12,590
Parish Contribution	85,079	83,411
Staff salaries/payments	14,365	14,291
Clergy & staff expenses	3,650	4,355
Mission & evangelism	5,001	6,484
Church costs	14,119	18,380
Church utilities	1,894	2,043
Land agent fees	200	200
Old School Rooms	8,837	5,521
Governance	422	310
Total expenditure	146,569	147,585
Surplus/deficit of income	7,576	(3,651)
Net transfers to/from other funds	12,140	857
Balance brought forward at 1 January	23,012	25,806
Balance at 31 December	42,728	23,012

At the end of 2016 the General Fund had a surplus of £7,576, which was a very good result, given that the PCC had agreed a deficit budget of £22,183 for the year. That deficit budget included £11,584 for the possible employment of a Children & Families Worker from August 2016, as well as estimating that income would not cover general spending. Our Children & Families Worker was appointed from 1 October 2016, but that expenditure was removed from

the General Fund and covered by reserves set aside by the PCC, funds raised by direct appeal to the congregation, and a grant from the Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund. General Fund income for 2016 was 7% above budget and overall expenditure 11% below budget, resulting in the healthy surplus.

At the end of the year the remaining unallocated funds from the Donations & Legacy Fund, £13,381, were transferred to the General Fund in line with our Reserves Policy.

General Fund budget for 2017

The PCC has, again, set itself a deficit budget.

	£
Income:	
Donations	103,618
Tax recovery	23,780
Trading & fees	4,585
Old School Rooms	7,100
Investments & Feed-in Tariff	4,321
Total income	143,404
Expenditure:	
Tithe & other awards	12,740
Parish Contribution	87,206
Staff salaries/payments	16,436
Clergy & staff expenses	4,365
Mission & evangelism	4,635
Church costs	15,157
Church utilities	1,815
Land agent fees	200
Old School Rooms	7,059
Governance	410
Contingency	1,000
Total expenditure	151,023
Budgeted surplus/(deficit)	(7,619)

- General Fund income is estimated to fall in 2017. When the Ministry Fund (now the Youth Fund) was established to support work with youth in the parish, some members of the congregation set up bank standing orders to the Fund. In March 2015 the Ministry Assistant we employed to work with youth left and the calls on the Fund reduced because volunteers took over leading the activities. A few Church members did not wish to cancel their additional standing orders but agreed to redirect their donations to the General Fund from 1 January 2016, resulting in increased general income. When the Restricted Children & Families Fund was set up in October 2016, the PCC decided that those members should be given the option of transferring those donations to the new Fund, which they all did. The amount of money involved is £2,520 per annum, including Gift Aid tax recoverable.

- Old School Rooms income has reduced during 2016, partly through some groups using other premises. The PCC plans to undertake a review of fees and publicity in order to attempt to increase bookings.
- Tithe gifts for mission depend on income received as they are fixed at 10% of the income from donations, Gift Aid tax recovered and additional relief from the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.
- The PCC has increased its Parish Contribution to the Diocese of Leicester by 2.5% to assist the Diocese's attempts to maintain a balanced budget.
- A 2% increase has been estimated for most Church costs outside of the PCC's control, in line with the suggestion given by the Diocese of Leicester.
- A contingency of £1,000 has been included in the expenditure budget to allow for unforeseen events or increases.

Reserves Policy

The PCC's Reserves Policy (last annual review September 2016) requires the holding of unrestricted reserves equal to three months' general running costs and an additional three months' salary costs. Any surplus reserves are to be committed to planned expenditure in line with long-term strategy. In 2017 the required amount of reserves in the General Fund is £48,614, which includes £7,619 to cover the expected year end deficit. At 31 December 2016 the PCC held £42,727 in the unrestricted General Fund and a further £56,826 in Designated Funds, whose designation could be changed by the PCC if it became necessary. The General Fund reserves at 31 December 2016 are below the required level and will be monitored by the Treasury Team throughout 2017.

Investments

Reserve funds are held in the Central Board of Finance Church of England Deposit Fund, where interest is added quarterly.

Future plans

It is likely that the Children & Families Designated and Restricted Funds, taken together, will not be fully spent at the end of the current three-year project, possibly allowing some flexibility for the future of the work with children and families in the parish after that period.

