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St Andrew's Church

LOVING + GROWING

**HIGH STREET STARBECK HARROGATE
PARISH BROCHURE 2026**



THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS LIVE LINKS

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MICK LEACH
CHURCHWARDEN



MARY WILLIAMS
PCC SECRETARY



DAVID LEONARD
LLM



SARAH TAPLEY
CURATE (TRAINING)



SALLY MCDONAGH
ADMINISTRATOR



JANET JACKSON
ADMIN ASSISTANT



THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



THE PCC

TO OUR NEW VICAR

**WE ARE DELIGHTED YOU HAVE TAKEN AN INTEREST IN ST ANDREW'S.
THIS IS AN EXCITING JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY FOR BOTH YOU AND US!**

SO, WHAT MAKES ST ANDREW'S SPECIAL?

Prayer is the foundation of all that we do. We are a vibrant, strong church family that takes care of one another. We love God, and have a heart for Starbeck which is a friendly community with its own strong identity. We are serious about putting our faith into action beyond the church walls. We are known for welcoming and valuing each individual. We are a church with a strong sense of mission, both local and global.

St Andrew's is strategically placed on the high street and we have strong links with local schools, care homes and community organisations.

We believe there is more to church than what happens on Sunday. Our buildings are well used during the week, from Family Spot welcoming parents and carers with babies and toddlers, to Plus! and Lunch Club caring for older people, and a Tuesday Group for adults with

additional needs. Our halls are popular with local clubs and classes, and used by a variety of uniformed organisations. House groups meet across the parish and are key for fellowship, prayer and Bible teaching.

A large proportion of our congregation readily volunteer for roles within the church. Our worship ranges from the traditional to the contemporary and creative. We live-stream our services, have dedicated music and tech teams, but more than polished programmes, what defines us is the warmth of our welcome, of our hospitality, and of our care for one another.

WE'RE READY FOR OUR NEXT CHAPTER

Our foundations are strong: faithful giving, committed lay leadership, modern facilities such as the Welcome Centre, and a congregation with the desire to grow deeper in discipleship and broader in mission. We believe this is a solid platform on which to build, and now we're praying for a vicar who will lead us and help us discern where God is leading next. But there are opportunities and challenges.

There is more that we could do to build bridges into the community. We have the skills and expertise to use

media and technology to reach out beyond the church walls. Like many churches we have an aging congregation with many roles filled by retired church members. We would like to see some of our younger members trained, equipped and supported to take on some of these responsibilities. We have tried unsuccessfully to recruit a second Churchwarden. We would like to see more opportunities for the congregations from our two morning services come together, emphasising that we are one church.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IN YOU

It goes without saying that we expect you to walk closely with Jesus and help us do the same. You will have the ability as a teacher to bring Scripture alive and make it relevant in the light of the issues people are facing today, both to those within the church and to those who rarely walk through our doors. We set great store on meeting people where they are, so a pastor with a heart for people is really important to us whoever they are, whether in a family group or alone, and wherever they are on their faith journey.

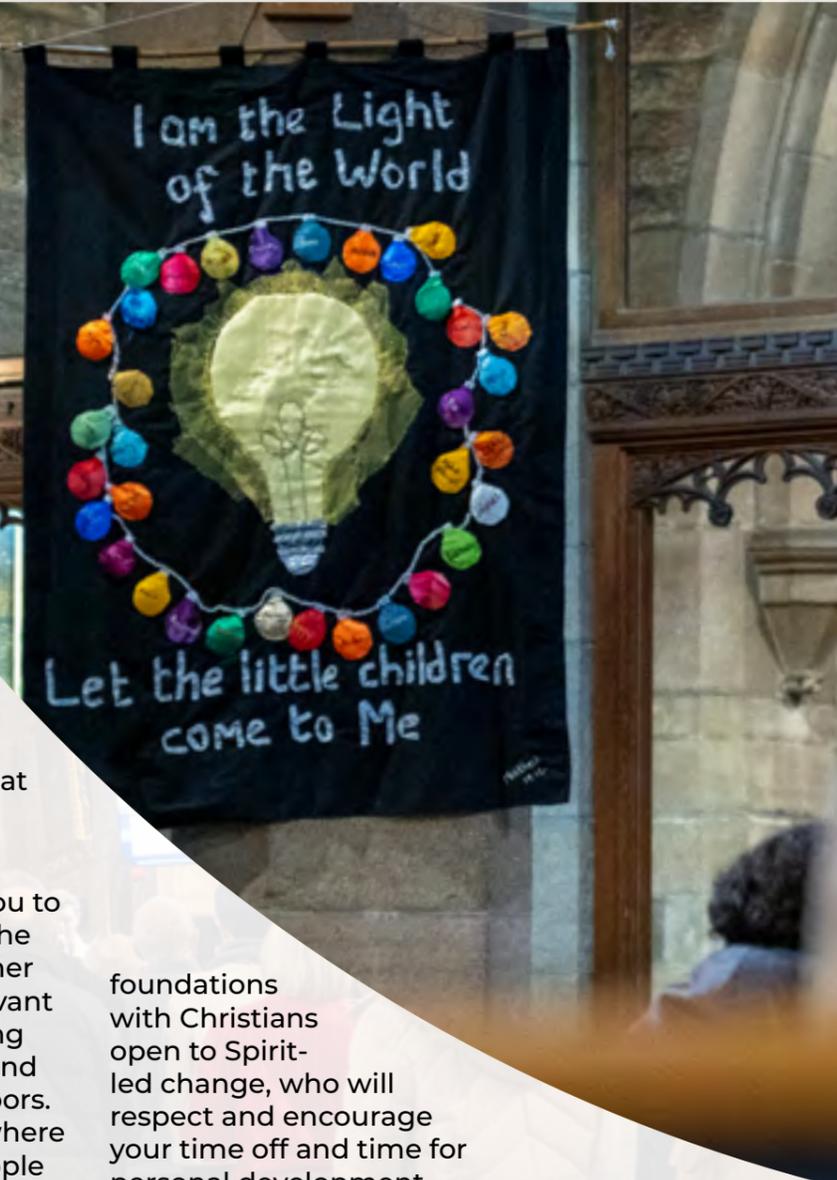
We're not looking for someone who thinks they have to do everything themselves, so you will be willing and able to empower others, grow the gifts we already have, and unlock others that will be needed as we move forward.

