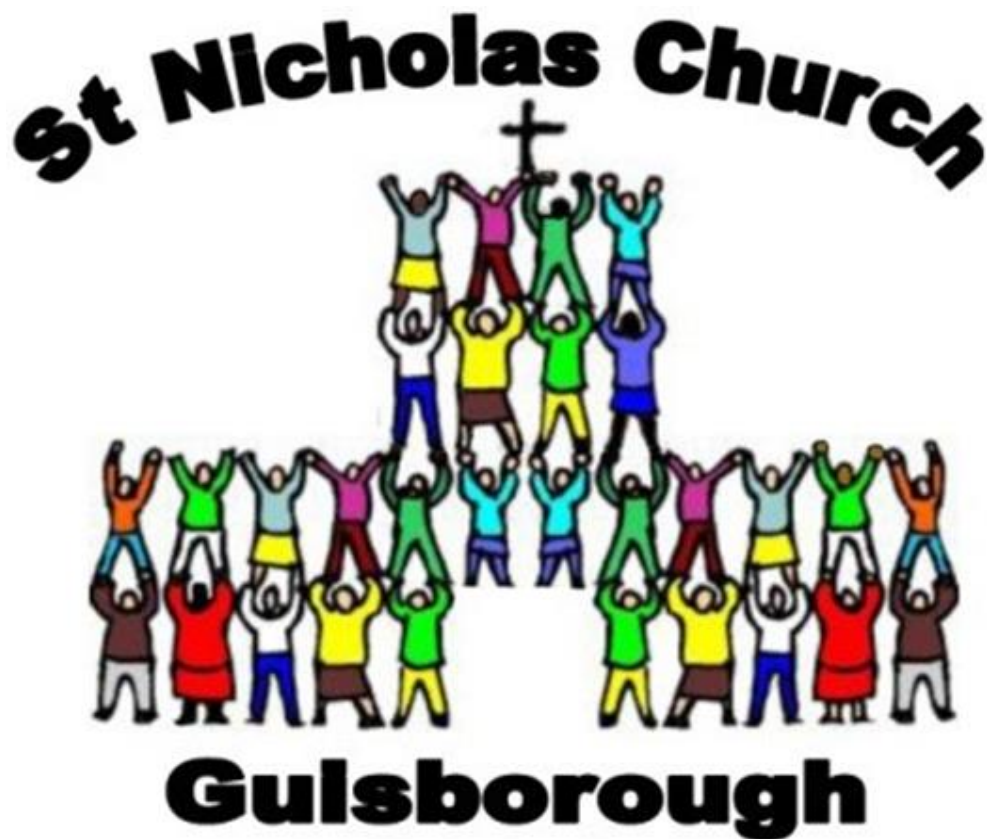


**THE PARISH OF ST. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH
IN THE DIOCESE OF YORK**



**Annual Report and Accounts of the
Parochial Church Council for the year
ended 31st December 2016**

Administrative Information

St Nicholas Parish Church is situated in the large market town of Guisborough on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors. The parish is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: The Rectory, Church Street, Guisborough, TS14 6BS

PCC Membership 2016/17

Rector:	Rev. Alison Phillipson	Chairperson
Churchwardens:	Dave Harpham Alwyn Jones	
Readers:	Susan Hill Geoff Hill	Vice Chairperson
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Julie Duffy Roger Jackson John Simmonds David Harpham Ruth Kirby	
Elected members		
One year left to serve:	Margaret Armstrong Gina Baines Chris Ellis	Deputy Churchwarden
Two years left to serve:	Nancy Webb Avril Hadfield Beryl Jackson Karen Keen	Treasurer
Three years left to serve:	Jeff Cotton Michael Cowan Louise Brownlee Louie Walker Sue Leather	Secretary Deputy Churchwarden Deputy Churchwarden
Co-opted (December 2016)	John Douglass	Deputy Churchwarden

Total membership: 23 (10 ex-officio, 13 elected)

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the Committee between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

The Standing Committee met four times during 2016 with an average attendance of 86%.

The membership at the end of 2016 was:-

Chair:	The Rector
Lay Vice-Chair:	Susan Hill
Churchwardens:	Dave Harpham, Alwyn Jones.
Secretary:	Michael Cowan
Treasurer:	Avril Hadfield
Co-opted:	Geoff Hill
Total membership:	7 (3 ex-officio; 4 elected members)

Other Officers and Representatives

Electoral Roll Officer	Roger Jackson
Child Protection Officer	Helen Dalton
Gift Aid Officer	John Carr
Churches Together in Guisborough	Roger Jackson/Dave Harpham
Bridge Project	Julie Duffy
Toddler Group Governor	Beryl Jackson
Choir Association	Ruth Kirby
Pantomime Committee	John Simmonds

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

Guisborough Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector, the Revd. Alison Phillipson in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for St. Nicholas Church, the Church Hall and the Curacy situated at 16 Lealholm Way, Guisborough.

