



St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



Annual Trustees' Report, Financial Statement and Parish Reports of

**The Parochial Church Council
For the year ended 31st December 2018**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby,

Kirk Lane, BD23 6SF



All Age Worship in full Swing

Vicar

Revd Louise Taylor-Kenyon

Associate Priest

Revd Tim Calow

Banks :

HSBC

63 High Street

Skipton

Santander

Bridle Road, Bootle

Independent Examiner:

Mr David Charlton

6 St Mary's Green

Carleton

Reg. Charity Number 1166269

**The Annual General Meeting for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin,
Embsay with Eastby**

Sunday 28th April 2019 at 11.00am

AGENDA

The Meeting of Parishioners.

- 1) The appointment of the Clerk
- 2) Chair's welcome and opening prayer
- 3) Apologies
- 4) Minutes of the previous meeting
- 5) The election of churchwardens

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

1. The appointment of the Clerk
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting
4. Electoral Roll report
5. The Elections:
 - i) The election of the Parochial Church Council
 - ii) The election of sidespersons
6. The Annual Report
7. The Financial Statements:
 - i) Presentation of the Examined Accounts
 - ii) Independent Examiner's Report
 - iii) Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2018
 - iv) Gift Aid Officer's Report
8. Churchwardens' Report – Fabric, goods and ornaments
9. Skipton Deanery Synod Report
10. The Parish Reports
11. Date of the next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
12. Any other business

Church of St Mary the Virgin Embsay with Eastby

Annual Meetings Sunday 8th April 2018 11.00am

Meeting of Parishioners

1. Simon Smith proposed and Jane Eastwood seconded Peter Edwards (PE) as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously.
2. Revd Louise Taylor-Kenyon (LTK) opened with prayers.
3. Apologies received from Pam and Glenn Meakin
4. Sylvia Hodgkinson (SH) proposed and Liz Roodhouse (LR) seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the 2017 meeting and all those who had attended that meeting agreed with their acceptance.
5. LTK thanked Tony Stearn (TS) for seven years of service as Churchwarden which would end on May 16th. She also thanked LR who had agreed to stand again as warden, she was proposed by Bridget Edwards (BE) and seconded by Mary Dibb (MD). Peter Edwards was proposed by Yvonne Clemminson (YC) as the second churchwarden, and seconded by Shirley Moorhouse (SM). Each was elected unanimously.

The meeting closed at 11.20.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Appointment of the clerk;** SH proposed and Sue Davies (SD) seconded Peter Edwards as Clerk, which was agreed unanimously.
2. **Apologies** were received from Pam and Glenn Meakin
3. **Minutes of the 2017 meeting.** SD proposed, and SM seconded their acceptance, they were agreed unanimously by all who had been at that meeting.
4. **Electoral Roll report:** Carol Smith reported that there were 70 on the roll at the time of the meeting and there had been the following additions and deletions:

Additions: Mary Dibb, Daphne Jepps, Nicola Osborn, Nigel Osborn, Anne Rawson,
David Ralph.

Deletions: Patricia Harris, Anthony Luce, Margaret Luce, Janet Catling.

LTk thanked CS for her work as Electoral Roll Officer.

5. Election of members to the PCC. There were 3 vacancies following the end of the terms of office of Justin Gartland and Linda Gartland. There were two nominations for the vacancies:

Jane Eastwood was proposed by SH and seconded by TS,
unanimously elected.

Sue Davies had been proposed by PE and seconded by TS,
unanimously elected.

Election of the Sidespersons: The list was read out by PE, Daphne Jepps was added to the list from the floor. ER proposed, and Simon S seconded their election; unanimously elected.

6. The Review of the Year

LTk introduced the Trustees' Report in the new format which is required to conform with the requirements of the Charity Commissioners. She drew the attention of the meeting to the approved Aims and Purposes of the St Mary's community as stated in the report. She then showed the interpretation of these Aims and Purposes as set out in a summary diagram which had been derived from the Vision 2030 discussions. She demonstrated how the themes set out in the Trustees' Report link back to those Aims and Purposes. The meeting was then given a brief period to individuals to select one aspect and, in small groups, discuss its relationship with our Aims and the evolution of the St Mary's plan. Simon Smith pointed out that it was important to take both the community and spiritual development forward as well as maintaining the fabric in good condition; the latter being an expression of the importance which we give to the former. Maintaining an open church in the community throughout

the day was seen as an important part of that and there was evidence that this was welcomed by the wider village community. SM commented that St Mary's is a forward-looking, flexible and collaborative community. LTK emphasised that this was work in progress, not a finished state.

7. The Financial Statement

SD summarised the accounts and drew attention to additions to the list of regular givers. She stressed the beneficial nature of standing orders and envelopes as means of planned giving to the church. It had been necessary to draw £2500 from reserves to meet the 2017 share in order to break even and the Parish Share would increase in 2018 to £38,318. She explained that the Parish Deposit holds a major legacy whose allocation had been agreed for implementation later in the year. SH pointed out that the Town Hall Café, which had been a significant part of fund-raising in recent years, would not be available in future. LTK explained the disadvantageous working of the Parish Share calculation which resulted in a progressive year-on-year increase for St Mary's. Discussions were ongoing to have that formula reviewed. SM pointed out that a small increase in donations from every member of the community would make a significant aggregate difference over the course of a year. Simon S emphasised the need for the formula to be reviewed. LTK pointed out that the accounts had been approved by the PCC and approved by George Howard our independent inspector. After her nine years in the role SD was handing over the role of Treasurer to Jenny Johnson. LTK recorded the warm thanks of the St Mary's community to George Howard. PE proposed thanks to SD which was enthusiastically endorsed.

Appointment of an Independent Examiner

BE proposed George Howard and Simon S seconded his appointment as the independent examiner. This was unanimously agreed. His work over the years has been very highly valued.

Gift Officer's report. LTK highlighted the main points in the report, stressing the benefits which accrue from Gift Aid. In his absence JG was thanked for his work.

Reserves Report. LTK outlined the reserve funds held by the church, pointing out that they were committed to specific purposes.

8. Churchwardens' Report. There were no questions from the meeting in relation to the fabric and contents of the church. LTK thanked all those who assist the Churchwardens in carrying out their roles; LR recorded her thanks to all who collaborated in maintaining the church's fabric and organising the worship. She viewed that collaboration she saw as a key aspect of the community.

9. Deanery Synod. BE added to the written report that she found the meetings interesting and informative about how other churches were organised. She drew attention to the forthcoming meeting on May 3rd at Scargill which will be attended by Bishop Helen-Ann.

