

St. Laurence's Church, Scalby

Annual Trustees Report 2021 (Inc. Committee Reports for the year)



Contents

| | <u>Page</u> |
|---|--------------------|
| Introduction _____ | 3 |
| <u>Part A</u> | |
| Churchwarden's Report _____ | 3 |
| Accounts Summary _____ | 12 |
| <u>Part B – Reports on other activities throughout the year.</u> | |
| Safeguarding Report _____ | 15 |
| Youth Worker Report _____ | 17 |
| Mission Team Report _____ | 19 |
| Good Neighbour Committee Report _____ | 22 |
| Parish Magazine Report _____ | 22 |
| Social Committee Report _____ | 23 |
| Music at St. Laurence's _____ | 25 |
| Deanery Synod Report _____ | 26 |
| Parish Charities Report _____ | 27 |
| Parish Charities _____ | 27 |
| Fabric and Churchyard Report _____ | 30 |

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

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

St. Laurence's Church reg. Charity No 1131317

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), Sunday 24th April 2022

The annual report covers the year 2021. We have continued to feel the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, but have been able to reopen the church for services and restart other activities, whilst taking every precaution to keep people safe.

PART A

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. The first meeting in May was held by Zoom, but from then onwards in the Church Rooms as usual.

The PCC operates through several committees that further the mission of St. Laurence's Church and the community it serves. These have continued with measures in place to meet the requirements of Covid-19 restrictions.

Membership of the Parochial Church Council April 2021-April 2022

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

From the 2020-2021 PCC the following members finished their term of office: Dr Ben Claybrook, Marie Freeman, Christine Grimmatt and Joan Martin.

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

During April 2021 – April 2022 the following served as members of the PCC:

Ministry Team: Revd. Tony Hand Chair
Reader: Mr Philip Newell Non Member

Churchwarden: Mrs Sue Truefitt PCC Secretary
Mrs Gillian Bradley Deputy Chair

Deputy Churchwardens: Mrs Valerie Aston
Mrs Lesley Newton

Secretary to PCC: Mrs Sue Truefitt Deanery synod rep

Treasurer: Mr John Freeman (attendee) Chair Finance Committee

Deanery Synod Reps: Mrs Joan Fennell
Dr Naomi Mehta

Other Lay Members: Mrs Sandra Dudley
Mrs Carolyn Scott
Mrs Lin Blyth
Mr Thomas Hill
Mrs Tracy Squire (Children, Youth and Families Worker)
(Resigned on 13.4.2021)
Mrs Hilary Wallace (Chair Missions Committee, Charities
Administrator)
Mr. Mike Pixton

Serving as 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 Parish 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 sub-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 Zoom meeting of the Standing Committee during the year and 5 in person 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 usually meet between the PCC meetings throughout the year. Reports of their work are made to the PCC. These are: Children, Youth and Families, Finance, Missions, Social Activities, Fabric and Churchyard, Good Neighbour and Connect Magazine. Reports from these groups will show that they are still working. Their reports are available as an appendix. A group has also met to plan Messy church.

The Friends of St. Laurence

The Friends of St. Laurence operate independently of the PCC and aim to support the church both practically and financially. We are extremely grateful for their continuing support and very generous giving.

Church Services

Through the year services for public worship were offered as follows with some occasional changes needed to meet with government restrictions imposed on these, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

| | | |
|------------|---------|---|
| 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) and also offered during our All Age Service |
| Thursdays: | 10.30am | Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Communion (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) – this activity was in abeyance due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions and resignation of the Children, Families and Youth worker (CFYW).

Little Steps 10am-11.30am (Monday, weekly, term time only)

Church Services and Average Attendance

Since restrictions were lifted the average attendance at services in 2021 was as follows:

| | | |
|---------|---------|-----------|
| Sundays | 8.00am | 25 adults |
| | 10.30am | 65 adults |

| | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|
| Thursday | 10.30am | 15 adults |
|----------|---------|-----------|

| | | |
|--------------|--------|--|
| Messy Church | 4.00pm | 43 attending (restricted- bookings only) |
|--------------|--------|--|

| | | |
|--------------|--------|-------------|
| Café Explore | 7.30pm | 9-16 adults |
|--------------|--------|-------------|

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| Christmas | Christingle services, 76+103 adults and children | |
| | Midnight Holy Communion, 31 Adults | |
| | 8.00am, | 22 Adults |
| | 10.30am | Family worship, 53 adults and children |

| | |
|----------|----|
| Baptisms | 14 |
|----------|----|

| | |
|----------|----|
| Weddings | 10 |
|----------|----|

| | |
|----------|---|
| Funerals | 7 |
|----------|---|

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Burial of ashes | 24 |
|-----------------|----|

In 2021 there were 186 on the Electoral Roll.

St. Laurence's year

At the APCM Sally McIntyre stepped down as churchwarden after six years. During that time she saw the church through two interregnums and the Covid-19 crisis. She has done a wonderful job, and we will all be eternally grateful for her hard work and commitment. She was a very hard act to follow, but eventually Sue Truefitt and Jill Bradley agreed to serve.

