

Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham



Agenda and Reports
for the Annual Parochial Meeting 2023

The Annual Vestry Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

To be held on Sunday 23 April 2023
in the Parish Church at 12.15 pm

Church Committees at April 2023

Priest in Charge		The Revd. Andrew B. Norman
Curate		The Revd. Hannah Wallace
Church Wardens		Dianne Lomax Brian Smalley (Jenny Marks)
Parochial Church Council	Chair: Vice Chair: Secretary: Treasurer: Ex-officio Churchwarden	The Revd. Andrew B Norman Brian Smalley (Ex-officio Church Warden) Elizabeth Rocke John Lomax Dianne Lomax Jenny Andrews Katriona Field Darrell Lancaster Sheila MacInnes Jenny Marks Tess Rowlands The Revd. Hannah Wallace Dorothy MacLeod Vivien Stirrup
	Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep: Ex-officio Deanery Synod Rep:	
Standing Committee		The Revd. Andrew B Norman Dianne Lomax Brian Smalley Elizabeth Rocke John Lomax Vivien Stirrup The Rev'd Hannah Wallace
Finance Committee		Vivien Stirrup Tess Rowlands Darrell Lancaster John Lomax
Friends of Beetham Church	Chair: Administrator:	John Lomax Brian Smalley Dianne Lomax Jenny Marks Sue Smalley Ian Stirrup Vivien Stirrup Dennis Wright
Fabric Committee	Chair: Secretary:	Jenny Marks Harry Parrott Darrell Lancaster John Lomax Brian Smalley Ian Stirrup Dennis Wright
Foundation Governors for Beetham School		John Lomax (Chair of Governors) Chris Christou Katharine Parrott-Edwards Vivien Stirrup Dennis Wright
Ex-Officio Local Authority Governor		The Revd Andrew B Norman Brian Smalley

Parish of St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

Agendas for Annual Parochial Meetings 2023

**The Annual Vestry Meeting
and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Sunday 23 April 2023 at 12.15 pm

Welcome and introduction

Opening Prayers

Apologies for absence

Agenda: Annual Vestry Meeting

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll or those resident in Beetham Parish and on the Civil Electoral Roll are entitled to vote.

1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 08 May 2022
2. Election of Churchwardens

Agenda: Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote. Verbal reports will not be given at the meeting.

1. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 08 May 2022
 - a) Approval
 - b) Matters arising
2. Electoral Roll
3. Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council 2022
4. Finance Report for year ending 31st December 2022
 - 4.1 Gift Aid report
5. Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report
6. Kendal Deanery Synod Report
7. Beetham CE Primary School Report
8. Safeguarding
9. Reports from Church Groups
 - a) Friends of Beetham Church
 - b) Social Events
 - c) Bell Ringers
 - d) Website, Gateway and Community report
 - e) Bookstall
 - f) Church Flowers
 - g) Choir and Music
10. Churchwardens' Report
11. Priest's Report
12. Elections and Appointments
 - a) Parochial Church Council Members
 - b) Independent Examiner
13. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC

Closing Prayers

Annual Vestry Meeting 2023

Agenda Item 1: Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on Sunday 08 May 2022 (*minutes of the meeting below in italics*)

Present: The Revd. Andrew Norman (AN) Chair, Elizabeth Rocke (ER) PCC Secretary, Dianne Lomax (DL) Churchwarden, John Lomax (JL) Treasurer, Brian Smalley (BS) Churchwarden, Sue Smalley (SS) Parish Safeguarding Officer, with 18 members of the congregation present.

Apologies had been received from: A. and H. Beaumont, J. Marks; C. Roberts, T. Rowlands, H. and J. Montgomery

The meetings were opened in prayer.

Annual Vestry Meeting

1. *The Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on 09 May 2021 were approved.*

Prop .BS, Sec. Kathleen Dodd. Agreed unanimously.

2. *Election of Churchwardens: AN offered his sincere thanks, on behalf of the whole parish, to Brian, Dianne and Ian for their service and for their commitment in their stewarding, organising and enabling of the ministry of the church through their service as Churchwardens. He specifically recorded his special thanks to Ian, who after six years as Churchwarden was not seeking re-election to the office. Ian had been not only a faithful and dedicated Churchwarden but a great friend to many. On behalf of the Parish and its Priest the Church gives Ian its enduring thanks.*

Two nominations were received for the three posts of Churchwarden as follows:

Dianne Lomax – Prop.BS , sec. SS.

Brian Smalley – Prop. J. S. Marks, sec. C.A. Roberts

There being no other nominations Dianne and Brian were elected unanimously.

One Churchwarden vacancy remains. Should anyone wish to fill this vacancy this is possible throughout the coming year.

End of Annual Vestry Meeting at 12.25

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Please note that only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote

AGENDA ITEM 1A – MINUTES OF APCM 2022 FOR APPROVAL

(N.B. The following minutes should be read in conjunction with the 2022 printed reports)

1.a The minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held 09 May 2021 were approved

Prop. JL., Sec. S.S. Agreed unanimously

b. There were no matters arising from the minutes:

All those attending had received either a paper copy of the Annual Report or had access to view it online via the church website. AN thanked all contributors for their detailed and thorough reports which provide an account of the varied and important activities of the parish and the efforts of many people over 2021. AN proposed that they should be accepted without further comment unless questions from the meeting arose. All of the reports were accepted unanimously.

