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**ANNUAL REPORT
THE PARISH OF BARWICK-IN-ELMET
2018-2019**

**PART OF THE ELMETE TRINITY
BENEFICE**



BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
2017 to 2018

Rector **Revd. Andrew Nicholson**

Curate **Revd. Bob Bailey**

PCC Officers

Secretary Pauline Robson
Treasurer Norman Whyte

Church Wardens 2017-2018

Neale Lucas
Leslye Thomas

Deanery Synod Representatives

Sue Cole
Peter Snowdon

PCC Elected Members

Christine Nottingham	2016 - 19
Rosemary Swales	2016 - 19
Norman Whyte	2016 - 19
Pauline Robson	2017 - 20
Steve Rostron	2017 - 20
Martin Rogers	2017 - 20
Carole Cassidy	2018 - 21
Claire Gaunt	2018 - 21
Lynne Whitaker	2018 - 21
Keith Langley	Co-opted for 1 year

The ladies were again very generous when a young couple spoke to us about the work of Support Dogs.

The annual outing in June 2018 to Ilkley and Farnley Hall was a great success and we had a successful Charity Coffee Morning in church last August.

The annual day out for 2019 will be to Halifax, to the Piece Hall and to Shibden Mill museum. If any lady would like to join us on our visit to Halifax on Tuesday 11th June, please have a word with me, Pat Rogers, or Pat Whyte.

As well as thanking Sue Cole, for her work as 'speaker finder', we must also thank our other committee members, Peggy Moore and Pat Pattison, who are always ready to provide us with ideas and help us out when needed. Our volunteer tea ladies also deserve a big thank you.

Pat Rogers and Pat Whyte

Pastoral Visits

Pastoral visits have continued during the last year. Both Andy and Bob visit as have other Church members when requests are received. Any parishioner, whether a member of the congregation or not can be visited.

Christine Nottingham

(photographs on back page courtesy of David Siviour, Geoff and Margaret Thornton)

Monday Ladies Fellowship

Monday Ladies Fellowship is still managing to provide fellowship and an interesting afternoon once a month for the ladies of the parish.

During the year up to December 2018 we took £454 in membership subscriptions, speakers costs amounted to £270, £120 was given to charitable organisations, £100 went to the church towards heating and lighting and £6 on church flowers. As our speakers costs should be less for our spring meetings we are hoping to break even by the summer.

I must point out that ladies of any age will receive a warm welcome, it is not just for the older ladies in the community and we are always looking to welcome new members whether they are churchgoers or not. In our view it is part of the church's outreach and we feel it is very important to provide stimulating activities for the ladies of our parish in a welcoming warm environment. During the winter months there are still issues about the temperature in the church for our meetings due to draughts coming from broken windows. Many of our members are quite elderly and they do need to be kept warm which sadly is not always the case.

We have an average attendance of 23 people per meeting and much of the credit for attendance must go to Sue Cole who always seems to find some excellent speakers.

We welcomed Cath Harwood with her '*Together in Harmony*' singers to our Christmas meeting. Besides entertaining us musically Cath spoke from the heart when she told us about the charity for which her group was raising money. We were all moved by the plight of the refugees and asylum seekers in Leeds who are supported by the charity PAFRAS which is based at St Aidan's church in Harehills and for which her group is raising money. If a speaker is raising money for charity our ladies are always generous.

Rector's Report

2018 was a strange year for me in terms of my involvement at Barwick. It was clear early on in Bob's curacy that he was a very competent leader and would benefit from being given a greater level of responsibility than would sometimes be given to a curate. As a result, and as part of Bob's training, I have over the past year, taken a step back from much of the leadership of Barwick parish and allowed him to 'spread his wings' in one parish in preparation for when he moves on from here to probably take up a post in a multi-parish benefice.

Bob has taken on the chair of the PCC meetings, is now a school governor and leads school assemblies. He has developed the third Sunday communion service and taken the majority of the regular Sunday and weekday services in the parish. The sadness I have felt in being dislocated from the goings on in Barwick has been counterbalanced by the joy I have felt in the development of both Bob's ministry and ministry in the parish as a whole. I believe that the experience has been positive and enlivening on both sides.

