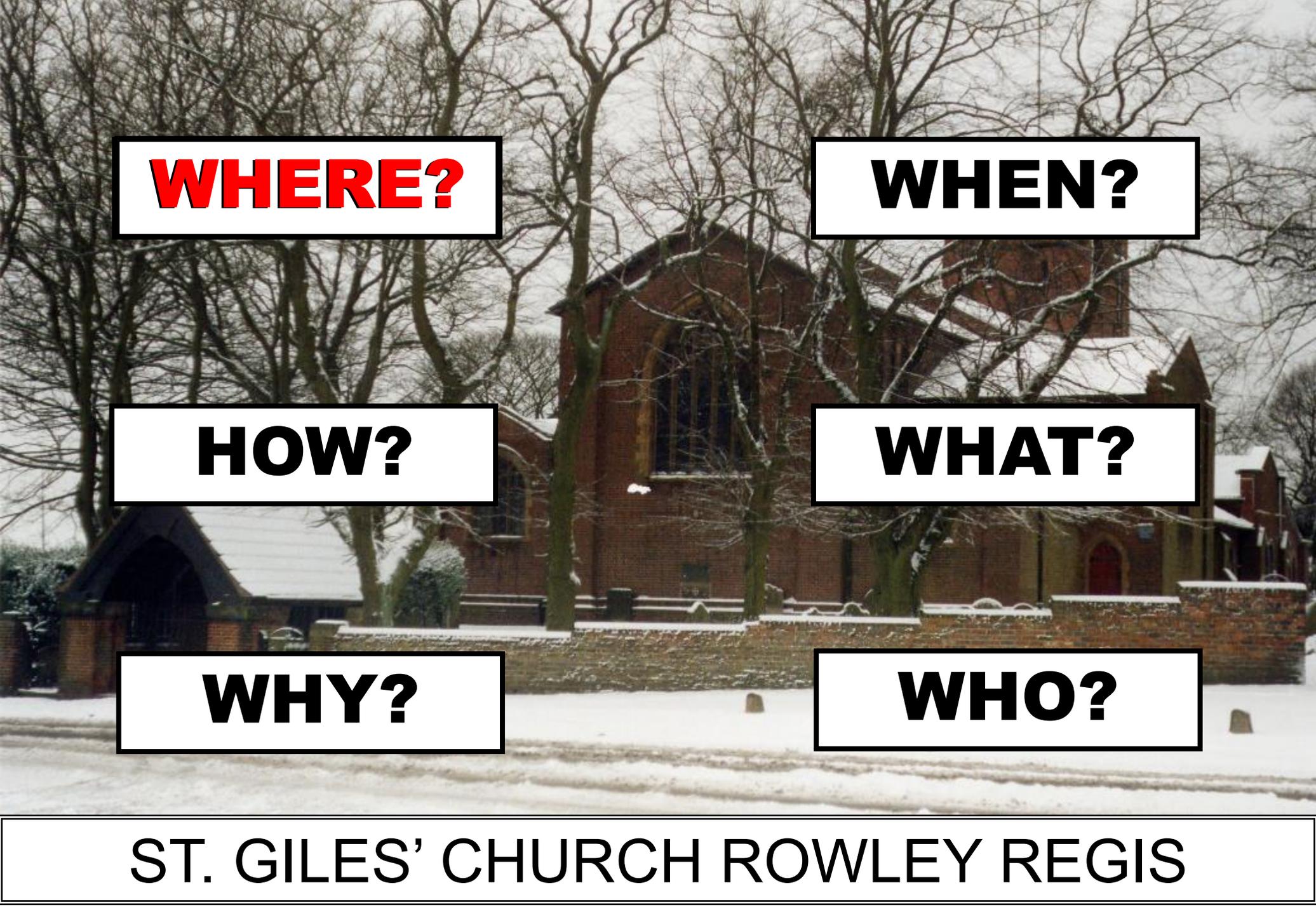


**SAINT GILES'**

**CHURCH**

**ROWLEY REGIS**

AN  
INTRODUCTION  
TO THE PARISH



**WHERE?**

**WHEN?**

**HOW?**

**WHAT?**

**WHY?**

**WHO?**

**ST. GILES' CHURCH ROWLEY REGIS**

## SAINT GILES' CHURCH ROWLEY REGIS

Ordnance Survey Land Ranger map 139. Map ref. 970875.

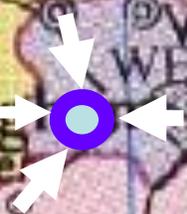
Rowley Regis lies on the edge of the *Black Country*, (don't call us "Brummies"), and originally formed the southern most tip of Staffordshire. In 1966 with the re-organisation of the county boundaries we became the northern most tip of Worcestershire. In 1974 we were absorbed into the new county of West Midlands, resulting in the fact that many of us have lived in three different counties without moving house.

The church itself stands 700 feet above sea level on top of Rowley Hill where it commands extensive views over the surrounding countryside, some people claiming, that on a clear day you can see the Black Mountains in Wales.



9 MILES SOUTH OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON

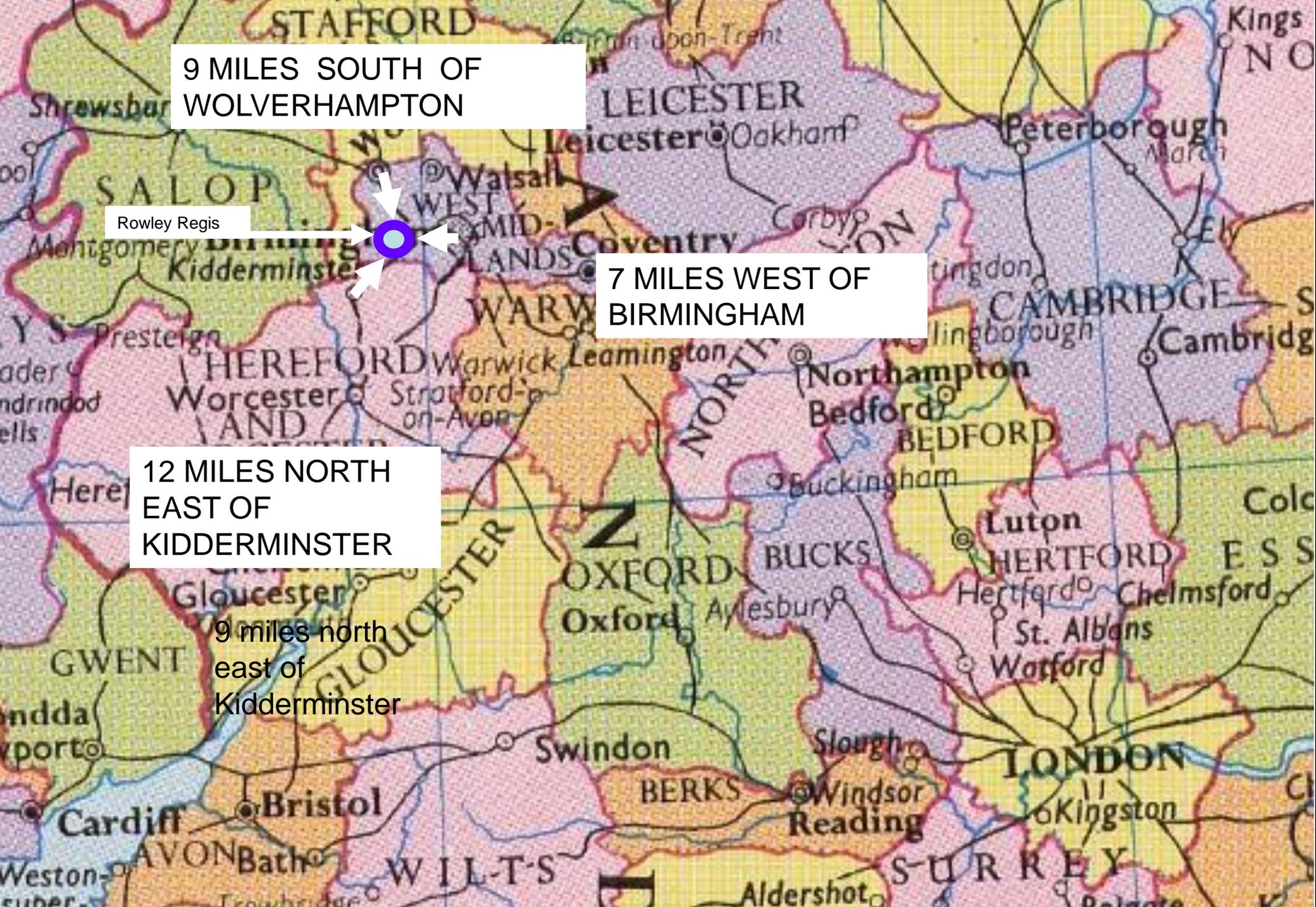
Rowley Regis



7 MILES WEST OF  
BIRMINGHAM

12 MILES NORTH  
EAST OF  
KIDDERMINSTER

9 miles north  
east of  
Kidderminster





Saint Giles' Church looking up from the Village



View of main door used for Church



**WHEN?**

**HOW?**

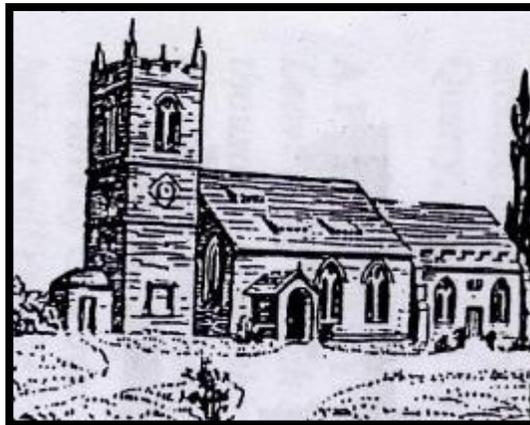
**WHAT?**

**WHY?**

**WHO?**

## ROWLEY

Although Rowley is not specifically mentioned in the *DOOMSDAY BOOK* there is little doubt that there was a settlement here in Saxon times and to this day there can be heard in the local dialect the occasional Saxon word,( i.e. Bin & bist. Meaning the same in the Black Country dialect as in German). At that time however the Spiritual needs of the community were catered for by St. Leonard's Church at Clent some six miles away. The earliest traceable records inform us that at some time during the reign of King John (1199 to 1216) the first Rowley Church was built as a *Chapel of Ease* under the care of a Curate and it was not until 1855 that Rowley became a parish in its own right.



THE FIRST ROWLEY CHURCH

In 1800 a new Curate, George Barrs, took over the curacy. By this time the original church was a little worse for wear and George Barrs records in his Journal that when it rained the roof leaked and the floor turned to mud.

