

Parish of Capel and Ockley

Reports to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

for the year 2023/24

The Context

The PCC of the Parish of Capel and Ockley has the responsibility to promote the mission of the Churches throughout the parish in all its forms, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenically. The past year has seen a continuation of this work and also a care for the physical structure of both its churches and churchyards. An important duty of the PCC is to be aware of the concerns of the congregation and to provide a place of discussion on all aspects of the Churches work in the villages and beyond through regular meetings. The PCC has met in full 6 times from April 2023 to March 2024. The Standing Committee has met 3 times in the same period.

Membership of the PCC

All membership of the PCC is elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Up to nine members can be elected along with the Churchwardens, Deanery Synod members and the Vicar who are ex-officio. The tenure is for three years after which members need to be re-elected. The Churchwardens are elected annually.

During April 2023 to April 2024 the following served as members of the PCC:-

Vicar and Chair	Revd Liz Richardson	(ex-officio)
Churchwardens	Joy Harman	(ex-officio) St John the Baptist
	Norman Ede	(ex-officio) St John the Baptist
	James Lee-Steere	(ex-officio) St Margaret's
Deanery Synod:	Andy Carr	(ex-officio) St John the Baptist
	Shirley Dean Webster	(ex-officio) St Margaret's
Elected members:	Helen Burt	(Hon Treasurer) (2021)
	Gordon Lee Steere	(2021)
	Wendy Goddard	(2021)
	Suzanne Cole	(2022)
	Gillian Christie	(2022)
	Sarah Pusey	(2021)
	David Silliman	(2021)
	Jessie Sutcliffe	(2021)
	Leigh Smith (Safeguarding Lead)	(2023)
Hon Secretary:	Sir Richard Winter- Stanbridge, co-opted	(2023)
Electoral Roll Officer:	Rosemary Relf	
Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Leigh Smith	

Vicar's report April 2023/24

Our parish has journeyed through another busy year as both our churches have continued to thrive and welcome new and old friends through our many church services and events, providing love and care as we have walked alongside those who need our assistance and prayers and celebrating with others as they share their joy with us. This Annual Report will give you more details of the different areas of church life and mission as well as the practicalities of our finances and the importance of safeguarding within our parish. As team vicar within the Surrey Weald Team and responsible for our parish of Capel and Ockley, I will try to give you something of an overview of what we have been up to in the last twelve months!

Last May saw the King's Coronation and what a stunning weekend that was? I was very privileged to be part of the village organising committee, and with 'Capel's Got Talent', a live screening of the Coronation itself, a wonderful afternoon tea at our lovely Crown Pub and a weekend long Flower Festival at Church there really was something for everyone. An occasion of great joy, our communities of Capel and Ockley pulled out all the stops. As church we held services of Commemoration at St Margaret's and St John the Baptist, where at Capel we were joined by children of Scott Broadwood wearing crowns previously crafted and for some special clothes for the occasion. There they were presented to our Deputy Lord Lieutenant Brigadier Roger Hood in a special royal parade. It is always such a wonderful thing when families and children fill our church! With the backdrop of our fabulous flower festival in Capel Church, another occasion where we could work alongside the organisations within the community, it was really a feast for the eyes. Thank you to our flower arrangers representing the Evergreens, Scott Broadwood School, Bell-ringers, church choir, Choral Society, Horticulture Society, Carft Group, Capel Assist, History Group and Capel W.I. The whole weekend raised lots of money for our local school Scott Broadwood for their new playground equipment.

Throughout the year we welcomed several infants through baptism into the church. Eight children in all. We had one wedding only last year but we have five for the coming year which is great! Sadly we have had several funerals - thirteen in all - as well as providing the resting place for our friend and previous Archdeacon of Dorking, the Venerable Paul Bryer, within the wonderful peaceful woodland of the old St John Churchyard at Ockley. Archdeacon Paul had been a wonderful Area Dean when he was Vicar of St Paul Dorking and in that role he had organised my licensing at Capel some thirteen years ago! As Archdeacon he had also licensed me in my stipendiary role a few years later. We were very sad to hear that he had died and feel very honoured that his family chose our Ockley churchyard as his resting place. We also were very sad to lose our dear friend Wendy Birch so suddenly and also to hear of the tragic accidental death of the young son of one of our church families. We name the bereaved further down.

Service wise, week by week, we tend to see an average of 40 - 45 parishioners. Our electoral roll stands at 92 at the moment, but with some ER members who have moved away. However I always say if everyone would come at the same time we would have a very healthy congregation. One of our sadnesses is that due to the uniformed organisations not attending regular church parades, the services that would normally have drawn them and filled our church have been somewhat depleted. We could normally rely on services such as Christingle, Mothering Sunday and the Nativity Service to be full of young people. Remembrance is different however and we are literally bursting at the seams to hold everyone who wishes to attend. We are very proud of our uniformed organisations in the community knowing what a wonderful job they do and the opportunities they offer our children and young people. I know too that they struggle to find the right amount of leaders to accompany the children so it's not easy. We do miss them though!

Like many rural churches we long to see families and young people and cannot really adapt our current services until we have some. However, we know that times have changed and that we need to go to where the young people are and with that in mind we have recently begun a weekly after school club at Scott Broadwood, where approximately fourteen very enthusiastic children regularly join us for a bit of drama acting out a bible story, a yummy tea provided by Joy followed by a craft activity. In the words of Scott Broadwood's newsletter we have been 'a terrific hit' this term. Who would think?!

Service wise, week by week we worship our Lord by services of holy communion, morning worship, matins and a more informal monthly service - Cafe Church. The latter led by Bob Cranham and his band of brilliant musicians is something I am very proud of. During the winter we hold Cafe Church in church but come the Springtime and through the summer we are welcomed by Capel's Crown pub where we worship in their lovely garden. It is always such a lovely thoughtful type of service and if you have never been you should give it a go! We even had a local churches get together with the churches in the parish of Ewhurst, Okewood and Forest Green in the Okewood Flower Show marquee. It was terrific and we will be holding it again this August.