When I am in Barwick I see a parish that has a joy in mission and ministry, which is moving forward in Sunday services and in spiritual growth through Lent study groups and Alpha courses. The third Sunday service is clearly well enjoyed and draws in families as both a continuation from Altogether@10 and new families not previously associated with the church.

All of this is not simply Bob's doing; it has been a team effort from many in the church, both young and old, who have stepped up and been involved in leading the church forward. Thanks should particularly (but not exclusively) go to Anne Oliver, Clare Meadley, Claire Gaunt, Rachel Holmes and John Crouch for their work in both Alltogether@10 and the Third Sunday Services.

In the last few months we have welcomed Kathryn and Geoffrey Elliott into the fellowship and this I believe will further develop our ministry in the years to come.

I look forward to the years ahead with hope and expectation and pray that you do too.

Blessings.

Andy

Curate's Report

2018 was a year defined by the continued renewing of our worship, the growth of our studying together and the strengthening of our service to the community as God has added to our number. Personally it has been a very fulfilling year and I am grateful to Andy for placing such trust and freedom in me.

One of the remarkable gifts All Saints' has is the Alltogether@10 service on the first Sunday of the month. The year started with the challenge of launching a new all-age service building on Alltogether@10. A questionnaire revealed the basic ingredients of what has become the third Sunday all-age Holy Communion service. Launched in July after much preparation, the service has grown numerically, attracting all-ages. It has changed and developed throughout the year but always kept the basic principles of expressing the very best of Anglican tradition. It has embraced wide and creative participation for all ages in the congregation. A companion to the service has been a monthly music and drama group for children called *All Saints' All Stars*. This has fed the service with music and drama and enriched our worship. The introduction of a new service was a bold and confident move by both PCC and congregation.

We do try to show that Barwick has an interesting and lively Christian life through its two churches and also, that it is a great place to live and bring up a family with a good school, a caring community and activities for all, whatever their beliefs.

I welcome more information/articles from people in the village. Our aim is to make the *Barwick News* a vehicle for informing the inhabitants of Barwick about everything that is going on in the village and also stories about the people who live in our community and their experiences. I do get several quite good articles from the 'Parish Pump' website but 'home grown' articles may be of more interest to readers.

Pat Rogers

Barwick News Advertising

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

Currently there are sixteen half-page advertisements in the magazine, fifteen quarter page advertisements and nine eighth page advertisements.

Thanks to all who advertise with us.

Keith Langley

Church Flowers

I would like to thank all the people who generously provide and arrange flowers for All Saints' throughout the year. Also a big thank you to everyone who helps arrange the flowers for specific festivals. It is much appreciated.

Lynne Whitaker

Thanks must be given to the team of ladies who provide refreshments every Friday, they are: Terri, Christine, 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 sees Friday Family Fun celebrate its fifth birthday so I am sure a party will be in order.

Clare Meadley

Barwick News

The production team now consists of Keith Langley, who oversees the advertising, and myself. The other very important person in the magazine team is May Davisworth who is in charge of distribution. 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 Haynes who is a great help to May Davisworth.

May informs me that we receive 600 copies from the printer, 63 of which are for Scholes. At present all but about 10 copies are sold which is wonderful. Our printer, Ipso Print Ltd, is very helpful and efficient.

I understand that we are still making a profit for the church (see Treasurer's Report) and the church does need that money but I feel the main point of the magazine is communication, about church and community life. If we are to build up our church community villagers need to know what is happening and when. If we can get non-churchgoers involved in any of our activities - then barriers can be broken down.

Renewing our worship has not only been restricted to our all-age worship. After living without an organ for a year and after much careful effort and expense in attempting to repair the broken organ, it was finally felt necessary to purchase a new instrument and further support the flourishing of our choral tradition. The new organ provides a fitting instrument for our historic building and our service to the community through weddings and funerals. It was installed for our Christmas celebrations with a speaker system soon to be added. Fund raising will continue through the year. Already the new organ has enriched our worship with high attendance at all of our Christmas services, especially our Carol Service.