The Quinquennial Inspection in October 2015 identified £90,000 of repair and maintenance work needed on the church building over the next five years. This work is already under way. The costs during 2016 were modest (£3,113) and the PCC has put funds aside for the 2017 phase, which is expected to amount to £8,000. The Inspection Report stated the need for a toilet in the church building, which is expected to be costly and require considerable change to the inside of the building in order to accommodate it. The decisions and financial implications will be challenging in 2017 and beyond, as the PCC attempts to ensure the church building is maintained and used to best effect to achieve its objectives in the parish of Rothley.

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Church, as identified by the PCC, are split into four areas:

- operational
- regulatory
- governance

- financial

Operational risks of Health and Safety, employment and Safeguarding are identified and managed by named individuals or sub-committees who report as necessary to the PCC. In addition to our Child Protection Coordinator, Kate Croden, in 2016 the PCC appointed Wendy Ferguson as our Vulnerable Adults Coordinator.

Through Diocesan resources the PCC is updated on regulatory and governance requirements, which are then assessed and actioned accordingly.

The PCC recognises that the main financial risks and uncertainties arise from the need to maintain the Church fabric and organ, while also investing in the future life of the Church in order to provide:

- a place of Christian worship
- a place to welcome the community
- engagement with the new housing developments and the Church of England school
- pastoral care

Day to day risks and uncertainties are managed through the Treasury Team who handle the Church's finances, regularly reporting to the PCC and providing advice as appropriate. The principal risks for 2017 are for the PCC to decide how to fulfil the remaining requirements of the 2015 Quinquennial Report on the church building, particularly any internal reordering, and to raise the funds to do so. There is a risk that the right decisions will be difficult to discern and that the funding required could become a long-term burden.

Structure, governance and management

Rothley PCC is governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation, called Measures:

- Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended
- Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

The PCC is a corporate body with charitable status. It comprises both those elected by members of the Church Electoral Roll and others who sit on the PCC by virtue of a particular office they hold within the Church. The PCC meets six times a year.

A number of sub-committees of the PCC, which also draw in other members of the congregation, cover different aspects of the Church's work. A member of the PCC usually chairs the sub-committee and reports to the PCC. The sub-committees are:

- Reach - outreach
- Build - nurture
- Send - supporting Christian work beyond Rothley
- Finance
- Operations
- Business - sets the agenda for PCC meetings

Each year, soon after new members are elected to the PCC at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, an induction evening is held to help new trustees understand their role. All PCC

members are expected to attend. Useful written resources are given to trustees as background support to their role. In 2016 the PCC was able to take advantage of an excellent training course for PCC members which the Church Pastoral Aid Society brought to Leicester, and at subsequent PCC meetings material from the associated resource pack has been used to enhance the efficiency and performance of the PCC.

The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding how funds are spent.

Administrative details

Name of charity: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary & St John, Rothley

Registered working name: Rothley Parish Church

Charity number: 1133832

Address: 3 School Street
Rothley
Leicester
LE7 7RA

Trustees:

Rob Gladstone	Vicar (Chair) [ex-officio]
Josh Bailey	Curate [ex-officio]
Frances Morrison	Churchwarden [ex-officio]
Ray Prince	Churchwarden [ex-officio]
Alison Godfrey	Also Deanery Synod representative
Margaret Offley	Also Deanery Synod representative
David Salt	Also Deanery Synod representative
David Wilson	Also Deanery Synod representative
Kate Cooper (from 10/4/16)	
Kate Croden	
Wendy Ferguson (from 10/4/16)	
Clive Jackson	
Kath Jagger (from 10/4/16)	
Wendy Lewis (from 10/4/16)	
Susan Pinkus (from 10/4/16)	
Linda Poole	

The following served as trustees during part of 2016 only:

Kathryn Garnett (to 10/4/16)
Melanie Rowley (to 4/7/16)
Ros Taylor (to 10/4/16)

Bankers:

NatWest
1 Granby Street
Leicester
LE1 6EJ

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

David M. Hastings FCA
Newby Castleman, Chartered Accountants
6 Forest Road
Loughborough
LE11 3NP

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by Rothley Parochial Church Council on 13 March 2017.