2. The following Items were noted.

The Finance Committee Membership

Darrell Lancaster is a member of the Finance Committee and is to be included in the list of that Committee.

The Standing Committee

Membership of the Standing Committee is

*Revd. Andrew B Norman
Dianne Lomax
Brian Smalley
Elizabeth Rocke
John Lomax
Vivien Stirrup*

3. Electoral roll: *(Agenda Item 2) There was no change to the elected roll figure of 76 shown in the report.*

4. Safeguarding: *(Agenda Item 8) SS as the Parish Safeguarding Officer gave an oral update to her written report. She explained that statutory guidance from the Church of England would require all persons who undertake any role in the Church to make a signed disclosure of any personal history that would render them unable to undertake that role in accordance with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy and the Parish's Safeguarding Policy relating to the guidance set out in the House of Bishop's safeguarding policy document: 'Promoting a Safer Church'.*

The PCC explicitly confirms that it has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 being the duty to have regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Annual Report in its various constituent reports demonstrates how this duty has been complied with in reality and the importance of Safeguarding in all aspects of parish life.

5. Churchwarden's report: *(Agenda Item 10) It was noted that as Rita Higham had died in this year any obituary reference to her in the Churchwarden's report would appear in this year's 2022 report when it is published in 2023. The Annual Report always covers the immediately preceding calendar year to the date of the meeting.*

6. **Priest's report:** (Agenda Item 11) AN's report to the meeting extended his gratitude to all those who support the work of the church, as we seek to glimpse the presence of the Kingdom of God in the parish and beyond. AN is grateful to all whether present at the meeting or not for their encouragement, support and for the many ways in which they bless the work of the Church through their service of the Lord.

For AN, a perfect picture of what a church should be doing was symbolised in the activities of the preceding day (Saturday 07 May). The organisation of the annual Beetham Duck Day showed committed people within the church community working in collaboration with each other, the school and the wider village, by bringing people together whilst also supporting the fundraising of the church. The wedding that took place in the afternoon was an occasion of happiness and thankfulness, which highlighted the vital importance of the church as a place of belonging to the community. Together they demonstrated both the reality and a growing aspiration to be a welcoming, inclusive, open hearted and prayerful community of faith, full of the joy of the Lord, and committed both in witness and service to the people of God in this place.

BS on behalf of the meeting conveyed our gratitude to AN for his leadership, example and guidance.

7. Elections and Appointments (Agenda item 12):

a) Parochial Church Council Members:

One existing PCC member was due for election at this meeting: Sheila McInnes, wished to stand for re-election. AN indicated that he was very grateful to Chris Roberts who had decided not to seek re-election, and thanked him for his dedicated service on the PCC over many years.

There were two nominations for the three lay vacancies on the PCC:

Sheila MacInnes
Katriona Field

One lay place remain vacant, with the hope it may be filled (through a co-option) during the course of the coming year.

Both Katriona and Sheila were unanimously elected

b) Independent Examiner:

JL will approach David Carey to see if he will continue in the role of Independent Examiner of the church accounts in 2022. If he agrees he will be appointed.

Proposed Dorothy MacLeod, Sec, JL. Agreed unanimously.

8. Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC (Agenda item 13):

The PCC was asked to consider how long mask wearing in church should continue and when both elements could be received. In response it was explained that the PCC kept the measures that had been implemented to prevent the spread of Coronavirus under continuous review. There was no legal obligation to wear a face covering. It was encouraged of those within the congregation to reduce infection spread, especially after the experiences of recent weeks. The offer of the common cup was being considered by the Standing Committee and a judgement/decision would be made in due course.

The PCC then met to make certain appointments and consider agenda items referred to it by the Standing Committee.

The meeting of the APCM 2022 closed at 12.45 with the saying of the Grace.

AGENDA ITEM 1A: Matters arising from the minutes of the APCM held on 08 May 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Electoral Roll 2023

Electoral Roll:	74
Lesson Readers:	Morning Service – 26 Evensong - 7
Intercessors:	8
Sidespersons:	26

All numbers correct at April 2023. There are 74 names on the Electoral Roll, entitling up to nine representatives of the laity on the PCC. There are no plans to resume the separate Offertory rota at present and this will continue to be carried out by the Sidespersons on duty. We are grateful to all those who volunteer to read, lead the intercessions, or be a sidesperson at regular Morning and Evening services and at Special Services during the year. Additional volunteers are always welcome

Jenny Marks, Electoral Roll Officer

AGENDA ITEM 3: Report on the Proceedings of the PCC 2022

Meetings of the PCC have taken place on a regular pattern of every other month on the third Thursday. They are held in the school. Standing Committee meetings have taken place in the intervening month. Standing Committee meetings are notified to all PCC members as they are open to them to attend. If any person wants further information as to the proceedings of the PCC they can contact me and I will provide a copy of the minutes to them.

