

[www.barwickcofechurch.co.uk](http://www.barwickcofechurch.co.uk)

**BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**2019 to 2020**

**PART OF THE ELMETE TRINITY  
BENEFICE**



**BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**2019 to 2020**

**Rector**                      **Revd. Andrew Nicholson**

**Curate**                      **Revd. Bob Bailey**

**Assistant Priest**            **Revd. Kathryn Elliott**

**PCC Officers**

**Secretary**                  Pauline Robson

**Treasurer**                 Norman Whyte

**Church Wardens 2019-2020**

Carole Cassidy

Leslye Thomas

**Deanery Synod Representatives**

Sue Cole

Peter Snowdon

**PCC Elected Members**

Christine Nottingham      2019 - 22

Rosemary Swales            2019 - 22

Norman Whyte                2019 - 22

Neale Lucas                  2018 - 21

Claire Gaunt                 2018 - 21

Lynne Whitaker              2018 - 21

Pauline Robson              2017 - 20

Steve Rostron                2017 - 20

Martin Rogers                2017 - 20

Keith Langley                Co-opted for 1 year

## Rector's Report

Last year feels a very long time ago and it took me a while to remember that there actually was a time before Covid came. Looking back on that year it was personally dominated by my sabbatical, in which I walked the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, presided at the wedding of one of my brothers and spent 6 weeks travelling around China with my family.

I am very thankful that I took my sabbatical last year and not this, as none of those things would have been possible within the pandemic.

The Camino was a real turning point in my spiritual life, a refreshing and renewing of a spiritual thirst that had become somewhat dried by the rigours and strains of Parish ministry. Travelling in China was a blessed time spent with my family before the boys speed off into University and adulthood.

In parish life much of the second half of the year was dominated by the diocesan strategy document which, in its desire to see greater lay participation and spiritual growth, chimed with the reflections I had made on my Camino. Each of the parishes were part-way through looking at how we could put the lessons of the diocesan strategy into practice when Covid and lock-down hit in early 2020. In many ways necessity is the mother of invention and the lock-down gave me the push I needed to really invite many people from across the parishes to be part of the reflections rota, which has been a blessing both to those who listen and those who produce them. Most importantly it has forcefully made the point that we are all on a journey of discovery in our spiritual lives and sometimes need that push to get us out of the door.

Looking to the next 12 months, it is certain that Bob will be moving on in this period of time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the way in which he has thrown himself heart and soul into re-invigorating the worship and life of All Saints' Church in Barwick, as well as having an impact across the benefice.

As I made the point above, that the involvement of the laity is essential to the health of the churches. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the congregations for their contribution, large or small, in whatever way they give, in time, talents or money, to the life and work of the churches of this wonderful benefice. You are all amazing people and have such gifts to give that you are a blessing to me and to each other.

Blessings.

**Andy**



## Curate's Report

It seems strange to be sitting here in September 2020, reflecting on 2019. None of us could have foreseen the contrast between the two years or the disruption to our lives due to Covid-19. There are many uncertainties ahead but I have found looking back on 2019 a source of strength as following in the way of Christ we become more of a "Church at the heart of the community".

Personally 2019 was dominated by covering for Andy's Sabbatical. It was a very small taste of what a first incumbency would feel like. The highlight of the year for me was our Benefice Service on Trinity Sunday. All Saints' were good hosts to the whole Benefice. It was interesting to see the different strengths of each church being brought together around the format of the 3rd Sunday all-age Holy Communion service. Choirs, puppets and a full church!

2019 was a year of growth. Keith and Glynis were confirmed at Easter. We have had several Alpha Groups, including study groups preparing three people for Confirmation in 2020 (which has been delayed) and new house groups led by Neale. Our Lent and Advent courses have met in homes, church and the New Inn. We have also seen the growth in the team leading worship, especially over the summer where we managed to continue our midweek services and in the team leading our two monthly all-age services. Thanks to Kathryn, John and Keith (and many others) we have been blessed with thoughtful worship and pastoral care. Our prayer life has been developed by Kathryn who has encouraged us to meet weekly in her and Geoffrey's home.