10. Parish reports;

a. Safeguarding Report

LTK summarised that there had been no incidents in the course of the year and that the new system for DBS checks was in place. She thanked Christine Stewart-Jones for her work as Safeguarding Officer.

b. School Report

In addition to referring the meeting to the written report, LTK described the Palm Sunday service which began at the school and proceeded through a walk to the church and then in St Mary's Tim Calow and LTK had recounted the story of Holy Week. This provided the children and staff with experience of an act of worship in church which for many of

them would not be a frequent experience. They will be returning for a service at Pentecost.

c. Tuesday Teas

SH added to her report with a special word of thanks to all who assist with Tuesday Teas. She pointed out that the contributions from TT to the Mothers' Union contributed to the provision of holiday opportunities on the East Coast for some who might not otherwise get that chance.

d. Embsay and Eastby Good Neighbours

LTK pointed out although that was not a church organisation, it was strongly supported by members' of St Mary's at the organisational level. BE added that many of the volunteers were not part of the church and that Good Neighbours was a truly village-wide organisation. She referred those present to the positive editorial in the Embsay and Eastby Good news for April 2018.

e. Band

Diana spoke of the value of Yvonne's leadership and emphasised just what a welcoming group it was. New members of any instrumental standard would be very welcome.

f. Choir

Jennifer Stearn recommended people to join the choir which was an enjoyable social group as well as one providing music for our services.

g. Smiley faces

LR described the thriving nature of Smiley faces and quoted from the appreciative comments of those who attended on Fridays. She recorded her thanks to all those who assisted each week.

11. Date of the next APCM: Sunday 28th April 2019

12. Other Contributions:

LTK thanked all those who had written reports and drew attention to new things which were in the pipeline. She especially thanked Tim Calow both for covering for her Sabbatical but also for his contribution throughout the year which provided a contrasting ministry from her own style.

Jane Eastwood reported on the continuing presence of the Mothers' Union as a worthwhile venture which had very committed members including those from Holy Trinity and Christ Church in Skipton.

SH recorded appreciation for the contribution which Jenny Smith makes to worship on Tuesdays.

PE spoke on behalf of the whole meeting when he expressed thanks to LTK for her leadership throughout the year.

The meeting closed at 12.29.

Trustees' Report for 2018

Approved by the PCC on 20th March 2019

Aims and Purposes

St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby, Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Louise Taylor-Kenyon, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. This is expressed in our parish statement of intent: *We, the community of St Mary's, aim to create a welcoming and inspiring place where people of every age can meet God, who we know as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and can recognise his presence in our lives and in one another. We believe that we are loved and blessed by God, and that we have a responsibility to share our blessings with one another and with the wider community, of all faiths and none.*

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to nurturing faith by enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Mary's and to become part of our church community, and to enable people to live out their faith in day to day life. In order to achieve this we have continued to use our Plan for Growth to give us an overview of how we improve and maintain the church building and churchyard, which are the visible symbols of our presence in the community, how we develop worship for children and families, how we increase community involvement and ecumenical links, and how we develop our own spirituality.

The Episcopal Area's call to engage in challenging conversations about the future, 'Vision 2030', has been embraced by the PCC and by St Mary's worshipping community, and will inform our future planning as we try to enable ordinary people to live faithful, loving, and God-focussed lives.

Achievements and performance

The church building and churchyard:

Maintenance is undertaken and checked on a regular basis, using the St Mary's Management and Maintenance Plan. Minor items connected to the completion of 'A Roof of our Future' the project for restoration of the church roof were completed just before the end of 2018.

A problem with water ingress during 2017 has been resolved and the damaged walls redecorated. The small pump which clears rainwater from the cellar has struggled with the task and has failed on several occasions. A temporary solution has been found, but a larger and more robust pump will need to be installed in 2019. The unusually hot summer has caused some cracking to plaster panels on the interior of the roof, which were patched with wooden boarding, and again, this will need a more permanent solution in future.

'Looking Both Ways', a project to restore the stained and painted glass windows has been taking shape throughout the year. Funding has been obtained from a number of different sources, and a contractor appointed to begin work in March 2019. Embsay Primary School has been involved in the project by developing plans for painted silk panels to replace the windows when they are removed for restoration. Every child has painted a window design which will be used to create seven panels, and each year group will collaborate in painting 'their' panel. After the windows are completed the panels will be shared between church and school on a rotating basis.

The churchyard continues to be kept in excellent condition, and the skills of the Churchyard Research Group are regularly called upon both here and further afield. A tree survey undertaken in 2017 resulted in the yew trees by the path being cut back, two boundary trees being removed and some remedial work to other trees taking place during February 2018.

Developing worship and engaging with children and families:

During the year we had a total of six baptisms, six funerals in the church and four funerals taken by St Mary's clergy at Waltonwrays Chapel.

Unusually, no weddings took place, and no one in the parish has asked for their banns to be called. All Age Worship continues to attract a number of families who come on a regular basis, as well as people who have come for the first time. Smiley Faces Toddler Praise is very popular with families from the villages and further afield.

In terms of numbers, our 'Worshipping Community', which includes all those who attend worship and Smiley Faces regularly, stands at 140, up from 135 at the end of 2017. The average number of adults (over 16) over the year attending Sunday services has decreased after a significant increase in 2017– from 49 to 46, back to the 2016 figure. If baptism attendance and other special services are taken out of the figures, the average has decreased from 44 to 40. On an 'ordinary' Sunday, adult attendance remains between 34 and 44. Overall average attendance at all services has slightly decreased from 54 to 53 – again, the same as the 2016 figure. However, the number of committed members of St Mary's has increased – the Electoral Roll has increased from 68 people in January to 71 at the end of 2018, and a high number of people attend weekday events, including study groups.

Since he was licensed to the parish at the end of 2016 Revd Tim Calow has shared leadership of worship with Louise, and this collaborative approach is working well. Revd Bob Mitchell has also joined the clergy team, after retiring to Skipton from Hampshire.

Following the 'Vision 2030' process, consultation about how to involve adults and children more fully into the life of St Mary's is ongoing, but there are many claims on families' time: although Smiley Faces and All Age Worship continue to be popular, an after-school group piloted in the

summer was not well attended. The children's workshop on Good Friday was offered to Smiley Faces families as well as school age children, and was very successful, and at Christmas the children's craft workshop during the Christmas Bazaar & Brunch was also very popular, ably organised by Julia Lovell.

Community Involvement and Ecumenical links:

During 2018 the Embsay & Eastby Good Neighbours scheme, which is intended to provide assistance in a variety of ways for village residents, has gone from strength to strength, largely due to the work of the Volunteer Co-ordinator, Bridget Edwards. Five of the eight people on the management committee are members of the congregation of St Mary's., and many of the volunteers are also linked to the church. The Tuesday Teas drop-in cafe continues to welcome a regular group of up to 10 people plus any number of occasional visitors, and a very successful tea party was held in July for older members of the community.

St Mary's is a Fairtrade Church and this year also gained EcoChurch status at Bronze level. Embsay with Eastby is a Fairtrade Village, and church involvement is part of this. A Fairtrade stall is frequently available on Sundays, and is taken too many village and school events both in Embsay with Eastby and further afield, this year to Skipton and to Lothersdale.