Elizabeth Rocke, PCC Secretary

AGENDA ITEM 4: Finance Report for the year ending 31 December 2022

See Receipts and Payments 2022 Report on pages 7 and 8 overleaf

*John Lomax
Hon. Treasurer*

St Michael & All Angels, Beetham

RECEIPTS			2022	2021
Collections & Donations	<i>incl coffee</i>	a	£29,325.76	£28,633.97
Donations contactless			£1,150.14	
Gift Aid Tax recovered			£6,933.11	£5,607.71
Wedding & Funeral Fees Gross			£10,811.00	£4,557.00
CBF Interest			£54.65	£52.92
Grants	SLDC Closed chyd 2020 & 2021		722.40	£1,180.00
	Donations in mem.		1,180.00	
	Legacy		500.00	
	Donation - gold coins		4,383.00	
Generosity	<i>individual gifts</i>		1,060.00	
Fundraising	<i>various, but in particular:</i>		367.00	
	<i>Plant sale</i>		601.85	£705.00
	<i>Harvest Supper (2021 Cookbooks)</i>		803.10	£90.00
	<i>Hamper Raffle</i>		901.50	£702.00
Brightening Beetham - donations			985.00	£630.00
Tower clock/bells repair - donations (2021 Crib restor'n)			7,016.00	£759.15
Flower festival			901.55	£100.00
Deposit a/c interest			£3.34	£2.68
Other <i>incl some bookstall, some specific donations</i>		b	1,060.00	£869.85
Carol-singing <i>(for Salvation Army)</i>			601.51	
Total receipts			£69,360.91	£43,890.28
B/F as at 01.01.22				
Current Account less uncleared cheques			£1,275.36	£4,905.10
Deposit Account			£19,799.98	£32,397.30
CCLA Investment (At cost)			£10,000.00	£10,000.00
CBF Deposit			£2.03	£2.03
CBF Contingency			£0.50	£0.50
Total			£31,077.87	£47,304.93
			£100,438.78	£91,195.21

Receipts and Payments 2022

PAYMENTS

		2022	2021
Upkeep of services		£1,054.17	£232.02
Organists		£6,897.00	£5,775.00
Heat, Light & Cleaning		£4,242.95	£5,220.33
Insurance premium (2022 includes security)		£4,827.09	£4,304.26
W & F Fees to DBF/organist/bellringers		£3,811.00	£827.00
Cemetery & Chyd upkeep	c	£3,753.00	£2,090.00
Maint'ce & repairs	d	£2,838.29	£3,246.26
Copier		£1,435.38	£1,029.60
Stationery		£223.08	£740.17
Parish Offering to Diocese	e	£26,985.00	£25,700.00
Charities		£1,566.45	£324.00
Priest-in-charge expenses		£2,153.95	£1,596.83
Christmas incl Brightening Beetham		£665.00	£519.95
Printing cards,books etc		£352.44	
Fabric: projects			
Broadband : roof alarm	f		£321.50
Alarm upgrade Installation			£4,656.00
Other: Gifts			
Crib restoration			£1,346.40
Architect fee			£1,596.00
CCLI/SLDC Licence			£235.72
Website		£66.00	£78.00
Flowers for special occasions		£32.98	£133.38
Sundry	g	£488.76	£144.92
Total expenditure		£61,392.54	£60,117.34
B/F at 31.12.22			
Current Account		£17,240.39	£1,275.36
Petty cash			£20.43
Deposit Account	h	£11,803.32	£19,799.98
CCLA Investment (At cost)		£10,000.00	£10,000.00
CBF Deposit		£2.03	£2.03
CBF Contingency		£0.50	£0.50
Total	j	£39,046.24	£31,098.30
		£100,438.78	£91,195.21

NOTES

- a** Includes regular giving, alms and donations in boxes
- b** Also includes contactless card payments
- c** Routine grasscutting in both the Churchyard & new Burial Ground plus costs of removal diseased tree
- d** Mostly annual routine checks and servicing but also downpayment on clock/bells repair
- e** This equates to the costs borne by the Diocese in the provision of Ministry
- f** From 2022, this item is included in Insurance & Security
- g** Includes:
Faculty fee
Wine for events
Car Park
Lottery Licence

- h** During 2022, £8,000 was transferred from savings for current a/c liquidity.

The bottom line! Total assets **increased** by £8,000

AGENDA ITEM 4.1: Gift Aid report 2022

Summary

From eligible donations given during 2022 we have been able to claim for church funds a total of **£7,261.43** in tax repayments (compared with **£5,452.75** claimed in 2021). The summary table below shows the total tax repayments received in recent years under the two different Gift Aid schemes:

- Gift Aid Donations – a Gift Aid Declaration has been completed by the donor, either by a single form to cover all donations made by the donor, or by a signed declaration on each donation envelope.
- GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme) – where no Gift Aid Declaration has been received, a Gift Aid style payment may be claimed from HMRC on cash donations of £30 or less up to a maximum total of £8,000 received in small donations within a tax year.
Contactless card donations of £30 or less are also now eligible for GASDS.

