



ST MARK'S CHURCH

Hearts on Fire. Hope Alive.

FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTH NOTTINGHAM

Annual Reports

2025

Aims and Purposes

St Mark's Woodthorpe seeks to be a heart for the community. As the only church in the parish, we desire to provide pastoral care, a social space and the opportunity to explore faith, both within and beyond the parish boundary, working ecumenically and holistically with a range of faith and non-faith based organisations.

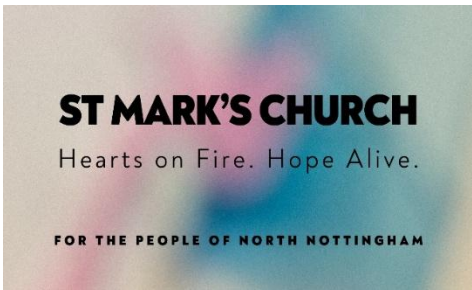
Objectives and Activities

We have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

As an Anglican Church in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community.

Our aims and purposes are focussed around, although not wholly limited to:

- Discipleship and pastoral care
- Community engagement
- Children and Young People



Vicar's Introduction

"So, what do you wish to see at St Mark's?" I asked.

"Revival! That's all," she replied.

"Revival requires change," I said. "Are people ready for that?"

"Yes," another gentleman interjected. "I can't think of anyone who would oppose change."

Chivalrous — but unlikely. There is always someone who finds change difficult, and that is perfectly normal. Change is hard. That was not what I was looking for. I was not searching for people who find change easy, but for a church willing to embrace the challenge of renewal and growth.

This conversation took place during the roundtable discussion on my first day of interviews. I had arrived convinced I would not take the job. The diocese had simply asked me to come and consider it.

But then something happened. Someone else spoke: "This people, this church, is ready."

It was not anyone around the table.

Goosebumps. God spoke. The time is ripe.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" — Isaiah 43:19

Five months in, it has been an immense joy and privilege to serve as Vicar of St Mark's. Since arriving at the end of November 2025, Angelika, Anna and I have been deeply grateful for the encouragement and generosity of welcome we have received.

In December 2025, St Mark's was also selected by the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham to become one of **40 Revitalisation Churches** out of more than 300 across the diocese. Alongside this invitation came funding that will help us pursue renewal and growth.

This is not accidental. It reflects a belief — not simply in buildings or structures — but in people.

In you.

In us.

In the potential for renewal, revitalisation and, by God's grace, revival.

This is both a privilege and a responsibility.

Revitalisation is about transformational change — not for its own sake, but for the sake of rediscovering who we are called to be: a people alive in Christ, rooted in prayer, shaped by Scripture, filled with the Spirit, and sent for the sake of others.

Always outward-looking. Always searching for the sheep who are not yet in the fold. Beyond our church walls. Beyond the “family church” we know. Toward the family members who are not yet part of it.

As I have grown older, I have realised something simple: it is always easier to maintain routines. To keep things comfortable. To preserve rather than pioneer.

Renewal and growth are the opposite of that. Which means they are hard.

A dear friend, fellow church leader and mentor often asks me a question:

“When has God ever done something transformative in your life through comfort alone?”

Growth — whether spiritual or physical — rarely happens without stretch. The muscle pain I am currently experiencing after returning to the gym is proof enough: resistance is not a sign of failure. Often, it is a sign that something is strengthening.

God is in the business of stretching.

Stretching the tent of his dwelling.
Stretching the borders of his kingdom.
Stretching the faith of his people.

We are also living in a moment of opportunity. Across the UK we are witnessing what many are calling a *quiet revival* — a renewed spiritual hunger, particularly among emerging generations. Around the world the Church continues to grow. The gospel remains powerful.

Jesus is alive.

So the question before us is simple:

Will we lean in?

At St Mark’s, our vision is not complex. It has a simple, singular focus:

To see hearts set on fire by God and hope come alive across North Nottingham.

Revival.

That’s all.

We believe three priorities help give shape to that vision:

Encounter — encountering the living God, his love and his purpose for our lives.

Formation — becoming more and more like Jesus, and learning to live as he lived.

Mission — joining in God’s work for the renewal of all things, and inviting others into this infectious life of encounter, formation and mission.

In many ways this echoes the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, who later said:

“*Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road?*” — Luke 24:32

When was the last time we could ask that question?

How wonderful would it be to hear our friends, our children, our families and colleagues say those words.