The Embsay with Eastby Village News, which goes to two thirds of the households in the villages, has information about services and events every month, and Louise writes a comment piece every other month, alternating with Revd Janet Clasper from the Methodist Chapel.

St Mary's is part of Churches Together in Skipton and District: we share worship with Embsay Methodist Chapel on fifth Sundays of the month, as well as on Remembrance Sunday, and the quarterly ecumenical lunch between churchwardens, ministers and church and chapel representatives has continued to take place. We continue to take turns

at leading Carols at the Elm Tree on Christmas Eve and to share evening services and reflections as well as an outdoor Pet Service in July.

Members of the congregation from the Priory Church at Bolton Abbey, one of our neighbouring parishes, joined St Mary's for a Two-Parish Pilgrimage at Pentecost, starting at Bolton Priory and ending with Songs of Praise at St Mary's. In November St Mary's was strongly represented at the village memorial weekend for Remembrance and the 100th anniversary of the ending of the First World War.

We have close links with Embsay Primary School. Members of St Mary's volunteer at the school each week and Louise takes Collective Worship every fortnight. After many years as a Governor Sue Davies resigned in September 2017 and Helen Ralph was appointed as Foundation Governor in her place. Joanne Lloyd stepped down as Chair of Governors during the year, and John Lovell stepped down as a Foundation Governor. As well as Harvest, Christmas and Leavers' services, the whole school came to church on Ash Wednesday and on Ascension Day.

Developing spirituality

Baptism preparation courses are shared with Christ Church, Skipton, to which parents and godparents are invited. A new regular prayer group meets on Monday afternoons, with requests for prayer coming from members of the congregation, from the local community and from further afield.

Morning Prayer continues every weekday morning, led by a number of different people, both clergy and lay and is very rarely said alone. The church is open every day and electronic candles are available for anyone to light at our prayer table, which also gives an opportunity to leave written prayers. A very successful study group was held in the autumn, led by Revd Tim Calow at the Elm Tree pub, 'Exploring Faith', looking at

different writers' thoughts about faith: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Julian of Norwich, William Wilberforce and Stevie Smith.

In addition....

We have continued to look outwards to the world around us, with a regular delivery of donated food to Skipton Food Bank, as well as giving away 5% of our income to different charities, and responding to emergency appeals.

The six strands emerging from the 2017 Vision 2030 process:

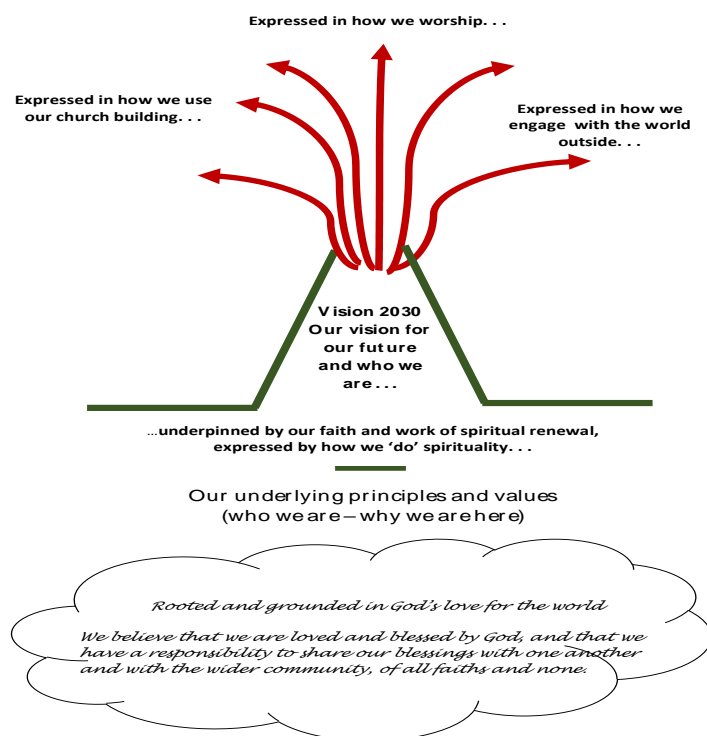
- the Church as part of the community
- Spiritual growth/spirituality
- Children and families
- St Mary's as a building
- Music
- What happens in church/the church community

have been simplified, and incorporated into the parish Plan for Growth, with decisions made about priorities, timing and leadership of each activity. During a follow-up session in February a lot of thought went into creating a visual interpretation of how we see ourselves, as seen below.

Towards the end of the year Louise announced that she would be leaving St Mary's in March 2019 to take up a post in the Diocese of Newcastle – her perception is that the parish is full of energy and life, and that this is a good time to step away from all that is happening here as the parish will continue to flourish. A lot of work is taking place to make sure that the regular worship of the church continues, daily and weekly, and all the jobs that need to be done to keep everything in order will continue. Everyone in the church community plays their part, but particular thanks are due to Revd Tim Calow, to Tony Stearn, Liz Roodhouse and Peter Edwards as

Church Wardens, to Sue Stearn as PCC secretary, to Jenny Johnson as Treasurer, Pam Meakin for her flower arranging and Verger duties and Sylvia Hodgkinson as Sacristan and for managing Tuesday Teas. Thanks are also due to all the PCC for their support, the All Age Worship and Smiley Faces teams for their input, all those who serve in the sidesteam, as intercessors, readers, chalice assistants and coffee makers, and everyone who plays their part in building up our church community.

The PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Embsay with Eastby



Louise Taylor- Kenyon, Vicar of St Mary's

Financial Review

(Full details of the 2018 accounts are included at the end of the Trustees' report.)

Treasurer's Report for 2018

Once again, we have paid the share in full for 2018 amounting to £38,313. Unfortunately, to do this, we again (as in 2017) had to use significant funds from our reserves in the Parish Deposit Account (of £7,435), which is unsustainable going forward. The share for 2019 has increased to £39,387, which is an increase of 3% on last year. It will be a very big challenge to pay this in full.

Looking back over the last ten years it is interesting to see that the share has fluctuated from the lowest in 2013 of £27,292 to the highest in 2009 of £44,022. It is worrying to see that it is heading towards the higher amount once again. In 2009, 2010 and 2011 we were not able to pay the share in full despite dipping into our reserves.

Every year St Mary's has shown great generosity in giving to charity and in total, since 2008, we have paid over £27,000 to various charities chosen by the congregation. We supported 12 charities during 2018 paying to them a total of £2,000. A list of the charities supported is on the noticeboard. These amounts show what a generous and kind congregation we continue to have at St Mary's.

Again, fund-raising events in 2018 have been well supported, raising a total of £4,863, with an extra £2,287 being raised for the windows project taking place in 2019. The money raised at these events plays a very important part in helping us to 'pay our way' and cover all our expenses and will play an important part in helping to raise the extra 3% increase in our share. A selection of people have been involved in masterminding these fund-raising events and their help is greatly appreciated.