Maybe the most unexpected development in 2019 was Messy Church. Becki Stennett, the Methodist Minister approached asking to set up a group for the day care children in the village. Soon we also had a group from school and parents. Again, a small team of dedicated volunteers and school teachers have meant we can teach around 25 children through craft, storytelling, prayer and song.

It has been a real joy working ecumenically and has strengthened our ties with school and the community. We have also had new choir members in 2019, including some children. Another highlight of the year was our Christmas services, especially Carols by Candlelight.

This is just a brief mention of a few highlights. There were many more, including *All Saints' All Stars*, our all-age worship twice a month, our super churchyard team and bellringers. We have also had a very supportive PCC. There are two people we should give special thanks to who have worked tirelessly, with great passion and wisdom. They have quietly led the church through hard work and example. I know we are all very grateful to our Churchwardens, Carole and Leslye.

**Bob Bailey**

## Treasurer's Report for the year ending December 2019

**It cost us £15,017 to run our church this year** (an increase of just under £1000 on 2018). This includes lighting, heating, insurance and general internal repairs etc. This figure is on top of our Parish Share of £44,667 and does not include external repairs to the building and surrounding walls, paths etc.

In January, 2019, the annual accounts presented to the PCC and approved by them showed funds brought forward at the beginning of the year of **£52,021.55**. This included the Central Board of Finance (CBF) Deposit Account of £15,103.15. Our closing balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 were **£42,514.92** a decrease in the year of £9,506.63

The headline figures creating this deficit are as follows:-

**The Parish Share** for the year was **£44,666.64**. The level of **Parish Giving** (covenants/collections/gift aid/donations and tax refund) totalled **£42,647.33**

**Purchase of New Speakers for the Organ £5,770.**

> **Funerals** raised net income (after payment of fees for vergers & organist) was **£9,751.20**

> **Weddings** were up on last year and raised a net figure of **£926.00** after deducting diocesan fees/verger/organist/bellringers/stand-in vicars and the cost of the wedding co-ordinator. The PCC has reviewed the overall costs and in future the cost of the wedding co-ordinator will be limited to £100 per month for January & February of 2020. After that the role of wedding co-ordinator is to be included within the duties of the parish administrator.

> **The Magazine** raised a net figure of **£375.01** after printing costs and this reflects a smaller circulation and advertising spaces which haven't been taken up.

> **The Events Group** had another very good year in raising **£1,190.55** from events in March and July but other income was raised and put towards the New Organ Speakers.

> **Outward Giving** This year we gave **£3,000** to local or International Charities

### Parish Share

We have been advised that our Parish Share for 2020 is an increase of 2.8% on 2019. We did not pay the full amount requested in 2019 and although the Diocese have asked for £49,993 for 2020 the PCC has agreed to the 2.8% increase but only on the previous years share paid.

This amounts to **£45,917** which needs to be paid in 2020.

### Repairs to the Building

In 2019 we spent £3,417 on necessary work listed in the Quinquennial Review of 2018. We have budgeted for a spend of £8,000 on the building most of which will be spent on refurbishing the clock tower and the clock face itself which is partially covered in gold leaf. We have applied for and received a grant from the Barwick and Scholes Community Fund of £2000 towards this work

**The funds in the CBF Deposit account** are restricted and in the main can only be used for wall repairs. The main Aberford Road wall continues to show signs of wear and will need money spent on it in the coming months.

### New Organ Speakers

Following the installation of the new organ in 2018 we needed to install new speakers at a cost of

£5,770 to get the best out of the new organ. This has been a priority for fund raising in the current year with the Events committee contributing £1,230.20 from the Harvest Supper and the Christmas Craft fair.

