

## All Saints' Church Electoral Roll

Following the 2020 Annual Parish Meeting held unusually late in the year, there has been a net loss of three names on the roll which at the time of writing stands at 72. The annual revision prior to the 2021 APM is once more taking place in extraordinary times. The church has now been re-opened for ordinary worship and the required notices can be properly displayed or read out. It will be a relief when things get back to normal.

**Peter Snowdon**  
**Electoral Roll Officer**

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[www.barwickcofechurch.co.uk](http://www.barwickcofechurch.co.uk)

## BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

2020 to 2021



**PART OF THE ELMETE TRINITY BENEFICE**



## **BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**2019 to 2020**

**Rector**                      **Revd. Andrew Nicholson**  
**Assistant Priest**        **Revd. Kathryn Elliott**

### **PCC Officers**

**Secretary**                Pauline Robson  
**Treasurer**               Norman Whyte

### **Church Wardens 2020-2021**

Carole Cassidy  
Leslye Thomas

### **Deanery Synod Representative**

Martin Rogers

### **Electoral Roll Officer**

Peter Snowdon

### **PCC Elected Members**

Neale Lucas	2018 - 21
Lynne Whitaker	2018 - 21
Christine Nottingham	2019 - 22
Rosemary Swales	2019 - 22
Norman Whyte	2019 - 22
Sue Cole	2020 - 23
Pauline Robson	2020 - 23
Steve Rostron	2020 - 23
Keith Langley	Co-opted for 1 year

## **Deanery Synod Report**

After a long hiatus resulting from the Covid situation, meetings of the Deanery Synod resumed using Zoom in February this year. The first meeting was devoted to giving those in the session an overview of the role of synods – Deanery, Diocesan and General - in the Church.

The second and most recent meeting was in March when the discussion was focused on two proposals to reorganise the Deanery structure in the Leeds Episcopal area. Essentially the options are:-

To create a single deanery coterminous with the Leeds episcopal area alongside which parishes would be organised into a number (probably 5) of informal groupings

To create a number (proposed 5) smaller, but equally sized, deaneries alongside which an informal episcopal area forum would be developed.

The vote in the deanery synod resulted in a narrow margin in favour of the second option. Over the summer the Diocese will start a consultation on the options across Leeds.

**Martin Rogers**

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### **PCC Secretary's Report**

Even though we have been stuck in lockdown virtually since the last APCM the work of the PCC has continued with meetings being held via zoom and phone. Bob Bailey chaired his final PCC meeting in January and he was thanked for all his work, not only with the PCC, but within the Benefice. He will be greatly missed.

Although we kept an eye on the fabric of the building etc. there was a slight change in emphasis during our monthly discussions. We needed to look at what we were doing to enable the people of Barwick to join in our worship. The PCC voted unanimously to have broadband connected in the church to enable services to be streamed live.

Carole and Leslye once again have anchored the church and its congregation and we can't thank them enough for all their hard work throughout the lockdown especially making the church safe for private prayer just prior to Christmas and then the Christmas services.

After a plea for desperately needed funds by one of the organisations which we support overseas, the Outward Giving Committee managed to hold a meeting on a snowy day under the Port Corchère at Lotherton Hall, keeping 2 metres apart.

Thanks to the members of the PCC who have managed to juggle zoom meetings with work, home schooling and other family commitments.

**Pauline Robson**

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### **Rector's Report for All Saints' Church, Barwick 2021**

The twelve months between March 2020 and March 2021 have been filled with change in both society and the church. It is the first time in living memory that churches have been closed for public worship. We have had to contend with stay-at-home orders, pandemic, face masks, no touching, no singing, no sharing of the peace, church over the internet, livestreams, zoom and pre-recorded services.

All of this has caused a great deal of angst and isolation for much of the church community, but, as the saying goes, necessity is the mother of invention and we have managed to continue ministry, and in some ways grow the ministry despite, or perhaps because of, the pandemic. Through daily reflections, 'letters from Andy', phone-in services, livestream services, pre-recorded services, 'On the Sofa' videos, phone calls, chatting to people in the streets and sitting in people's gardens, the whole church has been part of the ministry of caring for each other across the benefice. Our church buildings may have been closed, but we are still active and involved in the work of the Lord.