Two Bursary Grants of £200 each were paid in 2018.

A Gift Day was held again in 2018 and a total of £3,420 was donated by generous villagers (very similar to the amount raised in 2017).

My grateful thanks to Sue Davies for supporting me in taking over the role of Treasurer and for the help of David Charlton for stepping in to check our accounts at the last minute.

Jenny Johnson, Treasurer

Gift Aid Officer's Report

Thank you to all of those who gave generously to the Church through last year. My role is to process the Gift Aided giving tax rebate that we can claim on all giving that is gift-aided and declared eligible. Fortunately, we have quite a few members of the congregation who pay tax and can help us benefit from this scheme.

For the calendar year 2018, within which I have so far submitted claims to end October, we have reclaimed £5,564. With the balance of the year to claim to end December, which will include Gift Day donations, much of which is Gift Aided, I hope that we can reach the circa £8,000 annual payment from HMRC that we reclaimed last year.

As usual, I am asking that if anyone can claim tax back from donations (i.e. if you are a UK tax payer and the tax you pay is at least equal to the amount of tax that we or any other charities will claim back), then you complete the requisite Gift Aid Declaration and allow us to reclaim this tax, which as you can see, represents a significant contribution to St Mary's funds.

Justin Gartland, Gift Aid Officer

Reserves. We hold reserves in the following funds; the balances at the end of 2018 were as shown:

Restricted / Designated Accounts: We hold money in the following accounts and the balances as at the end of 2018 are shown:

Restoration Account (£20,682.64):

This account holds funds that are to be used only on the fabric and furnishings of St Mary's and is augmented by specified donations, appeals, bequests and the annual Gift Day.

Parish Deposit Account (£18,075.82):

The account holds St Mary's operating reserves and any legacies left to St Mary's for specific purposes.

Bursary Account (£1,073.38):

This account was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel.

Window Account (£29,674.06):

This account holds the balance of income for the windows project starting in March 2019.

Unrestricted Accounts:

HSBC Current Account (£ 2,242.15):

This is the only unrestricted account that St Mary's operates and is used for day to day financial processing of all income and expenditure.

Reserves Policy: In the past, an informal Operating Reserves Policy has been in operation, however, a formal policy will be implemented in 2019, as follows;

St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council Operating Reserve Policy

This policy was approved by the PCC on 20th March, 2019 and signed on their behalf by Liz Roodhouse vice chair and Sue Stearn PCC secretary.

The purpose of the Operating Policy for St Mary the Virgin Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to make sure that the mission, programmes, employment and ongoing operations of the Church remain stable. The Operating Reserve is intended to provide an internal source of funds for situations such as a sudden increase in expenses, a significant drop in a source of income, one-time unbudgeted expenses and unexpected large repair-bills. Operating Reserves are not intended to replace a permanent loss of funds or eliminate an ongoing budget gap. As and when the Operating Reserves are used, it is the aim of St Mary the Virgin's PCC for the reserves to be replenished on a schedule agreed by themselves.

Definitions and Goals

The Operating Reserve Fund is a designated fund set aside by action of the PCC. It is a dynamic fund and will be reviewed and adjusted in response to any internal and external changes as required.

The PCC aims to keep approximately three months of average Church operating costs in reserves as a minimum. The calculation of average monthly operating costs includes all recurring, predictable expenses such as salaries, utilities, charity payments, etc. Depreciation, in-kind, and other non-cash expenses are not included in the calculation. The amount of the Operating Reserve Fund will be calculated each year after the approval of the annual budget, reported to the PCC and included in the regular financial reports.

Accounting for Reserves

The Operating Reserve Fund will be recorded in the financial records as PCC-Designated Operating Reserve. It will be funded and available in cash. Operating Reserves will be kept in the Operating Reserves Fund account (Parish deposit account) of St Mary the Virgin's PCC.

Funding of Reserves

The PCC will aim to fund the Operating Reserve with surplus unrestricted operating funds where possible. The PCC may from time to time direct that a specific source of revenue be set aside for Operating Reserves. Examples may include one-time gifts or bequests, special grants or special appeals.

Use of Reserves

Use of Operating Reserves requires three steps:

- 1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds**
- 2. Authority to use operating reserves**
- 3. Reporting and monitoring**

1. Identification of appropriate use of reserve funds

The PCC will identify the need for access to reserve funds and confirm that the use is consistent with the purpose as described in this policy. This step will require analysis of the reason for the shortfall, the availability of any other sources of funds before using reserves and evaluation of the time period that the funds will be required and replenished.

2. Authority to use operating reserves

Authority for use of Operating Reserves lies with the PCC. The use of Operating Reserves will be reported to the PCC at a scheduled meeting, accompanied by the analysis and determination of the use of funds and a schedule for repayment.

3. Reporting and monitoring

The PCC is responsible for ensuring that the Operating Reserve Fund is maintained and used as described in this policy. Upon approval for the use of Operating Reserve funds, the Treasurer will maintain records for the use of funds and schedule for repayment with support from the PCC. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the PCC of progress with regards to the repayment schedule.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, at a minimum, by the PCC, or sooner if required by internal or external events or changes. Changes to the policy are to be agreed by the PCC.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC at St Mary's consists of the Vicar, Associate Priest, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Deanery Synod representatives and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the parish. All those within our congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met on ten occasions in 2018 and attendance was at least 77.5% on each occasion.

There was one Open Meeting for anyone within the villages to raise questions about St Mary's. The meeting was attended by twenty four people and a summary of the discussion was made available.

Safeguarding Report

Many of us feel Privileged to live within the community of Embsay with Eastby, quietly caring villages where a great deal of awareness for neighbours, and those who are vulnerable is carried out without praise or a need for reward, echoed too within the church of Saint Mary.

This year many of us have refreshed our knowledge on safeguarding training courses. No incidents have been referred to me, but I feel sure that we continue to remain vigilant.

One new DBS check is taking place at the moment, and as our parish increases and more people become involved with the work and duties of the church, there may be more to come in 2019.

Christine Stewart Jones, Parish Safeguarding officer.

Administrative information

The Church of St Mary the Virgin provides for the villages of Embsay and Eastby in the Skipton Deanery of Ripon Area within the Diocese of Leeds.

