

# Parish Profile



## OUR CHURCH

The parish consists of St Paul's Church, Parkend and All Saints Church, Viney Hill, both our churches being Grade 2 listed buildings.

The present Church Electoral Roll is 115 and consists of mainly retired people, some with particular needs for care, however there is a lack of younger people, something we have tried to address in the past but have been unable to achieve.

The Parish generally follows the traditional pattern of worship, however it is open to change.

The PCC supports the ordination of women to the priesthood and considers that the Parish has greatly benefited from the ministry and leadership of the previous incumbent.

Every Sunday our aim is to have a Holy Communion Service in the morning starting at 10.00a.m and an Evening Prayer Service at 5.00 p.m., during the winter months and 6.00 p.m. during the summer months, the services alternating on a weekly basis between each church. There may be occasions when it is not possible to have a Holy Communion Service during the morning services and when this happens our aim is to have a Holy Communion service instead of Evening Prayer ensuring that we have a Holy Communion service within the Parish every week.

We aim to have a Family Service once a month, usually the first Sunday, however the service does largely depend on attracting families which has sadly been lacking this year.

We also hold a Holy Communion service every Wednesday at 10.00 a.m., however during the vacancy because of the lack of available clergy to take the service this has not happened. This service is one that we would very much like to continue when the new incumbent arrives.

Our average attendance at the weekly services is:

Morning Service	35 – 40
Evening Prayer	10 – 12
Mid-week HC	10 – 12

The Parish has an open policy on baptisms and welcomes families into the churches. We have a team who visit the baptismal families for preparation and are sending representatives to the Diocesan led workshop on baptism. Baptism families have also been invited to come back to the church for family services, however to date this has not been very successful.

Baptisms during 2017      Infants (<1yr) 15,      Children (1 – 12) 6,      Youths/adults (13+) 3

We are willing to allow the marriage of divorced couples and meetings are held with them to prepare them for the service

Weddings during 2017                      St Paul's 6,                      All Saints 3.

The churches also conduct funerals and confirmations and give whole-hearted support to those families who would wish to connect to our church family.

Funerals during 2017                      St Paul's 16,                      All Saints 9

We also have a service called 'TChurch@3' which is held on the first Monday of every month and takes the form of tea and biscuits followed by a short service of prayer and hymns and the opportunity for a get together for those members of the congregation who are unable to attend one of the main weekly services. The service is taken by one of the Lay Ministers and approximately every three months during the year a service with Holy Communion will also be conducted, however this does rely on a member of the clergy being present and again is a service we would like to see continue in the future. This service normally has an attendance of 10 – 12 people.

The Dorcas Group, a fellowship group which meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in individual's homes or in church for certain festivals, is a continuation of The Mothers Union. Their meetings consist of a period of devotional time, a variety of speakers, followed by tea and biscuits. The meeting closes with The Grace.

There are also two Bible Study groups active within the parish.

All Festival Services are well attended especially Good Friday and Easter Day and Christmas Eve HC. Other services attracting a good attendance are Mothering Sunday, Time to Remember services, Carols for all and Christingle.

A Lay Team from the congregation is involved in the planning and leading of Services especially with the modern sound and projection facilities that are used at all main services.

There is an excellent team of twelve licensed Lay Ministers with six who plan and conduct services as and when required with the remainder involved in Baptisms, Visiting and Home Communion.

The churches are well loved and cared for and are regularly cleaned by a wonderful group of volunteers.

Both churches are open to visitors on a daily basis from April to October and often throughout the winter months when weather permits. Parkend receives the greater amount of visitors as it is on a walking, cycling, tourism route and very positive remarks are made in the Visitors' Book. Both churches are valued by people who come in to pray or to have a time of quiet contemplation.

Members of the congregations, who also try to cover all issues raised on the Quinquennial Inspection, also maintain the churches in good order. Their involvement saves the Parish a fair amount of money as the funds are needed for the more intricate works such as the roofs of both churches.

The churchyard, which extends all around All Saints Church, Viney Hill is maintained by the Forest of Dean District Council and is cut once a fortnight during the summer months. The Churchyard at St Paul's, Parkend is still open with the area around the church maintained by members of the congregation and the main churchyard by a local contractor.