Before reopening the Church Rooms for meetings, we did a deep clean of the kitchen, and signing in sheets and hand-cleaning facilities were provided. Thanks to those who helped.

In September, Rainbows and Brownies and the sewing group started meeting again in the Church Rooms. Standing Committee and PCC meetings were held there in person, as were some other committees.

Little Steps restarted in May, though with reduced numbers. Booking was required, and the parents brought their own snacks. When Covid-19 related restrictions on attendance were removed parents/carers understandably chose to stay away if they had been in contact with the Covid virus. Having succeeded in re-establishing Little Steps it is intended to restart Toddler Praise in 2022.

In August Tracy Squire resigned from her post as Children, Youth and Families worker to return to work as a teaching assistant. We were very sorry to see her leave and thank her sincerely for all the work she did to support and encourage families, children and young people and members of our wider community. After a review of the CFYW role and a successful recruitment campaign the PCC were pleased in December to appoint Celia Hare to the post with the expectation that she would commence work in March 2022.

Open the Book and Sunday Supper Club are waiting to restart when Celia is in place.

Messy Church started again in November, with Christine Grimmett leading the team. Numbers were restricted, with booking essential. I know the parents were delighted to come back! Sue Truefitt leads the catering team, and meals are now served at table to keep everybody safe. Huge thanks to all the helpers.

We held two coffee mornings in September to enable parishioners to meet the vicar. Tony had started his ministry with us as Covid took its grip and many of the congregation had been unable to meet him personally. This gave them all a chance to get to know him. Then we began serving coffee after church, which gave people a chance to socialise and became very popular. Slowly we were getting back to normal.

We needed to appoint a new church architect, and it was decided to do this together with St. Peter's, so that visits could be coordinated, thus hopefully saving money. The interviews were held by Zoom in November, and Ian Hayton, an architect at Ferrey and Mennim, was appointed unanimously. He has since visited the church and offered ideas to be discussed on possible ways forward. We feel he is very much part of the team.

Our parish boundaries were redrawn in 2021 and we welcomed houses up to Lady Edith's Drive into our parish. As usual Helen Hartley drew up a leaflet with the Christmas services on to be distributed round the parish by a team of volunteers. She then added a postcard with a picture of St. Laurence's on the front and a welcoming message from Tony on the back, together with the leaflet with the Christmas services, which were taken out to the new parishioners.

Helen has also created posters for all the major church events: Christmas, Mothers Day and Easter. They are always eye-catching, and she has endless patience in working with us all. Many thanks, Helen!

Lesley Newton continued to keep us informed through the Church Family News, as well as Parishlife. In December she discussed at the Northern Group meeting the difficulty of getting articles from all the churches, and regretfully closed Parishlife and set up Connect, a magazine for St. Laurence's and St. Peter's, which is proving very popular. John Charlesworth collates the magazine. Thank you, Lesley, John and Hilary for all you do.

Colin Grimmett and John Charlesworth continue to look after the churchyard, and despite a very strong growing season managed to keep it looking good. Thanks to them for their commitment.

Worship

Until August attendance at church services was confined to people who booked, and 2 metre social distancing was maintained throughout the church. Masks and hand sanitisers were provided, and notices asked people to use them whenever they entered church. The services were shown on the screen, so there was no need for hymn books or service sheets, which reduced the risk of infection, and the pews were sanitised after every service. The services were streamed live, and were also recorded, so people could choose when to watch. With the lifting nationally of some restrictions, at the end of July people were welcomed back as they wished, though masks were worn, and doors were left open to allow a throughput of air. Many people still preferred to watch the streamed services that Lesley Newton put onto Facebook and Vimeo, and she noted that one or two people watched from all over the world! We are very grateful to all those who help with streaming. Chris Wright recruited a team of singers who take it in turns in groups of four or five to lead the singing, whilst the rest of the congregation join in behind their masks, longing for the day when we can leave them off.

Remembrance Day took place as usual and a large congregation followed on to the memorial, with two students from Scalby School reading the list of the fallen. The memorial service for families took place on 21st November, with refreshments served at the back of church, and again was well attended, and a great comfort to the bereaved.

At Christmas we tried to return to normal, albeit with some restrictions. Chris Wright led a large group of church members carolling in the centre of the village and then on to Lancaster Park on one evening, and there was a children's nativity tableau in the centre of the village with huge contributions from Sandra Thomas and Nikki Heelas and carols lead by Chris Wright from the church who also lead the singers there on another night. Both of these were new events and proved very popular. There was one lessons and carols service at the beginning of Christmas week with a small choir instead of the usual large one leading the carols. There were two Christingle services, and the Christingles were put in a bag for the children (and some adults!) to make up during the service. They loved it. On Christmas Eve there was a midnight mass beginning at 11pm instead of 11.30pm, and on Christmas Day an 8am Holy Communion and 10.30am Family Service.

