



Trustees Annual Report 2026

St Gregory's Crakehall

For the Period January to December 2025

Aims and purposes.

St Gregory'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 Gregory's Church, Crakehall.

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 Gregory's, Crakehall.

Achievements and performance

Worship and prayer.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and the benefice, to which St Gregory'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, Morning Prayer 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 Simply 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 our own Simply Together, and Hornby's Just Together, which reach out to families. 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 thanks go out to Myra, Pauline, and Julie, our Lay Worship Leaders, Sue, our Reader, Rev'd Roy, Rev'd Alison, 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

As recommended in our last tree survey, some trees need a crown lift and thinning. Due to the large expense of this, it was decided that we wait until other ongoing expensive works have been finished. The cherry tree is still a continuing issue due to it having died back. We are awaiting List B to remove it.

There is a large loose flagstone by the gate which needs lifting, packing and recementing.

The clock refurbishment has been completed, and it was reinstated in October.

After having the lightning conductor checked, we were informed that the resistance level was not satisfactory. We have received two quotations to make good the lightning conductor, but due to the presence of the scaffolding, the works could not be carried out.

The Ivy is being continued to be cut back on the boundary wall to prevent re-growth, and therefore causing further damage to the wall. A No Parking sign has been fitted to the boundary wall to assist with enabling easier access to a neighbour's driveway.

The flagpole was repaired when the use of a cherry picker was offered.

The churchyard was regularly mowed. We thank Russel Jarvis for volunteering to do this.

Annual safety inspections have been made of the gas heaters and fire extinguishers. Two CO2 fire extinguishers have been replaced with new ones.

Annual maintenance check has been completed on the organ. PAT testing has been done on all relevant electrical appliances.

An emergency exit light has been fitted above the main interior door.

The lighting inside the church needs upgrading; we are awaiting quotations for this.

The wall by the east door and the entrance hall wall are still awaiting painting. The correct type of paint needs to be sourced.

It was advised that we get an asbestos management survey done. This is still outstanding.

We have had a quotation to repair the hole in the wooden floor in front of the lectern, this is not as simple a job as was first thought and is still waiting to be actioned.

Several times throughout the year, 'drain smells' have been noticed at the rear of the church. It is hoped to be rectified when the guttering, downcomers and drains are cleared out.

We are working towards completing the outstanding tasks on the quinquennial report.

8 of the 17 urgent items have been completed related to keeping the church weathertight.

1 further item related to rotten flooring is in hand.

The remaining items are less important and hopefully will be attended to during the rest of this QI period. In 2023, these were budgeted at £8,600.

This will leave several desirable items outstanding,

Gill Bartram
Churchwarden

Mission and evangelism

The parish has a wide range of services and activities that help us to fulfil our mission, including; 2025 was a busy year filled with all our regular services, as well as providing a base for community activities. There were also many school services complementing the church calendar.

- Craft Crew meet in church weekly, on Thursdays, 7 pm (See appendices for further details)
- Youth group meet one a month at the village hall (see appendices for further details)
- Simply Together services have happened monthly – including Harvest, Christmas puppet show, Launch of 'Talents' fundraiser.
- Crakehall CofE Primary School bring a class of children most Wednesday mornings for a collective worship
- Craft Crew Art Day
- Use of Church by Suzy Peate's debt advice company for a team away day
- The foodbank is regularly filled.
- Clyping and Flipping
- Mothering Sunday
- Easter including Good Friday service
- Crakehall CofE Primary School Easter service
- VE Day Commemoration
- Prayers to welcome Simon and Grace back from Liberia
- Craft group's summer meal
- St Gregory's Eve was celebrated in September
- Open air communion at Hunton Steam Gathering with bracelet making activity
- Harvest Festival with Simply Together
- Benefice Harvest that Rocks
- Crakehall CofE Primary School Harvest service
- Christmas included:
- Advent Nativity Trail linked to all 6 churches in the benefice (angel theme)
- Christingle – change of time this year, removing it from Simply Together and having its own service
- Simply Together puppet show
- Lessons and Carols – Many readers were from the wider community
- Blue Christmas service –. Low attendance, however, it is still felt very worthwhile
- Primary School Carol service and a KS1 nativity
- 5 Funerals - 6 baptisms - 1 Wedding

Michelle Saunders
Churchwarden

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 membership of the Leeds Board of Patronage.