Crucially, we're looking for someone who will work with us to craft a vision that will put a fire within us, a vision which each member of the whole church family can relate to and be excited about, so that St Andrew's can become the very presence of Christ and a beacon of hope in our community and beyond.

WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU.

A prayerful congregation who will genuinely care about you and your family.

The opportunity to make a difference in a diverse community, building on strong



foundations with Christians open to Spirit-led change, who will respect and encourage your time off and time for personal development.

A Churchwarden and PCC characterised by trust, good humour and hard work.

They and the broader lay leadership bring a range of skills commensurate with their responsibilities, and with a sense of calling they will all go out of their way to support you.

A comfortable modern vicarage, somewhere you and yours can put down roots, excellent schools and local services, beautiful countryside on the doorstep, and larger towns and cities nearby.

You'll find a church full of hope, humour, and heart, eager to grow and move forward. We warmly invite you to explore whether you might be the person to walk this next part of the journey with us.

With prayers and warm regards,
**The Parochial Church Council,
St Andrew's Church, Starbeck**



THE VICAR WE HOPE FOR

A LEADER WHO EQUIPS OTHERS

St Andrew's is blessed with many gifted and willing volunteers who serve joyfully across diverse ministries. With a leadership style that is collaborative, empowering and facilitating rather than prescriptive, you should actively encourage spiritual gifts and give people freedom to use them.

A SPIRITUAL LEADER

Our prayer is for a wise servant leader, with a deep and vibrant relationship with Jesus, and a faith expressed through humility, prayerfulness, and Christ-like character. Crucial to this goes the ability to hold together different viewpoints and embrace differing styles of worship, uniting us under a shared vision.

A VICAR WITH A HEART FOR PEOPLE

Our parish is full of stories: families, older people, and young people all finding a home at St Andrew's. They need someone who will take time to get to know and love them, offer care, encouragement, and compassion through all seasons of life.

A BUILDER OF COMMUNITY

We are proud to be at the heart of our community. You will work with us as we continue to reach out and strengthen our relationships with schools, community groups, local leaders and families. Social action and community engagement should be natural expressions of your ministry.

A COMMUNICATOR AND TEACHER

We value clear, engaging preaching that connects the truth of Scripture to everyday life. Making God's Word come alive, your preaching should speak to people of all ages and equip them to be witnesses for Him. You should be able to talk about biblical truth to people at all stages of their faith journey from seekers to mature believers.

A VISIONARY AND A STRATEGIST

We seek a vicar who will help us discern God's vision for our church, building on what we have and the foundations already laid. You will enable us to articulate that vision in a way that allows us to embrace it enthusiastically.

You should bring dynamic, innovative leadership in order to achieve this.



St Andrew's Church
LOVING + GROWING



A CHAMPION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

We need someone who recognises that investing in the next generation is central to our mission, so a genuine love for children and young people is essential. You must have experience and heart for youth work, with the ability to relate to all age groups and support families in their spiritual journey.

IN SUMMARY

We are praying for a vicar who will walk alongside us with faith, humility, and joy, someone who will love God, love people, and help us all to live out the Good News of Jesus in Starbeck and beyond.

You should be encouraging and enthusiastic, with integrity, kindness, and wisdom characterising all your interactions. Being a team worker who values and celebrates diversity will be key to your success here.



ABOUT THE PARISH

Starbeck is a friendly community of around 10,000 people that lies between the spa town of Harrogate and the historic town of Knaresborough, whilst maintaining a character and identity of its own. The parish is situated in the Leeds Diocese, in the Harrogate Deanery.

St Andrew's occupies a prominent position on the High Street which features shops, cafés and a range of amenities. Local businesses and active community groups give the area a lively, welcoming feel, and there are several household-name supermarkets a short distance away.

Starbeck benefits from good public transport; it has rail links to York, Harrogate and Leeds. There are regular bus services between Harrogate and Knaresborough.

For those enjoying the outdoors, the Yorkshire Moors and Yorkshire Dales National Parks beckon. The east coast can be reached by train in about 90 minutes and London in 3 hours.

Starbeck has its challenges: families experiencing financial hardship, individuals facing loneliness, those with additional needs and health problems. Notwithstanding the affluence of Harrogate and North Yorkshire, pockets of deprivation do exist.

These realities provide the St Andrew's church family with numerous opportunities for ministry and service. It's a place where, as a church, we can demonstrate the love of Christ with compassion and care. And for our new vicar, it is a place that offers the chance for ministry to grow and flourish.