In 1841 a rather splendid new church was built to replace it.



THE SECOND ROWLEY CHURCH

Sadly however owing to mining  
subsidence the building became  
unsafe and in 1894 it was closed  
and taken down

A THIRD CHURCH WAS BUILT AND COMPLETED IN 1907



THE THIRD CHURCH

(retaining the tower from the second church)

On the evening of June 18<sup>th</sup> 1913 a fire was discovered in the church. The local fire brigade with horse drawn fire engine was unable to save it and the church was destroyed.



The third church on fire

## THE AFTERMATH

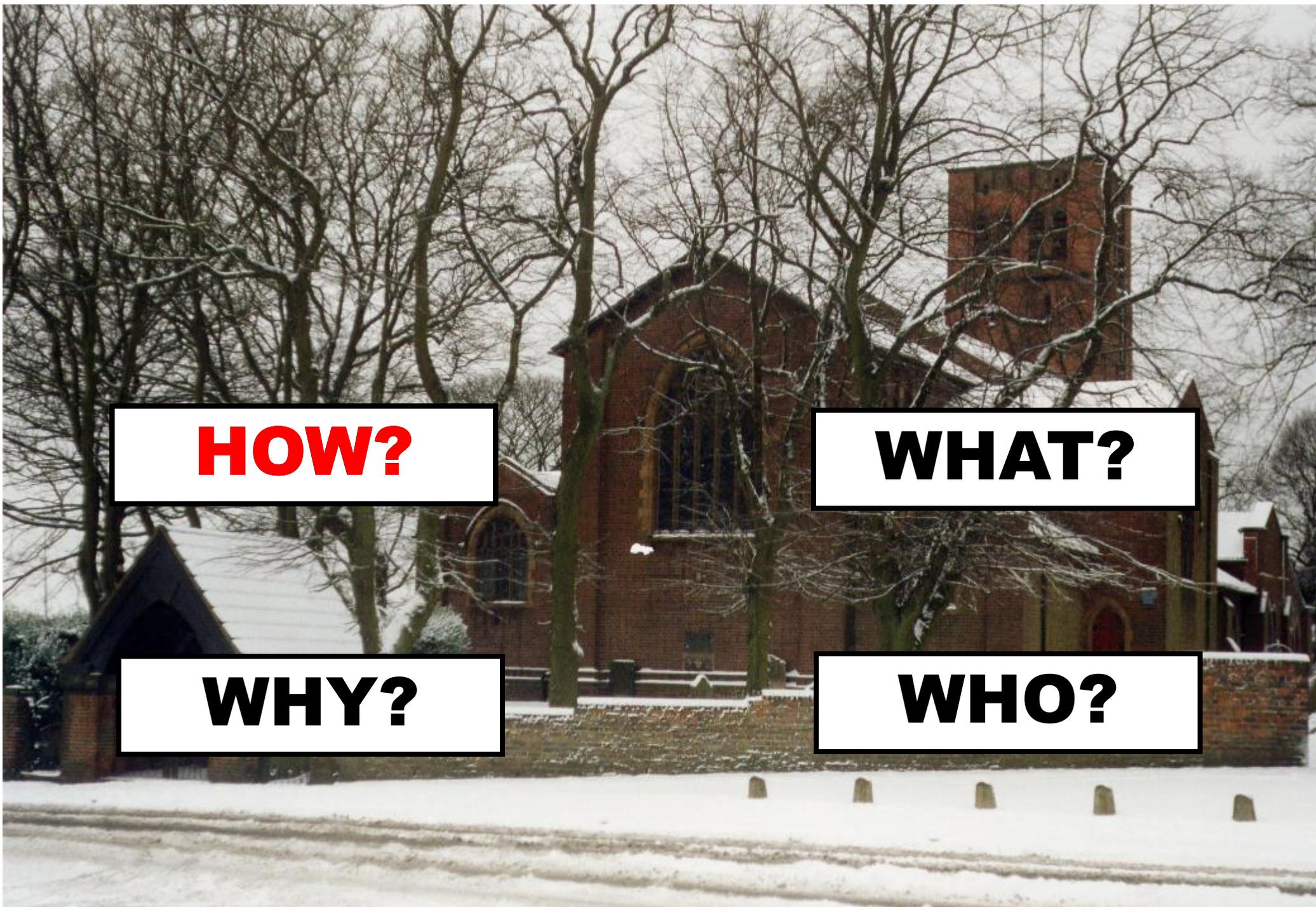


Fortunately the tower and the bells, some dating back to the seventeenth century, were saved.

Nothing daunted the parishioners and local business people set about rebuilding and in 1923 the present church was opened



AND SO, IN THE SPACE OF EIGHTY THREE YEARS FOUR CHURCH BUILDINGS HAVE STOOD ON THIS SITE



**HOW?**

**WHAT?**

**WHY?**

**WHO?**

Rowley Regis in spite of being an ancient settlement is not all that well known outside of its immediate neighbours. Nevertheless it is not difficult to get to.

From the north: M6 to J8 with M5 to [M5 J2](#).

From the north east: A38 Nottingham – Derby – Burton on Trent A38 to J6 M6 to J8 with M5 to [M5 J2](#).

From the east: A14 to M6 to J8 with M5 to [M5 J2](#).

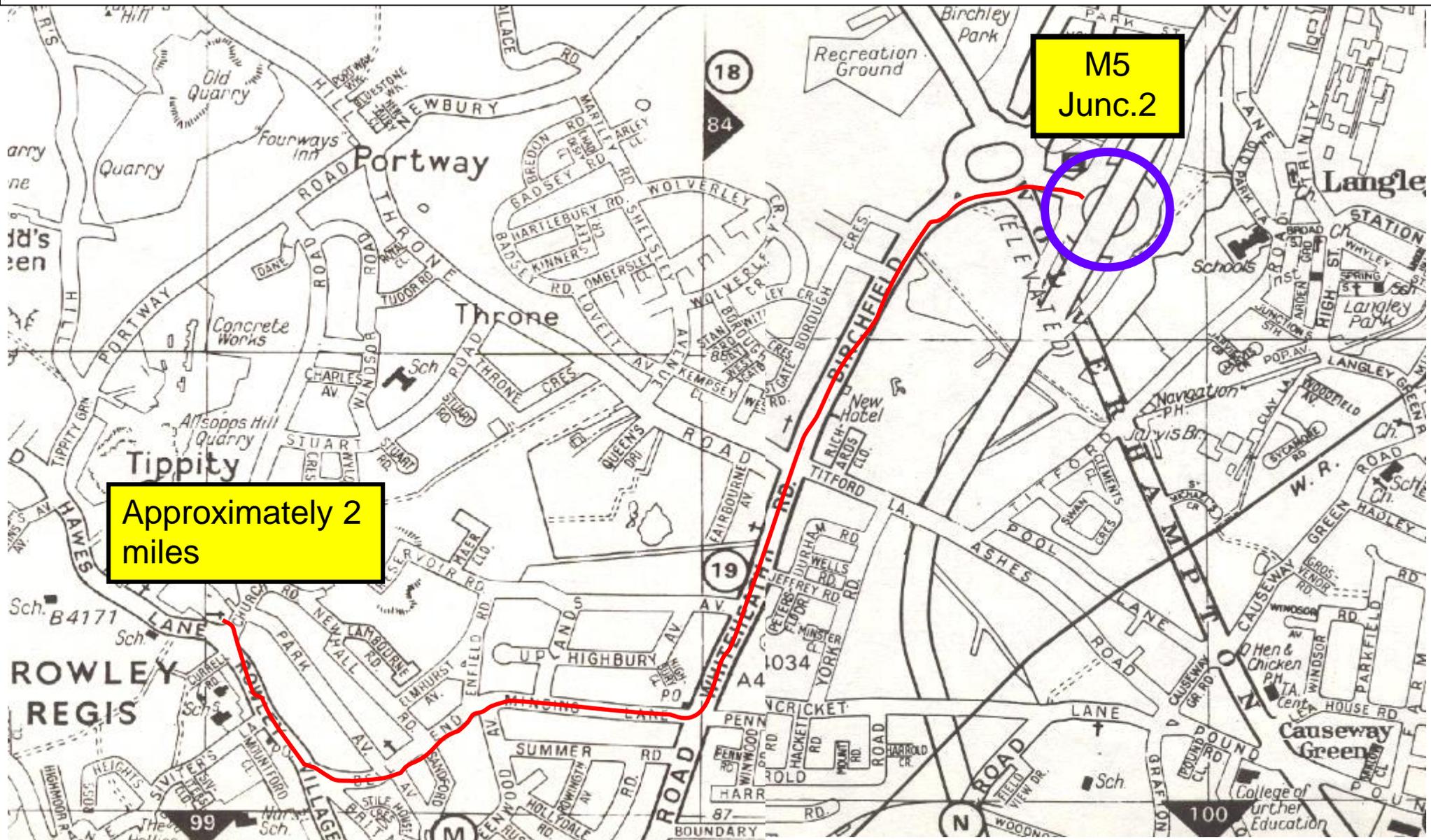
From the south east: M1 to M6 to J8 with M5 to [M5 J2](#). Or M25 to M40 to M42 to M5 to [M5 J2](#).

From the south: M5 to [M5 J2](#).

From the south west: M50 to M5 to [M5 J2](#).

