

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

St Leonard's Church, Chapel-le-Dale



Income & Expenditure \ account as at 31.12.24

[illegible]

Additional Information re P.C.C. accounts

<u>Fundraising</u>		<u>Profit</u>
Jumble sale	1070.00 less room hire 180	890.00
Harvest supper/sale	373.60	373.60
Domino Drive	320.00	320.00
Bank Hol Teas	225.00	225.00
Brass Band	214.50 less band f fee 60	154.50
Afternoon teas	<u>112.00</u>	<u>112.00</u>
	2315.10	2075.10

<u>Statement of Assets</u>	<u>Value</u>
£12000 National Savings Income Bonds	12000.00

The Friends of St Leonards Income Expenditure

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Donations	50.00	PCC for Harvest	50.00
		<u>Maintenance</u>	

<u>Maintenance</u>	
Electrical work	173.30
Grass cutting	505.00
Tree Surgeon	380.00
Architect	<u>1482.66</u>
Bank Charges	2540.96
	<u>57.80</u>
	2648.76

Bank Balance as at 31.12.23	<u>10105.04</u>	Bank Balance as at 31.12.24	<u>7506.28</u>
	<u>10155.04</u>		<u>10155.04</u>

Scrutinised and found correct in accordance with the books and invoices produced.

M J St Leonards
6.02.2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, CHAPEL-LE-DALE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Independent Examiner's report to the members of The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's Church, Chapel-le-Dale

I report on the accounts of the trust for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 1 and 2.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts represent a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the charities act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Michael Fitzsimmons ACIB

8 Greenfoot Lane,
Low Bentham
Lancaster.
LA27HB

Team Vicar's Report 2024

Thank you for taking the time to read this annual report looking back on 2024. It has been a pleasure this year to welcome new colleagues, Revd Peter Greenwood, Team Rector, and Revd Harriet Johnson, Team Vicar for Burton in Lonsdale and Thornton in Lonsdale. Peter was instituted in October 2023 and Harriet was licensed in October 2024. Both were invited to lead and preach at services in this parish, with their ministry being well received. For me it has been good to have clergy colleagues in post to help sustain the ministry of our team, in addition to the support given by the many faithful and dedicated volunteers, church officers, lay ministers and retired clergy.

In our parish I particularly thank all of those who give so selflessly to ensure ministry of the church is maintained. This has been done faithfully with God's help and blessing. We maintained a pattern of weekly worship, with one service every Sunday alternating between Evening Prayer (*Book of Common Prayer*) and Holy Communion (*Common Worship* modern language). The average (mean) attendance across the year was 7, which is a loss of two as two members were no longer able to worship regularly with us having moved away. Of the pastoral offices, we held one wedding in church. We celebrated Holy Communion on Easter Day and Christmas Day, held the annual meeting on Pentecost, as well as a Brass Band Songs of Praise, Harvest Festival service, and Carol Service. We also held a team service on 30th June. The special services were well supported and were joyful occasions of celebrations. For special services attendance was again much above regular services, averaging 25 (2023 saw 39 people at the Carol Service, 16 at harvest and 30 at Easter). The Brass Band service was particularly well supported in 2024 with 60 people attending. I continued to prepare a weekly newsletter covering the parish of Ingleton as well and to visit in the parish as regularly as I could.

As ever the support for the parish remains strong in the community and the special events, services and fundraising have been well received and well attended. We have maintained a full payment of the share, met all our financial obligations, held weekly worship services, maintained the building well with the interior being redecorated, as well as more things besides. Let us see and give thanks for all that we have done. God has blessed this parish and continues to bless the church's ministry. We have good links with the community and it was a joy to gather with many dales' residents and friends from further afield at Manor Farm in August for the charity hog roast. Through all that is done to maintain the church's witness, I believe the ministry of the parish helps to shore up the Christian character of our local community, sometimes in ways that may not be perceived by all, but which is nonetheless real it seems to me. There is always much to give thanks for.

Revd Nick Trenholme

Report on the Goods, Fabric and Ornaments 2024

The redecoration of the church interior was completed this year by Philip Morphet and under the specification of the church architect, Mike Overton. This has made a great improvement to the look and feel of the church. A request was made to Revd Nick by the daughter of a former parishioner, the late Mr Michael Carney, to have a bench installed in the churchyard in his memory. This was installed in the spring.

