

St Andrew's, Cleveleys

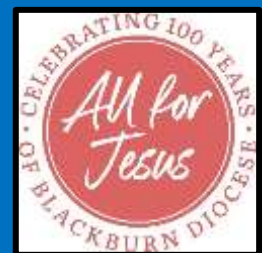
Blessing the people of Cleveleys in Jesus' Name



www.standrewscleveleys.com

<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsCleveleys>

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1. Letter from the Parish

Hello,

We are so delighted that you are considering joining us as our new vicar and we hope that our profile will provide all the information you need in discerning the next steps in your ministry.

We are a "family"; coming from a variety of traditions and backgrounds, we have found our spiritual home here at St Andrew's. Likewise, our previous vicars have come from different traditions and have each brought something distinctive to our worship and our life together.

We seek to be a community where everyone is met with warmth, friendship and acceptance. We recognise the value of enabling each one of us to flourish and as such you will find a warm welcome and caring support as you continue in ministry here; we want you to flourish too!

Above all we are excited as we anticipate what our future may look like as God guides and leads us into this new season.

God bless, from all at St Andrew's



2. Letter from the Bishops

Thank you for showing an interest in a post in the Diocese of Blackburn.

Our Diocese is passionate about the renewal of Parish life. We have a profound belief in the power of the Gospel to transform lives and communities and expresses a firm commitment to maintaining clergy numbers and investing in the mission of the local church. We therefore seek clergy with a personal faith fiery enough to make new disciples for Christ, with a sincere commitment to the Parish as the heart of the church's mission and with the resilience and courage to bring growth and renewal to local churches. We don't want superheroes. Rather we are seeking authentic, prayerful priests of all traditions who share our passion for confident proclamation and generous service.

What's more, you would be coming to the Diocese at a fascinating time of our Centenary in 2026 themed "All for Jesus". We are in the midst of a major process of listening to God and listening to our County as we discern where God is calling us next, a process that will result in a new strategic vision that will last until 2033, the 2000th anniversary of the Resurrection.

We have also recently been successful in obtaining a grant of £25.5m from the Diocesan Investment Programme run by the national church. This will enable us to:

- Offer a transformed pattern of ongoing training and support to clergy, including sabbatical leave as an expectation for all rather than a treat for the few
- Deploy 30 'ignite' youth and children's workers to parishes around the Diocese
- Invest in urban areas through expanding the M:Power course for urban leaders, employing 18 Urban Pioneers and re-imagining Christian life in areas of particular challenge.
- Expand our Diocesan Renewal Programme which has led to an average of 6% growth in RWA in participating parishes.

We are a Diocese that is united in defying the declinist mindset that has taken hold of so much of Western European Christianity. Through a firm belief in the power of Jesus Christ to change lives combined with strong pastoral ministry and imaginative developments such as new local congregations, we are seeing growth in churches of all traditions. Strong relationships with our amazing family of 191 schools (95% of whom benefit from practising Christian Headteachers) provide another springboard for mission.

As a Diocese we do all we can to love and treasure our clergy. Our programme of Annual Conversations means that every licensed priest has a 90 minute conversation with a Bishop or an Archdeacon every year about their vocation, wellbeing and spiritual life.

We have appointed an Assistant Archdeacon to advise on clergy wellbeing and we work hard to create networks that enable clergy to belong and find mutual support.

Those in their first incumbency are offered especially focused support. This includes participation in a two year Start of Ministry course, advice and care from a mentor and the oversight of our two outstanding Start of Ministry officers.



*The Bishop of Blackburn
The Rt Revd Philip North*



*The Bishop of Lancaster
The Rt Revd Dr Jill Duff*



*The Bishop of Burnley
The Rt Revd Dr Joe Kennedy*

Lancashire has been described as “The World in One Diocese” and we can offer a vast diversity of parishes. We serve the most deprived communities in the United Kingdom on the Fylde coast and in East Lancashire as well as remote countryside. We are not immune from the particular challenges to ministry provided by an increasingly secular culture and a divided Church. But what brings us together is a profound and shared love of Jesus Christ and a passionate desire that all should know him, and in knowing him find life.