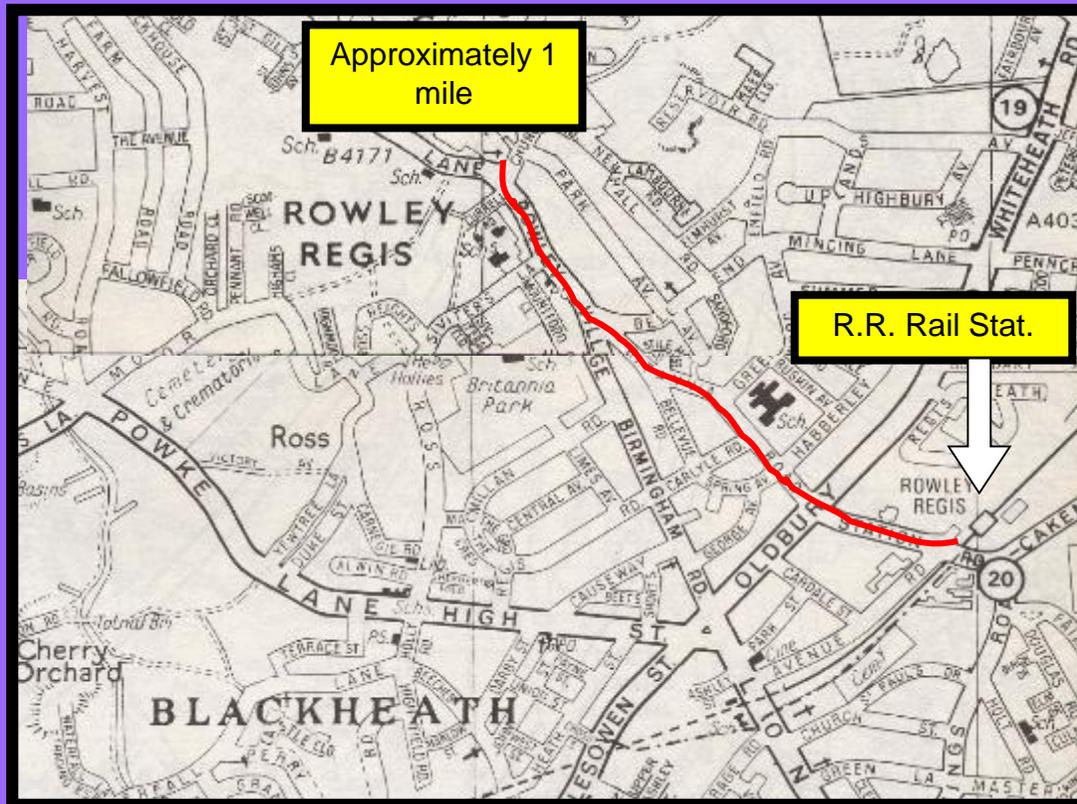
From the west or north west Shrewsbury A5 to J7 M54 to M6 to J8 with M5 to [M5 J2](#).

# From M5 J2 to Rowley Regis Parish Church



# Rowley Regis Railway Station

Connecting with Birmingham to the east and Stourbridge & Kidderminster to south west





**WHAT?**

**WHY?**

**WHO?**

**1****Description of the parish****A general description of the parish**

St. Giles Church holds a central position within the community of Rowley. It is an urban parish and has a population of approximately 18,000 with a slightly higher proportion of females to males.

**Population number, ethnic mix, predominant age and socio-economic groups**

Rowley is predominately white, with a small percentage of mixed Asian Indian, Asian Pakistani, Black Caribbean, Black other and Chinese ethnicity. Sixty four percent of Rowley people are Christians with other religions of Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, or no religion.

**Type of housing, commerce, industry, shops, institutions, public transport within the parish**

As a residential area the housing stock appears to be in a good state and the area is in the process of building new houses, increasing the number of owner occupied dwellings.

Over the last century there have been as many as nine public houses in the village now there are only two. the *Britannia* towards the bottom of the village and the *Sir Robert Peel* at the very bottom of the village. Next to the *Britannia* is a convenience shop and a Chinese takeaway. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the church is the small shopping centre of Blackheath. At Oldbury three miles to the east there are several big stores on an industrial site: Halfords, Homebase, Sainsbury's, Next and others.

Three miles to the north is Dudley, an ancient town and shopping centre. Three miles to the west is The Merry Hill Shopping Centre with most of the major retail outlets: Argos, Boots, Curry's /PC World, Debenhams, Marks and Spencer, Matalan, Primark and WH Smith plus a host of smaller shops. The Merry Hill Shopping Centre is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest in the Country. It has over 250 shops, a separate retail park, cinema, food hall and 10,000 parking spaces. Adjacent to the main shopping centre is a marina called The Waterfront accommodating a number of bars and restaurants. In 2018 a new 75,000 sq.ft. Next store will open.

Approximately seven miles to the east is Birmingham City Centre.

The following bus services pass the church : Birmingham - Dudley, Dudley - Halesowen, Blackheath-Bearwood-Birmingham, Blackheath-Smethwick-Birmingham, Merry Hill Shopping Centre - West Bromwich

Rowley Regis railway station connects with Kidderminster, Worcester, Stratford upon Avon, Hereford, Birmingham and London.

A hundred years or so ago the main industries were, quarrying, coal mining, nail making and light industries such as nut and bolt and rivet making. Most of these industries have now ceased with the residents of the parish moving farther afield to find work.

### Any particular social issues in the area such as unemployment or special features

Unemployment is low in Rowley.

### Other churches or places of worship

There is a Methodist Church approximately one mile away to the north, three independent chapels and two Christadelphian churches within half a mile radius of St. Giles' and approximately one mile away to the west, on a nearby housing estate is Brickhouse Community Church.

Although out of our Parish (but only 1.6 miles away), strong links have been forged with the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Halesowen and Dudley who regularly invite us to attend open days at their Mosque. They have also been very supportive in the past in helping us to maintain the churchyard when we have requested their assistance.

## Types of services held at St. Giles'

### Regular Services

**Sunday Morning 10.15 am**

**Holy Communion** First, Second and Third Sundays.

**All Age Worship** Fourth Sunday of the month.

**Holy Baptism** Fourth Sunday of the month (12 noon)

**Cluster Service** Fifth Sunday of any month held on rotating basis in one of the three cluster churches.

**Sunday Evening 6.30 pm**

**Evening Prayer** First, Second, Third and Fifth Sundays.

**Holy Communion** Fourth Sunday.

**Memorial Service** Every Quarter.

**Holy Communion** Wednesday 10.15 am (Said)

## Seasonal Services

**Easter** Palm Sunday, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday.  
Easter Day Sunrise, Holy Communion, Songs of Praise.

**Christmas** Christingle, Toy Service, Candlelit Carol Service,  
Christmas Eve, Crib Service, Midnight Communion  
Christmas Day Family Service with Holy Communion.

**Other** Christian Aid, Harvest Celebration, Remembrance Day,  
Annual Memorial Service.

**School Services** St Michaels, Leavers and Candlemas Services.  
**(In church)** Primary and Junior schools, Carol Services and Easter  
(Occasional) Services

**Educational Visits** Primary and Junior school throughout the year.

St Giles welcomes around 1000 school children through its doors every year.

## Music

St. Giles is very fortunate to benefit from the creative talents of our Director of Music Agata Beaman who plays the organ for us at all of our regular services. Under her direction, “St. Giles Singers” have been formed, comprising both former choir members and new recruits. Agata’s talent is to bring out the best in each person and we have seen our Singers grow in confidence under her leadership. Performances are given at special services throughout the year (including Easter and Christmas) and also concerts are held on an annual basis. Last Summer’s concert proved extremely popular and featured “Songs from the Movies”. Agata strives to provide a varied range of music choices to suit all tastes and is open to suggestions.

Agata is joined on occasions by our talented violinist Ken Hadley and trumpeter, Ian Sykes. She has also hosted workshops during the school holidays to encourage children to simply have fun with musical instruments and make as much noise as they can!

The hymn books used are for most services “Hymns Old & New”, though occasionally we use “Ancient and Modern” sometimes sheet music and we are not averse to using any suitable music or hymn book.

Agata  
Beaman

Organist  
and Musical  
Director





St Giles' Singers

## Description of Congregation

St. Giles' has an active but ageing congregation, many with very strong rooted and family ties to Rowley, Central Anglican in expression, but with a sprinkling of folk from Pentecostal, Evangelical and Salvation Army traditions. We are an open and inclusive church.

There is a younger (30-50s) generation of members taking on leadership roles with some strong gifts in organisation, creativity, pastoral care and music.

## Details of assistant clergy, paid church workers

We currently have 2 retired Priests with Permission to Officiate. The only paid church workers are the Parish Secretary, Hall Booking Clerk, Hall Caretaker and the Organist.

## Extent of lay ministry and participation in services, baptism preparation etc.

Lay people regularly lead intercessions and read Bible lessons in main services. We have three licensed lay assistants who share in the distribution of communion in services. Two people hold a weekly "Office Hour", dealing with baptisms and wedding couples assisting with baptism visiting and also in running marriage preparation evenings for couples.



Reverend Barrie Roberts



Reverend Carole Christensen

Three people have taken part in the Pastoral Care & Community Skills course to share in the ministry of baptism and wedding preparation and bereavement care.

### **Number on the electoral role**

The number of people on the electoral role is 84.

### **Average number of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals over 5 Years**

#### Baptisms

(Children and Adults)      55

Weddings and Blessings    15

#### Funerals

(Church)                      20

(Crematoria)                 14

(Official statistics at end)

## Growing Younger

### Who are we

St. Giles is an Anglican community and as the church, we are part of the people of God here in Rowley Regis and are open and welcoming to anyone who would join us. We are a friendly and approachable community who are open minded and caring. We are unpretentious, warm and kind in what we do. Our building is important to us and we believe it could offer space at the heart of the community for various activities. This church is like a family and the building is our home; we want to share it!

### What we share

We want to share what we have at St. Giles because God is at the heart of all we do. And God is for everyone! We want people to come closer to God and to get to know Jesus as Saviour.

### Our dream

Over the next few years we want to make progress towards a dream of a church that is full, representing all sectors of our community, all ages, all stages of faith and all cultures. We would love our building to function better as a multi-purpose building, always remembering it is a place of worship, but where the community can feel welcome and at home. We would love to see the church accessible to all, and to be a place where real connections and relationships are built and grown.

## **Church organisations, activities and groups with numbers attending**

### **Messy Church**

Messy Church (and oh yes, we do make a mess!) started meeting about 2 years ago in our Church Hall and was set up by one of our regular church members Jane Proud. She obtained grants for supplies and equipment and set the foundations which have now been taken over by our very enthusiastic team leader Linda Clinton (who runs her own local dress shop so has plenty of scraps of material to make good use of and we benefit immensely from her creative talents). There are five regular, committed helpers who help to plan and supervise the activities. We have a very successful Messy Church Facebook page (please check us out “Messy Church at St Giles Rowley Regis” for lots of photos of all the fun).

We meet on the first Sunday of the month at 3pm in the Church Hall and we follow the three basic Messy Church values “creativity, hospitality and celebration”. The afternoon starts with a good catch up over a cup of tea for the helpers. When the children have arrived we then begin with the relevant bible reading for that session, a talk about the theme and the crafts we are going to do. Then the fun begins. Nearly always involving glitter and food. Adults have just as much fun as the children. Afterwards we all sit around in a semi-circle to explore the biblical theme.

## **Messy Church - Continued**

Children are encouraged to take part in reading, play acting and prayers and to discuss the relevance of what it all means. Then we all join together for a wonderful celebration meal, no one goes home hungry! We usually have 7-8 families attending with 8-12 children. All ages are very welcome although we tend to find we attract younger children at the moment.

We are actively promoting and trying to grow Messy Church. We have recently had Messy Church promotional cards printed which we give out to our baptism families and local schools. We now have a lovely Messy Church notice board in church to display what we have made etc.