Fundraising Events

Big Breakfast x2 supported by Guides

Finklepickers band night with pie and peas

Flocking

Cricket match cake stall

Fashion Show

Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues to report.

The PCC remained at level 2 on the parish Dashboard system used by the Dioceses to assist Parishes in delivering Safeguarding Best Practice. This is partly due to the PCC members needing to update their training and some members requiring a renewed DBS certification.

We are continuing to achieve 'Safer Foundations'. Our safeguarding policies are regularly reviewed and updated at PCC meetings.

Our action plan indicates that;

- Members are strongly requested to complete safeguarding training.
- Several members are to renew their DBS certification.

Nationally, safeguarding within the church has had a high profile this year, partly due to the publication of the Makin report, which has suggested changes within the national church structures for Safeguarding. However, from a parish point of view, we continue to raise the profile of safeguarding and make it everyone's business.

Gilly Bartram
Parish Safeguarding Office

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 2025, with the comparative 2024 figures in brackets:

Total receipts	£ 31,275	(£27,069)
Total payments	£ 33,655	(£20,135)
Our total financial assets at the end of the year were	£ 15,903	(£18,282)
Comprising		
Barclays Current Account	£ 8,735	(£10,465)
Barclays Deposit Account	£ 7,168	(£ 7,817)

Receipts

We are fortunate to have donors giving regularly both by bank standing order and via the Parish Giving Scheme, a scheme designed to support churches in funding their mission and ministry. St Gregory's day-to-day running costs could not be met without those who give regularly, and in 2025 their giving accounted for 40% of the church's total Unrestricted income. We would like to express our thanks to the people who continue to support us in this way.

At £31,275, total receipts were more than £4,000 higher than in 2024. Receipts from fund-raising activities rose fourfold (my thanks go to the hard-working fund-raising team) and a grant of £7,000 was received from Crakehall Educational Trust which was placed in the Building Clock Project Fund.

Payments

The 2025 Parish Share Request was £15,955. By taking the reluctant decision to limit this year's payment to 50%, Unrestricted Funds ended the year at £9,709. To have paid the Request in full would have seen them reduced to only £1,732 which would have been an untenable situation and not in line with the church's Reserves Policy (see below).

At £33,655, total payments were £13,514 or 67% higher than in 2024 but this was mainly attributable to the £11,574 that was spent on the works to the clock.

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. In 2025 this was £5,381. The end-of-year balance of £9,709 meets these aims.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all volunteers who make our Church the lively and vibrant community it is, in particular, the Churchwardens, Michelle Saunders and Gill Bartram, along with all the members of the Church Council.

Although Myra Shield is no longer a Churchwarden, she still works tirelessly for the church along with a regular team of volunteer organisers and helpers involved in all aspects of worship. Organists and musicians, Graham Bishop-Hunt, Linda Elsworth, Penny Shaw, Peter Gaven, and Trevor Starkey; sound reinforcement team, refreshments; organising the reading and intercession rota, readers and intercessors themselves; flower arranging and upkeep of the building and grounds.

The Lay Worship Leaders are Myra Shield and Pauline Irwin. They are regularly involved in Services of Morning Prayer, and Pauline is also part of the Simply Together worship team with Paul Durrant, along with Liz Ramsay, who help with children's activities at this service.

Pat Manners opens the church every morning, and Stuart Shield locks the church each night.

We are also indebted to everyone who assists when special fundraisers are held.

Deanery Synod Report

The Incumbent sits on the Wensley Deanery Synod, along with Angus Maude and Richard Blows. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

There were four ordinary Synod meetings, although one meeting was virtual and one hybrid.