The rest of the month we offer a more traditional service pattern but at Capel we have introduced an extra non communion service in the form of a service of Morning worship. This is so we can encourage some of our very talented congregation to grow their considerable gifts. Watch this space. I am so very fortunate to have the assistance of retired priest Reverend Joanna Elvidge who takes services each month as well as worshipping with us within the congregation. Along with Licensed Local Minister (LLM) Graham Everness we are very blessed indeed by their ministry with us.

Music wise, aside from our contemporary musicians led by Bob we are surely blessed by our organists Anthea Smallwood at Capel and Andrew Collings at Ockley. Anthea is also our choir mistress at Capel, who inspires us to sing ever more beautiful music at Christmas and Easter. It has been a joy too when we combine forces with the choir from St Peter's Newdigate for special services. We look forward to many more collaborations in the future. I personally love being part of the choir and would encourage you to come and join us. Singing is so good for you! Thank you to both Andrew and Anthea for their faithfulness and patience with us all!

During the last year our parish has been working towards steps which will help our churches to reduce their Carbon footprint, following the Church of Englands target of Carbon Net Zero by 2030. Dineke van den Bogerd has been encouraging and supporting our parish to take on the challenge and she writes her own report later in this document. The PCC has agreed their own Net Zero Statement which appears on our parish website. A small group meet regularly with Dineke to monitor and explore next steps in this process. We are also planning to explore how to reach the next level of awards in our Eco Church status organised by Arocha. Currently both churches hold bronze awards and we are aiming for silver! We are grateful for Dineke's encouragement and leading in this area which is so important.

With sustainability in mind, again with Dineke's encouragement we were inspired to properly recognise the annual season of creation which takes place in the autumn. Over a period of five Sundays we followed the set readings for Creationtide 2023 looking at God's creation and our stewardship at a crucial time for our planet. So much of scripture speaks of God's creation and the environment and this season of creation gave us a wonderful opportunity to explore scripture and themes of justice and peace, celebrating creation, reducing carbon footprint, and many other themes. Essentially we are called to make peace with Earth and on Earth, encouraged to change our attitude and actions. This was I think a very special time for our parish as we considered these themes week

by week. The season included harvest festivals and a thanksgiving service for our animals. We will continue to explore these themes and incorporate them into our regular worship.

Once again this year not only have you as parishioners given financially regularly to our parish but also donated much needed funds and foodstuffs to various organisations for which you have our grateful thanks. Other groups have also joined us in these donations at Harvest time, in particular Capel WI and Scott Broadwood School children. We manage to send a bumper harvest of food stuff to the Dorking Foodbank and Leatherhead Start each year and this year was no exception! All through the year as well, regular donations of food pour into our Capel church which are so gratefully received by the foodbank. Thank you all so much! We also donated our Harvest festival collections to a Cornish charity called ShelterBox who work in crisis areas abroad. We have also provided Christmas hampers for families who are struggling and again we thank everyone who has kindly donated to these and also the generous donation from Ockley United Charities. We work closely with Dorking Foodbank and vouchers for those who need assistance are available from me. As a parish we have also given the children of Scott Broadwood chocolate Advent Calendars and Easter eggs, all with story books telling the stories of Christmas and Easter and from a sustainable source. We are very popular with the children now!!

Fundraising for our parish continues constantly of course, in order to pay our annual Parish Share. This is what every parish contributes to resource mission and ministry across our diocese. Because the diocese of Guildford doesn't get any income from the government, and contributes money to the wider Church of England, we have to raise everything ourselves. Guildford Diocese has no historic reserves and investments; this means people today have to pay for today's church thereby helping to lay strong foundations for the future. 59% is spent on clergy stipend and housing, 17% goes towards training ordinands and curates, 9% is allocated towards parish and area support, 5% spent on schools and safeguarding, 6% on central diocesan support and 4% on national church support. In order to meet this we rely on your giving as well as specific fund raising events. You will find more information in the Treasurer's report. Every bit of money raised is so important to us as are specific donations for things. For St Margaret's there will be specific items that people can purchase for the new loos. A huge thank you to Ray Gibbs who has assisted the parish hugely by building the roof of the proposed toilet block, initially in his home workshop as well as so much more. The Friends of St Margarets work tirelessly to keep the church well maintained and we are so fortunate in both our churches to have 'Friends of' which take on these essential tasks. Certainly without them we could not afford to maintain the buildings as well as ministry costs.

So currently fundraising larger amounts of money is achieved through parish and community events. We start off with the refreshment stall at the Capel Military Show for 3 days in early July, masterminded by Norman Ede. Then in August we have a food stand at the Capel Show. Into the autumn sees us enjoy the annual murder mystery play and supper over two nights - Ockley and then Capel. The play and the performance is masterminded by Sylvie Becket and each community provides a delicious supper. I can assure you that this year's play has already been chosen and cast!! Finally in November there is the Capel Christmas Fair, this time masterminded by Suzanne Cole and her team. A massive achievement where carefully chosen stalls fill our village halls. We are so grateful for Suzanne who along with her wish to raise much needed funds for Motor Neurone Disease she also splits the proceeds donating to parish funds. Do read Suzanne's report later in this document.

With all these big events many people are involved working hard to make each event a success. There is much preparation and planning which starts well before all these events. I wish to thank everyone involved in setting up, baking, cooking, acting, serving, lighting and sound (especially our

friends from Ockley Dramatic Society), box office, cash till, raffles, feeding the urns, clearing up, washing up, worrying, and so much more and too many to mention. Thank you all!!

Sadly one regular annual event that has been missing for the last couple of years has been the Vicarage Fete. As you can see, we have had to prioritise other fundraising events and we simply do not have capacity to organise anything else. If anyone has any ideas for the way forward on this we would love to talk to you.