Primary and secondary schools are within easy reach, all rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, and Harrogate's health services rank above average nationally, with the hospital trust in the top third of all NHS trusts and GP practices performing at or above national standards.

Harrogate offers a rich mix of cultural and recreational opportunities: theatres, concerts, exhibitions, galleries, festivals, independent shops, and a variety of restaurants and cafés. York, and Leeds also offer concert, cinema and theatre venues, and local leisure facilities abound.

POPULATION BREAKDOWN

Under 20	2,097
20-64	6,069
Over 64	10,190
Households	4,524

PARISH ETHNIC HERITAGE

Asian	274
Black	67
Mixed	173
White	9,595
Other	81

PARISH RELIGIOUS PROFILE

Christian	5,146
Buddhist	31
Hindu	34
Jewish	21
Muslim	99
Sikh	12
Other	651
None	4,196

THE CHURCH AND ITS PEOPLE

THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE ST ANDREW'S WHAT IT IS.

St Andrew's is a welcoming and prayerful community. Our congregation includes all ages and backgrounds from young families to those who have worshipped here for many years. Our aim is simple: to be a place where people can belong, grow in faith, and share God's love in daily life.

Our Churchwarden is devoted to the well-being of the congregation and the daily life of the church. Prayerful and practical with a servant heart, he brings extensive pastoral and administrative experience to the role.

He is supported by a hard-working Parochial Church Council (PCC) Secretary, Leadership Team and others who bring their particular gifts to our music, the planning of services, administrative and pastoral issues, financial matters, eco projects, in addition to the plethora of issues that arise with our 100 year-old buildings.

Our cleaning teams ensure the church and halls remain ready to accommodate the wide range of activities that take place throughout the week.

The PCC comprises individuals with a range of skills and perspectives that combines spiritual insight with responsible stewardship. They oversee the management of our resources and property with care and transparency. PCC meetings are marked by unity, openness, and a shared commitment to the church's future.

We are blessed to have a curate in training, a retired vicar and a licensed lay minister, in addition to former Church Army officers who all bring a wealth of experience and spiritual depth that helps to keep our worship relevant and lively, our focus Bible based, and our pastoral emphasis strong.

These individuals together with our Churchwarden, Pastoral Coordinator and House Group Coordinator make up our Leadership Team. This team takes responsibility for service planning and takes a keen interest in ensuring that the pastoral needs of specific individuals are met, and in addition addresses a variety of administrative and operational issues that need not take up time in PCC meetings.

The church office is staffed by two part-time administrators who prepare the service rotas, manage hall bookings, produce the weekly digital newsletter, use Sage accounting software for bookkeeping, and fulfil other administrative tasks.





Over 80 volunteers help to sustain the life of St Andrew's. These include our Worship Team that leads us in music and liturgy; the Children's and Youth Team that nurtures faith among our young people; and the Pastoral Care Team that offers prayer, companionship, and practical support to those in need.

Hospitality is central to our ethos, with welcome teams ensuring all feel at home. Behind the scenes, a number of people bring their expertise to bear on our finances and buildings, whilst the Digital and Media Team supports our growing online presence. Together, these teams embody the collaborative spirit of our church family. Our Volunteer Advocate helps our volunteers feel appreciated, supported and celebrated whilst undertaking their roles. Underpinning this we have a Safeguarding Officer.

At St Andrew's, we believe that ministry is shared among the whole people of God. Clergy and laity work together in mutual trust, each offering their gifts, wisdom, and experience in service of Christ's mission. We are a community that encourages individuals to grow in their callings and to participate fully in the life of the church.

The parish is committed to caring for its vicar through prayer, friendship, and practical help. We hope our next vicar will find not only a place to serve, but a community to belong to.

OUR SERVICES, OUR WORSHIP PATTERNS AND TRADITIONS

St Andrew's is an evangelical church with a style of worship that reflects this. Our worship seeks to create space for personal encounter with God. We aim to be accessible, Spirit-led, and rooted in love, offering opportunity for



quiet reflection, joyful celebration, and meaningful service.

We typically have two Sunday morning services, with mid-week communion too, offering a quiet reflective space. Based on both traditional and contemporary styles, they aim to be accessible to all. After both services a team is available for prayer ministry.

Throughout the year, we also hold services tailored to our wider community and special occasions, including Harvest, Nativity, Christingle and an annual service to remember lost loved ones. Weddings, funerals, and baptisms are planned to reflect the needs and preferences of each family, with worship in appropriate styles.

THE 9:00 A.M. service follows a consistent format each week, including Holy Communion using a tailored Common Worship liturgy. Worship is typically traditional hymns and old and new worship songs. Prayers often include liturgical responses.

THE 10:45 A.M. service is more flexible and contemporary and includes interactive prayer. Communion is celebrated monthly, also using a tailored Common Worship liturgy.