Achievements and Performance

Church Attendance

There are 358 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 16 of whom are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance across all services is 227 adults and 29 children. This number is increased at Festivals. This does not include Funerals, Baptisms, Marriages, Prayer Space, Messy Church or Morning Prayer. There are also 90 home/house communions per month

PCC Secretary's Report

The PCC as at December 2016 consisted of 23 members, by law including the Rector as Chair, two Churchwardens and five ex-officio members by virtue of their election to the Deanery Synod. The remainder were elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting normally for a period of three years.

The number of members to be elected for three years is as determined by the previous year's APCM ; for election in 2016, and the previous two years, the number had been five.

The PCC is required to report annually on the parish's finances, its fabric, the current Electoral Roll and the Deanery Synod and these reports will be found within.

The PCC has continued to develop our mission for the future in the following areas:-

- Develop Discipleship
- Develop different styles of worship
- Develop Generosity
- Develop Communication

Develop Discipleship - The PCC has led the roll out of the Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCiG) initiative designed to encourage and equip us to grow in numbers, in spirituality and in service to our community and the wider world. The approach to children and young people's work has continued. A Child Protection Policy has been created and the completion of a Diocesan wide audit was successfully undertaken. The "Messy Church" for the younger members of our congregation and community has continued to grow in popularity. A further Pilgrim course for the wider congregation, was run in the autumn and was well attended.

Develop different styles of worship – The year has seen the successful implementation of the changes to our regular services i.e. 9.15 Sunday service moving to 9.30 and the introduction of an "All Age" service on the third Sunday of every month. The recruitment of a new Director of Music has also seen a different focus being placed on the way that music dovetails with our worship.

Develop Generosity – The PCC agreed to increase our Freewill Offering to the Diocese for 2017. This has been supported by the success of the Giving in Grace Initiative and other areas where we have been able to increase the income to the Church. The PCC continues to be prudent when setting budgets and has had success in cutting costs. The PCC has also continued to take advantage of any grants that may be available to assist with the financing of the Church and Church Hall. The introduction of a Resources Group is taking shape and this Group will be important when coordinating the PCC's approach to Finance matters. The PCC has also continued to give to a range of Charities and good causes throughout the year.

Develop Communication - The website is now live and fully operational. The Church Magazine continues to be a key pillar in the PCC's communication plans and is continually reviewed for any improvements that can be made. Fellowship is also a key channel for developing our communication and this year has seen a busy year for all who have contributed in this area.

The introduction of LYCiG has been a key strategy for the PCC during 2016. Preparation began for this in the Summer and the PCC has held extraordinary meetings to understand the value that LYCiG will bring to this Parish. In 2017 the LYCiG approach will be discussed with the wider congregation and beyond. The Council are committed to realize the benefits that LYCiG will bring to this Parish.

During the year the PCC has been pleased to appoint and support the new Director of Music and are proud to see the development of the Choir under his direction. The PCC has been equally proud to support the inauguration of a new stained glass window in Church and thanks goes to all who arranged its creation – from funding to design and build.

Reports on the Council's committees and other church activities appear within and our thanks are due to the leaders who have contributed them.

Mike Cowan

The Rector writes

Dear Friends

This has again been a very busy year as well as one of change.

One exciting project that was started in February was our Messy Church, a service that focuses on children and families, encouraging them to feel welcome and at home in their church. This has been very successful, not only in the numbers of people who attend, but also in the number of people who make up the team of dedicated helpers, many of these are people who are relatively new into this congregation, and here they have found a way to help and support our mission. I am very grateful to Sue Hill who heads up this work, along with Geoff.

And whilst I'm on the subject of our Readers, I wish to thank them publicly here for all the hard work they do. They are both growing in confidence and ability, as well as being two very much trusted and valued colleagues, who I am very grateful to for all the support they offer.

