

St. Laurence's Church, Scalby

Annual Trustees Report 2025

(Inc. Committee Reports for the year)



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PART A

Annual Report

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

St. Laurence's Church reg. Charity No 1131317

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting, Sunday 26th April 2026

The Annual Report covers the year 2025.

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, social and ecumenical.

It is with this purpose that the PCC usually meets on 6 occasions. During the year the PCC meetings were held on: 20th January, 17th March, 27th April (following the Annual Church Meeting), 19th May, 21st July, 15th September and 17th November.

The PCC operates through several committees that further the mission of St Laurence's Church and the community it serves.

Membership of the Parochial Church Council April 2024-April 2025

In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM).

From the 2024-2025 PCC the following members finished their term of office: Julia and Paul Bean. Jenny Wray also completed her term, but under the provision agreed at the parishes APCM in 2024, she was re-elected to serve a further term.

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

During 2025 the following served as members of the PCC:

Ministry Team:	Revd. Tony Hand	Chair
Churchwarden:	Mrs Sue Truefitt	PCC Deanery Synod rep
	Mrs Liz Anderson	Deputy Chair
PCC Secretary:	Mr Andrew White	September 2025
Treasurer:	Mrs Rana Sharrock	(non-voting)

Deanery Synod Reps: Mrs Joan Fennell (2023-2026)
Mrs Lyn Blyth (2023-2026)
Mrs Sue Truefitt (2023-2026)

Electoral Roll Officer: Mrs Elizabeth Anderson (2024-2027)

Lay Members

Mrs Christine Grimmett	(term of office to end 2026)
Mrs Margaret Lisney	(term of office to end 2026)
Mrs Yvonne Wilson	(term of office to end 2026)
Mr Reg Towse. resigned 27.6.25	(term of office to end 2027)
Mrs Valerie Aston	(term of office to end 2027)
Mr Steve Binns	(term of office to end 2027)
Mr John Freeman	(term of office to end 2027)
Ms Angela Howard	(term of office to end 2028)
Mrs Jenny Wray	(term of office to end 2028)
Mr Matthew Baldwin	(term of office to end 2028)
Ms Jocelyn Merris	(term of office to end 2028)
Mrs Jackie Walker	(term of office to end 2028)

Through the year the PCC had the support of two Deputy Churchwardens:

Mrs Sally McIntyre

Mrs Valerie Aston

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Jacqui Hall resigned as PSO during the year, Liz Anderson and Sue Truefitt took on the role as acting PSO's pending an appointment supported by Jo Brown.

Parish Safeguarding Administrator: Mrs Jo Brown

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). A full report on Safeguarding matters through the year is included in the appendix.

The office of Charities Administrator has been handed on to Andrew White. A report is available as part of the appendix.

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 have been 6 meetings of the Standing Committee this year at which agendas for PCC meetings were prepared and delegated business was actioned: 13th January, 10th March, 12th May, 14th July, 8th September and 10th November.

Committees

The PCC operates through several committees which aim to meet between the PCC meetings when reports of their work are brought to the PCC. These are: Finance, Property, Discipleship and Worship, Missions, Social, Communications, Building Together and Pastoral

Care. A group of interested parishioners have come together to promote us as an Eco church and had their first meeting in November.

The Friends of St Laurence

The Friends of St Laurence is a separate charity and aims to support the church both practically and financially. In 2025 they provided funds to replace the church room windows and for re-decorating the church and part of the church rooms. We are very grateful for all their help.

Church Services

At the beginning of 2025 the services were as set out as follows offering a variety of worship for people to participate in.

Sundays:

- 8.00am Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion
- 10.30am Celebrate! on the first Sunday of the month, occasionally with Baptism
- 10.30am Communion 2nd and 4th Sundays
- 10.30am Building Together (Morning Worship) 3rd Sundays
- 10.30am North Scarborough Group Ministry 5th Sunday
- 3.00pm Baptism (1st Sunday) moving to 12.30pm from Sunday 4th May
- 5.00pm Fun and Food (fortnightly, which is a young people's activity in which they explore their faith rather than a formal service)

Mondays:

- 10.00am Toddler Praise (monthly, led by Celia Hare)

Tue & Thurs:

- 8.30am Morning Prayer

Thursdays:

10.30am Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion
and Prayer in the Parish

Saturdays:

4.00pm Messy Church (monthly)

4.00pm Fun with Faith (monthly)

The Thursday Communion and Prayer in the Parish attracts around 12 regular worshippers. The Revd Tony Hand, Revd Stephen Walker, Revd Marion Wright, Tony Shaw and Kevin Boak (Licensed Lay Minister) provide leadership.

Taizé Worship has been offered on some occasions led by Revd Marion and Chris Wright.

Church Services and Average Attendance

Sundays:	8.00am	14 adults
	10.30am	65 adults 1 child
Thursday:	10.30am	12 adults
Messy Church:	4.00pm	24 adults and children attending
Easter Sunday:	8.00am	31 adults
	10.30am	120 adults and 13 children
Christmas:	Christingle services – 261 adults and 113 children	
	Midnight Holy Communion – 77 Adults	
	8.00am	24 Adults
	10.30am Family worship	62 adults and 15 children
Baptisms:	5	
Weddings:	7	
Funerals:	10 and burial of ashes or committal	12

In **2025** there were 129 on the Electoral Roll.

Our Mission Statement

The PCC adopted our Vision statement which was prepared by the Building Together Committee following the Awayday at Wydale Hall in October 2022. We continue to work on it.

VISION

What we hope to see
**Building together a community of faith
that reaches out with God's love - in Jesus' name.**

MISSION

How we are making it a reality
Growing together as disciples and enabling others to follow Jesus.

VALUES

How we live to bring the VISION and MISSION to life
Being like Jesus through love that is seen in ...

PRAYER-CREATIVITY-INVITATION-LEARNING-JOY-SERVING

STRATEGY

Taking our PRIORITIES and turning them into ACTIONS
**Building Together...and being seen to be
a church that** is ever more like Jesus
a church that is reaching out to and engaging with the
wider community and the world around us
a church that is growing younger and in numbers
a church that offers the facilities we need,
to be who God is calling us to be today
a church where everyone works well together - in whatever we do

The work of the PCC through the year has focused on bringing the vision to life and the following sections of this report aim to illustrate this.

Worship

St. Laurence's Church is kept open for prayer, reflection and visiting each day through the year. Our 10.30am Sunday services continue to be live streamed via Facebook with this remaining on the Church Facebook page afterwards. This enables us to reach those who are housebound and anyone wanting to access our worship online both locally and from further afield. Use of a projector and screen in place of service sheets and hymn books, helps to enable this provision. A group of singers continued to lead our sung worship at 10.30am led by Chris Wright, our Music Director and Church organist who also invites musicians to form instrumental groups to lead and support our worship at festivals. He is helped by Maurice Martinson who plays the organ at some services.