This enables us to keep in touch with the main body of the church. We want the children to feel they are part of Gods family, that they are not on their own and can grow up with a wider church family. Our aim is to introduce Jesus and to give all an opportunity to grow closer to him. The children and adults who accompany them (we have parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles) always say what a wonderful time they have had and how much they look forward to the next Messy Church.





## **Open the Book**

Six members of St Giles congregation have formed a team of story tellers along with volunteers from four other local churches and for over three years we have acted out Bible stories during assemblies every other week in three Primary Schools, reaching about 1000 children. Our Open the Book volunteers are from various denominations and their ages range from people aged in their fifties to eighties ensuring a strong diverse group.

The popularity of our story telling has developed with children opening their minds and hearts to see Jesus as their friend and we know this from the prayers they write for the prayer tree. Open the Book has allowed us to build far reaching relationships beyond the wood and stone of the church, to bear witness, serve and teach about Jesus but it has also allowed a sense of trust to be developed between schools and church, which is opening up new pathways.

## **Churchyard/Churchyard Project**

Our vision is creation of a lasting legacy for future generations by preserving the history and biodiversity that makes St. Giles churchyard so special.

St. Giles churchyard is situated in the heart of the community of Rowley. The site commands views across Dudley to the Clent Hills and Brown Clee. The Church and mature trees provide a significant landmark in the Rowley Regis landscape. The site of the churchyard is 3.7 acres.

The landscape of the churchyard is a rich historical record that holds a great diversity of a spectacular variety of plants, birds and history. A casual visitor can wander around the graveyard to take in the natural beauty. Wildlife lovers can see species of flowers and birds including woodpeckers, the rare Hedge Brown (Gatekeeper) butterfly, bats and badgers and thriving native plants.

There is an increased awareness of the importance to conserve and share the historical knowledge within the community now and for future generations.

The churchyard is an eloquent witness to the tragic impact of world events on the local community and the sacrifice it made in the First World War. The churchyard is designated as a Commonwealth War Grave site with a Grade 2 Listed War Memorial.

## **Churchyard/Churchyard Project - Continued**

There are also gravestones relating to the family of the great 20<sup>th</sup> Century poet, W. H. Auden.

We also currently work with the senior students of Westminster School which is for children with special needs. They do gardening activities on a weekly basis and this has benefited their self-esteem and confidence and brought about inter-generational contact.

However, in May 2017, the churchyard was overgrown and badly neglected which was upsetting for all who tried to visit. A call was put out to the community for volunteers to become Friends of the Churchyard to meet our aims: To create a safe, well managed space where families can visit easily in an improved environment where new life, wildlife can be preserved, flourish, and cherished within the churchyard adding value to the lives of the living by remembering the past. By engaging young people from local schools in learning about the historical and wildlife heritage the next generation will continue to care about this important War Grave site. The call was answered with volunteers attending monthly sessions which compliment the weekly work Payback Community Service already do in the churchyard. The volunteers attend social evenings to raise funds for further work to be done. All are invited to any church activity.

## **Collaboration with other Christians – neighbouring parishes, deanery ecumenical relations and projects**

St. Giles' is in an informal "cluster" partnership with St. Paul's Blackheath and St. James' Rounds Green. We worship together four times a year (fifth Sunday of the month) The three parishes also sometimes link up for Lent Courses and confirmation classes.

On a deanery level, St. Giles' hosted a 3-D course (Diocesan Developing Disciples course) for the Deanery.

Over many years, St. Giles' and Knowle Methodist Church have shared Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services together.

## Description of church buildings and facilities

### Description of the church building, church hall and meeting rooms

The church itself, rebuilt after the fire of 1913 and reopened in 1923 is a relatively modern building, though designed on traditional lines. It has fixed oak pews and seats around three hundred people. At the east end is a fair sized vestry often used for PCC meetings, at the west end is a small room used for meetings and refreshments. The tower also contains a small but pleasant meeting room on the first floor. The central heating system is based on three inch pipes and cast iron radiators, almost certainly fitted when the church was built. Originally designed for solid fuel it is now heated by two gas fired boilers situated in the basement. The pipe organ is a two manual instrument with foot pedals. The tower contains a single south facing clock made in 1859 worked by hand wound weights and boasts a peal of eight bells which were re-cast and re-hung about 25 years ago.

The bell ringers practice on Monday evenings, 7.45pm to 9.00pm and ring for Sunday morning services. They also ring for weddings if required and special occasions ( i.e. Armistice, Christmas etc.) An extension was built providing for the first time a kitchen and indoor toilet facilities.



The chancel

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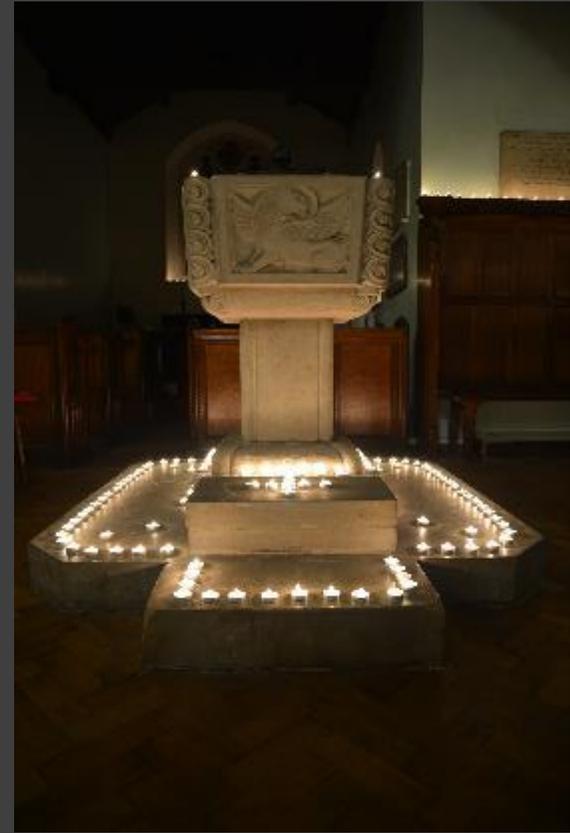


# Chancel at Christmas

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The Lady Chapel and Baptistry



Lady Chapel



## Details of regular users of church premises

No one else uses the church other than ourselves.

## Building works planned or in progress

There are no plans for any building work at the present time.

## Location and description of parsonage

The vicarage is a large detached house, fitted with gas fired central heating. It has four bedrooms, three of which, are fitted with a wash basin. It has a separate bathroom and a separate upstairs W.C. Downstairs there are two separate W.C.s. There is a large attic room running the whole length of the house boarded in the middle section with a window at each end and accessed by a permanent staircase. It has two reception rooms and a downstairs study. The fitted kitchen is adjoined by a utility room opening onto a small walled yard with two out houses. There is a large garage offering additional storage space. The walled yard opens onto a spacious but manageable secluded garden which backs onto the churchyard. The vicarage also has ample parking. Between the church and the vicarage is a pair of semi-detached houses belonging to the church, both of which are rented out.



**THE VICARAGE**

## Church Hall and who uses it

The Church Hall is positioned opposite the Church and is a well used venue by the local community.

It has a large, well-appointed kitchen with a serving hatch opening onto the main hall. It has a raised stage at the front with rooms on either side and can be, and has been, used to produce plays and pantomimes etc and gives a warm welcoming feel to all who use it. It is heated by gas fired central heating.

It has a large car park and a bus stop just outside.

The Hall supports a varied range of activities taking place during the day and evenings, which include dance classes, Kickboxing, Yoga, Theatre Kidz, Ladies class, Children's parties and the occasional wedding party.

With available spaces there is scope for further community involvement.

The incumbent is invited to be a Trustee of the Church Hall and Lands Trust.



# Church Hall

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## Administration and Finance

### Financial situation, whether clergy expenses are met in full, any secretarial help provided, stewardship situation

Like most parish churches of a similar age, St. Giles is challenged by rising maintenance costs, but this is a church with people willing to come together and pull out the stops when large fund raising efforts are called for, St. Giles' treasurer is often surprised and touched by generous contributions to various projects. We also find that from time to time God is asking us to see farther, beyond our present day circumstances, building wise, and we have our dreams. Despite having a large proportion of older people, St. Giles is also showing signs of a growing younger congregation being increasingly more willing to give time and to share their talents and skills in making things happen. Full accounts for the year ending 2017 are included at the end of this presentation covering the Church general account, Church Hall accounts and Churchyard accounts. The treasurer believes that St. Giles' main asset is its people and encourages you to come and join us.

### Stewardship

At present, the PCC is looking at ways to encourage more vigorous and active stewardship of time, gifts and money.

## How the PCC works

Except for January and August the PCC meets on the first Thursday of the month. It has an elected chairman, usually the Vicar, and a Vice Chairman and a Secretary drawn from the PCC. A Standing Committee is also appointed by the PCC to manage situations when it would be inappropriate, or when there is insufficient time, to call a full PCC meeting.

## Details of Sub-Committees

The following committees are elected each year and meet as required: Standing Committee, Worship Committee, Church Hall Committee, Finance Committee and Fabric Committee. We also have members on the Deanery Synod.

## Rotas

Cleaning Rota – Coffee Rota – Sidespersons Rota – Vergers Rota – Flower Rota – Server's Rota



PCC

## Church schools and other schools in the parish

We have links with four local primary schools – Rowley Hall, Springfield, Brickhouse and Blackheath. All send classes to the church for visits and clergy and the children's worker take assemblies and some RE lessons. Our most regular contacts are with Rowley Hall.

## Hospitals, residential or day care centres, other local institutions or groups where the incumbent might be chaplain or have other involvement

Within approximately one mile of the church is a small community hospital, where St Giles Singers lead the carol singing, adjacent to which (inappropriately some might say) is a crematorium and a cemetery, and there are both residential, and nursing homes in the parish which are visited from time to time by the clergy.

We have a Secondary High School St Michaels C of E VA, which the new vicar will be Chaplain of which can take up 50% of the workload.

Duties includes :-

- Monday staff briefing message
- Periodically leading year group assemblies
- Key speaker at the Student Voice Celebration Evening and Open Evening
- Link between Student Voice and St Giles' congregation (e.g. LINKS committee and 'Mickies' Biccies & Brew' and WW1 Memorial collaboration)
- Links through events (e.g. WW1 Poppies and People)
- Participating in School Governance
- Headteacher link (advisory capacity)
- Staff counselling
- Active member of the Ethos Committee
- Attendance at School Religious observances
- Attendance at Awards Evening
- Attendance at performances
- Termly attendance at Rowley Multi-agency Group meetings
- Assisting the RE department
- Marking special occasions (eg tree planting)

The school was included in a parliament review this is included below

# St Michael's CE High School

EDUCATION EDITION



The extended leadership team



Students release balloons with messages of support for France, following the 2015 terrorist attack.