Lent and Advent study courses have grown both in numbers, ecumenical friendship with our Methodist neighbours and in the depth of fellowship they have provided. The New Inn has become a congenial base for our Advent study course alongside day courses at All Saints' and the Methodist Church. Future courses envisaged are Alpha and Confirmation classes mid 2019. One encouraging development has been the number of people coming forward to lead groups.

A moving highlight in the village this year was the Armistice remembrance events especially marking the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. The War Memorial remembrance ceremony, church service and events organised by the Parish Council on Tower Hill with the Royal British Legion were a fitting memorial to those who sacrificed their lives. All Saints' choir sang songs from the WW1 era and the international artist Simon King used archive material to project images of Barwick and Scholes folk from WW1 onto the church tower. These images included local soldiers who perished in that conflict. Thanks go to the Royal British Legion, Parish Council, Barwick Historical Society and parishioners who made the projection possible. We are also grateful to the Parish Council for providing the '*There but not here*' statues which now live in church as a reminder of the sacrifices made during WW1. Personally the day was a highlight in the year.

Our relationship with Barwick School continues to grow. They have had some very memorable and lively services. Highlights were our Easter celebration when a human sized chicken was let loose in the church and, on Christmas Eve, a dramatised Crib Service with live characters and a music group. The church continues to support the school in many ways including helping with the school choir. The school is very supportive of the church and has placed its relationship as a priority in the school plan. We are still in need an additional Foundation Governor to work alongside me in developing the school's spiritual life.

Continuing the theme of growth, we welcome Kathryn and Geoffrey Elliott into our community. They both bring many gifts and depth of experience and spiritual maturity to our prayer and worship - with the added bonus of a canine friend!

Special mention needs to go to a number of people, although there are many others. Firstly, to all the teams who help lead and plan worship. Anne Oliver does an incredible job organising the Alltogether@10 team and Keith Langley, John Crouch and Clare Meadley provide inspiring leadership and preaching skills in this service. Mention should be made of Joanne Moore and Alison Herselman who have faithfully supported our all-age services and *All Saints' All Stars*.

With vision and energy Neale Lucas and Leslye Thomas have worked incredibly hard in their role as Church Wardens, supported by Carole Cassidy. Norman Whyte has provided prudent financial control and Pauline Robson has diligently cared for the PCC. Lynne Whitaker's team produces beautiful flowers and the loyal team of cleaners work hard each week. I also want to mention the team who keep our churchyard looking beautiful and cared for throughout the year, making it a place of beauty and contemplation for the whole village and for those whose loved ones rest in the shadow of the church. Through the efforts of Doug Haynes and Colin Bond we now have Commonwealth War Graves Commission signage indicating our churchyard is a site of war graves. Carol Blackmore continues (amongst many unseen works) to diligently look after and welcome the couples who come to us to get married.

Audience participation remains part of our 'special brand' and the 'marching band' around Church accompanying the last hymn, becomes ever increasing in number! As always a big thank you goes to everyone who has participated in our services in any way whatsoever this year.

We look forward to another year of 'All together' and before long no doubt we will be thinking about how to recognise our 5 year anniversary in January 2020!

On a personal note, the end of 2018 was a difficult time for me and my family due to my Dad becoming seriously ill after a planned operation. I would just like to say a huge thanks to everyone for their continuing prayers, offers of support/practical help and also understanding when I have not been able to play the active role I normally play in Church life.

Claire Gaunt

Family Fun

In recent times numbers at Friday Family Fun have begun to diminish. We currently have around 6 adults and 6 children regularly attending. That having been said, the atmosphere on a Friday continues to be uplifting and giving these families the opportunity to spend time in our beautiful church 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.

I have been ably assisted by Joanne Moore who has devised a useful ring binder full of ideas of crafts which means that each session has been planned in advance. Both of us feel that being able to find fun and learning within the Liturgy very uplifting and rewarding.

