

St. Laurence's Church, Scalby

Annual Trustees Report 2021

(Inc. Committee Reports for the year)



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Annual Report 2021-2021

St. Laurence's Church, Scalby, Scarborough, YO13 0PS

St. Laurence's Church reg. Charity No 1131317

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting, 25th April 2021, 11.15am

The annual report covers the year 2020. It will be remembered as the year of the Covid-19 pandemic. A severe challenge to every individual. The life of the church was impacted in many ways and this report apart from the usual information, will show how despite the pandemic and being in vacancy from January – August, we adapted to continue to support as many people as possible and continue the work of the Church.

Churchwardens Report

Aims and Purpose of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The aims and purpose of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC (Powers) Measure of 1956 states the PCC is to cooperate with the Minister in promoting the Parish of Scalby in the Deanery of Scarborough, the whole mission of our church, pastoral, evangelical and social and ecumenical.

It is with this purpose that the PCC usually meets on 6 occasions. In 2020 the PCC met face to face once in January. During the first lockdown and the vacancy, business was carried out via email. Decisions made in this way were minuted and recorded at the first Zoom internet meeting and the PCC have continued to meet and conduct business in this way. We thank Sue Truefitt as PCC Secretary, for keeping the PCC informed as the situation changed and coordinating any decision making needing to be progressed.

The PCC operates through several committees that further the mission of St Laurence's Church and the community it serves. These have continued despite the Covid-19 restrictions.

Membership of the Parochial Church Council October 2020 – April 2021

Due to the pandemic, the APCM in April was cancelled as directed by the Church of England as public meetings were no longer possible. When public meetings of up to 30 were allowed our APCM was held in October. Those on the PCC were asked to continue their role as PCC members until the new APCM date.

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, members of the PCC are either ex-official or elected at the APCM.

From the 2019-2020 PCC the following members finished their term of office in October: Yvette Drabble, Valerie Macmillan, Mike Pixton, Jenny Stainthorpe, and Linda Thompson.

Angela Howard, John Freeman and Hilary Wallace stepped back from Deanery Synod.

Gordon Hayes stepped back from his role as Recognised Parish Assistant and the PCC but continues to coordinate the Open the Book team.

We thank everyone who left the PCC at this time, for their energy and commitment. Their support has been very much valued, in a difficult and unknown time.

During October 2020 – April 2021 the following served as members of the PCC:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Ministry Team: | Revd. Tony Hand | Chair (From August 2020) |
| Reader: | Mr Philip Newell | Non Member |
| Churchwarden: | Mrs Sally McIntyre | Deputy chair |
| Deputy Churchwardens: | Mrs Valerie Aston | |
| | Mr Maurice Martinson | Non -Voting / Chair Fabric & Churchyard Committee |
| Secretary to PCC: | Mrs Sue Truefitt | Deanery synod rep |
| Treasurer: | Mr John Freeman | Chair Finance Committee |
| Deanery Synod Reps: | Mrs Joan Fennell | |
| | Dr Naomi Mehta | |
| Lay Members: | Dr Ben Claybrook | |
| | Mrs Marie Freeman | |
| | Mrs Christine Grimmett | |
| | Mr Thomas Hill | |
| | Miss Joan Martin | |

Mrs Lesley Newton
Mrs Tracy Squire Children, Youth and Families
Worker
Mrs Hilary Wallace Chair Missions Committee,
Charities Administrator

Recognised Parish Assistants:

Mrs Sue Brown (Pastoral)
Mrs Marie Freeman (Mission)
Mrs Sally McIntyre (Pastoral)

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Pat Critchlow

Safeguarding Statement:

The Parochial Church Council of St Laurence, Scalby, has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The office of Charities Administrator continues to be held by Linda Thompson. A report will be available as part of the appendix. Thank you, Linda, for continuing in this role for us.

Standing Committee

This is the only committee that is required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directives by the Council. There has been 1 face to face meeting of the Standing Committee during this period and 3 by Zoom in which members have discussed how best to complete tasks as well as continue the mission of the church.

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees which would usually meet between the PCC meetings throughout the year. Reports of their work are regularly given to the PCC. These are: Children, Families and Youth, Finance, Missions, Social Activities, Fabric and Churchyard, Good Neighbour, Parishlife Magazine and this year adding Planning for Growth. Reports from these groups will show that they have still been working although formal meetings haven't been possible. Their reports are available as an appendix. A group has also met to plan Messy church and Sunday Supper Girls activities.

The Friends of St Laurence

The Friends of St Laurence aim to support the church both practically and financially. While practical support hasn't been possible this year, due to the restrictions of the pandemic, they have with great generosity, financially supported the Glebe Field Bridge project. We are extremely grateful for their continuing support and very generous giving.

Church Services

At the beginning of 2020 the services were as set out as follows offering a variety of worship for people to attend.

| | | |
|-----------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sundays | 8.00am | Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Communion |
| | 10.30am | All Age on the first Sunday of the month |
| | 10.30am | Communion 2 nd and 4 th Sundays |
| | 10.30am | Morning Worship 3 rd Sundays |
| | 3.00pm | Baptism (usually 3 rd Sunday) also during our All Age |
| Service | 6.30pm | Taizé (quarterly) |
| Mondays | 10.30am | Toddler Praise (monthly) |
| Thursdays | 10.30am | Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Communion Thursdays (weekly) |
| | 7.30pm | Café Explore (last Thursday in the month) |
| Saturdays | 4.00pm | Messy Church (monthly) |

Other Church Events

Sunday Supper Club 5.00pm/6.00pm (fortnightly)

Little Steps 10am/11.30am (weekly)

Church Services and Average Attendance

The average attendance at services between January 2020 and March 2020 was as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Sundays | 8.00am | 18 adults |
| | 10.30am | 80 adults and 4 children under 16 |
| | 6.30pm | Taizé 20 |
| Thursday | 10.30am | 9 adults |
| Monday Toddler Praise | 10.30am | 23 families |
| Messy Church | 4.00pm | 70/87 attending |
| Café Explore | 7.30pm | 20 adults |

Services of Holy Communion were taken to Rambla Nursing Home during the early period of the year.

