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**BARWICK-IN-ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**2022 to 2023**



**Elmete Trinity Benefice**

**PART OF THE ELMETE TRINITY  
BENEFICE**



**BARWICK-IN ELMET PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**2022 to 2023**

**Rector** Vacant  
**Associate Priest:** Revd. Kathryn Elliott

**PCC Officers**

Secretary Pauline Robson  
Treasurer Martin Rogers

**Church Wardens 2021-2022**

Carole Cassidy  
Leslye Thomas

**Deanery Synod Representative**

Martin Rogers

**PCC Elected Members**

Pauline Robson	2020 - 23
Steve Rostron	2020 - 23
Martin Rogers	2020 - 23
Neale Lucas	2020 - 23
Sue Cole	2020 - 23
Sarah Drury	2021 - 24
Jenny Matthewson	2021 - 24
Christine Nottingham	2022 - 25
Ann Winter	2022 - 25
Keith Langley	Co-opted for 1 year
Peter Snowdon	Co-opted for 1 year

**Treasurers report for Monday Ladies Fellowship**

The opening balance as at 1.1.22 was £131 in petty cash and £356.98 in the bank. The bank balance stayed the same – no cheques drawn out or cash paid in. There was a decrease of £4 in petty cash (£127 as at 31.12. 22) Member numbers were quite low in the early part of the year an average of 21 for January – March but the admission price was raised from £2 to £3 in February which should more than cover Speaker’s fees, refreshments, heating and lighting to church (£100 paid) and charitable donations for the rest of the year.

Speakers and activities September 2022 to March 2023

*September 2022, Malcolm Johnson, Malcolm was recommended to us by Probus members who enjoyed his talk called, ‘Childrens Favourites’.*  
*October 2022, David Teal, The history of the Fox and Grapes*  
*November 2022, Geoff Thornton with his presentation, Sun, snow and scarecrows*  
*December 2022, In house entertainment with quiz, stories and carols*  
*January 2023, Joyce Hill speaking on the subject, ‘Rome comes to Ripon’.*  
*February 2023, Pat Rogers, An Eastern Mediterranean Odyssey,- or we should have gone to the Black Sea!*  
*March 2023, A Faith Walk by Bridget Louverain*

**Pat Rogers**

### Monday Ladies Fellowship

All things considered we have had quite a good year. Numbers have not really recovered to pre-Covid levels but we are hopeful that will improve for our new term in September. We ended our 2022/2023 year's meeting two months early as Sue Cole had retired as our 'speaker finder' and had not been able to fill our April slot and also due to the number of Bank Holidays in May. I imagine that caused many groups who meet on Mondays to have a problem.

It has been a little difficult for our committee over the last twelve months as Pat Whyte has had to be absent for many of our meetings due to her husband's illness and I have not been in the best of health since before Christmas. Rosemary Swales, Jean Stephenson and Ruth Ainley, our committee, have been amazing. A big thank you must go to all of them. As I write we have still not been able to replace Sue who did an excellent job of booking speakers for many years. Our thanks go to her for the wonderful job she has done.

Many thanks must also go to Pat Whyte who has continued to look after the finances for the group and her report is as follows:

### Letter from Rev'd Kathryn

Dear friends at All Saints'

Hymns often put into words just what we want to express and, as I write this introduction to the AGM, Dudley Smith's hymn 'Lord For the Years' comes to mind.

Verse 1      *Lord for the years  
Your love has kept and guided ,  
Urged and inspired us,  
Cheered us on our way,  
Sought us and saved us,  
Pardoned and provided:  
Lord of the years,  
We bring our thanks today.*

It is nearly two years we have been in a vacancy, those years have had difficulties but also much to be thankful for. Amazingly all of the usual services have been maintained – both Sunday and Wednesday morning worship services - and we give thanks for visiting clergy and our own leaders , Keith, John, Carole, Leslye, Pauline and Ann, for all of their input.

We give thanks for an increase of people coming to worship especially at our midweek services.

The link between All Saints' and our village primary school has been not only maintained but strengthened through Messy Church activities and the enthusiasm of Sarah, Carole , Leslye and Becky to name a few.

