

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, KIRKBY IN MALHAMDALE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2015

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Church is situated in the centre of the village of Kirkby Malham to the west of the main street. It is part of the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Pig Lane, Kirkby Malham, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 4BS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The last Annual Parochial Church meeting was held on 28th April 2014

Except where stated all members of the PCC have served from 1st January 2015 until the date this report was approved. The members are:

House for duty vicar	Michael Jackson	
Wardens	Muriel Bland	(elected at APCM 2011)
	George Parker	(elected at APCM 2013)
	Maureen Dore	(elected at APCM 2014)
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Margaret Ellis	Nigel Buckland
	Bernadette Schutte (Vice Chair)	Carol Ballard
Elected members	Sue Bailey (Secretary)	Vicki Leeming
	Chris Darling (Treasurer)	Gilly Marsh
	Mark Ashton	Mary Richardson

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

7 meetings of the PCC were held and the average attendance was 10 members.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The electoral roll now has 74 members of whom 61 are resident in the parish and 13 are non resident. Two people were removed, one having left the parish and one having died; eight new names were added.

The mean adult attendance at services was 41.2 (2013 – 41.1). The median value was 34 (2014 – 32). These measures exclude repeat weekly attendances. Excluding weddings and funerals the total adult attendance at services was 2514 (2378 in 2014).

THANKS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The Reverend Michael Jackson has led the work of the parish during the year as non-stipendiary 'house for duty' vicar. The PCC records its appreciation to him and our hard working churchwardens Muriel Bland, Maureen Dore, and George Parker. The Church is reliant on many people who give tirelessly of their time and the PCC wishes to thank our Treasurer, PCC Secretary, organists, sacristan, magazine editor, Children's Club leaders, flower arrangers, readers and intercessors, bell ringers, church 'welcomers', churchyard maintenance team, and church cleaners. As is reported later, members of our Fabric Group have worked extremely hard in overseeing a challenging year and planning for re-roofing works, and thanks are due to them for that. This challenge was made all the greater by the theft of lead from the south aisle roof in May. This necessitated a further fundraising campaign. The response of the local community has been magnificent and we wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to the Fabric Fund appeal.

We continue to maintain our overall aim of making the Church a place of prayer, a place of growth and a place of outreach. Our mission statement is therefore *'to make St. Michael's a prayerful Christian presence in the midst of Malhamdale, a place of personal growth in Christ, and a place which reaches outwards with the love of God'*. The PCC have resolved to form an Outreach and Development Group as a sub-committee which will start meeting in 2016. This will evaluate our mission and what we value and prioritize in our future planning as a parish.

During the year a successful Lent course reflected on the Bishop of Norwich's book 'The Lent Factor'. Members of the Church played an active part in the Malham Safari, an important local tourist attraction, and we are grateful to the Safari committee for its subsequent donation to the Church. By popular request we repeated the holding of a Pets service which drew many to church to celebrate what our pets mean to us.

The cycle of 'Open the Book' assemblies at Kirkby in Malhamdale Primary School finished earlier in the year, but the Vicar has continued the practice of holding regular assemblies. The Church hosted a successful visit by all the children in the School in the summer, and at the end of the year we were delighted that the School put on a nativity play as part of our Christingle service.

The Church has had a number of special collections in support of the wider world and at Christmas for the flood hit areas of Cumbria. A special Christian Aid service was held during Christian Aid week. Building on the link made with the help of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's 'People and the Dales' project, we were delighted to be able to help co-ordinate a weekend visit by the City of Sanctuary Maternity Stream from Leeds who support pregnant refugees and asylum seekers including also young mothers and their children. The visit involved 35 visitors who also joined us for a service at the end of the weekend. The visit was a highlight of the year and greatly valued by all who participated. We hope to develop the link with City of Sanctuary and the group returned later in the year to help us make Christingles.