'Alltogether@10'



This is the fourth year I have written in the annual report about our 'All together@10' service and it seems like only yesterday when we made the brave step and changed the format of one of our monthly services. It is now a well established and welcome part of our worship programme; indeed its success has provided the catalyst and encouragement for the changes which have been made to our third Sunday of the month service. The two hopefully complement each other, with each providing something slightly different.

We generally keep the structure of 'All together @10' the same, but we are conscious that we need to ensure it remains fresh and continues to develop. To this end we have varied who takes on the leader roles in the service and have tried to encourage new people of all ages to participate in delivering the various parts of our worship.

Seeing the children of our congregation grow and develop; initially watching them participate by 'moving the hands on our clock' and then in the following years watching them deliver Bible readings with ever increasing confidence, is really heart warming to see.

There is a small cohort of us who plan and organise the services, but we are an inclusive group and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. If anyone would like to participate in the service we would love to hear from them.

Our goal remains to provide an informal shorter service suitable for all ages, backgrounds and personal circumstances; which ultimately sees everyone leaving with a smile on their face.

Alan Stephenson has organised our complicated rota through a period of great change and Gaile Welsh enriches our worshipping life through her leadership of the choir. Two people who provide unsung but essential support to the life of the village are Malcolm Nicholson, our vergers, and Martyne White our organist. Come sun, rain or snow they help the many who come to us in distress at the loss of a loved one. Through funerals and our Service of Light at All Souls' time, All Saints' Church provides a beautiful and peaceful place to mourn and remember those who are no longer with us. We give thanks for all of these folk and the many more who serve with great care and dedication.

Finally we give thanks for all of God's mercies and for the opportunities of loving service our church community provides. As we grow both in number and love for one another we pray for those joining us and making the deeper commitment to God through Confirmation. We also pray for those who continue to serve faithfully after many years of service, for those too ill to join us in worship and those who have left this kingdom to serve their master in that greater light. May God's presence be revealed in our community through word and deed and may All Saint's' continue to be a place of welcome and an encounter with Jesus for us all.

Pax et Bonum,

Bob



PCC Secretary's Report

When one starts a new role it is always a steep learning curve. Sylvia Snowdon had been the PCC secretary for 22 years so she was a hard act to follow. However, she has guided me throughout, always ready to give me advice but never intruding on my way of doing things. I owe Sylvia so much and cannot thank her enough for always being there for me.

However, I must also mention the members of the PCC who have helped me get to grips with unusual terminology. Not knowing what a word means let alone know how to spell it could have been a disaster but for them.

So much has happened during the year and the PCC has struggled prayerfully throughout to make life easier for the congregation. The new third Sunday service was introduced in July and has gone from strength to strength with many families now attending. We thank our curate, Bob Bailey and his wife, Jess, for all their hard work organising this service.

The main festivals in the Church of England such as Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Sunday etc. take much organising and the Church Wardens must be thanked for all the work they have done in connection with these services and the hundred and one other things they do to keep the church running. Many of them we never hear about until after they have been done!

Sometimes it felt as if progress had stopped, the same item appearing for several months on the agenda at our meetings. This year it was a new organ! We are spending the church's money and therefore prayer, careful thought and agreement of fifteen people was needed before any decision was taken. Then the questions of model, cost, suitability, supplier etc. had to be answered. In consultation with Martyne our organist, we finally purchased a lovely organ just before Christmas. What a difference it makes! Now we just need the speakers - hopefully it will not be too long before they appear.

Following the report and advice from the arboriculturist, during the winter months of 2017-18 Bill White and Doug removed several self-seeded and dying trees from around the Rose Bed where the ashes are buried, making the area much more pleasant. Between the local farmer and our gallant team we have managed to trim the hedge height. It was hard work but the area now looks much better.

Colin Bond & Doug Haynes

Choir Report

The choir practice every Thursday evening from 5pm to 6pm. Martyne, our organist, now accompanies us which we greatly appreciate, particularly now we have the new organ. We just need the new speakers to complete the sound!