But this is not the work of one vicar — no matter how young — nor of one committee, nor of one team. Energy and ideas matter. Strategy matters. But revitalisation is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit.

If God does not move, we labour in vain. If God is not in it, we do not want it.

So this season must be marked by prayer — and by courageously stepping into God's mission. There will be changes and challenges. There will be moments of discomfort. But there will also be joy. There will be laughter. There will be new stories — stories of salvation, of encounter, of lives transformed.

This is an adventure of faith. If not now, when? If not us, who?

What else would we live for, if not the Kingdom of God?

What is worth investing in, if not what echoes into eternity?

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence — not in our own strength, but in the faithfulness and power of God.

The best chapters of St Mark's are not behind us in the "good old days". They are not found in nostalgia. They are found in promise. They are, by God's grace, still to be written.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

Daniel Bocchetti | Vicar

Revitalisation and Restructuring

In December 2025, St Mark's was selected by the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham as part of its Church Growth Program. Out of more than 300 churches across the diocese, 40 were identified for focused investment. Of these, 20 are established Resource Churches — churches that are already demonstrating sustained growth and are able to resource others by planting, supporting, and giving themselves away. The remaining 20, including St Mark's, have been designated as Revitalisation Churches: communities in which the Diocese recognises significant potential for renewal, growth, and future resourcing capacity.

This reflects a clear sense of confidence from the Diocese in the potential for growth, renewal and long-term sustainability at St Mark's, as well as a recognition of the opportunity to develop into a more outward-facing, missional church.

As part of this programme, St Mark's has been awarded funding of £30,000 per year for up to four years. This funding is designated to support staffing and ministry development, enabling the church to invest in people and build capacity for future growth.

Following this, and in line with both diocesan guidance and our local vision, the PCC undertook a review of staffing structures to ensure that resources are aligned with the priorities of the Revitalisation Church Capacity Fund and the new church vision.

After careful consideration, and with the agreement of the PCC, it was decided to implement a restructuring process. This has resulted in two redundancies: the roles of Administrator and Children & Youth Minister.

We recognise that this has been a difficult and significant moment in the life of the church. Ann and Tim have both served St Mark's with great faithfulness and commitment, and we want to place on record our sincere gratitude for their contribution. They leave with our thanks, our respect, and our prayers for the future.

This decision was not taken lightly, but reflects a wider strategic shift towards a staffing structure that supports the long-term vision and mission of the church in this new season.

Revitalisation brings both opportunity and challenge. It requires change, and change inevitably involves both loss and new beginnings. As a PCC and as a church, we are seeking to navigate this faithfully, prayerfully, and with a clear focus on the future God is calling us into.

We now look ahead to the next phase of this journey — including the appointment of new roles — with faith, expectation, and a continued commitment to prayer.

Church Hall Management Committee – The committee is responsible for the care, maintenance and improvement of the Church Hall, promotion and publicity of the premises and reviewing the conditions of letting and hire charges.

Appointment of Officers

PCC Chair	Bryan Mallows
PCC Vice-Chair	John Sargent
Secretary	Ann Gorman
Treasurer	Jackie Carey
Insurance	Bryan Mallows
Electoral Roll	Ann Gorman
Gift Aid Treasurer	Howard Lea
Cashier	Howard Lea
Health & Fire Safety Officer	Ron Myers
Safeguarding and DBS Administration	Pat Simpson
Gedling Deanery Synod	Peter Fisher
	Diana Mallows

Appointments to Sub-Committees

	Chair	PCC members	Other members
Fabric	Tom Bird	Pat Fenton Alan Stuart Steve Leek John Sargent	
Mission	Gary Ditchfield	Alan Stuart Kerri Ditchfield	Paul Day Simon Court Guy Mather Jane Court Jenny Duncombe
Church Hall Management	Bryan Mallows	Tom Bird Diana Mallows	Jane Danvers Ann Gorman
Standing	Rev Matt Roberts	Bryan Mallows Jackie Carey John Sargent	Ann Gorman

Church Attendance and Other Statistics

The statistics for 2025 are in the same format as for 2024 and are as quoted in the ‘Statistics for Mission’ Annual Return sent to the Diocese. The figures in brackets show the difference from the previous year.

The average attendance on a normal Sunday (that is one excluding major Christian Festivals and services which attract large number of visitors) is **86.9** adults **(+0.5)** and **12.7** children **(-1.5)** (all Sunday services).