Once a month on a Tuesday the Messy Church team welcome Reception children and sometimes Year one. Year two came to reflect on Remembrance Day last November, the children often ask questions which we as adults might be afraid to ask and their reflections show thought and serious thinking.

The whole school love coming into church for the start and close of the academic year as well as for Christmas and Easter celebrations; parents have also joined us – it's a tight squeeze as we reach full capacity.

Friday Family Fun has welcomed many pre-school children and their carers and it is flourishing under the energy and enthusiasm of Sarah.

We also give thanks for the new Craft club – new friendships are developing and people with no previous connection are coming into church.

We have partnered with Barwick Methodist church for a Lent study group and joint services - the most recent being the Easter early morning sunrise service on Tower Hill with Becki leading us in worship. We give thanks for those opportunities to worship together and encourage each other as church communities.

The study theme of '*Church, why Bother?*' engaged us all in the Benefice and sermons through January and February gave us a lot to think about ; it became clear that 'church' as a building is important as a place for gathering to worship but also that 'church' as a community of people of all ages growing , caring and

## **Parish Safeguarding Report**

All necessary DBS checks have been done, although some will need renewing if it has been more than five years since they were done.

According to the Anglican Guidelines DBS checks are only needed when working with children, if the children are unaccompanied by parents /carers. So for example toddler group leaders do not need them if the parents are present throughout the session. Groups such as Messy Church where parents /carers are not in attendance, will need to have all their volunteer helpers checked. I know that the present team have been checked but the regulations make it difficult for would be volunteers to just turn up and help.

Parish visitors who go to see sick or elderly people in their own homes surprisingly do not need DBS checks but it is advised that they keep records of their visits.

It is important that everyone is aware of possible abuse within the Church Community and if they have any suspicions they must report it to Safeguarding Officer or to the Police.

**Rosemary Swales**  
**Parish Safeguarding Officer**

### **Messy Church**

Messy Church is still proving to be very popular with the primary school children. Parents and students have asked if we could hold one over a weekend perhaps once a term as the afterschool one clashed with afterschool sports and drama. The school raised £146.85 by holding an Easter tombola to go towards funding Messy Church. The Methodist Minister, the Rev. Becki Stennet will move on in August so there will be a change in the team dynamics.

### **Friday Family Fun**

Friday Family Fun is growing in numbers, we have families that don't usually attend church, and some do not live in the village. They have commented favourably on our approach to the Bible and enjoy how we deliver our sessions.

### **Lets Get Crafty**

A new venture this year but going extremely well and we have around 10 regulars and have had up to 16. They are all enjoying being able to use the space in church to learn new skills and try activities they have never done before while recycling bits from Church.

**Sarah Drury**

serving together is vitally important.

We give thanks for all who have served in ways almost unnoticed: Flower arrangers, cleaners, gardeners, readers, intercessors, the choir and organist, welcomers, those who prepare refreshments and those who pray at home for our church and village to name a few - we are grateful to you all and give God thanks for you.

Hopefully after interviews in May we shall be looking forward to welcoming our new rector. We look forward to learning, serving and growing spiritually alongside them . Let's use the last verse as a prayer:

*Lord for ourselves;  
In living power remake us-self on the cross  
And Christ on the throne,  
Past put behind us,  
For the future take us:  
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone .  
Amen.*

Every blessing ,

**Kathryn**

### **Church Wardens' Report**

Another year without a Rector. We continue to provide weekly pew sheet updates to people across the parish, and it is heartening to see people returning to church and new faces joining us.

We have returned to some normality after the pandemic with 10 service every 4 weeks, 8am on alternate Sundays, 10 30am on each Sunday and each Wednesday. These are only made possible with the help of Lay Readers, Retired and visiting clergy, Revd. Kathryn, John, Keith, Pauline, Ann and both wardens.

The services on a Sunday are enhanced by the presence of the choir, the sound of the bells, and tea and coffee after the service. Thanks to Pat Rogers for selecting the hymns each week. We have three new Eucharistic Ministers added to the list, sideperson at the door, computer/slide operators, intercessors, readers, linen washers and tea and coffee brewers.

A huge thank you to all concerned.