Lent and Easter were very quiet because numbers in church were still restricted. The cross was again decorated with flowers on Easter Sunday, but the usual egg hunt did not take place.

Because the church had been closed, the flower arrangers had begun to decorate the railings near the church porch with swags for church festivals. Once the church had reopened for services, flowers were again arranged in church, but the decorations by the sundial have continued. This has happened for harvest, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter, and is welcomed by all those who walk through the churchyard and is a lovely witness to the worship of the church. Thanks to Lynn and Helen and all the flower arrangers.

Café Explore began again and regularly attracts between 9 and 16 people. Thank you, Marie, for providing the worship. Thursday Communion began again in November and also attracts on average 15 people.

Tony, Chris Coates, Marion and Tony Shaw provide leadership, and the regular worshippers were delighted to get back together.

Two house groups now meet again on alternate Wednesday evenings for worship and discussion. We are hoping a daytime group might start. Do let the clergy or churchwardens know if you would be interested in joining or even running one!

The Ministry

We are very lucky at St. Laurence in having a wonderful, inspiring team of clergy.

Thanks go to Bishop David Wilbourne, who has taken many 8 o'clock services for us, inspiring many with his sermons and energy. Thanks also to Marion Wright and Philip Newell who have continued to support us all and brought new ideas and thoughts to the ministry. During the year we have been joined by Chris Coates and Rosie Coles, who have willingly joined the team and make wonderful contributions through sermons and prayers to our services. Chris Wright adds to the worship with his wonderful playing and singing, and rehearsing the singers who lead us all. When there were no hymns, we realised how important they are to worship. Tony Hand leads us all and has endeared himself to the congregation with his warmth, readiness to chat and his good humour. Thank God for the team!

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

The Barnabas group came together with Mavis Wild, Sue Pynn and Sally McIntyre for the memorial service to offer support to the bereaved and to assure them of a warm welcome when they are able to restart meetings.

The tower and hand bell ringers are led by Alan Grundy, Captain of the Bells. They have resumed ringing, as have the handbell ringers, who rang for us at the Christmas carol service, and were much appreciated by the congregation. They also played carols in the library.

The Mothers Union continue to be led by Linda Thompson. The two groups have now joined together and were able to have an afternoon tea together in October. It was a lovely occasion when all the members could join together and have a really good chat. It had been hoped to get together in December, but Covid re-appeared and it was thought better to postpone it. They hope to start in the New Year.

Thankfulness

We have a lot to be thankful for this year. Things are finally beginning to get back to normal after Covid restrictions and we are able to resume, slowly, our usual activities, though always mindful of the safety of others. We have many church members who help in all sorts of ways, from cleaning the church, to streaming the services. They are too numerous to name, but it always strikes me what a willing and wonderful team of people we are.

Thank you especially to Sarah Readman for her work in organising the office and taking on extra work as we try to find an assistant. She also stepped up to organise Little Steps after Tracy had left.

Thank you to our Deputy Churchwardens Valerie Aston and Lesley Newton for their help over the year, their knowledge, kindness and support, and to Sally McIntyre for being always ready to offer assistance and advice about running the church. It is amazing how quickly you forget these things!

Thank you to our PCC for all their hard work and involvement.

Our thanks must go to Tony and all our clergy and readers and those who have taken or added to our services, and to Rachel for both supporting Tony, and becoming an active member of our church community.

Especially thank you to our congregation, for being a friendly and welcoming church. I have lost count of the number who have visited or become members of our congregation who have said how welcome they were made to feel. Thank you all.

Sue Truefitt and Jill Bradley (Churchwardens)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LAURENCE`S SCALBY

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Financial Review

This year the COVID-19 epidemic continued to have an impact on the life of our church and its income especially in open plate giving, room lettings and social activities. Income received in the year was £158,468 of which £7,445 was restricted. Planned giving income increased by £81 from 2020 to £57,599. Our new Parish Giving Scheme was launched in the year and will grow with a Planned Giving Review in March 2022. Open plate collections were £2,695. Our grant for the churchyard upkeep was £3,038. Donations of £16,791 were received. Tax recovery on planned giving, one-off gifts and small donations is £13,759. Donations can now be received via mobile phones scanning QR codes in various locations. Three legacies totalling £37,322 were generously left to the church.

Expenditure in the year was £170,353. Freewill offering to Diocese was £63,000, the same as 2020. PCC will increase this in 2022. Missions giving was £11,101 across 11 organisations.

Employment costs including expenses and contract work were £44,204. The Children, Families and Youth Worker (CFYW) sadly resigned during the year - a new person has been recruited in 2022.

Insurances for church, church rooms and house increased by £36 to £4,214. Repairs to the church cost £2,525. Repairs and renewals to the rooms and house cost £5,848, including church rooms roof work at £4,111. Work in the churchyard cost £23,013, including the completion of the work on the path to Glebe Field. Gas, electric and water costs for church and church rooms increased by £68 at £2,708. Printing, postage and stationery costs were £667. Office phone and broadband was £421.