We really hope you enjoy reading this profile and that it provides all the information you need. If this particular post does not feel quite right, please do get in touch about other parishes in the Diocese that are vacant.

Most importantly of all, please be assured of our prayers as you discern the will of God for the next stage in your ministry.

3. Vision 2026 and Beyond

Vision 2026 had an agenda for growth agreed by the Blackburn Diocesan Synod in 2015. It challenged our parishes to be healthy churches that transformed their communities as we looked ahead to our diocesan centenary in 2026. It also laid out four ways in which this over-arching goal could be achieved: Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and Prioritising Children and Young People.

In the Diocese of Blackburn we are inspired by confidence in the Gospel and are ambitious in our desire to make new disciples for Jesus Christ. We are committed to mutual flourishing, to maintaining clergy numbers and to investing in training for new curates.

In the last year, the Diocese has embarked on a major programme of listening to God and our communities as we discern when he is leading us next.

Our Centenary Prayer is:

**Heavenly Father, in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service, and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

You can find out more about our Centenary year by visiting our website:

[All for Jesus: Centenary of Blackburn Diocese in 2026 | The Diocese of Blackburn](#)

4. Clergy Care and Wellbeing

- Clergy are invited to participate in an 8 year annual programme to keep ministry fresh and vital. This includes periods of sabbatical and regular retreats.
- We offer an Annual Conversation in which every licensed priest spends 90 mins with a Bishop or Archdeacon discussing ministry and wellbeing.
- Ongoing theological training and teaching is offered through our partnership with Emmanuel Theological College. Clergy receive free access to a theological library of 22,000 books and regular seminars.
- Annual Diocesan Clergy Study Days and an occasional clergy conference seek to provide opportunities both to keep ministry fresh and to build relationships with colleagues.
- We offer first incumbents a mentor and participation in our Start of Ministry Programme.
- All clergy are entitled to an uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours in each period of seven days and one additional rest period of 24 hours in each month, and in the remaining weeks of the month to take a rest day and a light day.
- We offer a Clergy Assistance Programme. More information about this can be found on our [website](#)
- We have a great property department, who will do their best to ensure your vicarage works for you and your family and is well maintained (see section 10 for more details about the vicarage).
- We have a beautiful diocesan retreat house in the grounds of a ruined Cistercian abbey in the beautiful Ribble valley, where clergy are welcome to have personal reading days for a modest charge (you can book in for lunch or bring your own).
- We encourage all parishes in vacancy to consider how they will 'pastor' and support their new priest. The diocese has an anti-bullying and anti-harassment policy.
- If you are looking for a spiritual director or a mentor we have an excellent Warden of Spiritual Direction and networks of people with whom we can put you in touch.
- We are always looking for ways for clergy to mix apart from work – including reading weeks, regular hospitality, a cricket team and a clergy walking group. Further suggestions are welcome.
- We offer free counselling to clergy and their families through the [Inter Diocesan Counselling Service](#) and our own Diocesan counsellor.
- Clergy Wellbeing is overseen by the Assistant Archdeacon for Clergy Wellbeing, Canon Neil Kelley. In addition our Dean of Women's Ministry, the Revd Lucie Lunn, offers support and care to female clergy in the Diocese.



Whalley Abbey Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer

5. What is the PCC's vision for the future?

Rooted in the love of Christ, we exist to bless the people of Cleveleys in Jesus' name.

We are a welcoming and inclusive church, committed to serving all in our community with compassion, generosity and joy. Through our worship, outreach and hospitality we are a place where faith and hope are shared, where the community can gather and where lives are enriched.

Our mission simply put:

Led by Jesus and through the Holy Spirit, we worship, welcome, serve and grow together in God's love.

Worshipping

Using language we all understand, curious or committed, old or young, all are part of our worship enabled to join in and contribute as they are able and feel comfortable. Together we learn more about Him through Bible study, teaching and prayer.

Our next steps are to:

- *Refresh and further develop our all age worship and our offer for children and families.*
- *Encourage more people to pray together with confidence and to lead our intercessions.*

Welcoming

Grounded in our belief in Christ, we open our doors to everyone – regulars, local community and visitors - offering a place of belonging and blessing and a chance to become part of something greater. Come and make yourself at home, this is your Father's house!

