



2024

Annual Report

St Andrew's Finghall

For the Period January to December 2023

Aims and purposes.

St Andrew's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, the Reverend Robin David Christopher Lawton, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St Andrew's Church, Finghall.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and particularly the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of St Andrew's, Finghall.

Achievements and performance

Worship and prayer.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and the benefice, to which St Andrew's Church, Finghall belongs.

The PCC is proud of our history and heritage and hold Sunday services along with midweek services to commemorate historic dates and Saints days. These, along with our mid-week and Holy Communion services provided at Crakehall for the whole Benefice, offer a comprehensive choice of worship. As part of the Benefice of Lower Wensleydale other services are available across the other five parish churches in the benefice, including Simply Together, Just Together, and T.O.A.S.T. Café Church. Services with the offer of prayer for healing, patronal services, services to mark the agricultural year, along with services such as Vigils and Compline at specific occasions during the church year.

In March, the Finghall Christian House Group met at Rose Cottage, led by Rev'd Chris Lawton. In April, it met at Oak Lea, led by Rev'd Gareth Baron.

Teddy Reynard baptism- April 16th

Wallis/Blackburn wedding - May 27th

The Archdeacon's Visitation was held on 1st June at St Gregory's, Bedale.

Funeral of Len Carlisle 2nd June

A special United Lammas Holy Communion Service was held at Finghall outside St Andrew's, using the Church About the Dale Trailer - 30th July

Outdoor Service was held at Finghall with the Methodists, again using the Trailer - 6th August

Harvest Festival Service was held in Finghall Methodist Chapel, by kind permission on 24th September

Pet Service outside St Andrew's - 8th October

St Andrew's Patronal Festival at Finghall Methodist Chapel, by kind permission on 30th November

Phone Church due to bad weather 3rd December

Puppet Nativity at St Gregory's, Crakehall - 10th December

Beer and Carols at The Queen's Head, Finghall - 16th December

Puppet Nativity at St Mary's, Hornby - 17th December

Sunday attendance for the year (up to the church being temporarily closed) was between 6 and 12.

The church was full to capacity for the baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Our thanks go out to Sue our Reader, Rev'd Roy and Fr Philip for assisting the Rector in providing a regular pattern of worship.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life; in marriage, public vows are exchanged with God's blessing; through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life that is now complete in this world and commend the person into God's keeping.

Church Fabric Report

The fabric of the church building remains in exceedingly poor condition with the roof failing in the summer and following the advice of the Inspecting Architect public access to the building has been suspended. As noted in the Quinquennial Inspection water ingress through the failed Chancel roof is now causing ongoing and serious damage.

A full list of activities has been recorded by our Churchwarden for which we are very grateful.

In March 2023, 1,000 litres of oil was delivered to St Andrews.

The track to the church was graded and improved to reduce potholes.

In April, new lightbulbs were fitted & Lightning Protection work was completed.

A Book of Remembrance was bought.

The church opened every Thursday from 2pm till 4pm for visitors/hospitality from April till June.

The APCM was held on May 17th in church.

The organ tuner/repairer came to service the organ.

On 19th June there was a significant fall of plaster from the North Nave Roof.

On 21st June the rubble was cleared away.

On 22nd June, the church was temporarily closed (safety concerns.)

Remains closed to date. Services were moved to St Oswald's Hauxwell.

On 29th June the Architect visited with Angus Maude to assess the situation.

A quote of £12,000 was obtained from Pinnacle Contractors in July to remove all plaster from the roof.

The Rector and Charles Wyvill were to approach another firm for a second quote. The Rector was to liaise with the Archdeacon.

Charles Wyvill was to look into whether St Andrew's could be listed as an "at risk" building with English Heritage.

It was agreed that an Emergency Faculty would need to be applied for.

On 5th July a meeting was held to inform others in the Benefice.

In August, routine maintenance, including mowing and strimming of the churchyard was carried out.

On 31st August a meeting with the Rector, Daniel Ranson (roofer) and Marjorie Blake took place to discuss the situation regarding the roof.

In September, gutters were cleared and mowing and strimming continued.

On 17th September a works proposal was received from Ranson Roofing.

On 22nd September a response was requested from Ranson Roofing.

On 23rd September Finghall Methodist Chapel was cleaned prior to a Service.

On 26th September a petrol strimmer was bought and PPE was donated.

In September, part of the churchyard wall collapsed. Insurance claim -refused.