Church Services and Average attendance

Once the churches were allowed to open for services, the maximum number able to attend was 30 people. The following average numbers were therefore dramatically reduced.

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Sundays | 8.00am | 18 adults |
| | 10.30am | 20 adults |
| Private Prayer | 10.00am | 8 adults |
| Christmas | Midnight Holy Communion | 22 Adults |
| | 8.00am | 25 Adults |
| | 10.30am Family worship | 17 adults 4 children |
| Baptisms | 1 | |
| Weddings | 0 | |
| Funerals | 15 | |

In 2020 there were 168 on the Electoral Roll.

St Laurence's year

In January Lynn Hellmuth our Vicar retired and left to live in Hornsea and we went into Vacancy again. However, we were ready to place an advert in the Church Times and as a result we were able to confirm a short list for interview of 4 candidates with Bishop Alison. The interviews were held on Ash Wednesday and we were delighted when Revd. Tony Hand accepted to take up his ministry in the Benefice of St Laurence's with St Peter's and St Margaret's.

In February Tracy Squire started with us as Children, Youth and Families worker. Her first month was taken up with getting to know the church, her new routines and the young people and their families she would be meeting and supporting. During March plans were made to take part in Archbishop Sentamu's initiative 'Come and See' a vehicle to invite folk to various events as a taster, hoping that this would encourage them to become involved in the different aspects of church life. Messy Church in the Church Rooms was to be St Laurence's 'Come and See' event but with the rapid increase of Covid-19 during March, the relatively small space for so many and the lack of appropriate hand washing facilities it was cancelled. A few days later all places of worship were closed for 3 months and we went into what became known as a national lockdown.

Life at St Laurence's suddenly stopped. All the groups, clubs, planned events and the ability to see each other disappeared. The roads and pavements were empty and on occasions on a still night you could hear the roar of the sea.

We were determined to reach out and support the community. Sue Truefitt and Tracy Squire organised a flier which was delivered round the parish, offering support to those who needed it. Marion Wright and Lesley Newton put together a list of phone numbers which was used to contact those living alone and vulnerable, giving folk a chance to chat about how they were coping and if we could help in any way. Two WhatsApp groups were set up, the Social WhatsApp by Lesley Newton and the Faith WhatsApp by Valerie Aston. These two groups have continued to be active, the social group sharing life and events and the Faith group praying and thinking about those in need. We also continued to collect food for the food banks at the Rainbow Centre and Westway Open Arms.

The Church Family News was set up by Lesley Newton who without fail kept us informed and updated with news and articles. How glad we were to be kept in touch. She has faithfully kept this going sharing news, articles, poems and much much more from the Church. Lesley we give you our grateful thanks and I know that the Church family News has meant an enormous amount to a lot of people. Thank you. We also have to thank Hilary Wallace, Lesley Newton, Helen Hartley

and John Charlesworth for keeping Parishlife going and being able to send it out via email when delivery was difficult.

On Mothering Sunday small posies of flowers were taken to the elderly and those living by themselves and again at harvest and Christmas giving those receiving them, much pleasure and a sense of being remembered.

We started using Zoom learning the art of muting and unmuting! It meant being able to hold meetings, and the occasional quiz. Particularly with children in mind, we needed to develop a Safeguarding Strategy and Policy for managing this form of communication and we thank Pat Critchlow and Tracy Squire for doing this piece of work.

It was decided not to furlough anyone. Chris Wright continued to offer beautiful music for us, sextons John Charlesworth and Colin Grimmett were able to continue managing the churchyard, Freda Boreham and Sarah Readman our church administrators started working from home and Tarnia Ellis our Church Rooms cleaner and caretaker managed the Church Rooms. We are indebted to Maurice Martinson for caretaking the Church, making sure that it was aired and ready for us to go back to.

During this time we were also able to get the Organ repaired and as lockdown finished at the beginning of the summer, Brian Wilson supervised the first part of the Glebe Field Bridge project. We thank him for managing this project for us.

The Quinquennial Inspection was held in July. The church is in good order with some routine pointing inside and out needed, with positive reference made to the area outside the church porch and the new bridge to Glebe Field.

On the 4th August Tony was installed by Bishop Alison. A small gathering of 20 instead of a full church and no usual celebratory party. Nevertheless there was great joy and happiness that Tony, his wife Rachel and his family had come to join us. The following Sunday Tony took his first service at St Laurence's. It was also our first service back in the church after lockdown.

Through the summer and into the Autumn and Winter Tracy worked hard to support the children and families, supported by Marion Wright and the All Age Team, organising all sorts of things via Facebook and St Laurence's web site all aimed to bring the bible and love of God to as many as possible. She will share this in her report.

At harvest we decorated the railings outside the church door and the Lychgate with bright cheerful flowers. Realising what pleasure they gave everyone that passed, we used poppy wreaths to decorate the area for Remembrance Sunday and later on flowers at Christmas. The poppy wreaths that adorned the railings for Remembrance Sunday were particularly stunning and our thanks go to Lin Blyth, Sue Truefitt, Helen Hartley and all those who have created and given so much pleasure from their flower arrangements. Thank you everyone

In December Freda decided to retire. Sadly, we weren't able to hold a party for her but many people sent her cards and their good wishes. We have kept in touch and she is thoroughly enjoying her well-earned retirement.