Signed on its behalf:



Balance Sheet at 31 December 2016

	31/12/2016	31/12/2015
	£	£
Current assets:		
Debtors (Note 10)	12,090	5,724
Cash at bank and in hand	113,548	116,819
Total	125,638	122,543
Liabilities:		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 11)	12,179	11,609
Net assets:	113,459	110,934
Located:		
Unrestricted Funds		
General Fund	42,728	23,012
(Unrestricted) Designated Funds		
Children & Families Designated Fund	18,769	-
Choir Fund	2,542	2,114
Church reordering Fund	10,503	-
Donations & Legacy Fund	-	60,481
Organ & Music Fund	14,297	13,198
Quarter Days Heritage Events Fund	2,865	-
Quinquennial & Fabric Fund	7,735	-
Wednesday Club	115	216
Total Unrestricted Funds	99,554	99,021
Restricted Funds		
Children & Families Restricted Fund	6,027	-
Goscote Deanery Fund	1,031	1,028
Heritage Fund	-	10,139
Heritage Lottery Grant	-	(7,909)
Wedding Bibles Fund	-	264
Youth Fund (formerly Ministry Fund)	6,847	8,391
Total Restricted Funds	13,905	11,913
Total funds	113,459	110,934

The accounts were approved by Rothley Parochial Church Council on 13 March 2017.

Signed on its behalf:



Statement of Financial Activities 1 January to 31 December 2016

	Unrestricted Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted funds	Totals 2016	Totals 2015
General Fund					
	£	£	£	£	£
Income:					
Donations	106,097	-	4,744	110,841	115,349
Tax recovery	23,919	-	1,170	25,089	25,890
Legacies	2,611	-	-	2,611	10,000
Grants	570	-	10,331	10,901	60,183
Trading & fees	6,995	2,347	1,960	11,302	11,223
Old School Rooms	6,343	-	-	6,343	8,792
Investments & Feed-in Tariff	6,879	211	36	7,126	3,848
Other income	731	-	3,678	4,409	1,826
Total income	154,145	2,558	21,919	178,622	237,111
Expenditure:					
Fundraising costs	-	35	-	35	-
Tithe & other awards	13,002	-	-	13,002	12,590
Parish Contribution	85,079	-	-	85,079	83,411
Staff salaries/payments	14,365	1,750	3,500	19,615	20,354
Clergy & staff expenses	3,650	2,053	13	5,716	4,376
Mission & evangelism	5,001	990	3,932	9,923	80,230
Church costs	14,119	3,936	12,211	30,266	30,728
Church utilities	1,894	-	-	1,894	2,043
Land agent fees	200	804	-	1,004	200
Old School Rooms	8,837	302	-	9,139	9,168
Governance	422	-	-	422	310
Total expenditure	146,569	9,870	19,656	176,095	243,410
Surplus/deficit of income	7,576	(7,312)	2,263	2,527	(6,299)
Transfers between funds (details below)	12,140	(11,871)	(270)	(1)	-
Balance brought forward at 1 January	23,012	76,009	11,913	110,934	117,236
Balances at 31 December	42,728	56,826	13,906	113,460	110,934
Location of funds:					
	£			£	
Nat West Stewardship Account:	16,423			Debtors:	12,090
CAF Bank General Account & cash:	12,303				
OSR bank & cash	1,385			Creditors:	12,179
CBF Deposit Fund:	83,438				
Net creditors	(89)				
Total	113,460				

Transfers between funds 1 January to 31 December 2016

	Unrestricted funds		Unrestricted Designated Funds				Restricted funds	
	General Fund	Children & families designated	Church reordering	Donations & legacy	Quarter Days	Quinquennial & fabric	Heritage	Heritage Lottery
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Set up costs for website moved from General to D&L Fund	560			(560)				
Donation given in 2015 for tower work moved from Heritage to HL							(100)	100
Expected Church contribution to tower work transferred from Heritage to HL							(5,300)	5,300
Transfer from D&L to set up new Quinquennial & fabric Fund				(8,000)		8,000		
Quarter Days income transferred from General to new Quarter Days Fund	(679)				679			
Quarter Days 2016 budget transferred from D&L to Quarter Days Fund				(650)	650			
Quarter Days expenditure transferred from General to Quarter Days Fund	697				(697)			
Quarter Days 2015 profit transferred from D&L to Quarter Days Fund				(459)	459			
Transferred from D&L to Church reordering			11,000	(11,000)				
Funds designated by PCC to Children & Families Fund 26/9/16		23,500		(23,500)				
Recruitment expenses transferred from General to Children & Families Fund	927	(927)						
Transferred from General to Children & Families to correct error on 26/9/16	(1,000)	1,000						
Transferred from Children & Families to D&L to correct error on 26/9/16		(1,000)		1,000				
Transferred from D&L to General Fund to ensure adequate reserve	13,381			(13,381)				
Transferred Bells Grant from General to Quinquennial & Fabric	(250)					250		
Transferred from HL to Quarter Days (Birstall Post adverts 2016 covered by final grant)					119			(119)
Transferred from HL to GF (church phone bill 8/11/16 & bb bill 2/9/16 covered by final grant)	130							(130)
Transferred from HL to QD (future maintenance of heritage project covered by final grant)					20			(20)
Transferred from GF to QD (commitment to HL to maintain heritage project)	(1,627)				1,627			
Net	12,139	22,573	11,000	(56,550)	2,857	8,250	(5,400)	5,131