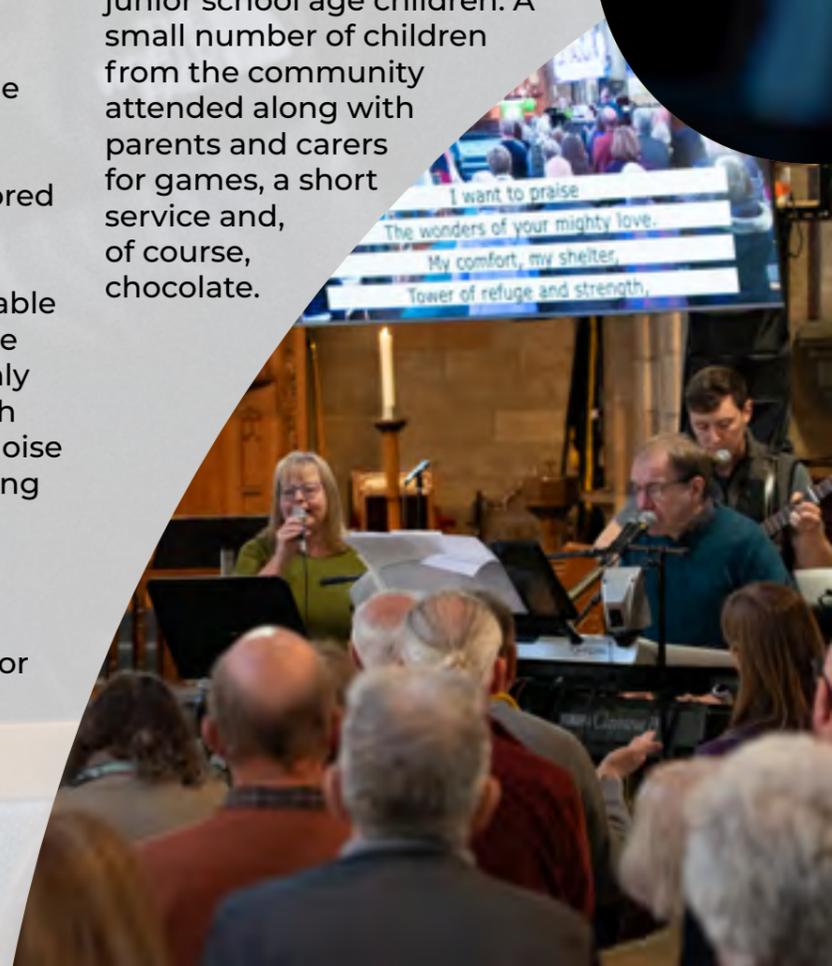
CHILDREN'S GROUPS are often available during this service, along with a space for babies and toddlers, but we warmly welcome children to remain in church throughout. We embrace the joyful noise and movement that comes with having children present.

WORSHIP is guitar, or keyboard-led, and we have a church organ which is used when appropriate, particularly for traditional services and life events.



BETWEEN THE SERVICES, we offer refreshments to encourage connection across the 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. congregations. 10:45 a.m. services are live-streamed, enabling those unable to attend in person to join our fellowship.

PRE VACANCY, a Chocolate Church was held midweek for junior school age children. A small number of children from the community attended along with parents and carers for games, a short service and, of course, chocolate.





together as families, and we also offer age-appropriate activities on Sunday mornings.

We are continually exploring ways to engage even our youngest children in worship and prayer. Provision for them is available through Pray and Play, a relaxed space where parents and carers can come and go while still being able to access the main service.

Each Sunday, our Children and Young People's Team run a range of activities. Sunday Club usually meets in the halls, except once a month when we come together for an all-age family service. Level Up, for those aged 11-14, meets in the Welcome Centre. Some of our young people are involved in music during services and help as part of the media team. We really want to support and encourage them as they discover and develop their gifts, whether that's creatively, practically, or through prayer and worship. For our older young people who head to university, we stay in touch as a church by sending small care packages. These might be something simple, like an Advent calendar or a prayer card, but they're a way of reminding them that they are loved, missed, and prayed for by their church family.

OUR ACTIVITIES ARE UNDERPINNED BY PRAYER
We pray regularly for several overseas missionaries, a weekly online prayer meeting takes place, along with prayer for healing and a monthly prayer meeting is held specifically to pray for our young people. Regular 24-hour prayer events have been running at St Andrew's for many years. The St Andrew's Prayer-line shares prayer requests from within and outside the church. Confidentiality is assured.

THE MAKE UP OF OUR CHURCH
There are currently 104 people on the electoral roll and about 44% of our congregation lives outside the parish.

HOUSE GROUPS

There is a network of seven house groups attended by over 60 of the St Andrew's family. Each group is headed by experienced leaders committed to seeing their group grow in discipleship and in their love for God, His Word, and for others. It is common for other members to share responsibility for leading specific studies. Groups meet for Bible study, prayer and social activities. Groups tend to follow their own patterns of study, some occasionally following the sermon series. A House Group Co-ordinator is responsible for promoting, overseeing and developing house groups, ensuring that there is a place for everyone who wishes to participate. A strategy for house groups has been adopted.

OTHER GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Skilled and committed church members lead and support the wide range of regular groups and activities that serve those in the parish whatever their background and life experience. These groups include: twice-weekly Family Spot for babies and pre-school children and parents/carers; a banner making group; Plus! for older members of the church and wider community; Lunch Club that offers a meal twice a month to these older people; Men's Bible study and a group for adults with additional needs.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

At St Andrew's, we believe that children and young people are an important part of the church right now, not just in the future. That's why they're so involved in our church life. We love worshipping

St Andrews has become a valued part of our family life. From our first visit to discuss our son's christening, when we weren't regular churchgoers, we were made to feel genuinely welcome.