We have investigated other use of our buildings in an effort to plant the seed of interest and welcome the youth who attend the Christian Adventure Centre, Viney Hill to use the church more than they do at present, which is by the Suzuki Group for weekend band practice and occasional school groups for interest visits. All Saints has also been used for band concerts and the annual Rotary Club 'Carols for All'. St Paul's, Parkend has been used for various music groups and bands and it is hoped that when the refurbishment of the organ is completed, organists from outside our parish will come to play.

The tower of St Paul's has also been investigated for the installation of a communications mast.

The official launch of the “Friends of the Churches” took place in March 2015. The object of the “Friends” is to engage both residents of the parish and anyone who has a connection or interest in either of the two churches. To All members, who pay an annual voluntary subscription, are invited to various services and social events during the year with the plan that any monies raised through the “Friends” will be used to purchase additional items to enhance the services or pay for utility items and minor works projects. It was hoped that the members would actually become involved in the planning and preparation of events and projects. However, although they are prepared to pay their annual subscriptions they are don't seem willing to participate but on the plus side the additional funds are most welcome.

## Parish Structure

The Parochial Church Council aims to meet six times a year, one of them being the Annual General Meeting. All members of the PCC live within easy reach of the churches and can easily attend meetings when required to do so

The present PCC is made up of ten members from the Electoral Roll who are also responsible for additional tasks within the churches such as:

Churchwardens x 2, Treasurer, Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Health and Safety Officer, Electoral Roll Officer, Deanery Synod Representative, Christian's Together Representative and Magazine Editor.

The Standing Committee meets when required to do so.

Safeguarding is treated very seriously within the Parish and it is the policy of the Parish that all members of the PCC attend the diocesan Safeguarding Course. This also applies to members of the congregation who take part in school and home visits.

We also have a Health and Safety officer who ensures that the annual checks are carried out on Fire safety, electrical safety and everyday safety measures within the Parish

## Church Finances

The majority of church members give regularly via The Parish Giving Scheme, direct debit, weekly envelopes or the collection plate. The Parish Giving Scheme is the preferred option as tax is refunded on the giving amount each month whereas tax on all other giving is claimed at the end of each financial year. We have had visits from the finance team in the past to try and get parishioners to adopt this scheme, however there has been a lack of enthusiasm to do so, with only 50% of the regular attendees at the services taking it up.

As a parish we do our best to pay as much of the Parish Share as we can afford but this means that we survive on an annual basis with very little reserves.

The claim for tax refund at the end of each financial year is normally the maximum we can claim.

A detailed copy of the church finances is attached at Appendix 2

## [A Year in the Life of our Fundraising Activities](#)

Fundraising is a major consideration of the churches activities with regular events such as; Lent Lunches, Flower Festivals/Open Gardens, Parkend Carnival and Christmas Fayre being the main earners along with a team of very talented ladies who make cards, which are sold throughout the year at the church.

### [12<sup>th</sup> Night](#)

Held annually. A light hearted evening featuring sketches, entertainment, prayers and food.

### [Lent Lunches & Winter Warmers](#)



These lunches are held annually on four Saturday's during Lent and November, alternating between both churches. The lunches are prepared and served by members of the church congregation and consist of a light lunch of soup with bread, a pudding and tea/coffee.

The lunches are well attended and they provide the opportunity for members of the congregation to get together for a chat over lunch during Lent on those cold winter days.

### [Community Charity Days](#)

In 2016 we were fortunate to be allocated a day by Lydney Park Estate to hold an event in their grounds and all the money made from the entrance fees, the sale of cakes, sandwiches, and stall activities going to the church funds. This is an opportunity that can't be missed and is well worth the hard work put in by Parish members who organize and run the event

We have been lucky enough to be given the same opportunity in April this year.

### [Tea on the Lawn](#)

Similar to the Lent Lunches and Winter Warmers, however this event is held outside, weather permitting, in the church grounds or someone's garden

The tea consists of savoury sandwiches, cakes and tea/coffee and like the lunches is well attended.

## Flower Festival

Held Bi-Annually in alternate years at both Churches usually in May/June and always ends with a service at the church the event has been held in.



## Parkend Carnival

This event is held in the heart of Parkend on the August Bank Holiday and attracts many people who come to see the parade, displays and stalls.

The Parish has a stall selling home-made cakes, jams and vegetables and at the end of the day join together at St Paul's church for a well-earned BBQ.

Depending upon the weather, this event is good for raising funds

## Christmas Fayre

This event is held annually in early December at Yorkley Community Centre.