At Christmas Helen Hartley took on a considerable task, designing and organising the printing of our Christmas flier detailing church services, which was delivered round the Parish. Sue Truefitt organised the annual Wassail evening via Zoom and Tony and Rachel sent greetings cards to everyone on the electoral roll. Maurice Martinson and Margaret Lisney decorated the Lychgate with beautiful lights lifting our spirits. Lovely white and green flower arrangements decorated the church railings and Christmas posies were taken to the elderly and those living alone. The posies gave the most enormous amount of pleasure to those receiving them. It was good to stop and chat on the doorstep and as many people weren't seeing their families over Christmas, we hoped it gave them the feeling that we were thinking of them. In the Church Lin Blyth and Helen Hartley created two lovely flower arrangements in white and yellow and Helen and David Hartley put up the Christmas tree and arranged the nativity scene. Marion and Chris Wright organised a large outside Christmas tree with lights, designed as a prayer tree but with baubles. Many people came to hang their Christmas decorations on the tree in silent prayer and as the light disappeared at the end of the day the tree lights came on, a little bit of hope and light in the darkness.

Worship

Up until March, services continued as described. In January Marion and Chris Wright gave us a beautiful meditative Taizé. We held a confirmation service taken by Bishop Alison and joined with our Methodist friends for a morning service taken by Gordon Hayes and Emma Morgan, Methodist Minister. In February Revd. Don Maciver took the Ashing Service for us while the interviews for our new vicar were being held.

By March we were all increasingly aware that the coronavirus was more serious than initially imagined. Services continued but individuals were starting to make the decision to stay away from groups of people for fear of contracting the infection. There was no shaking of hands while sharing the peace and in Communion the Chalice was taken by the priest with wafers received by the congregation at the altar. How strange it felt but in most of our minds it would only be temporary.

The infection rates rose rapidly and on the 24th March as a result of a directive from the government and the Church of England all places of worship were to be locked and we went into a 3 month national lockdown.

Services continued and developed 'online' thanks to the wonderful skills of Area Dean and Vicar at St Marks, Mike Leigh. Sadly, we weren't able to celebrate Palm Sunday with the distribution of palm crosses due to potential cross infection or celebrate Easter in the way that we would hope to do. However, Mike put on a live streamed service and Helen Hartley laid out a beautiful Easter Garden in the Church Porch.

At the end of lockdown the church was prepared for minimal use. To keep those using the church safe, church risk assessments were employed, and all the pews were marked off for 2 metre distancing. Hand gel was put out everywhere and specialised anti-viral disposable cloths were bought to wash down the pews after use. Everyone had to wear a mask. To keep the peacefulness and depth of spirituality of the building while putting in all the measures required for opening, was a challenge.

Our first service was a funeral with only 10 people able to attend, later this rose to 30. Weddings and baptisms still weren't allowed. It was decided in discussion with our new vicar Tony Hand and permission from Bishop Alison that our first service would take place after Tony's Installation. We also opened the church once a week on a Thursday for 2 hours in the morning for Private Prayer as a North Scarborough Group initiative.

In August after Tony's installation, services resumed. First held were the 10.30am services which were Communion Services giving people the chance to receive Communion after such a long time without. The 8am BCP service was added when we felt confident we had the procedures required under control. 30 members of the congregation could attend, so a booking system was put in place which according to the 2 metre distance rule and seating variations allowed approximately 20 adults at any one service. It was heart breaking to see the church so empty but everyone that came welcomed being back together.

Perhaps the most difficult thing was we were not allowed to sing. How we wanted to and realised it was something very powerful, sharing the act of singing together.

Throughout lockdown Chris Wright has supported us with some lovely recordings either through WhatsApp or online. He recorded songs for us to listen to that have uplifted us and has sung some of these himself with his beautiful voice. Even though we couldn't sing in the services, Chris continued to offer music and hymns that enhanced our worship and from behind our masks you could hear a murmur of little hums, as we tried very hard not to sing! Thank you, Chris, you have so often kept us going with your insightful musical offerings. I don't think many of us realised how central music was to our wellbeing and expression of our faith. Thank you.

Later in the year as a response to a second lockdown we added a Tuesday morning session of Private Prayer to Thursday. These have been well attended and often by those who aren't regular church goers. Marie Freeman has also continued to offer Café Explore online, which has been well received, giving us a different way of experiencing worship through readings poems, activities and prayer. Thank you, Marie for all that you have given us and for continuing despite the difficulties.

Harvest and Remembrance Sunday were held with minimal numbers following all the restrictions. However, we were able to meet round the War Memorial after the service to remember those fallen and Rachel, Tony's wife, was able to live stream the occasion for us.

By now Tony, with the help of Rachel and Robert, was working hard to learn to live stream from St Laurence's to reach out to folk who wouldn't be able to come to church. We found like so many churches that this format reached many more people than those that regularly attended church. When the services could also be seen later on You Tube, people who hadn't been free to be part of the live streaming were delighted to catch a service to suit their routine.

Christmas was different! Undaunted Tracy skilfully recorded a Christingle Service with the help of the All Age Team. She also put prayer stations in the church representing the Christmas story, for children and adults to ponder and talk about. We held a midnight Mass, an 8am BCP and a Christmas morning Family Worship. We knew that to be able to be together even in a small way at this time was a gift. Private Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays continued to be held, which has been much appreciated by those attending.

Tony with the help of Marion and Chris Wright, Bishop David, Phillip Newell, Revd. Alan Brown, Tracy Squire and the All Age Team, have continued to offer online services assisted by Tony's wife Rachel, John Freeman and Matthew Baldwin on the projector and occasional input for technical help from Robert Hand. We thank them all for the dedication, and time it has taken recording items, to make live streaming possible and the wonderful gift it is for all those watching and continuing to feel part of the church.

The Ministry

We are so grateful at St Laurence's for the help that we have received from all the Clergy.

Enormous thanks to Bishop David Wilbourne, who has taken many services for us, inspiring us with his sermons and energy. To Marion Wright who has continued to support and encourage us in our faith and the ability to look outwards past the church walls. To Revds. Peter Blackett, Alan Brown, Mike Leigh, Don MacIver, Graham Waring and Reader Philip Newell, always there and happy to help if a service is needed to be taken. We thank you for your endless generosity.