Sundays are relaxed and inclusive, our children love coming, and Sunday School builds their confidence through inspiring opportunities, including speaking to the whole congregation. The warmth and sense of belonging at St Andrews is something we truly treasure.

Sophie

I first came to St Andrew's when my eldest was a baby, after meeting lovely helpers at Family Spot. From the moment we walked in, we were welcomed with warmth and kindness.

St Andrew's is a special place where children feel safe, valued, and cared for free to be themselves as they learn about God's love and see it in action

Alison x

It's not just a warm welcome at St Andrews it's something more, people really care. It's nothing like I've experienced before.

Rachael

For eight years I served in St. Andrew's as a Church Army Parish Evangelist, and Beth led the children's work. It was a joy to train people in personal evangelism, and the setting up of the first Alpha Course in the church. We both felt truly at home and were sorry to leave - the people were amazingly loving and kind.

After eleven years working in another church, we retired and spent six months visiting other churches to find a spiritual home. St. Andrew's was last on our list, and when we walked in, we knew we'd found it. Much had changed, yet it was still the same loving, caring church as before.

Charles & Beth

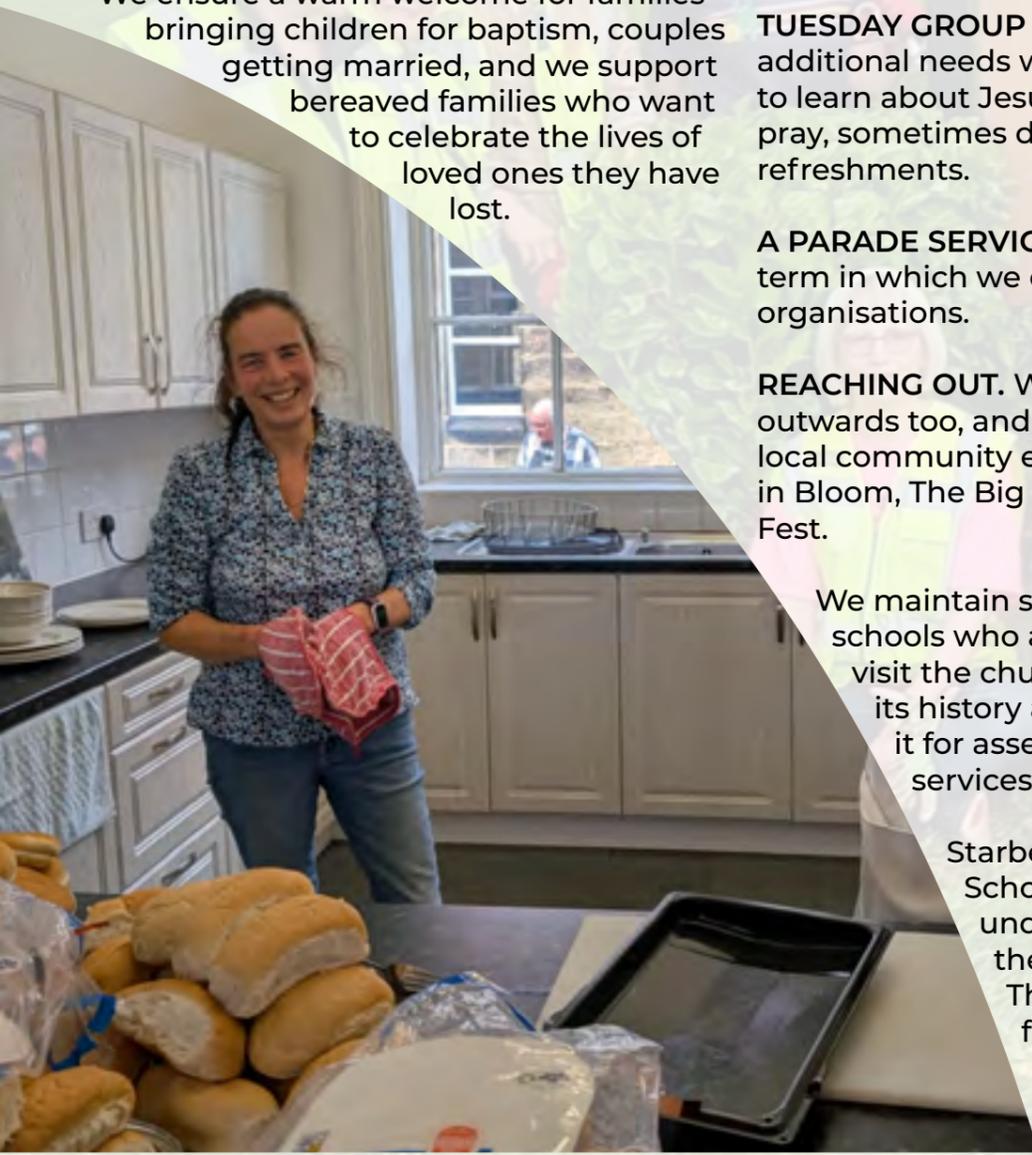


THE CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition to church activities, our church halls and meeting spaces are in regular use by local groups including: dance and fitness classes; Scouts and other uniformed organisations including St John's Ambulance; toddler and child groups; Government agencies; dog training; language classes; craft and special interest groups; and social clubs. These connections provide many opportunities for relationship building and witness.

We welcome local people for the annual remembrance service and memorial service and our Christmas and Easter services prove popular.

