



Trustees Annual Report
St Mary's Hornby
For the Period January to December 2023

Aims and purposes.

St Mary'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 Mary's Church, Hornby.

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 Mary's.

Achievements and performance

Worship and prayer.

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

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the month and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For example, Prayer and Praise provides a quiet, intimate and reflective environment for worship whilst opportunities are provided for people to engage in different styles of worship through our well attended Just Together family service. 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.

Our principle success has been the introduction of 4 pm 'Just Together' family services on the third Sunday of the month. These are very informal and interactive with a focus on a simple bible message for the children. These have resulted in an increase in the average attendance from one child per service to about 14 (along with their parents). As the pool of children in the parish is only about 20, to get 14 is a major move forward. Thanks to Mrs Pike and Mrs Milverton for their energy and expertise.

Through the year total attendances at worship has increased from 804 to 891 for adults, and from 56 to 126 for young people (under 16) attendances. These statistics also offer an encouragement and our thanks go out to Sue our Reader and 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 sound condition.

There were no major works. However, essential work was undertaken to reline the boiler house chimney, this has significantly reduced the damp atmosphere within the church.

The tower clock and organ received annual services. The fire extinguishers were serviced, and the electrical installation and lightning protection were recertified.

The roof alarm company GBSG Ltd attended to the annual service. However, as in previous years, problems with the connection to the monitoring station persisted and there were numerous callouts to PCC members to reset the system following malfunctions.

Towards the back end of the year water ingress through the nave roof became more apparent and work to remedy this is now booked for January 2024.

There are several outstanding issues which will need attention:

- The collapsed ceiling in the toilet still requires repair.
- The collapsing wall separating the upper and lower grave areas needs repair.
- One stained glass window has moved, allowing the ingress of rainwater.
- All the opening windows need to be serviced to allow circulation of air to prevent further soiling of the interior glass. (See Fabric report for 2021)
- Although cosmetic, the tower clock faces are in a very distressed state.

Proposals are in hand to obtain a faculty to remove a number of pews from the northwest corner of the nave in order to create a social area.

Mission and evangelism

This year the PCC has enthusiastically continued to pursue a policy of expanding the visibility of St Mary's within the local community by engaging as many people as possible in activities focused around the church with the aim of gently encouraging the wider community to actively participate in worship and church events. To achieve this a number of events were organised throughout the year:

- February - the now traditional Snowdrop Walk followed by teas in church.
- March - a very successful Medieval Evening which included a talk by a lecturer from York University and a buffet supper.
- September - a musical evening with a medieval theme with thanks to the Campling Dentons.
- December - a wreath-making event followed in the evening by a Christmas social with drinks and carols.

These events were all very successful and were collectively enjoyed by several hundred people. As well as the missional benefit, these events served to raise much needed funds to help the charitable work of the church.

Monthly coffee mornings – held in the church in the summer months and in people's houses in the winter – have proved very popular attracting between 20 and 40 people (and occasionally up to 60 for community projects).

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

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.

Amazing Grace School in Juba, South Sudan

We were proud and honoured to support a Christian (Episcopalian) Primary School in Juba through a member of the PCC who was working in South Sudan. A total of about £1,500 was raised: about £600 of this went towards building a library and the rest was spent on books which were taken out and donated to the school. This helped to broaden the profile of the church and was well supported by the whole community.

Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues to report.
All members of the PCC held valid DBS checks.

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	£ 19,685
Total payments	£ 21,351
Our total financial assets at the end of the year were	£102,276.
Comprising	
Unity Trust bank current account	£ 12,111
CBF Deposit Funds	£ 6,893
Investment Fund shares	£ 83,272

Receipts

Parish receipts have seen a slight growth on the previous year whereas voluntary receipts have seen a slight downturn. However, fund-raising more than doubled, the biggest successes being the Snowdrop Walk and the Medieval Event which between them brought in £2,756. Our thanks go to all those who contributed their time and efforts to these events.