The presence of ash dieback and loss of local trees caused the PCC to think seriously about the trees within the scope of the church's land, and so a tree survey was commissioned. Consultation with the relevant bodies on the works identified is ongoing.

Water ingress at the West end continued to be investigated though there was only limited entry during this year. The architect visited, and works to inspect the belfry were carried out.

We again express our gratitude to Mr Winchester who continues to assist other PCC members with opening and closing the church on a regular basis, as well as running dehumidifiers in damp weather. The organ has been tuned and the fire extinguishers serviced. There were no changes to the inventory of church goods and ornaments.

Proceedings of the PCC and Parish Activities 2024

The PCC discussed and planned various events across the year. Similarly to 2023, an Easter Egg hunt was held again this year following the service on Easter Day, the church was opened for refreshments on two bank holiday weekends and our annual team service was in June. In July we invited Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band for a Songs of Praise service followed by afternoon team which was very popular. The harvest festival and supper took place in church in September, with thanks to all those who contributed and helped to run the events. We held a jumble sale at the Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton and a Domino Drive at the Station Inn, Chapel-le-Dale, raising funds for church.

Revd Nick Trenholme

Safeguarding Report 2024

The Parochial Church Council of St Leonard's, Chapel-le-Dale complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishop's policy and practice guidance in regard to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at PCC and we seek to bring our working and practices in line with Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

Sharon Rucastle has continued in the role of Safeguarding Officer for St Mary's and Chapel le Dale. The PCC has reviewed the national policy document as well as adopting an ex-offenders policy. All documentation is held securely and confidentially. Many PCC members have completed the necessary training which must be renewed every three years. Revd Nick continues to host annual in person training sessions using the nationally approved online courses. Two members completed the core pathways and 5 completed training Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse.

In this parish, we have not had any reported safeguarding concerns.

Nick and Sharon will meet to review the required next steps as guided by the online platforms hosted by the Church of England.

Sharon Rucastle and Revd Nick Trenholme

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH,
CHAPEL-LE-DALE
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Structure, Governance and Aims

St Leonard's Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

The PCC of St Leonard's consists of the team rector, team vicar; church wardens and other elected members. The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including how the funds of the PCC should be spent. The PCC met seven times during the year, with 75% attendance.

The PCC has the responsibility of working with Rev. Nick Trenholme (Team Vicar) and Revd Peter Greenwood (Team Rector) to promote within the parish the mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. St Leonard's church is part of the Ingleborough Team Ministry, together with the parishes of Ingleton, Bentham, Burton in Lonsdale and Thornton in Lonsdale.

The PCC also has the responsibility for the maintenance of the church building and the churchyard.

A member of the church is elected as representative at the Deanery Synod, and is also an *ex-officio* member of the PCC (this post has been in vacancy). This enables communication between other parishes in the deanery and to the wider church in the Diocese. There were three meetings of the deanery synod in 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC continues to give consideration, and make plans, to take forward the mission of the church. We strive to be a faithful Christian witness and to welcome all people to services and into fellowship in other ways. The church is an integral part of the local community and well valued by local people.

The PCC considers together how to make worship relevant and accessible to the local community and visitors alike. We seek to welcome everyone to our services. The services and worship show faith in practice through prayer, preaching of God's word, music and sacrament. People are encouraged to live out their faith in the local, national and worldwide community through considering the Christian faith, pastoral care, charitable work and involvement in community events.

In 2023 there were 10 people on the Electoral Roll; 6 not living in the parish,. At major festivals – Easter and Christmas – and special services e.g. Harvest, Songs of Praise – more people attend church services.

The church receives a large number of visitors in a typical year, partly encouraged by historical links associated with the workers who built the Settle/Carlisle railway line and Ribbleshead Viaduct in the parish. Plaques to their memory erected by the railway company and more recently by the church council are in the church and churchyard respectively. This has generated national publicity as the church has been featured in televised documentaries. We seek to provide a positive visitor experience and we pray that while people come as visitors they may leave as pilgrims with a renewed awareness of the presence of God. We have a book for prayers requests in which any may write. We bring these requests to God in prayer during Sunday services.

The PCC seeks to provide opportunities for the local community to gather together for mutual benefit and to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. The PCC is also committed to giving a portion of its income to charity work. This tends to be considered shortly before Christmas. Letters of thanks are received from charities with updates of the work, and often, prayer requests.