Our next steps are to:

- *Take our welcome and message of faith out of the building and into the community.*

Serving

We are joyful people, committed to caring for our local community and the wider world and supporting those in need with compassion and care.

Our next steps are to:

- *Continue to bless our community through our pastoral care, special services, events and wider support.*
- *Be at the heart of our local community as a visible witness for Christ.*



Growing

Living our faith openly, we share the Good News with generosity, gentleness and understanding. We are family, supporting each other as we continue to learn more and deepen our knowledge of God and scripture and inviting others to journey with us.

Our next steps are to:

- *Work towards establishing house groups and new ways of exploring scripture and deepening our faith together.*
- *Develop our digital outreach whilst not forgetting those with limited/no internet access.*



6. Who is God calling?

We are looking for a vicar who is:

SPIRITUALLY GROUNDED, PRAYERFUL AND COMPASSIONATE

A leader with a deep love of God and a reliance on the Holy Spirit, rooted in scripture and the historical Anglican tradition whilst also open to more creative expressions of worship that engage people of all ages and backgrounds.

APPROACHABLE, PASTORAL AND GOOD-HUMOURED

Present, visible and engaged in the life of the church and the wider community; comfortable in their own skin and able to get alongside, inspire and communicate powerfully and positively with all; and to do all this with a ready smile and good humour.

AN INSPIRING AND COLLABORATIVE LEADER

With good leadership skills, a thoughtful listener able to work effectively with others, encourage collaboration and meet people where they are; recognising, releasing and celebrating their gifts and frailties whatever their age or background; able to grow new leaders by encouraging those maturing in their faith and wishing to explore their next steps.

A CLEAR COMMUNICATOR

Confident and engaging in both spoken and written communication, able to share the gospel clearly and help develop and grow our faith both individually and as a parish community.

COMMITTED TO CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

With experience of working alongside children and young people in formal or informal settings, alongside a strong commitment to pastoral care for families across the parish; find joy in seeing young people flourish in their faith, both in church and in school.

COMMUNITY FOCUSED, MISSION MINDED

Able to support and encourage us as we step out to share our faith and prayerfully enable our church to continue to grow; able to engage with the community in an imaginative way to embed the positive work already done to establish St Andrew's as a focal point in our community - to be the Vicar of Cleveleys, not just the Vicar of St. Andrew's.

MINDFUL OF THEIR OWN WELLBEING

Resilient, able to recognise when it is time to take a break; someone who has access to a range of support, both spiritual and personal.



8. What is our Spiritual life?

Central to our Vision is our strong, holistic pattern of worship activity, with worship taking place at some point almost daily. Our tradition is central to liberal catholic. Our interpretation of this is wide and we welcome applicants who can express their tradition in a broad range of ways. Critical, however, is that candidates are demonstrably inclusive in their approach, so everyone experiences God's love, feels at home and knows they fit in. The Eucharist is the focus of much of our worship, with Eucharistic alternatives offered for Weddings and Funerals. Vestments are worn according to the season and the Sacrament is reserved in the Aumbry.

A typical week would follow this pattern:

- *Monday 9am, Morning Prayer;*
- *Monday 4pm once a month, Book of Common Prayer Healing Service;*
- *Tuesday 10am, Bible Study and Praying for Growth Group;*
- *Wednesday 9am, Morning Prayer;*
- *Thursday 10am, Said Eucharist, typical congregation c20, followed by refreshments in church hall;*
6pm SAS – Saint Andrew's Specials – worship activity (with food) for young people, grouped by age;
- *Friday 9am, Morning Prayer;*
- *Saturday 9am, short community prayers for weekly coffee break;*
- *Sunday 10.30am, Parish Eucharist, with monthly family-focused Faith Fusion Eucharist*
- *As required, Home Communions or prayers for sick, housebound or dying parishioners;*



Over the last couple of years, we have witnessed growth in numbers attending prayer services, but most notably, confidence amongst those attending to take the lead in prayer and Bible study. The Tuesday Praying for Growth activity focuses on praying for the Diocesan Vision and planned September 2026 Mission activity. Attendees at the weekday prayer activities are representatives of all other worshipping groups.