We have also returned to some normality with weddings, christenings and funerals with 9 baptisms, 7 weddings and 14 funerals in this year and once again thanks to the visiting clergy who come to take these services, and to Martyne our organist and Malcolm, our Verger.

### **Pastoral Care**

If you need a listening ear, we are here to continue our pastoral care. We are always ready to speak to anyone who requires our help. It doesn't always mean a visit, just a friendly chat on the phone.

**Christine Nottingham**

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### **Heritage Open Days**

Once again we opened the church on one Saturday and a Wednesday afternoon during the Heritage Open Days in September. We always get a cross section of the public from academics who want to know more about the building and its history, to people who bring their children to see the church where they had married.

Thanks must go to David Teal of the Barwick-in-Elmet Historical Society who once again provided an interesting display of photographs of old Barwick.

**Pauline Robson and Ann Winter**

## **Bell Ringing**

We have recruited two new ringers and the previous beginners are now progressing.

We are ringing for most of the 10.30am services, and support Aberford by ringing there on the first Sunday of each month.

Most practice evenings now attract around 10 ringers.

We have rung for 5 weddings and chimed the tenor for 3 funerals.

We rang for the Queen's Jubilee and funeral.

We had visits from Scholes WI and Barwick cubs.

**John Crouch  
Tower Captain**

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## **Flowers**

Thank you to all who have donated flowers for me to place in the church, or who have themselves placed flowers on the altar. It has not been easy this year but we are getting back to some normality and we hope to continue to decorate our church with seasonal flowers.

**Lynn Whittaker**

We are grateful to Alan Stephenson and his teams of cleaners who come in to keep the church beautiful for all these events. No small task especially when we have welcomed the children for "messy church" once a month.

Messy Church continues, we welcome either reception class, year one or year two each month for a day of Bible related crafts and fun. With thanks to Rev'd. Bekki Stennett and Sarah Drury who both love introducing sand into the crafts, sorry cleaning teams! Sarah also successfully holds regular Friday Family Fun with her numbers growing, and has also started a very popular craft evening on a Wednesday, twice a month, thank you Sarah.

To assist with the storage for all the equipment for the Crafts and children's activities we have invested in new storage in the Tower area and tables and chairs for the children, thanks to the legacy from Barbara Duckett.

Also, with thanks to Barbara's legacy we have a votive candle stand in the area near the memorial book.

Both wardens work as part of a Benefice Advisory Group with meetings between the Wardens from the three churches, the support of the Worship Leaders, and the help of Hilary, who is the PA to the Rector when we have one, but during the current vacancy acts very effectively as Communications Officer.

Martin Rogers is now stepping down as Treasurer and Deanery Synod representative and we thank him for all his hard work.

With the help of the Diocese and an enhanced brochure, our third attempt to advertise for a Rector will take place in April 2023. Please keep this matter in your prayers.

One final person we must thank, without whom we wardens couldn't manage is Pauline our PCC Secretary, who also finds time to put the hymns onto PowerPoint slides.

### **Maintenance**

As wardens we continued to oversee statutory and other works, to keep our beautiful church safe. All gutters and sprouting vegetation on the outside of church has been cleared. The major work this year was the successful repair and maintenance of the Church Clock

### **The Church Yard**

Our church yard gang of volunteers continue to maintain our church yard to a high standard, providing a quiet, beautiful oasis for the members of our congregation and the wider community, not easy this year with the extremes of weather. Thank you to each and everyone involved.

The year has been challenging but we have only survived with the assistance of you all, **thank you** .

**Leslye Thomas and Carole Cassidy**

The PCC is extremely grateful to all members of the congregation who take on so many tasks and to those who do things anonymously. Without you our work would be much harder. Thank you to everyone.

To members of the PCC I add my thanks for your support and making the meetings varied and interesting. Last but definitely not least, a special thank you to the Rev.d Kathryn who has supported us all and always manages to choose just the right Bible reading/prayer for the commencement of the meetings.

**Pauline Robson**

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### **The Choir**

The choir meets monthly in order to practice the hymns for the following weeks. The *Carols by Candlelight* service held at Christmas was well attended and gave the choir the opportunity to sing different carols as well as giving the congregation the chance to join in the traditional carols.