Additionally, a funeral service for a long standing member of our congregation raised £585. At the specific request of the family, this amount was put into the fund for the speakers

### **Overview**

This is the 2nd consecutive year when a significant deficit has occurred reducing our overall funds by nearly £20,000 and although the greater part of that amount has been spent on the new organ and speakers the PCC is conscious that a concerted effort in increasing the regular giving is a priority.

A new scheme is being run in many parishes and dioceses across England supported by the Church of England called the Parish Giving Scheme. The benefits in increased giving have been very significant so we are looking at this scheme to consider implementing it in the very near future

**Norman Whyte**  
**Barwick PCC Treasurer**

---

### **Electoral Roll 2019**

Following the full revision in 2019, there were 70 people on the Electoral Roll. This was a decrease of 15 from the previous year. As the name suggests, anyone who is on the electoral roll is eligible to vote at elections for PCC members and for Church Wardens. It also allows one to be nominated for the PCC. Over the past few years no election has taken place at the Annual Parish Meeting as nominations have matched the number of vacancies.

Getting people to put their names forward for the positions is sometimes difficult, but if you have time and skills to offer, I would urge you to consider standing for nomination as a PCC member. New energy and ideas are vital for the growth of our church. There is much going on in church matters generally. Please consider prayerfully whether you could serve in this way.

**Peter Snowdon**  
**Electoral Roll Officer**

---

## Gift Aid Report

Gift Aid receipts make an essential contribution to the finances of All Saints'. This table shows where gift-aided giving came from in 2019.

Source	Giving £
The Envelope Scheme	3,755
Standing Orders	22,897
Standing Orders from the Friends of All Saints'	1,695
Individual Giving	1,842
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,189</b>

This giving resulted in two gift-aid receipts which came to £7,547, the last one for £5,497 covering the period from April 6<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

All Saints' now qualifies for the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. This scheme provides for a payment which matches Gift Aid on the anonymous small cash donations given in the collections. A claim was made for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 tax years. A payment of £1,320 was received on giving of £5,281.

**Martin Rogers**

---

## Deanery Synod

The Whitkirk Deanery Synod has three normal meetings during the year and at present they are combined with those of other Leeds deaneries, held in St. George's Church, Leeds. There is a plenary session at which our bishop and archdeacon have something to say and then there is a session on some topic of interest or importance. During the last 12 months, they have featured the latest Diocesan Strategy, WYDAN (West Yorkshire Destitute Asylum Seekers Network) and training people to adopt new forms of ministry. The diocese has produced a 'toolkit' to assist parishes in working out ways of doing things relevant in their particular areas.

Plans for reshaping the deanery structure are well advanced and Alan Stanley, from our Benefice, has had a lot to do with this.

**Peter Snowdon and Sue Cole**

---

## **Church Warden's Report 2019 -2020**

The year has seen many changes in our worship and general church life but we must start by saying a big thanks you to Neale for filling the gap in Carole's absence and for providing additional support on her return to duties of Warden. We Wardens would not be able to fulfil our responsibilities regarding the Church without the vast team of volunteers who provide support to us in all areas of the Church life. Thank you.

Our growth in the area of children and young families has been heartening, strengthening relations with Barwick School. We have introduced a new communion service on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month aimed at children and young families and involving All Saints' All Stars. Messy Church once a month, involving reception year pupils from Barwick School, the pre-school children from the nursery at Barwick Methodist church and families from our congregation has been a huge success. As they say "it does exactly what it says on the tin". Children and adults have great fun and get extremely messy whilst exploring Gospel stories.

We have evolved as a stronger Church in our own Parish and have also seen the Benefice develop with more regular meetings of Clergy and wardens across the three Churches, pooling ideas. The Trinity service in 2019 was a joyful occasion seeing the congregations of the 3 distinct individual churches coming together to worship at All Saints'.