The clergy maintained a ministry of visiting among the community where possible and conducted occasional offices for the community. In 2023 there was 1 funeral in church and no baptisms or weddings. More information on the activities of the parish can be found in the accompanying reports presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Administrative Information

St Leonard's Church is situated in Chapel-le-Dale in the county of North Yorkshire. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Mary's Vicarage, Main Street, Ingleton, Carnforth, LA6 3HF. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until the date of this report are:

Revd Nick Trenholme	Team Vicar (Chairman)
Revd Peter Greenwood	Team Rector (

Elected Members

Alice Bargh	
Joan Harrison	Vice-chair
Paul Howarth	(elected 19/05/2024)
Vicky Howarth	(elected 19/05/2024)
Elizabeth Mason	
George Mason	(until 19/05/2024)
Irene Sharp	Treasurer

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The charity is entitled to prepare these statements on a receipts and payments accounts basis, together with a statement of assets and liabilities at the year end. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Parochial Church Council by



Rev. Nick Trenholme (Chairman)

Bowland and Ewecross Deanery - Deanery Synod Report

There were three meetings of the Deanery Synod during 2024.

Deanery Synod on 6th February at Settle Parish Church: the main item was the need in our parishes for help with administration, grant applications, and finance, and the process of finalising our application for diocesan funding for a Deanery Support Officer from the Barnabas Project. This Project is funded by national strategic funds, not parish share.

Deanery Synod on 15th May with Bishop Anna at St Andrew's Gargrave: Bishop Anna reflected on her first 7 months in office, including meeting many faithful people in rural parishes, and the life and creativity that she has encountered around the Ripon episcopal area. She thanked us for sustaining the Christian presence in our communities despite often small numbers of volunteers, and she encouraged us to keep going. Her focus is things that will enable our churches to flourish, clergy wellbeing, and raising money to support our parishes.

Deanery Synod on Wednesday 18th September at Low Bentham: good news stories from around the deanery were shared, including the news that our deanery has been awarded £20,000 by the Barnabas Project to pay for a Deanery Mission Enabler. We have not been able to recruit someone for this post yet, but we will be re-advertising in 2025. The diocese has identified St Andrew's Gargrave to be a lay training hub for Bowland & Ewecross and Skipton Deaneries, to save people having to travel into Leeds for training courses.

The 2024 Deanery Lent Course: 'Our life is Love', inspired by a Quaker quote, with speakers on health, aging, young people, wellbeing, and a plenary led by Bishop Anna in which we explored how our churches could engage more with these areas. The meetings were well attended, and also included time for worship, prayer, and reflection. We are thankful for the I.T. team and others at Settle Parish Church for hosting the Lent meetings.

Throughout the year we have looked for ways to support parishes in vacancy, and to share resources and work together as a Deanery. We also conducted elections for new members of Diocesan Synod. Whilst only elected Deanery Synod reps may vote, it has been agreed that PCC members from any of our churches are welcome to attend Synod meetings. The Deanery has a small fund for the purposes of supporting mission projects. In April Ian Greenhalgh raised £2,073 for deanery funds with a 75 mile run and cycle ride in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Diocese of Leeds.

We are thankful for the hard work of our Area Dean (Canon Ian Greenhalgh), Lay Chair (Stephen Hogg), Revd John Davies who has co-ordinated the Lent Courses, and other members of the Deanery Standing Committee who have organised events and Synod meetings, together with members of the churches hosting meetings.

Revd Sue McWhinney (Deanery Secretary)

Deanery Standing Committee members:

Canon Ian Greenhalgh, Area Dean

Stephen Hogg (Settle, and member of General Synod), Lay Chair

Sue McWhinney, Deanery Secretary

Richard Pattinson, Deanery Treasurer

Sue Mann (Clapham with Keasden), Kate Croll (Langcliffe), and Marilynne Prayle (Stainforth)

Revd's John Davies, Stephen Dawson, and Nick Trenholme.