Our Churchwardens Joy Harman, Norman Ede and James Lee Steere have worked tirelessly throughout the year to keep the churches clean and tidy and I wish to thank them as well as the Churchwardening team headed by Shirley Dean Webster at St Margaret's who assist James Lee Steere in his role. Thank you to our wonderful bell-ringers at both towers and for all they do to keep those bells ringing out for us. At both churches we have flowers beautifully arranged always and other beautiful artistic creations reflecting the seasons. Thank you to all of you for all you do because each thing however small, creates the beautiful sacred spaces we so enjoy. Outdoors in our churchyards there is of course regular maintenance with grass cutting and cutting back. We are grateful to our contractors as well as our wonderful volunteers who assist this essential process. At Capel Churchyard we are awaiting a faculty for the proposed new garden of remembrance for the burial of ashes. It will be wonderful to be able to begin work on creating it. Further information on the garden as well as general building work at Capel, is in this report. Thanks to David Silliman for his work on this along with Norman and others on the Building Committee.

We and other local churches around the Dorking area belong to what we call a Deanery. Each church has two elected representatives who attend the quarterly Dorking Deanery Synod, as well as their respective clergy. and we have had a varied programme reflecting on topical and important decisions that General Synod have had to debate such as the implications of the recent General Synod decisions relating to the blessing of same sex relationships. These issues are still very divisive in the Church of England and something that in time the PCC will have to think about for our parish. Then we were introduced to the Parish Needs Process (PNP) for which our Deanery was the last in the diocese to begin the work. We have been working on this process for some months in our parish and I will speak more about the outcomes of this work at the APCM. We have been also very blessed in our Deanery by the appointment of a newly appointed diocesan Youth Hub leader who will be working alongside the Priory School Chaplain. Again more information will be given at the APCM.

At the beginning of this year in January we had our first Archdeacon's Visitation for quite some time and you will be pleased to know the Archdeacon was very pleased and satisfied with our record keeping and especially with our plans for the future in the plan helped by the recent Parish Needs Process. We were also delighted when the former Archdeacon of Guildford, the Venerable Paul Davies was made the new Bishop of Dorking. A civic service was held at St Martins Dorking recently to welcome Bishop Paul and to hear how he wanted to get to know his Dorking and area churches well.

Many of you will know that I will reach a big birthday this year and therefore am due to officially retire from full time ministry. The wonderful news that Gill Christie will be able to continue her training for ordination to locally ordained ministry, meaning that she will be ordained Deacon summer 2025 and Priesthood summer 2026 has led to me being allowed to delay my retirement for a couple more years so that Gill has adequate supervision and mentoring. I am personally delighted that the Bishop has gifted me this opportunity and we can delay our moving from Capel and Ockley. However that time will come round fast enough no doubt in October 2026!

Finally a very special service is held annually in our parish which is a service of comfort and remembrance for the bereaved to remember those they have loved but who have died. This year we remember with love those who have died in the last twelve months, gratefully giving thanks for those known to us in our parish including the lives of:

Wendy Birch, Douglas Pusey, David Grenham, Richard Williams, John Pitchford, Dorothy Tabb, Peter Farley, James Brant, Patricia Hewson, Eileen Saunders, Sheila Barnes, Brenda Pratt, Violet Wolfenden, Hazel Hurlin and Toby Webster.

We wish those who grieve their loss, God's comfort, love and healing as they travel through the difficult and often surprising terrain of grief.

I am sure in summing up I have left vital information out in this overview but hopefully it has given you something of a taster in what we are about as church family in Capel and Ockley. Our parish in house magazine InSpire does a wonderful job in pulling everything we do together each month and thanks as ever to Suzanne Cole and all who sponsor each issue.

Personally for me this continues to be the best job in the world to be clergy and I am very honoured and proud to be and to have been serving as your parish priest for nearly 13 years! I am grateful indeed for the support and counsel of the PCC and especially thanks to Richard Winter-Stanbridge for hosting our PCC meetings at his home and taking on the role of PCC Secretary.

Thank you everyone for your help and support and most especially to my husband Doug who without him and his love, fortitude and patience I would be far lesser.

Revd Liz Richardson

Churchwardens Report for St Margaret's Ockley 2023

This report summarises the activities of St Margarets' during the year 2023 and is structured as follows: church services, rotas and support, building works, outreach, international links and a thank you to all the St Margaret's team.

St Margaret's Church Services

The congregation numbers have remained consistent throughout the year and joint service with St John's Capel are much enjoyed.

Weddings / Baptisms / Funerals: There were no weddings during the year but there were 2 baptisms. There was one burial and one funeral, and a key member of the congregation, Eileen Saunders, died during the year. Paul Bryer's funeral (the Archdeacon of Truro) was at St Peter's Dorking, but he was buried at St Margaret's. Richard William's funeral was at St Margaret's in January 2023 and Eileen Saunders' funeral was at St John's, Okewood Hill.

Easter: Rev Jo Elvidge took the service. Gill Christie organised an Easter egg hunt in the church and churchyard. We had a large congregation and a record number of children.

Harvest Festival: Rev Jo Elvidge took the service. A large number of gifts were received which we were able to distribute throughout the community. It was rather heartwarming that we were sent quite a number of thank you cards.

Crocus Sunday: did not happen this year.

Remembrance Sunday: was well attended. There was tea and biscuits in the Village Hall afterwards, prepared by Iris and Michael Spruce.

Pet Service: we used the Village Hall for the Pet Service in the summer. Anthea came and kindly played. There were 5 dogs present!

Christingle service took place in the Ockley Pavilion. It was well attended with new attendees and there were more adults than children.

It is suggested that additional service should take place in the Pavilion and / or Village Hall to make the gospel message accessible to those who find attending church difficult for whatever reason.