Through the year festivals and other celebrations give the opportunity to offer worship that connects to them. Mothers' Day posies were made and distributed during the Mothering Sunday service. Afterwards Simnel cake was served with the coffee in the Church Rooms.

During Passion Week there were several services. On Maundy Thursday there was Holy Communion. During the evening there was a Seder meal in the Church Rooms, where we remembered the Passover meal shared by Jesus and his disciples. On Good Friday there were stations of prayer round the church prepared by Celia Hare, and there were activities for children in the church rooms. An hour of reflection and prayer were also offered at 2.00pm. Children helped to create the Easter Garden in the church. On Easter Sunday flowers were placed on a processional cross as people arrived, and it was then carried into church to start the service. After the service the children enjoyed an egg hunt round the churchyard. In all these ways we are striving to increase our involvement with families and younger folk.

Two house groups met during the year in the daytime, led by Marion Wright and Lyn Blyth and a third met in the evening led by Sue Truefitt, Jocelyn Merris, Jackie Walker and Jenny Wray. We have two prayer

meetings in church on Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8.30am led by Rev Marion Wright.

Seeing our vision come to life - Building together a church that is reaching out to and engaging with the wider community and the world around us:

On Mothering Sunday Church members sat at the lychgate and in the church porch after the service and offered posies to people coming to visit their mothers' graves.

The memorial service for all families who have been bereaved in the last 12 months and anyone who wishes to remember their loved ones took place on 2nd November, with refreshments served afterwards at the back of church. This was well attended as usual and was a great comfort to the bereaved. As people left the church they were given small packets of crocus corms to plant in memory of their loved ones.

At Easter and Christmas wreaths were made and placed on the railings outside the church porch. At Remembrance time poppy wreaths decorate the railings. All these remind people who walk through the churchyard of the meaning of the time of year and serve as an opportunity for them to reflect on it.

In Holy Week 'Pause in the Porch' booklets were placed in the porch for people to sit and reflect on the meaning of Easter and to take away with them.

During Scalby Fair Week Helen Hartley, Lyn Blyth and Sue Truefitt organised a Flower Festival in the church which was well supported and much appreciated by all the visitors to the village. Money raised went to Scalby Fair charities. Teas, cream scones and homemade cakes were served in the church rooms, and the money raised given to two local charities, Westway Open Arms and the Rainbow Centre. In this way we are a part of village life and raising awareness of our outreach.

On Remembrance Sunday a service took place as usual and a large congregation followed on to the memorial in the churchyard for an act of remembrance, where a list of the fallen was read and wreaths laid, including one by the town council. Children from the local secondary school, Scalby, read the names of the men on the war memorial. Children from Newby and Scalby primary school visited the church on the Friday of Remembrance weekend to hold an act of remembrance. They were met by Brian Wilson, an ex-army officer and member of the congregation, who told them of the importance of remembering the fallen and showed them medals and explained their significance.

The traditional carol service was held twice on the Sunday before Christmas, and the church was full on both occasions, attracting many new people. The handbell ringers played carols before the service and also went out into the community to play at Scarborough Hall and Combe Hay residential care homes. Both visits were much appreciated by the residents. We held two Christingle services on Christmas Eve which were organised by Hilary Wallace and Celia Hare. They were very well attended and over £570.34 was raised for the Children's Society. The midnight communion and morning worship on Christmas Day were well supported. All these services showed our commitment to reaching out into the community we serve.

The Barnabas Group meets on the first Tuesday of each month and provides support to anybody who has been bereaved, either recently or in the near past. It is a place where they can have a cup of tea, some cake and a friendly chat. The Revd Rosie Coles leads this with help from Sally McIntyre who also organise outings. The numbers attending are growing with around 20 often present, and again it is open to anyone.

Once a month members of the church met for coffee at Webb Ellis Court, a residential support facility for people over 50 with medical or other needs for 'Chat and Chuckle', where we enjoy coffee, cake (provided by one of the residents) and biscuits. Residents come and enjoy meeting and having a chat, whilst Maurice Martinson brings his

keyboard and plays light music. We enjoyed a delightful afternoon of Carols and reading with refreshments on Wednesday 17th December as part of this outreach.

The Church Rooms are used by several parish groups, including Scalby Wives, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, Pilates classes and a Morris Dancing group, plus Friends meetings and church group meetings.

At Christmas we held a pop-up nativity in the Rosette pub with carols. Celia Hare with help from church members all made this possible, and it was much appreciated by the people there.

Seeing our vision come to life - Building together a church that is growing younger and in numbers:

We continue to employ a Children, Families and Youth Worker (CFYW), Celia Hare, who is supported by a team of helpers in various ways. Messy Church has been offered once a month and is open to all while having a particular focus on families. 'Fun and Food' offers teenagers a space for social activities, learning for life and prayer on Sunday evening twice a month. Young people play in Chris Wright's occasional band. Celia and Sarah Readman host Little Steps, a toddler group for parents and tots every Monday morning in term time, and Celia led Toddler Praise with them once a month. Celia has also been renewing links with Newby and Scalby School, our local primary school. There were class visits to the church during the year and we hosted two carol services for the school in church in December. As part of our support for St Peter's Church in Hackness Celia has given time to supporting Hackness CofE Primary School with resources to celebrate festivals and classroom teaching. There is a full report of her work as our Children, Families and Youth Worker in the appendix.

Seeing our vision come to life - Building a church that offers the facilities we need to be who God is calling us to be today:

At the moment we are very fortunate to have the use of the Church Rooms for administration and meetings. However, we are conscious

that things could be improved and are exploring the development of the church and the facilities it offers to improve people's experience of both church and Church Rooms. Looking ahead to 2026 the Building Together committee and PCC, plus any interested parishioners will focus on exploring the possibilities they offer.

Building a church where everyone works well together in whatever we do:

We are very fortunate to have a welcoming, active congregation, and know from remarks made by new members how quickly they feel welcome and valued. We are also fortunate that these 'new' people have willingly volunteered to fill various roles to support our life together at St. Laurence's, and many of the congregation help in many ways to keep the church open and functioning well.

Our Ministry Team – everyone at St. Laurence's has a part to play in the ministry that is at the heart of our life together. Support for this comes from those in recognised ministries and we are grateful to those who serve and lead through these.

Our vicar, the Revd Tony Hand is a warm and friendly presence both in church and round the village, as well as having responsibility for St. Peter's, Hackness with St. Margaret's in Harwood Dale. We are thankful to Bishop David Wilbourne who regularly takes the 8am communion service and posts his sermons to the congregation. The Revd Stephen Walker regularly preaches and takes services, and helps many other churches in the deanery. Kevin Boak (our Licensed Lay Minister) preaches each month and helps in many other ways. Rosie Coles continued to support our worship through the year and was ordained deacon in December and has joined our ministry team as part time self-supporting curate. Rosie also hosts the Barnabas group's monthly meetings and is a volunteer chaplain at Scarborough Hospital. We are always thankful for the Revd Marion Wright, who though nominally retired, helped through the year by; leading services, hosting a house group, assisting with funeral ministry, leading prayers in church on Tuesdays and Thursdays and being a vital

part of the regular Thursday morning meetings which review work done and plan for the weeks ahead. The ministry team was also assisted through the year by the Revd Alan Brown who gave some 1-1 pastoral support and assisted on occasion in leading our worship.