The congregation at the Thursday Eucharist is a quietly strong group, with a distinctively prayerful atmosphere. Here, we see a sustained congregation of around 20, with several congregants only attending worship on Thursdays.

We have a gently-growing congregation on Sunday mornings, with noticeable spikes in attendance at festival times. The small dips in between the spikes are slowly levelling outwards and upwards. We are nevertheless conscious of the need for our worship activity to remain vibrant, engaging and relevant, with strong links to our Vision. With this in mind, we believe we need to overhaul our all-age and child-focused provision to enable it to reflect our Vision.

We mustn't forget our four-legged friends, we are a dog friendly church and Bill, Leo, Dash, Peanut and Percy all join us for worship, bible study or prayer at different times. They all like the Saturday morning bacon butties best though!



9. What resources do we have?

We have been proactive in gathering together a range of resources to make our worship and mission the best it can be:

- Our ministry team comprises:
 - a full-time parish vicar;
 - three retired PTO priests, two of whom live in the parish, all of whom minister within the parish on an occasional basis;
 - three authorised lay ministers, one focusing on the ministry of the word, the others on our pastoral offering to a fairly large group of elderly, sick and/or housebound parishioners;
 - one currently training as authorised lay minister, with a focus on children and youth work;
 - one ordinand, currently exploring their vocation and expecting to begin formal training late in 2027. Their focus includes occasional preaching, intercessions and shadowing the vicar.
- Our leadership team comprises:
 - a full-time parish vicar;
 - two experienced churchwardens, who have links with the Deanery and wider Diocese;
 - a safeguarding team, with extensive experience of safeguarding both in church and professionally;
 - a vision champion with a real heart for mission and a hard working PCC.
- Our worship is largely led by our wonderful pipe organ, extensively restored in 2024, but is complemented with worship music from CD or online. Our organist, Alistair, is renowned across the Fylde coast, offering concerts on the pier and playing the world famous Blackpool Tower Wurlitzer.



- We have a large neo-Gothic building, built in 1910, then extended and re-ordered during the period since. The building comprises a large, flexible worship area with seating for up to 200, a Youth Chapel with comfy seating, a vestry and a small meeting room. The Community Hall consists of a large flexible space that is used by many community groups (weekly footfall c500), with a separate creche/play area, toilets, baby changing, store rooms and baptistry. This community area is served by a modern, well-equipped kitchen and a range of tables and chairs. We have Grade II listed status, however our beautiful church building is not without its challenges.



- At the time of building, red sandstone was fashionable and used extensively throughout in both window tracery and decorative dressings. Red sandstone has a lifespan of around 120 years and this, coupled with our location just 200m from the Irish Sea, means that we face significant repair challenges as the sandstone reverts to sand. We are meeting the challenge head-on with a prioritised programme of major repair. We have already halted further erosion of the sandstone tracery in the 4 worst-affected of our 23 windows. We are now turning our attention to the decorative dressings on the Tower, working with our architect and our appointed stonemason.
- We appointed a new architect 3 years ago. They are a key member of the Diocesan Advisory Committee. We have developed strong working relationships with Historic England and the National Churches Trust, and secured “Heritage at Risk” status late last year. Over the last couple of years, we have secured more than £60,000 of grant funding from various bodies.