During the year I was delighted that we appointed our new Director of Music, Chris Nixon. In the short time Chris has been with us he has become very much valued, not only for the exceptional work he has done in building up a mostly new choir and introduced some new music to sit equally and alongside the older more traditional music, but also in the way he has integrated himself into the whole life of the church and encouraged the new choir members and their families to do likewise. On a personal note I want to thank Chris for what has been a difficult task, sensitively carried out. He has done this with boundless enthusiasm and collegiality, making many friends in the process. I would also like to record my thanks to the faithful choir members who have remained loyal to this church, and have offered their support to Chris and the new choir members. We are moving forward and the vast majority of the congregation seem pleased to show their support and appreciation.

In September, myself, the Readers and Dave Harpham attended the LYCiG (Leading Your Church into Growth) Conference in Derbyshire. This was nearly 4 days of work and it has to be said, pleasure also, we received much inspiration from all we heard and learned. Along with many other parishes in the Diocese we were introduced and greatly enthused by this national project, which has enjoyed great success in many parishes throughout the country. The project requires a lot of work within the parish and that is now being rolled out with members of our congregation. It has been very encouraging to see many of you embracing this work, as well as many of our newer members of the congregation getting involved and being willing to speak up and offer your views and experiences alongside those who have been here for many years. This project requires a great deal of work and support from us all in order to create the required 'Plan for Growth'. It is generally recognised that unless we do something our church will head into decline as more and more of our older members find themselves unable to support and attend church as they have done for so many years. We are very grateful to them for all the work they have done and are continuing to do, but we have to be honest and realistic about this. We must be more open and willing to let new people in and work at being relevant to them. Certainly we are seeing some success in this. Over Christmas we welcomed more people to our services than we have done for many years. Also our numbers at our Sunday morning services continue to grow, we seem to welcome new people on a weekly basis, and they are now in regularly attending. So many people are commenting that when they look around the church they see so many new faces, and that's great to hear and something we should celebrate.

This is all part of the LYCiG process; working on how to attract people, offer them a good and appropriate welcome, and then the whole church working together. That way we hope to grow in numbers, grow in our own personal faith and grow in our service to others, either within our community or wherever we find ourselves.

The Archbishop of York has been quoted as saying:

'We are a people of worship, witness and prayer, constantly being renewed by the power of the Holy Spirit.'

We need to be attentive to this, recognising that we don't do anything, except in the power of the Holy Spirit. I commend to your prayers that the Holy Spirit would move in this place and move within our lives, constantly renewing us and encouraging us as we seek to do God's work and will, to allow God to grow his church here in Guisborough, and that we would be willing to grow and transform in order for that to happen; allowing God to be God in this church.

As I close this report I would like to record some words of thanks:

I would like to especially thank Dave Harpham as he comes to the end of his six-year term of office as Churchwarden. I have greatly valued Dave's wisdom, as well as his good humour during the time I have worked with him, as well as his commitment and service to this church and to God. This past year especially Dave has been a tower of strength and I am grateful. I also want to record my thanks to Alwyn Jones who became Churchwarden this year and was immediately thrown into the deep end, another tower of strength who offers such valuable and faithful service. Thank you to you both.

Finally I would again like to take this opportunity to thank all those who give so very generously of their time, talents and money to the life and work of this church, it is very much appreciated, too many to mention, but I am confident you know who you are. So much good stuff goes on in this parish day in and day out, and it wouldn't happen without you! I also want to thank those who do so much unseen work in our church; again I am sure you know who you are. Thank you.

Last but certainly not least, I want to offer my thanks to the PCC and the members of the Ministry Team whom I greatly value for their advice, support and willingness to do what they do. It is a great privilege for me to do the work I do, and I am so grateful for all the good and positive things we have done together for most of this past year. Now on to the next, which promises to be even better!

So let's get on cheerfully together with the tasks that God has called us all to do and let's always be ready to go out in peace to love and serve the Lord and with that love one another also.

Revd. Alison Phillipson

Churchwardens Report

We would like to thank you all for the continued support and prayers you have extended to us throughout the last year. The year has not been without its challenges but these have been more than compensated for by the appreciation of our efforts by so many people, often quietly whispered in our ear – and hugely appreciated! We have also appreciated the number of Deputy Wardens being increased to four. It has eased the load with duties by sharing out our many small jobs, and their support has been very helpful.



As you all know the Churchwardens have two key roles (plus many others)

- 1 Supporting and cooperating with the Rector in building up the people of God.
- 2 Looking after the fabric and contents of the church.

During the year we maintained the fabric of the church. This was mainly through minor repair projects. We have started discussions on the future of the church, and how best it may be improved to meet the needs of our congregation over the next generation. People are often amazed when we point out that no major changes were carried out in the church for over 100 years – four generations ago!