In 2009, St Michael's became a Black Country Challenge school and later, a National Challenge school attaining only 13% A\*-C including English and Maths. By 2013, results had increased to 51% against a background of educational reform and the school was recognised as being 34th in the country in the Government's 200 most improved schools list. In 2014, the SSAT awarded St Michael's the Educational Outcomes Award for being in the top 20% of schools nationally for outstanding continuous improvement; we were rated Good by Ofsted and, the following year, the Anglican and Methodists Schools' inspectors judged St Michael's to be Outstanding.

We are unique: the only Anglican Secondary school in Sandwell, and one of only two in Birmingham. An oversubscribed school, we are proud to be inclusive; offering 25 places to students with substantial physical, learning and medical needs, including five autistic students. We have 28 wheelchair users and the highest proportion of children who are fostered or in care (27) in the borough.

In 2011, we moved to a £38 million PFI building, which, whilst spectacular, had an impact on the school's intake, as we moved away from our only Outstanding feeder Primary School.

Aspirations in the borough are low: the national figure for adults completing higher education is 19.1%, whereas in our catchment area, it is 7.2%.

## REPORT CARD

- » Head Teacher: Mrs Jayne Gray
- » Location: Rowley Regis, Sandwell, West Midlands
- » Co-educational Church of England 11-16 High School
- » 1200 pupils on roll; 172 staff and 2 apprentices
- » 82% white British students
- » 0.32 deprivation indicator in the Rowley ward compared with 0.21 nationally
- » 40% disadvantaged students
- » 16.6% pupils with special educational needs support
- » 4.7% pupils with Education Health Care Plans (formerly statements)
- » Ofsted rated Good

“The ethos has become a shared vision with everybody working towards the same, explicit goals”

From National Challenge to Good in five years

Many factors influenced the improvements in the school's results:

- » support from Local Authority specialists
- » working with outstanding schools and colleges to develop middle management and improve the quality of teaching
- » recruiting enthusiastic teachers into the profession to replace those who had failed to improve
- » flexible curriculum planning and a clearer focus on teaching and learning
- » an improved analysis of data to track and monitor students' progress in years 10 and 11 (KS4)
- » raising attainment meetings with core subject leaders in KS4
- » encouraging parents to become more engaged in their child's learning

### Reaching for the stars

When I was appointed Headteacher a year ago, my mission was to improve the plateau in results since 2013. This required an overhaul of the teaching, learning, assessment and quality assurance systems and practices.

The ethos has become a shared vision with everybody working towards the same, explicit goals. Staff work with each other – discussing ideas in a supportive and cohesive environment.

The leadership team has been expanded to include Associate Assistant Heads to direct work on literacy; numeracy; students with high levels of attainment on entry to the school; years 7 to 9 (KS3) progress; disadvantaged students' progress; behaviour and transition into Year 7. Also, we have employed an Advanced Skills Teacher to develop teacher support and coaching programmes.

We encourage a culture of collaboration: sharing of good practice between teachers and departments. To increase accountability for student data and to enable staff to plan for progress, we introduced the Go4Schools data package. We have improved monitoring and evaluation processes, including pairing Senior and Middle Leaders throughout a more rigorous Quality Assurance programme, to ensure consistency.

We have formed KS3 'Raising Attainment Group' meetings, to identify issues early and avoid 'firefighting' in Year 11. We established an Academic Board group, to encourage curriculum and pastoral leaders to co-ordinate, and created working parties for key areas of teaching, learning and assessment and student well-being. As a result of these collaborations, we have created strategies to target our underperforming student groups. For example, higher order questions are directed to disadvantaged students first. The working parties trial innovations such as the 'Wow! Now. How.' marking system and 'Safebook', both of which encourage meaningful dialogue between students and staff to promote progress.

Outstanding musicians



Whilst behaviour in classrooms is typically very good, minor issues during break times have been addressed through the introduction of Expectations cards. Carried at all times, if a student violates uniform or behaviour protocols outside of lessons, their card is signed. Three signatures result in a detention. A blank card at the end of the term results in a reward. The success of this scheme, alongside a more stringent, structured, transparent and consistent set of scaled sanctions, has had a very positive impact on students' conduct around the school.

Another successful innovation was to change Year 11 form tutors so that they are all maths teachers. This means that students can take advantage of extra maths tuition during form time. From September, Year 7 form tutors will be English specialists, to focus on literacy. We are planning to introduce project based, thematic work in Years 7 and 8, to create a more effective transition from primary school and we have timetabled double lessons in all year groups, to reduce movement around the school and intensify learning.

Forming an Ethos Committee has been an unprecedented success. The Christmas and Easter services brought the whole school together; developing a stronger sense of community and spiritual awareness. Similarly, stronger liaison with key stakeholders, including Governors and primary Headteachers, has led to more effective information-sharing.

### Vision

Essentially, we are striving to raise aspirations, both of the students and their parents / carers. We have developed strong links with prestigious sixth form colleges and with 'red brick' universities. Assemblies celebrate academic success and develop an understanding of career development implications and there is a key focus on student leadership.



Budding scientists

However, every child is an individual and many of our students want to follow a vocational educational route. Many of our SEND students will struggle to achieve a positive Progress 8 score; especially pertinent with the introduction of the 9-1 GCSEs which are 100% terminal exam, and vocational qualifications, for which the value of the practical component has been reduced. Consequently, if we are to resume our upward trajectory, we must:

- » forge more effective links with our feeder primary schools
- » embed the new strategies already implemented and remain open to new ideas through liaising with outstanding secondary schools
- » be forensic in our use of data to plan for progress and intervene effectively with underperforming individuals and groups
- » encourage our parents' engagement in every aspect of their child's education

But crucially, we must create independent, skilled, problem-solving learners who are well-prepared for the next stage in their educational or vocational journeys.



The art of concentration

“We encourage a culture of collaboration”

## Links with the wider church

In the past St. Giles supported the work of the church in Malawi which is twinned with the Diocese of Birmingham through its annual Outward Giving and the work of U.S.P.G. particularly its Bangladesh in focus project. We have also supported the work of the Church Mission Society.

## Local organisations of which the last incumbent was a member/Chair

Member of the Diocesan Synod. – Member of Ministries Forum. – Member of Transforming Church – Sandwell Churches Link.

**6****Future mission and ministry****Significant changes or signs of growth in the past three years.**

In the last three years the church has lost a number of long-serving members but has gone on to gain a mixed group of new worshippers. Many have joined through the church's ministry to the bereaved and through befriending existing church members. There are signs that more people from the wider community are attending special services, such as at Christmas, also the demand for baptisms in particular has soared in the last couple of years.

**Anticipated developments in outreach, growth and pastoral opportunities.**

There has been a significant amount of new homes going up in the parish on former industrial sites. So there is potential for outreach on these new estates. It is hoped that in the future Lay members of the church will be more involved in reaching wider community.

## Number of people participating in diocesan training courses, number offering for ordination or reader ministry

Three church members are on the diocesan Pastoral Care and Community Skills training course. We have no one being offered for ordination training or reader ministry training at present.

## Aspirations which, under God, the PCC has for the Church's mission in the parish

- Great desire to meet the needs of the wider community, particularly those at significant crossroads in their lives.
- We would like to reach out to younger members of the community more effectively than we already do, but at the same time affirm the value of our older members.
- Explore different styles of worship.
- We would also like to bridge the generations and learn from one another.
- Continue to build and encourage the work of maintaining the church and churchyard with members of the local community.
- Consider the possibility of introducing new technology to make worship more accessible.

## **Urgent or difficult issues which need to be addressed**

- Meeting the challenge of maintaining a large church, hall and churchyard which serve a large number of families in the community and people who come from further afield.
- Learning to encourage one another while respecting differences and helping to build up confidence in the areas of lay ministry participation within the services.

# Around the parish

Most of the parish is now built up although there is a park about half a mile from the church where there are two football pitches and a cricket pitch and play areas for small children and teenagers.

At the north end of the parish is Warrens Hall park, a mixture of reclaimed industrial land, a rejuvenated canal system (forming part of the parish boundary) and an area of medieval farmland where the remnants of the ancient strip system of farming can still be seen; there is also a riding school at Warrens Hall.



The south east parish boundary



North eastern parish boundary



North eastern parish boundary



Warren's Hall fishing pool





Cobb's engine house, part of the old mine workings.  
The original engine is now in the Ford museum in America