Every 3rd Thursday of the month Bob and the children's singing and drama group have their meeting at 6pm to be ready for Sunday's service and we have a few minutes together going through any new songs or hymns. This service gives us the opportunity to learn some new and modern music.

Again we provided entertainment for the Harvest Supper, which is always enjoyable. Carols by candlelight was the highlight of the year. The full church and atmosphere make all the hard work a joy to sing! It was especially lovely to have young Reuben, Bob's son, starting the service singing the solo first verse of Once in Royal David's City. We are now working on some new sung responses which we will introduce after Easter and hope everyone will enjoy singing these with us.

The choir welcomes anyone who enjoys singing and reads music. As the children's singing and drama group grow we are hopeful of recruiting some younger members!

Gaile Welsh

Churchyard and Grounds

The freezing start to spring followed by the long hot summer of 2018 proved to be quite a problem for the flower beds throughout the churchyard. However, regular watering (three times a week) ensured they looked their best for many months. Our efforts were rewarded with silver gilt in the Yorkshire in Bloom awards.

We are always trying to recruit new members to our team, often without success. So when Malcolm Nicholson volunteered we welcomed him with open arms.

A couple of years ago I suggested that we should make the triangular grassed area in front of the bell tower a focal point for the churchyard. We have carried out a programme of weed/moss treatment followed by scarification. This has worked very well and the grass looks much better now. We will need to repeat the treatment on a regular basis.

Unfortunately the ongoing problem with dog fouling is not improving. Dog mess is still being found around the Churchyard, particularly on the grassed area to the right hand side as you enter from the front gate. This is very distressing to the team and in one instance resulted in ruined clothes. It seems that all attempts to deter people from allowing their dogs to foul the churchyard area have failed. To reach a wider audience we are going to approach the Parish Council and see if they would put an item regarding this in their Newsletter, we will see if this has any effect.

As I reported last year nothing has changed in the problem of the ever increasing mound of waste following burials. PCC please note. Since then things have become even worse as now we have to deal with the rubble left on top of the graves.

In summer we had the quinquennial report. The Church Wardens have reported separately on what needed attention but once again I must thank Leslye and Neale for getting on with the job. The PCC may make the decisions but it is Leslye and Neale who make sure the jobs get done. For all the major work a faculty has to be applied for and Leslye is now the 'Queen of the Faculties' having completed so many this year! We really couldn't manage without you both.

In autumn we welcomed the Revd. Kathryn Elliot and her husband Geoffrey to our congregation. If Kathryn thought she was going to have a relaxing time when she moved to Barwick we thought differently! She has been a great asset to us all, especially Andy and Bob who cannot be in three churches at once.

There are so many people who make All Saints' what it is that it is unfair really not to mention everyone. Unfortunately space does not allow but one group of people who need a huge thank you are the Churchyard Gang. As the PCC are also responsible for the grounds we couldn't manage without them. They work throughout the year in all sorts of different weather, always making sure that the grounds look neat and tidy. Thank you all for your hard work.

In our busy lives we all (especially myself) tend to take things for granted. We attend church on a Sunday and find the bells ringing, everything is clean, the books are handed out, the altar ready, the flowers refreshed, the choir in place and afterwards the coffee and biscuits are there for all. But do we ever stop and think, and thank God, for the people who make the church what it is?

The PCC is your representative for making sure that we spend the monies in the best possible way and that the repairs to the fabric of the church are carried out. However, everyone has a part to play in keeping and supporting our church. The PCC would just like to thank everyone for their contribution no matter how small. You all make a difference!

Yes! We would miss the weekly pew sheets. (see pg.19)

Pauline Robson

Treasurer's Report - Year Ending December 2018

It costs us £14,090 to run our church each year. This includes lighting, heating, insurance and general internal repairs etc. This figure is on top of our Parish Share of £43,366 and does not include external repairs to the building and surrounding walls, paths etc.