Finance – caring for our financial life together

There is a detailed financial report available but we would like to acknowledge and say thank you to our Treasurer Rana Sharrock for all her very considerable hard work overseeing the finances of St Laurence, and to John Freeman for continuing to support Rana as she settles into her role. Thank you, Rana and John. Thanks also to our Planned Giving Recorder Martin Williamson, Gift Aid Recorder Mike Pixton and to Liz Anderson for management of the Electoral Roll.

Fabric, fixtures and fittings- caring for our Church, the Church Rooms, School House and Churchyard.

The property committee oversees these matters on a daily basis and a full report from them is included in the appendix. The committee is assisted by several volunteers, our administrative team based in the Church office and contractors who work through the year to enable this work to be done as effectively and efficiently as possible. A special thanks goes to Maurice Martinson who oversees the church heating, Alan Grundy who programmes the Church Rooms heating and Sally McIntyre and Colin Grimmett for their work in the churchyard. We have Support from Scarborough College in caring for the Churchyard through their Community Outreach programme. We are fortunate to have Barry White for his help in Glebe Field and the Community Payback Team for their work in the closed churchyard.

Other Groups

The tower and hand bell ringers are led by Alan Grundy, Captain of the Bells. In addition to ringing the bells as a call to worship they ring at weddings and funerals when requested, and the handbell ringers perform as part of the annual carol services. Thanks also to Helen Hartley and Lyn Blyth who arrange the flowers and organise the

displays at Christmas, Easter and Scalby Fair week. Helen also creates the posters to advertise church events, which are then displayed round the parish. Many thanks to them all.

Thankfulness

We are very grateful to the many church members who help in all sorts of ways, from cleaning the church, arranging the flowers, streaming the services, welcoming people as they arrive and providing refreshments after the services. Many thanks to all those who help in any way.

Thank you especially to Sarah Readman for her work in organising the office and to Jo Brown for keeping our safeguarding records up to date, she has been doing this as a volunteer since stepping down from her employed role as administrator earlier in the year. Also, thanks was given to Jacqui Hall as she stepped down from her role as Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO).

Thank you to our Deputy Churchwardens Valerie Aston and Sally McIntyre for their help over the year, their knowledge, kindness and support. And special thanks to Sally for her role in managing the churchyard.

Thank you to our PCC and especially to Sue Truefitt, who as well as being Churchwarden was also PCC secretary up until Andrew White took over the role in September, she also organised pastoral visiting and social events.

Many thanks of course to our vicar, Tony, and to Rachel, his wife for supporting us all, and organising us so well.

Especially thank you to each and every member of our congregation, for being a friendly and welcoming church. So many people remark on how welcome they are made to feel when they attend services, and then many come back!

Sue Truefitt and Liz Anderson (Churchwardens)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST LAURENCE`S SCALBY
FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2025

1. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OUTLINE (Figures are reported in GBP and in thousands)

Before the year started our 2025 budget prediction was 76K deficit. The receipt of two major legacies - although one is still contested, was a very kind generosity. The planned giving donations and gift aid receipts were 102K including 7K received from Friends of St Laurence (2024-88K) is an increase of 15 % increase of the regular donations and gift aid recovery.

Like many charities, our income is very sensitive to legacies receivable and 2025 had been an exceptional year. In addition to this, our front team worked very hard to maintain the level of Church room lettings which generated 9K .(Also 9K in 2024).

As the interest rates continued to be high, we benefited from an additional income of 18K (2024-13K). However, the investment portfolio decreased by 3K (2024 – increased by 8K)

The expenditure was lower than last year by 14K. Below is a condensed summary of main spending for 2025.

	2025	2024
Salaries	59,506	57,484
Freewill Offer	75,000	84,000
Utility Bills	12,896	13,478
Mission Grants	11,000	16,460
Repairs	17,691	12,364
Legal & Prof	5,040	9,537
Sundries	<u>19,356</u>	<u>21028</u>
	<u>200,489</u>	<u>214,351</u>

The property is continued to be valued at 475K as for 2021. They are governed by restrictions on the use of funds realised on their sale. The buildings need major repair works and as the planning application for the windows was approved, in Autumn 2025 work was carried out.

2. RESERVES

The PCC holds restricted and endowment funds of 152K and designated funds of 293K and unrestricted funds of 448K total of 893K excluding property. Each fund balance is listed on page 11, note 9 in the financial statements. In monetary asset terms, the funds were made up of 204K in investments balance of 689K in liquid assets. Both asset and fund categories total to 893K.

PCC 's liquidity reserve, current account balances were 20K which is sufficient to cover the expenses for 3 months.

In conclusion, total worth of our balance sheet is 1,368K, increase by 401K after taking into account the unrealised gain in investments. This is mainly attributed to the two exceptional legacies received.

3. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC members have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers and duties, in terms of operational and safeguarding aspects.

4. HELPING OTHER CAUSES

During the year various functions, funerals, weddings resulted the generous collection amounts and PCC passed on these collections to the designated charities. The amount was similar to 2024 level of 7K.

Mrs Rana Sharrock
Honorary Treasurer
for St. Laurences Church, Scalby
30 March 2026

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST. LAURENCE`S SCALBY YEAR ENDING 31ST
DECEMBER 2025**

<u>Income</u>	2025 £	2024 £	<u>Balances at 31/12/2025</u>		
Voluntary income	554,569	92,393		Restricted	Designated
Total					
Activities for generating funds	11,195	12,977	Fabric Fund	97,763	146,095
Income from investments	29,929	21,855	Fabric Endowments	1,397	0
Church activities	9,298	10,670	Organ Fund	28,517	0
Total Income	604,991	137,895	Churchyard Fund	527	16,000
			Churchyard Endowments	1,593	0
			Choir Fund	490	0
Expenditure	2025 £	2024 £	CFY Worker Fund	0	63,698
Mission Giving & Donations	11,000	16,460	Children's Work Fund	20,404	0
Ministry Expenses	105,033	113,326	Flower Fund	1,014	0
Church Expenses	46,788	41,474	Church Rooms Roof	0	30,132
Church Rooms & House Expenses	14,105	17,700	Charitable Link	0	21,865
Churchyard	11,437	10,003	Additional Ministry Reserve	0	14,888
Church Administration	9,189	13,998			
				<u>151,705</u>	<u>292,677</u>
				444,381	
Fund Raising	1,660	2,894	Unrestricted and Undesignated funds		443,332
Governance	1,278	1,230	Assets		5,020
Total Expenditure	200,489	217,085	Property		<u>475,000</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	404,501	-79,190	Total Funds & Assets		<u>1,367,734</u>
	CFYW	27,885	26,945	Property	475,000
				Fixed Assets	5,020
<i>(2024-Disregarding the above would show a £52245 deficit)</i>				Investments	204,213
				Deposits	670,983
<i>(2025- Disregarding the above would show a £432,386 surplus)</i>				Bank & Cash	20,868
				Debtors & Creditors	-
					<u>8,350</u>
Gains/Losses on Investments	-3,286	8,261			
					<u>1,367,733</u>
DEFICIT AFTER GAINS	401,215	-70,929			
Reduction in property valuation	0	0			
Net Movement In Funds		-70,929			
	401,215				
Fixed Assets Purchased					
Audio System Friends of St Laurence Paid		690			
Copier/Printer	1,740	720			
Epson Projector	650				
	<u>2,390</u>	<u>1,410</u>			