In March Gordon Hayes decided to step back from taking our Morning Worship services. We shall miss his energy, fresh new way of presenting things and the insightful part of the service 'Learning from each other'. Thank you Gordon for the thought and work you put into bringing us our Morning Worship.

Sadly, Revd. Graham Waring died at the beginning of October. A deep faith, dry sense of humour, endlessly supportive, willing to help with services whenever he could and an active member of Open the Book Team. We miss him greatly.

Thank you Tony for coming to share your continuing ministry with us, for helping us to feel brave and confident using technology, for enthusing us when our faith gets a bit tired and for your ability to look forward and outwards with love and hope.

Finance

There is a detailed financial report available, but we would like to acknowledge and say thank you to our Treasurer John Freeman for all his very considerable hard work overseeing the finances of St Laurence. We know that in his hands the finances will always be given considerable attention and that he will always give the PCC sound advice. Thank you also to our Planned Giving Recorder Martin Williamson, Gift Aid Recorder Mike Pixton and to John Mills for managing the Electoral Roll.

Other Groups

St Laurence is usually a busy church which we hope Tony will discover when we are able to get back to something like our usual pattern. The Pastoral Visiting Team led by Sue Truefitt, despite the pandemic has been busy giving support and finding out if help is needed in anyway.

The Barnabas Group, led by Mavis Wild and Sue Pynn hasn't been able to meet but they have been ringing each other and offering support wherever possible and hope to possibly meet over tea in the summer.

The tower and hand bell ringers are led by Alan Grundy, Captain of the Bells. Although the bell ringers haven't been able to meet, Alan and Betty Grundy have been into the church to ring bells occasionally for us and Bishop David rang the vestry bell on V.E. Day.

The afternoon and evening Mothers Union continue to be led by Linda Thompson and like the other groups has been unable to meet but can't wait until they can get back together again.

Thankfulness

This year has been described in as many ways as one can think of. It has challenged every single one of us in our own individual ways. It has challenged the Church to leave some of its old ways behind and move forward reaching out to people with technology and creativity. There has never been a time this year when God hasn't walked along side of us. He has caught us when we thought we couldn't do any more and given us extra strength when we most needed it. He has been there in our fear and our darkest times. But he has also laughed with us and shown us that love and hope are possible.

Thank you to every single person who has been involved with the life of the church whether part of the organisation of the church and its services or those involved in the church yard or Church Rooms.

Thank you to everyone for trusting us that we would look after you when you came into church and we would manage your safety to the very best of our ability.

Tracy, what a time to come and start a new job. But what a star shines in our church and how hard you have worked. How much richer our children and our families are for all the lovely things you have shared with them. Thank you Tracy.

Thank you to Freda Boreham who patiently supported us in all the various knotty problems we brought to her, expecting her to have the answer and particularly for the work she was involved with in managing the changes to so many weddings. To Sarah Readman for the endless patience she has shown in compiling the news sheet, bookings for services and, once Freda retired, taking on extra work to cover some of Freda's role.

Thank you to our Deputy Churchwardens Val Aston and Maurice Martinson for their help over the year, their knowledge, kindness and support.

Thank you to our PCC who have shown energy and dedication in a year of uncertainties and surprises and grappling with Zoom! We have had many aspects to discuss, but we have always tried not to lose sight of why we are a PCC, keeping our faith and the life of the church and the community at the centre of our decisions. Thank you for helping and guiding me, your Churchwarden over the past year, I have never felt alone or at a loss. We have shared some big challenges together.

My special thanks go to Sue Truefitt for continuing to be our PCC Secretary, for taking minutes over Zoom (exceptionally difficult) and for keeping us informed as a PCC, as the various directives from the Diocese arrived.

Our thanks must go to Tony and all our clergy and readers and those who have taken or added to our services. Who when asked to help are always there with their help and commitment to our parishioners and the parish. To Rachel who has spent so much time live streaming services for us, coping with the technology and making it possible for so many people to continue to feel linked to St Laurence. Thank you Rachel.

As I am retiring this year as your churchwarden I want to thank my husband George and son Ross for supporting me over the last 6 years making it possible for me to give the amount of time I wanted to, to being your Churchwarden.

I am so proud to have served you all as your Churchwarden.

Sally McIntyre, Churchwarden

Fabric and Churchyard Report

1. Bridge to Glebe Field.

New bridge access was completed by Rose Engineering in early Spring 2020. This included new fencing leading to and from the bridge, also re-grading the downward path leading to the bridge.

2. Glebe Field (maintenance).

New grass cutter purchased from Gardners Services to enable Colin to take on grass cutting. All churchyard maintenance is now done by the sextons, Colin and John. No outside contractors are now needed.

3. Church Tower Door.

The Tower door was replaced with top quality wood and door fittings by Jeremy Exley. Cost **£210.00**

4. Choir Stalls Exit Door.

The framework of the pew nearest the door has been altered to allow easy access for quick exit.

A long curtain is now needed to cover the door and stop any draughts to choir members. Terry Darley completed the above.

5. Boiler Service.

Service of the boiler was carried out by Pickups of Scarborough. There have been problems with leaking radiators which has persisted over a long period - hopefully we are now over this.

6. Church Organ Repairs.

It was decided to undertake a complete overhaul of the pneumatic machine which controls the draw stops, rather than repair the one defective part.

Scaffolding was needed to gain access to the pipes above and the defective parts were taken to workshops to be overhauled. The work was carried out by York Pipe Organs at a time when the church was closed due to the first lockdown. Cost **£3898.00 + VAT.**

7. The Sound System.

The sound system mixer was replaced by Persono. Cost **£200.00.**

8. Christmas Lights.

Due to the national situation and an inability to provide any Christmas services in church, a Christmas tree with decorations was set up on the outside patio.