In January, 2018, the annual accounts presented to the PCC and approved by them, showed funds brought forward at the beginning of the year of **£60,984.92**. This included the Central Board of Finance (CBF) Deposit Account of £15,028.47. Our closing balances as at 31st December 2018 were **£52,021.55** a **decrease** in the year of £8,963.37.

The headline figures creating this deficit are as follows:-

The Parish Share for the year was **£43,365.72**

The level of **Parish Giving** (covenants/collections/gift aid/donations and tax refund) totalled **£56,578.45** but included two specific and generous donations of £5,000 each – one toward the cost of the repair of the church path and the other toward the cost of the new organ so the net regular giving figure was **£46,578.45** a surplus of £3,212.73

- **Funerals** raised net income (after payment of fees for verger & organist) was **£9,773.60**
- **Weddings** were up on last year and raised a net figure of **£647.85** after deducting diocesan fees/verger/organist/bell ringers/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 and reviewed each January in the light of the number of weddings booked in.
- **The Magazine** raised a net figure of **£1,025.91** after printing costs and this is an increase over the previous year of £250 but there is still scope for more advertisers as spaces in the current magazine show.

Bell Ringing

The ringers meet most Thursday evenings from 7.30 – 9.00 pm. We had a recruitment drive in the summer and have been training 7 new ringers.

We have rung for 8 weddings.

We rang a quarter peal in memory of Graham Mallinson who had rung with us for many years.

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 will need to be refurbished this year.

John Crouch
Tower Captain



The Weekly Newsletter/Pew sheet/Notice sheet

Thanks to everyone who uses the notice sheet to keep the congregation informed about church life in Barwick, and once again thanks to Pauline for holiday cover. I am still looking for offers to do the occasional sheet, or even take it over completely! You do need a computer and printer, an hour to type and half an hour to print and fold.

Do people actually read the notices? Am I wasting my time, computer ink and printing paper? Would anyone miss the notice sheet if it was no longer available? I hope the answers are yes, no, yes.

Leslye Thomas

Heritage Weekend

English Heritage decided to run over two weekends during 2018 but we only opened the church on one Saturday. Of course we picked the wrong day! It rained non-stop and our total number of visitors was only eight. However the ones who did brave the weather enjoyed learning more about the history of All Saints'.

Grateful thanks must go to Ann Winter who helped me take people round and for the ladies who turned up to make refreshments for our (few) visitors.

I would add that we also opened the church for Open Gardens. We had a lot of visitors during the afternoon. It was an extremely hot day and the coolest place in the village was the church! However many of the visitors were delighted to learn more about the history of All Saints' and felt it added something to their tour of the beautiful gardens.

Pauline Robson

Prayer Chain

We are a small group of people who pray daily for anyone who requests us to pray for them, or for people they know. It is always done in strict confidence. If anyone would like to join this group please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lynne Whitaker



- **The Events Group** had another very good year in raising **£2,857**.
- **Outward Giving** This year we gave **£3,000** to local or International Charities

Parish Share

We have been advised that our Parish Share for 2019 is a reduction of 2.85% on 2018. We did not pay the full amount requested in 2018 and although the Diocese have asked for £48,631 for 2019 the PCC has agreed to only increase it by 3% - in line with inflation (on last years payments).

This amounts to **£44,652** which needs to be paid in 2019.

Repairs to the Building

In 2018 we spent £7,883 on necessary work listed in the Quinquennial Review of 2013 and included the work on the church path which was fully funded by a single donation. We had allocated a further £23,000 to be spent on building repairs but have reduced this to £12,000 in the current budget following the Quinquennial Review last October which was more favourable than expected

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 is already showing signs of wear and will need money spent on it in the coming months.

New Organ

The old organ had completely packed up and the PCC made a decision to buy a new one at a cost of £12,650.

A one-off generous donation of £5000 (effectively £6250 with Gift Aid) was received and the balance paid accounts for the bulk of the deficit for the year.

We need to install speakers costing around £5000 to get the best out of the new organ and this will be a priority for fund raising in the current year.