All of this could not have been possible without the tireless efforts of a whole team of people – Bob, Bailey, Church Wardens, retired clergy, Licensed Lay ministers, Lay worship leaders, reflection writers and lots of congregation members making sure their fellow congregation members are linked in by a phone call or a visit. Thank you to all who have made this possible over this last year. You have made a massive difference to a lot of people.

Of course, one of the main events of this last year has been Bob's leaving to take up the role of Rector of the Kippax, Swillington and Allerton Bywater Team. Bob made a huge difference, particularly in Barwick but across the whole benefice, in his four years here. Our blessings go with him on the next stage of his journey of ministry.

Looking ahead to the summer and beyond I will be taking my own next step in my journey of ministry, this time after 12 years as your rector. In September I take up the role of School Chaplain at Ardingly College in West Sussex. Church vacancy periods can be times of opportunity for great blossoming of talents across the churches. It can be a time when the three parishes come together to reflect on the nature and importance of the ministry of the whole benefice, and decide what sort of rector they need to help them grow in the future.

This last year has been a year of change and next year, in a different way, will also be a year of change.

I have loved being your rector for the past 12 years and pray that you continue to blossom and grow in faith, in love and in service to our Lord.

Blessings.

*Andy*

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### Treasurer's Report Year Ending December 2020

This Annual Report will obviously take on a different tone as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the effect that has had on some of our regular income streams due to the church being closed during the year for long periods.

In January 2020, the annual accounts presented to the PCC and approved by them, showed funds brought forward at the beginning of the year of **£42,514.92**. This included the Central Board of Finance (CBF) Deposit Account of £15,216.68. Our closing balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 were **£41,472.34** a **decrease** in the year of **£1,042.58**.

The headline figures creating this deficit are as follows:-

**The Parish Share** for the year was **£45,917.28**

The level of **Parish Giving** (covenants/collections/gift aid/donations and tax refund) totalled **£43,296.57**

We received a bequest of **£4,107.06** which helped to reduce the deficit we were anticipating.

via Zoom.

We brought some sparkle into the village at Christmas with the Angel Trail, and with help, as always, from Ann Oliver we had the sheep trail in the shops.

We reached the end of 2020 starting a third lockdown. Instructions and guidance for safe access to churches continued to come out from the government and diocese regularly. We sadly agreed within the Benefice that as the virus was still progressing with new strains, in the interest of keeping everyone safe, the Church would be closed for everything but funerals.

We were very sorry in early 2021 to learn of the sad death of the Venerable John Oliver who had been ill for some considerable time. Since his retirement as Archdeacon of Leeds, John has been our Associate Priest for several years. He is already greatly missed.

### Maintenance

As wardens we continued to oversee statutory, annual inspections and other works, to keep our beautiful church healthy.

### The Church Yard

Keeping to Covid rules, working as individuals or as a pair where appropriate and working on different days our church yard gang continue to maintain our churchyard providing a quiet, beautiful oasis for the members of our congregation and the wider community. Thank you to each and everyone involved.

As Wardens we see the pressures on Andy and Kathryn especially now Bob our curate has moved to be Team Rector in his own Parish, a well-deserved promotion. We will continue to work with all worship leaders throughout the coming months of change and hopefully return to some normality, to maintain our Church at the Heart of the Community.

**Leslye Thomas and Carole Cassidy**

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Since the end of the year the national Parish Giving Scheme has been introduced. This scheme is based in Gloucester and collects regular giving by monthly direct debit. It ensures the regular receipt of Gift Aid claims on a monthly basis.

**Martin Rogers**

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### **Church Wardens' Report**

This last 12 months has been something that even in our wildest dreams (nightmares) we could not have imagined. Our 2020 Annual Report was prepared for the Spring, but the APCM moved in the hopes we could meet face to face. This hope was not realised, and we reluctantly held our 2020 APCM in November via Zoom.

We moved forward not knowing when or whether normal services would resume. Thanks to the innovations introduced by Andy our Rector and Bob our Curate, online links for services continued and the online congregations grew. Dial-in worship for those without access to a computer also continued, thanks in particular to Alan Stanley. Weekly Pew sheets were produced by Leslye. The majority of our congregation received them electronically, or we wardens hand delivered to those without computers (getting our weekly exercise) so that we could keep in touch with everyone.