Our communications to the world in general improved during the year by continuing work on the website, plus the sites on Facebook and Twitter. We also gained a new editorial panel for our Priority Magazine.

We continue to work on the welcome of everyone to our church, together with our team of Sidespeople. We try to ensure that lights, heating are available whenever we need them.

The year has seen continued change in services and their content as we continue to meet the changing times. We always appreciate comments on whether any particular change has been positive or otherwise to individuals' worship. We would ask you to consider the following: change sometimes seems to be difficult in our church, especially as Guisborough seems to be a place of constant change: but to change is to live, we change as we go through life and if the Church does not change it is not alive. We are trying to keep everyone informed of any changes being discussed, and to take the views of everyone into consideration.

We attempt to make the church available to welcome visitors outside service times. The signs for Churchwatch announce that the church is open and welcoming. We maintain the stocks of leaflets for visitors not accustomed to our traditions and encourage people from the local hotels throughout the year. It would be a good time to thank all involved with Churchwatch. So, thank you everyone.

Our family as a church is very special, and like all families it is unlikely that we all agree all the time, but as a family, we should extend love and support to everyone whoever they are. This is sometimes difficult, so let's pray for this in our new year. We are delighted to see so many new faces as regular attendees, let's pray for more and ensure we can help by providing a caring, friendly atmosphere.

Finally a plea to everyone to get more involved in church life. Many people do a lot, but no area is an exclusive club and there is room for more helpers and participants. Do welcome and let the new people in. Please be prepared to help our church with your talents, or even better, develop a new talent to help our church family's journey with Christ.

Dave Harpham and Alwyn Jones

Safeguarding

Like all parishes in the Diocese, and with guidance from York, we are becoming much more knowledgeable about our responsibilities with regard to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, the latter group which may include those who are ill, bereaved etc. A great deal of work has been done this year on raising awareness of the need for good safeguarding practices, and all groups are now aware of their responsibilities. Some training has been undertaken and more is planned. Information booklets have been supplied, and most PCC members are now DBS compliant, as they all are required to be. This work will continue until all requirements are met, then to maintain that standard.

St. Nicholas PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and Vulnerable adults).

Helen Dalton – Contact 01287 636458

Fabric Group

We have a maintenance plan for the church to which we work. Also a list of outstanding actions

The main aim of the fabric group is to keep the church water tight. To meet this aim any water that lands on the church needs to be drained away. This means keeping the gulleys on the roof, the gulleys at ground level and U bends, kept clear of tree debris and rubbish. A constant battle.



The growth of ivy on the church walls has been controlled.

The mice have been controlled by setting traps monthly, or more frequently if necessary.

The heating system has had a few problems this year. The system was not heating the church as efficiently as the installer predicted during the early months of the year. After much testing and conversations with the installer it was eventually discovered that the hot water system is fitted with a filter and that this was blocked. This was cleared and things have improved considerably for the latter months of the year. The boilers are serviced once a year so the clearing of the filter has been put on the service actions.

One or two small leaks with the hot water system have appeared. Two leaks remain and these are awaiting Byfield action early next year.

The church clock has been worked on by Redcar & Cleveland and is now working to specification.

The bollards controlling vehicle entry to the cenotaph area belong to Redcar & Cleveland but we now carry out a yearly service. A lot of small actions have been carried out as they have arisen.

The spending has been within our budget.

Chris Ellis Contact 01287 635219

Capital Funding Group

Our main effort for this past year has to be raising the monies for the church hall kitchen and having it successfully installed. Feedback has been very positive from everyone using it. My thanks go to all members of the committee and everyone who helped in any way in this project.



We also staged two other events, The Battle of the Somme Exhibition in July and the Christmas Tree Festival in December. These were organised by Geoff and Sue Hill with the help of the Committee and both were very successful.

It was a very busy year and we are ready for whatever may present itself in 2017.

Beryl Jackson Contact 01287 633434

Communications Group

2016 was a year of dynamic change for our church, not least for the composition of the Communications Group. However, with Alison's positive leadership and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we now have a more streamlined and revitalised committee.



Judi Ellis is minute-taker of our meetings and editor of the weekly pew sheet.

Karen Keen is website editor and member of the 'Priority' editorial group.

John Simmonds is publicity officer. Julie Duffy is events coordinator.

Gina Baines is chairman of the group.

Website: Karen reports that the most popular pages on the website are the Welcome page, the Church page and the pew sheet. We have a Facebook page and a Twitter account, to spread St Nicholas news more widely. There are nearly 500 'friends' of St Nicholas. Those planning weddings or baptisms often visit the site to view pictures. We encourage church members to keep us informed of their activities and events so we can pass on their news.