Norman Whyte

Gift Aid

In 2018 efforts were devoted to bringing the claims process up to date. Three claims were made covering the period from January 1 2017 to April 5th 2018. These produced a total refund of £10,804 together with interest of £32 which was paid into the bank account last year.

Since the end of the year, a claim of £6,527 has been submitted (and received plus £2 interest) for the period up to December 31st last year. The next claim will cover the period from January 1st to April 5th 2019.

The refunds cover most giving through standing orders and the envelope scheme as well as support from the Friends of All Saints', visitors and individual donations. The number of regular donors is broadly stable at just over sixty.

Martin Rogers

Electoral Roll

Following the latest revision, there were 85 persons listed on the roll at the 16th April, 2018. This is a decrease of 4 over the previous year. Of these, 17 were resident outside the parish and 5 were also on the electoral roll of another parish.

Anyone who wishes to hold an official position in this parish, i.e. as a warden or committee member, must be on our roll, but cannot at the same time hold an office at a second parish. However, the latter is one of those things that never seems to arise.

In 2019, a completely new roll will need to be drawn up. This happens every five years.

Peter Snowdon

Events Committee Report

The first event this year was another splendid rendition from the Yeadon Gilbert and Sullivan Society who performed the ever popular Pirates of Penzance. It was a well attended evening and we thank them for their time and support of our church.

Food features a lot in our programme and in April we went to the Garforth Golf Club for Low Sunday Lunch. The meal as always was excellent and relaxed, particularly for committee members who didn't have to cook! Our thanks go to Carole Cassidy who arranged the meal with the club.

A new venture this year was Neale and Linda's wine tasting evenings. We held one in May and the second one in November. We greatly enjoyed Neale's knowledgeable commentary and of course the delicious beverages. Many thanks to Neale and Linda for all their hard work arranging these evenings.

As the summer progressed we put on a two course summer supper with guest speaker Uell Kennedy. We thought it was going to be a serious reflection on the life of a Scotsman in Yorkshire but it turned out that the Reverend Kennedy was an accomplished stand up comedian!

October saw the annual Harvest Supper, with entertainment from the choir. We are grateful to our Methodist friends who provided some delicious desserts and who supported the evening with us.

Our events culminated in early December with the Village Christmas Tree week and coffee morning. It is a delight to see so many varied trees in church and we thank the many people of the village who took the time to prepare their trees.

I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work and all the people who have supported our fundraising events.

Rosemary Swales

Everyone who makes and serves refreshments at the end of services, and apologies to anyone we have missed out!

Andy, Bob and Kathryn and the whole PCC

Without you all, All Saints' would be a much poorer place.

THANK YOU

Leslye Thomas and Neale Lucas

Deanery Synod Report

As reported last year, the Whitkirk Deanery Synod meeting is now amalgamated with the other Leeds deaneries and takes place at St. George's church in Leeds three times each year. The parish representatives are Sue Cole and Peter Snowdon, together with our Rector. Meetings involve a plenary session with a period of prayer followed by reports from a bishop and the archdeacon. There is then a contribution from an invited speaker on a topic of current interest and then some discussion. Afterwards, the gathering splits up and individual deaneries meet to attend to their own matters.

During 2018, there were contributions by Andrew Norman, the Director of Ministry and Vision, on some of the challenges we face in the future over clergy retirements and the need for promoting the sense of vocation towards the ordained ministry; also for developing new patterns of ministry. We were made aware of how Unconscious Bias can affect much of our decision taking and how to guard against this. The very real need for Food Banks in some areas, and where they were operating, was highlighted and a plea made to support these as much as we can.

Peter Snowdon

Church Warden's Report

Another year! Another Annual Report! Another opportunity to celebrate all that is good about our Christian life at All Saints'.

(Think Cole Porter - 'Another op'nin', another show, In Philly, Boston or Baltimore').