Christmas service was held at St John's Chapel, and we are looking forward to the service at St Margaret's in 2024.

St Margaret's Rotas

I would like to thank the inner team for all their help.

There are the rotas for cleaning, flowers, kitchen cleaning. But, everyone is willing and able to chip in to help with everything. Rosemary led the flowers, Wendy the brass cleaning, Pat and Margaret the general cleaning, and Buzz and Helen the kitchen cleaning.

Dianne for the publication of her inspirational books, including 'The call of the Bells' published for the Kings coronation. The proceeds of which are being dedicated to St Margaret's. For her help with the flowers and her artwork including The Creation Tide.

Gill, for being a core member of St Margaret's, she thankfully only has another 18 months of Ministry to go and we are enjoying watching her flourish as she continues to complete this. Helen for all her work with the finances and budget.

And to Shirley for all the above and much, much more.

Building Work

The new door was finished in early 2023, the plaster and the back of the bell tower was repaired, the bell was sent away to be repaired, and tree works were carried out at St John's churchyard in Ockley. A tree surgeon is booked in to fell the 2 or 3 dead ash in the churchyard in early April.

The installation of the new W/Cs broke ground in 2023, with the floor slab completed and we are awaiting the dedication of the new stained glass window, which will be completed shortly.

Outreach

Mum's and Toddlers Group: takes place in the Ockley Village Hall every Thursday. It was begun by Gill Christie in 2018. It continues to thrive with help of Bea Milne, Margaret Smith and others in the village. There are at least 15-20 adults and many, many more children.

Village Teas: takes place in the Ockley Village Hall once a month. It is organised by a team of local ladies who also organised a Christmas lunch which attracted 50 members of the local community.

Pavilion Café: The Pavilion Café continued to be a great source of outreach, with Liz and Sylvie Beckett attending most Wednesday mornings.

St Margaret's Teas [1st Sunday of the month]: were enjoyed throughout the summer but were not overly successful member wise and so this has not been undertaken in 2024.

Capel School: Gill helps Rev Liz, Helen and Jessie run an after school clubs are run at Capel School every Thursday evening which includes craft and a bible story.

Supporting Parish including Capel Horticultural Show, Military Show, Murder Mystery and Christmas Fair: St Margaret's supported St John's Vicarage fete and the barbecue at the Capel horticultural Show. Both were very successful in raising much needed funds.

Quiet Day was organised by Liz and well-attended by Ockley parishioners, with more going on the Lent Course being run by Liz and hosted by Mairi Inglis Jones.

Mission: As part of the wider mission of the church and in keeping with the gospel message St Margaret's has supported homeless overnight visitors during the year.

International Links

Our transatlantic links with the Baptist church in Guildford Connecticut continue to thrive. The links first began in 1639 when our then vicar, the Reverend Henry Whitfield, travelled with several members of his congregation and founded the church in Guilford Connecticut.

Lots of visitors have written very complimentary comments in the Visitor's book during the year, and there were some visitors over from America as per usual.

Thank you

I think this report needs to conclude with yet another expression of my sincere thanks and gratitude to the whole St Margaret's team who have helped and supported me during 2023.

James Lee-Steere Church Warden, St Margaret's Church, 202

Capel Churchwardens' Report for 2023/24

Fortunately the year since our last APCM has been free of any major problems for us as Churchwardens.

April was busy as Liz gave us the challenge of creating a Flower Festival in the church as our contribution to Capel's Coronation weekend.

Since March 2023 the Church Researchers - a group of lovely and very knowledgeable 'senior ladies' are continuing their meticulous searching and recording - all of which, on completion, will be given to our church in the form of a book.

We are very grateful to Dineke and Dik for their skilled abilities with technology which now keep our congregation and the wider parish informed and up to date with our church's life. Also our thanks to Dineke for all her time and research given to leading us in Eco Church and Carbon Net Zero as we try to keep St John the Baptist and St Margaret's Church on track to achieving as many of the expectations of the Diocese as we can by 2030.

As I write a faculty application is being prepared for the new long awaited Memorial Garden in the churchyard. We are also installing infra red extra heating in the organ vestibule at a very reasonable cost.

In January this year Archdeacon Martin Breadmore made his Visitation with a helpful and largely successful outcome. He was favourably impressed with our efforts and progress in 'Transforming Church - Transforming Lives' Parish Needs Process. This is about planning ahead and making an action plan for the next five years in order to promote mission and ministry in the parish of Capel and Ockley.

Our Capel Church Teas still seem to serve a purpose - as an outreaching social venue rather than a fund-raiser.

We are very grateful to Wesley Attridge, Chris Coke and Chris Rumbold for their constant hard work in keeping the churchyard in good order.

Thank you to all who give to the Foodbank collection - at the store room Capel and Ockley Parish has a very good reputation for its generosity! Thank you also to Capel WI for their annual bumper donation of foodstuff for the food bank which they collect for us in January - a time when the food bank needs replenishing following Christmas.

Unfortunately we are aware of one negative item which is the matter of dog poo left over the churchyard grass; it is an intermittent problem but the installation of CCTV is being considered.

The best news of all is that Liz now able to spend another two years of her devoted and caring ministry here in Capel and Ockley Parish - to continue being our 'guiding light' and wonderful and much loved vicar. We are so very very grateful. As usual our most sincere and unending thanks to Liz and Doug for all their help, support and guidance and in making our privileged role as churchwardens fulfilling and enjoyable.

Norman Ede and Joy Harman

Financial Report 2023

2023 has been another tough year. The costs of living, particularly in respect of fuel and food, have continued to impact on church finances. There was a small deficit in unrestricted funds of £4,005. This is largely explained by a fall in collections at services and increases in the cost of insurance, gas and electricity. Without the income from our fundraising activities, this would have been much bigger.