The total number attending worship on Easter Day and was **115** adults **(-10)** and **11** children **(-5)**, the number of communicants was **104 (-4)**.

The total number attending church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was **445 (+6)**, the number of communicants was **0**.

During 2025 there were a total of **3** Baptisms **(+2)**. There were **0** weddings **(No change)** and **2** funerals **(-4)** in church for the whole of the year.

At the APCM 2025 there were **113 (-13)** names on the Electoral Roll.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority at St Mark's.

We are committed to following the principles of the House of Bishop's Policy for Safeguarding Children and Young People and Adults.

Our aim is to ensure that children and adults are kept safe whilst in our care, whether in church, or meeting on-line, and this is an integral part of our church life. We endeavor to do this through good working practice, including the safe recruitment of workers, as laid out in our C&YP and Adults Policies and Procedures, copies of which are on display on the Church Noticeboard or can be obtained from the Church Office.

All Church Officers, Employed Staff and Volunteers are required to have a DBS, if appropriate, and to keep up to date with the required safeguarding training as set out by Southwell Diocese.

We also have procedures in place to ensure that all users and hirers of our Church and Church Hall Premises adhere to the same principles regarding safeguarding.

Safeguarding is an agenda item at each of our PCC meetings and is reviewed regularly by the PCC.

If you wish to speak to somebody about safeguarding, please speak to our Parish Safeguarding Co-Ordinator, Pat Simpson, via the Church Office on 0115 9267859.

Gedling Deanery Synod Report

Synod met three times this year, with an emphasis on fellowship, worship and exploring the focal themes followed by a brief business update. We were pleased to welcome Bishop Andy to inspire us about Nurturing Prayer; John Allister who challenged us to consider how we welcome people to our churches, if we want to Enhance Diversity; and Chris Pearce who shared experiences of Growing Younger. Ian Boothroyd has attended to answer any questions and share his experience as one of our representatives to General Synod.

Everyone is welcome to come to Deanery Synod, so do extend the invitation in your churches. Of course, only elected representatives will be able to vote should there be a business matter. Chris Childs continues as Lay Chair, supported by Peter Fisher. We were delighted to welcome Revd. Tasha Morton to Lambley and Gedling; Craig Hunt to Arnold; Daniel Bocchetti to Woodthorpe; and Beth Resch and Anna Clarke to Carlton in the Willows. Netherfield, Carlton and Colwick, our churches in vacancy, have continued their commitment to church life, with support from retired clergy and hardworking lay teams. They have been joined by Daybrook and Porchester, as we said goodbye to Revd. Jack Bull and Revd. Mike Forsyth. Wardens' meetings to support churches in vacancy continue.

We were able to increase our contribution to the cost of ministry both as a percentage and in real terms, to £598,303 which is 87% of the 2025 figure of £686,304. This figure is calculated to cover the direct costs of ministry as well as a share of the costs of training and housing current and future ministers, and the whole team supporting parishes at Jubilee House.

Readers and retired clergy ministering in the deanery were invited to afternoon tea, as a thank you for their service. It was a warm and friendly occasion held at St Wilfrid's Calverton. Our Ascension service was hosted by Holy Trinity Lambley, and involved a trip to the local pub.

Fabric Report

Committee: Tom Bird (Chair), Pat Fenton, Steve Leek, John Sargent and Alan Stuart Stuart, Revd. Daniel Bocchetti joined the committee in January 2026.

As in previous years, the Fabric Committee has been kept busy during 2025, to ensure that the Church fabric is maintained to the best standard it can be. Thanks must be given to the whole team for their diligence and commitment over the last year.

There have been a number of projects that the committee has overseen, the main ones are highlighted as follows:

Church Decoration

Discussions took place over the need to redecorate the church since the installation of the new windows. The consensus was to look, where necessary, at repairing and redecorating the walls and pillars in the nave and chancel but only after proposed installation of the new AV system had been completed. In the meantime, it was decided to paint the reveals around the new windows to tidy the chancel up before the installation service for Daniel. The committee had considered doing the work ourselves, however, it was decided to engage Hills Decorators to do the work, which was completed successfully in one day.

Quinquennial Inspection

The majority of the inspection took place in July 2025 and was completed in September 2025. The general consensus in the report was that the Church is well maintained, however, there are areas that need attention, and we have been provided with a proposed schedule of works, which is being considered and will be implemented as and when it is felt appropriate. Thanks to John Sargent and Bryan Mallows for their willingness and commitment in preparing all the paperwork for the inspection and supporting the visiting inspection architect, Peter Rogan.