### **External**

The Churchyard gang continue to maintain the churchyard to a very high standard and we are delighted to see new volunteers who have joined the team. In an attempt to ensure common standards in all churchyards, the Dioceses held a seminar in September and Carole attended on behalf of the Wardens. The aim is to ensure clear standards in all churchyards to provide a welcoming space, which our gardeners already achieve. Work is in hand to repair stonework around the church clock, replace the ties that anchor the clock face to the tower and then to paint and to refurbish the face.

### **Internal**

Internal work this year has included the replacement of the water boiler in the kitchen. The replacement and upgrade of the speakers for the organ, which itself was replaced in 2018, has enabled us to appreciate the full richness of the sound. Many thanks to Martyne White, our talented organist.

The critical question for the future is how can we make the space inside of our lovely church more flexible and welcoming without losing its beauty?

### **Thank you**

Thank you to everyone for all that you do for the church and for the love of the God who loves us all.

**Carole Cassidy and Leslye Thomas**



## **PCC Secretary's Report**

Looking through the minutes for the year it is amazing to see how much work has been done. We have a lovely old church but as with all ancient buildings it does need to be watched over, cossetted and generally overhauled at various times.

Leslye and Carole have worked extremely hard to oversee all the work needing to be done. We had new speakers installed which unfortunately necessitated scaffolding to put them into place and thus the church was closed temporarily whilst this work was carried out.

In June Andy went on sabbatical for three months and Bob and Kathryn did a brilliant job holding the fort.

A very successful PCC Away day was held in September which unfortunately clashed with the Heritage Open Day which meant I had to stay back at church. However, it was so successful another Away Day is planned to be held this year but who knows!

In February the Head Teacher from Barwick School visited the PCC to explain how the church had an impact on the school. Teachers and pupils really benefit from the visits and input by Bob and Kathryn.

Messy Church commenced in November and obtained very positive feedback.

It has been a very busy and fruitful year and thank you to everyone especially the Church Wardens and PCC for all that they do. We have had an attendance of 75% over the year.

**Pauline Robson**

---

## **All Saints Churchyard and Grounds Report**

The year 2019 was a successful year for the Churchyard gang. The efforts of Janice and Lynda were well rewarded as the flower beds were probably the best they have ever been, with a profusion of flowers from spring to autumn. The Yorkshire in Bloom judges were so impressed that we were again awarded gold and Janice and Lynda's efforts were mentioned in their judging comments.

Sadly David McRae has decided he is no longer fit enough to be able to help us. David's efforts, especially with the paint brush will be sadly missed. On the bright side we gained Mick Watson who seems very handy with a lawnmower. Unfortunately, we were still short of help on many occasions so several of the regular tree pruning jobs etc were left undone. Early in the year Colin was about to order a couple of tons of topsoil for levelling graves, when Doug Haynes had a chance meeting with Paddy who was renovating a house in Gascoigne View, the result was several tons of good quality topsoil delivered free of charge, saving of a few hundred pounds for the Church.

The problem of people allowing their dogs to foul the churchyard is no better. We are constantly finding dog mess on or near the graves. In an effort to solve the problem of the ever growing mound of grave waste at the top of the extension, a meeting was held with Hartleys to try and sort out the problem. Things seemed to improve a little for a short while. However, the most recently dug or reopened graves have been left in an appalling state. The Rector has spoken to the grave diggers but with little effect. This is a serious problem which needs to be addressed quickly, otherwise the graveyard will become an eyesore rather than a place of calm and beauty for family and friends to visit.

The Churchyard Gang are still doing their utmost to keep the churchyard at its best for people to visit the graves of their loved ones. My thanks during this period of lockdown goes especially to Doug and Lynda who have carried on whilst those of us in lockdown have been confined to our homes.

**Colin Bond**



---

### **Monday's Ladies' Fellowship**

Monday Fellowship is continuing to thrive. Our membership is slightly up this year with an average attendance of 25. In the year up to December 2019 we took £484 in subscriptions, speakers' costs were up on last year at £330 and £50 was given to speakers from charitable organisations. The Ladies' Fellowship gave £100 to the church towards heating and £10 for flowers.