The PCC is a body corporate and a registered charity (No. 1166269)

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 21 Shires Lane, Embsay, Skipton BD23 6SB

Members of the Parochial Church Council in 2018

Vicar	Revd Louise Taylor-Kenyon (ex officio chair)	
Associate Priest	Revd Tim Calow	
Churchwardens:	Peter Edwards	
	Liz Roodhouse	
Deanery Synod Reps	Sue Stearn	2017-2020
	Bridget Edwards	2017-2020
Treasurer	Jenny Johnson	co-opted 2018
Elected members	David Jones	2017-2020
	Simon Smith	2017-2020
	Christine Stewart-Jones	2017-2020
	Sylvia Hodgkinson	2016-2019
	Sue Davies	2018-2021
	Jane Eastwood	2018-2021
	Vacancy	2015-

The PCC is clerked by Sue Stearn

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted Account	Restoration Account	Parish Deposit Account	Windows Account	Bursary Account	Total 2018	Total 2017
Receipts							
Gift Aided Giving	2,312.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,312.50	1,494.00
Planned Giving	22,298.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,298.00	20,763.00
Collections and other regular giving	3,032.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,032.96	3,403.18
Income tax/VAT recovered	9,400.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,400.85	11,403.08
SUB TOTAL	37,044.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37,044.31	37,063.26
Other voluntary receipts (note 4a)	6,122.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,122.20	8,491.14
Activities for generating funds (note 4b)	4,862.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,862.58	5,325.13
Receipts from Church activities (note 4c)	3,201.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,201.28	7,276.40
Grants and Legacies (note 4d)	10,523.55	0.00	0.00	10,900.00	0.00	21,423.55	5,713.00
Investment income (note 4e)	0.00	134.25	93.71	0.00	6.52	234.48	127.23
Donations	263.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	263.97	1,734.00
Transfer in from other accounts	42,280.74	24,969.02	12,337.30	20,324.78	200.00	100,111.84	10,895.00
TOTAL	104,298.63	25,103.27	12,431.01	31,224.78	206.52	173,264.21	76,625.16
Payments							
Diocesan Parish Share	38,313.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38,313.00	34,830.00
Other payments (note 5)	21,010.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,010.04	42,400.44
Transfers to other accounts	43,691.54	29,466.10	19,159.04	6,853.46	400.00	99,570.14	10,895.00
TOTAL	103,014.58	29,466.10	19,159.04	6,853.46	400.00	158,893.18	88,125.44
Excess of Receipts over Payments	1,284.05	-4,362.83	-6,728.03	24,371.32	-193.48	14,371.03	-11,500.28
Balance brought forward 1st January	958.10	25,045.47	24,803.85	5,302.74	1,266.86	57,377.02	68,867.36
Balance carried forward 31st December	2,242.15	20,682.64	18,075.82	29,674.06	1,073.38	71,748.05	57,367.08
Statement of Assets							
HSBC Current Account	2,242.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,242.15	958.10
Parish Deposit Account	0.00	0.00	18,075.82	0.00	0.00	18,075.82	24,803.85
Restoration Account	0.00	20,682.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,682.64	25,036.06
Windows Account	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,674.06	0.00	29,674.06	5,302.74
Bursary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,073.38	1,073.38	1,266.33
	2,242.15	20,682.64	18,075.82	29,674.06	1,073.38	71,748.05	57,367.08

The following notes form part of these financial statements

St Mary's Church, Embsay with Eastby - Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018									
Notes									
1	The Financial Statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Auditing Regulations using the Receipts and Payments basis.								
2	The only fixed asset retained for use is the church car park. Other assets are listed in the church inventory.								
3	The movements in restricted funds during the year were:								
			Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Fund Transfers In	Fund Transfers Out	Bal C/fwd	
			£	£	£	£	£	£	
		Restoration Account	25,045.47	25,103.27	29,466.10			20,682.64	
		Parish Deposit Account	24,803.85	12,431.01	19,159.04			18,075.82	
		Bursary Account	1,266.86	206.52	400.00			1,073.38	
		Windows Account	5,302.74	31,224.78	6,853.46			29,674.06	
<u>The Restoration Account</u> represents accumulated donations, appeals, bequests and legacies for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.									
<u>The Bursary Account</u> was set up as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations to grant bursaries to young people living in the parish for educational travel according to the Declaration of Trust for St Mary's Embsay with Eastby Fund for Young People.									
<u>The Parish Deposit Account</u> holds operating reserves money for the church.									
<u>The Windows Account</u> holds the balance of income for current windows project.									
4	Receipts Analysis		Unrestricted Account £	Restoration Account £	Parish Deposit Account £	Windows Account £	Bursary Account £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
	a.	Other voluntary receipts:							
		Collections for missions & charities	415.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	415.07	4,519.94
		Windows Donations & fundraising	2,287.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,287.16	410.00
		Gift Day	3,419.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,419.97	3,561.20
			6,122.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,122.20	8,491.14
	b.	Activities for generating funds:							
		Spring/Christmas Fair	800.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.65	802.93
		Quiz Nights	469.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	469.70	420.70
		NECTAR/Sale of Books	78.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	78.70	112.10
		Garden Party/Summer Fetes	1,552.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,552.96	1,488.13
		Town Hall	1,116.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,116.27	1,317.07
		Harvest Event	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	468.40
		Tuesday Teas	650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	650.00	500.00
		Other Fund Raising	194.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	194.30	215.80
			4,862.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,862.58	5,325.13

4	Receipts Analysis-continued	Unrestricted	Restoration	Parish Deposit	Windows	Bursary	Total	Total
		Account	Account	Account	Account	Account	2018	2017
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	c Receipts for church activities:							
	Fees	1,878.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,878.60	6,074.00
	Coffee Money	808.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	808.18	690.00
	Smiley Faces/Mothers Union	390.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	390.00	380.00
	Churchyard Activities	79.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.50	132.40
	Car Park	45.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.00	0.00
		3,201.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,201.28	7,276.40
	d Grants and Legacies:							
	Legacies	523.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	523.55	0.00
	Grant-Lottery Fund	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,900.00	0.00	20,900.00	5,713.00
		10,523.55	0.00	0.00	10,900.00	0.00	21,423.55	5,713.00
	e Receipts from investments:							
	Bank Interest	0.00	134.25	93.71	0.00	6.52	234.48	127.23
5	Payments Analysis	Unrestricted	Restoration	Parish Deposit	Windows	Bursary	Total	Total
		Account	Account	Account	Account	Account	2018	2017
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Missionary & charitable giving	1,912.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,912.07	5,704.94
	Bursary Fund payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
	Cost of fundraising	462.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	462.00	523.20
	Organist/Cleaner/Admin	3,194.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,194.00	2,739.00
	Clergy expenses	940.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	940.28	173.18
	Subscriptions/Printing/Stationery/Books	409.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	409.12	1,061.23
	Cost of services	758.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	758.03	965.09
	Church running expenses	4,084.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,084.11	3,825.22
	Upkeep of churchyard	31.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.00	97.38
	Buildings maintenance	2,710.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,710.54	4,832.05
	Expenses re projects	5,430.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,430.13	19,151.39
	Fees	416.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.00	2,643.00
	Cost of coffee	189.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	189.16	196.51
	Sundries	473.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	473.60	88.25
		21,010.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,010.04	42,400.44
6	The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.							