## Our Vision

The vision for our Parish is that we share God's work of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and have his love in our communities, spiritually, practically and sensitively

## Our Strengths

- **Teamwork:** We are a strong united leadership team which works well together, provides mutual support and nurtures personal development
- **Pastoral Care:** We have a structure for caring for church members with team members visiting those who need it on a regular basis.
- **Services:** We have a strong innovative team leading in worship with a good support from the congregation.
- **Welcoming:** We ensure that all newcomers are welcomed into our family.
- **Collaboration with other churches:** We share our worship with 'Churches Together' attending joint services and supporting each other's' events.
- **Maintenance:** Excellent support with well-maintained buildings

## Our Weaknesses

- **Age:** One of the main problems of both churches is that the congregation are not getting any younger and there is a need for the injection of young blood within the church for us to survive. Many of our services are very traditional, which is in keeping with the age of the congregation we have, however it does not attract the younger generation and we need, where necessary, to change our form of worship to attract younger members without upsetting the members who have been with us for a long time.
- **Church attendance:** As with the majority of churches attendance levels at the main services have fallen and we are finding it difficult to find ways of halting this decline
- **Families:** Despite our efforts we have been unable to attract families with young children to our services.

## Our New Vicar

Our next vicar will play a critical role in the pastoral ministry and well-being of both individuals and the church community. It is essential that no one group is prioritised to the disadvantage of others and while there is a desire to attract a much younger congregation than we have at present we need to consider the needs of all rather than that of the few.

## Essential attributes:

We are looking for someone who:

- Has a deep rooted spirituality and knows how to resource Him/Herself.
- Values the Bible as the prime source of inspiration, wisdom, teaching and preaching.
- Is an effective communicator and preacher
- Has strong leadership and pastoral skills and be able to use those skills to modernise and take the congregation with them, especially towards the focus of attracting young families, children and new comers to the area.
- Engages with the wider community and is willing to go beyond the boundaries of the church walls to sell the church to all, regardless of them being members of the church or not and to develop the relationship built up through weddings, baptisms and funerals.
- Has a style of preaching, which is intellectually stimulating and challenges the congregation to share our faith and belief in word and deed.
- Is experienced, energetic and enthusiastic with the opportunities of developing a varied ministry.
- Has traditional views on worship and doctrine but remains enthusiastic in developing new forms of worship.
- Has an open and welcoming outlook and be a good communicator.
- Has the experience and skills necessary to identify and develop new opportunities for ministry and leadership and to encourage and support the parish through change.
- Empathises with the aims and objectives of our schools and continues to maintain and develop the existing strong links we have with them. The relationship with the schools is critical in our efforts to attract the younger generation.
- Is enthusiastic in all forms of services, with the ability to make the congregation sit up and listen.
- Has a good sense of humour.
- Has the ability to listen and work together with the team.

The United Parish of Parkend and Viney Hill consists of two churches St Paul's Church, Parkend and All Saints Church, Viney Hill. The churches are both Grade 2 Listed buildings dating back to 1822 and 1866 respectively.

The Parish is part of Forest South Deanery and surrounded by the Parishes of Bream, Lydney, Blakeney, Cinderford with Littledean and the Mid-Wyedean churches.

## **OUR VILLAGES**

The two Churches minister to the needs of people from the villages of Parkend and Yorkley, two vibrant centres in the heart of the Forest of Dean. Parkend also extends down to Ellwood to the North and the village of Whitecroft and Pillowell. Viney Hill also covers Oldcroft and Blakeney Hill.

## **PARKEND**

Parkend is located at the foot of the Cannop Valley, in the Royal Forest of Dean, West Gloucestershire, and has a history dating back to the early 17th century. During the 19th century it was a busy industrial village with several coal mines, an ironworks, stoneworks, timber-yard and a tinplate works, but by the early 20th century most had succumbed to a loss of markets and the general industrial decline. In more recent times, the village has found new life within the tourism sector, primarily as a centre for the provision of tourist accommodation and the Northern terminus of the Dean Forest Railway.

The village has a population of 358 people (2016) divided almost equally between male and female. Its demographic age profile is roughly:

The village has two public houses, both with guest accommodation, and one with an adjoining hostel, The Fountain Inn and Lodge and The Woodman Inn. There are also two guesthouses, several holiday let properties, a CIU affiliated club with caravan & camping facilities, and Whitemead Forest Park owned and operated by 'Boundless' offering a range of accommodation and camping and caravan pitches. Whitemead is in the heart of the forest and has an indoor pool, Gym, sauna, hot tubs along with a variety of activities and entertainment.