Upgrading the AV System

This project is still ongoing after some 24 months of on/off discussions amongst ourselves and the prospective suppliers. However, the good news is, after sharing the proposal with Daniel after his licensing, we are now in the final stages, with a faculty application having been submitted to the Diocese after the PCC gave approval to the project at the February 2026 meeting. We wait with hopeful anticipation that the faculty will be approved.

Roof Repairs

Due to various storms last Autumn, which further dislodged some existing loose ridge tiles, we engaged Academe Roofing to affect repairs, which were done in January 2026. We have also engaged Academe Roofing to repair the coping stones and roof to the bell tower. Work has yet to be done. The excessive winter weather has revealed a continuing issue with a repair that Academe Roofing did in March 2025. They have been back twice to try and solve the issue but are waiting for drier weather to do a thorough inspection and repair.

Church Bell

The bell is currently being rung at both the 8.45 and 10.30 services. The bell has not been serviced for many years so due to its regular use it was agreed to get it serviced. This was carried out by John Taylor Bells in early August 2025.

Church Garden and Gardener

During the summer of 2025, Bryan Mallows became concerned about the reliability of our gardener Chris Radford. He was let go and Bryan and Tom Bird engaged a new gardener Gav, who is proving to be a great asset. To support Gav in his work, November saw a group from our Church family helping to cut back shrubs and tidy parts of the garden either side of the church. Thank you to those involved. I am sure we will be doing something similar in due course.

The above are some of the main projects tackled during the last year but there have been a number of other minor things that have had to be dealt with to keep the fabric of the church as spick and span as possible.

Thank you to all the members of the committee for their support over the last year and God willing we will be able to do more good works in the coming year.

Tom Bird (Chair)

Church Hall Annual Report

Introduction

The Church Hall has continued to attract a wide and varied range of hirers, ensuring that the facilities are well used and raise important revenue for the church. There is still capacity for further bookings, particularly during the daytime, as evenings are the most popular. The facilities have been maintained to a high standard and particular thanks should go to Elaine Cuthill, our dedicated cleaner. The main attributes of the church hall are a variety of rooms of different sizes, a fully equipped kitchen, a rear enclosed garden area and excellent off-street parking for 60+ cars.

User profile

The range of activities is variable from week to week, but there is a number of regular core clients who have been very loyal to St Mark's for some years. A typical week in term-time may be as follows:

Sunday Children's Sunday School groups (**CYM**) in the morning in the smaller rooms.

Birthday/celebration parties in the afternoon using the large/small halls.

Older youth group (**Edge**) in the evening using various rooms.

Monday **Boogie Beat** in the morning for mothers and babies.

KS Dance Academy late afternoon/evening for children 5-18 in both halls.

Tuesday **Little Legs** in the morning for mothers/toddlers in the small hall.

Zumba in the evening for ladies in the large hall.

Jujitsu in the evening for mixed groups in the small hall.

Wednesday **KS Dance Academy** late afternoon/evening for children 5-18 in both halls.

Thursday **Thursday Club** for Senior Citizens in both halls (monthly)

Woodthorpe Brownies early evening in the large hall.

Jujitsu in the evening for mixed groups in the small hall.

Friday Messy Play in the morning for mothers/babies in the large hall.

Woodthorpe Beaver Scouts early evening in both halls.

Saturday **Rainbows** or **Mini First Aid** mornings in the large/small hall.

Birthday/celebration parties afternoons/evenings in both halls.

Other occasional activities throughout the year include **Gedling BC elections, PCSO Beat Surgeries, Art Presentation evenings, Funeral wakes and Cookery lessons.**

Maintenance

This year we have reaped the benefits of the installation of double-glazed windows in the large hall and toilets. The heating system is regularly serviced by Martin Smith Heating Engineers. Steve Leek and Tom Bird can always be relied upon to deal with minor but important maintenance issues.

Conclusion

As this is my last report as the churchwarden responsible for managing the church hall after ten years, I want to thank in particular Ann Gorman who has managed bookings, invoicing and enquiries for use of the facilities so efficiently. Also, Tom Bird, Jane Danvers and Diana Mallows for their valued support on the Church Hall Management Committee.

Bryan Mallows – Church Hall Manager

Mission Committee

Much of this past year St Marks has been in vacancy, but the missional life of our church has continued through missional projects and activity both old and new.