On 5th October the Churchwarden met with Stuart Clark (Akebar) to discuss plan for rebuilding the wall.

Churchwarden sent email to Stuart Clark on 9th October including the Architect's specifications for the proposed work.

On 15th October a quote for repairing the wall was received from Daniel Ranson (£1,998 +VAT)

On 28th October a working party cleared the churchyard, wearing PPE.

November 16th – Deadline for grant work to commence passed.

Copy of architect's invoice sent to Janet Edmond (Diocese of Leeds)

The Rector to follow up regarding faculty and architect.

Mission and evangelism

Along with the other parishes in our benefice we have been able to reach out to our community on several occasions throughout the year at events such as.

- Village Fetes
- The Wensleydale Agricultural Show
- Hunton Steam Gathering

At St Andrew's we had an involvement in:

May 29th, "Church About The Dale" was represented at Finghall Barrel Push.

9th / 10th September, Church About The Dale was represented at Hunton Steam Fair with a Service on 10th.

25th September food donations were taken to St Gregory's, Bedale.

Rev'd Chris continued his role as a chaplain to the agricultural community through his membership of the 'Agricultural Chaplains Association' and 'Yorkshire Churches Rural Business Support'. Principally this is through the Mart at Leyburn but also includes visits to individual farms and businesses as well as advocacy on farming issues.

Rev'd Chris also sits as a board member on several local charities and supports the Deanery and Diocese in active membership of the Area Mission and Pastoral Committee and the Leeds Board of Patronage.

Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues to report.

The PCC has made good progress on DBS and Safeguarding Training.

Financial review

Our annual accounts have been prepared using the Receipts and Payments method.

This report illustrates our financial position at our year-end 31st December 2023

Total receipts	£ 8,414
Total payments	£ 9,427
Our total financial assets at the end of the year were	£45,336
Comprising	
Barclays Current Account	£ 3,654
Skipton	£41,682

Receipts

Although these figures appear to be relatively healthy, with only a shortfall of they continue to give cause for concern. Whilst regular service collections have dropped dramatically due to the temporary closure it is a great credit that with only an extremely small congregation they remain almost viable however these are still falling far short of the need of our Parish.

Our thanks go to those who support us financially on a regular basis and having registered with the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) in 2023. We would strongly encourage newcomers to St Andrew's and those living within the Parish to become members of the PGS on a regular basis to support the work of the church. For more information on the PGS, please visit www.parishgiving.org.uk.

Payments

A full list of payments is included at Appendix 1

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies

However, following the fall of plaster this year the PCC is very conscious of the need to continue to build reserves in order to afford the urgent and costly work that is required on the building, particularly the roof.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all volunteers who make our Church the place of peace and rest that it is and in particular Marje and especially to Brian who with a team of other volunteers keep the churchyard so well cared for who do so much to maintain the building and support the worship and mission of the church.

Deanery Synod Report

The Incumbent sits on the Wensley Deanery Synod, there remain two lay vacancies. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

This year has been dominated by discussion of the Barnabas Project. The aim was to allow the subject to be thoroughly discussed with feedback from PCCs, and actions undertaken.

This year has seen the Deanery continue with a full complement of clergy.

Throughout the year the Deanery Synod met four times: -

15th February by Zoom

6th June St Gregory's Church, Bedale

13th September St Matthew's Church, Leyburn

23rd November by Zoom

There have been presentations on:

Introduction to The Barnabas Project

Speaker: Rev'd Jude Smith, Director of Church Revitalization introduced the Barnabas Project - Barnabas: Encouraging Confidence.

Two explanatory power points were shown, and discussion followed.

The Barnabas Project: The Theology of Barnabas

Bob Mathews shared a PowerPoint Slide he had prepared on screen and Rev'd Chris Lawton gave a short Presentation. Members split into groups and discussed ways of sharing ideas with what they already have, new ways of thinking and how to build each other up.

Ideas are to be shared and discussed at PCC meetings and reported back.

The Barnabas Project: The Theology of Barnabas - Feedback from PCCs

Representatives described the many ways PCCs had looked at the Barnabas project, ranging from public exhibitions to uniting parishes and improving governance.

Bob Mathews and Angus Maude outlined some work they had been doing around collective Deanery building maintenance. This is work in progress and there will be further feedback in the future.

Bob Mathews reported on meetings he had been attending about changes to lay ministry training. Once again work in progress.