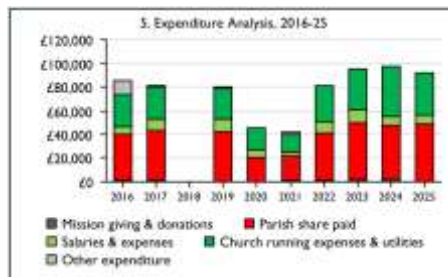
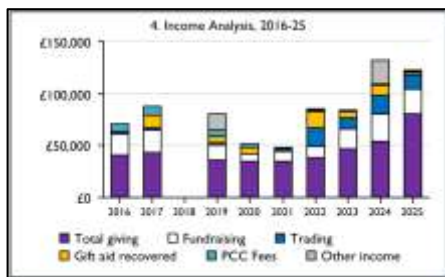
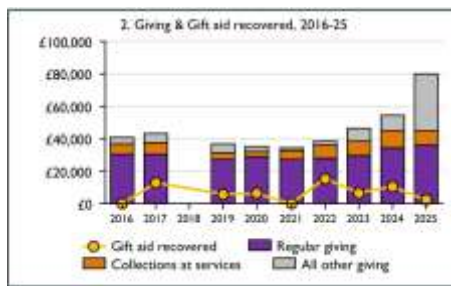
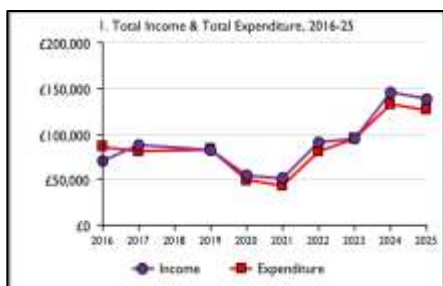
Whilst our building has its challenges, it is also a joy!
As the National Churches Trust puts it....



St Andrew's Church, Cleveleys is a place where community warmth meets rich heritage, offering visitors a unique blend of history, beauty, and belonging. Built from striking Oxford limestone, the church has a gentle golden glow that catches the light in every season, giving the building a timeless presence at the heart of Cleveleys. Its architecture invites you in before you even step through the doors.

- Outside are small gardens with a few trees, lawns and flowerbeds. These are maintained largely by parish volunteers, with grass-cutting support from gardeners.
- There is a Columbarium for the burial of cremated remains. Within the columbarium lies the town's War Memorial garden. We also care for a Commonwealth War Grave.

- Whilst large-scale repairs are looked after by professional contractors, we have recently gathered together a group of volunteer parishioners, who look after minor repairs around the plant.
- We have a strong relationship with the local volunteer community group, with which we work on the delivery of witness events at Christmas, Easter and Remembrance. We have strong working relationships with local undertakers (working together with one of these, we have developed a bereavement support group) and the NHS Social Prescribing Team, who "prescribe" support from our pastoral team.
- Our finances are sound and are very carefully managed by the Treasury Team and the wider PCC. We have two accounts, one for the day-to-day running of the church and one for Special Projects which is used to meet the most pressing needs of the time and has funded salary costs for a youth worker and at other times the preservation of our sacred worship space. We have paid our Parish Share in full for the last 5 years and our planned giving has gone up steadily post pandemic from £27,187 (£10.05 per giver) in 2021 to £34,897 (£14.27 per giver) in 2025.



- As well as our giving, we receive a steady income from lettings and work hard to raise additional funds through events. We became a registered charity in 2025.
- Despite finances being tight at times we make positive choices to support our community, donating money each month to our local homeless charity, giving a tenth of all we make at our Saturday Coffee Break to Christian Aid and donating half of all money received at baptism services to Brian House our local children's hospice; as we thank God for the gift of a new life it is important we also remember those for whom life is challenging and sadly short.

10. Vicarage and Education Options



The vicarage was built in 1984. It is detached, south facing and set on a large triangular plot adjacent to the church, with views of the North side of the church. The vicarage is accessible from the main road via a private drive. It has 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom (undergoing extensive refurbishment), 2 separate WCs (1 downstairs) and a study, which is accessible without going through the private accommodation. There is a large living room, a smaller dining room and a kitchen with utility area. The study, living room, and dining room all have sliding patio doors. There is a large double garage, with secure access from the back door/utility area.

Both vicarage and church have excellent transport links. There is a bus station, bus stops and tram stop all 2 minutes' walk away, offering good bus links to Blackpool, Fleetwood and Preston. National Rail services are accessible from Blackpool North and Poulton-le-Fylde, both a short, 25-minute bus or tram journey from St Andrew's. We are located 200m from the sea front. The Promenade offers a footpath and cycle track along the coast, with stunning views across to the Lakeland Fells, North Wales and, occasionally, the Isle of Man.