PROPERTY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2025

Committee Members: Maurice Martinson (Chair) Sally McIntyre (Minutes), Jenny Stainthorpe, Revd Tony Hand, Valerie Aston, Brian Watson and Sue Truefitt.

1. Church

A full Quinquennial inspection of the church and churchyard was carried out by Ian Hayton, the Church Architect. This did not bring up any substantial matters of which the committee were unaware. However, it was felt that a tree survey should be carried out and also a survey of the stained-glass windows. The tree survey has been completed and is being acted upon. The stained-glass survey has been agreed. It was suggested that the Bishop's chair near the altar should be moved as its weight may damage the ancient tomb in that corner. Its repositioning is being considered.

Matters which have received attention during the year include:

- (a) Interior redecoration was carried out by JDC Decorators.
- (b) Smart water was applied to the roof by Mark Ryan as this was due for renewal and was also applied to all the communion plate
- (c) Further work has been carried out to the fall pipe to stop water running down the church wall.
- (d) The work to the outside of the church has still not been carried out as the contractors have not been able to attend. In the light of the delay and the fact that some of these repairs appear in the current Quinquennial report, an alternative quote is being considered.
- (e) The boiler and heating system have been serviced by Pickups Heating Engineers
- (f) The organ has been tuned by Woods of York.

(g) PAT testing is up to date as is the servicing of firefighting equipment.

2. Churchyard.

(a) Ken's Gate has been stripped back and repaired and restored to the original oak by Mike Waller.

(b) Bird boxes have been installed as part of the overall aim for St. Laurence's to be an Eco Church

(c) Colin Grimmett has continued his work in the churchyard, cutting grass in the old part, restoring benches and general maintenance and sorting out various issues as the need arises. The Glebe Field has been maintained by John Gilpin who has now handed on his contract as he is suffering from ill health. Sally McIntyre continues to oversee the management of the churchyard and to do a considerable amount of work herself. We have been assisted greatly during the growing season with help from the Community Service team who come once a month, by pupils from Scarborough College who have attended to tidy graves and carry out supervised work and the Friends, who have had sessions tidying up and assisting, all under the direction of Sally McIntyre

(d) A full tree report has been received from Paul Wilson of Advanced Trees and Grounds Ltd. And it is proposed that work in accordance with his recommendations will be carried out during 2026.

(e) The path into the Glebe Field just after the bridge requires attention in areas which hold water. Brian Wilson is very kindly endeavouring to find a contractor to carry out the necessary work but is having some difficulty.

3. Church Rooms.

(a) Boilers. The boiler in the kitchen was replaced at Christmas 2024, but the boiler in the office has been causing problems

throughout the year. A replacement part has been installed by Mick Holt recently and it is hoped that this may resolve the problem. The quality of heating however, is being monitored to see if this can be improved.

(b) Storage Hut. The PCC approved a plan to erect a hut for storage at the back of the Church Rooms to try to free up space within the building. However, this has been postponed in the light of the grand clear out carried out by Sally McIntyre and others.

(c) Interior Decoration. The entrance area has been decorated as has the kitchen. Mark Eyres, the decorator, has treated the walls in the kitchen and a new extractor fan has been installed to try to combat the effects of condensation. The cost of the decoration was met by The Friends of St. Laurence's

(d) Window Replacement. This has been a long drawn out issue going on for several years. However, in early May, with the help of our Councillor, Mr. Derek Bastiman, we had a hearing before the Planning Committee. Our application was opposed by the Planning Officers, but having heard our representations and the views of the councillors present, the committee voted to approve the application. The new windows were installed in November. The Friends of St. Laurence very kindly covered the cost. The work was completed by Andy Whitelaw Joiners.

(e) All PAT testing and testing of gas equipment is up to date as is the servicing of fire equipment.

4. **School House.**

(a) The gate between the yard at the back of the Church Rooms and School House has been replaced by Mark Rayner.

(b) The boiler failed and was replaced by Mick Holt.

(c) The gas certificate is up to date.

My thanks as ever to fellow members of the Property Committee who have worked tirelessly through another busy year. Particular thanks are due to Sally McIntyre who undertakes a considerable amount of work in the churchyard herself and who oversees its management.

Thanks also to the Friends of St. Laurence's who raise funds throughout the year and use these to meet some of our expenditure.

Maurice Martinson (Chair)



Epiphany Sunday in the Church

PARISH CHARITIES REPORT 2025

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 by five trustees, one ex-officio, (the Vicar for the time being), three Representative trustees appointed by the local town council, one of whom is usually a parishioner, and one cooptative who is someone living or carrying on business in or near Scalby. Linda Thompson is the clerk to the trustees and her duties include administering any monies paid out, keeping the accounts and the minutes. The objects of the charity are now out of date and new objects have been drafted. It is hoped that these can be approved shortly by the trustees and submitted to the Charity Commissioners for approval so that monies can be paid out to appropriate recipients.

The historic charities (John James, Sarah Knowsley Bread Charity, Kate Hargrave Long, SNB Coal Charity and the Harold and Lillian Needham Trust) have been dormant for several years. Again, the objects for all of them are out of date and therefore difficult to administer. The income for each of them is small. Work has been going on for sometime to combine the charities and revive them. During the year the objects of all of these charities were changed to bring them in line with each other with a view to combining them. This would then mean that the funds were also combined and with up to date objects these could be used to support appropriate cases. The Charity Commissioners have confirmed their agreement to the changes in the objects in principle but required the new objects to be expanded. This is now in hand and it is hoped that progress will continue. At the same

time steps are being taken to re-open banks accounts for all the charities, Barclays Bank having decided to close them!

Andrew White has been working with Linda Thompson on this.

There are two further charities:

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.

Again, this is currently difficult to administer and it is hoped in due course to amend the objects to allow for funds to be used for children’s work generally in the two parishes.

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.

Linda Thompson who administered all the charities during 2025, is in the process of bringing Andrew White, the PCC secretary, into the Charity Commission site as a full administrator so that he can take on that role on behalf of the PCC. She will remain as clerk to the Christopher Keld Charity.