Camera and I-pad purchased to enable the streaming of services cost £728 from a donation and the cost for church WiFi was £120 for the year.

We now have Rev Tony Hand as Vicar. The cost of vicarage water, phone/BB and Vicar`s expenses was £1,475 after receiving a share of this cost from St. Peter`s Hackness.

A deficit of £11,884 (excluding unrealised gains/losses) is recorded for the year, this compares to a deficit of £37,726 in 2020. After including gains on investments of £26,661 there was a surplus of £14,776. The properties were valued in early 2022 at £475,000 a reduction of £483,468 from the 2020 insurance value. They are governed by restrictions on the use of funds realised on their sale.

Total funds of the PCC excluding property are £534,981.

A budget has been prepared for 2022 that shows a deficit of £30,307. Without the CFYW costs the deficit would be £5,307.

Reserves

PCC holds restricted and endowment funds for Fabric, Organ, Churchyard, Choir, Children`s Work and Flower Fund totalling £109,913. Designated funds for Fabric, Organ, Children`s Worker, Church Rooms Roof, Charitable Link and Missions & Additional Ministry total £335,507. Unrestricted funds, excluding property, total £89,561. During the year the PCC agreed to designate £20,000 from General fund to CFYW fund.

PCC agreed to keep a liquidity reserve of 3 months basic expenditure, about £40,000.

The General – Unrestricted fund excluding debtors/creditors was £71,259 at 31 December 2021.

The PCC confirms that it holds sufficient and appropriate assets to meet the conditions of expenditure of all the restricted funds. Details of the balance of funds and the assets, which are held to represent those funds, are contained in the accounts.

John Freeman, Treasurer

PART B

Reports of Other Activities Throughout the Year

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

DBS information

The service provider for DBS checks remains “thirtyoneeight .org”. Seven DBS checks were applied for during 2021. DBS checks are renewed every five years. The time when most DBS checks are required is when new PCC members are appointed as they all have to be DBS checked. Individuals can apply for their own DBS check using the on- line service, except for Clergy whose checks are done by the Diocesan Office. Since the first lock-down I have completed DBS checks on-line with applicants on the phone providing me with the information required. This has been safer and more efficient. I continue to use a database for our DBS records which records certificate numbers, dates of birth, renewal dates and the criteria for each DBS application.

Safeguarding Training

The Church of England House of Bishops have precise training requirements for all church members involved in Leadership roles e.g. Clergy, Church Wardens, Readers, RPA and Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). Courses are lengthy and demanding requiring follow up written assignments. The training has to be repeated on a 3 yearly cycle. Tower Captains and Vergers have to complete Basic Awareness Level (BAL) and Foundation Level (FL) All members of the PCC are required to complete BAL Training.

Rev. Marion Wright, Bishop David Wilbourne and Reader Phillip Newell have renewed their Safeguarding Training, which now includes the module Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse. Church Wardens Sue Truefitt and Jill Bradley have completed their Leadership Pathway training. Christine Grimmatt has completed her Basic and Foundation level training as she has been acting in a temporary leadership role organising Messy Church while we wait for the appointment of a new Children and Family Worker. I have renewed my Parish Safeguarding Training.

Those leading groups where children are involved are also required to complete BAL and FL training. It is hoped that Church members who help in

such groups complete BAL too. Those in groups involving vulnerable adults would hopefully complete BAL and also. If visiting vulnerable adults as representatives of the church BAL would be helpful. If training is not attended then it is acceptable that group leaders, in consultation with PSO, can provide written safeguarding guidance to group members. At present training courses remain on-line. I have a data base with all information on regarding volunteer members of groups, their training undertaken and renewal dates.

Providing BAL training locally, where completing the course on-line is an obstacle for church members who lack confidence in their IT skills, is still on our Safeguarding Development Plan. I hope to be able to do this now that Covid restrictions have eased but would still ask for wearing of masks and enable social distancing. The training would take place in the Rickinson Hall.

Why the emphasis on Safeguarding Training?

I cannot stress enough how thankful I am and how supported I feel in my role by all those who share the value I place on safeguarding training. It is too easy to think this is not needed as though the abuse of children and vulnerable adults in the past within the Church of England has been dealt with.

In August 2021 an Independent Inquiry into Child sex Abuse chaired by Professor Alexi Jay published its findings. Among other institutions the enquiry **criticised the Church Of England. " The C/E failed to protect children from sexual abuse and created a culture where abusers could hide. A culture where perpetrators were often given more support than victims"** The report stated that the 390 clergy and other church leaders were convicted of abuse occurring between 1940 to as late as 2018. There was evidence of clergymen being ordained despite a history of sex offences. In 2018 2504 new safeguarding concerns were reported to the C/E about either children or vulnerable adults.