Our thanks also go to those who support us financially on a regular basis, most of whom are members of the Parish Giving Scheme. In fact, during 2023 the number of donors giving via this system doubled. We would strongly encourage newcomers to St Mary'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

This year the Diocesan Share Request was £12,206 but because of upcoming tower repairs the PCC felt they were unable to make payment in full. They therefore made a contribution of £6,706 representing 55% of the total share requested.

The cost of maintaining the churchyard saw a dramatic increase on the previous year. Prior to 2022 the grounds had been generously maintained without charge, but in 2022 an invoice for £640 was received, payment for which was made in 2023 because it had been received too late to be included in the 2022 accounts, and the charge for 2023 was £1,040.

Reserves policy

The PCC were aware that in early 2024 an invoice would be received for works to the tower of approximately £7,000 and, with limited end-of-year cash funds of £9,000, this would result in them dipping well below the recommended three-month level of unrestricted reserves. The PCC therefore had no option but to sell some CBF Investment Fund Income shares. However, they chose an opportune time to do so because since the beginning of 2023 they had risen in value by £6,200. This meant that despite realising shares to the value of £10,000, total investment assets were only reduced by £4,356.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all volunteers who make our church the lively and vibrant community it is, in particular the churchwarden, Roger Clutterbuck and the PCC.

We offer special thanks to Lara Pike for her work to support the church and PCC.

We are also indebted to everyone who assists when special events are held and those who clean and decorate the church with flowers.

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 Mary's 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 five occasions during the year in January, April, May (APCM), July and October.

Each month, there have been Leader's meeting/Conference calls via PhoneChurch or meeting in person at St Gregory's to link PCCs across the Benefice.

Administrative information

St Mary'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 excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Ex-Officio Members

The Incumbent Revd R D C Lawton

Wardens

- Mr Roger Clutterbuck (from May)
- One seat vacant

Deanery Synod Representative

Both Vacant

Elected Members

- Sally Elizabeth Milverton
- Nigel John Milverton
- Lara Elizabeth Pike PCC Secretary
- Three seats vacant

Officer:

- Mr Paul Carnell Treasurer

Electoral Roll

There were 40 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 12 are not resident within the parish.

Trustees Annual Report Approval



Approved by the PCC on 10/04/2024
and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Chris Lawton (PCC chairman)

Appendix 1

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's, Hornby

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary Receipts:					
Planned giving	1a	3,823	-	3,823	4,714
Collections at Services	1b	2,041	-	2,041	3,176
All other giving/voluntary receipts	1c	2,034	-	2,034	1,000
Gift Aid recovered		2,009	-	2,009	1,649
		<u>9,907</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,907</u>	<u>10,539</u>
Activities for generating funds	1d	3,934	-	3,934	1,941
Investment income		3,486	-	3,486	3,312
Church activities	1e	2,358	-	2,358	2,410
Total receipts		<u>19,685</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,685</u>	<u>18,202</u>
PAYMENTS					
Church activities:					
Parish Share Request		6,706	-	6,706	12,323
Clergy and staffing costs	2a	1,012	-	1,012	1,545
Church running expenses	2b	10,621	-	10,621	6,842
Church Repairs & maintenance	2c	1,543	-	1,543	6,235
Mission giving and donations		877	-	877	542
		<u>20,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,759</u>	<u>27,487</u>
Cost of generating funds		592	-	592	-
Total payments		<u>21,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,351</u>	<u>27,487</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		(1,666)		(1,666)	(9,285)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	0
Exceptional Item - Sale of Shares		10,000	-	10,000	0
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		<u>10,669</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10,670</u>	<u>19,955</u>
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		<u>19,003</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>19,004</u>	<u>10,670</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's, Hornby

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Cash Funds				
HSBC current account	0	-	0	3,987
Unity Trust current account	12,111	-	12,111	0
CBF Deposit Funds				
General Fund	1,307	-	1,307	1,267
G A Lamming Trust	150	-	150	150
Fabric Appeal	0	1	1	1
School House Fund	5,435	-	5,435	5,266
	<u>19,003</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>19,004</u>	<u>10,670</u>
Investment Assets				
2692.83 CBF Investment Fund Shares	60,872	-	60,872	64,690
1561 M & G Charifund Units	22,400	-	22,400	22,939
	<u>83,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,272</u>	<u>87,629</u>
Total financial assets	<u>102,275</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>102,276</u>	<u>98,299</u>

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Realisation of shares & unrealised increase in value	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Restricted					
Church Fabric Fund (Tower)	1	-	-	-	1
Designated					
Pastoral Team Funds	131	-	-	-	131
Benefice Fund	847	-	-	(847)	-
Hornby 'School House' Fund	69,956	(3,649)	-	-	66,307
	<u>70,935</u>	<u>(3,649)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(847)</u>	<u>66,439</u>

The Restricted Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance which can only be spent for that purpose.