Spring in the Churchyard

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2025

St. Laurence's currently has three Deanery Synod Representatives, Joan Fennell, Sue Truefitt and Lin Blyth, which is its full quota. Synod has met three times during the year in March, June and October. Living Christ's Story has continued to be the overarching theme of the work of Synod. The Leadership Team have acted on the responses to the questionnaires sent out the previous years and during the year have endeavoured to ensure that training has been available on a Deanery basis and that relevant issues have been covered at each meeting.

At every meeting there is a general agenda which includes a financial update, news from around the parishes, news of training events and any specific business items.

The February meeting was held at St. Martin's School. There was an opportunity for prayer using prayer stations located in the various classrooms. The head of the school, Mrs. Barber, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Synod for the donation which had been made from contributions from the individual parishes. This money had financed various projects and in particular the Archbishop's award scheme. She introduced Mrs. Karen Mann who took the meeting through the scheme for the previous year which involved year 5. Through various projects the children were learning to engage safely with the public.

In July the Revd Canon Dr. Ian McIntosh gave a presentation on Living Christ's Story highlighting the significant developments in the Scarborough Deanery. The new Deanery Administrator, Angela Cammish, was introduced to the meeting. The Echo Conference to be held at St. Mark's in September was promoted and members were encouraged to attend.

This was the last meeting for the Chairman, the Revd Canon Sam Taylor, who was taking up a new role as Diocesan Advisor for Vocations and Director of Ordinands. The lay vice chairman, Canon Ros Brewer, spoke on behalf of all synod members, outlining Sam's outstanding work and achievements since arriving in Scarborough in 2008. Sam was presented with a card and bouquet of flowers.

In September Synod met at Dulverton Hall. Sammi Tooze was the guest speaker her subject being "On Growing a Culture of Everyday Faith". Sammi encouraged discussion and incorporated the resulting ideas in her presentation. The Safeguarding training taking place at St. Laurence's was highlighted as being an opportunity for Synod members to complete required training in person.

2026 is an election year. St. Laurence's is able to send three representatives who will also sit on the PCC. It is an interesting and enjoyable undertaking. It certainly broadens our perspective and gives an opportunity to meet members of other churches. I would recommend it to others who may be interested in standing for election. Sue Truefitt.



Easter in the Church

PART B

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

I am pleased to say that during 2025 there were no safeguarding incidents to report, any concerns brought forward were sensitively addressed.

Our Parish Safeguarding Administrator Jo Brown felt that due to family and other commitments it was time for her to step down from her role as Parish Administrator. Her employment ended on 31st May 2025 but she kindly agreed to continue in a voluntary capacity as PSA until another Administrator could be found. Katherine Green successfully applied for the position in the autumn and Jo has been working closely with Katherine through her induction and training period.

In August, due to family commitments, our Parish Safeguarding Officer Jacqui Hall stepped down as PSO but kindly offered to be involved with plans for Safeguarding Sunday which was 16th November 2025. Sue Truefitt kindly assisted Jacqui and liaised with Jenny Price, Diocese of York Safeguarding Trainer and Volunteer Coordinator to arrange a very successful safeguarding training day on 31st October 2025 here at St. Laurence's. The majority of our PCC members and volunteers needing to renew or complete their training were able to attend.

Both Jo and Jacqui were thanked for their commitment, contributions and support during their time in their positions.

Sue Truefitt and I continued to act as temporary PSO's until the role is filled.

Liz Anderson

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE REPORT 2025

(Umbrella Committee for Good Neighbour,
Barnabas and Pastoral Visiting)

The aims are to:

Ensure there is a structure in place to offer pastoral care and social contact for every church member and the wider community. Put training in place each year to support and inform the work of pastoral visitors and the Barnabas Group. Maintain a system of regular subcommittee meetings and reporting to the Pastoral Care Committee, to give accountability for the work being done.

The Pastoral Visiting Team Report 2025

The Pastoral Visiting Team has 11 members at present. The visitors aim to bring the love of Christ into a person's life at what may be a very difficult or vulnerable time and to help them know that the Church is there for them and cares for them.

All those on the visiting list are visited regularly by visitors who keep in touch with them and offer prayer and home communion if this is appropriate. These are people who are unable to come to church for whatever reason, but who wish to keep in touch with the church family. The list is updated regularly and any information about anyone who would like a visitor is always welcome.

The team usually meets twice a year to share any issues and review what is being done. In 2025 we met once in October. The new Electoral Roll had been prepared in March and we had hoped to use this to make progress with the planned expansion of the scheme so that we were able to be in touch by a phone call or, if appropriate, a visit with everyone on the roll. However, to do this we need to make sure that they have given consent to be contacted in this way through signing the GDPR form. As there has been a vacancy on the administration side

for most of the year, it has been difficult to access the church information system to give us this confirmation. It is still hoped to achieve this level of contact. It was confirmed during the year that all visitors needed basic safeguarding training and those for whom this was an outstanding issue were able to take part in the training sessions which took place in the Church Rooms at the end of October. We are hoping to repeat the Grave Talk (although perhaps finding a more enticing title) coffee morning sometime in 2026.

Sue Truefitt

Barnabas Group Report

The Barnabas Group is a bereavement support group and part of the pastoral outreach offered by St. Laurence's to the local community. It meets in the school rooms on the first Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm, led by Rosie Coles and Sally McIntyre. Mavis Wild, a previous leader, supports the group with her listening skills. Revd Tony Hand is present at most meetings.

There are about 20 regular attenders, and several newcomers each year. People learn about the group through word of mouth, through advertising, and occasionally by referral from statutory services. Anyone is welcome to attend. Our aim is to be a safe space where people feel able to talk comfortably about some of the challenges they are living with. The meetings start with tea and cake, thanks to the faithful work of Janet Exley and delicious baking by Jill Bradley. Occasionally we have a speaker, sometimes a quiz or a game, always with the aim of enabling conversation.

In July we visited the Cayton Stained Glass Centre for tea and cake. After an interesting talk by Dial-a-Ride the previous month, most of us travelled there by a Dial-a-Ride minibus.

The group received a gift from the estate of a previous member. After discussion with the treasurer, vicar and leaders, it was agreed to use

most of it to subsidise the December Christmas dinner at Flavours Bistro at Saint Catherine's hospice, which was an excellent accessible venue and served delicious food.

Due to snow and very icy pavements, the venue for the January meeting was changed to the Rosette pub which was very successful.

Rosie Coles

Good Neighbour Group Report

There are three members of this group, Yvette Drabble, Linda Thompson and Sandra Dudley and they met on the 1st April 2025 to arrange for approx. 35 Easter plants to be purchased, with the help of the Lilian Needham Trust, and delivered to the sick, housebound and bereaved on Palm Sunday 13th April.