The report conceded that," there have been a number of improvements in child protection procedures in the C/E in recent years". However, Professor Jay added: "It is still vital that the church improves how it responds to allegations of sexual abuse". Following this in September 2019 an extensive document was produced by the C/E National Safeguarding Team led by Peter Hancock Bishop of bath and Wells titled " Safer Environments and Activities". I

have a hard copy of this as it was on my reading list as part of my recent PSO training. It can be viewed on-line.

St. Laurence's Church Safeguarding Development Plan 2021

The plan was a follow up requirement of my recent safeguarding training and has been submitted to the Diocese and the PCC. It is based on the requirements of Model Safeguarding Parish Check List designed by the C/E. It will be our guide for progress developing new procedures and checking those already in place to ensure that our church is a safe place for all.

Pat Critchlow, Parish Safeguarding Officer.

YOUTH WORKER REPORT

Due to the resignation of Tracy Squire our Children, Youth and Families Worker in August 2021, there is not a comprehensive Youth Worker Report for the year. However, Sarah Readman and Christine Grimmett who have been organising Little Steps and Messy Church voluntarily, have submitted reports which are included below.

Little Steps

Little Steps resumed in May 2021 after significant planning and re-organisation by Tracy Squire and Sarah Readman. New risk assessments relating to Covid were created, and it was decided that the group would reduce its numbers in order to protect volunteers and those attending the group.

In September 2021, Little Steps started the new term with Sarah Readman, Hilary Wallace and Penny Claybrook leading the group with the additional help of Chris Wright and Carole Brewer. At this time everyone continued to wear masks. In January 2022 masks were made voluntary.

16 families returned to Little Steps in September 2021, which included 2 new families. In January 2022 numbers stood at 12 families as some children left at Christmas due to starting Newby and Scalby Pre-school. We have since welcomed another new member.

Parents and grandparents welcomed our re-opening in May 2021 and have repeatedly thanked us for running the group despite the uncertain Covid times. They are thankful that they have somewhere to meet others, chat and that their children have the opportunity to develop their social skills.

Sarah Readman, Group Leader

Messy Church

We finally restarted Messy church in November 2021, after a gap of 20 months, although Tracy had remained in contact with Messy families during the lockdown. Much planning went into ways to keep the volunteers and families as safe as possible, without changing the way that children accessed the crafts and activities. We decided to limit numbers to 40 people (excluding volunteers), to operate a booking system and to serve the meal to families seated at tables rather than a queueing system. There has been a wonderful response from families keen to return, with a waiting list for the November Advent Messy Church, and it was very encouraging to have 3 new families at our February church. All of these families had responded to the posters displayed in Newby and Scalby library, and outside Lindhead school. This advertising will be extended to Newby school when we have room for a larger number of people. Going forward, we plan to retain the booking system and have some restrictions on numbers – we have found that smaller numbers give us time to interact more and get to know our families better.

I am very grateful to all those who help with Messy Church, many of whom have been volunteering for a number of years. We have been delighted to welcome 3 new craft helpers, but would welcome anyone who enjoys talking to people – you don't need to be good at craft to help out! Many thanks go to Sue Truefitt, Gill Bradley and Joan Fennell for providing the food and to the willing team members who wash up afterwards. Messy Church would not be possible without the storytelling and leadership skills of Marion and Marie, so a big thank you to them too.

If anyone feels that they would like to help, either with the activities or with food preparation/washing up, please have a word with me. It doesn't need to be on a regular basis, but just when you can make that month's Messy Church.

Christine Grimmett, Messy Church Team Leader

MISSION REPORT

Despite the restrictions imposed over the past year, St. Laurence has continued its support of our 7 charities – **Bible Society, Children in Distress, Children's Society, Church Army, Church Missionary Society, Sidewalk and Westway Open Arms** – with annual donation.

Through the Church weekly news sheet, Facebook, website, noticeboard displays, articles in Parishlife (now Connect) as well as on the Church News email, we have tried to keep everyone aware of the current work of the charities and the difficulties they are experiencing.

Whilst the **Rainbow Centre** is not a designated charity, St. Laurence's has a red bin for food and clothing donations and members of the congregation support any appeals they send out.

St. Laurence's PCC are donating £2000 to the charity being set up by Burniston Methodist Church to sponsor a family from Afghanistan.

Church Mission Society

We receive regular blogs, newsletters and videos from Azaria who is based in Guatemala and it was with great delight that we were able to meet her, via a zoom meeting during the time she was home. She is now comfortably settled in her own flat and is her work with the young people is going from strength to strength.

Children's Society

Their work with vulnerable youngsters is in more demand than ever. The Christingle Services were well supported with attendance down on pre-covid numbers. A team of volunteers worked on preparing the Christingles ready for the children, and adults, to complete as part of the service. A new venture which was a great success! The collections raised £333.00

Children in Distress

Several of the charity's hospitals, homes and schools, as well as their clinics had to be closed during covid restrictions and they face an uphill struggle to re-establish the support they gave to the vulnerable and disabled in Romania. St. Laurence's collected around 44 boxes for distribution at Christmastime.