We ensure a warm welcome for families bringing children for baptism, couples getting married, and we support bereaved families who want to celebrate the lives of loved ones they have lost.



FAMILY SPOT is an important place for parents and carers to bring their babies and pre-school children, especially when groups like these are becoming harder to find.

We provide meaningful play and activities for babies and toddlers, a warm welcome, and a listening ear for those struggling, tired, or getting to grips with a new baby or toddler.

We celebrate all the church seasons and encourage our adults and children to enjoy being in our church space.

PLUS! supports older people whether church members or not. There is a varied programme which includes a monthly communion service. Twice a month it is followed by a Lunch Club that allows members to enjoy a meal together.

TUESDAY GROUP is for adults with additional needs who come together to learn about Jesus, to sing and pray, sometimes dance, and enjoy refreshments.

A PARADE SERVICE takes place each term in which we engage with uniformed organisations.

REACHING OUT. We intentionally look outwards too, and involve ourselves in local community events, be it Starbeck in Bloom, The Big Help Out or Starbeck Fest.

We maintain strong links with local schools who are encouraged to visit the church and learn about its history and its purpose, using it for assemblies and special services.

Starbeck and Hookstone Schools invite clergy to undertake assemblies and the recent addition of the Thursday Youth Group for school years

5 - 7, run by Netmakers partners, has strengthened our links with local schools and has also resulted in families and young people from Starbeck and Hookstone joining us each week. We have strong links with Springwater School Starbeck, catering for visits during Easter and Christmas celebrations.

WE MAINTAIN links with local care homes, offering services, including communion, and we have a number of people who are able to take communion to people's homes.

OUR HARVEST collection of food and other goods is donated to Resurrected Bites, a local food bank and cafe, as was our collection following the two Christingle services last year.

OCCASIONAL FINANCIAL collections go to support A Rocha, the Christian eco charity.

RELATIONSHIPS with other local churches are strong: St Andrew's partners with Starbeck Methodist Church and Life Destiny Church for an annual Community Carol Service.

WE JOIN with Starbeck Methodist Church, Life Destiny Church, St Aelreds Catholic Church and a representative from Starbeck Mission for the annual outdoor act of remembrance at Starbeck Cenotaph.

ST ANDREW'S hosts a youth prayer meeting once a month supported by Netmakers.

A NUMBER of our congregation play a formal part in civic life.



GLOBAL MISSION

The promotion and support of individuals and mission activity and organisations is overseen by the Global Mission group.

St Andrew's supports in prayer a number of individuals from organisations at home and abroad, from India, to South Africa, to Israel, to Switzerland.

Financially, support is provided to representatives of International Youth for Christ, and Christians Against Poverty, along with local Netmakers ministries.

Through prayer requests and updates we ensure that the church is kept abreast of news from our mission contacts.

We have hosted representatives from YWAM (Brazil), The Leprosy Mission and Compassion UK. In autumn 2025 we held a cultural evening with visitors from Thailand, involving dance, music and food.



THE CHURCH AND ITS BUILDINGS



The church and church halls date from 1910 and 1902 respectively and provide a versatile set of buildings that support a wide variety of ministry and community work, including social events, educational activities, and mission initiatives.

They are structurally sound and in reasonable condition, especially given their age, and are well maintained.

The main church has upholstered, movable chairs, lending itself to traditional and contemporary services, and has modern sound equipment and screens to support worship. There is a team very proficient in its use.



Most urgent work identified by the QI report has been carried out. A regular roof and drainage inspection is intended to keep on top of any developing issues as they arise.

A new fire warning system is in place, along with upgraded fire doors, and a revised, professionally prepared fire strategy is in hand. An updated asbestos report has been obtained, and security camera and lighting has been installed. Less urgent work, including stonework re-pointing, slate slippage prevention, and plasterwork repair are yet to be addressed with an estimated cost of between £30K and £40K.



It is not an exaggeration to say that our church halls function much like a village hall, having some 40 hours of use each week by a variety of church activities, local groups and organisations.

The PCC takes its responsibilities for the fabric of the buildings seriously and when preparing the annual budget, ensures that appropriate resources are directed towards health and safety issues and

essential maintenance, as well as periodic maintenance and general good housekeeping.

The last major building project was the completion of the Welcome Centre in 2013 at a cost of £600,000, financed by grants and property sales and various gifts and fundraising activities.

This facility, comprising a kitchen, servery and accessible toilets, has enhanced our ability to provide a warm, comfortable and welcoming space that can be used for pre and post church socialising, Sunday groups and meetings at other times.



Within the St Andrew's church family, there are a number of people who can assist with minor maintenance issues. We are also able to call upon one or two professionally qualified people from within our fellowship to assist with specific projects, or project management, but generally, for most major work we must engage appropriately qualified contractors or professionals.



In summary, we are blessed with a variety of accessible, safe, good quality, flexible spaces suitable for folk of all ages, which support the various ministries at St Andrew's, and which have the capacity to accommodate further activities and ministry initiatives.

THE CHURCH AND ITS FINANCES

St Andrew's is generously supported by its congregation reflected by an unaudited income of just under £170k in 2025.

The finances are well run by a dedicated team who work closely with the PCC and admin staff to balance the need to meet the parish share request, maintain the church and serve its local and international mission commitments.

The church made a surplus of just over £14k in 2024 and will be in deficit by an estimated £10k in 2025. Therefore, over two years the church achieved a modest positive surplus enabling the PCC to fund several vital building projects in 2025.