Notes to the accounts for the year 1 January to 31 December 2016

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The accrual accounting method has been used and the financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102). Rothley Parish Church is a public benefit entity, as defined by FRS 102. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as an ongoing concern.

Fund accounting

Rothley Parish Church holds both unrestricted and restricted income funds:

- The **General Fund** is **unrestricted** and may be used for any of the Church's charitable aims.

Some **unrestricted funds have been designated by the Trustees for certain purposes:**

- **Children & Families Designated Fund:** for ministry among children and families in the parish
- **Choir Fund:** choir fees to be used by the Choir
- **Church Reordering Fund:** for costs incurred in exploring the possibility of reordering the inside of the church building
- **Organ & Music Fund:** music fees to be used by the Organist and Music Leader, particularly to maintain the organ
- **Quarter Days Heritage Events Fund:** to fulfil our 10-year commitment to the Heritage Lottery Fund to promote the heritage of the church building
- **Quinquennial & Fabric Fund:** for repairs to the church building, particularly work required by Quinquennial Inspection Reports
- **Wednesday Club:** donations from Club meetings to be used by the Wednesday Club

These funds are classified as **unrestricted because the Trustees are able to change their designation if thought necessary.**

Some funds are restricted because their use is limited by the intentions of the donors:

- **Children & Families Restricted Fund:** donations and grant income specifically for ministry among children and families in the parish
- **Goscote Deanery Fund:** funds under the control of Goscote Deanery Synod and required to be held under the care of the Area Dean's Church
- **Youth Fund (formerly Ministry Fund):** donations and grant income for ministry among youth in the parish (the Fund's original name reflected the fact that a Ministry Assistant was at one time employed to coordinate this work)

Income

- Income from church collections, donations and legacies is recognised when received.

- Tax recoverable on Gift Aid is recognised when the relevant income is received.
- Additional relief under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) is recognised when the relevant income is received.
- Income from grants is generally recognised when received.
- Bank interest is recognised when received.
- Income from rental of the church field is recognised when the rental is due.
- Income earned from the solar panels on the church roof through the Feed-in Tariff programme is currently recognised when it is received, owing to delays in receipt and lack of information available from our supplier, SSE. The Treasury Team is working to improve the service we receive from SSE.

Volunteers

Rothley Parish Church acknowledges the vital role of its unpaid general volunteers in carrying out its charitable activities. Members of the congregation assist in ministry, administration and practical tasks.

Expenditure

- The Parish Contribution to the Diocese of Leicester is accounted for as a cost.
- Tithe donations for mission, calculated at one-tenth of the Church's income from donations, Gift Aid tax recovered and GASDS relief, are accounted for when they become due.

Fixed assets

- Rothley Parish Church has complete maintenance responsibility for its church building and church hall, as well as lesser responsibility for its churchyard, vicarage and curate's house. However, consecrated land and buildings, and benefice property are excluded from the accounts by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 and the costs of their maintenance or improvement are shown as expenditure in the accounts.
- All other fixtures, fittings and equipment are written off as expenditure at the time of purchase.

Debtors

The debtors shown on the Statement of Financial Activities for 2016 comprised:

- income received in 2016 but not banked until 2017
- late payments for services provided in 2016
- Gift Aid tax recoverable on donations received in 2016
- grant income expected in 2016 and relating to expenditure in 2016, although received early in 2017

Creditors

The creditors shown on the Statement of Financial Activities for 2016 comprise payments relating to 2016 but invoiced or paid shortly after the end of the year, as well as the balance of our tithe gifts for mission, the exact amount of which cannot be finalised until all donations, tax recoverable through Gift Aid and relief obtained through GASDS, are established.