Sadly weddings, christenings and confirmations were cancelled. *Barwick Cares* continued to help with shopping, picking up prescriptions or a friendly phone call. Huge thanks to everyone involved in that. Daily reflections on line continue Monday to Friday each week, with a short Bible reading and a reflection provided by numerous people from across the Benefice and hard copies provided in the weekly pew sheets for those without a computer. Tiers and lockdowns became regular words in our vocabulary.

We were able to start limited services in September, no communion wine, no singing, only alternate pews in use, hands sanitised and face masks used. Keeping within the rules we managed a Harvest Festival, Patronal Service for All Saints' Day and our Service of Light for the bereaved. Thanks to Becki Stennett (Methodist Minister) and Sarah Drury, Messy Church has continued

### **> Funerals**

Raised net income (after payment of fees for verger & organist) was **£3,682.73**.

### **> Weddings**

Not surprisingly a number of weddings were cancelled or postponed due to the pandemic and the reduced number of guests allowed under the restrictions. Only 2 took place. The net income was **£1,054**.

### **> The Magazine**

This was printed for the first 3 months before the Covid restrictions were imposed. The printing costs for those 3 months with no income from sales and no advertising income, meant a loss of **£1,374.99**.

It was hoped to have re-started printing in the Autumn but this wasn't possible after the 2nd spike and further lockdowns. The future of the magazine is an agenda item for the PCC in 2021.

### **> Events**

There was only one event in the spring of 2020 which raised £291 and although a Low Sunday lunch was planned and in the main, paid for by those wishing to attend, it had to be cancelled and the money is being refunded.

### **> Outward Giving**

This was deferred until 2021 in view of the much reduced income in the year.

### **Parish Share**

We have been advised that our Parish Share for 2021 will be kept at the 2020 level. We did not pay the full amount requested in 2020 and although the Diocese had asked for £49,993 we paid the full amount we had agreed to pay of **£45,917**. In doing so we were one of the few PCCs in the Diocese to pay the agreed amount.

### **Repairs to the Building**

Only modest amounts were spent on repairs at £710, but we did spend

£840 on one of the very large trees adjacent to Potterton Lane which needed pruning to avoid any problems with the roots affecting the road, the wall and adjacent properties.

We were awarded a grant out of the Community Fund (Leeds Festival) to repair the stonework and fixtures for the church clock and to have the face refurbished and re-gilded. This work will be done in 2021.

### **Streaming of live services**

During the pandemic we have developed the facility to have live streaming of services and thanks to generous donations from members of the congregation and a grant from the Diocese of £1,000 we have been able to buy all the equipment needed at no direct cost to the church.

**The funds in the CBF Deposit account** are restricted and in the main can only be used for wall repairs. The main Aberford Road wall continues to show signs of wear and will definitely need money spent on it in the Spring of 2021.

### **Overview**

To say that 2020 is a year like no other is an understatement in the so many ways it has affected our community. Churches generally have suffered significant reductions in income whilst trying to maintain the fabric of the buildings, meeting the running costs and in our case paying the Parish Share. I think we have done remarkably well in keeping the deficit down to the level reported (supported by the legacy of £4,000) and we now know that one of our parishioners, Barbara Duckett, who loved All Saints' church and died in April 2020 has left an extremely generous bequest in her will and this should ease our concerns about future funding. It will also give us the opportunity to have a permanent memorial to her in the church.

The PCC has agreed to join the Parish Giving Scheme run on behalf of the Church of England and this should improve our income and cashflow going

forward as donations can be index-linked and the Gift Aid tax reclaimed each month rather than annually.

**Norman Whyte**  
**Barwick PCC Treasurer**

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### **Gift Aid Report**

Gift Aid receipts make an essential contribution to the finances of All Saints'. This table shows where gift-aided giving came from in 2020.

Source	Giving £
The Envelope Scheme	1,621
Standing Orders	24,271
Standing Orders from the Friends of All Saints'	1,670
Individual Giving	340
Total	27,902

This giving resulted in two gift-aid receipts which came to £6,975, the last one for £5,061 covering the period from April 6<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. The overall level of regular giving is a reduction on the previous year of 7.6%.

All Saints' qualifies for the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. This scheme provides for a payment that matches Gift Aid on the cash donations given in the collections. A claim was made for the 2019/20 tax year and a payment of £752 was received on giving of £3,010.