Gift Aid Scheme	Eligible Donations 2022	Tax Claimed 2022	Tax Claimed 2021	Tax Claimed 2020	Tax Claimed 2019	Tax Claimed 2018
Gift Aid Donations	£23,144.20	£5,790.20	£5,452.75	£5,004.59	£5,316.64	£5,219.90
GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme)	£5,483.58	£1,471.23	£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£1,821.82
Grand Total	£28,627.78	£7,261.43	£5,452.75	£7,004.59	£7,316.64	£7,041.72

The tax claimed from Gift Aid Donations was higher in 2022 than in 2021 (£5,790.20 compared with £5,452.75). The tax claimed in 2022 from the small donations GASDS scheme was £1,471.23, compared with zero claimed in 2021 (because very little eligible non gift aided cash was given during the 2020/2021 tax year as a result of COVID-19 intermittent church closures, restricted baptisms, weddings, funerals and cancelled fundraising events).

Gift Aid Donations Claims

To assist with church cash flow, four claims were made throughout the year on the total of £23,144.20 given in Gift Aid Donations. The final payment was received from HMRC in February 2023 and therefore the 2022 total Gift Aid repayments listed below will not match the 2022 church accounts figure for Gift Aid repayments received within 2022.

Claim Period	Eligible Donations 2022	Tax Claimed 2022
Mar-22	£5,420.00	£1,355.00
Jun-22	£5,178.20	£1,295.37
Sep-22	£6,409.00	£1,602.30
Dec-22	£6,137.00	£1,537.53
Grand Total	£23,144.20	£5,790.20

Method of Giving

A total of 64 different individuals gave through Gift Aid during 2022, mostly through standing order or online banking payments directly into the church bank account. The table below illustrates the increasing trend in recent years towards direct bank payments rather than physical envelope donations. The table also illustrates the vast reduction in numbers of donors in recent years. Both trends are a natural reflection of the limited church opening during the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent reduction in numbers of visitors.

Donation Method	2022 Number of Donors	2021 Number of Donors	2020 Number of Donors	2019 Number of Donors	2018 Number of Donors
Bank	34	33	34	28	28
Gift Aid envelopes	18	11	24	119	139
Numbered envelopes	12	11	14	16	18
Grand Total	64	55	72	163	185

Grateful thanks are expressed to all who have undertaken to Gift Aid their donations and collectively make such a significant difference to church income.

Andrew MacLeod
28 February 2023

AGENDA ITEM 5: Fabric Committee and Health & Safety Report 2022

“The committee has the responsibility for implementing the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the church.”

Members: Jenny Marks Chairperson
Harry Parrott Secretary
John Lomax, Brian Smalley, Ian Stirrup, Dennis Wright, Darrell Lancaster

ANNUAL SERVICES/INSPECTIONS

We continued to manage the regular annual services and inspections needed to make sure the church is safe and functions properly despite not meeting as regularly as we did prior to the Pandemic.

WORKDAYS

We have continued with workdays as and when required, including gutter cleaning, general tidying up, weeding, pruning and the ever-ending ivy removal from the stone walls. We have started to tidy the site of the new Garden of Remembrance, but several sessions will be required to complete the work.

ROSE PERGOLA

The pergola has been damaged over the last year by strong winds and some of the timbers will need to be replaced. A special workday will be arranged to appraise the extent of the problem.

ELECTRICAL ISSUES

We have not experienced any problems with the electrical circuits in 2022. However, as we do not have a lightning conductor system, we hope to continue this year with our investigation into providing surge protection to all the electrical circuits.

HEALTH and SAFETY

Our thanks go again to Brian who has been carrying out ongoing risk assessments for the church.

CLEANING TEAMS

The cleaning teams ceased to meet during the Pandemic, but our thanks go to Brian, who has continued to keep our church clean and tidy throughout the Pandemic. Hopefully we will be able to get volunteers to help in the future cleaning.

RE-ORDERING OF CHURCH

Full Faculty Approval was received in December for all our proposals and tenders are now being sought by our church Architect Mike Darwell. Tenders are to be returned by 24th March.2023

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

The Garden is to be in the northwest corner of the Burial Ground. The boundary will be marked by a stone at each of the 4 corners and a double width memorable stone will be provided remembering the names of those whose ashes are buried in the Garden.

QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION

Please note that our 5-year Inspection will be carried out on 28th April.

Harry Parrott, Secretary

AGENDA ITEM 6: Kendal Deanery Synod Report

Kendal Deanery Synod Report

The Kendal Deanery Synod met in May, July and October 2022, each meeting included a spotlight issue, a short business meeting and a time of worship.

At the May meeting a panel of speakers discussed their own different approaches to “Following Daily”, one of the key themes of the God for All strategy. The panel consisted of Alison Fleetwood (GP trainer and Diocesan Healing Adviser), Cameron Butland (Bishop’s Chaplain and Diocesan Spirituality Adviser), Chris Harwood (who works with the Restore network and connected communities, to develop Fresh Expressions of Church in New Monasticism) and Christopher Landau (Director of ReSource), who was visiting Cumbria. All agreed that they had different approaches to discipleship but, one way or another they all involve people in reaching towards a relationship with God which fulfils them as individuals and which shines out through lived action, impacting on others and potentially bringing more to Christ.