The village is also home to two significant tourist attractions:

The Dean Field Studies Centre, once part of Parkend Ironworks, is owned by Bristol City Council and is used to accommodate school children from that city.

The Parkend Railway Station is the northern terminus of the 4 1/2 mile line which runs through beautiful woodland and countryside offering visitors a chance to experience the relaxing pace of a typical country branch line. With our 5 stations along the way you'll have time to explore the local area, taking in woodland walks and country pubs or venturing down to the Severn estuary to explore Lydney Harbour with its fantastic views across the Severn.



Parkend Railway Station

Parkend has a cricket club with teams at several different age levels. Parkend Players is another of the many organisations in the village, and performs most of its shows at the village's Memorial Hall. Parkend Carnival, held on August Bank Holiday Monday, is renowned throughout the forest as being the biggest and best for miles around. During the summer, regular Sunday car boot sales are held on the recreation field, the profits from which go to support the Memorial Hall.

## YORKLEY

The village of Yorkley, in West Gloucestershire includes the settlement of Yorkley Slade to the east and is situated between the villages of Pillowell and Oldcroft.

Near the town of Lydney, it has two pubs, a sub post office and general store, a primary school and is home to Yorkley AFC.

Yorkley is also home to Yorkley Star Cricket Club which has been in existence for 130 years.



Cottages are recorded in both Yorkley and Yorkley Slade (formerly the Slade) in the 1780s. It once boasted several public houses, however the Nag's Head Inn, at Yorkley Slade, is recorded from 1788 and was enlarged around 1850 and the Bailey Inn, which dates from around 1910, in a prominent position in the centre of the village. These two public houses are the last remaining in the village. In the mid-19th century much rebuilding and new building took place at Yorkley, some of it by employees at the Parkend Ironworks. From 1930 a large estate of council houses was formed on the north side of Yorkley Slade.



Yorkley Community Centre

Yorkley had a working men's institute in 1892. A new institute was built on Bailey Hill around 1910 and a recreation ground was laid out next to it in the early 1920s as the district's war memorial. The 'Old Green Hut' as it was affectionately called was knocked down in 2015 and with the help of a Lottery Heritage Fund grant a new purpose built Community Centre was opened.

Yorkley Onward band started in 1903 as an offshoot of the Pillowell band and its hall, built in 1913, has been used in the past for village activities. It still serves as the bands' practice venue and holds a weekly bingo session.

Mining was once a major source of employment in the area, and there was an opencast coal mine at Yorkley as recently as 1960. With the opening of the first Severn Bridge in 1966 the area was opened up and now the vast majority of the population commute to Bristol, Gloucester, Cheltenham and beyond for employment.

Yorkley is a lovely little village surrounded by the arts of nature.

World War 1 poet F. W. Harvey lived in Yorkley at the time of his death.

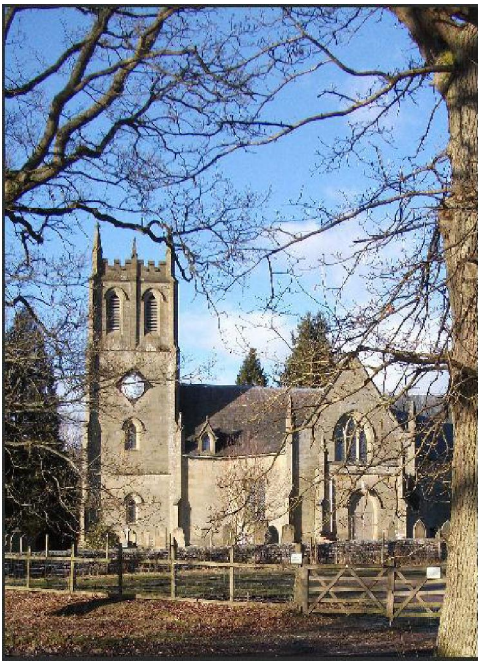
The village has a population of 1160 people (2016) divided between male (49%) and female (51%).