In February, a virtual meeting was held. The discussion topic was 'Becoming a Sustainable Church Flowers Deanery'. A motion had been circulated before the meeting and Standing Committee had recommended members adopt the policy. An amendment was added to include the 'addition of plastic and ribbon'. This motion would be circulated to PCC members; together with an informational video to help members decide whether to adopt the principles. With regards to the Barnabus Project, The Rural Change fund had offered an initial grant of £2000-£5000 and the working group would meet the Rural Change Enabler, Rev'd Caroline Pinchbeck to discuss how to manage the grant in the first phase. It was confirmed that funding for the Maintenance Collectives Pilot Project Phase 1 had been awarded and therefore each parish that signs up would have professional support with maintaining their church buildings.

The meeting in June was held at St Matthew's Church, Leyburn. The speaker was Rev'd Caroline Pinchbeck, the Diocese of Leeds Rural Change Enabler. Her role with the Diocese involved helping rural churches thrive and made suggestions of what churches could do to help communities have a better understanding of the church. She was willing to visit churches and offer advice and recommended the book 'How Village Churches Thrive: A Practical Guide'. Barnabus updates were given: The Rural Change Fund group were making progress and the Maintenance Collectives Pilot Project had recruited a coordinator to offer support to PCCs. A consultant architect had also been appointed to offer professional input.

The September meeting was held in the Village Hall at Newton-le-Willows. Suggestions were asked for Speakers for next year. Members were given an update on the use of the Rural Change Fund monies for the Pilgrimage trail. Following a request for more clarity on the plans from the Bishop before going ahead, a good discussion was held with 'Heritage and Spirituality' used as the headline for ideas for the trail which was very helpful.

The final meeting of the Synod was held at Leyburn Church and this was a hybrid meeting. The speaker was Rev'd Canon Sean Robertshaw, Diocesan Director of Vocations. He gave a helpful and encouraging presentation and led a discussion on vocations within the Diocese. Members were encouraged to reflect on how vocations could be identified nurtured and supported within parishes and benefices. Updates were given on The Wensley Deanery Pilgrimage and the Maintenance Collectives Pilot Project and there was a report on the Great Expectations Conference highlighting the challenges to secure the future of maintaining church buildings in good order, particularly in rural areas.

There were the following new appointments:-

Rev'd Stephen Hanscombe appointed Area Dean.

Rev'd James Gwyn-Thomas appointed Assistant Area Dean.

Rev'd Gillian Lunn appointed Rector of the East Dere Street Benefice.

Rev'd Lee Finnegan appointed Curate in the Bedale Benefice.

Rev'd Scott Lunn appointed Curate in the Penhill Benefice

Rev'd Canon Dr James Theodosius appointed Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven.

Rt Rev'd Toby Howarth, Bishop of Bradford, appointed interim Bishop of Leeds.

Deanery Prayer meetings continued to be held on the 1st Monday of each month.

Bridgette Ormston

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 Gregory's Crakehall, 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 in February, May (APCM), July, and November.

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

Administrative information

St Gregory'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 2024) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. Attendance at meetings has been good, and there has been one change to the Council during this year.

Ex-Officio Members

The Incumbent Rev'd R D C Lawton

Wardens

- Gillian Bartram
- Michelle Saunders

Deanery Synod Representative

- Angus Maude – (Vice Chair)
- Richard Blows

Elected Members

- Mary Bishop-Hunt
- Myra Shield
- Bleddyn Lawton (from May 2025)
- Margaret Saunders
- Kerry Morgan (from May-Dec 2025)
- Trevor Starkey (til May 2025)
- One Seat Vacant

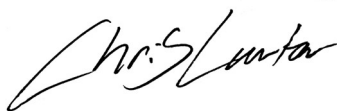
Officer

- Paul Carnell (Treasurer)
- Jan Carnell (Secretary)

Electoral Roll

There are 34 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of whom 9 are not resident within the parish.