First, the boring stuff

Nearly all the annual checks have been done, and certificates issued. The lightning conductor, fire extinguishers, PAT (soon), gutter clearance. Also the 5 yearly - gas safety and electrical safety. Last but not least the QI (Quinquennial Inspection.) This runs to 18 pages, with pictures of grass in the gutters and a list of minor repairs such as re-pointing. The gutters were actually scheduled for the week after the QI and were cleared.

These minor repairs will go out to tender soon.

Next the exciting stuff

We have a new organ! After months and months of calling the technician out, the organ was declared non-repairable. We applied for, and were granted a faculty to remove the old one and install the new digital electric organ. We now need to apply for a faculty to install speakers which will make a massive difference to the volume and sound of the organ.

Then we move on to the important things

We have been blessed this year with our assistant curate Bob. He has worked tirelessly with our church school, reinforcing links and building new ones. We now have an All Age Holy Communion service on the third Sunday of each month. This has brought in families with young children. Coupled with our first Sunday service -Alltogether@10- these are now the best attended services at All Saints'. Our Friday Family Fun, an hour of singing, crafting, Bible story and prayer for the under 5s and their carers, is going through a bit of a lull, but we are seeing these children and their parents at Sunday services.

Our second major blessing was the arrival of Rev Kathryn Elliott and her husband Geoffrey to the village, the church and the benefice.

Thanksgivings, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

We have quite a lot of all these over the year. Our thanks go to Clare Meadley, the benefice Parish Administrator, for keeping the baptism spreadsheet up to date, and to Carol Blackmore who helps keep the weddings legal.

Courses

We have had an in-house Dementia awareness course led by Neale. It was well attended, including a couple from elsewhere.

We continue to have Lent and Advent courses which we are sharing with our Methodist friends. We are looking into having an Alpha course (or similar) later this year.

People have attended a variety of courses including GDPR, Leading Intercessions and a Eucharistic ministry course.

Special services

We continue to have joint services with the Methodists for the Covenant Service, Palm Sunday and Remembrance Sunday. With the wider church, we have a service at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Christmas-time always sees the church busy, but 2018 saw it bursting at the seams. The Christingle, which the school organises, was standing room only. Carols by Candlelight saw 200 people attend. The Crib service in the afternoon of Christmas Eve again saw a record attendance, with the late night service not far behind.

Remembrance Day

This was a big celebration in the Parish of Barwick and Scholes. As well as the morning observance at the war memorial followed by a service in church, there was an event put on by the Parish Council on Hall Tower Field, in which the church was asked to participate.

The church choir sang choruses associated with the First World War, and we commissioned a slide show of images of local people taken during that time. This was shown during the morning service in church, and projected onto the tower in the evening.

More important things

A very generous cheque from a villager enabled us to have the path from the main gate to the door made safe. We are fortunate to get a lot of support from the non-church attending villagers. Most of the local shops decorated a tree for our Christmas tree event and many of them will display posters advertising our fund raising events throughout the year. We hold an annual Charity Christmas cards coffee morning, to support local charities. Our Outward Giving team arrange the distribution of financial donations to local, national and overseas charities.

Our closed graveyard, now known as Jubilee Gardens, is looked after by the Barwick in Bloom team. They sought and obtained a faculty to tidy up and relay the path made from gravestones. A big thank you goes to Ric and the team.

Once again the church was open for Heritage weekend and the afternoon of the village Open Gardens. Thanks to Pauline and Ann for organising this.

Very important things

In no particular order, our thanks go to everyone for everything they do.

Carole Cassidy for fantastic support to the church wardens and all the clean linen, Pat Rogers for the Church Magazine and May Davisworth who co-ordinates its distribution. Alan Stephenson who works out the rota for readers etc. All the sidespersons, servers, intercessors and readers. Gaile Welsh and the choir, Martyne White the organist. Veronica Blakeley who writes the headings in our new register, Colin Bond and the churchyard gang who won a silver gilt award in Yorkshire in Bloom awards.

John Crouch and the bell ringers, Lynne Whitaker and the flower ladies, Rosemary Swales and the events team, All who clean the church week by week, Pauline Robson and Ann Winter who do the brasses and Nick who puts the bins out.