2. Analysis of income

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Donations	106,097	-	4,744	110,841	115,349
Tax recovery	23,919	-	1,170	25,089	25,890
Legacies	2,611	-	-	2,611	10,000
Grants	570	-	10,331	10,901	60,183
PCC & activity fees	4,917	1,968	1,960	8,845	8,174
Heritage events	679	-	-	679	1,662
Trading: hospitality, copying, booklets Old School Rooms rentals	1,399 6,343	379 -	- -	1,778 6,343	1,387 8,792
Interest	115	211	36	362	445
Rental of church field	1,271	-	-	1,271	1,271
Feed-in Tariff	5,493	-	-	5,493	2,132
Other income: petty cash surplus, activity donations, utility compensation, investment withdrawal, refunds	731	-	3,678	4,409	1,826
Total	154,145	2,558	21,919	178,622	237,111

3. Analysis of expenditure

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Fundraising costs	-	35	-	35	-
Grants (tithe)	13,002	-	-	13,002	12,590
Parish Contribution	85,079	-	-	85,079	83,411
Staff salaries/payments	14,365	1,750	3,500	19,615	20,354
Clergy & staff expenses	3,650	2,053	13	5,716	4,376
Mission & evangelism	5,001	990	3,932	9,923	80,230
Church costs	14,119	3,936	12,211	30,266	30,728
Church utilities	1,894	-	-	1,894	2,043
Land agent fees	200	804	-	1,004	200
Old School Rooms	8,837	302	-	9,139	9,168
Governance	422	-	-	422	310
Total	146,569	9,870	19,656	176,095	243,410

4. Tithe gifts for mission 2016

	£
Church Pastoral Aid Society (mission in UK & Ireland)	3,250
Crosslinks (international mission)	2,990
Tearfund (international relief and development)	2,210
Link Dioceses of Mount Kilimanjaro & Kiteto, Tanzania (theological training)	1,300
Y Advice & Support Centre, Leicester (homeless support)	433
The Carpenter's Arms, Loughborough (drug & alcohol rehabilitation)	433
Triangle (Christian outreach to homeless people in Leicester)	433
Mothers' Union Overseas Development Fund (in provinces & dioceses of the Anglican Communion)	450
Mercy Air (aviation for humanitarian aid & mission)	350
The Oakes Holiday Centre, Sheffield (Christian holidays for children & teenagers)	300
Soar Valley Community Food Project, Rothley	300
Schools, Outreach and Resources, Loughborough (SOaR)	200
Mercy Ships UK (floating hospitals providing free medical care to some of the world's poorest people)	200
Likoma Link (aid to Likoma Island, Malawi)	150
Total	12,999

5. Trustees' remuneration & benefits

Three trustees received remuneration during 2016 from employment by Rothley Parish Church as follows:

- Ray Prince, Sound Operator fees for funerals: £75
- Alison Godfrey, Music Leader fees: £448
- Kate Croden, transcription of historical church records to enable online access: £1,032 (funded by Heritage Lottery Fund)

6. Trustees' expenses

No expenses have been incurred by trustees during 2016 in respect of their role as trustees.

7. Related party transactions

The only related party transactions during 2016 are those listed under note 5.

8. Independent examination fees

The fee payable to the Independent Examiner for his work on these accounts is £360. This amount has been accrued as a creditor.

9. Employees

Rothley Parish Church employed the following staff during 2016:

- Full-time Children & Families Worker (from 1 October 2016)
- Part-time Administrator
- Part-time Premises Officer for the Old School Rooms (until 16 December 2016)
- Part-time Church Cleaner

- 1 casual employee as Music Leader
- 5 casual employees as vergers and sound operators for funerals and weddings

No employees received payments of over £60,000.

10. Debtors

	31/12/2016	31/12/2015
	£	£
Accrued income	1,460	5,724
Gift Aid tax recoverable	4,970	-
Final HLF grant	5,660	-
Total	12,090	5,724

11. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	31/12/2016	31/12/2015
	£	£
Balance of tithe	9,202	9,168
Accruals	1,267	2,283
PAYE Creditor	1,227	158
Agency collections	483	-
Total	12,179	11,609

12. Lease

In May 2014 a 5-year lease finance agreement was signed on a photocopier. The cost is £539 per year payable in quarterly instalments. The lease will end in 2019.