## [OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS](#)

### [A brief history](#)

#### [St Paul's, Parkend](#)

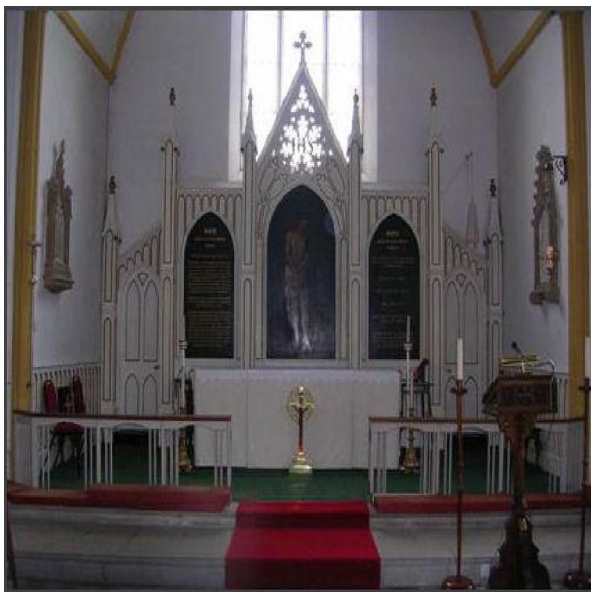
Dedicated to St Paul, the Church is situated on the eastern edge of the village in a forest clearing. The shape provides the point of interest, being both octagonal and cruciform, with the arms formed by the sanctuary, north and west transepts and the west tower. It was designed and built in 1822, together with the village school, by Henry Poole; then curate at Newland who issued an appeal for public aid towards the erection of the buildings



The appeal was very successful and from these voluntary funds the church of St. Paul's was built.

It was built on a piece of ground called Mason's Tump by Richard James in 1820 – 1822 under the supervision of Henry Poole who, before his ordination, had experience in architecture at Bristol.

The consecration of the church took place on May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1822.



**The Reredos**, including a painting of Christ mocked, flanked by the Commandments in a Gothic setting, is a very fine example and is thought to be an original fitting of 1822. It matches in detail other features of the church and retains the medieval form of a screen pierced by doors on either side of the altar. It is clearly a work of interest and value.

Replacement pinnacles were made in 1958 by Mr E J Rice, Principal of Lydney School of Art.

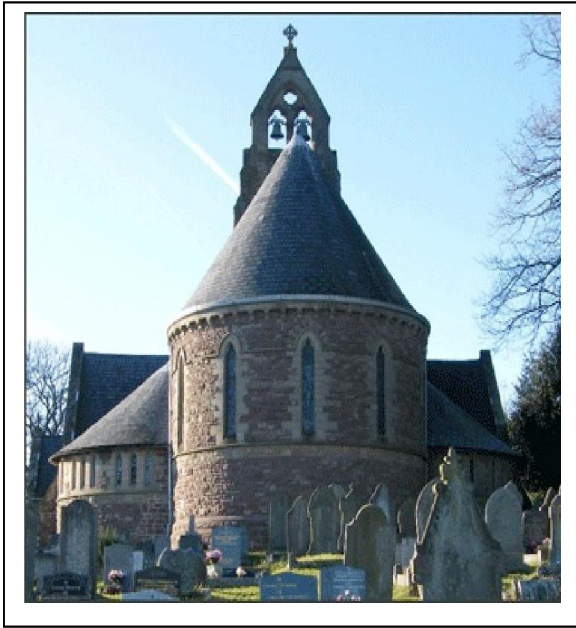
The painting is thought to be of Spanish origin.

The High Altar is of English oak and was given in memory of Thomas and Janet Dufty 1865-1948 by their children

Rev. Henry Poole became the first Vicar of Parkend and remained so until his death on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1857. He lies buried in the churchyard just outside the vestry window, behind the altar of the church he loved and served so well.

At the entrance to the old lower churchyard the gate was erected in 1937 by Mr and Mrs Deakin, in memory of their parents. The Deakin family, who lived in Parkend House, were mine owners and their son, Robert, later became Suffragan Bishop of Tewkesbury.

## All Saints, Viney Hill



Both church and vicarage were built in 1866/67 by Ewan Christian, as a gift from Mary Bathurst, who was Lord Bledisloe's great aunt. The setting is on a highpoint above the Severn Valley, on the edge of the Forest of Dean, with beautiful views over much of the county of Gloucestershire. The church is a simple but attractive building which blends well into its surroundings, being of local sandstone under a natural slate roof. The vicarage is now used as a Christian Adventure Centre ([vineyhilladventure.org](http://vineyhilladventure.org)) for children and young people and has a member of the Parish as a trustee.