David Charlton, 6 St Mary's Green, Carleton, Skipton BD23 3DG
07860 383668 e-mail: davecharlton2002@hotmail.com

6 March 2019

**2018 Annual Financial Accounts for The Church of St.
Mary The Virgin Embsay with Eastby**

I confirm that the above accounts have been examined and confirmed correct according to the records provided and explanations given.



David Charlton
Independent Examiner

Approval of the 2018 Accounts.

Approved by the PCC on:

20th March 2019

And signed on their behalf by:

Elizabeth Roodhouse (PCC Vice Chair -
Parish in Vacancy)

Elizabeth M. Roodhouse

Jenny Johnson (PCC Treasurer)

JR Johnson

Skipton Deanery Synod Report for 2018

Bridget and Sue between them have attended all three Deanery synod meetings.

The first meeting of the year as held on the 3rd May, 2018 at Scargill House, Kettlewell. Phil Stone the Director of Scargill House gave a resume of its work as a Christian community and home for 35 people. They cater for holidays, conferences and retreats, as well as providing a venue for meetings and parish away days. They also have a bursary fund which can be used by people, who need a break but cannot afford it. People can drop in for tea and cake any time and they would also like to be more integrated into the Deanery.

The New bishop of Ripon Helen - Ann Hartley introduced herself and talked about her background and life to date, entitled "There and back again." She has recently returned from New Zealand where she was a Bishop to a Diocese covering 30,000 kms. She was born in Edinburgh and her father was a Presbyterian Minister. She is passionate about education and very keen for parishes to be involved in church schools, farming, the environment, stewardship of the land, netball (popular in New Zealand) and allowing ourselves to have fun are also very important to her.

The second meeting was on 10th September, 2018 at Church House, Grassington. This meeting had a very international flavour as Revd David Macha talked about his sabbatical in Egypt and the Occupied Territories on the West Bank. He wanted to find out what it means to be a Christian in a society where we face opposition. He visited the Anglican Cathedral in Cairo, the library in Alexandria and the Old Coptic area which included the Orthodox Church of St. George. This church was heavily guarded, troops were deployed everywhere trying to keep the state together. He also visited the Coptic Orthodox Monastery of Saint Anthony standing in an oasis in the Eastern Desert of Egypt. Here he was asked by a monk

“What is Christ’s greatest miracle?” The monk then answered his own question by stating, “We are still here”. He also visited St. Anthony’s cave and witnessed a tremendous sense of prayer. He stayed with an Anglican family whose church had been burned down by the Muslim Brotherhood. They told the story of one of the guards’ mother from the recent church bombings, wanting to forgive the attackers and show them the love of God. This led to many in the Coptic Church talking about forgiveness. It was their ministry to be a “light in this place. We have to show forgiveness” A humbling experience.

Jonathan Cain then talked about the links between the Leeds Diocese and the Diocese of Mara in Tanzania He had been a water engineer before taking up the ministry and his interest lay in helping in the supply of clean drinking water. The Link encourages churches in the Leeds Diocese and schools to link up.

He visited Tanzania with his family and showed a video of a church service. The large congregation was preparing for his sermon (something he did not know he was doing). It was quite an experience! He also talked about visiting a Safe House for girls escaping from female genital mutilation.

His also said he was quite taken aback by his children’s insightful comments after the visit, where the average Tanzanian is 60 times poorer than the average UK citizen. One of his children commented that, for the most part, Tanzanians are not unhappy in their poverty. That money doesn’t make you happy, but faith, fun, and fellowship do.

The last meeting of the year was held on 15th January, 2019 at Christ Church Skipton. Janet Denton churchwarden talked about the Parish profile concentrating on the good news, such as her new role as the Waterways Chaplain. The Leeds Liverpool canal runs through Skipton and there is a network of people who live on canal boats and barges. They can suffer from isolation and depression. Some rent a mooring and can therefore live permanently in Skipton, others come and stay for two weeks and then move on, as they only have a cruising license. This means

they have no postcode and cannot register with a GP or get benefits. The idea of Janet's role is to take mission out to people. She has done her bridge training and still needs to do lock training.

The Bishop of Leeds, Nick Baines was the main speaker and he discussed the 'five guiding principles'. This relates to the ordination of women, especially as Bishops in the Church of England and those within the church who do not accept the ordination of women. In July 2014 legislation was passed to enable women to be consecrated to the episcopate in the Church of England. This means that the Church of England is now fully committed to all orders of ministry being open equally to all, without reference to gender. The Church of England also remains committed to ensuring that those who cannot receive the ministry of women priests or bishops are able to flourish. The House of Bishops has therefore agreed Five Guiding Principles as the basis for this mutual flourishing. The House of Bishops confirm that the Principles need to be read 'one with the other and held in tension, rather than being applied selectively.'

He then read through the 'five guiding principles' and invited questions from the floor and there was some discussion around the subject. 95% churches in the Deanery accept women priests only two do not. Bishop Nick said that we cannot have perfection in the church, so we have to make things work and he wants churches to thrive even if they do not accept women priests.

Deanery synod meetings give us the opportunity to meet and share fellowship with our colleagues from other churches.

Sue Stearn and Bridget Edwards, Deanery Synod Representatives

The Building and Fabric of the Church – Churchwardens' 2018 Report

As we look back on the year there are two main aspects of the care of the fabric of St Mary's which are apparent. There have continued to be routine items in line with the church Management and Maintenance Plan and, secondly, we have brought our project to restore the church's windows to the point where the work can begin in 2019.

Looking Both Ways, our windows project, has progressed throughout the year. Initially, this was a much needed exercise to stabilise, repair where necessary and to clean the stained and clear glazing of the church. In the course of the year, however, an exciting community dimension has developed whereby children at the school have studied a number of biblical themes in the context of producing stained-glass art. Every class has been involved and the culmination will be the production of painted silk "windows", some of which will be displayed in the church and others in the school. The church screens will have the added benefit of providing some cover for each window as it is boarded up for removal and restoration. A further community benefit will be the publication of a booklet about the windows at St Mary's which is being undertaken by members of the village.

2018 has seen a great deal of planning with our architect Stephen McConnell, the acquisition of a faculty for the work, a full tender process and the appointment of Cooke Stained Glass from Ilkley to undertake the restoration. In parallel with this, we have secured the necessary funding for the work which has a budget of £47,000. The PCC agreed to contribute up to 25% of that sum from the Restoration Fund and the remainder has come from grants and local fundraising. Major grants have been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Sir John Priestman Trust, Church Care and The Glaziers Company while two successful musical evenings in church have led the way for local fund-raising. Our thanks are due to Nigel Osborn and Sam Patterson in particular who have worked with churchwardens and the rest of the community to raise these funds.