Equally as the vicarage is located down a private drive, it offers a good level of privacy – a privacy which the PCC and church members consider important to respect. We very much recognise the need for you to spend time with family, to rest and be refreshed and believe the vicarage to be well located to support that.



There are several nurseries and two community primary schools within the parish. We have good working relationships with them, including a programme of regular visits to church and opportunities to lead worship and support the RE curriculum in school. We also have a very positive relationship with the Church of England High School many of our children attend, our previous vicar being a Foundation Governor and leading worship there regularly. Our closest high school is located in a neighbouring parish.



<https://manorbeachprimary.co.uk>



<https://www.northfold.lancs.sch.uk>



Millfield Science and Performing Arts College

<https://millfield.lancs.sch.uk>



St. Aidan's Church of England Technical College, Preesall

<http://www.st-aidans.lancs.sch.uk>

11. What is the community we serve?



Oh I do love to be beside the seaside, I do love to be beside the sea

If this is you then Cleveleys might be exactly what you are looking for!

Cleveleys is a small town on the Irish Sea coast of Lancashire, sitting roughly half-way between its larger and flashier neighbour Blackpool and the former fishing community of Fleetwood.



Cleveleys sprang up in the latter half of the 19th Century as a small resort, just down the road from its much older neighbour Thornton. From the early 1900s until around 1960, the town grew rapidly, with Cleveleys becoming popular both as a holiday resort and a weekend seaside retreat for wealthy North West industrialists and then later as a popular retirement area for many people from towns and cities such as Manchester, Oldham and Rochdale. By the 1950s, Cleveleys was a prosperous town in its own right with a reputation as one of Blackpool's smarter neighbours. Nowadays, Cleveleys is a popular place with day trippers, especially when the sun's shining!

Behind all this, the resident population of Cleveleys (2021 census - 11,269, of which 9,566 live within the parish) is quite a mix of ages, from young families, attracted by relatively low property prices, to retired people, with this latter group being the largest in terms of numbers. There isn't a huge ethnic mix - the population is predominantly White British, with small Asian, East European and other communities, too.

Cleveleys isn't the wealthy place it once was – it now has an urban deprivation score of 12%, down from 22.4% in 2011. Nevertheless, crime rates are relatively low, and it feels a reasonably safe place to be, even if a bit frayed round some edges – although we do have a very modern award-winning seafront – a great place to be on a sunny day!

Looking further afield, if you're a stranger to Lancashire, it's not all mills and cobbled back streets! The West Pennine Moors, Ribble Valley and Trough of Bowland boast some of the finest hill-country scenery in the UK, with picture-postcard villages and a number of award-winning paces to eat and drink – all around 45 minutes travel away from Cleveleys. Then there's the Lake District and North Yorkshire Dales just 60 to 90 minutes up the M6, and easy access to the rest of the motorway network via the M55 just 9 miles away.



So what are our challenges? As with all seaside towns we have seasonal jobs, relatively low incomes and some issues with homelessness amongst the community. As a church, we need to be more representative of our community – currently we have more people on our electoral roll who live outside the parish than in it.

And what are the best things about the place? Well, although it's sometimes windy and rainy, it's almost always mild (what's snow?) and the sunsets are amazing!

And there's a Parish Church, known for its warm welcome, right at the heart of the town and dedicated to St. Andrew!

12. How do we serve our community?

Our church is alive with activity, every single day! In fact we estimate over 500 people come into the building each week and, on weeks where we have special events or services, that can rise to around 800! We are fortunate that we are just a minute's walk from the town centre, on 2 different bus routes and close to the tram stop which puts us right at the heart of our town.

We are very thankful to be able to share significant life events with members of our community and love to welcome and bless all who wish to take their first steps in following Jesus through baptism, make their wedding vows before God or celebrate the life of someone special.



	2022	2023	2024	2025
Baptism	24	24	15	15
Weddings	2	1	0	1
Funerals	11	15	13	11



Every Saturday morning the doors of church are flung open as we hold our Coffee Break. This is supported by so many people from the congregation - in the kitchen, on the door, collecting and offering things to sell and running stalls. Together this amazing team raise thousands of pounds each year for our church but actually the money raised, however vital to our general finances, is incidental to the mission and ministry provided to our wider community. For many in Cleveleys it is a lifeline each week, a space to come out, have a chat, find a bargain and enjoy a coffee and bacon butty; whilst for others it is a window to faith and a first step back to church. Even more special are our annual Spring Fayre and our wonderful Christmas Tree Festival!