In July, Nicky Smith, Diocesan Director of Ministry Development, led the spotlight session on the subject of growing lay ministry, describing the *Discipleship Project* to be launched in September 2022. This project is a partnership between the Diocese and local areas, aiming to grow lay ministry in locally relevant ways. The project will offer options that enable anyone to find and grow their own particular vocation, relevant to them and their local situation. This will complement existing training such as that provided for Readers and aims to grow and strengthen local ministry

At the October meeting, the Revd. Canon Michael Manley, Interim Dean and Canon Missioner, Carlisle Cathedral led an interactive session on the God for All theme of ‘Speak Boldly’. Today we cannot assume that the Jesus story is known by everyone and by some, it is only known as a fable. Speaking boldly of our faith is daunting. We mistakenly may feel that we alone are responsible for the enormous task of ‘converting’ someone we know, however it is important to understand that God simply asks us to play a small part in helping the person to gain a closer understanding of Him. The process may take several years and will be different for everyone, but our small contribution can be vital.

The Kendal Deanery Ascension Day service was held at St Michael and All Angels, Beetham.

Key points from business items:

- Parish Offer: The move within the Diocese towards Parish Offer becoming a three-year covenant by a Mission Community, reflecting its plan for ministry was noted. The total parish offer in the Deanery now only marginally exceeds the current cost of ministry.
- Following discussion, The Deanery Synod resolved to invite the Diocesan Synod to consider the following two-part resolution:
 1. This Diocesan Synod requests the Bishop's Leadership Team (a) to promote and support open discussion about the future of valued, historic church buildings that may no longer be sustainable by their congregations and (b) to ensure the development of a strategic approach to supporting parishes facing this situation.
 2. This Diocesan Synod asks the General Synod to ensure that, nationally, there is a clear process through which the level of external financial support for essential maintenance and conservation of Grade 1 listed parish churches reflects the circumstances of the congregation and its community, as well as the heritage value of the building.

Vivien Stirrup and Dorothy MacLeod - Deanery Synod members

AGENDA ITEM 7: Beetham CE Primary School Report

Throughout this year we have looked at our school values and vision. Working as a school alongside members of the governing body and church we have revitalized our Christian vision.

Beetham CE Primary School is a loving, inquisitive and nurturing community, where all are welcomed, encouraged and celebrated. Our vision is rooted in the life of faith that the apostle Paul writes in Romans chapter 12.

We selected the Bible quote of Romans 12:10 to frame this, 'Love one another with genuine affection; delight in honouring each other with mutual respect.' As a school we also selected values which represented our school and vision these are Love, perseverance and respect.

The school was visited by Ofsted in October and concluded that the school continues to be a Good school. They commented on the good, positive relationships between pupils, staff, parents and the community. Note was also made of the variety of learning opportunities provided to all children as well as the personalisation of the curriculum for our small school and local area.

We are extremely happy with the findings of the report; which clearly shows the hard work put in by all the staff, and we will continue to work on the points of developments identified.

September saw 55 children on role. We welcomed Mr Joshua Blessington as the Year 5 and 6 teacher as we said goodbye to Mrs Louise Horsman who had worked at the school for 8 years.

Throughout this last year we have been able to provide children with many valuable learning experiences including sport, residentials, visits and support in the community which are all beyond the compulsory National Curriculum.

Church. We continue to have strong links to St Michael's and All Angels through regular visits and also Father Andrew and Rev Hannah visiting school to deliver worship on a weekly basis.

All children visit church to join in the celebrations of Harvest, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter and the end of the school year as well as taking part in special activities such as learning about Baptism and the Eucharist and the Infant Nativity play which is performed annually in the church.

Over the past year we have also timetabled days off curriculum to celebrate key events in the church calendar. We have planned this on a two year programme and so far have worked together to learn

about Ascension, Candlemas and All Saints Day with further days planned for Lent and Pentecost. Further to this each year we welcome members of the church community to make posies for Mother's Day.

We have also planned off timetable days where we have looked at the school values. So far we have looked at the values of love and perseverance. Activities on these days have focused on the meaning of the values and how we can show these in our lives.

At Christmas we also had the opportunity to visit the Knitted Bible in Kendal. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to engage with stories from the Bible which had been recreated with knitted figures and models.

Sports. We are part of the Dallam Sports Partnership which means that our children have the opportunity to compete and play alongside members of other local schools. This year we have been involved in rounders, netball and cross country with further events in the diary.

Beyond this we have also welcomed visitors to school to provide specialist coaching in gymnastics, dance and games as well as speciality events such as the triathlon and yoga.

The trim trail has been installed on the school field thanks to funding from the National Lottery. This provides children with the opportunity to have active lunchtimes on top of developing balance and coordination during PE lessons.

We also held our annual sports day where children worked together and took part in races to earn points for their team. It was a lovely event for both the children and parents.

Events.

We have held many different events in school to enrich our children's learning and provide opportunities beyond the National Curriculum.