Minutes of St Leonard's, Chapel-le-Dale, Meeting of Parishioners
held on Sunday 19th May 2024 at St Leonard's Church at 3:36pm

- 1 Present Nick Trenholme (Chair), Alice Bargh, Joan Harrison, Paul Howarth, Vicky Howarth, Betty Mason, Irene Sharp, Peter Greenwood, Angus Winchester.
- 2 Apologies had been received from George Mason.
- 3 NT opened in prayer and agreed to take minutes of the meeting.
- 4 Minutes of Meeting 14/05/2023
Nick read the minutes of last year's Meeting of Parishioners of 14th May 2023. No corrections were found. Proposed as an accurate record by Alice, seconded by Betty. All in favour.
- 5 Election of Churchwardens
Nick reported that he had received no nominations for Churchwarden. Nick declared the election null and void.
- 6 AOB

At 3:40pm, the meeting closed.

Minutes of St Leonard's, Chapel-le-Dale, Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on Sunday 19th May 2024 at St Leonard's Church at 3:41pm

- 1 Present Nick Trenholme (Chair), Alice Bargh, Joan Harrison, Paul Howarth, Vicky Howarth, Betty Mason, Irene Sharp, Peter Greenwood.
- 2 Apologies had been received from George Mason.
- 3 NT opened in prayer and agreed to take minutes of the meeting.
- 4 Minutes of Meeting 14/05/2023
The minutes of the meeting had been circulated in advance. Proposed as an accurate record by Irene, seconded by Alice. All in favour.
- 5 Electoral Roll Report
Nick (temporary Electoral Roll officer) reported that there are 10 names in total on the roll, 4 living in the parish, 6 live outside the parish. No change since last year.
- 6 Financial Statements and Trustees' Report 2023*
The financial statements, the Trustees report and Treasurer's report had been circulated in advance and were taken as read. Nick proposed a vote of thanks to Irene and all who have contributed to financially to the parish. Peter congratulated the people of the parish on paying the share and for contributing to the ministry of the diocese through that share.
- 7 Proceedings of the PCC and activities of the Parish 2023*
The reports had been circulated in advance and were taken as read. Nick highlighted the number of events held and the positive support in the community. Peter asked about the Bank Holiday openings and how successful they were. Irene commented that the May opening was slightly busier than that in August. Children and families came and they are supported by visitors and locals alike. Vicky Howarth commented that the jumble sale was successful and that changes to prices on the raffle had not put people off and had helped the fundraising of the event. The community was well supported by helpers from the community.
- 8 Churchwarden's report on Goods, Fabric and Ornaments*
The report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read. Nick highlighted the kindness of Mr Winchester in keeping the church open and clean.
- 9 Deanery Synod Report*
The report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read and Nick invited questions or comments.
- 10 Team Vicar's Report*
The report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read and Nick invited questions or comments.

11 Safeguarding Statement*

The statement had been circulated in advance and was taken as read and Nick invited questions or comments. Irene asked about training course and when they need to be undertaken. Nick said they need refreshing every three years.

12 Deanery Synod Elections

Nick invited a person to serve as the representative for Chapel-le-Dale. There were no candidates. A casual vacancy will remain.

13 PCC Elections

All positions were up for election this year, save Betty Mason elected in 2023. The elections were requested to be conducted *en bloc* by Joan Harrison. Irene, Joan, Alice, Paul and Vicky were willing to stand. Betty proposed, and Nick declared them duly elected.

14 Appointment of Financial Examiner

Mike Fitzsimmons has signalled his willingness to examine the accounts again next year. It was proposed that he be appointed by Alice, seconded Joan. All in favour. Nick expressed his thanks to him for his help in previous years and he has been given a token of thanks from the parish.

15 AOB

Vicky asked when the re-painting is to be completed. Joan reported two quotes have been received. Nick mentioned that we were waiting for the architect to report back from his inspection, but also whether we can have someone to take the cover off the louvre opening and have a look inside. Some of the quotes require an answer before the end of the month. Nick suggested a short extra meeting following the service next Sunday. Members agreed. Nick will send any information in advance of that.

Alice reported that she had spoken with Brian Alston to undertake some minor maintenance tasks. He would charge £20 per hour and that he is quite busy but is very willing to help.

Alice again brought up the question of the tree survey. Nick had said that they require insurance and certification to be able to give a written survey. She reported that a contractor who had worked locally has a contact who can provide such work (Beaver Services). Nick requested a quote for the survey. Peter reported that St John's have recently had some work done and churchwarden David Channing would be able to speak about their experience.

Peter offered his thanks to Nick for his ministry and also for filling in as secretary and helping the other lay officers with their roles.

At 4:25pm, the meeting closed with The Grace.

*Copies of all the circulated reports are appended to the file copy of these minutes.