Westway Open Arms

Whilst we support the charity with an annual donation, St. Laurence's main support is given by individual members of the congregation giving of their time and skill as volunteers. Many of the congregation also support their food bank and other appeals.

Christian Aid

The focus of Christian Aid Week 2021 was the provision of reliable water supplies for communities affected by unpredictable weather patterns in Kenya. The training of a local committee to run an earth dam became one of our chief objectives for the week's fundraising: £335 would keep one in good running order. In the event we raised enough for 9 of these committees!

Twenty volunteers delivered over 900 envelopes to our local residents. Scalby Stores and Newby and Scalby Library were extremely helpful in gathering in the donations. A number of garden events took place and Alder View Court residents Yvonne and Maureen had good support for their cake stall.

We held a Christian Aid themed service on the morning worship service on May 16th shared on our Facebook page.

Slightly delayed due to the Covid restrictions, but much anticipated and hugely enjoyed, the Christian Aid Fundraiser on May 22nd brought in over £500. It was Tracy Squire's initiative and aimed to highlight sustainable living on the planet through the digital Bee Trail she had set up. There were bee themed products and our traditional plant stall was well recieved.

The St. Laurence's grand total was over £3000. Still not a normal year, but very heartening to see people's generosity. £15,000 was raised across the town.

Chris continues to serve on the Scarborough Christian Aid committee which usually organises events in CA Week and at other times. An open garden event at Maggie Bridge's in Red Scar Lane, at the end of July, drew good support from St. Laurence's folk: it raised £725. Sadly Maggie is leaving the area, moving to Sussex; she has been an active and passionate supporter of Christian Aid here. We wish her well.

There've also been changes nationally. Former Archbishop John Sentamu has taken over as the Chair of Christian Aid Trustees from Rowan Williams. Amanda Mukwoshi is taking up a role with the United Nations, so CA currently has an interim CEO, Patrick Watt.

Stepping Stones Ministry UK and India

The covid pandemic has continued to make the work of the Mission quite demanding. Strict Covid rules imposed on Children's Homes restricted the groups going out into public places and primary and junior schools remained closed to the children. Although this didn't hinder the younger children's learning, it did kept them from seeing friends outside of the homes for a long time. Schools were expected to open last January.

Although the Mission Centre and Children's Homes were safely locked down, their local outreach teams were working with Doctors, Health Services, NGO's, Suppliers and those in need to get medical aid such as ventilators, oxygen, and medicines, plus food and other essential items to those effected by Covid and the lockdown restrictions.

St. Laurence's donated £1000 to the charities appeal to help with the outreach work but, during the last 2 years, outreach had been greatly restricted by 2 factors, the pandemic and serious failures in the new FCRA funds transfer system which was imposed by the Indian Government at the beginning of 2020. Although they managed to get sufficient funds through to maintain the work of the children's homes, much needed funds to support families in the region was limited. Thankfully, the banking system appears to have improved, with funds, including St. Laurence's donation finally getting through.

In the run up to Christmas, 350 families, (approximately 1,500 people) in the Nadia district of West Bengal received a month's supply of food, plus blankets from Stepping Stones. Some of the families who received support are workers at a nearby brick field where there are many child workers who make bricks every day out in the open, without shade and from mud brought up from the river. Some of the volunteers have been visiting the children each week during the pandemic to teach them, do games and provide them with food and clothing

In Jharkhand State, 200 miles North of Stepping Stones Mission Centre, more than 120 very poor families received food parcels and blankets. Hot meals were also provided in some villages and children were given sweets for Christmas.

St. Laurence's continues to sponsor 2 children. Sabitri Marandi, now 12 years old, has been supported by us for 5 years. We were also supporting her brother, Kalidas, now 14 years old, but, as his mother's circumstances had improved, he made the decision to return home. Stepping Stones have

supported him in his return home, encouraging him to continue with his schooling. Sabitri, however, has made the decision to stay with the charity until she is 18. We are now supporting Surjo Adibasi, about 8 years old. He has lost both his parents and his elderly grandparents were finding it difficult to manage a lively youngster. He has been with Stepping Stones for 3 years.

GOOD NEIGHBOUR REPORT

After the third lockdown was lifted at the end of March 2021 we were able to deliver our Easter plants, purchased with the help of the Lilian Needham Trust, to approximately 35 sick and housebound people in our parish. At harvest members of the congregation made posies and helped deliver to 30 plus people. The produce given at harvest was distributed to the Rainbow Centre and the Westway House at Eastfield. Flower arrangements were also given to Orchard House and Danes Dyke Community Centre. A big thank you to all who helped with the delivering of the above.

The committee make visits during the year as and when they can.