We have had musical and drama visitors to perform songs and plays using the Heron theatre; we have watched films in the Heron theatre and celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite characters. Sarah Dodd, a local author, also visited children in KS2 to inspire their writing.

All of Key Stage 2 took part in a performance of Dance at the Brewery Arts Theatre as well as a school drama performance at the end of the school year.

School Council have organised fund raising events for Comic Relief and Children in Need which have included activities and dressing up.

All of our Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to go on a school residential. Our Year 3 and 4 class were able to go to Tower Wood and take part in outdoor activities such as paddle boarding, canoeing and climbing whilst the children in Years 5 and 6 went to Liverpool to visit the Cathedral and several of the museums as well as Chester Zoo. Both wonderful experiences for the children to be able to have.

Each class also had their own end of year school trip. Early Years and KS1 visited Brockhole to explore the trails and fairy walks. KS2 spent the day canoeing on Windermere.

The Queen's Jubilee was a highlight of the year with children celebrating by wearing red, white and blue clothes; making souvenir plates; planting trees and having a wonderful party on the field.

This year we have had the opportunity to train one of our members of staff in Forest Schools. Mrs Beverley Tattersall has taken on the role of Forest Schools leader and led sessions both on the

school site and at the local site of Trowbarrow woods. Being able to train a member of staff to develop these sessions and having the opportunity to use places in the local community is wonderful and has certainly helped to develop our children's confidence and adventure. We are very grateful to the support that we received for this to happen.

PTA – FOBS

As a school we are well supported by our PTA. This year they have supported the purchase of reading books, glockenspiels, transport to events and subsidising our end of term trips.

The committee have worked hard this year to provide events for the children and the community alike. The children have attended discos and film nights with events for Duck Day, the Jubilee and the Winter Fair organised for the local community and to raise funds.

Abi Johnson Headteacher

AGENDA ITEM 8: Safeguarding

The Foundation level for safeguarding can be found on the Diocesan website and should be completed by all PCC members,,please let me know when you have completed the course.

Many of the courses have now returned to being face to face meetings and this year the Leadership course has been successfully completed by our clergy and four members of our congregation.

The most recent course is based around domestic abuse and if you wish to take part please refer to the Diocesan website.

I have been Parish Safeguarding Officer for 8 years now and I am giving notice to the meeting that this will be my last year in this role.

Sue Smalley March 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 9: Reports from church groups

(a) Friends of Beetham Church

(b) Social Events

BEETHAM CHURCH SOCIAL REPORT 2022/23

At long last, with the risk of covid fading into the distance, we were able to hold the annual Harvest Supper again on Friday 30th September 2022 in the Heron Corn Mill Barn and the Shrove Tuesday Supper on Tuesday 21st February 2023.

Over fifty people in September and over forty in February filled the Barn where they enjoyed an excellent supper provided by Alison Thompson of Akenthwaite, followed by entertainment which brought singing, laughter and quizzing from every corner.

The entertainment in September, '**The B Factor**,' involved a selection of musical and 'one woman/man' presentations. The Chairman, Mr Alan Beaumont introduced us to a collection of familiar tunes with familiar or unfamiliar words, thanks to our erstwhile friend and writer, Sandy Lofthouse, together with dazzling dialogue and spirited acting, all of which contributed to the

amusement of the assembled company! We are very grateful to Choir Master Geoff Field for his accompaniment and his help in putting it all together.

The Shrove Tuesday Supper in February was followed by the Village Quiz. Our thanks go to Clive Holden who put together an excellent selection of questions on a variety of topics which gave the 'grey matter' a good workout after we had all enjoyed plenteous helpings of cottage pie and pancakes.

Our very grateful thanks go to everyone who took part in either or both events, including our very appreciative audiences, whom thought and laughed and sang and clapped at 'all of the right places and in the right order'!

For your diaries, the next Harvest Supper will be on Friday 29th September 2023 and the Shrove Tuesday Supper will be on Tuesday 13th February 2024. We look forward to seeing you there.

Dianne Lomax
22/2/23

(c) Beetham Bellringers

It has been a real joy to get back to full time ringing of towerbells and handbells, and both bands continue to go from strength to strength. The regular team of towerbell ringers have rung every Sunday for the past year, plus our thanks go to Andy & Dorothy MacLeod for stepping in if we are short (particularly when they have already rung at Heversham earlier in the morning). As always, we have also rung for weddings and special occasions - such as the Platinum Jubilee and COP27 - and tolled for funerals. The team have been trying for some time to learn a new ringing 'method' (sequence of bells), with grateful thanks to Brian for his patient tuition. This was originally planned for the Platinum Jubilee ring, but moving the practice night to a Wednesday proved problematic in getting all the right people in the right places and necessarily in the right order! As a result our practice nights have returned to a Monday (although this has curtailed our post-ring social visits to The Wheatsheaf), and we are planning the new method for the Coronation instead...