We were again fortunate to be offered the opportunity to provide a stall selling teas and cakes at the *Military Show* over the first weekend in July. A huge thank you to all those who baked cakes in advance and to all those volunteers who helped over the weekend. We made an amazing £7,100. Our wrap stall at the *Capel Show* in August was sadly not as successful but we did make a small profit of around £500. This year we have been offered the opportunity to run a burger & hot dog stall at the show. This was a big success for us in 2019 so let's hope for an even better result this year. The *Murder Mystery Play "Never Say Dy"* - with a performance in each village - in the Autumn was again well supported and, as well as being fun for those involved, generated much needed funds of £1,600. Thank you to all those who made the evenings such a success - whether on the stage, catering or generally helping on the night. Finally, a particular thank you to Suzanne Cole and her team who masterminded another '*Capel Christmas Fair*' where again 50% (£1,400) of the profits were donated to the PCC.

We value every single donation no matter how small and continue to work towards a situation where our voluntary income is sufficient to cover regular church activities and running costs. This is most effectively achieved by expanding our regular donor base. Our thanks to all those who already give in this way. But, if you currently only give when you come to services, please would you consider becoming a 'regular donor'? A commitment to a monthly, quarterly or even yearly amount really helps us to plan. This can be done by a standing order or, more easily, by setting up a payment with Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) - a National Church recognised system that we have had in place for some years now.

Addressing the fall in collections at services which is, at least in part, due to the fact that we are moving towards a cashless society, we will be offering a way for people to give digitally. This will also be made available at baptisms, weddings and funerals in our two churches and other church fundraising events.

Another way of giving is by leaving a legacy. A gift in a will can be seen as an 'expression of thankfulness for a lifetime worth of living'. Something you choose to do whilst you are alive which is activated when you die. Understandably most people have family they want to provide for. But perhaps you might consider leaving 99% of your Estate to your 'family' and 1% to your '*church family*'?

St John the Baptist was fortunate to receive a legacy in 2022. Some of this was put towards essential repairs to the church bell. The remainder was put to one side to help finance the creation of a Memorial Garden in the churchyard where ashes will be placed. We have had a few further donations towards this project; but we are still open to contributions.

We have been told that St Margaret's is included as a beneficiary in another Estate and anything we receive will be available for much needed improvements at the Church. In the past couple of years, the Friends of St Margaret's has financed the construction of a fire exit, the installation of a new central heating system and the rewiring of the church together with the installation of some improved energy efficient lighting. Their attention has now turned to the installation of a new toilet facility to be built in the churchyard. The foundation slab for the new building was laid behind the church towards the end of the year and construction of the building itself is due to begin in April.

Finally, I should like to thank Samantha Edginton who has been the independent examiner of our accounts for the past few years. She has decided that the time is right for her to step down and so we will be looking for someone new to take on this important oversight role for 2024. If you think you (or someone you know) might be able to help, please get in touch.

The draft accounts are attached at the end of this report.

Helen Burt BCom ACA

Friends of St Margaret's Ockley. 2023 Report

The committee had met only once during the year but had been busy!

The new emergency exit door had been completed in 2022 but MVDC had refused to sign it off until there was a flat hard surface outside the door. This would be part of the loo building which is expected to be completed this year.

The improved lighting in the nave and chancel has been completed and certified.

The roof of the Tower and the dormer window had been repaired.

The headstock of the treble bell broke and has been repaired at no cost to the Friends thanks to grants.

Work has started on the new loos after protracted discussions to obtain full planning permission. The foundation base has been concreted and an archaeological watching brief during the excavation found nothing to report.

Ray Gibbs has done a fantastic job drawing up a schedule of all items needed for the construction. The oak frame will be constructed off site (in Ray's shed) and moved on site in the spring. Weinberger (the Brickworks at Oakwood Hill) have generously donated the tiles we need for the roof and £1750 has been donated by the Benefact Trust. An appeal for people to donate the cost of items will be included in the next issue of the WOOF magazine, and there is a real chance the loos will be completed this year.

The Quinquennial Report (completed in 2022) has been filed in a printed version in the Vestry and an electronic version is available.

The only outstanding work is to monitor the movement of the walls at the back of the nave. The dry summer caused some subsidence, the walls moved apart, and a lump of plaster was displaced luckily with no damage. Subsidence has been occurring for many centuries.

The Friends financial year runs to 31st March. In the year to 31st March 2023 showed income of £15,447 and expenditure of £19,688 a deficit of £4,222 But the bank balance was £8,848.

GEL-S

St John's Building Committee Report

Repairs to the roof and spire

In 2021 the Architect carried out a survey and submitted the required Quinquennial Report. It highlighted the need to carry out repairs to the main stone roof of the church and parts of the wooden shingle covering of the spire. Those works are recommended to be carried out sooner rather than later in order to prohibit deterioration of the roofs and their supporting structures. The Architect has subsequently carried out a more detail survey of the area and has provided a specification of works to be submitted to the Diocese for approval and then to specialists for competitive tendering. It is understood that at least two companies have been approached locally, but at the time of writing no quotes have been submitted. An application for funding will be submitted to the Friends of Capel Church in due course.

Remembrance Garden

A Garden of Remembrance has been planned for the burial of loved one's ashes. It will be located in the southwest corner of the church yard and will include a secluded garden area. A plan has been prepared and agreed. It has now been submitted to the DAC for faculty approval. One The PCC have also approved the scheme. Five competitive quotes have been obtained from suitably qualified landscape gardeners. It is likely that the scheme will be funded by bequest funds, the restricted John Ede fund and the Capel Parish Council.

Repairs to the boundary wall

Following the completion of the west and north walls, the Stonemason has completed approximately half of the south wall, which includes the area next to the proposed Remembrance Garden. The work has been financed through donations and grants; more of which are required in order to continue the work.

Repairs to the church paths

Discussions have been on-going and are continuing to take place between the Architect and specialist installers regarding changes to the main path in order to make it less slippery. The Capel Parish Council have resurfaced the path from the south door of the church to the civil cemetery beyond the west boundary wall of the church yard.