Christmas lights in and around the Lych Gate proved a welcome attraction.

9. Inspection.

A Quinquennial Inspection took place on Saturday 8th July 2020.

10. Church Rooms.

Both boiler heating systems have been serviced by M Holt. The timer control was replaced.

Key safes have been placed outside and inside the office to limit access.

11. School House.

After much delay, a completely new kitchen has been installed in the school house. The tenant, Tarnia, chose the units and handles, but cost had to be kept in budget.

Tarnia and her partner, Gary, decorated the kitchen and bought and fitted the floor covering. Total cost **£1600.00.**

Our two sextons, Colin and John, maintain the churchyard – grass cutting in Summer, trimming hedges and pruning trees. In Winter, painting benches and recently repairing the steps on the church paths.

The whole of the last year has seen all of us suffering three periods of extended 'lockdown'. This has involved only very limited access to the church.

My thanks to fellow members of the Fabric Committee who have worked together through difficult times. Also, to Sally McIntyre who manages to soldier on and encourage everyone to see better times ahead.

Maurice Martinson
Deputy Churchwarden

Safeguarding Report

Following a planning meeting with Sally, myself and Lynn when I became PSO an Action Plan was written. Four main areas were identified:

1. Raising Awareness of Safeguarding within the church members.
2. Continuing the DBS requirements for St. Laurence's Church.
3. Begin addressing the need to meet the training targets set by the Church of England for each parish.
4. Develop IT record keeping systems.

1. Raising Awareness of Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Information provided in the form of posters has been updated and displayed. I have spoken in the Learning from Others slot at MW and written in Parish Life re. safeguarding and my role.

2. DBS information

The service provider for DBS checks has changed from capitarvs.co.uk to thirtyoneight.org since I took over from Alan Grundy in July 2019. I have access to an Account Manager and staff who I can contact for clarification and support if I need to. I also have downloaded guidance documents for DBS applications that I can refer to.

All DBS applications are now completed online by the applicant, with support from me where needed, relevant documents are checked by me and I complete my part of the online application before it can be submitted.

I have found the service to be quick in issuing DBS certificates which are now renewed on a 5 yearly basis. I am then informed online of successful applications with the certificate details and then check with the applicant the certificate's number as I have to be shown the paper copy they receive. The applicant keeps their copy and I have found I need to remind people that the certificate is an important legal document and should be kept safely with their other legal documents.

As the whole system is now paperless, as far as the church records are concerned, Alan's previous documents have had to be archived and have to remain so for 75 years as instructed by the Diocesan Safeguarding Office.

I have, with Freda's support, now created computer spreadsheets of our DBS data following the practice of the Diocese to cease paper copies of the records.

DBS data

We have 51 members of the church on our database records, excluding clergy who are DBS checked by the Diocese. Since taking up the post I have applied for 7 DBS checks, 3 were renewals and 4 were new. The data is worked on by me on my laptop and for security purposes I suggest a memory stick be purchased on which to backup the DBS data but also Safeguarding Training Records information etc. The stick will be kept in a locked filing cabinet in the Parish Office along with other Safeguarding Records e.g. photocopies of training certificates/Risk Assessment forms/ Action Plan. The memory stick will be password protected, the password information to be kept securely by Freda. I would appreciate the PCC's consideration of this suggestion or an alternative.

3. Safeguarding Training

The biggest change in the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer since I took over is the requirement by the Church of England House of Bishops for extensive Safeguarding Training within all parishes. All PCC members have a copy of the requirements as to who should be completing what training.

The difficulty in responding to these requirements is due to the lack of course leaders across all Diocese and therefore the number of courses being delivered. To help solve this problem courses C0 and C1 are available online for individuals to do on their own. It is hoped to provide C2 online also. The online training presents technical issues re logging on, experienced by some church members trying to complete the courses at home and by those PCC members who helped John Freeman and I to trial doing a group session for completing C0 in the church rooms. Many parishes have also reported the assumption of the levels of IT skills among church members to be over optimistic which also prevents the successful completion of the courses. For both reasons, the online training is proving more of a barrier than a help in many cases. I have contacted the Diocesan Safeguarding Office and asked to be allowed to deliver initially C0 training in our church rooms to our church members, using my laptop and our screen and projector to teach through the course and then give a paper copy of the questions to those attending. I would collect in and mark the papers and send

the results so certificates could be awarded, and the Diocese would have a central record of our training. I have surveyed all church groups where C0 training is a requirement to ascertain the numbers involved. I contacted Kim Phillips, Safeguarding Training Coordinator and she has passed my request to Rob Marshall Assistant DSA. I had to provide information on my career and the skills I may have to be able to deliver such training. The Diocese expect me to attend training to deliver the C0 **and** C1 courses which I am happy to do and deliver within the Northern Group of churches. I am not willing to become a trainer travelling around the whole Diocese. I have received no communication Rob Marshall yet.

We are extremely lucky to already have a number of PCC members and church members, in a variety of roles, who have had extensive safeguarding training because of their occupations. 8 members of the PCC have now completed the online C0 level training. I have to meet with 1 member to complete this training and 1 other member is completing it at home. This will mean all PCC members have some Safeguarding Training. This success has not been without its stress! Hence my willingness to train to teach the course.

As well as the PCC doing C0, the following training has been completed:

C0 - Freda Boreham, Sarah Readman, Pat Critchlow, Chris Wright, Sally McIntyre, Betty Grundy, Tracy Squires.

C1 - Freda Boreham, Sarah Readman, Pat Critchlow, Chris Wright, Sally McIntyre, Gordon Hayes, Kate Hayes, Tracy Squires.

C2 - Pat Critchlow, Sally McIntyre. Sally McIntyre.

S1 - Pat Critchlow, Sally McIntyre, Tracy Squires.

Pat Critchlow PSO 13/3/2020.