The visit to Halifax and Shibden Hall in June 2019 was very successful even though the weather was against us. The visit to the Piece Hall in Halifax was interesting and the afternoon visit to Shibden Hall, the home of Anne Lister was fascinating. It would be good to see Shibden Park in the sunshine! The trip made a small profit of £10 which was added to the money raised at our annual summer Charity Coffee Morning meaning that we were able to give the chosen charity, The Cinnamon Trust, £200.

Much of the credit for our success must go to Sue Cole who is very good at finding excellent speakers for the meetings. We have been pleased to welcome 3 new committee members to help us with the running of the group, Jean Stephenson, Ruth Ainley and Rosemary Swales and we must give our thanks to Peggy Moore and Pat Pattison who have been committee stalwarts for many years and who have stood down this year.

We feel it is of vital importance for our church to provide activities for the retired and older members of the community as well as the young. Barwick Monday Ladies Fellowship continues to have a strong Christian ethos and all ladies, of any age and any beliefs or none, will be made very welcome.

**Pat Rogers and Pat Whyte**

---

### **Church Flowers**

On behalf of Lynne and myself I would like to thank all who provide and arrange beautiful flowers to decorate All Saint's. A huge thank you also to the ladies and gentlemen who provide greenery and help arrange fantastic displays for the special festivals during the year. Your help is appreciated.

**Carole Cassidy**

## Choir

The choir meets every Thursday at 5pm. Every third week we collaborate with the *All Saints' All Stars* ready for the *All Age* Communion Service. It is lovely to have some new members joining us including children, who started our Carols by Candlelight Service last year. This, as usual, was very well attended and enjoyed by all who listened and all who sang. We had been practising hard for the three services including the Benefice Evensong during Holy Week and the Confirmation Service, where we were to be joined by Thorner Choir. These services have had to be postponed due the Covid 19.

We thank our Organist, Martyne, without him we definitely would not sound as good! The choir look forward to resuming practice as soon as possible and wish everyone well at this difficult time.

**Gaile Welsh**

---

## Pastoral Care

Pastoral visits continued until March 2020 with Andy, Bob and Kathryn visiting as well as other church members when requests were received. When the Covid 19 virus appeared we continued to contact any parishioner by telephone, whether a church attendee or not.

**Christine Nottingham**

---

## Barwick News

The production team consists of Keith Langley who looks after the advertising and myself. The other very important person in the magazine team is May Davisworth who is in charge of distribution. May makes sure the people who kindly give up their time to deliver the magazine into homes and shops get their quota of magazines in time to make sure you, our readers, have your copy at the beginning of each month. Without the work of Keith, May and our many helpers who distribute the magazines to homes and businesses, my work would be pointless. My thanks go to all of them and especially to Doug Haines who is a great help to May Davisworth.

May informs me that we receive 600 copies from the printer, 55 of which are for Scholes, last year 66 went to Scholes. About 30 copies are sold at the Barwick Stores and 10 at the doctor's surgery. At present all but about 10 copies are sold which is wonderful. Our printer, Ipso Print Ltd, is very helpful and efficient for which both May and I are extremely grateful.

The Barwick News for April 2020 was completed just as the Covid 19 virus outbreak was beginning to get worse and volunteers very carefully managed to deliver that issue to homes. It had already been decided that it would be too risky to deliver a magazine in May and June before the country went into lockdown.

At present we have no idea as to when publication of the Barwick News will recommence. That will be up to the clergy and PCC to decide once some semblance of normality is returning to society. I do feel that it is important for the church to have a magazine to reach out into the community and I believe that at present we are still making a profit for the church. The profit is, of course, very useful but the main purpose of any church magazine is communication and Christian outreach. For now we just have to wait to see what the future brings.