We are few in numbers and would really welcome any singers to join us.

**Christine Nottingham**



### **Report from PCC Secretary**

Looking back, it is hard to believe that we have had nearly two years without a Rector but we have survived and probably come out better equipped to deal with the day to day issues which arise. Every PCC needs a leader and we are fortunate that we have two very hands-on Wardens who work tirelessly to see that the church runs smoothly. The PCC couldn't have got through the last couple of years without the leadership of Carole and Leslye. Thank you both so much.

We have held 11 meetings over the year with an average attendance of 78% and are very grateful to Carole who, in order to save heating the church, let us hold meetings in her home. (Far warmer than meeting in the church porch as they did in ancient times!).

Most of the decisions made this year concerned the general upkeep of the church. The legacies received have enabled us to purchase extra items without breaking into our funds.

Our Treasurer, Martin, has now relinquished his role and we thank him for his hard work during his time on the PCC.

We are always sorry to lose members of the PCC but that is how we progress, with new people bringing in different ideas.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The year finished with All Saints' having balances of £73,417.94 on the current account and £15,490.35 on the CBF Church of England Deposit fund which is operated by CCLA Investment Management Limited. The latter is earmarked for repairs to the boundary walls.

Regular giving was at a level broadly similar to previous years. However there has been a sharp decline in the number of people using the envelope scheme which means it is not viable in its present form. A letter will be sent to those using the scheme.

During the year there were seven weddings, fourteen funerals, eight burials and twelve interments of ashes plus twenty-three requests for vases, other monuments and inscriptions. These helped to produce a surplus of just over £8,300 which has augmented the regular giving.

On the expenditure side, the Parish Share for last year was set by the Diocese at £50,587. In September the PCC agreed to conserve cash and suspend the monthly payments for three months. Payments resumed in January at a lower rate of £1,500. The arrears dating from 2017 to the start of the year stand at £39,592 and, assuming payments continue at the current rate, will amount to £69,690 at the end of this year.

The next major item of expense was the refurbishment of the clock face and the stonework. The total cost including VAT was £10,956.26.

This was part-funded by a grant from the Community fund of £2,000 which was received in February 2020 just before the first lockdown. The VAT of £1,636.80 was offset by a grant of the same amount made under the Government’s DMCS scheme for Listed Places of Worship.

Through the Church Commissioners the Diocese was able to provide a grant of £2,550 to the Benefice to alleviate the impact of the rise in energy costs. Thorner and Scholes PCCs very graciously agreed to give their share to Barwick. Looking ahead it is very likely that repairs will be needed before the winter to the wall on Potterton Lane where there is evidence of spalling. This will require the use of the funds on deposit.

**Outward Giving** – This year we gave **£1,800** to local and international charities.

**Martin Rogers**

**Gift Aid**

The table below shows the receipts coming from the Gift Aid.

Source	Number of people	Amount £-p
Parish Giving Scheme	28	4,796.37
Standing Orders and Envelopes	35	3,156.92
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme	-	152.93

**Deanery Synod**

The reorganisation of Leeds parishes into three reshaped deaneries has been completed. The new deaneries started on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Barwick and 23 other parishes are included in the East Deanery. The old Whitkirk Deanery had two meetings.

The meeting in June focused on climate change and the drive to reduce the carbon footprint of churches. The second and final meeting was in October when a draft motion for the Diocesan Synod on reducing funeral fees for those in receipt of benefits was discussed. It was also agreed to distribute remaining funds of £458 raised at coffee mornings to foodbanks in the Deanery.

The first meeting of the new East Leeds Deanery was held in March this year at St Edmund’s. There was further discussion on the draft motion mentioned above. It was agreed that the wording needed to be revised. John Beal who was previously Lay Chair of the Whitkirk Deanery was elected as Lay Chair.

**Martin Rogers**

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**Electoral Roll report for 2022-23**

Following the annual revision of the roll, there were 75 persons on at the time of the Annual Parish Meeting in 2022. This number has been practically the same for three years. Fourteen are resident outside the parish.

**Peter Snowdon  
Electoral Roll Officer**