They met again on the 29th of September to arrange for approximately 30 harvest gifts to be taken out on October 5th. The larger Harvest arrangements were taken to the Rambla Nursing Home, Orchard House and Danes Dyke Community Centre. The produce from the Harvest Festival was shared between The Rainbow Centre and Westway Open Arms. On each occasion the members of the congregation assisted with the deliveries.

Yvette Drabble

Linda Thompson

Sandra Dudley

CHILDREN, FAMILY AND YOUTH WORKER REPORT

January – December 2025

Little Steps takes place weekly in term time. Numbers varied over the year. We have an almost entirely new cohort of parents, some of whom are only with us for a few months while they are on maternity leave. It was a struggle to maintain **Toddler Praise** because few of the families have any experience of church although we have had a few enquiries about baptism.

Messy Church has continued to meet monthly. Numbers have settled at about 30-35. We had a Mini Messy Easter on Good Friday. We met in the morning rather than the afternoon and finished at 12pm with hot cross buns and drinks. We also had a Messy Picnic in August. This was a low-key Messy Church; we met at the usual time but families brought a picnic and we had some craft activities and games. It was an opportunity to meet with any of the families that were in Scarborough that week. People no longer have to book places but are asked to let us know if they are planning to come; this helps with planning for catering and the activities that we do. Some families book and some just turn up on the day. While the system makes it more accessible for the families it does make it difficult for those doing the catering. Some months it has been hard to gather a team.

In Holy Week I set up **Journey to the Cross** in church. This was a series of stations around church to help people of all ages explore the Easter story.

Celebrate! Services have continued on the first Sunday of the month. They are planned, prepared and led by a team. The Celebrate! services are designed to be more informal than some of the other services and accessible to anyone who comes.

Fun with Faith continues to meet on the first Saturday of the month at 4pm. It is a very informal gathering involving tea, coffee and cakes. It is for people of all ages and is attended by families and adults who

come alone. It is an opportunity to explore different Bible stories, what they tell us about God and what our response could be.

Baptisms normally take place on the first Sunday of the month at 12.30 with a limited number during the Celebrate! service. The change of time from 3pm to 12.30pm appears to have gone smoothly. There were five baptisms in 2025. We invite families who want their children baptised to come to a Sunday service or Fun with Faith before the baptism. We meet with the family to help them think about what baptism is.

Newby and Scalby Primary School have had several visits to St Laurence's. Year 6 classes visited in November to mark Remembrance. The school held two carol services at St Laurence's. The CFY Worker was involved in several events in Newby School throughout the year. I was invited into school to do various seasonal assemblies and work with different year groups exploring various aspects of the RE curriculum in the classroom.

The CFY Worker has spent some time supporting **Hackness School**. Previously we had given every child at the school an activity bag at Easter and Christmas but at Easter we were able to put the bags together as part of their Easter Experience.

Fun and Food, a group for those in Year 6 and above at school, continues to meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month in term time from 5.00 – 6.30pm. It is a small group but has a committed core.

We continue to develop our relationship with **Rainbows, Brownies and Guides** and their families. The CFY worker spends an evening with all three groups once a month. Some of the children and young people who go to Rainbows, Brownies and Guides come to other activities at St Laurence's, and this has strengthened the relationship with some of these families.

The NSGM started a Youth Drop-In based at St Luke's on Thursday afternoons in term time and I am part of the team for that.

Scalby School were able to be involved in the Remembrance Service at St Laurence's and provided 2 students to read the names on the War Memorial.

At Easter, during the summer holidays and at Christmas we were able to put a basket of craft activities and puzzle sheets, some seasonal and some secular, in **The Rosette Pub**.

At **Christmas** we arranged for Mary and Joseph to travel round the parish in Advent; all went well. They stayed with people of all ages. We had one pop-up nativity at Rosette. We had two Christingle services on Christmas Eve and a family celebration on Christmas Day. All of the different events were well-attended.

I led the **GROW** course. GROW was a new initiative organised by Sammi Tooze (the Discipleship and Strategy Adviser) and Angela Brymer (the Diocesan Youth and Children's Adviser) for young people between the ages of 11-16. It is designed to help young people grow in faith as they explore the themes of the Rhythm of Life and to equip them to be more actively involved in mission and ministry in supporting younger people on their faith journeys. The group met once a month and had a weekend residential in April. The group in Scarborough deanery will be meeting at Holy Nativity in Eastfield.

Many of the activities described above are only possible because of the support of other people. Their support, hard work and commitment to the children, young people and their families was demonstrated by their willingness to give up time to pray for all that happened, to plan the activities, to prepare craft and do an immense amount of cutting out! Thank you.

On a personal note, I was given some compassionate leave following the death of my husband in May. I was very grateful that I could return to work in a gentle way and was given time and space to grieve. The

last 12 months haven't always been easy but I have been humbled by the care, kindness and support that I have received and am thankful for your prayers. Thank you.

Celia Hare



Easter in the Church

MISSION REPORT
April 2025 to April 2026

The committee members are Valerie Aston, Julia Bean, Lin Blyth, Jill Bradley, Yvette Drabble, Christine Grimmett, Rev Tony Hand, Chris Wright and Hilary Wallace.

The Church continues to provide ongoing support to several charitable organisations. These include the **Bible Society**, **Children in Distress**, and the **Children's Society**. Each of these charities is regularly assisted through the church's fundraising and awareness initiatives. In addition, the church is committed to supporting **Church Army**, **Church Missionary Society**, **Sidewalk**, and **Westway Open Arms**. Further to these annual grants, the congregation also supports **Stepping Stones Ministries Charity** as part of its mission outreach.

While **Christian Aid** and the **Rainbow Centre** do not receive annual mission grants, St. Laurence's maintains regular support for these organisations in other ways. The church is actively involved in assisting these causes.

The church employs a variety of communication channels to ensure that information regarding its charitable work and partnerships is accessible to the congregation and wider community. The official Facebook page and church website serve as key platforms. Noticeboard displays within the church premises highlight current activities and events related to the charities supported. Regular articles in Connect, alongside updates featured in the Church News sheet and sent out by email, further contribute to raising awareness.

Church Mission Society (Julia Bean)

Julia continues to keep in contact with Azaria and David, sharing their blog posts and newsletters with the congregation. Additionally, in

February 2026, Marion Wright gave a short presentation during the 10:30 am Service. This presentation focused on the Church Mission Society (CMS) and highlighted the specific contributions and challenges faced by Azaria and David in their work. Through these efforts, the congregation remains engaged and updated on the impact of their support for CMS and the mission in Guatemala.

Azaria and David visited the UK and spent a weekend with the congregation at the end of May 2025. The visit was hosted by Rev Alan Brown and members of the congregation provided entertainment and hospitality. During the 10:30 Sunday Service, Azaria and David spoke about their lives and mission work in Guatemala, offering valuable insights into their efforts and challenges.

Following their return, we received a request that supporting churches consider increasing their financial contributions by 10%. Responding to this appeal, the church organised a coffee morning which successfully raised £503.50. These funds have since been forwarded to CMS to assist Azaria and David in their ongoing mission. Additionally, the congregation was encouraged to consider individual sponsorship as a further means of support.