Minor Works

Within the past year, several minor repairs or upgrades have been completed: repairs to the wood block floor near the kitchen and toilet, and the installation of a dedicated IR heater for the organist. These have both been financed by the Friends of Capel Church.

D Silliman
21.3.24

Friends of Capel Church

The Friends started 2023 with funds of £62,090.29.

Expenditure was as follows: Companies House £13.00, Information Commissioner's Office £40.00, CES Lighting £216.00. Income was as follows: Car Exhibits paid by cheque £412.50 Church Teas £843.25. This gave a closing figure at the year end, 31st December 2023, of £63,077.04, an increase of £691.76.

The income from the 2023 Car Exhibits was paid into the account after the year end, 31st December 2023 and this was £8,716.74. Gift aid for 2023 has been applied for from HMRC. Expenditure so far this year has been Flooring £95.00 and organ heater £195.00. The current balance is £71,498.79.

D Silliman
20.3.24

Capel and Ockley PCC APCM Report on Church Club

Each Thursday afternoon of every school week since early January 2024 a band of church volunteers have attended at Scott-Broadwood School in Capel to run the church club from 3pm-4pm. This is a free after-school activity open to all the children at the school.

During this term (Spring 2024) numbers have varied up to 17, but there is a committed core of 14 children aged 5-7 who attend each week.

Each session opens with an action song led by Rev Liz and is followed by a Bible story or an account of part of Jesus' life and ministry which the children act out. After a prayer the children descend on the tea provided by Joy (some consider this the highlight of the session!!).

The children then engage with a craft activity – something they can take home and for the final minutes of the session they are offered lego, drawing, an outside game or a bear hunt led by David Steel from Okewood Church.

The sessions to date have included Epiphany, the flight into Egypt, the parable of the lost sheep, how Jesus met his friends, the parable of the sower, the first Palm Sunday, the first Good Friday and the first Easter Day.

The craft activities have ranged from weaving ribbons through paper fish, decorating crowns, decorating small flower pots and sowing cress seeds, decorating cork coasters for Mothers' Day to creating a mobile for the Easter story and making an Easter Garden.

According to the school and the emails they have received from parents of attendees, the club is very popular with one child informing its parent that Thursday is now their favourite day of the week because of church club.

I would like to thank the team of dedicated volunteers, without whom the creation of this new children's church community would not be possible: Rev Liz, Helen Burt, Joy Harman, David Steel, Kay Steel, Shirley Dighton and Jessie Sutcliffe.

We would very much like to continue to offer this club to the school children and would welcome further volunteers who would like to be involved.

Gill Christie

InSpire magazine

We are now up to issue 81 having started in February 2017! InSpire continues to be a monthly publication which is free of charge to its readers. My continued thanks to our very generous and loyal sponsors who continue to support the publication each year. For information, we did try going down the advertising route a few years' ago and it did not seem to appeal to advertisers – I'm assuming because it is a faith based publication and the circulation is limited in contrast with the village magazines. However, it is not limited to our congregations as I understand from various sources that InSpire is being given to people who are not attendees of our churches, so is a tool of outreach as intended.

Current costs are approximately £88.00 for 50 copies of a 32 page publication. I would love to produce it in colour more often, but found in the past that the cost rose dramatically which is a lot to ask of our sponsors. Fortunately, most of our sponsors are able to Gift Aid their sponsorship, meaning that the cost is a little less to them than the invoiced cost. I have been informed by our printers that costs will increase by 5% from April 2024 as the cost of paper has increased. For a while in 2023/early 2024 I increased the print run to 60 copies per month as we were often running out of magazines, but recently there have been some left in both churches. Therefore, for the time being I have reverted to 50 copies a month. The other cost incurred is membership to Parish Pump annually which provides church magazine editors with a wealth of material. I would be lost without it! InSpire is available in churches as paper copies or you can still opt to receive it via email or subscribe to receive it via our church website. However, it is clear currently that many of our readers still wish to have a paper copy. Going forward, I would still very much welcome more input from our readers themselves so that it reflects the members of our two Parish churches, rather than just the editor! It appears that it is still a welcome resource so I shall keep going! I hope everyone finds it an interesting read. I strive to make each edition varied, inspiring, informative and amusing in equal measures!

Suzanne Cole

Capel Christmas Fair

We held our third Christmas Fair in aid of both of our Parish churches and the Motor Neurone Disease Association in November 2023. In total we raised £1,400 for each charity. We increased our selling space in 2023 as our friends at Capel sports club gave us the use of the pavilion for free and in return they opened their bar for the duration of the fair. We now have a small committee of myself (Suzanne), Helen Berry, George Ede and Kerena Justice (who is also on the committee of the local MNDA branch). I am grateful to not be doing it single-handedly any more! We had just over 300 visitors. The atmosphere was wonderful and a steady flow the whole time which our stallholders appreciated. After the Fair, we had great feedback from our stallholders, most of whom are keen to join us again for the 2024 Fair. We are about to choose our first stalls! We have 24 applications already. Our costs have gone up and will no doubt rise again this year, so we will have to review charges for our stalls etc. In total we can accommodate approximately 30 stalls including a couple of outside ones. Just a little note to say that my father's tribute fund for the MNDA is now over £10,000 which was my target when I started fundraising in his name in 2015. A huge thank you must go to the wonderful band of volunteers who help us to put on this event. We rely on a lot of help from 8.30am

in the morning until about 6.00pm and we set up the day before too! But going forward to the 2024 Fair, we hope to produce an even better event and raise a good amount for our two charities.

Suzanne Cole

CHURCH CHOIR REPORT FOR 2023

Our singing and rehearsing began in mid-January for our Good Friday service.

As in previous years we were joined by our friends from St. Peter's Newdigate choir, making 20 choristers in all. We worked hard on the St. Luke Passion by J.S. Bach. We all felt it was a really moving service and I thought they sang their hearts out.