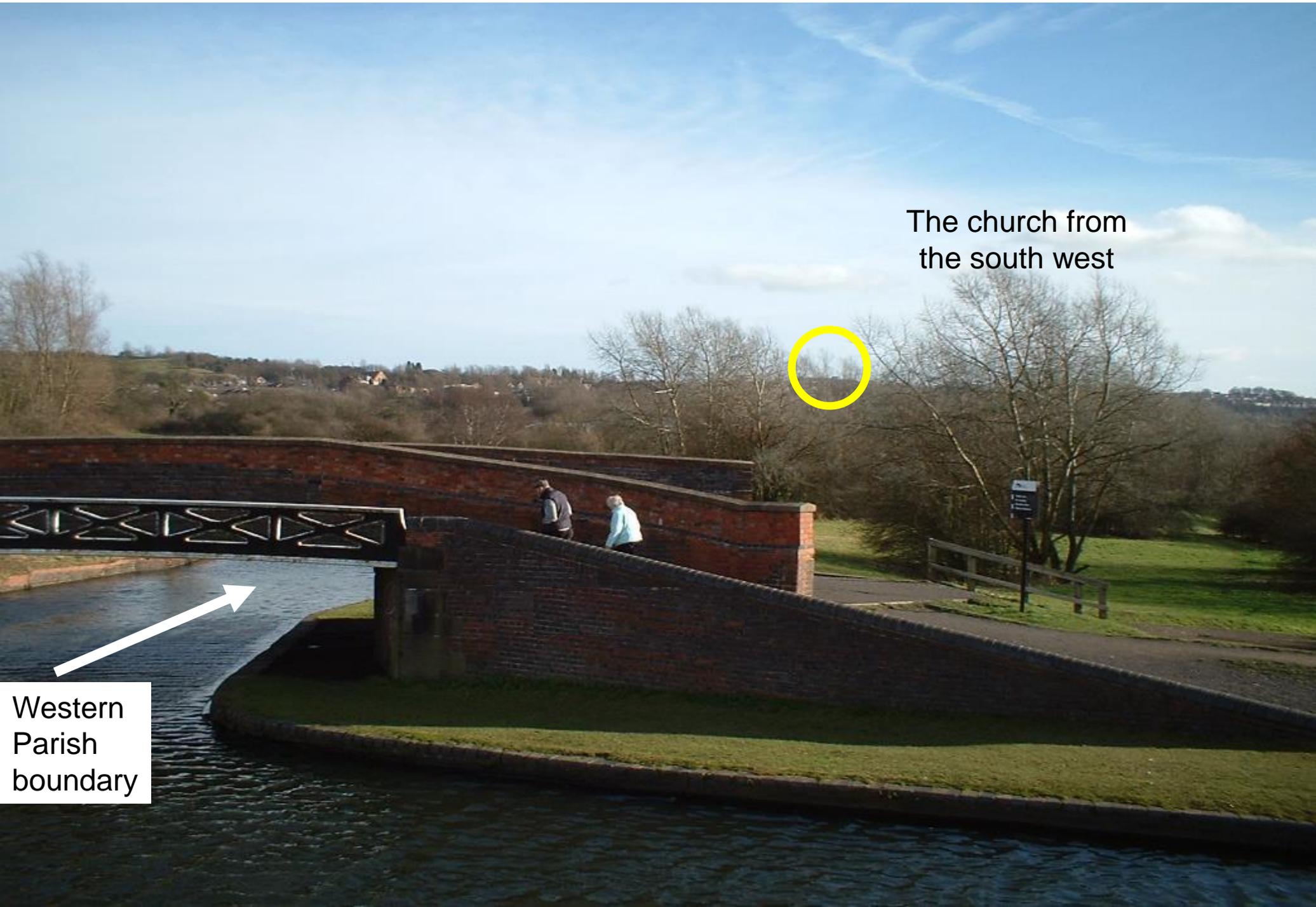


Medieval farmland









The church from  
the south west



Western  
Parish  
boundary





Rowley Parish Church from Dudley





Rowley Parish Church from Netherton





**WHY?**

**WHO?**

**SOME OF  
THE  
PEOPLE**



## CHURCHWARDENS

Jean Harcourt

Yvonne Owen

A sound man,  
Mike Tandy





The Bell Ringers



Some Members of  
the congregation

---





The Ladies Class

# Annual wine tasting

January 2018



MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND CONNOISSEUR OF  
FINE WINES

IAN SYKES



Annual  
Scarecrow  
Festival  
2017





Christmas

Fayre

2017







Cricket

St Giles and Friends

v

St Michaels Teaching Staff



Better luck next year  
St Michaels !

---



**WHO?**

**The qualities and attributes the PCC would wish to see in the new priest**

- Someone who will love us but not indulge us!
- Share God's word, teach and challenge both new and mature Christians
- Help us discover, identify and foster the gifts we have so that we can step forward together into the future
- Help build up the next generation of Christians and build bridges between the generations
- Be at home with a variety of styles of worship and have an imaginative approach to appeal to younger people
- Be a listening leader – who seeks discernment but is not afraid to lead
- Enjoy working with and encourage ministry outreach teams, particularly with younger people
- Have an infectious sense of humour and be a good manager

**Resolutions regarding women priests (if applicable)**

There are no resolutions passed regarding women priests.



Now ***could*** the winter of our discontent, be made glorious summer



**BY YOU???**



?

THE REV. ?



## Parish Representatives



Yvonne Owen  
Churchwarden



Ken Hadley  
Vice-Chair



## STATISTICS FOR MISSION: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2017

Church name:ST GILES

Parish name:ROWLEY REGUS

Deanery:WARLEY

Diocese: BIRMINGHAM

### REMINDER: PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM ONLINE IF POSSIBLE

<http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

The online returns system has existing information about your church already saved. It automatically checks for typographical errors and minor mistakes and gives you the opportunity to revise your figures before final submission. You can see the data for your church over time and download copies for your records.

- ✓ Please complete this form for your **CHURCH**. If there is more than one church in your parish, then please complete and submit a separate form for each church
- ✓ Where activities – e.g. acts of worship in schools; conducting funeral services at crematoria - are shared between more than one church then please attempt, where possible, to ensure that they are only reported once
- ✓ Questions 1a and 1b about the **Electoral Roll** refer to the **ecclesiastical electoral roll**. Question 1a asks about the ecclesiastical electoral roll for your **parish**. Question 1b is optional and only applies if you are in a multi-church parish AND keep a separate roll for your church
- ✓ **Fresh expressions of Church** should be included in your numbers, unless they prefer to complete a separate return. For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the “Choice tree” at the end of this form
- ✓ Please complete all questions as far as possible, using “0” or “unknown” or “no services” if necessary. Unless otherwise indicated, empty fields will be treated as incomplete and may be queried later as missing data
- ✓ In rare circumstances where a single congregation worships evenly between a number of churches (i.e. there is no difference in who attends and how often at each church), a single return may be submitted. The churches included in the return should be noted below

A single return is submitted on behalf of (please list all included churches here, with church codes if known):

ST GILES, ROWLEY REGIS 2508

**1a. How many people were on the ecclesiastical electoral roll for your parish, as reported at your Annual Parochial Church meeting in 2017?**

✓ Please write “unknown” if the figure is not available

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1a. Number on the ecclesiastical Electoral Roll for your PARISH |  |
|---|--|

If your parish has more than one church **and** also keeps a separate roll for your church, please **also** provide the total electoral roll for your church.

✓ Please write “N/A” if this is not applicable to your church

**1b. How many people are on your church Electoral Roll?**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1b. Number on the CHURCH Electoral Roll | 85 |
|---|----|

The next question is about church attendance on a **“USUAL” SUNDAY**

- ✓ A usual Sunday is one that is not a major festival or contained in a peak holiday period
- ✓ Wherever possible, please do not count the same person multiple times – if someone attends more than once on a usual Sunday, please only count them once
- ✓ Only think about the Sundays when you hold at least one service (ignore the Sundays when you do not hold a service at your church)

**2. How many people attend your church on a usual Sunday, when there is a service?**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 2a. Adults (16 years old and over)                 | 59 |
| 2b. Children and young people (under 16 years old) | 2  |

The following questions are about **how many people attended** a service or act of worship at **Easter** (Easter Day and vigil services on Easter Eve), **Advent** (Advent Sunday until 23<sup>rd</sup> December) and **Christmas** (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day).

- ✓ If you did not hold any services or acts of worship at your church during these periods, please enter “0” in the relevant box.

**3. How many people came to your church at Easter 2017?**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 3a: Number of communicants at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve  | 72  |
| 3b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Easter Day and vigil service on Easter Eve | 115 |

**4. How many people came to special services run by your church during Advent 2017?**

- ✓ Include attendance at special services run by your church from Advent Sunday until 23<sup>rd</sup> December, for example nativities, carol services, carols on the green, crib services.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 4a. Total number of people attending special services held for the <b>congregation and local community</b>        | 215 |
| 4b. Total number of people attending special services held <b>specifically for civic organisations or schools</b> | 929 |

## 5. How many people came to your church at Christmas 2017?

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 5a. Number of communicants at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day  | 77  |
| 5b. Total number of people attending worship (including communicants) at service(s) on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day | 249 |

The next section is the **OCTOBER COUNT** of the number of people attending your church for **services and other acts of worship** during the first 4 weeks of October. This includes the number of people attending on Sundays and during the week (Monday-Saturday).

- ✓ Please include any **fresh expressions of Church**, unless they have submitted their own return. A fresh expression of Church is a form of church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet "members" of any church. For help identifying fresh expressions of Church, please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the "Choice tree" at the end of this form

You are asked to enter a count for each of the first 4 weeks of October 2017. The count is split into Sundays and weekdays; adults and children; and type of service (Church, fresh expressions of Church and school services).

Wherever possible, please **do not count the same person multiple times in the same week** – if someone attends your church more than once during Sunday, please only count them once. If someone attends on a Sunday, please do not include them again in the midweek count for that week.

**Number of services:** The number of services or fresh expressions of Church held on Sundays & weekdays. Enter "0" if there were none.

**School services:** These are services held in your church (or church building) that are attended by a school(s). There is a later question about acts of worship held in schools.

**Adults:** 16 years old and over. Please include those leading the service(s).

**Children and young people:** Under 16 years old.

### Please **INCLUDE**:

- ✓ Clergy and other ministers attending or leading services
- ✓ Adults and children attending Sunday schools or equivalent activities
- ✓ Attendance at baptisms, including any visitors
- ✓ Any other church-based activities in which worship is the primary purpose and predominant feature
- ✓ Attendance at services outside the church, e.g. at home, in care homes, prisons, or hospitals (include as Church or Fresh expression attendance, as appropriate)

### Please **DO NOT INCLUDE**:

- ✗ Attendance at weddings or funeral services
- ✗ Activities with only some worship element, such as house groups, parent and toddler groups, youth clubs, Alpha courses, and social events such as harvest supper.

**6. How many people attended your church in October 2017?**

- ✓ If possible, please count each person only once in any week, even if they attended more than once
- ✓ If there were exceptional circumstances that led to unusual October attendance figures in 2017, let us know in the comment box at the end of this form

| 1.  | Number of services | Adult  |                   |                | Children and young people |                   |                |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
|   |                    | Church | Fresh expressions | School service | Church                    | Fresh expressions | School service |
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>          | 3                  | 52     | 7                 | 0              | 3                         | 7                 | 0              |
| <b>Weekdays 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup></b> | 1                  | 3      | 0                 | 0              | 1                         | 0                 | 0              |

| 2.   | Number of services | Adult  |                   |                | Children and young people |                   |                |
|--|--------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
|  |                    | Church | Fresh expressions | School service | Church                    | Fresh expressions | School service |
| <b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>             | 2                  | 42     | 0                 | 0              | 2                         | 0                 | 0              |
| <b>Weekdays 9<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup></b> | 1                  | 3      | 0                 | 0              | 0                         | 0                 | 0              |

| 3.  | Number of services | Adult  |                   |                | Children and young people |                   |                |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
|   |                    | Church | Fresh expressions | School service | Church                    | Fresh expressions | School service |
| <b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>             | 2                  | 55     | 0                 | 0              | 0                         | 0                 | 0              |
| <b>Weekdays 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup></b> | 1                  | 4      | 0                 | 0              | 0                         | 0                 | 0              |

| 4.  | Number of services | Adult  |                   |                | Children and young people |                   |                |
|---|--------------------|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
|   |                    | Church | Fresh expressions | School service | Church                    | Fresh expressions | School service |
| <b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>             | 3                  | 216    | 0                 | 0              | 55                        | 0                 | 0              |
| <b>Weekdays 23<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup></b> | 1                  | 4      | 0                 | 0              | 0                         | 0                 | 0              |