The handbell team were delighted to be asked to give demonstrations and workshops to various groups during the year, including a lovely sunny ring outside at the Corn Mill for the Dementia Walks for All group in the summer. It was a real pleasure to get back to live ringing at Christmas, especially at Elmsfield House which we had missed for the two previous years, with additional thanks to the choir members who joined us to lead the carol singing

Instead of our usual Annual Bellringers Dinner last year we joined forces with members of the choir for a coach trip to Blackpool, where we enjoyed a wonderful evening of entertainment by Geoff Field on the Mighty Wurlitzer in Blackpool Tower, followed - of course - by fish and chips and a trip along the Illuminations

My personal thanks go to all the 'clangers', both big and small, for all their dedication, enthusiasm and laughter during the year, and do please join us for our Coronation celebrations.

Jenny Marks, Tower Captain

(d) Church Website & The Gateway

A paper copy of The Gateway parish magazine continues to be delivered free to every home in the parish for eleven months of the year (with July/August being a joint edition) and copies are made

available at many commercial outlets for visitors to pick up. It remains a useful source of promotion for both church events and what's on in the surrounding area, and it is always amazing to read how much actually happens in our parish and beyond

The magazine would certainly not be the same without all the regular contributors and huge thanks go to the rota of front page authors for such interesting and varied articles, to Andrew and Hannah for 'The Reverends Letters', to Clive Holden for his challenging Quiz each month, to Abi Johnson for delighting us with all the Beetham CE School news and pictures in School Corner, and to Tess Rowlands for her entertaining update on the Beetham Band. As always my special thanks go to the dedicated team of folders and distributors who do such an excellent job each month and without whom The Gateway would not happen

An electronic version of The Gateway is circulated to a wide number of people by email, including many who do not live locally, and is also available to view on our website each month. The website proved to be a valuable method of communication during covid and it is still kept updated with details of what is happening at church and in the Diocese – including a copy of this Annual Report available to download! YouTube video links continue to be made available and the Homepage noticeboard gives up-to-date news on any forthcoming special services or changes to worship

Please do keep forwarding suggestions for the development of The Gateway and the website, so that we can make sure that they both remain relevant, helpful and - hopefully - enjoyable for the future

Jenny Marks, Gateway Editor

(e) Bookstall

Book Stall Report 2022

I can report that the Book Stall is still a good source of income, though it is less easy to assess the exact amounts raised, as some people now use the electronic device to pay for their goods (progress!). The Christmas cards were well received; thanks to Jenny Marks for sourcing them and arranging the printing.

The Church brochure is still available but the stock is depleted and a decision will have to be made soon regarding its replacement. The reordering of the church means we will need new information booklets or pamphlets to tide us over the coming year.

There is now a new stock of bookmarks of the windows; thank you to John Lomax for reproducing these. I understand it is a difficult and time-consuming process and I am very grateful for his hard work on our behalf.

When the reordering at the back of the church is completed then we should have a larger area for sales. I would be very grateful for any suggestions regarding other objects we could sell to raise money for our church.

Sue Smalley March 2023.

(f) Church Flowers

BEETHAM CHURCH FLOWER REPORT 2022/23

Flowers are usually arranged by a rota of twelve members of the congregation in the Sanctuary throughout the year, excepting Advent and Lent. The team is further assisted by other members in decorating the Church for the major festivals.

As usual, the Church has been especially decorated for the festivals of Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Arrangements of poppies in the Sanctuary and by the War Memorial to go with the 'there but not there' figures, were put in place on the 11th November, Remembrance Sunday. Sixty small bunches of daffodils were again put together for distribution to the congregation on Mothering Sunday and a group of us helped the children of Beetham School to make sixty five bunches to take home to their parents. The Easter Garden and Pascal Candle were prepared and the Church decorated for the Easter Festival in the Spring colours of white and yellow. Daffodils were ordered for placing in Sandy's Cross at the end of the Easter Morning Service. Autumnal colours were used for the Patronal and Harvest Festivals. The Advent Wreath was prepared again and the Church decorated for the Christmas Festival with greenery and in white, red, silver and gold.

The Annual Flower Weekend held on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th June, celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Beetham Band played and teas were served.

Special flowers have been arranged during the year in memory of loved ones and to mark the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in September. Flowers have also been arranged for six weddings during the Summer, Autumn and in Christmas week

A flower arrangement was again placed in the porch each week together with the Sanctuary flowers indicating a welcome for everyone.

We are very grateful to all who continue to help, give and arrange the flowers, as well as for the donations towards oasis, flowers for 'extra' occasions etc.

The Church flowers remain an important part of the peace and tranquillity of Beetham Church and of course, are particularly important during these present difficult and trying times.

Dianne Lomax,
22/2/2023

(g) Choir and Music

Choir and Music 2022

This has been a good year for music in Beetham Church. As always, a big thank you to everyone who has sung, or played an instrument, in any capacity to enrich our worship. I am very grateful to all the choir members for their continued hard work and dedication throughout this year, and would especially like to thank Jenny Marks for her excellent organ playing. The choir sang for every Sunday service during the year, as well as on extra occasions such as at Easter and Christmas. The repertoire of anthems and service settings, sung by the regular and/or augmented choir, continues to grow steadily, and special services such as the Sung Evensongs, Harvest Festival, All Souls, the Platinum Jubilee and the Queen's memorial service, plus the Advent and Christmas Carol Services, were well attended by large and highly appreciative congregations. Weekly choir practices on Sunday mornings contribute greatly to the confidence and musicality of the choir, and new members are always welcome to join our ranks!