Azaria and David have recently shared the joyful news of expecting a daughter.

The Percentages

CMS	20%
Bible Society	15%
Church Army	13%
Children in Distress	13%
Children's Society	13%
Sidewalk	13%
Westway Open Arms	<u>13%</u>
	100%

Bible Society (Christine Grimmett)

An article giving updates about the work of the Bible Society was featured in the Parish Magazine this year and further information was displayed on the new Missions board in the church rooms. James Markham from the Bible Society was due to speak on Bible Sunday 2025 (Sunday 7th September) but unfortunately was unable to attend due to family illness.

Christine gave a short talk, focusing on the work and changing role of the Bible Society. She highlighted the growing hunger for God in British prisons and the success of Bible Society modules used by prison chaplains, and the expansion of Open the Book overseas, which is proving very popular.

Children's Society (Hilary Wallace)

The charity's primary fundraising activity centres around the Christingle Service, which takes place each year at Christmas. A dedicated team of fifteen volunteers devoted a morning to preparing three hundred Christingles in anticipation of the two Christmas Eve services. These services were well attended.

Thanks must be extended to Val Aston for sourcing the oranges, and to Anne and Patrick Stewart for donating the sweets. Their contributions were instrumental to the success of the event. This year's donations amounted to £570.34

The Children's Society now supplies Christingle envelopes, which were distributed at all services during the weeks leading up to Christmas. This initiative enabled individuals who could not attend the Christingle Services to contribute to the charity's work. The approach proved very successful, though it should be noted that the envelopes did not facilitate gift aid for donations.

Children in Distress (Yvette Drabble)

Yvette met with Tracey, the Area representative from Children in Distress (CiD), to deliver the congregation's contribution to their 'Love in a Box' appeal. A total of 26 shoeboxes were handed over, alongside a cheque donation of £25. In addition, monetary donations amounting to £157.50 were received, enabling the purchase of gifts online to further support the charity's work.

The shoeboxes, filled with essential items and gifts, are intended to bring comfort and joy to children in need. Notably, some of these shoeboxes will be distributed to Ukrainian refugees, providing them with much-needed aid and a sense of hope during challenging times.

Westway Open Arms

The church continues to support the work of Westway Open Arms through the provision of an annual grant. In addition to this ongoing financial commitment, the congregation contributed harvest gifts, which were gratefully received by Westway. Individuals from the church also respond to specific appeals raised by Westway throughout the year, offering support as needs arise.

Several members of the congregation volunteer regularly at Westway, contributing their time and effort to the charity's activities and outreach.

Church Army

Following Andy Milnes address to the congregation during the NSGM service in 2024, the church has committed to supporting his ongoing work in Bradford. This support is provided through an annual grant, which enables Andy to continue his mission and outreach activities in the area.

Sidewalk (Val Aston)

We continue to support their work with an annual grant.

Stepping Stones Ministry (Lin Blyth)

St. Laurence's Church maintains its ongoing commitment to supporting Sabitri, who is now 16 years old, and Surja, approximately 10 or 11 years old. Lin continues to correspond regularly with both children. She sends cards and letters at key times throughout the year, including Easter, Christmas, and their birthdays. In the autumn, both children enjoyed celebrating their birthdays alongside Richard Pashby and other members of the Stepping Stones community, making the occasion particularly special for them.

Sabitri has recently completed her end of year exams, along with six others. She will now go on to study two years in higher secondary education.

Stepping Stones Ministries were involved in outreach to surrounding villages over Christmas and also in building new wells for local people. Pastor Sanjoy and his wife Joy are planning to visit Scarborough in May and perhaps we might have an opportunity to learn more from them about the work in India.

Christian Aid (Chris Wright)

The story for Christian Aid week in May 2025 featured a Guatemalan farmer, Aurelia. She lives as part of the indigenous Q'eqchi' community in the Alta Verapaz region. Heatwaves, storms and unpredictable seasons are ravaging farms.

With funding from Christian Aid's partner Congcoop, communities can return to indigenous farming practices and adopt approaches that conserve their land, culture and livelihood. Aurelia was seen in a leadership role in the campaign video, heading up initiatives in her community, including producing chocolate, establishing a farmers' market, and fighting for women's rights.

Our response:

Over the course of roughly a month over £4500 was raised in our parish for the Christian Aid Week appeal. We combined strongly with our Methodist friends for both the Service in church (when we heard an excellent presentation by Keith Jones from Shipley) and the June Coffee morning/plants sale which raised over £1000 in two hours.

The other ingredients were Joan Fennell's breakfast and Yvonne and Brian Wilson's midweek coffee event (together, nearly another £1000) and strong support for Jill Bradley's sponsored walking (£725) – plus a significant cash collection at Proudfoot (£400). Lastly of course, the envelopes and donations, brought back over several Sundays which totalled just over £1500. Thanks to all for supporting such an excellent 2025 CAWeek.

Other Campaigns

Christian Aid has worked continuously to support those living in areas of conflict. Their Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal, Middle East Appeal and Sudan Crisis Appeal providing invaluable help to alleviate suffering. At the close of 2025 the PCC was able to release £1000 of funding for the last two of these and the Emergency Fund. Following the carol services in December, collections in excess of £600 were sent to the Christmas Appeal (titled No crib for a bed) helping families who are having to leave their homes due to conflict.

Across all their operations in 2025 Christian Aid funded 463 projects, working with 289 partners, and reaching directly over 4 million people. It is a challenging landscape, but voluntary funding is the core, and two thirds of Christian Aid's income is from that area.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT FOR APCM, APRIL 2026

1. CONNECT – THE MAGAZINE FOR ST. LAURENCE’S, SCALBY, ST. PETER’S, HACKNESS AND ST. MARGARET’S, HARWOOD DALE

The magazine is delivered to 170 parishioners and a further 5 have it delivered to their residential home by post. Many of these parishioners are elderly and are either unable to get to church or have never been regular members. The feedback is often how much they value the magazine. Complimentary copies are given to the Methodist Church, the Plough and the Nags Head whilst the Church, Library and Village Store have copies for sale. St. Peter's, Hackness receives 28 magazines per issue, and 6 copies go to St. Luke's Church. The cost of the magazine for 2025 has remained at £1 per issue with the balance of costs being covered by the income from advertisers. It is still printed by Basics Plus.

We continue to be grateful to all our contributors; regular and occasional. Anyone is invited to submit an article for publication. Because the deadline for these is always the first Sunday in the month preceding the two months for which it relates it does require a lot of planning and thinking ahead.

Thanks are due to the 12 members of the congregation who faithfully deliver the magazine each issue, and especially to Helen Hartley and Hilary Wallace. Helen fits all the information sent to her into Publisher and sends the finished magazine to be printed whilst Hilary manages the magazine’s advertisers, distribution and finances.