13. Old School Rooms

	2016	2015
	£	£
Rental income	6,343	8,792 (2015 includes £210 from 2013)
Expenditure:		
Insurance	894	858
Utilities	1,258	1,608
Cleaning	2,277	1,249
Maintenance	4,212	1,586
Consumables & other costs	198	220
Total	8,839	5,521
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(2,496)	3,271

2016 maintenance costs include £2,588 for installation of new emergency lighting under our Health & Safety programme. The PCC decided to cover this from the General Fund because it had been acknowledged when 2016 budgets were set for maintenance of the church and Old

School Rooms that some adjustment might be necessary to the allocation between the two buildings.

In addition, during 2016, £302 was spent from the Donations & Legacy Fund on a non-routine repair and on cups and saucers. In 2015, £3,647 was spent from this Fund on major installation and repairs.

14. Donations & Legacy Fund

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income:		
Donations	-	10,000
Gift Aid tax recovered	-	2,500
Legacies	-	10,000
VAT recovered under Listed Places of Worship Scheme	-	145
Bank interest	79	168
Feed-in Tariff income	-	2,131
Total income	79	24,944
Expenditure:		
Church installation, repair & maintenance	2,903	1,615
Office furniture	-	106
Historical error in cash account	-	90
Land agent fees	804	-
Old School Rooms installation, repair & maintenance	302	3,647
Total expenditure	4,009	5,458
2016 deficit	(3,930)	
Transfers to other funds (details in Transfers between funds)	(56,551)	
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2016	60,481	
Balance at 31/12/16	-	

This Fund was not a properly Designated Fund as it had no stated purpose. The PCC, therefore, reduced this Fund to zero during 2016 by transferring the balance to other Funds, as detailed in the list of transfers between funds. The final transfer was made to the General Fund to ensure adequate reserves at 31 December 2016. At that stage, the remaining balance of £13,381 contained no legacies and only £7,219 of general donations. The remainder comprised Feed-in Tariff, church collections at funerals, bank interest, activity fees, trading income and VAT relief, all of which are general church income.

15. Children & Families Designated Fund

	2016 £
Income:	
Bank interest	34
Total income	34
Expenditure:	
Fundraising costs	35
Children & Families Worker salary	1,750
Rental deposit	1,000
Office equipment	825
Training	228
Total expenditure	3,838
2016 deficit	(3,804)
Transferred from Donations & Legacy and General Funds	23,500
Expenditure transferred from General Fund	(927)
Balance at 31/12/16	18,769

This Fund was created in 2016 in preparation for the employment of our Children & Families Worker, who started on 1 October 2016. The PCC secured a grant of £43,500 over three years from the Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund, with the balance of the £89,076 budget to be provided by the Church. The PCC transferred £23,500 of legacies, general donations and tax recoverable from the Donations & Legacy Fund into this Fund towards the target. Recruitment expenses of £927 originally borne by the General Fund were then reimbursed from this Fund.

16. Church Reordering Fund

	2016 £
Income:	
Bank interest	18
Total income	18
Expenditure:	
Pictures & stationery for Church consultation	515
Total expenditure	515
2016 deficit	(497)
Transferred from Donations & Legacy Fund	11,000
Balance at 31/12/16	10,503

This Designated Fund was created in 2016 in order to pursue the possibility of reordering the inside of the church building. The PCC transferred £11,000 from the Donations & Legacy Fund to provide funding for the preparatory stage of this project.

17. Quarter Days Heritage Events Fund

	2016 £
Income:	
Sale of heritage books	6
Bank interest	2
Total income	8
2016 surplus	8
Net transfers from other funds	2,857
Balance at 31/12/16	2,865

This Designated Fund was created in 2016 to hold funds set aside to enable the PCC's commitment to the Heritage Lottery Fund to promote the heritage of the church building for 10 years. Part of the £56,600 repair grant received during 2015 and 2016 was intended to enable the PCC to install Wi-Fi in the church building, produce an online tour and other information, and establish regular events for the community on the four historic annual Quarter Days each year. The 2016 income and expenditure, originally borne by the General Fund, has been transferred to this Fund, along with a surplus from the 2015 events. The PCC has transferred a further £1,627 from the General Fund to continue the Quarter Days events.

18. Quinquennial & Fabric Fund

	2016 £
Income:	
Bank interest	25
Total income	25
Expenditure:	
Architect's fees for upcoming stonework repairs	540
Total expenditure	540
2016 deficit	(515)
Transfers from Donations & Legacy and General Funds	8,250
Balance at 31/12/16	7,735

This Designated Fund was created in 2016 to hold funds put aside by the PCC to pay for repairs to the church building, particularly work required by Quinquennial Reports. The PCC transferred £8,000 from the Donations & Legacy Fund for planned stonework repairs in 2017. A grant of £250 towards work already done on the bells was transferred from the General Fund.