The Christmas Tree Festival in particular brings our whole community together as nurseries, schools, voluntary groups and businesses all compete to win the trophy for "best dressed tree"!

The weekly Warm Welcome similarly offers a place for people to meet, share food and chat. In these days, when we recognise that loneliness is a major concern amongst elderly people and finances a struggle, this is a vital service to our community. Once a month Warm Welcome are joined by our bereavement group and on a different week the Hope and Shelter Wyre Hub is available in church for offering a meal to those in need and advice to those who find themselves struggling with poverty or homelessness. We lead on this offer, working alongside the Social Prescribing Team and other local organisations, churches and charities – we seek to be a voice for the voiceless.

For several years now we've been prolific supporters of local charities - the Food Bank Collection, the Sure Start Christmas Toy Collection, the Harvest gifts (supporting the homeless in our community) and providing toiletries and toys for the Women's Refuge. Through all of these events we are being the light of Christ in our community of Cleveleys.

We have a small Ukrainian community and since the early days of the war have provided a home for them to raise funds to send back home and to come together for cultural celebrations.





We have both guiding and scouting groups meeting in our church, with a full complement of rainbows, brownies, guides and rangers; beavers, cubs and scouts.



We have our own Toddlers Group which is very lively and welcoming of young families. The children and their families enjoy well resourced sessions each week and each child is given gifts and/or books with a Christian message for Christmas and Easter.



We are fortunate to have a number of groups using our space to run a whole range of activities, all of which support different needs in our community. From taekwondo to keep fit for the elderly, from ballroom dancing to line dancing there is something for everyone in our church. Capricorn Singers – an award winning ladies choir – rehearse in our worship space and kindly offer concerts to raise money for us. They are an amazing support, raising over £3,000 for our building appeal last year.

We've also enjoyed concerts from the Lytham St. Annes Sea Shanty Crew, the Houghton Weavers and various brass bands, not forgetting our annual Burns Night celebration – neeps and tatties and a ceilidh, who could ask for more – we are St Andrew's after all!



Cleveleys is a relatively new place, with comparatively few historic buildings, however, St Andrew's houses a significant piece of Cleveleys Heritage – the "Abana Bell" <https://www.liveblackpool.info/about/seafront/north-shore-abana-shipwreck/>. The bell forms one of the foundations of our regular schools heritage weeks, which sees several hundred children from five local primary schools come into church to explore the rich heritage of our building and something of the faith of St Andrew's worshipping community through the ages. Children have thought about Remembrance and the ultimate sacrifice made by so many, they have rung the Abana bell and heard of its rescue from the stormy Irish Sea and they have learned more about church furniture and in particular the stained glass windows. They have also heard about Baptism and Eucharist, they have talked about hope through hardship and sacrifice and they have explored some of the stories of Jesus through the windows – a programme designed to share the heritage of our building but also mission in sharing a little of the faith we hold so dear. This work has been showcased as good practice by our Diocese – watch it in action on the Diocesan YouTube channel: [How can we build relationships with local schools? // Board of Education Showcase](#)



It isn't just the children who appreciate the opportunity to hear about the bell, we open our doors each year as part of the national Heritage Open Days and lots of selfies are snapped as the bell is rung!

Our building is well-used and well-loved in our community!

Our latest venture – taking God out into the community through our ecumenical missional choir "Sound of Hope". We come together from different churches and denominations, rehearse weekly in our church then sing God's praises across the Fylde Coast – from sharing the joy of Christmas at Blackpool Tower to the hope of Easter on the Comedy Carpet, not forgetting our own high street.



And our bible study group have also met on occasions in Wetherspoons, breakfast and bible, not a bad start to the day!



We are

*Blessing the people of
Cleveleys in Jesus' Name*



Do you feel called to join us?



If so, we can't wait to hear from you!
God bless from all at St. Andrew's