Priority: The editorial team are Karen Keen, Louise Brownlie and Nicky Clay and John Simmonds.

Gail Goldsbrough is now more involved in the compilation and printing of the magazine. Louise and Nicky attended a recent meeting to explain how they have revised, up-dated and reorganised the information passed on to them into a more formulated system. (This is an on-going project.) They are also bringing order into distribution of the magazine and collection of readers' subscriptions. Thanks to both for the time and effort spent on this task. As regards advertising, Godfrey Baines continues to seek new advertisers. Any help with this would be very welcome.

Press Publicity: John Simmonds actively sends information to the editor of the Darlington and Stockton Post as well as local media. Church members are urged to provide details of planned events as early as possible.

Events: Julie Duffy coordinates church events information for posters and leaflets at the church and Parish Hall, including notices from other organisations.

Notice Board: A new notice-board for outside the front of the church has been approved and ordered. We are waiting for delivery. The old notice-board will be restored for use at the Parish Hall.

Church pamphlet: The pamphlet for visitors to the church is being revised to bring it into line with other printed matter in the church.

Gina Baines (Chair) contact – 01287 204057

Parish Hall Management Committee

2016 was another successful year on account of the extensive use of the parish hall facilities and the varied range of activities. As a result the parish hall continues to flourish with the guidance of the P.H.M.C.

members which are:- Revd. Alison Phillipson, David Harpham, Sam Robinson, Rodger Jackson, Keith Briggs, Julie Duffy, Chris Ellis, John Clarkson, Helen Simmonds and myself.

The management committee recognise the hard work and dedication of the staff in managing their services and facilities we provide to hall users along with showing our gratitude, knowing that none of this is achievable without the support of staff and many hours given by volunteers.



I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Mr Mark Taylor who has settled into his position of caretaker and brings his own skills and experience to the role. As well as Anna Coleman and her

volunteer helpers on successfully accommodating the toddlers group with indoor activities, interesting outings, Teddy Picnics, Treasure hunts, visit from Father Christmas and lots more.

In addition I would like to show my appreciation to Mrs Helen Simmonds for her efforts with generating significant business and finance by achieving regular and one off bookings of the hall that included :-

Toddlers play group, Children's Fellowship, Zumba dance classes, Tea dance sessions, National Blood Transfusion Service, Mahjong Club, Canasta Club, Scottish Country Dance Club, Guisborough Floral Arts Club, U3A Organisation, Craft Fairs St Nicholas Pantomime Group, Guisborough Theatre Club, Mother Union Beer Festival, Parties, St Nicholas Church Bazaar and Charity Fund Raising Events.

Furthermore I would thank Mr George Roberts for giving up his own time to deliver an enjoyable basic first aid course to a large number of volunteers.

Moreover I acknowledge the dedication and contribution of all members of the P.H.M.C during the past year in making several key decisions pertaining to finance, operations and housekeeping management concerning Routine maintenance Disabled access, Decoration, LED fittings, toilets and a wide range of other obligations.

Finally for the Parish Hall to enjoy continued success and positive progress the P.H.M.C with the support of the St Nicholas Church P.C.C. will make every effort operating a business strategy as well as seek to acquire grant funding for future development as well as provide up to date facilities for hall users and the broader community.

Jeff Cotton (Chair) - Contact 07087 598030

Messy Church

Messy Church was introduced in February 2016 and continues to meet on a bi-monthly basis. At each session we teach the Gospel in a short worship slot that is very relaxed and designed to be accessible to children and adults alike. We then take part in a number of craft activities and games to explore each theme in greater detail. At the end of each session we all come together to sing some songs, and then share in food and fellowship.

So far we have covered the theme of Jesus' love (based on Valentine's Day activities), the theme of Jesus' Resurrection (based on new life activities), the theme of God the Father (based on Father's Day activities), and the theme of Jesus calling his disciples (based on Olympic and Paralympic Games activities and joining Team Jesus).

Our very first Messy Church in February, which was based on the theme of Jesus' Love, was very well attended, and we typically attract round 25 – 30 children and 30 – 35 adults during each session. However, our Messy Church in August, was poorly attended. August, we discovered in discussion with other parishes, is traditionally poorly attended, because it's the most popular family holiday period, and we have therefore agreed to avoid this month in 2017.