The Barnabas Project: The Theology of Barnabas

The Deanery Barnabas Away Day was confirmed. Details of the day and expectations were outlined.

Events

The following Deanery events were undertaken: -

Ascension Day Open Air joint service with the Methodists at Jervaulx Abbey.

Members of the Deanery supported the Wensleydale Show with the Church about the Dale stand.

Structure, governance and management.

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's, Finghall the membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent, Churchwarden and members elected by those who are on the electoral roll of the church. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met on in May (APCM), September and October.

There were also gathered PCC meetings for all 6 parishes of the Benefice in February, March, June, September, and November. Each month, there have been Leader's meeting/Conference calls via PhoneChurch or meeting in person at St Gregory's, Crakehall to link PCCs across the Benefice.

Administrative information

St Andrew's Church is part of the Wensley Deanery in the Diocese of Leeds within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Patrick Brompton, DL8 1JN. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2022) and a charity currently exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Ex-Officio Members

The Incumbent

Rev'd R D C Lawton

Churchwarden

Marjorie Blake

Deanery Synod

Nicholas Horn

Elected members

Derek Bradley (Deceased February 2024)

Richard Selwyn Sharpe (from October)

Charles Wyvill

D'Arcy Wyvill

Officer

Paul Carnell (Treasurer, from February 2024)

Electoral Roll

There were 22 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 5 are not resident within the parish.

Trustees Annual Report Approval



Approved by the PCC on 23/05/2024

and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Chris Lawton (PCC chairman)

Appendix 1 Finance

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST ANDREWS FINGHALL PCC

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Charities Act 2011, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of St Andrews Finghall PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023 as set out on pages 5 to 6 from the charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given to us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance/>.

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of the charity, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of the charity, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them, as a body, in this report in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that the charity has kept proper accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the charity. You consider that the charity is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of the charity. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

Walter Dawson & Son

WALTER DAWSON & SON

Chartered Accountants

York House
Market Place
Leyburn
DL8 5AT

22 April 2024

ST ANDREWS FINGHALL PCC
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	£	£	£	£
<u>Donations, Legacies and Grants</u>				
Covenants	345		345	
Collections - Services	3,160		2,413	
Donations	1,084		16,702	
		4,589		19,460
<u>Fund-raising Events</u>				
Roof Appeal	1,500		1,691	
		1,500		1,691
<u>Investment Income</u>				
Skipton Building Society	362		91	
		362		91
<u>Other</u>				
Fees	1,032		2,628	
Grant	-		450	
HMRC Refund - Covenants, Gift Aid	931		1,173	
		1,963		4,251
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		<u>8,414</u>		<u>25,493</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>				
<u>Costs</u>				
Contribution to Rectors Expenses	363		413	
Insurance	1,375		1,276	
Property Expenses	1,993		729	
Churchyard Expenses	374		125	
Parish Share	4,626		4,593	
Diocesan Fee	229		987	
Organist	130		195	
Accountancy Fee	150		138	
Charity Donations	187		250	
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>		<u>9,427</u>		<u>8,706</u>
<u>NET PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</u>				
		(1,013)		16,787
Cash Funds as at 1st January 2023		46,349		29,562
Cash Funds as at 31st December 2023		<u>45,336</u>		<u>46,349</u>

ST ANDREWS FINGHALL PCC
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

CASH FUNDS

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<u>Building Society Accounts</u>		
Skipton Building Society	41,682	41,320
<u>Bank Current Accounts</u>		
Barclays Bank	3,654	5,029
	45,336	46,349

Appendix 2 Rectors Report

2023 was a year filled with opportunities to serve our communities here in Lower Wensleydale as we continue to explore a post-COVID world. The start of the year still saw reluctance for people to join in with services and events, however over the course of the year the situation significantly improved. Whilst not back to pre-Covid levels we are starting to see an uptick in attendance and involvement.

As a benefice, we continue to grow together and for that I am deeply grateful. We saw a larger than normal number of occasional offices this year with 18 baptisms, 6 young people confirmed, 1 wedding blessing, 10 weddings, and 40 funeral ministries. I am very grateful to all who have helped with these important services, especially Marje.

We continued in our effort to achieve full safeguarding training and certification and for that I am thankful to our PCC's and especially Julie. In terms of governance, we are still desperately short of officers and role holders, and this is now a pressing need that must be addressed.

I am once again thankful to all who come together to be the church here in Lower Wensleydale and recognise the immense privilege it is to continue to serve this community.