In the summer of 2025, we hosted a visit from Azaria and David, our Church Mission Society partners who shared with us their work with vulnerable families and children in some of the poorest communities in Guatemala. We also hosted a visit from the Rev. Fabien, Provincial Secretary to the Anglican Church of Burundi. Both visits strengthened our relationships with our global Christian partners, enhanced our understanding of their work and their needs and encouraged us in our support. This helped form us to be outward looking as a church and care for the more vulnerable in society.

In the Autumn we led a fundraising event for the church in Burundi to finance a clergy conference with a focus on leadership, reconciliation and economic empowerment. This initiative raised \$4922 which enabled a 2-day conference for 45 clergy members from all over Burundi. We believe the generosity of our congregation was directly equipped clergy in Burundi to not only foster peace and reconciliation in a troubled political climate but also to develop strategies for being self-sufficient so that their ministries are sustainable.

In February 2026 we commenced a period of re-imagining how the missional life of St Marks will help others to encounter the love of God, be formed in the likeness of Jesus and serve His Kingdom through missional works. We are excited to progress this vision in 2026.

Gary Ditchfield (Chair)

Thursday Club

Introduction

The philosophy behind this outreach opportunity, primarily Senior Citizens, has remained constant for a number of years. 2025 was no different to any other. The group has continued to meet on a monthly basis, serving not only churchgoers from St Mark's, but also some from other churches or no church at all.

The club has continued to thrive, principally because everyone is made to feel welcome and the Team is rewarded by their loyalty and enthusiasm. The formula is to provide a warm and comfortable space, a cup of tea or coffee on arrival, a variety of different forms of entertainment, followed by refreshments including home-made cakes. But by far the most important ingredient is the opportunity to experience socialisation. God is at work during all of the meetings as those attending meet kindness, hospitality and joy.

The Team

The programme is put together by Bryan whose main responsibility on the day is to set up the accommodation being used (supported by Gordon J.) and lead the sessions. The Support Team, coordinated by Diana, is responsible for registering those attending, to prepare and serve refreshments and engage attendees in meaningful conversations. Regular members of the Team, for whom attendees are most grateful, are Gillian B., Jackie C., Pat F., Linda S., Marilyn S. and Janet T.

Entertainment

There were many highlights this year. In particular, we enjoyed musical presentations by the Beeston Ukulele Group, the Stanza Singers and the Oxtou Handbell Ringers who attended the Christmas Lunch at Ramsdale Park GC for 75 guests. Other presentations included talks on a wide range of subjects. Our sponsored charity event raised money for Young Lives versus Cancer, but other charities benefiting during the year were the Arnold Foodbank and Nottinghamshire Hospice.

Refreshments

Many thanks are due to those who regularly baked cakes, including members of the Team and willing contributions from attendees, particularly Pam W. and Meg S. with her cheese scones.

Looking ahead

We enter a new season in 2026 with our new vicar, so we will be doing our utmost to embrace fresh challenges as we support the new vision. Encounter, formation and mission will be central in our journey together for those who are later in life.

Bryan Mallows

Dove House

At the start of 2025, Dove house homed two tenants with their young daughters. Unfortunately, one tenant decided to move back to her mother's house as she was struggling living with the other mum. As a result of the complexities experienced with this and previous tenants, a decision was made with Hope into Action to change the tenancy of the house to single women only.

A new HIA worker began working with the team from St Mark's in August who has helped to improve communication and is helping to guide us in our role to help empower the women we are supporting.

The young mother and child moved on at the start of September. The house needed some cleaning and renovation. A small team from the church helped with the cleaning and HIA decorated.

A young woman moved into the house in October with a second moving in a couple of weeks later. Both ladies come from different backgrounds and cultures but are very appreciative of the house with its facilities and the friendship and practical assistance that St Marks is providing. One of the women is a Christian and asks for and appreciates our prayers.

Linda Sheppard

Home Groups/Life Groups

Meeting together midweek is one of the most important ways we stay rooted in the life of the church and connected to one another. It's where friendships are formed, faith grows, and we begin to see more of God's purposes shaping our lives and our communities across North Nottingham.

As part of this, we are excited to be stepping into a new chapter: **rebranding our "home groups" as Life Groups.**

Life Groups will meet throughout the week — in homes, cafés, pubs, at church, and beyond. Each group will carry its own flavour and rhythm, but what unites them — what makes them *St Mark's Life Groups* — is a shared commitment to prayer, engaging deeply with Scripture, growing in faith, and encouraging one another to live for God's kingdom and reach those who don't yet know Jesus.