**7. How often does your ministry team lead acts of worship in schools?**

- ✓ This question refers to acts of worship in school buildings rather than in your church or church building (services held for schools in your church should be included within the October count, Easter or Christmas figures where appropriate)
- ✓ Include any school-based acts of worship led by a person who holds office or responsibility for ministry (ordained or lay) within your church, whether or not the school is in your parish
- ✓ 'Usually' refers to during term-time or when the school is open, ignoring school holidays
- ✓ Tick one box as the closest estimate

| Never | Occasionally/ ad hoc | Usually once or twice a term | Usually once a month | Usually once a fortnight | Usually once a week | Usually more than once a week |
|-------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|       |                      |                              |                      |                          | /                   |                               |

If there is no school in your parish, tick here:

The following questions are about your “**worshipping community**”. Think about your regular worshipping community at the **end of 2017**. For more information about worshipping communities, see <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/WorshippingCommunity.pdf>

- ✓ Include anyone who attends your church regularly, for example at least once a month, or would attend if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence
- ✓ Include all congregations in your church, including fresh expressions of Church
- ✗ Do not include visitors, e.g. holidaymakers, baptism parties etc.
- ✗ Do not include people who consider their 'home' church to be another church
- ✗ Do not include people who left the church earlier in the year (they are counted in the next question as 'leavers') and were not part of your worshipping community at the end of 2017

**8. How many people were in your “worshipping community” at the end of 2017?**

- ✓ Please complete all of the boxes, as far as you can. If there is no-one in a category, please write “0”. If the age groups of your worshipping community are unknown, please use your best estimates. If you are unable to estimate people’s ages, please enter the total figure only

| TOTAL | Children (Age 0-10) | Young people (Age 11-17) | Adults (Age 18-69) | Adults (Age 70+) |
|-------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 81    | 10                  | 1                        | 51                 | 19               |

**9. How has your worshipping community changed during 2017?**

- ✓ If you know how many people have left/joined your worshipping community but you do not know their reasons for leaving or joining, please enter the total figures (or your best estimates) only
- ✓ If there is no-one in a particular category, please write “0”
- ✗ Do not count as joiners or leavers members of your worshipping community who move from “Children and young people” to “Adult”
- ✓ **If you are unable to complete this question, please leave it blank**

9a. How many adults and children **joined** your worshipping community during 2017?

|                           | TOTAL | Worshipping for the first time | Moved into the area | Moved from a local church | Returned to church |
|---------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Adults (Age 18+)          | 3     | 2                              | 0                   | 1                         | 0                  |
| Children and young people | 0     | 0                              | 0                   | 0                         | 0                  |

9b. How many adults and children **left** your worshipping community during 2017?

|                           | TOTAL | Death or illness | Moved away | Moved to a local church | Not worshipping anywhere | Other/Don't know |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Adults (Age 18+)          | 4     | 2                | 0          | 2                       | 0                        | 0                |
| Children and young people | 0     | 0                | 0          | 0                       | 0                        | 0                |

The next questions are about **fresh expressions of Church**. A fresh expression of Church is a form of Church established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet “members” of any church. Here you are asked to describe aspects of the way the fresh expression of Church is run, rather than providing numbers attending.

- ✓ For help in identifying fresh expressions of Church please visit <http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk> or use the “Choice tree” at the end of this form

- ✓ Fresh expressions of Church can be quite varied. If you remain unsure about whether an activity or service meets the definition of a fresh expression, please DO include it here
- ✓ We have included space for three fresh expressions of Church. If you have more, please continue on an additional sheet
- ✗ Do not include Alpha courses or outreach activities that do not include worship

**10. What regular fresh expressions of Church are supported by your church?**

**No fresh expressions of Church** (If your church did NOT support fresh expressions of Church during 2017 please tick here and leave the rest of this page blank.)

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Name of fresh expression                         | MESSY CHURCH  |
| Description of activity                          | CRAFT/WORSHIP/FOOD – ALL AGES   |
| Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Church / Church Hall<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____  |
| How often?                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly /Monthly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____   |
| Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply) | /ALL ages /Family <input type="checkbox"/> 0-4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10<br><input type="checkbox"/> 11-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+   |
| Who attends? (please tick all that apply)        | /Attendees include people who regularly come to other services<br><input type="checkbox"/> /Attendees include people who occasionally come to other services<br><input type="checkbox"/> /Attendees include people who never come to other services |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Name of fresh expression                         |   |
| Description of activity                          |   |
| Where is it held? (please tick all that apply)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Church Hall<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____   |
| How often?                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____   |
| Age group aimed at? (please tick all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> ALL ages <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> 0-4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10<br><input type="checkbox"/> 11-17 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+                 |
| Who attends? (please tick all that apply)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Attendees include people who regularly come to other services<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attendees include people who occasionally come to other services<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attendees include people who never come to other services |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Name of fresh expression                       |   |
| Description of activity                        |   |
| Where is it held? (please tick all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Church Hall<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note where): _____   |
| How often?                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please note how often): _____ |

**11. How many baptisms and thanksgivings for the gift of a child were held in your church during 2017?**

- ✓ If separate services of thanksgiving and baptism were held for an individual both should be recorded here

|  | Infants (<1 year) | Children (1-4 years) | Children (5-12 years) | Youth/adults (13+) |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Number of persons <b>baptised</b>  | 27                | 21                   | 2                     | 9                  |
| Number of children for whom a <b>thanksgiving</b> service for the gift of a child (birth or adoption) was held | 0                 | 0                    | 0                     | 0                  |

**12. How many marriages and services of prayer and dedication after civil marriage were held in your church during 2017?**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Number of couples <b>married</b> in your church   | 10 |
| Number of couples for whom a <b>service of prayer and dedication</b> was held in your church (after civil marriage) | 1  |

**13. How many funeral services were held at or on behalf of your church during 2017?**

- ✓ Include all funerals that were held at your church
- ✓ Include all funerals conducted by any member of your ministry team (including Readers, stipendiary clergy, non-stipendiary clergy and retired clergy) at a crematorium or cemetery

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Number of deceased for whom a <b>funeral service was held at your church</b>  | 16 |
| Number of deceased for whom a full <b>funeral service</b> was conducted by a member of your ministry team <b>at a crematorium or cemetery</b> , excluding committal only & burial of ashes only | 5  |

Looking back across 2017, were there any **exceptional circumstances** (e.g. an interregnum or building works) or **significant changes** that may have led to **unusual** figures in this return?

Is there **anything additional** that we should note when including your annual return within the Statistics for Mission?

14. Finally, there is a special focus question about social action. Churches' engagement with their communities, and in responding to social issues, can take many forms. This question asks about your church's involvement in those activities that previous research has suggested are amongst the most widespread.

- ✓ Please only include organised activities that are primarily run for the benefit of the wider community (not primarily for the church congregation)
- ✓ If you are unable to complete this question, please leave it blank

| <i>Please tick all that apply to your church</i><br><br><i>Please tick as many columns as apply for each activity</i> | Our church is responsible for <u>running</u> this activity | Our church <u>hosts</u> this activity in its own building(s) | Our church does this activity <u>in partnership</u> with others (e.g. a church, charity, community group, faith group) | Our church <u>supports</u> this activity in other ways e.g. volunteers, donations |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Community cafe  |  |  |  |   |
| Food bank   |  |  |  | /   |
| Holiday/ Breakfast/ After-school clubs for children   |  |  |  |   |
| Lunch club or drop in   |  |  |  |   |
| Money matters & debt advice   |  |  |  |   |
| Night shelter or other homelessness provision   |  |  |  |   |
| Parent/carer and toddler group or play group  |  |  |  |   |
| Pastoral provision for the wider community (e.g. Street Pastors, counselling/support, befriending schemes)            |  |  |  |   |
| Youth work (for wider community)  |  |  |  |   |
| Other community activity (please specify)   |  |  |  |   |

**Thank you for completing your annual return on behalf of your church.** Your contribution is essential to the on-going care and understanding of our churches and congregations; your diligence, time, and effort are greatly appreciated. Please take a moment to review your answers. Make sure that you have completed every question as far as possible and not left any answers blank (use "0" or "unknown" or "no services" if necessary), aside from where instructed in question 9. Other blank answers may be queried with you later.

Please record below the contact details for the person who has completed this form (or the lead person if more than one person has helped with the return

**J. A. Harcourt/Treasurer**

j.harcourt@virgin.net

Date of completion: 25.01.18

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. GILES, ROWLEY REGIS  
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

I report to the members of the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2017 which are set out on pages 2 to 7.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act') and with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

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

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

Mark Howell FCA

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Nicklin LLP  
Church Court  
Stourbridge Road  
Halesowen  
West Midlands  
B63 3TT

Date :

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. GILES, ROWLEY REGIS  
 BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017

|  | Notes | £ | 2017<br>£ | 2016<br>£ |
|--|-------|---|-----------|-----------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |   |           |           |
| Tangible Fixed Assets                            | 5     |   | 1,048,689 | 1,048,689 |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |   |           |           |
| Debtors  |       |   | 6,931     | 4,302     |
| Cash at Bank and In Hand                         |       |   | 28,692    | 46,347    |
|  |       |   | 35,623    | 50,649    |
| LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year | 6     |   | (2,600)   | (8,322)   |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                               |       |   | 33,023    | 42,327    |
| NET ASSETS                                       |       |   | 1,081,712 | 1,091,016 |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     |       |   |           |           |
| Unrestricted                                     | 7     |   | 281,014   | 291,397   |
| Restricted                                       | 8     |   | 800,698   | 799,619   |
|  |       |   | 1,081,712 | 1,091,016 |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
 Chairman

.....  
 Member

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these Accounts.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. GILES, ROWLEY REGIS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

|  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2017<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2017<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2017<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2016<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2016<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2016<br>£ |
|--|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>  |       |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
|  | 2     |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
| From Donors  |       | 32,484                             | -                                | 32,484                      | 40,119                             | 537                              | 40,656                      |
| Other Voluntary Incoming Resources                     |       | 3,896                              | 2,372                            | 6,268                       | 3,603                              | -                                | 3,603                       |
| Charitable & Ancillary Trading                         |       | 30,939                             | 10,000                           | 40,939                      | 31,856                             | 135                              | 31,991                      |
| Other Ordinary Incoming Resources                      |       | 27,373                             | 25                               | 27,398                      | 24,474                             | -                                | 24,474                      |
|  |       | 94,692                             | 12,397                           | 107,089                     | 100,052                            | 672                              | 100,724                     |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                                     |       |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
|  | 3     |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
| Grants   |       | 141                                | -                                | 141                         | 8                                  | 614                              | 622                         |
| Activities directly relating to the work of the Church |       | 100,827                            | 11,318                           | 112,145                     | 96,289                             | 4,102                            | 100,391                     |
| Church Management & Administration                     |       | 4,107                              | -                                | 4,107                       | 3,410                              | -                                | 3,410                       |
| <b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>                            |       | <b>105,075</b>                     | <b>11,318</b>                    | <b>116,393</b>              | <b>99,707</b>                      | <b>4,716</b>                     | <b>104,423</b>              |
| <b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>    |       |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
|  |       | (10,383)                           | 1,079                            | (9,304)                     | 345                                | (4,044)                          | (3,699)                     |
| <b>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2017</b>      |       |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
|  |       | 291,397                            | 799,619                          | 1,091,016                   | 291,052                            | 803,663                          | 1,094,715                   |
| <b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2017</b>    |       |                                    |                                  |                             |                                    |                                  |                             |
|  |       | 281,014                            | 800,698                          | 1,081,712                   | 291,397                            | 799,619                          | 1,091,016                   |

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- (a) Equipment is written off in the year of purchase.
- (b) No depreciation is charged on the Parochial Hall and the Clergy Houses.