Geoffrey Field

AGENDA ITEM 10: Churchwardens' Report

If we tried to include in this report just half of all that happened in 2022, it would fill several pages. Suffice it to say that a year that began in lockdown ended with us being able to worship and celebrate in the manner that was the norm before Covid reared its ugly head

2022 was dominated, of course, by first the celebrations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee and then by services to commemorate her death and funeral. The special services held here at St Michael & All Angels reflected the same respect, admiration and love for her late majesty that was felt across the nation and provided memories that will remain with us for ever.

As the restrictions imposed in the various lockdowns and by necessary precautions to keep us all safe were gradually lifted, we were able to resume most of our pre-Covid practices. Sunday morning celebrations of the Eucharist, with the re-introduction of the Chalice for those who wish to consume in both kinds, were soon accompanied by weekly services of Evensong, and we also held regular Choral Evensongs to celebrate special occasions. In addition to a full programme of worship for Holy Week and Easter, and our services for Harvest Festival, All Saints', Advent, Christingle, Nine Lessons and Carols, we hosted the Deanery Ascension Day Service and the Service of Admission to Office for Churchwardens. Friends' Sunday brought Bishop James to St Michael & All Angels for his second visit of what will have been his last full year as Bishop of Carlisle.

All the above has made great demands of Andrew, and on behalf of the whole congregation we record our thanks to him for his unfailing energy and inspiration. Our worship team has been greatly strengthened by the arrival in June of Hannah as Curate to the Mission Community. Our thanks to Hannah, David Peacock, Geoff Turner and to all who, with Andrew, have led our worship during the year. The increasing number of regular worshippers reflects the strength and diversity of the services we offer.

As well as the resumption of regular worship, many of the social and fund-raising events which we had been unable to provide during the pandemic years have returned. Coffee and cake after morning service has become once again an enjoyable way of keeping in touch; the Duck Race; the Flower Festival, incorporating a special exhibition for the Platinum Jubilee; Beetham Sports; Harvest Supper; Christmas Hampers; Brightening Beetham; Carol Singing. All have helped to rebuild the strong sense of community that has always marked St Michael & All Angels.

Our plans to re-order the interior of the church advanced significantly during the year with the approval of our Faculty application and it is expected that work will begin during the current year. Plans for a Garden of Remembrance in the graveyard have also been approved and there will soon be a stone on which to record the names of those whose ashes are interred there. The Archdeacon's Visitation in September gave us a clean bill of health in terms of the management of the church, including its finances. We are very grateful to John for his careful husbanding of our finances throughout the difficulties of the past few years. His report bears testimony to his work on our behalf. We are very lucky to have him. On the financial front, thanks also to Andy for administering the Gift Aid scheme – again, the financial report shows how much we benefit from his efforts.

To all church officers and volunteers we record our thanks. It would need another page to mention individually everyone who has contributed to the life of the church during the past year, but we would be remiss in not thanking by name some key individuals: our PCC Secretary, Elizabeth, for her careful scrutiny of documents and communications to make sure that we comply with all requirements as well as for her minutes of PCC and Standing Committee meetings; Sue has been our Safeguarding Officer for many years and it is no little thanks to her that we are far ahead of the minimum statutory requirements in this vital, but complex, area; Dorothy and Viv have continued to represent us on the Deanery Synod – these are vital roles in ensuring the continuity and consistency of church policy in this parish. The musical life of the church owes much to Geoff for his unfailing enthusiasm and good humour in leading the choir to new heights and adding so much to our worship with his inimitable keyboard skills. Visitors to the church often comment on the magnificent floral displays, and we must thank Dianne for organising her team of arrangers so that throughout the year, we are surrounded by beautiful scents and colours.

Links with our church school continue to grow. Regular services are held in church, including a ‘mock’ Baptism and (real) Harvest Celebration, in addition to the twice weekly Collective Worship that Andrew and Hannah lead in school. A successful Ofsted inspection in the autumn highlighted the strengths of the relationship between the school and the church, with all eight Foundation Governors being active members of this congregation.

Six weddings were celebrated and a Christening, a marriage blessing and a service of thanksgiving for a life well-lived. Sadly, we also lost many good friends during the year: Rita Higham, Mary Schofield, Jim Wood, Judith Hills, John Hindle, Peter Harrison, Geoffrey Lonsdale, Phyllis Bleakley. And there were other funeral services marking personal loss for many families and friends.

There is much more we could include, but the chief thing is that our church of St Michael & All Angels continues to be a centre of prayerful worship with a welcome for all who visit us, be that as regular worshippers or as casual visitors. And of that we can all be both thankful and proud.

Dianne, Jenny and Brian, April 2023

AGENDA ITEM 11: Priest’s Report

To be given orally at the meeting

AGENDA ITEM 12: Elections and Appointments

- (a) Parochial Church Council Members
- (b) Independent Examiner

AGENDA ITEM 13: Comments from the meeting for consideration by the PCC

Closing Prayers