SOURCES OF INCOME

Regular planned giving was up by over 4.5% in 2025 having increased by over 10% in 2024 and represented 52% of all income. Just over £21k was contributed by Gift Aid. The church claimed Gift Aid on nearly 97% of all regular giving.

Our most recent stewardship campaign was in May 2025, when we also launched the Parish Giving Scheme. This has proved very successful with nearly 40% of regular giving now coming via this route. Over 70% of those who have joined the scheme have opted to increase their donations automatically in line with inflation.

St Andrew's is also supported by many one-off donations in response to appeals, and through fund raising events such as concerts and barn dances which are always well supported.

Although there have not been any recent legacies, in 2025 the church successfully applied for and received £7.5k in grants to supplement the cost of several projects. Another vital source of income comes from the hiring out of our halls and the relatively new Welcome Centre attached to the church. Last year this generated £35k of income, an increase of £9.5k since 2022. The halls are used by a vast range of locally based groups, enterprises and organisations and are an invaluable link with the community and the church.

PARISH SHARE

The church met 90% of the share request for 2024 and has achieved the same in 2025. Although our aspiration is always to meet 100% of the share request, over the past seven years the shortfall has been 13% in total.

The reason for the underpayment is the need to pay and accrue for several large, vital, building projects, meet steeply increased utility

costs, maintain the building and ensure the safety of the congregation. Recent initiatives include an upgrade and replacement of church fire safety systems costing over £18k and masonry repairs exceeding £35k. The church is currently upgrading the windows in the halls to provide better heat insulation and reduce energy costs.

All repairs to our grade 2 listed building follow the recommendations of the quinquennial reports. There are several roofing, pointing, electrical and zero carbon related projects in the pipeline. Economic pressures outside our control have also impacted on our ability to meet the share request. Like all churches there have been challenges due to the large increases in energy costs.

Energy costs are now £11k per annum higher than they were in 2019. This has put severe pressure on our ability to meet the share request and maintain a safe and welcoming church. Therefore achieving 90% of the target share in 2025 whilst completing several necessary

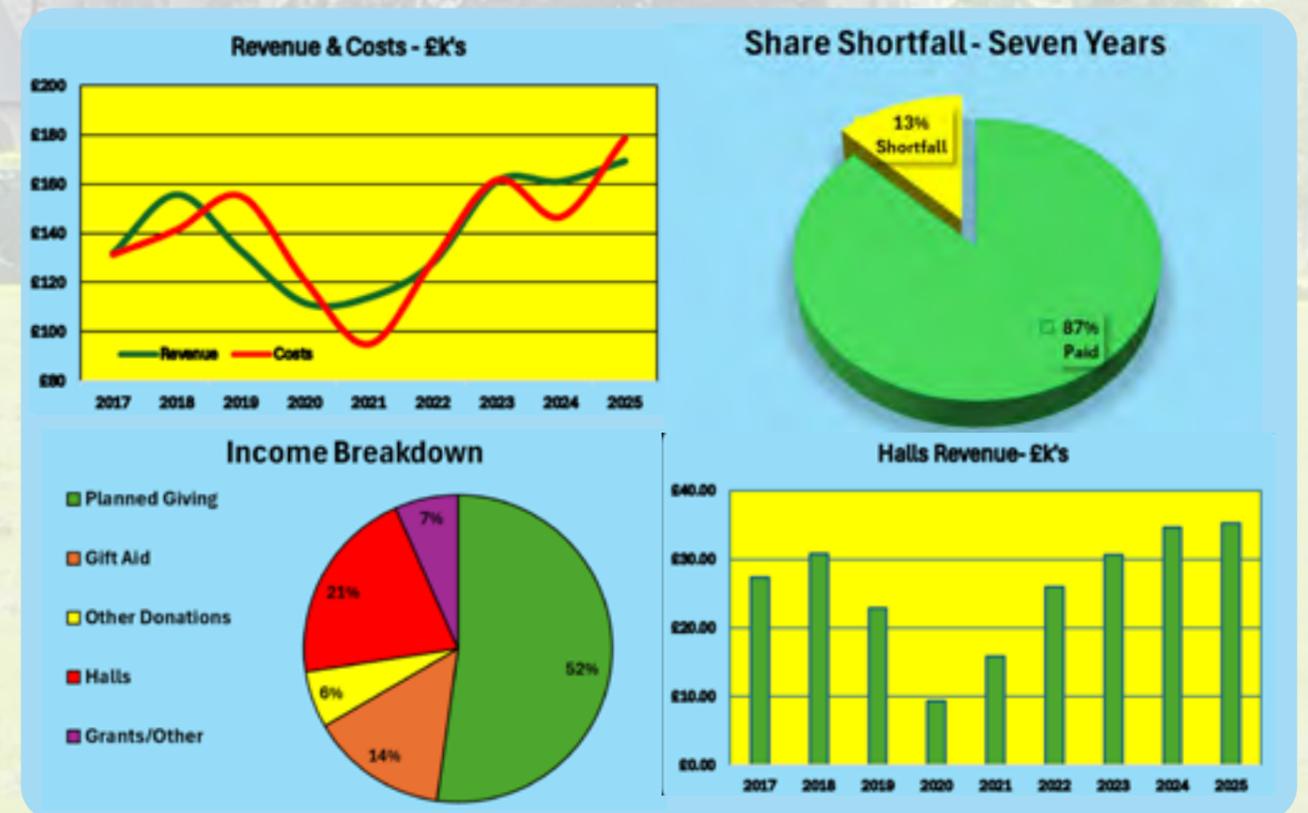
maintenance projects has been a positive achievement.