Trustees Annual Report Approval



Approved by the PCC on 29th April 2026
and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Chris Lawton (PCC chairman)

Appendix 1

Parochial Church Council of St Gregory's, Crakehall

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned giving		9,457	-	-	9,457	10,148
Collections at Services		3,772	-	-	3,772	2,691
All other giving/voluntary receipts	1a	2,590	7,075	400	10,065	8,467
Gift Aid recovered		2,075	-	-	2,075	4,023
		<u>17,894</u>	<u>7,075</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>25,369</u>	<u>25,329</u>
Activities for generating funds	1b	3,999	-	-	3,999	1,057
Investment income		175	-	-	175	116
Church activities		1,733	-	-	1,733	567
Other Receipts		-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts		<u>23,800</u>	<u>7,075</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>31,275</u>	<u>27,069</u>
PAYMENTS						
Church activities:						
Diocesan parish contribution		7,978	-	-	7,978	6,316
Clergy and staffing costs	2a	2,137	-	-	2,137	1,653
Church running expenses	2b	6,447	-	559	7,006	10,239
Church Repairs & maintenance	2c	3,943	11,574	-	15,517	1,516
Mission giving and donations		110	-	-	110	192
		<u>20,615</u>	<u>11,574</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>32,748</u>	<u>19,917</u>
Cost of generating funds		<u>907</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>907</u>	<u>223</u>
Total payments		<u>21,522</u>	<u>11,574</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>33,655</u>	<u>20,140</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		2,278	(4,499)	(159)	(2,379)	6,928
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January		<u>7,431</u>	<u>10,381</u>	<u>471</u>	<u>18,282</u>	<u>11,355</u>
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December		<u>9,709</u>	<u>5,882</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>15,903</u>	<u>18,282</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Gregory's, Crakehall

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Cash Funds					
Barclays Current Account	8,735	-	-	8,735	10,465
Barclays Deposit Account	974	5,882	313	7,168	7,817
	9,709	5,882	313	15,903	18,282

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	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Bal c/fwd
Designated					
Building Clock Project	9,829	7,000	(11,574)	-	5,255
Crakehall Educational Trust	54	75	-	-	129
Mission and Retreats	497	-	-	-	497
	10,381	7,075	(11,574)	-	5,882
Restricted					
Youth Club	471	400	(559)	-	313
	471	400	(559)	-	313

Building Clock Project

Receipt : From Crakehall Educational Trust
Payments: Remedial works to clock

Crakehall Educational Trust

Receipt : Donation

Youth Club

Receipt : From (external) Crakehall Educational Trust
Payments: £270 hire of Crakehall Village Hall in 2024; £289 fish & chips x 39

Parochial Church Council of St Gregory's, Crakehall

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
Receipts					
1a All other giving/voluntary receipts					
General donations	1,280	75	-	1,355	981
Craft Club donations	341	-	-	341	266
Contactless donations	569	-	-	569	908
Donations to Clock Project	-	-	-	-	1,056
via the Parish Giving Scheme	10	-	-	10	50
Darnbrough Trust Grant (administration)	-	-	-	-	229
VAT from LPOWGS	391	-	-	391	-
From Bedale PCC to help pay the Parish Share	-	-	-	-	750
From Crakehall Educational Trust	-	7,000	400	7,400	4,227
	<u>2,590</u>	<u>7,075</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>10,065</u>	<u>8,467</u>
1b Activities for generating funds					
Coffee mornings, General Fund	-	-	-	-	449
Coffee mornings, Clock Project	-	-	-	-	577
Big Breakfasts	926	-	-	926	-
Cake Stall	678	-	-	678	-
Flocking	290	-	-	290	-
Fashion Show	866	-	-	866	-
Finklepickers	1,239	-	-	1,239	-
Tuck shop	-	-	-	-	31
	<u>3,999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,999</u>	<u>1,057</u>
Payments					
2a Clergy & staffing costs					
Vicar's expenses	613	-	-	613	578
Administrator fees	1,044	-	-	1,044	755
Treasurer fees	480	-	-	480	320
	<u>2,137</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,137</u>	<u>1,653</u>
2b Church running expenses					
Electricity	1,431	-	-	1,431	1,355
Calor gas	1,002	-	-	1,002	933
Insurance	1,491	-	-	1,491	1,417
Upkeep of services	508	-	-	508	1,109
Organist fees	525	-	-	525	-
Printing, postage & stationery	498	-	-	498	-
Youth Club expenses	-	-	559	559	-
Benefice expenses	-	-	-	-	1,211
New sound equipment	-	-	-	-	3,346
Other church running expenses	992	-	-	992	869
	<u>6,447</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>7,006</u>	<u>10,239</u>
2c Church repairs and maintenance					
Regular maintenance	-	-	-	-	13
Gas heaters service	414	-	-	414	384
PAT testing	38	-	-	38	-
Lightning conductor inspection	168	-	-	168	-
Organ tuning	277	-	-	277	162
Installation of emergency light	93	-	-	93	-
Lime pointing	947	-	-	947	-
Clock repairs	-	11,574	-	11,574	-
Cleaning gutters, fallpipes & drains	1,116	-	-	1,116	-
Cleaning	720	-	-	720	765
Fire equipment (x2 in 2024)	171	-	-	171	192
	<u>3,943</u>	<u>11,574</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,517</u>	<u>1,516</u>