2. INCOME

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total Funds   |               |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | £                     | £                   | 2017<br>£     | 2016<br>£     |
| (a) From Donors                        |                       |                     |               |               |
| Gift Aid                               | 15,321                | -                   | 15,321        | 15,506        |
| Income Tax Recovered                   | 5,018                 | -                   | 5,018         | 2,300         |
| Other Planned Giving                   | 3,607                 | -                   | 3,607         | 4,146         |
| Collections - Loose Plate              | 5,882                 | -                   | 5,882         | 5,827         |
| Sundry Donations                       | 2,656                 | -                   | 2,656         | 2,877         |
| Legacies                               | -                     | -                   | -             | 10,000        |
|  | <u>32,484</u>         | <u>-</u>            | <u>32,484</u> | <u>40,656</u> |
| (b) Other Voluntary Incoming Resources |                       |                     |               |               |
| Donation, Appeals Etc.                 | -                     | -                   | -             | -             |
| Fund-raising Events                    | -                     | -                   | -             | 500           |
| Special Events                         | 3,896                 | -                   | 3,896         | 3,103         |
| Living Churchyard Project              | -                     | 2,372               | 2,372         | -             |
|  | <u>3,896</u>          | <u>2,372</u>        | <u>6,268</u>  | <u>3,603</u>  |
| (c) Charitable and Ancillary Trading   |                       |                     |               |               |
| Magazines and Books                    | 250                   | -                   | 250           | 524           |
| Churchyard                             | 2,038                 | -                   | 2,038         | 2,480         |
| Church Hall                            | 14,984                | 10,000              | 24,984        | 15,907        |
| Wedding and Funeral Fees               | 13,667                | -                   | 13,667        | 13,080        |
|  | <u>30,939</u>         | <u>10,000</u>       | <u>40,939</u> | <u>31,991</u> |

| 2. INCOME (continued) |  | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds |         |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|-------------|---------|
|                       |  | £                  | £                | 2017        | 2016    |
|                       |  | £                  | £                | £           | £       |
| (d)                   | Other Ordinary Incoming Resources                      |                    |                  |             |         |
|                       | Bank Interest Received                                 | 63                 | -                | 63          | 169     |
|                       | Rent   | 19,097             | -                | 19,097      | 19,361  |
|                       | Sundries   | 8,213              | 25               | 8,238       | 4,944   |
|                       |  | 27,373             | 25               | 27,398      | 24,474  |
|                       | TOTAL INCOME   | 94,692             | 12,397           | 107,089     | 100,724 |
| 3. EXPENDITURE        |  |                    |                  |             |         |
|                       |  | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds |         |
|                       |  | £                  | £                | 2017        | 2016    |
|                       |  | £                  | £                | £           | £       |
|                       | Grants   |                    |                  |             |         |
| (a)                   | Special Charitable Collections Paid Out                | -                  | -                | -           | -       |
|                       | Grants   | -                  | -                | -           | -       |
|                       | Church Overseas  | -                  | -                | -           | 100     |
|                       | Home Missions and other Church Societies               | -                  | -                | -           | 110     |
|                       | Secular Charities                                      | 141                | -                | 141         | 412     |
|                       |  | 141                | -                | 141         | 622     |
| (b)                   | Activities directly relating to the work of the Church |                    |                  |             |         |
|                       | Diocesan Quota   | 28,098             | -                | 28,098      | 34,138  |
|                       | Clergy Expenses and Telephones                         | 25                 | -                | 25          | 352     |
|                       | Clergy Houses - Running Expenses                       | 687                | -                | 687         | 426     |
|                       | Church - Running Expenses (Elec., Gas, Water, Ins)     | 7,869              | -                | 7,869       | 8,612   |
|                       | Church Maintenance                                     | 3,523              | -                | 3,523       | 4,634   |
|                       | Upkeep of Services                                     | 880                | -                | 880         | 1,001   |
|                       | Upkeep of Churchyard                                   | 3,070              | -                | 3,070       | 5,974   |
|                       | Living Churchyard                                      | -                  | 1,268            | 1,268       | -       |
|                       | Junior Church  | -                  | -                | -           | -       |
|                       | Clergy Houses - Maintenance                            | 811                | -                | 811         | 1,277   |
|                       | Church Hall Running Costs                              | 14,031             | 10,000           | 24,031      | 20,174  |
|                       | Salaries   | 15,882             | -                | 15,882      | 14,177  |
|                       | Wedding & Funeral Fees Paid Out                        | 21,790             | -                | 21,790      | 8,152   |
|                       | Interest Paid to Churchyard Account                    | 6                  | -                | 6           | 8       |
|                       | Sundries   | 4,155              | 50               | 4,205       | 1,466   |
|                       |  | 100,827            | 11,318           | 112,145     | 100,391 |

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. GILES, ROWLEY REGIS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

|     |  |              |            |             |         |
|-----|--|--------------|------------|-------------|---------|
| 3.  | <u>EXPENDITURE (continued)</u>           |              |            |             |         |
|     |  | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total Funds |         |
|     |  | Funds        | Funds      | 2017        | 2016    |
|     |  | £            | £          | £           | £       |
| (c) | Church Management and Administration     |              |            |             |         |
|     | Parish Office (Church Admin)             | 2,848        | -          | 2,848       | 2,119   |
|     | Printing and Stationery                  | 149          | -          | 149         | 169     |
|     | Professional Fees (Independent Examiner) | 1,110        | -          | 1,110       | 1,122   |
|     |  | -----        | -----      | -----       | -----   |
|     |  | 4,107        | -          | 4,107       | 3,410   |
|     |  | -----        | -----      | -----       | -----   |
|     | TOTAL EXPENDITURE                        | 105,075      | 11,318     | 116,393     | 104,423 |
|     |  | -----        | -----      | -----       | -----   |

4. STAFF COSTS

During the year the PCC employed two Parish Clerks, a Caretaker and an Organist none of whom earned £40,000 pa or more and none of these are members of the PCC.

|    |                     |           |           |
|----|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 5. | <u>FIXED ASSETS</u> | 2017      | 2016      |
|    |                     | £         | £         |
|    | Parochial Hall      | 795,000   | 795,000   |
|    | Clergy Houses       | 253,689   | 253,689   |
|    |                     | -----     | -----     |
|    |                     | 1,048,689 | 1,048,689 |
|    |                     | -----     | -----     |

The Parochial Hall was professionally re-valued by The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group on 13 March 2009.

The Clergy Houses have been valued on the basis of the insurance valuation at 24 June 2000 with an addition of 3½% per year up to 2008. No addition has been made since then. The PCC has been advised by the Diocese that funds relating to the Clergy houses should be treated as unrestricted.

|    |   |       |       |
|----|---|-------|-------|
| 6. | <u>LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</u> | 2017  | 2016  |
|    |   | £     | £     |
|    | Accruals  | 2,600 | 1,932 |
|    | Loan  | -     | -     |
|    | Diocesan quota payable                                  | -     | 6,390 |
|    |   | ----- | ----- |
|    |   | 2,600 | 8,322 |
|    |   | ----- | ----- |

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. GILES, ROWLEY REGIS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

| 7. <u>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</u>      | Balance as at |        |             | Balance as at |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------|-------------|---------------|
|                                   | 1.1.2017      | Income | Expenditure | 31.12.2017    |
|                                   | £             | £      | £           | £             |
| Land and Buildings                | 253,689       | -      | -           | 253,689       |
| General Account                   | 1,847         | 66,692 | 63,809      | 4,730         |
| Fabric Fund                       | 4,167         | 24     | -           | 4,191         |
| Organ Fund                        | 2,126         | 9      | -           | 2,135         |
| Choir Fund                        | 806           | 5      | -           | 811           |
| Bell Fund                         | 3,495         | 17     | -           | 3,512         |
| Flower Fund                       | 104           | 2      | -           | 106           |
| Church Hall Account               | 13,808        | 18,425 | 23,309      | 8,924         |
| Churchyard Account                | 2,476         | 2,038  | 3,075       | 1,439         |
| Junior Church                     | 42            | -      | -           | 42            |
| General Reserves                  | 429           | 6      | -           | 435           |
| Incumbents Fees                   | 14,882        | -      | 14,882      | -             |
| House Maintenance                 | (7,159)       | 7,466  | -           | 307           |
| M Pearson – In Memory             | 685           | 8      | -           | 693           |
|                                   | 291,397       | 94,692 | 105,075     | 281,014       |
| <b>B. <u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u></b> |               |        |             |               |
|                                   | Balance as at | Income | Expenditure | Balance as at |
|                                   | 1.1.2017      | £      | £           | 31.12.2017    |
|                                   | £             | £      | £           | £             |
| Donations, Appeals etc            | 4,349         | 25     | 50          | 4,324         |
| Churchyard Account                | 270           | -      | -           | 270           |
| Living Churchyard                 | -             | 2,372  | 1,268       | 1,104         |
| Big Lottery Start Fund            | -             | 10,000 | 10,000      | -             |
| Land and Buildings                | 795,000       | -      | -           | 795,000       |
|                                   | 799,619       | 12,397 | 11,318      | 800,698       |

The assets and liabilities of each category of fund are:

|                          | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
|                          | £                     | £                   | £         |
| Fixed Assets             | 253,689               | 795,000             | 1,048,689 |
| Cash at bank             | 22,994                | 5,698               | 28,692    |
| Other net current assets | 4,331                 | -                   | 4,331     |
|                          | 281,014               | 800,698             | 1,081,712 |

END