Youth Worker Report

To re-cap last spring and summer was during the Covid 19 pandemic and children's groups/Messy church etc. were suspended and remain so for now. The community response of shopping and collecting prescriptions for those in isolation lasted throughout autumn.

Safeguarding policies were put in place to allow closed Facebook groups to be set up to maintain contact and interaction with families and children (Sunday Supper, Messy Church and Little Steps). These have since been used to promote community projects and online services as well as delivering weekly bible story videos (along with on the website and email to those not on Facebook).

We did run a Summer Holiday Club whereby the families were invited to come for a clue hunt in the grounds and to collect a themed bag of craft and prayer each week for 5 weeks. This was attended by approximately 30 children with families.

In autumn 2020 we had a moderate relaxation of Covid restrictions as schools returned. However, I did not seek to re-start any of the children's groups for the following reasons:

- Discussion with volunteers who felt unsafe to return at that point.
- Schools were open with very strict separation of year group bubbles and with separate equipment, social distancing etc. Our groups would allow social distancing in small numbers but all of them bring together children from multiple schools/settings, households and year groups.
- Clubs/activities that I was aware of that had re-opened were experiencing repeated closures due to positive covid tests in their child populations.
- Schools were a priority to remain open and I felt I had an obligation to do all I could to minimise transmission in 'non-essential' contexts.
- Offers to run Sunday Supper online were declined by those who responded in favour of 'waiting until we can be in the same room and eat pizza'.

I decided to use the diocese school calendar (Journey Through the Bible) and delivered by hand to every family we have contact with. I produce a weekly bible story video to follow the calendar. These are seen by 25 to 30 families each week which has remained consistent. Whilst I cannot evidence how effective these are, the webinars and training I have attended have repeatedly stressed the value of teaching the stories and characters of the bible as a vital step in discipleship to both children and adults.

All age worship going online – this was due to the enthusiasm and willingness of the whole team to try and push ourselves beyond our comfort zones. We have had a very poor attendance by families but very encouraging numbers of views online after. I hope that this tells us that online is a medium which appeals to families who may be otherwise busy or struggling to get out on a Sunday morning. I feel very strongly that the conditions allowed in church (social distancing, virtual silence of congregation and inability to engage kinaesthetically) is something the children are exposed to at school (before Christmas) and so being able to worship at home with loud and active involvement is much preferred.

Sadly, the light trailed planned for All Saint's day was cancelled that afternoon due to a storm. It was postponed for advent (but we went into lockdown in December) and again for Candlemas (but again in lockdown). I still have resources made and hope it will happen one day! The post advertising it reached a whopping 723 people and created a real buzz of excitement.

Video Open the Book thanks to Gordon and the team – this was very well received.

Christmas summary

The nativity prayer stations – these were attended by approximately 20 families (approximately 38 people) and 10 adults plus those Sally reported enjoyed seeing them at private prayer. This used resources left over from holiday club and Messy Church and props were made using existing /borrowed or recycled resources/items.

Advent and Christmas also saw:

- Pre-recorded Christingle – again due to others being prepared to try something new and uncertain. The puppets were able to be filmed due to covid practice and recording (and editing) meant they could be done without rehearsal in 2 evenings. This was thanks to Abi for script writing and Joan M for chaperoning.

This was ‘premiered’ on Facebook to allow ‘live’ comments and an alert as to the start time. It had 266 views after in addition to the 20 or so families tuning in live. We managed to raise £190 for Children’s society via QR codes – much less than usual but more than we would have raised without!

- Find the star – 4 stars with QR codes to take the families to a part of the nativity in video style.
- Christmas Day service live streamed.

Lent

Share the Love campaign – the post on church FB page has reached 646 people within its first week (in addition to 37 families via FB groups). The Parish Council, library and local schools (both in and out of our parish) are taking part. It is appealing to all ages.

Throughout Lent there will be a daily kindness challenge – each day of lent a challenge will be announced over FB (and emailed to those I am aware of who are not on FB). This links with the share the love campaign and also the forthcoming ‘Children of Light’ festival (this has been taken up by Carolyn and put out as a diocese wide resource).

Going forward to next year - I will be involved in the Children of Light project that will last throughout the year and end in a service by and for children and young people at York Minster with the Archbishop. As deanery champion I will be encouraging other churches to take part and hope to access some of the activities arranged throughout the deanery with our children and families throughout the year.

This has been a really difficult year for us all, but I have been supported and encouraged every day by the St. Laurence family through volunteers helping provide activities, the PCC backing my project and the All Age Team. Thank you.

Mission Team Report

The Mission Committee Members are Sue Brown, Yvette Drabble, Christine Grimmett, Joan Martin, Linda Thompson, Hilary Wallace and Chris Wright and, together, we continue to work to raise the profile of the 9 charities supported by St Laurence's Church. We each have the responsibility for liaising with one of the Missions, but as for most committees, we would welcome more members. Regular updates are posted on notice boards, on the weekly notice sheet, in Parishlife and, where possible, speakers are invited to Sunday services.

This year has been extremely challenging for all charitable work and our donations to our charities will reflect the current situation. We recommended donating 17.5% of mission giving ,2021 to Church Mission Society and Bible Society, with 13.5% going to Church Army, Children's Society, Children in Distress, Sidewalk and Westway Open Arms.

£2000 of reserve emergency mission funds were distributed to:

Scarborough Survivors - (£650) Support for mental health is crucial at this time of uncertainty of jobs, and risk of isolation for many.

Westway Open Arms - (£650)

Christian Aid - (£700) for their Beirut Appeal.

Christian Aid

On a national level, plans for 2020 were suddenly switched, to a virtual Christian Aid Week, quite different from any other. Targets were reduced and it was hoped that £1.5 million might be raised. In the event, churches and supporters rose to the challenge and £4 million was donated!