The best external feature of the Church is often considered to be the apse at the eastern end, which has 5 single light, richly coloured windows, the work of Jones and Willis. Each window has a single subject: in the middle, behind the altar, is the crucifixion, flanked by Moses - the law giver and Elijah - the prophet. The outermost windows feature St. Paul to the south and St. Peter to the North. The completed scheme shows the crucified Christ between the prophets who foretold His coming and two of the Apostles who proclaimed He was come.

Gypsy Petulengro who was a Romany often referred to as a "King of the Gypsies" spent much time in the village of Viney Hill and, at the end of his life, in June 1957 he was buried in All Saints' Churchyard.

His funeral was such a spectacle that the local school gave the children time off so they could watch the procession. Almost everyone in the village turned out and Romany Gypsies came from all over the world to attend. The procession was accompanied by a group of gypsy violinists. The event was of such note that it was recorded on film for Pathé Newsreel and can still be seen on "You Tube".



The church has recently had major repairs to the roof above the chancel and vestries owing to the timber beams rotting and the ingress of water causing damage within the building. A grant was applied for from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund in June 2016 and we were awarded a grant of £122,317 towards the cost of repairs and making the roof waterproof. The work on the roof finished in February this year.

St Paul's Church has also had problems with their roof and is in the planning stage to have major repairs carried out to make their roof watertight. However, it is envisaged that funding may be a problem as the Listed Places of Worship grants have now finished, although other grants are available which can be applied for.

There has also been an extensive programme of repairs and refurbishment of the organ at St Paul's, which has all been paid for through donations and grants from local charities.

General Maintenance within both churches is undertaken by members of the congregation in an effort to keep costs to a minimum.

We became the United Parish of Parkend and Viney Hill in 2008 with one PCC.

We have a service in each church every week, the morning service at 10.00 am and evening service at 5.00 p.m. during the winter months and 6.00 p.m. during the summer months.

The services alternate between the two churches and the one service that governs each year's pattern is Easter, which we make sure also alternates between the churches which sometimes results in having a 'Double Sunday', which is normally adjusted, if necessary, at the end of the year.

### The Vicarage

The vicarage is situated in the village of Yorkley, approximately 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles from each church and consists of two large reception rooms on the ground floor with kitchen, utility room and two toilets.

The first floor consists of four decent sized bedrooms the main bedroom having en-suite facilities. There are a further two bedrooms and bathroom on the second floor.

All the windows are double-glazed.

There is an oil fired central heating system and solar panels on the south side of the roof, There is also a large open fire in the main reception area.



There is also a large detached double garage close to the main building with a large room above, which in the past has been used as a meeting place.

The gardens are a good size and the driveway large enough to park up to four vehicles.

Access to the house is via the main entrance on Lower Road or through a gate at the rear of the house onto Stag hill, which is within a short walking distance of the village facilities and school.

There is also an excellent view of the forest from the patio area in front of the house.

## Schools

The nearest primary schools are in the villages of Parkend and Yorkley neither of which are church schools.



Parkend Primary School



Yorkley Primary School

There are strong links to all the schools within the Parish with teams from the congregation visiting Yorkley, Parkend and Pillowell schools every two weeks during term time for 'Open the Book' and 'Storytellers', which prove to be very popular for the children. In the past services have also been held every month at 'Heart of the Forest' and 'Ellwood' schools.

The schools are encouraged to use the churches for their own services. The churches are also used by Parkend Beavers for their 'Religion Badge' and 'Remembrance Badge', for visits from schools visiting the Dean Field Study Centre and The Christian Adventure Centre, Viney Hill.

At secondary level there are two main schools in the area, The Dean Academy, Lydney and Wyedean School and Sixth Form College in Sedbury, on the outskirts of Chepstow.

## The Local Area

The Parish is situated in the Forest of Dean, recently voted the best forest in England and having the lowest crime rate during 2017. There is easy access to all areas within the forest and the local towns of Coleford, Cinderford, Bream and Newnham. The A48, approximately 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> miles from the vicarage, gives a direct route to the main towns of Chepstow (12 miles) and Gloucester (19 miles). The town of Monmouth is also within easy reach (12 miles). Bristol, Cardiff and Newport are also within easy commutable distance with the tolls on the Severn Bridges stopping at the start of 2019.

There is a doctor's surgery in Yorkley which serves both Yorkley and Bream. The surgery also has dispensary facilities which saves time visiting a chemist elsewhere to get prescriptions.