The Hornby 'School House' Fund fluctuates in value as a result of the requirement that the fund represents the value of 2,692.83 shares in the CBF Investment Fund plus the balance of CBF School House Deposit Fund.

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments (1)	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Receipts				
1a Planned Giving				
Standing Orders via the Parish Giving Scheme	1,603	-	1,603	3,108
	<u>2,220</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,220</u>	<u>1,606</u>
	<u>3,823</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,823</u>	<u>4,714</u>
1b Collections at Services				
Regular Services	1,573	-	1,573	2,086
Funeral Collections	390	-	390	598
Baptism Collections	-	-	-	279
Wedding Collections	78	-	78	213
	<u>2,041</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,041</u>	<u>3,176</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Parochial Church Council of St. Mary's, Hornby

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments (2)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Receipts				
1c All other giving/voluntary receipts				
Donations	1,321	-	1,321	86
VAT reclaimed via LPOWGS	213	-	213	914
Gift from Bedale PCC (re Share Request)	500	-	500	-
	<u>2,034</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,034</u>	<u>1,000</u>
1d Activities for generating funds				
Garden Safari	-	-	-	1,399
Christmas Activity Day	-	-	-	542
Coffee mornings	47	-	47	-
Some Enchanted Evening	481	-	481	-
Snowdrop Walk	1,131	-	1,131	-
Medieval Event	1,625	-	1,625	-
Wreath making	650	-	650	-
	<u>3,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,934</u>	<u>1,941</u>
1e Church activities				
Fees for weddings	310	-	310	606
Fees for funerals	1,523	-	1,523	1,804
Fees for monuments	525	-	525	-
	<u>2,358</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,358</u>	<u>2,410</u>
Payments				
2a Clergy and staffing costs				
Rector's expenses	532	-	532	1,545
Treasurer's fees	480	-	480	-
	<u>1,012</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,012</u>	<u>1,545</u>
2b Church running expenses				
Electricity	782	-	782	486
Oil	2,325	-	2,325	692
Insurance	3,872	-	3,872	3,772
Upkeep of services	630	-	630	285
Upkeep of churchyard	1,680	-	1,680	150
Bank charges	136	-	136	118
Deanery levy	85	-	85	79
Benefice expenses	390	-	390	330
Stewardship	28	-	28	-
Printing, postage & stationery	24	-	24	99
Accountancy charges	282	-	282	270
Other running costs	388	-	388	561
	<u>10,621</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,621</u>	<u>6,842</u>
2c Church repairs and maintenance				
Organ maintenance	167	-	167	142
Electrical works	173	-	173	-
Boiler service	-	-	-	80
Flag	-	-	-	91
Rentokil	-	-	-	4,405
Clock service	-	-	-	174
Fire equipment inspection	124	-	124	-
Roof alarm costs	752	-	752	1,315
Electrical Installation Condition Report	328	-	328	-
Sundry Items	-	-	-	29
	<u>1,543</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,543</u>	<u>6,235</u>

St Mary's Church, Hornby Parochial Church Council

Independent examiner's report to the members on the unaudited financial statements of St Mary's Church, Hornby for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the regulations) and the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed : _____

Mr G Baragwanath FCA
C & G B Associates
8-10 Millgate
Thirsk
North Yorkshire
YO7 1AA

Date : 31st March 2024

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.

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 roll 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.

Specifically at St Mary's it has become even more apparent that the need to provide friendly social area within the church urgently. We have had several meetings to explore ways to achieve this. We hope to launch the Hospitality Project in 2024.