Our own envelope strategy couldn't go ahead, and folk were encouraged to give online. Big breakfasts happened in homes and gardens with instant photos to prove it, people joined in a singing session with Mike Leigh, masks were made in a project spearheaded by Helen Arnold, for a donation, and Tracy's water walk provided fun and inspiration during some nice weather in May. People probably donated centrally too, but what we knew of was £1550 from our church's JustGiving page and overall, at least £2500.

Christian Aid works in Lebanon anyway, and was well placed to help with urgent relief, following the disaster in Beirut. St Laurence's gave £700. Support for countries facing crisis through the pandemic came from the Christmas appeal. St Laurence's gave to that too, along with a General Fund donation (£1072).

The organisation was in the middle of restructuring when the pandemic hit. We no longer have Steph Cooper as a regional coordinator, though we are still supported as part of the larger Yorkshire region, and there is a Central Supporter Engagement Team based in Warrington. Scarborough Christian Aid group's Sally Garforth (our secretary) died suddenly in the summer; she'd been a wonderful worker, coordinating all the organisation's work across the area's churches.

Church Mission Society

We continued to receive regular blogs and letters from Azaria Spencer throughout the year but were unable to distribute hard copy for those without internet access. Her 3 year posting was due to end in the summer of 2020 and we had tentatively arranged for her to visit St. Laurence's in January 2021. Sadly, this has not been possible but, after a zoom meeting with the Mission Team and Tony, Marion and Lesley it has been arranged for her to be with us on Mothering Sunday, 14th March. Azaria is going to give a presentation via video link during the service and will join the virtual coffee after the service for a Q&A session. After that Linda is going to contact Sunday Supper Club leaders to see if the girls would like to link up with Azaria on a regular basis (monthly, 3 monthly or 6 monthly basis) If they do we might be able to arrange a zoom meeting with Azaria before she returns to Guatamala.

The Church Army We continue to support their work financially and keep up to date with current issues and projects. At present, we support their general funds.

Stepping Stones Ministry

This year, with extreme weather conditions as well as the pandemic, the charity has focussed on keeping the children safe. Visits to India have been impossible so all communications with our children have been by email.

The two young children, Kaldas, 14years old, and his sister Sabitri, 11, supported by St. Laurence's continue to thrive and it was very rewarding to hear that, last summer, Kalidas returned home. His mother's circumstances had improved enabling her to support him. He returned on the understanding that he would continue with his education at a nearby school. It was felt that the family's current financial position would not allow them to support both children, so it has been agreed that Sabitri will continue to live with Stepping Stones until she is Year 12. A decision she is delighted with.

In his place, St. Laurence's will be supporting another boy, Surja. He is about 7 years old, a local boy from a village only 5 miles from the centre. Surja then stayed with his Grandparents, but because they are infirm and very poor Surja was often left to roam the streets and beg for food. He hadn't been to school either as there was no one to take him. Richard Pashby met Surja on his last visit and says 'he is a very intelligent, fun, little man. When he first arrived, he couldn't believe how much food was available and having his own bed for the first time in his life was a huge deal. He smiles a lot, is very playful and seems to appreciate being part of the family'.

Children in Distress

Another difficult time as the charity weren't sure if they would be able to make the journey to Rumania with the Christmas gifts but they were! The response from our congregation was instant and Yvette was able to hand over some 30+ boxes.

The Bible Society

We continue to support the work of the Bible Society financially and keep up to date with current issues and projects. Osoba Otaigbe, from the Society was to be the guest speaker for Bible Sunday on May 31st, 2020 but, as with many events last year the visit has been postponed.

Sidewalk

We continue to support their work but have not had contact recently.

Westway Open Arms

WOA are supported on a regular basis with donations to their foodbank from members of the congregation and financial responses to urgent requests.

The Children's Society

Our main event in support of the Children's Society is the Christingle Services held as part of our Christmas celebrations. This year the service was replaced by a 'scavenger hunt' in the churchyard, searching for Stars, linked to a QR code. A further £34 was donated. The event was organised by Tracey, our Children, Youth and Families Worker. Approximately £180 was raised.

Some members of the congregation hold Children's Society Boxes. They have been asked to open their own boxes and send the savings directly to the Society. If they are able to add the St. Laurence's ID number to their donation, the Society will be able to acknowledge it as a gift from our church.

Parishlife Report

The Parishlife committee members are Lesley Newton, Hilary Wallace, John Charlesworth, Margaret Lisney and Helen Hartley, and together we have ensured the continued production of the magazine during the lockdowns of the last year. Thanks must go to our team of distributors who delivered the magazine, safely, following Covid guidelines. Copies were, initially, emailed to all on our church mailing list enabling those who didn't subscribe annually to receive their copies. Feedback has been very positive with customers also valuing the contact with their distributor.

The cost of the magazine for 2021 has risen to £1 per issue. A deficit was predicted for 2020 and, as agreed with the Northern group of churches at their February meeting, was covered pro-rata. Casual sales via the churches have dropped, but this will pick up once we are able to return to church.

Thanks must also go to Basics Plus for continuing to print the magazine during the past year.

Good Neighbour Committee Report

In the past pandemic year we were not able to deliver our Easter plants to the sick and housebound. However at Harvest and Christmas, at the instigation of our flower ladies, Lyn Blyth, Sue Truefitt and Helen Hartley who kindly provided small dishes for members of the congregation to collect and make an arrangement to deliver. Approximately 40 posies were delivered at each celebration. Many thanks to all who helped with this at this very difficult time. Any produce given at Harvest was sent to the Rainbow Centre and Westway House Eastfield.

Planning for Growth Report

The 'Planning for Growth group' have not met this year but they are looking forward to coming out of lockdown to prepare to welcome the church family back to worship, prayer and sharing our faith.

Consideration will be made of our previous priorities looking at where we are after the pandemic as well as responding to Archbishop Stephen's vision.