A Roof for our Future, the recent project for restoration of the church roof should have been put to bed in the course of the year but there have remained a small number of minor items requiring the return of our contractor to complete the work. This was finally achieved before the end of the year and the architect's sign-off is anticipated early in 2019.

The review of storage has continued and the PCC has revised the intention to commission a unit for the North aisle. The final plan has still to be determined.

There has been a range of routine maintenance items throughout the year. The paint damage on the North wall of the chancel and the South wall of the nave were both redecorated after being allowed to dry out fully and the gutters are being monitored for leaf blockage. Thornber Cleaning Services have been employed to clear gutters and the central valley in the roof on two occasions and we have been very satisfied with the result.

The repair of the headstones which were damaged by a fallen tree has been a drawn-out affair as the original contractor struggled to fit us into his busy schedule. We look forward to the work being completed during 2019.

The cellar pump has continued to be an intermittent issue. Groundwater from the churchyard enters the cellar and during periods of heavy rain the volume of water can be large. This has been managed by a small pump which resides in a pit in the cellar floor and is actuated by a level switch. The cellar is a "hostile environment" with leaves and grit being washed in under the door and the current arrangement has proved vulnerable and has failed from time to time. The latest of these was just before the Christmas carol service when the escaping water also triggered the electrical protection cutting the lighting and heating in the church. Although a temporary repair was made, the situation requires a more satisfactory solution in 2019.

The ventilation of the toilet and kitchen has been identified as inadequate and there are plans to remedy this as part of the Looking Both Ways project.

During the summer the nave ceiling experienced cracking to several plaster panels which was accompanied by falling plaster. The five sections were covered with protective boarding and a careful watch kept on the remaining panels. There has been no further damage apparent and the conclusion is that the extreme heat during the summer caused unusual movement of the roof timber which caused the plaster to fail. Remedial work is planned for 2019.

Our churchyard continues to be kept in excellent condition and is frequently commented upon by visitors. We are indebted to Tony Stearn for the time and care required to achieve this. Similarly, the interior of the church is maintained by our cleaner Nat Moneypenny and a team of voluntary cleaners, polishers and flower arrangers. We are fortunate to enjoy such support. Thanks also are due to Simon Smith who takes a special interest in fabric matters. The churchwardens, on behalf of all those who enjoy St Mary's, extend our warm appreciation to all who help in this way.

Liz Roodhouse and Peter Edwards, (Churchwardens)

Embsay C of E (VC) Primary School: School Governors' Report

This year there has been only two foundation governors on the school Governing Body: Helen Ralph and Louise Taylor-Kenyon as the Vicar. Since Louise is moving on to other challenges, she will be replaced on the governing Body by Tim Calow. Another foundation governor is urgently needed to give the full complement of three foundation governors. There are close links between the school and the Church. Louise, along with Janet Clasper from the Methodist Church, continue to deliver the collective worship. Helen visits both in her capacity as Foundation

Governor and also as the STEM Link governor. As well as Helen and Louise, the school is also supported by other members of the St. Mary's congregation with Mary Jones, Jennifer Stearn and Sue Davies going to the school as volunteers on a regular basis. Informal links include children from the school and a teacher running a stall at the Vicarage Garden Party and people from St Mary's running stalls at the school's PTA fete.

The children visit St. Mary's regularly for special services such as the Leavers' service, Ash Wednesday service and the Nativity Service. Some of the children visited the church as part of their history work, looking at the WW1 memorials. Many were also involved in the Remembrance Day commemorations; attending the joint service with the Methodist Church as well as lighting lights and laying memory stones for the Dusk ceremony.

Recently, all the children in the school have been involved in the Church's 'Looking Both Ways' windows project and have created their own stained glass windows as part of the RE curriculum. The designs have been collated and transferred to full sized silk panels which will hang over the window spaces in the church while the restoration work is going on. We are all looking forward to seeing panels during our services.

The school continues to achieve good results and equips children well for life ahead. After achieving 'Excellent' in the SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) last year, the Head has worked with staff on the school vision, and this has included a plan for an unobtrusive but distinctively Christian presence on all written materials.

This year, the Head Teacher has introduced the school's values as the acronym RESPECT:

R: Respect everyone

E: Encourage one another

S: Speak truthfully

P: Practice, persevere and make progress

E: Embrace Mistakes

C: Consider our choices

T: Thrive together as a team

Louise delivered training to staff on the way in which Christian values underpin the school's values.

The school governors have discussed the option of moving to an Academy. At this stage the school is not going in this direction but is actively involved in two informal school networks in the Skipton and Craven Area.

This year, Joanne Lloyd and Fiona Carr stepped down as co-chairs of the governing body and were replaced by Carole Eyton-Jones as Chair with Kelly Chambers as Vice-Chair. Several new governors have been inducted onto the governors' team bringing a more varied skills base to the governing body.

The performance of the Headteacher, Fiona Prest, is carried out by a team which includes the foundation governors. Fiona continues to lead the school with high educational standards and good Christian values.

Helen Malone Ralph March 2019

Tuesday Teas Report

A record £1000 has been raised in 2018!!

Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2018. This worthwhile weekly event is still providing a good place to meet and chat and share home-made refreshments with the added bonus of income to church and MU funds.

The average attendance excluding the helpers is 8.5. We had an extra day on a Wednesday when a group from Saddledworth area asked us to provide refreshments for its walkers. This helped to swell our total funds to church to £650 and £325 to MU with a balance of £25 carried forward

to 2019. We have had a couple of small walking groups but in general we have relied on the wonderful support of local people. We do have some people who come to see us whenever they are on holiday in the area.

MU has sent £300 towards the 'Away From It All' holiday fund for people who would not get a holiday. The 6 berth caravan is based on the east coast near Scarborough. Half of the amount was put towards the cost of a replacement caravan. The balance of £25 was sent to the Overseas' fund. I think the result of £1000 is excellent. Please may I make the usual plea? Please could you bake for us if you are able to do so?

My thanks go to everyone who supports us by baking, helping or visiting. It would not take place without you!

Sylvia Hodgkinson

Embsay and Eastby Good Neighbours Report

2018 saw a steady spreading of the news about the village Good Neighbours Scheme, not only within the village but among outside organisations such as GP practices, Carers' Resource and Health and Adult Services both in the community and Airedale Hospital. This is very rewarding for all those who have put so much time, thought and energy into setting up the scheme: the original group who had the vision to set it up with the help of Age UK and those of us who joined at a later date in our various capacities. Particular thanks go to 2 people who are stepping down from the Management Committee: Rev Louise Taylor-Kenyon, who saw in the first place that there was a need, even in such a caring community, and Ann Shaw who has worked tirelessly to set up a sound structure and made sure we all abide by the rules.....I would like to record our heartfelt thanks to them both. We will miss them and are now busy bringing new faces into the committee.