MAGAZINE REPORT

This year has seen a major change in that Parishlife, the magazine for all the North Scarborough Group Ministry churches, was replaced by Connect, a magazine for St. Laurence's, St. Peter's and St. Margaret's with effect from the January & February 2022 edition. This is because it had become increasingly difficult to get articles and information from the other churches. Organising the delivery to all the churches and receiving subscription payments was also an onerous task and I'm extremely grateful to Hilary Wallace and Margaret Lisney for the tremendous amount of work they put into this over the past few years. Thanks too to Helen Hartley for her help with designing the front and back covers and proof-reading the final copy and to John Charlesworth who prepares it for printing by Basics Plus. Whilst I'm sorry that it wasn't possible to usefully serve the whole North Scarborough Group we are able to share more information about our own parishes which will hopefully help us to keep on connecting with each other and the community.

Lesley Newton

Editor

During 2021, approximately 480 magazines were printed for each issue with 230 for distribution in St. Laurence's. Lesley Newton and I continued delivering magazines to those subscribers who normally collected their copy from the church, but we were unable to continue our casual sales in church. Thankfully, with restrictions now lifted, we are able to have them on sale again. On the financial side, the NSGM accounts for 2021 have been closed with neither profit nor loss.

We must thank our dedicated distribution team who continued delivering the magazines and collecting the subscriptions throughout the pandemic. They are Alison Annan, Shirley Chambers, Penny Claybrook, Yvette Drabble, Christina Hutton, Janet Jenkins, Dorothy Jowsey, Margaret Lisney, Maureen Mills, Patricia Palmer, Barbara Pixton, Jenny Winn and Janette Wright.

Thanks must also go to Basics Plus for their help printing the magazine and for coping with a few last-minute changes to the numbers required!

Hilary Wallace

Treasurer and Distribution

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2021

Social Committee members are Sue Truefitt, Val Aston, Jenny Wray, Helen Arnold, Kirsten Mac, Joan Fennell, Carol Brewer, Tom Hill, Claire Dodd-Story, Liz Anderson 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. Events were limited this year in the light of the pandemic, but we were able to do more than the previous year!

Initially, it was felt that events should continue to be held via Zoom. The first of these was a quiz night hosted by Rosemary Knight and which involved various items she had collected from around the world. This was both interesting and fun. A further event via Zoom was hosted by Waveney Crooks who talked about the development of the seaweed farm off the east coast and serviced from Scarborough. Again, very much appreciated and enjoyed by all those attending.

As the summer progressed, cautious optimism encouraged us to start planning in person events. The summer BBQ was postponed to autumn and, by kind invitation of Tom and Margery Pindar, took place on the 12th September at their home in their absence. It was a well-attended, happy event with a perfect venue (and not so perfect weather).

Harvest posed a challenge. A sit-down meal was not felt to be advisable as it would be indoors so as an alternative it was agreed a picnic with events going on around it would be the answer. Various activities were arranged in the church rooms which included pumpkin making, flower arranging, painting stones, games for the smaller children, a treasure hunt and informal talks from people from the various local charities supported by the church. A picnic lunch was provided for people to eat there or take home. Again, this was very well received.

As Tony and Rachel had not had very much opportunity to meet people during the pandemic, the committee arranged two open coffee mornings for anyone who wanted to come and meet them both and for them to be able to see people in an informal setting and chat with them.

Christmas saw a return to caution! We were not able to provide our usual entertainment or the mulled wine and mice pies which we had planned – but they will be back next year!

Our plans for 2022 include a Jubilee Tea celebration on the 2nd June and hopefully, if we have a suitable venue, a BBQ in the summer on the 10th July. We will also be organizing the Seder Meal on the 14th April.

Going forward, as usual we are looking for new members of the committee. Claire Dodd-Storey and Liz Anderson have joined us since the last annual report and are a great addition to the team. It always amazes me just how much this group of people can do and how willingly they do it. They are so good at organizing and working together and a huge blessing to our church. Thank you so much to you all.

MUSIC AT ST. LAURENCE'S

After a prolonged spell of recorded music (and solos from me), a small group of singers began to sing, initially on their own, then later, congregational singing was again permitted, albeit behind masks still. Thanks to all those who've stepped into that role.

That's continued: the benefits have been bringing a more audible singing 'lead' into our main worship space, a visual lead – for the camera, an opportunity for some solo (cantor) participation and a workable rotation of available singers, with many folk offering Sundays they can help.

Sadly, I've concluded that the four-part choir we had, can't practically be reformed. St. Laurence's Choir has been a part of our worship life for so long, it feels a wrench and it's only right I should pay tribute to the choir personnel – and point out the ways that group served so well, for so many years. They could be relied on for musical continuity and above all, reliability – Sunday by Sunday, for weddings and special occasions, confirmations and memorial services; they played a significant role not only with hymns, but also anthems and blessings. Their harmony singing brought a special dimension and many singers made the group a high priority, their particular service to the church. I have many happy memories of our Friday nights together and I want to thank each one for that service; their commitment to it and for working hard with me.

Now, turning the page to see what's ahead, seeking to keep our worship fresh and vibrant, we need to pray that enough people are still able to commit to working at that together, with voices and instruments. I'm hoping that at certain points in the year, some larger group involvement is still possible, in the tradition of the augmented choir we managed up to 2019.