Therefore, looking forward to 2026, the PCC plans to continue its policy of budgeting to pay at least 80% of the Parish Share. As in previous years we aim to make additional payments if circumstances permit. In this way the PCC will continue to balance day-to-day income and expenditure whilst at the same time being able to deal with urgent financial pressures as they occur.

SUMMARY

The church is financially stable, supported by committed parishioners through planned giving, generous donations and fundraising initiatives. Our financial systems are well managed, enabling wise stewardship of resources.

Note: The latest available 2024 and previously published accounts and other trustee information can be found on the Charity Commission web site and searching for charity number 1139696. Search the [charity register - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/charity-register)



ABOUT THE WIDER CONTEXT

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER CHURCHES

Netmakers has replaced Churches Together in the area and represents a network of local churches that undertake mission together, support youth work and come together to pray.

LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

St Andrew's has responded to Living in Love and Faith by following the course within house groups and as a stand-alone series for other members of the congregation.

This was seen as a positive process and following this, the PCC decided to seek the views and strength of feeling of the entire church by means of a questionnaire.

Both the congregation and the PCC demonstrated a majority (approx. 60%) in favour of moving towards a more open understanding and acceptance of the issues highlighted by Living in Love and Faith.

It is fair to say that a large proportion of those in favour of such a move were younger members of the church.

Recognising that a significant minority were not in favour of moving away from the Church's traditional position, the previous vicar, supported by the PCC and the Leadership Team, endeavoured to respect the differing views whilst striving to maintain unity. In a new vicar, therefore, we will be looking for someone who can lovingly hold such differences and manage any arising tensions with wisdom and grace.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES WE'RE FACING

Building Community Partnerships

Our facilities are already well used, but there is room to expand our outreach through partnerships with local groups, charities, and neighbouring churches. We see opportunities for shared community events, social action, and creative missions.

Expanding Our Digital Presence

Our online streaming ministry continues to reach those unable to attend in person. We see potential to use digital tools more intentionally and imaginatively to connect, communicate, and disciple, extending the reach of our message well beyond our building.

An aging congregation

Many of our volunteers are retired and have been in roles in St. Andrew's for some time. There is still an opportunity to expand the volunteer base into the younger demographic, and celebrate and make use of the experience and wisdom of those with a longer lifetime of Christian service and discipleship.

Equipping people to take over key roles

Allied to this is the fact that sufficient thought has yet to be given to ensuring that as individuals step down from certain roles, other people are prepared, ready and equipped to take their place.

Recruiting a second Churchwarden

Our current Churchwarden is immensely capable and hard-working, and whilst many people step up to help in different ways, it is still a lot of responsibility for one person to carry. We are open to exploring how we fulfil these responsibilities creatively and meet the needs of this key role.



THE VICARAGE
51 BOGS LANE



STARBECK PRIMARY
HIGH STREET



SPRINGWATER
HIGH STREET



LIBRARY
HIGH STREET



BELMONT HOUSE
HIGH STREET



WELLSPRING
HIGH STREET



LDC
HIGH STREET



METHODIST CHURCH
HIGH STREET



STARBECK
HIGH STREET



HOUSE GROUP



CHRISTINGLE



IN BLOOM



OVEN READY!!



GREAT FR



PRAY N PLAY



TALKING



FAMILY SPOT



WITNESSING



HOME ALONE

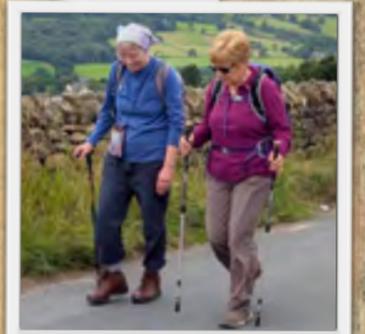
St Andrew's Church
LOVING + GROWING



TOGETHER



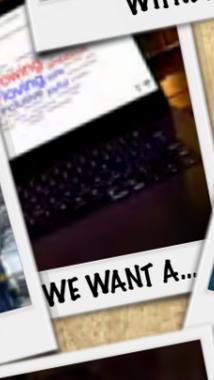
TESTING 1 2 3



OUT OUT



EASTER



WE WANT A...



CHRIST



LUNCH CLUB



BANNERS



LAGS



TI



SUNDAY CLUB



WELCOME FROM MIKE



CHRISTINGLE 25



NATIVITY 25



TREE-TASTIC



WELCOM



GO KEITH GO GO GO



!! ME AGAIN !!



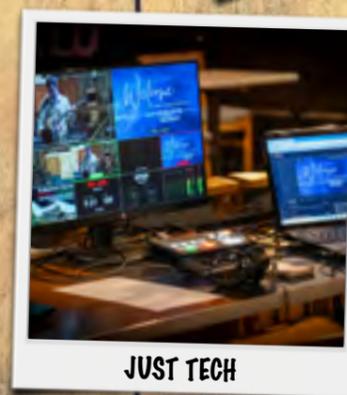
COFFEE TIME



JUST MARRIED



!! 4 CANDLES !!



JUST TECH



ONLINE GAMING



GREAT FRIENDS