There are also two community hospitals, The Lydney and District Hospital and the Dilke Memorial Hospital in Cinderford, which mainly deal with emergencies, although most treatments are dealt with in Gloucester and Cheltenham.

There is some controversy at the moment with Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust voting unanimously in favour of its "preferred option" to shut Lydney and Dilke and build a "great new hospital".

The proposal, which could halve bed numbers, was rejected by 46 percent of respondents in a public consultation. Campaigners said they were "disgusted" but the Trust said the two hospitals were "no longer fit for purpose".

The Forest is a beautiful place with The Dean Heritage Centre being one of Gloucestershire's leading attractions. Set across a stunning and fully interactive five acre site, the centre protects and preserves the unique history and heritage of the beautiful Forest of Dean.



With around 20,000 artefacts, 5 onsite galleries, outdoor displays, a research library and guided tours on offer, the museum tells the story of the Forest from the Ice Age to the present day. Whatever your age group, there's always something new and exciting to interest, inspire and surprise you with a wide range of things to do and see, including the five onsite galleries exploring the history of the Forest, there is a reconstructed Victorian cottage; a cider mill and press,

a charcoal burner's camp; an adventure playground; a classroom from the early 20th century, the Dennis Potter exhibition and collection, chainsaw carving demonstrations; a variety of animals, and an onsite gift shop and cafe. The Dennis Potter Exhibit also includes a video recalling his local connections.

Other attractions include The Nags Head RSPB Reserve, Clearwell Caves, Lydney Harbour, Beechenhurst, Puzzle Wood, and Lydney Park Estate to name but a few.

Puzzlewood, and "Dwarf's Hill" at Lydney Park which contains scowles, (naturally formed pits and cavities), are said to have been inspirations for J. R. R. Tolkien's descriptions of Middle-earth forests in The Lord of the Rings. Tolkien carried out archaeological work in the area in the 1920s with Mortimer Wheeler. Puzzlewood was also used for the filming of "Merlin".

Go Ape, Mallards Pike Lake, home to our original Tree Top Adventure and Forest Segway, is a great spot for a picnic or a gentle lakeside walk and for those brave enough to have a go the treetop course is a good test of nerve balance and initiative, not forgetting good fun. Three miles down the road, in the heart of the forest, Beechenhurst Lodge plays host to our Tree Top Junior Adventure making it a great location for a whole day out.

Beechenhurst lies in the heart of the forest, and is a great place to start your adventure. Discover the Sculpture Trail, play area, cafe, climbing tower and cycle tracks.

There are lakes at Mallards Pike, Cannop Ponds, Soudley Ponds and Lydney, all of which give a large variety of birds and are beautiful areas to visit.



**The United Parish  
of  
Parkend & Viney Hill**

**1. Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

**2. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible. They do not include the accounts of other Church groups that owe an affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

- Receipts are included as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.
- Restricted funds must be used for the purposes for which the money was given or donated.
- General funds represent unrestricted money that can be used for the general charitable purposes of the PCC.
- Designated funds represent unrestricted money that has been earmarked for specific purpose by the PCC, which can be undesignated by the PCC at any time.

**3. Income tax recovered**

Income tax recovered included in the 'receipts and payments account' represents the claim for the tax year April 2016 - April 2017 through collections made from the Parish Giving Scheme and donations envelopes.

Total income tax recovered during the year 2017 was £2742.97, Gift Aid from the collection plate and £3,167.92 from the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

**4. Income**

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>Tax efficient planned giving:</b>		
Envelopes	£5186.13	9919.68
Standing Orders	£2455.00	2460.00
Parish Giving Scheme <sup>1</sup>	£ 13411.14	12213.36
<b>Collections at service</b>	<b>£4,186.67</b>	<b>4409.55</b>
<b>Other giving and donations</b>		
Weddings	£353.72	875.73
Funerals	£782.22	1186.82
Baptisms	£1298.57	1183.86
Other	£3586.95	-
<b>Special Appeals</b>	<b>£331.48</b>	<b>367.64</b>
<b>All tax recovered through Gift Aid</b>	<b>£5910.89</b>	<b>8775.9</b>
<b>Fund raising events</b>	<b>£6096.87</b>	<b>7564.92</b>

Dividends and interest	£1,016.04	1116.07
Revenue from property	£332.15	332.15
Total parochial fees	£15,255.00	
Church Magazine	£416.00	505.00
Sundry income	£663.25	744.00
Charities		
Total	£61282.08	