We were very pleased to welcome our diocesan bishop, the Right Reverend Nick Baines, to our Patronal Festival.

FINANCE

2015 was the year of the 'Roof'. The generosity of people in the dale and outside it has meant that we will be able to move forward in 2016 with several fabric projects, many helping tackle the issues described below in the Church Fabric section. Donations, special events and the contribution from the 200 Club added £21,000 to the Fabric Fund. Grateful thanks also go to Robin Bundy and Ted Ellis and the donors. Robin wrote many letters and e-mails and this led to generous donations from The Yorkshire Heritage Trust, Bradford Diocese CBF, Garfield Weston and the Coulthurst Trust; Ted led the work on the application and then attended meetings to secure the major grant from the Listed Places of Worship scheme (LPOW)

Our general income has risen too. Sunday and special collections for charities were both higher by £3,700. We were able to pass on £6,000 raised by the special collections to the nominated charities. Our 'other income', which includes donations and fund raising activities, brought in £18,900 compared with £12,200 in 2014. The Safari Committee donated £3,000 this year and the restyled Meander brought a donation of £1,500.

Expenses were higher too, partly because we were able this year to pay our full share to the Diocese of £27,700. Other expenses were well contained so that on the general account we can report a surplus of £3,600, the first net surplus for several years.

However, we must not be complacent for there is much to do. We have been spending what we can afford on maintenance rather than what is needed and a church like ours needs constant attention.

As ever, volunteers worked hard to raise additional funds. The accounts show the income from the Show Cakestall and the Musical Evenings, the Quiz evening, Car Boot sale, the Auction of Promises, the Open Gardens and the sale of the Malhamdale Cook Book. Such activities require a huge input from those involved and we thank them all concered..

Our Treasurer, Chris Darling, who has served for 10years is standing down and Nigel Buckland and Phil Bamford have volunteered to take over as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer respectively. We thank Chris for all his work and welcome Nigel and Phil.

CHURCH FABRIC

Deterioration of plaster, first mentioned in the quinquennial report, was eventually attributed to dampness. After investigation, it was concluded in 2014 that the main cause was persistent leakage through the roof and gutters, exacerbated by condensation and lack of dispersion of moisture through the roof structure.

Roof repair was deemed urgent and during 2014 two competitive bids were made to Heritage Lottery Fund, without success. Although the HLF bid refusals were disappointing the result was that we were ideally placed to act quickly in bidding to LPOW when funding unexpectedly became available in the run-up to the general election. On this occasion we were successful.

Lead theft from the south aisle roof during a storm on night of 8 May 2015 made matters much worse and the project much bigger. Fortunately LPOW provided additional funding and other fundraising added to our resources.

With necessary funding in place, and with the help of our architect, Mike Overton, we were able to let the contract for re-covering the roof with tern-coated stainless steel outside the bat season. Work commenced at the end of September and has proceeded apace, although persistent wet weather has made life difficult for the roofers with consequent delays. The re-roofing contract will now be completed early in 2016

With the building made water-tight, dampness in the building will need to be addressed by various means, including adjusting ground levels to minimise rising damp and improving the heating regime.

A condition of LPOW and HLF is that the heritage of the church should be better interpreted and be better known and that the church should be used by a wider public. To this end we intend to upgrade the heating and the lighting and to make the space generally more adaptable. It is hoped that the newly formed Outreach and Development Group's deliberations will inform future decisions about the use of the building and its role in the community.'

There remain outstanding various aspects of the quinquennial report and these will be addressed in the coming months. There is also a need to improve car parking and the adjoining glebe land.

Fund-raising will continue until we feel we are doing justice to the church's title of "Cathedral of the Dales".

Approved by the PCC on 25th January, 2016 and signed on their behalf by the chairman.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, to the best of my knowledge and experience no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the statements to be reached.

John Mitchell, Fossgill Cottage, Calton, Skipton BD23 4AD

Signed on 16th March, 2016