The All-Age services, also at something of a crossroads, were musically supported by singers and 'the band' maintaining musical momentum there, particularly Christine Grimmett's flute and Cathy Blades' clarinet. Are there other instrumental talents that could be brought into the mix? Skills maybe that are rusty, but could be revived to help our worship?

Above all, we will try to serve God and find ways together to sing his praises, with gratitude in our hearts.

Chris Wright

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH

The Deanery Synod has met four times during the year. Initially this was via ZOOM, but latterly it has been in person. The meetings move round the various churches in the deanery. At the first meeting of the year the planned Children of Light event was outlined and Tracy Squire, the Children, Families and Youth worker from St. Laurence's, was one of the presenters outlining to parishes how they could become involved. She had unfortunately moved on from her post before the event actually took place, but had contributed greatly to its success.

At the May meeting the Ven Amanda Bloor, Archdeacon of Cleveland spoke about the Covenant for the Care and Well-being of Clergy and urged PCCs to look at the document and to think about what it really meant. She encouraged Synod to talk to clergy and allow them to share their struggles should they wish and to look after them.

At the October meeting parishes shared news of examples of generosity in their churches. It was very heartening to see how much had been going on and to hear about initiatives which were being developed to provide services such as cafes, and care to those in need through places such as The Rainbow Centre.

A regular item on the agenda at each meeting has been "Living Christ's Story", which is a Diocesan initiative. Earlier in the year parishes had been required to complete a questionnaire. The responses to this were then collated and matters moved forward to use the information gained to prepare a ten-year plan, initially at deanery level. Various speakers came to reinforce the message and to provide further background and impetus going forward. There were two events in the autumn, a webinar via Zoom on the 20th September, and a seminar on the 2nd October addressed by Sammi Tooze, the generous giving advisor for the York Diocese. This is an ongoing topic which is currently being addressed and for which various events are planned for this year.

Deanery Synod has certainly provided food for thought for representatives to bring back to their PCCs and continues to give an opportunity for individual parishes to share their experiences with others and for us all to find ways of working together.

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.

Linda Thompson

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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £1989.20

SCALBY, NEWBY, BURNISTON COAL CHARITY

Combined Charities of

ADAM FARMSIDE (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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £2087.19

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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £743.35

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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £172.10

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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £1086.18

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.

Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £1333.99

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. Bank Balance 31.12.21 - £4351.25

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 any one 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

Fabric and Churchyard Report 2021

The committee members are: Maurice Martinson, Chairman, Sally McIntyre, secretary, Rev. Tony Hand, Tom Pindar, Sue Truefitt Val Aston and Jenny Stainthorpe. The committee met three times during the year and discussed the following:

1. Bridge to Glebe Field.

The second phase of the pathway to the Glebe Field was completed in the spring and any snagging dealt with.

2. Glebe Field and Church Yard (maintenance).

Water Supply. The water supply to the Glebe Field which had come from the old vicarage through the garden had been cut off and it was agreed that it would be impracticable to replace it.

Lighting. There were problems with the lighting of the lower path and steps to Ken's Gate. The tall street lamp had been isolated to ascertain whether this was the cause of the problem. However, this issue is ongoing and it is hoped that a solution will be found shortly.

Churchyard Wall. The churchyard wall adjacent to Toad Cottage had collapsed in one small area. This is to be inspected and if appropriate stone wall specialists to be asked to quote for repairs.

Christmas Lights. The tree outside church and the lights at the lychgate and at the Church Rooms were well received and much appreciated.

3. Church. The pointing mentioned in the previous report has now been inspected and arrangements are in hand to deal with this. RCS Restoration Steeplejacks Ltd. Have been instructed to carry out the work.

4. **The clock.** The motor was repaired having been removed by Time Assured. On its return the clock was also serviced.

5. **Servicing of Equipment.**

Service of the boiler was carried out by Pickups of Scarborough. Inspection of the Fire Equipment had been carried out by G2 and instructions given for the recommended replacement of aged items. The gas servicing at the Church Rooms and School house was also carried out.

The lightening conductor was inspected in the autumn by Stones.

6. **Church Rooms.**

Further leaks had occurred in the flat roof of the office. The work of Mr. Millard was recommended to the committee following an inspection by Mark Lonsdale who had previously carried out work on the roof but felt the present situation was not within his capability. Following his recommendation to the committee, his quote was accepted and repair work carried out which appears to have solved the problem.

Railings. Following some vandalism the railings were repaired by Mark Anderson Fabrications.

7. **School House.** Arrangements were put in hand for a full inspection of the School House following concerns about the condition of the property. A market valuation is also being obtained of this property and of the Church Rooms to assist with the value to be included in the accounts.

8. **Church Architect.** Following the retirement of the Church Architect, arrangements were made in conjunction with St. Peter's Hackness, to invite applications for the post. Interviews were carried out on-line and Ian Hayton of Ferry and Menim was appointed by both churches.

Appreciation goes to our two sextons, Colin and John who 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. Maurice Martinson, Chairman.