In addition to this, we also focussed on the welcoming and arrival time for Messy Church, as we felt that a lot of time was taken up at the beginning with 'welcoming' leaving less time for worship and craft activities, so we decided to change the 'welcoming/arrival time by half an hour, to commence our sessions at 9.30 a.m. instead of 10.00 a.m.

We have seen a really encouraging growth in the number of families who have been attending over recent months, and in particular have been blessed and encouraged by families who continue to return for each

session, and for whom Messy Church is either their main Church involvement, or supplements the other Church services and activities they attend.

We have received lots of positive feedback from parents and children alike who comment in particular on the way that Messy Church offers a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and is enjoyed by all members of the family.

The Messy Church Planning team feel very blessed to be leading the Messy Church congregation and are looking forward to continued growth both in numbers and spiritually.

We would, however, value any offers of help from those who feel able to. We have a lot of fun at Messy Church and it is an enjoyable way of sharing the Gospel.

Please pray for the Messy Church team, thanking God for continued growth, ideas and inspiration as we plan our future sessions. Also, please prayerfully consider whether you would be able to help out with sessions bi-monthly or SOS (as we need it!) basis and chat to one of the team for more details.

Susan Hill - Contact 01287 207142

The Ministry Team

There are presently eight Eucharistic ministers who are licensed by the Bishop of Whitby to assist with chalices at Eucharistic services and to take communion services with consecrated bread and wine in peoples' homes and in the Residential Homes in the town. We read lessons, lead intercessions and work closely with the Servers and Choir in a Community of Service.

Those of us who have the privilege of going out into the community find that the services vary from a gathering in a communal room in one of the Residential Homes, joining in communion and singing hymns, to ministering to one person. This varied ministry can include chatting to residents, sometimes just sitting quietly, occasionally opening the door to deliveries, helping with jigsaws, taking letters to be posted and quite often enjoying tea and biscuits. We usually have a service once a month in each establishment; the staff in the Homes are very helpful in gathering people together, many of whom are disabled or infirm, and we try to be consistent so that we present a familiar face and style of worship to approximately 90 people per month.

Nancy Webb

The Servers' Team

Our numbers over the year, dropped from 19 to 9! This has been mostly due to the modern day busy lives faced by youngsters e.g. football training on Sunday mornings, Scout camps, school workload etc.

We work closely with the ministry team, to enable the services to run smoothly.

Regular training is offered by either Chris or Fiona to ensure that we all carry out our duties to the best of our abilities and for the glory of God. Thanks to Fiona, all servers have now been issued with a comprehensive Servers Guide and a copy can be accessed in the Vestry. Last year, we held a very successful Pancake Evening with entertainment that was talked about for many weeks following the event!

We also held a few joint fellowship evenings with the Ministry Team at local venues.



Thank you to the team for their continued support and dedication.

Karen Keen Head Server

Choir Report

Thank you everyone. This is my first thought when writing the choir report. Thank you for the welcome you have given me. Thank you for the support from everyone, congregation, PCC, leadership team and our Rector. Thank you for the constant encouragement and the way the Parish family cares for the choir.



Taking on the choir at Guisborough was always going to be an exciting challenge. Building on some firm foundations of traditional music but yet moving the church forward to make the music relevant, but also inspiring for the congregation, at the same time as doing something to everyone's tastes. Difficult!

The choir are succeeding. We have a varied diet of hymns now using the lovely new hymn books - thank you to those who kindly donated many of these. We never know how it's going to be accompanied. Organ, piano, keyboard and we have even thrown in a tambourine on odd occasions, it's always a surprise. It's lovely that members of the congregation are asking me to either use the organ or Clavinova for different hymns and of course asking for favourite hymns. It's all part of the family being involved in shaping our music in worship.

Anthems have been a challenge. We have a choir that is developing its abilities and numbers all the time. We have sang classics including Lead me Lord, modern pieces including Bless the Lord O My soul, Taize chants with Cantor parts, modern worship songs and more. Ideas are welcome. As the number of adults has grown the technical difficulty of pieces has steadily been increasing.

Christmas was a highlight in the church year. Record attendances, so many people commenting on how wonderful the music was, a very warm and loving atmosphere all worshipping together. Ideas for improving it for next year welcome.

I'm quite sure we can see how the choir is developing. It's almost the biggest it's been for years with over 30 regulars now. Yes we can get additional Singers to support us but our aim is a choir of 60 regulars leading the singing in our worship. This needs everyone's support. Spread the word, encourage children and adults who love singing. Let's make Guisborough choir the leading choir in the diocese - innovative, family orientated, a massively diverse and changing range of music, a choir that continually reflects on its practice and of course one that works with Clergy and leadership team.