Most Life Groups will follow their own rhythm and style of discipleship. At key moments throughout the year, however, we will gather around shared material across all groups — helping us build unity, strengthen our vision, and remember that each group is part of something bigger that God is doing at St Mark's.

Life Groups are places of friendship, hospitality, and meaningful conversation — but more than that, they are places of **encounter, formation, and mission**. Spaces where hearts are set on fire for God and hope comes alive in North Nottingham.

We're incredibly excited about this new season. We long to see more groups launched, more people finding belonging, and a growing diversity of communities taking shape across the church.

This is just the beginning.

Open Church

The church continues to be a warm and friendly space on Monday mornings from 10-12 noon where tea and coffee is available from the coffee bar. People drop by, both regular church attenders and those from the surrounding community, to chat, and talk things over, to see familiar faces or to welcome those who call in on their way to the church office or to complete practical tasks in or around the church buildings.

There is a cheerful buzz of conversation. Often there are informal meetings arranged during this time too. Baby Basics, the charity which collects and makes up Moses baskets of new baby things to be distributed by local midwives to those who most need them, often works in church during this time and is open to donations which can be brought in during Open Church. Two ladies come to play on the organ. Some call in whilst out and about and others may come with a problem to share. The important thing is that all are welcome for the whole time, or simply part of the two hours that the church is open providing a listening ear, a supporting hand or friendly chat when needed. Around 20-30 people call in and birthdays are regularly celebrated with cake.

Once again Christingles were made up by willing helpers during Open Church ready for the two very popular Christmas services. A Christmas "fuddle" was held to round the year off.

A huge thank you to all who enable Open Church to thrive and to Counsellors Viv and Ron McCrossen for the community grant award of £150 towards costs of heating and lighting through those long winter months.

Diana Mallows

"Julian" Prayer Meeting

St Mark's hosts these ecumenical prayer meetings which are part of a nationwide network. Julian was a 14th Century English mystic who spent most of her life in Norwich. The meetings are held in church on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm and last 30 minutes and are intended to foster the practice of contemplative prayer and meditation in the Christian tradition. So this is time between those who come and God, in a prayerful atmosphere.

We start with a short reading and then enter 30 minutes of shared silence, ending with some music and the Grace. As this is personal prayer, we do not share in the group what we have prayed about or anything we may have received from the Lord.

As these are ecumenical meetings everyone is welcome to come and we have several who participate from other churches or no church at all, and there are usually around 15 people at the meetings. Silence is essential so we encourage people to be there for a prompt start and refreshments are available afterwards.



Men@stmarks

St Mark's has a social group specifically for the men in our parish.

At present, we meet at 9am on the first Saturday of the month for breakfast at a local eatery and usually get around 12/15 men coming along.

We are hoping to add other meetings throughout the year with visits that would interest men, we have previously been to the Toyota factory near Derby and the Taylors Bell Foundry at Loughborough, where our church bell was made.

These meetings are suitable for people to invite their non-Christian friends, and some of our members do this. It is then hoped that they will be interested in who we are and what we do.



Reloved

How has your group helped people grow in their faith and take the next step in following Jesus this year?

We have opened up the doors to the church of St Marks twice in the last, year serving 200 adults, their children plus the 50 volunteers who help the sale run smoothly. We welcome everyone into the warmth and beauty of St Marks where they experience the Christian fellowship from our volunteers.

Our core group of volunteers is made up of a cross section of people, who support each other not just at sale time but all year, we're not just Christians who attend St Marks but people from other local churches and others from the local community.

We are thankful for the help and support of other local churches.

We pray together at the beginning of sale and a member of the ministry team shares a thought for the day on the Saturday morning.

- In what ways has your group grown in discipleship-in encounter with God, formation in Christlikeness, and participation in God's mission?

This actually sums up Reloved's mission. Our outreach is incredibly large. Not just in Woodthorpe and Nottingham but far beyond with all the charities we support both during and after the sale.

Reloved is more than a sale we have had heard some incredible testimonies where God has touched people's hearts. It's a practical way of sharing God's love and our discipleship. We recycle everything we can, encouraging less buying of new clothes and normalising that buying second hand is OK, protecting the environment and reducing the need for people to replenish with new therefore not feeding into the fast fashion industry encouraging reduction in modern slavery.