It would be great if those of you who are getting bored with staying at home would think about writing me some articles so there is plenty of 'copy' to make an interesting edition when we are publishing again.

**Pat Rogers**

---

### **Magazine Advertising Report**

If you need a job doing, please consider our advertisers first, they support us, and we should support them whenever possible.

Currently there is one full page advertisement in the magazine, fifteen half-page advertisements, fourteen quarter page advertisements and ten eighth page advertisements.

Thanks to all who advertise with us.

**Keith Langley**

---

### **Friday Family Fun**

Friday Family Fun (up to the Covid 19 restrictions) continued to flourish and grow. We currently have around 6 adults and 6 children regularly attending. The atmosphere each Friday continues to be uplifting and gives families the opportunity to spend time in our beautiful church which is very rewarding. We have also seen the numbers for the *All Together at 10 Service* and the Family Communion service rise and most of those families have attended Friday Family Fun at some point.

This year we had to say goodbye to our lovely Joanne Moore who left us to start a new job with Nuffield Health. We wish her all the very best and thank her for all her hard work over the last five years with Family Fun. Joanne was replaced by Sarah Drury who has thrown herself wholeheartedly into helping me. She regularly comes up with the most wonderful craft ideas and has created a song box for us which the children love!

Thanks must be given to the team of ladies who provide refreshments every Friday, they are: Pam, Leslye, Anne and Rosemary. An average of £5 donations is collected each week which has resulted in over £200 a year raised for church funds.

This May will see Friday Family Fun celebrate its fifth birthday so we will definitely be having a party once all this madness has ended.

**Clare Meadley**

---

### **Events Committee**

The Events Committee are grateful for the continued support shown by the congregation and the wider village for the local events staged. This year the Christmas Tree Coffee Morning was particularly successful even though it clashed with the school fair. Throughout the year we raised over £2,500 for church funds including the organ fund.

After analysing responses to the questionnaires we hope to have some new ideas for 2020/21.

**Rosemary Swales**

## **Bell Ringing**

The ringers meet most Thursday evenings from 7.30 – 9.00 pm.  
The new ringers are progressing well and we are now able to ring for all the 11am services.  
We have rung for 5 weddings.  
We have placed a camera in the bell chamber and people can now see the bells ringing  
We have had a visit by the scouts.

The bells have been inspected and are in good condition. The three clappers that were not replaced in 2015 have now been replaced.

**John Crouch**  
**Tower Captain**

---

## **The weekly Newsletter/Pew sheet/Notice sheet**

One of the questions I asked in my report last year was would anyone miss the Weekly News if it were to discontinued. I had only one reply, but it was positive, so I'll take that as a 'Yes' and keep going. I know it gets read because if there is a typo at least 6 people tell me! I would make one urgent plea. Please think ahead and if you have an event or piece of news that needs advertising let me know by Wednesday at the latest. Do not rely on standing up after the 11am service to announce your notice. By then, the 8am congregation will have missed it and it will never reach the Wednesday congregation or Family Fun.

During the coronavirus lockdown, I am still producing the pew sheet. For people with emails it is emailed out. For people without email, Carole and I take a printed copy round each week. I have had more comments these last 3 weeks than in the whole of the last year, (all positive). People appreciate being kept informed, being included, being valued. So please, if you have a notice, find my contact details on the back of the Parish Magazine or a notice sheet and let me tell everyone.

**Leslye Thomas**

---

## **Heritage Open Days**

Twenty-nine people attended on the Saturday but only four people came on Wednesday afternoon. However, several visitors came quite a distance specifically to learn more about our church and its history.

The Historical Society obtained a grant from Leeds Civic Trust which enabled us to put a display of photographs in the church. This was well received by both visitors and congregation.

Thank you to those who helped us put the bunting up in the morning and take it down at the end of the day. (Being only 5ft isn't conducive to reaching the higher parts outside the church!)

**Pauline Robson**