This next year will continue to be exciting, challenging and of course fun! We have lots planned. Do come and join us. Spread the word about us. All welcome.

To conclude - a special thank you to our choristers, you are wonderful. Finlay, Rosie, Evie, Kian you lead beautifully and are a great support. Mums and ladies you look after us all. We appreciate it. Gents you are such a rock to the choir. Keep the beautiful harmonies coming. Particular thanks to Margaret for being our extra child safeguarding rep, Betty for leading us with beautiful singing and keeping our MD stocked with eggs, and of course Terry for ensuring that everything just works. Music, times, planning and forethought. I appreciate it. Remember - all are welcome to listen at our rehearsals. Sue Leather and Margaret Armstrong are always around and offer a warm welcome. Thank you ladies.

Christopher Nixon (Musical Director)- contact bankfields2002@yahoo.co.uk

St Nicholas Infant Praise (SNIPS)

This year has seen an increase in numbers overall, but the usual dip when the children start nursery in September. We now have families returning with their second or third child which is a good indication of success.



There is a close link with the playgroup in the church hall with several families attending both activities, and also a close link with the new Messy Church which many of our families have attended.

The holiday sessions are very well attended and it is good to see how some of our past toddlers are developing, and also to meet some of their older brothers and sisters. The session just before Christmas was particularly busy with 40 children and 20 adults. For the holiday sessions we have older games and a separate activity for the older children.

We were joined again by Montessori for our Christingle service and our thanks go to Helen for accompanying the singing.

Thanks go to the team of volunteers who set up the toys and provide the refreshments, and to Anna who leads the craft activity and singing, and who has such a wonderful relationship with the parents and children.

Trisha Smith – Contact 01287 205012

Saint Nicholas Toddler Group

The Saint Nicholas Toddler Group has had another lovely year of playing, crafts and singing. We enjoy every session, but were particularly excited by the cake stall for Children in Need, the Knights and Princess's event in the Priory, the Nativity Treasure Hunt in church, and, of course, our Christmas parties!



This year, two of our regular helpers, Suzanne and Jade, got new jobs which meant they could no longer help us out. We're very happy for them, but definitely miss them! It's been a bit of a struggle to keep things running smoothly with fewer people, but Beryl and Roger Jackson, and Sue Leather, have been kind enough to come down and help me put the equipment out on a morning. Sharron Ackerley has also been attending both weekly sessions helping with greeting people, taking money and tidying up, so that Gail and I can run a happier, more fun group. We would very much appreciate it if anyone else could help out, either before, during or after the sessions, so that we could build up a rota and take the pressure off individual volunteers.

We all want to say a big thank you to the Fellowship Group, who helped us by baking cakes for our Children in Need stall, and putting on a wonderful royal feast for us at the Priory in the summer. We also need to thank Margaret and Judy for the brilliant Nativity Treasure Hunt, and Trish, Sharron, Helen and Father Christmas for the wonderful Christmas parties. Thank you!

Whilst we started the year with around 30 – 50 toddlers per session, we have dropped in numbers since, as a large group of our little ones went off to school nursery in September and January. We're currently making flyers and posters to publicise our sessions, but would appreciate it if anyone who knows a family with a baby or toddler could recommend us to them! There really is a great atmosphere during the sessions, and so many friendships have been made there between children and adults alike.

Thank you for your support over the last year.

Anna Coleman (Toddler Group Leader/ Head Toddler)

Children's Fellowship

The Children's Fellowship runs alongside church services and not instead of them. It is held on Sunday mornings after the morning service. Many of the children attend the service first as part of the congregation or as choir members. New children at CF are invited to all of the church activities.



There is teaching in Bible stories, children's prayers that the children read, children's worship songs and the Lord's Prayer. As we are a fellowship group we also have biscuits, juice, games and chat. There is a craft each week that is based on the day's story. The children are aged from 3 years old upwards and attend without their parents unless they express a need.

Between January to December 2016 we had 19 children on the register with between 7 and 19 each week. The CF is blessed with its helpers, 2 adults and 2 capable and reliable teenagers, one that comes after bell ringing.

We had 3 events this year to which we invited parents, Mothering Sunday, a summer Fun Day where we were entertained by Animal Story and the children and parents enjoyed seeing and handling the creatures. At Christmas the children put on a short Nativity play before their party. Parents bring food to these events to share.

The CF adapts to the children who attend and their needs and I am very grateful to my assistants for the help they give each week. There is always room for more children and more helpers.