St Gregory's, Crakehall Parochial Church Council

Independent examiner's report to the members on the unaudited financial statements of St Gregory's, Crakehall for the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 :

Lt Col. David Summers
Masham House
Firby
Bedale
DL8 2PW

Date : 2nd March 2026

Appendix 2

Rectors Report

As a benefice, we continue to grow together, and for that I am deeply grateful. Occasional offices continue to be an important part of our ministry and mission. This year saw 18 baptisms, 2 renewals of wedding vows, 4 weddings, and 28 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 and Jan. In terms of governance, we are still desperately short of officers and role holders, and this is now beyond a pressing need that must be addressed. Several of the PCC's will need to consider the future of worship in their buildings due to very low numbers, failure of the church fabric, and the inability to maintain financial stability.

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.

Youth Club

Youth Club follows a familiar pattern, meeting once a month, with a similar programme of games, tuck, reflective points and a prayer.

This year, for the first time, we couldn't accommodate Year 6s as we are currently full with x30 young people. More volunteers would help make a difference.

For the first time in twenty years, we had to draw upon the Church for funding of hall rental. All of the volunteers are DBS checked, though some updating is still required.

Up and coming, we will be introducing a nominal annual charge to attend and calling upon parents to volunteer once a year, hoping to get Year 6s in before the summer recess.

My thanks, as ever, go to Andrea Chapman, Colin and Gill Bartram, Louise Shepherd and Dan Wilkins for subbing on occasion.

Craft Crew Report for May 24 – May 25

We meet weekly, Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm (with a very short break over the Christmas/New Year period)

We currently have 23 members who join us on various levels. Many come regularly; others prefer to join in from afar. Many are ladies who do not attend church, aged 30 years +. (One lady, who travels all the way from Kirkby Malzeard, pops in now and again to learn how to crochet; one lady joins us for half the year when her choir season is quiet; another lady has joined to get to know people in the village.

Weekly attendance varies between 6 and 12 people usually.

The group continues to be a friendly, supportive network of ladies who regularly look out for each other on our 'WhatsApp' group and now meet up independently of sessions. Many people bring resources to swap and share.

As well as coming together to complete our own projects (with a coffee and a biscuit), we have taken part in several community projects.

- Union Jack flag for VE Day village celebrations.

- Craft crew gazebo on the green with hospitality. Villagers were welcomed to pop in and learn a new skill with us. Many enjoyed the home warm home baking and chat.
- Summer holidays post box topper – 'tea party at the zoo.'
- Further cardigans and hats knitted for premature babies at James Cook Hospital
- Added to the poppy display in church with more poppies plus poppies on sticks to go in the ground.
- Nativity Trail – Angel extravaganza!
- Learning how to make paper cone angels for Nativity Trail
- Further Twiddle muffs for old people's home (someone's dad was cared for there)
- Easter flowers display

Other events have included:

- Summer bring and share meal in the church
- Christmas meal hosted by Myra plus games in church
- Workshop led by Rebekah Findlay, local artist, teaching us Reverse Colouring in, plus lunch funded by St Gregory's Education Trust.

Upcoming project:

Still under discussion. We have fallen into a comfortable pattern of 3 main projects a year (Nativity Trail, a New Year idea and then a summer focus.)

Westward will be repaired. If unsuccessful, we will use his woolly layer to make a blanket to donate.