2. NOTICE BOARDS AND POSTERS

Once again Hilary Wallace has created some attractive and informative displays on the work of our church in the porch and Lych gate. Helen Hartley’s posters have been extremely eye-catching and helpful and her forward thinking continues to keep the team on its toes!

3. NOTICE SHEETS AND EMAILED NEWS

Sarah produces informative notice sheets each Sunday which she emails to anyone who requests it. I also email Church Family News from time to time to a list of subscribers created during lockdown. If you know of anyone who would like to join this list please let me know.

4. FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

We continue to stream the 10.30am Sunday service live on Facebook and it is watched by members of our church family who can't be with us for a variety of reasons.

Between 21 February 2025 and 21 February 2026 the page received 110,058 views. Of these 786 views lasted more than 1 minute, which was 126% higher than for the previous 12 months. 69% of these views were for a post with a single photo whilst 11.4% watched a recording. 65.4% of views came from regular followers of the page. There were a total of 1,861 reactions, i.e. people who indicated that they 'liked' the post, etc; 193 comments and 241 shared the post.

The post that received the most reaction over the last year was that informing readers that our Organist/Director of Music, Chris Wright, would be retiring. The second most viewed post was the advert for an Assistant Support Worker at Westway Open Arms followed by news of Revd Rosie Coles' ordination as Deacon.

The page has 857 regular followers, up 54 from last year.

The website is operated by John Freeman and is a vital tool for sharing documents that give a lot of information, as well as being accessible to people who don't 'do' Facebook.

Our church's entry on 'A Church Near You' gives enquirers using this national website clear information about our regular services, opening times, etc.

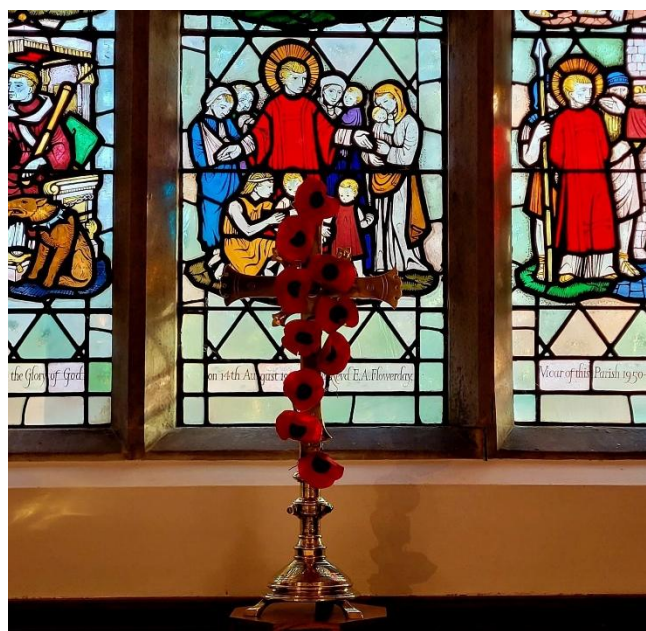
5. CHRISTMAS SERVICES LEAFLET

Once again a leaflet detailing Christmas services for our 3 churches plus Scalby Methodist Church was delivered in the run-up to Christmas. Almost 3,200 leaflets were delivered by 65 people over 53 rounds. Organising this important part of our community outreach is a mammoth task for Helen Hartley and her team of deliverers at a busy time of year so many thanks to all.

6. OTHER METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

The church guidebook, updated in November 2023, is available at the back of church for £2, along with a free guide to the location of the 5 CWGC graves in the churchyard. A guide on the windows and memorials in the church is still in the planning stage. Our visitors' book reveals how many visit because of important life events that took place at St Laurence's in past years. Many remark on the peace and beauty of our church. Last, but definitely not least, Sarah in the office receives many enquiries which she answers with her customary good humour, grace and expertise.

Lesley Newton



Remembrance in the Church

ST. LAURENCE'S SCALBY
SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2025

Social Committee members are Sue Truefitt, Val Aston, Jenny Wray, Helen Arnold, Joan Fennell, Carol Brewer, Liz Anderson, Claire Dodd-Storey, Linda Thompson (Treasurer) Jackie Walker and Hilary Wallace.

We are a team, and everyone is involved in the planning of each event and in the work to put the plans into effect.

The terms of reference are: "To foster friendship and communication within the church and the wider community through:

1. Facilitating the social aspect of church events such as carol services
2. Organising social events for church members and members of the community during the year

The committee aims to charge enough for tickets to cover the cost of events but not to make a profit. However, sometimes we find we do accumulate funds and this year we were able to make a donation of £300 each to The Rainbow Centre and to Westway Open Arms in addition to subsidising some of the events.

Kirsten Mac had been on the committee but resigned due to pressure of other commitments. She had served on the committee for some years and thanks for her contribution were expressed to her.

The first event of 2025 was the Seder Meal on Maundy Thursday which was well attended and much appreciated. Thanks are due to Chris Wright for the provision of music and to Marion Wright and Rosie Coles for leading the event on the night. The cost of the event was slightly subsidised by profit from previous occasions.

The annual BBQ was held on the 13th July. The venue was Liz Anderson's garden at Seymour Cottage, Hay Lane and this time the weather held and we were able to go ahead as planned. The event

was very well attended and although everyone is welcome it would help with catering if people could buy their tickets in advance. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful surroundings and appreciated just how much work Liz had undertaken in preparing the garden.

Harvest 2025 was on the 5th October and after the success of the previous year it was decided to repeat the format and celebrate with a harvest lunch in the Church Rooms. Again, this was very well attended

On the 30th November refreshments were provided prior to the NSGM Advent service which took place at St. Laurence's.

We had further cause for celebration on the 14th December when Rosie Coles became a Deacon and after the service at Emmanuel Church in Bridlington she returned to St. Laurence's for a warm welcome as our new curate. We had a tea party in the Church Rooms

This year it was decided by the committee to take a break from the Wassail which involves a lot of work from everyone at a very busy time of year. The committee appreciates that this was a good outreach event for the church and hope to include this or something similar in subsequent years.

During the year Scalby Tours (Linda, Val and Helen) had organised two expeditions, one to the Great Yorkshire Show and the other in November to Harewood House. These involve a lot of preparation and organisation but are very popular and very well supported. This is borne out by the speed at which the booking list fills up.

The year ended with the provision of mulled wine and mince pies for the two carol services on the 22nd December.

The committee is always happy to welcome new members and are very grateful when non committee members step in to help with events. Extra help is always welcome.

At the final committee meeting of the year Sue announced her retirement from the committee and Liz very kindly agreed to take up the reins as chair. Sue expressed her great appreciation of the work of the team that is the social committee and for all the support they had given to the many and varied events over the years. This will not change. The social life of St. Laurence's will continue to thrive with the support and ideas of the committee and the involvement and enjoyment of everyone who attends the events.



Mary and Joseph out and about in the community during Advent



The Church on St Lawrence's Day