A lovely way to spend an hour on a winter's evening by learning wonderful music.

We united again for the Coronation celebrations singing an anthem specially written for that occasion.

In September we joined forces again with St. Peter's and worked at music for the services 'For the Bereaved' and 'Remembrance'. Both new pieces for us to work on. Not easy, but we conquered the challenges and sang with the full meaning of what the music and words were saying.

Our own choir then concentrated on the music for the Nine Lessons and Carols. This was a different format than usual for us, as all the music sung by the choir - Alan Bullard's 'Born in a Stable' - told that part of the story.

Again, a lot of hard work but very worthwhile.

Our small choir of dedicated singers lead the singing in our services at Capel and we are sometimes joined by a few singers from St. Peter's.

We have also supported Liz at Ockley on occasions when it is a joint service.

Please do consider joining us. We sing at 3 services a month and rehearse on a Thursday evening between 7pm and 8pm.

As we know making music is good for us in so many ways!

Anthea Smallwood

Social media

The PCC Facebook page 'Capel and Ockley church' is steadily growing. Started in 2018 we now have more than 300 followers and even more page likes. 2023 Has seen an increased awareness of the page in our congregations and a better understanding how we can use it to increase our reach to a wider audience and add to the ways we can promote the work we do. 2024 should be the year when we look at finding more editors for specific subject for our page as we already have for Café church.

For now there are no plans to extend the range of social media apps due to time constraints and lack of expertise. Help grow our congregations by following our page if you have Facebook and keep liking and sharing our posts (original as well as those shared by others) and keeping the admin informed of all activities you are planning.

Dineke

Carbon net zero

The **Church of England** has set an ambitious target to become **net zero carbon by 2030**. This commitment recognizes the global climate emergency as a crisis for God's creation and a fundamental injustice. Following this, a small working group including representatives of the PCC and churchwardens prepared a statement which was adopted by the PCC in the meeting of November 2023. St John has already done an energy audit and registers energy consumption of the building. Hopefully we will be able to start the latter for St Margaret's this year.

With the central heating boilers getting on, the next step for St John is to develop a heating replacement strategy. This will document the steps to take when the boilers break down so we have a plan and don't need to make a panic decision when this happens. The new organ vestry heater (Infra Red technology) was badly needed but is also a way to learn about new technologies that have become available in recent years.

Dineke

ECO church

Not much progress was made on this in 2023. The plans for 2024 are to make our church supplies (toilet roll, cleaning products etc) more environmentally friendly. Ways to make our catering more so are under investigation.

PCC

St Margaret's Bell ringers

We were again pleased to welcome our annual ringing visitor from Sydney, this year in time to ring for the Coronation. Luckily we managed a quarter peal to celebrate as the following week the treble fell into its pit when the headstock sheared off from its gudgeon. Our thanks to Bill Hlbbert (Surrey Association Bell Adviser) for helping to lift and stand the bell on blocks while repairs were arranged. This proved surprisingly costly at over £2500 and we are grateful to the Guildford Guild Belfry Repair for granting half of the amount and to donations from the band and our local community for supplying the balance, after a small grant from Surrey Association BRF, Gift Aid and VAT relief. We now have six functioning bells once again but only just enough ringers.

After the Remembrance Service ringing three of the muffles were found to be worn right through and we managed to get them repaired by the cobbler in Cranleigh for a very reasonable £15 each.

I have completed the Safeguarding levels required as Tower Captain and plan to hold an evening in Holy Week for the rest of the band to complete the basic course as some of them do not have access to WIFI.

Sue Dixon

Electoral Role

Sadly we have lost more of our faithful congregation in the past year. The Electoral Role now stands at 92, with only one name being added to the list during the year. If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the list, please contact me Rosemary Relf, either by phone 01306-627342 or by email: rosemary@hhopesprings.f9.co.uk

Rosemary Relf
3.11 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
Registered Charity 1132153

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, using the accruals method.

Fund Accounting

Restricted funds comprise revenue, donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds from 2023 are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, in the year 2023 this was when they were received. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Investments are valued at cost with a note as to their market value as at 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
Registered Charity 1132153

2. INCOMING RESOURCES

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
		£	£	£	£
2(a) Voluntary income					
	Gift aid donations				
Planned giving:	including tax recovered	£57,515		£57,515	£53,355
	Yellow envelope giving			£0	£0
	Other			£0	£0
Collections:	Open plate	£9,851		£9,851	£14,348
	Special collections	£1,882		£1,882	£2,133
Grants		£1,450	£4,653	£6,103	£1,652
Donations		£10,728	£7,709	£18,437	£13,505
Legacies			£13	£13	£9,182
		£81,426	£12,375	£93,801	£94,175
2(b) Activities for generating funds					
	Capel Show	£759		£759	£0
	Christmas Fair	£3,961		£3,961	£3,255
	Church teas	£1,019		£1,019	£990
	Concerts	£0		£0	£333
	Inspire	£0	£966	£966	£1,288
	Military Show	£11,401		£11,401	£8,500
	Murder Mystery	£2,442		£2,442	£2,343
	Other (Traidcraft, Tombolas, Cricket)	£754		£754	£200
	Vicarage Fete	£0		£0	£2,888
		£20,336	£966	£21,302	£19,795
2(c) Income from investments					
	Dividends from investments	£11,541		£11,541	£11,485
	Bank and CBF interest	£19		£19	£0
		£11,560	£0	£11,560	£11,485
2(d) Income from church activities					
	Fees for weddings and funerals	£8,132		£8,132	£5,486
2(e) Rent on school flat					
			£8,975	£8,975	£8,472
Total incoming resources		£121,454	£22,316	£143,770	£139,413