These are our priorities to be reviewed:

1. Communication with God and each other
2. Growth in numbers
3. Develop Spiritual Growth and Commitment of existing congregations and 'seekers'.

Marie

Social Committee Report

Social Committee members are Sue Truefitt, Val Aston, Jenny Wray, Helen Arnold, Kirsten Mac, Joan Fennell, Carol Brewer, Lysette Backhouse, Tom Hill and Hilary Wallace. It is really good to have such a great group to rely on for all the events with which we are involved, although this last year has presented different challenges. Events were very limited, but we did manage a Wassail and a quiz by Zoom!

We are going ahead into this year planning various events which include so far at which hats will be worn – a hat with a tale, a talk on the Seaweed Farm and a "Show and Tell" evening. We have already had a Quiz. What form these events will take remains to be seen. Hopefully, some will be in person.

Going forward, as usual we are looking for new members of the committee. Tom has been a very welcome addition since the last annual meeting.

Parish Charities Report

St Laurence's Church has 8 Parish Charities of which 5 are historic charities. These Charities are to benefit the poor or those in need of the Parish.

The other 3 charities are to help the sick and the children of the Parish.

7 of the Charities are administered by the Vicar and Churchwardens of Scalby Church.

The 8th The Christopher Keld Charity is administered independently by 2 Trustees from the Parish and 2 Trustees appointed by the Parish Council. The Vicar of Scalby is the Chairman of the Trustees. I am the Clerk to the Trustees and I visit the beneficiaries and administers the monies etc.

If you would like further information on any of the Charities or how a person can qualify for help from the Charities, please ask me or the Churchwardens.

Any enquiry is done in the strictest of confidence.

Linda Thompson

29th March 2021

St. Laurence's Church Scalby **Parish Charities**

St Laurence's Church has 8 Parish Charities of which 5 are historic charities and are to benefit the poor of the Parish. The other 3 charities are to help the sick and the children of the Parish.

All the charities are administered by the Vicar and Churchwardens of Scalby Church apart from Christopher Keld Charity which is independently administered by the Vicar of Scalby and 4 Trustees from the Parish and Parish Council. Each charity has its own remit. If you would like further information on any of the Charities or how a person can qualify for help from the Charities, please ask me or the Churchwardens.

Any enquiry is done in the strictest of confidence.

Sarah Knowsley Bread Charity (1714)

Extract from the Will - "Rent to be expended in the purchase of bread, to be distributed week by week on a Sunday at the Church amongst the poorest sort of people, inhabitants within the townships of Scalby, Burniston, and Newby."

The rent has long since gone but there is capital invested and the interest from the capital can be used at the discretion of the Overseers.

Overseers - Vicar of Scalby and Churchwardens.

Scalby, Newby , Burniston Coal Charity

Combined Charities of

Adam Farside (1700)

Extract from the Will "to distribute to the poor within the town and constabulary of Scalby on Easter, Whit Sunday and Christmas Day."

Edward Sedgefield Doner (1848)

Extract from the Will - "to distribute coal at Christmas amongst the poor inhabitants of Scalby, Newby Burniston."

The interest from a small investment can be used at the discretion of the Overseers

Overseers - Vicar of Scalby and Churchwardens.

John James Charity (1876)

Income from investments for the benefit of the poor of Scalby and Newby and to be distributed at Christmas each year.

Overseers - Vicar of Scalby and Churchwardens.

Kate Hargrave Long Charity

Income from investments to be distributed at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens of Scalby to the poor and sick of Scalby.

Overseers - Vicar of Scalby and Churchwardens.

Christopher Keld Charity (1780)

To help 3 beneficiaries (men/women) who are in need and reside in Scalby, Newby or Throxenby.

The income for this charity is now investments and the rent from a small grazing field (1.884 acres) at Barmoor. The Trustees are Vicar of Scalby, 2 Parish

Councillors appointed by the Parish Council and 2 Parishioners appointed by the Vicar of Scalby. The Clerk to the Trustees is myself and I visit the beneficiaries up to 4 times a year to distribute the monies. The Trustees meet once a year at the end of November when they decide the allocation of money for the forthcoming year. The Charity's year end is 15th October.

Harold and Lilian Needham Trust

Distribution of sacks of coal to the poor and sick of the Parish of Scalby but if that is not suitable parcels of groceries or other goods.

These days the Good Neighbour Committee distributes plants to the sick, housebound and bereaved twice a year.

Sole Trustee - Vicar of Scalby who has now delegated the distribution to the Chairman and members of the Good Neighbour Committee.

Helena Hewitson Trust

Income from investments allows grants to be given to children of 16 years and under on a "per capita" basis. The Trust is for children who attend worship at St Laurence's Church or St Mark's Church and are involved with children's activities. i.e. Choir members, Bell ringers, Sunday School members, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Children and Youth Groups.

Overseers - Vicar of Scalby and Churchwardens.

Deaconess Mollie Rickinson Memorial Trust

The Trust's objective is the advancement of children and young people's education and in particular religious education within Scalby Parish. The Trustees are empowered to make gifts or loans with or without interest towards the provision or maintenance of school or other educational institutes within the Parish and can give towards the general and religious education of anyone residing in the Parish or who regularly attends church services at St Laurence or a member of the Sunday School.

The Trust can also contribute towards the provision of lectures and films of an educational religious nature or towards the purchase of musical instruments for the benefit of young persons residing in the Parish.

The Trust can contribute towards the furtherance of all activities promoted by the PCC in connection with general and religious education and religious welfare of the children of the Parish.

Applications should be addressed to the Churchwardens of St Laurence's Church.

Overseers - The Churchwardens of St Laurence's Church.

Payments are made at the discretion of the Vicar and Churchwardens after the charity's criteria is met.

There are plaques in Church on the wall behind the Font relating to some of these Charities. There is a plaque on the house next to the paper shop in the High Street, Scalby relating the benefactor Christopher Keld.

Linda Thompson – 29th March 2021