## 5. Fundraising events

	£	£
12 <sup>th</sup> Night	48.00	62.00
Lenten Lunches	336.00	387.77
Flower Festival	2409.88	1572.40
Annual Sale of Cards	56.10	415.00
Tea on the Lawn	344.50	216
PE Carnival	671.75	644.49
Children's Society Boxes	443.10	251.51
Christmas Fayre	1082.98	1404.22
Church Fabric Boxes	219.25	282.53
Christmas Services	485.31	-
Total	£6096.87	

## 6. Parochial Fees

The PCC received parochial fees totalling £15,255.00 in the year. Of this £6,567.00 was made up of statutory fees due to the PCC, as prepared by the Archbishop's Council under the Ecclesiastical Fees Measures 1986. The remaining £3752 makes up charges as fixed by the PCC, for extras such as vergers, organist, bells, flowers and special heating.

£4807.00 payable towards the incumbent, was passed on in full to the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finances. £129.00 is owed to the DBF

Notes:

1. This is the total amount from the Parish Giving Scheme less tax recovered through Gift Aid.

## Expenditure

7. Fund raising costs £75.00

8. Donations and Grants to Charities

	2017	2016
	£	£
Forest Pulse	56.00	-
GARASS	125.00	-
Children's Society (Christingle Service)	245.00	245.38
Children's Society Boxes	464.43	-
Shelter for Homeless Children	125.00	-
DEC Africa Appeal	140.60	-
WaterAid	141.44	-
USPG	49.44	-
Total	1346.91	

9. Parish Share  
£41,544.00

The Diocese provide Deanery's with Benefice costs and the Parishes decide through the PCC what contribution they can make towards these costs.

The guidelines for the C of E parishes is that if they are unable to make full payment for their clergy provision they should be using 60% of their unrestricted income towards their contribution, which our parish was able to do.

10. Salaries and wages

This is the payments made to Ushers, Bell Ringers, and Organists who are on duty for weddings and funerals. There is also in some cases a charge raised for videos taken during weddings.

£2657.00

The Diocese provide Deanery's with Benefice costs and the Parishes decide through the PCC what contribution they can make towards these costs. The Diocese are in the last year of a '5 Year Plan'

11. Clergy Expenses

It is the policy of the PCC to reimburse the all out of pocket expenses in full. Travelling expenses were reimbursed at the recommended Diocesan rate of 45p per mile.

The total expenses for the period 1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 was:

£2,283.59

## 12. Church Expenditure

	2017	2016
	£	£
Licenses	349.52	1759.90
Insurances	3439.55	3524.25
Minor Repairs & Routine Maintenance	1,059.23	
Church Administration	582.99	980.32
Church Running Expenses	571.92	1177.50
Churchyard Maintenance	1,612.50	1717.95
Local Mission & Evangelism Projects	50.00	12.75
Children & Youth Work Costs	194.39	128.65
Flowers	398.23	-
Music Costs	6,382.08	
Heating & Lighting Costs	2,189.11	2264.12
Magazine	626.75	542.60
Governance Costs	100.00	100.00
Parochial Fees Remittance to DBF	4,807.00	7842.00
Parochial Fees Remittance to Vis. Clergy	231.00	159.00
Service Fee Remittance to Vis. Minister	286.00	-
Deanery Costs	30.00	-
Sundry Expenses	578.33	-
Alterations & Exts to Church Buildings	5,941.22	3503.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>£76,986.80</b>	

As can be seen from the accounts there is a significant difference between the receipts and payments of £15,704.72p. This is due to the repairs to the organ and the preliminary investigations into the repairs to the church roof at St Paul's.

### 13. Fund Balances

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>The United Parish of Parkend &amp; Viney Hill</b>	<b>2690.23</b>	<b>19,359.96</b>
<b>Cash in Hand</b>	<b>(37.91)</b>	<b>(81.50)</b>
<b>PE Special Fund</b>	<b>10,899.46</b>	<b>9,912.01</b>
<b>VH Deposit Account</b>	<b>10,187.15</b>	<b>10,158.56</b>
<b>PE CBF Account</b>	<b>24,933.49</b>	<b>23820.24</b>

The actual balance for the Parish funds is £5790.23 as the sum of £3,100.00 was paid out of the main account to meet contract payments for the project at All Saints, Viney Hill.