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
Registered Charity 1132153

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£
3(a) Church activities				
Charitable giving:				
Overseas: DEC Ukraine	£213		£213	£1,373
Christian Aid - East Africa			£0	£305
Home: Scott Broadwood School		£6,000	£6,000	£1,000
The Weald School			£0	£1,000
Capel Preschool			£0	£325
Harvest Appeal	£1,423		£1,423	£0
MNDA	£598		£598	£1,016
Royal British legion	£275		£275	£491
Dorking deanery synod Priory school chaplainacy	£516		£516	£145
Vicars Discretion			£0	£350
Children's Society	£6,000		£6,000	£203
	<u>£9,025</u>	<u>£6,000</u>	<u>£15,025</u>	<u>£6,208</u>
Ministry: Diocesan Parish Share	£77,927		£77,927	£76,386
Other ministry costs:				
Vestry supplies	£1,672		£1,672	£1,136
Organist	£2,580		£2,580	£3,240
Weddings & Funerals	£840		£840	£0
Parochial church fees	£2,006		£2,006	£1,872
Verger	£0		£0	£0
Working expenses of clergy	£4,764		£4,764	£2,306
Youth church costs	£0	£774	£774	£100
Church maintenance costs	£2,628	£11,002	£13,630	£3,624
Church running costs				
Insurance	£5,100		£5,100	£4,858
Gas	£6,257		£6,257	£4,900
Electricity	£1,802		£1,802	£975
Water rates	£57		£57	£37
Church office costs				
Printing and Stationery	£1,283		£1,283	£923
Architects fees		£0	£0	£432
Stonemason & Materials			£0	£9,500
Inspire magazine costs		£1,108	£1,108	£1,087
Churchyard upkeep	£2,313		£2,313	£840
Contribution to vicarage costs	£752		£752	£309
Bank Charges	£0		£0	£12
	<u>£119,006</u>	<u>£18,884</u>	<u>£137,890</u>	<u>£118,744</u>
3(b) Generation of voluntary income				
Vicarage Fete Costs	£0		£0	£515
Capel Show Costs	£264		£264	£0
Christmas fair costs	£1,118		£1,118	£1,106
Murder Mystery Costs	£803		£803	£624
Military Show Costs	£4,267		£4,267	£3,156
	<u>£6,452</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>£6,452</u>	<u>£5,401</u>
3(c) School flat costs				
Insurance		£749	£749	£639
New Lease		£0	£0	£524
Boiler service		£235	£235	£85
	<u>£0</u>	<u>£984</u>	<u>£984</u>	<u>£1,248</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>£125,458</u>	<u>£19,867</u>	<u>£145,326</u>	<u>£125,394</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
Registered Charity 1132153

4. FIXED ASSETS

Investments

	2023	2022
		£
Central Board of Finance Investments:		
Unrestricted	£39,105	£39,105
Restricted - John Ede Fund	£19,112	£19,112
Restricted - Church Improvements and Restoration Fund	£19,744	£19,744
TOTAL	£77,961	£77,961

The holdings at 31 December 2023 had a market value of £230,009 for the unrestricted funds and £192,215 for restricted funds of which £78,458 is for the John Ede fund which is to meet exceptional repairs to the fabric of the church should regular fundraising activities and /or grants not be sufficient.

By agreement the dividends received from these investments are available and have been accounted for in the unrestricted funds.

5. CURRENT ASSETS

	2023	2022
Debtors :	£	£
Tax claimable (of which £38 [2022 £108] is restricted)	£7,572	£11,373
Prepayments	£749	£205
Other Debtors	£2,355	£1,930
	£10,675	£13,508

6. LIABILITIES

	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year	£	£
Parish share	£11,095	£7,902
Accruals for utilities and other costs	£2,437	£6,330
Other creditors	£7,773	£4,857
	£21,305	£19,089

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
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7. FUNDS

	Balance at 01/01/23 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance at 31/12/23 £
CAPEL				
John Ede Fund	£19,112	£0	£0	£19,112
Church Improvements and Restoration Fund	£19,744	£0	£0	£19,744
Church yard/wall fund	£0	£0	£0	£0
Path fund	£1,562	£0	£0	£1,562.00
Memorial Garden Fund	£6,374	£1,708		£8,082.29
Youth Outreach fund	£211	£0	£0	£211.00
InSpire	£201	£966	-£1,108	£58.84
School flat	£13,995	£8,975	-£6,984	£15,986.43
TOTAL RESTRICTED CAPEL	£61,199	£11,649	-£8,091	£64,757
Unrestricted Capel	£55,618	£72,854	-£74,570	£53,902
TOTAL CAPEL	£116,817	£84,503	-£82,662	£118,659
OCKLEY				
Sign fund	£500			£500
Youth café	£2,510		-£369	£2,141
TLC	£1,200			£1,200
Mums and Toddlers	£950		-£405	£545
Building fund	£449	£10,667	-£11,002	£113
TOTAL RESTRICTED OCKLEY	£5,609	£10,667	-£11,776	£4,500
Unrestricted Ockley	£5,257	£48,600	-£45,027	£8,830
TOTAL OCKLEY	£10,866	£59,266	-£56,802	£13,330
TOTAL RESTRICTED	£66,808	£22,316	-£19,867	£69,256
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	£60,875	£121,454	-£119,597	£62,732
	£127,683	£143,770	-£139,464	£131,988

As Stated under note 4 the John Ede fund is to meet exceptional repairs to the fabric of the church should regular fundraising activities and /or grants not be sufficient.

The School Flat was set up as a trust in 1873 to be managed by the vicar and church wardens of the parish for the benefit of Scott Broadwood school.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CAPEL AND OCKLEY
Registered Charity 1132153

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS

BY FUND	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Investment fixed assets	£39,105	£38,856	£77,961	£77,961
Current assets	£45,126	£30,400	£75,526	£68,812
Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year	-£21,305	£0	-£21,305	-£19,089
	£62,926	£69,256	£132,182	£127,683