We were lucky to receive grants from various organisations last year and are very grateful for generous donations from village residents. Having

employed part time support workers till July last year, we decided to try running the scheme ourselves. This has reduced our running expenses considerably but it still costs about £1500 a year so we are very grateful for donations. I now am the coordinator, with a team of volunteers taking responsibility for different aspects: Friendship Club lifts, Laurel Croft coffee mornings and the phone holders.

At the end of 2018 we had 29 volunteers, prepared to carry out a variety of tasks. 19 of these have attended a befriending course run by myself with the help of some of the more experienced befrienders and Ruth Pearson, our much valued PCSO. A further course is planned for the autumn 2019. We have befriending support meetings every couple of months where we can share concerns and sometimes invite speakers from various relevant organisations. Volunteers can contact me at any time if they need to and have to give me a monthly summary of their contact with their befriender.

Since the scheme opened in May 2016 we have helped 55 people and figures show a steady increase in requests. In the first 8 months of our existence we received 40 telephone requests for lifts, gardening, odd household jobs, including 3 for befriending. In the year ending December 2018 a rota of 6 volunteer drivers provided lifts for up to 7 ladies every week to the Friendship Club at the Methodist Church. A small group of volunteers meets every week with some of the Laurel Croft residents for coffee, often cooking bacon baps for everyone there. Many of those we have got to know now feel comfortable about asking for lifts and other help when they need to. We have had 124 telephone requests for help in 2018, not counting the above activities. On top of all that the befriending scheme is proving extremely popular – all our trained volunteers available are visiting at least one resident. It is also lovely that we have quite a number of young mums who are befriending so it is rewarding to see the different generations enjoying each other's company. One lucky lady has 2 volunteers who take turns in visiting her, particularly at weekends when

she gets especially lonely. It is great to see what a difference it can make to some people's lives. Some visit regularly for a cup of tea and chat, others take them shopping and to hospital appointments, to social events in the village, the cinema, theatre, concerts or just out for a drive....

The next year will see, as mentioned earlier, a change in the committee membership and the possibility of applying to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We now have a waiting list for those wishing to become volunteers, while the new administrative team settle in and we can see how many requests come in. There is no point in taking more volunteers than we need.

There is always more that we can do but a lot has been achieved, thanks to the committee, the volunteers and the support of so many people in our community.

Bridget Edwards Volunteer coordinator

St Mary's Band Report

It has been all change for St Mary's band again this year. We very sadly said goodbye to Tom who moved on to start his University career. Tom has played with us for about 4 years, correct me if I am wrong, we feel Tom has always been with us, playing the organ and sitting with has back to the band. Keeping us in time, no small feat. As a consequence we had a reorganisation and David very kindly plays keyboard for us instead of trumpet. We welcomed 3 new players, Stephanie Toby and Lydia, flute guitar and violin respectively. We also welcomed a short guest return with Katie on bassoon last summer prior to Katie also starting university. The band have had a busy year, we were asked to play at the village fete in September, we played at the Oktoberfest fund raiser and band members past and present played at Winterburn for the Winterburn polytunnel carol service. From this, we have been asked to play carols at the Craven Lodge carol service in Skipton December 19. So thank you to

the band for all your hard work. Thank you to all the band members for their continued support, without which we would not live music at the AAW services. We continue to follow our ethos of rehearsal Saturday afternoon/evening before the First Sunday AAW, if you can play, welcome, if you can't we will see you next time. If anyone would like to try us out we welcome all players whatever their ability or instrument. There might be a short learning curve to arrange the music to suit but come give us a go, ask any band member or send me an email ycleminson@gmail.com tel 01756 790392

Yvonne Cleminson

St Mary's Choir Report

2018 has been a quiet year for any additional services for the choir. No weddings but we were joined by Charlie Dobson and his choir from Holy Trinity, Skipton for our Advent Carol Service.

We said farewell in September to Tom Smith who has been our designated organist for at least 2 years. Tom is now enjoying life at Warwick University.

We have been pleased to have the services of John Midgley, Edward Scott, Jennifer Stearn and Yvonne Cleminson to accompany our singing. There were times on Sundays when we only had 2 choir members to sing the Communion Hymn and we would very much welcome anyone who would like to join the choir.

It has been a joy to have Louise singing with us and we shall miss her so much when she leaves us to go to Northumberland.

Sylvia Hodgkinson

Village Institute Report

The committee meet every month, with committee members mostly made up from the main hall users. The main focus of this past year has been on fulfilling our 5 year plan in maintaining and upgrading the institute. This year our website was launched with an online booking calendar, this resource will allow the institute to be marketed to a wider audience to try and increase bookings, but also promotes the groups and users of the space as well. The other major project was the upgrading of the unreliable and non-cost effective heating system. The new heating system, including new insulation is now in place and after a few teething issues, we are already seeing the benefits from the energy company. We also celebrated the 30th anniversary of the building of the new Institute, with a very enjoyable party being held for lots of the users of the hall. The Village Institute remains a vital resource for the local community used by so many, so thank you for your continuing support.

Jennifer Stearn, St Mary's Village Institute Committee Representative

Smiley Faces Report

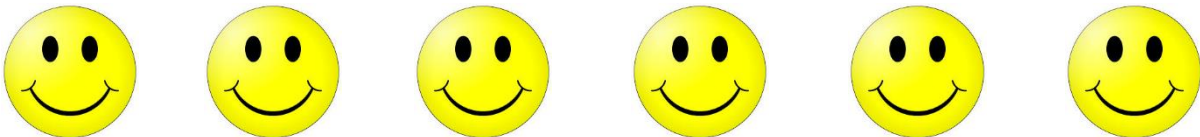
We meet on Friday afternoons during term time from 1.45pm to 3.15pm, when the church becomes an exciting space for pre-school children to explore and for their parents, grandparents and carers to relax in. In summer we occasionally venture out and have an adventure in the vicarage garden. Bishop Helen Anne popped in to see us one Friday afternoon when we were outside and joined in the wiggle song which always precedes story time.

Birthdays are celebrated and it's usually Mary who makes the cake. The children love blowing out candles and jostle each other to be closest. We have 16 families on our books; most live in the village and those who don't have connections with the village, e.g. grandparents live here. Friday afternoons are often the only contact with church the families have and all the Smiley Faces team (Sue Davies, Mary Jones, Glennis

Hobbs, Ann Rawson and myself) realise how important it is for us to show love, joy, patience, kindness and gentleness to everyone who comes along.

Not surprisingly it is always a wrench when we have to say goodbye to children who leave us to attend school. We miss the parents and carers too. In September we said goodbye to seven children whose company we have enjoyed and who are now all happily settled in reception class in our village school.

Recently we asked families to give us a word that came to mind when they thought of Smiley Faces and were delighted when they came up with these: WELCOMING, FUN, FRIENDLY, INCLUSIVE, STIMULATING, ENJOYABLE, ACTIVE, CREATIVE, ENERGETIC, COMMUNITY.



Liz Roodhouse