19. Children & Families Restricted Fund

	2016
	£
Income:	
Donations	4,744
Gift Aid tax recovered	1,170
Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund grant first quarter	3,625
Bank interest	4
Total income	9,543
Expenditure:	
Children & Families Worker salary	3,500
Recruitment	3
Training	13
Total expenditure	3,516
Balance at 31/12/16	6,027

This Restricted Fund was created in 2016 to hold specific donations for work with children and families in the parish and the grant from the Diocese of Leicester Growth Fund. Expenditure is now taken from this fund, with the designated fund as a secondary source.

20. Heritage Fund

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income:		
Donations	-	100
VAT recovered under Listed Places of Worship Scheme	790	1,148
Bank interest	5	57
Broadhurst Bequest Fund	3,259	-
Total income	4,054	1,305
Expenditure:		
Mission & evangelism project costs	-	900
Church installation, repair & maintenance	8,793	9,572
Total expenditure	8,793	10,472
2016 deficit	(4,739)	
Transferred to Heritage Lottery Grant	(5,400)	
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2016	10,139	
Balance at 31/12/16	-	

The PCC decided to close the historical Broadhurst Bequest Fund and withdraw the funds for upkeep of the church fabric. Those funds were placed in this Restricted Fund, which had the same purpose. £5,400 was transferred from the Heritage Fund as our expected contribution to the repair of the church tower, largely funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Other installation

and repair works brought this fund to zero during 2016 and it was closed. The Designated Quinquennial & Fabric Fund has taken its place and the PCC has set aside money in that Fund for repairs due in 2017. The Heritage Fund itself started out as a Designated Fund to which the PCC allocated money; it became a Restricted Fund only when some specific donations were received for church repairs.

21. Heritage Lottery Grant

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income:		
Grant from Heritage Lottery Fund	5,660	51,350
VAT recovered under Listed Places of Worship Scheme	256	10,409
VAT refund on advertising	281	11
Bank interest	-	35
Total income	6,197	61,805
Expenditure:		
Tower repairs & heritage project	3,418	70,035
Total expenditure	3,418	70,035
2016 surplus	2,779	
Net transfers	5,130	
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2016	(7,909)	
Balance at 31/12/16	-	

The final items of income and expenditure under the Heritage Lottery grant were concluded during 2016 and the fund reduced to zero.

22. Wedding Bibles Fund

This Restricted Fund has been spent during 2016 and the PCC has decided to close it.

23. Youth Fund (formerly Ministry Fund)

	2016	2015
	£	£
Income:		
Donations	-	3,801
Tax recovery	-	1,159
Grant returned	-	(3,500)
NI refund	-	485
Activity fees	1,960	230
Bank interest	23	38
VAT refund	139	
Total income	2,122	2,213
Expenditure:		
Ministry Assistant salary & expenses		6,006
Training		1,070
Activities & equipment	3,666	2,046
Total expenditure	3,666	9,122
2016 deficit	(1,543)	
Balance brought forward at 1 January 2016	8,391	
Balance at 31/12/16	6,848	

The Restricted Ministry Fund was originally set up to support the employment of a Ministry Assistant and to resource work among youth in the parish. The Ministry Assistant left in March 2015 but a team of volunteers continued the work. With the establishment of separate funds for work with children and families, the PCC has changed the name of this Fund to Youth Fund to ensure that it continues to be used for work among young people of secondary school age.

24. Additional small Funds held by the Diocese of Leicester

Broadhurst Bequest Fund

This Fund was closed during 2016 and the funds withdrawn and used for repair of the church building, in line with the conditions of the bequest.

Chancel Repair Fund

The value of the Fund at 31 December 2016 was £245. This Fund cannot be closed.

Independent Examiner's Report to The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary & St John, Rothley

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2016 that are set out on pages 23 to 36.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

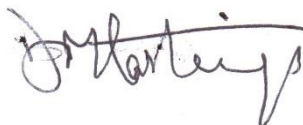
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr David M Hastings FCA
Newby Castleman
Chartered Accountants
6 Forest Road
Loughborough
LE11 3NP



14th March 2017