Sylvia Roberts 01287639433 [sylvia f roberts@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sylvia_f_roberts@yahoo.co.uk)

St Nicholas Youth Group

We had another good year looking back. The numbers attending were about the same as 2015. The lowest attendance was 5 but highest was 19. We were still low on numbers of girls on the register. Activities for the year were Pancake cooking – Easter Egg painting – Beach Barbecue – Bird boxes talk – High Cliff walk – Bell ringing – Christmas Party and new group games.

The Beach Barbecue was an enjoyable event at Marske beach. We would like to thank the Fellowship Group for their kindness and time in cooking the food. Also thanks to the PCC and the congregation for their support and hire of the Hall. We are always looking for new members and leaders to get involved in our Group. We meet during term time on Sunday at 7.30pm-9pm and welcome children 10-16 years old, Leaders over 18+ years old.

All the Group money taken is banked into the PCC accounts.

John Clarkson Contact 01287 632098,
Mike Shutt and Sylvia Roberts, Youth Leaders

Open Door

Open door 2016 started on a sad note as we remembered our two dear friends, Margaret and Marion, who had passed away during the previous year. We gave thanks for all their hard work in bringing open door to St Nicholas.



We also started the week with a certain amount of trepidation, this was number 13, would everything be okay? There was no need to worry, the week was smooth and trouble free, thanks to all the wonderful helpers.

During the week 197 children, aged between 9 and 10, from the 5 Primary schools in town came to church to engage in a variety of activities. The day commenced with a tour of the church, the children were divided into small groups and visited the memorial chapel, font, lectern, pulpit, vestry, sanctuary, lady chapel and de Bruce memorial. Thank you to all the tour leaders who inspired the children with their talks. After a quick drink of water the children began their first activity, choosing from bell ringing, banner making, embroidery, drawing, drama, chalice making, colouring vestments, calligraphy, brass rubbing, tile design, stained glass, or flower arranging. A wonderful selection of choices, grateful thanks go to all activity leaders and their super band of helpers. A number of people commented on the very high standard of work produced by the children this year.

We were fortunate with the weather, the children were able to spend their lunch break in the Priory and run off some of that pent up energy. On return from lunch the children had fun with Helen and her musical instruments, before commencing their 2nd activity.

At the end of the day we all came together for a short worship session, celebrating the children's work with enthusiastic singing, prayers and demonstrations by the drama group and bell ringers. Our thanks to our Rector Allison for all her support during the week and in leading the worship.

The number of people from our congregation who give their time and skills to open door is phenomenal, we cannot thank you enough, from first aider, to furniture removers, security guides, and tea makers, without you all it could not happen. We had a number of new people join the team this year, we hope they enjoyed themselves and will return in 2017. During the week we had visits from Izzy, Zennia and Pablo, all working for the Bridge, under churches together. We also welcomed visitors from New Zealand, Canada, Nepal and several European countries, all remarked on the friendly welcome they received from everyone they met. Karena and Jemma, originally students from Prior, returned for a 5th year, they are both so willing to help with any activity and doing jobs where young legs or eyes are needed. They now also help with the Pantomime and Messy Church.

The exhibition at the weekend was viewed by about 200 people, family members and visitors. Many stayed and enjoyed fellowship with coffee and cake, our thanks to members of the Fellowship Group who supplied and served the refreshments. It was another week of fun and fellowship for all of us. Thank you all.

Open door 2017 will start on July 3rd

Margaret Armstrong - contact 01287 636372

Judy Lucas -contact 01287 633386

Mother's Union



During 2016, Mothers' Union celebrated the 140th anniversary of the founding of the organisation, by Mary Sumner, in Hampshire in 1876. The Guisborough branch was founded in 1901 and at the start of 2016 had 28 members. Before the A.G.M. in January, members shared a lovely pooled lunch and a 'Celebration of Faith' service commemorating this milestone.

During the year we had a good attendance at meetings with interesting speakers. Our newly licensed Readers, Susan and Geoff Hill, told members about their journey of faith, Elizabeth Revett shared her experience of her day in York Minster receiving Maundy money from Her Majesty the Queen, while in May we discussed funeral planning with 'a light-hearted look at the final curtain'. Rev Eric Norris explained the work of the Children's Society in June. After the summer break we heard from one of our own members about her childhood at Dr Barnardo's, viewed the branch leader's photographs of her dream holiday to Australia and heard from Pam Towse and Sharon Bolton, the Wardrobe Mistresses at Middlesbrough Theatre about some of the costumes they had discovered in the many store rooms. For our outing, members met at Thirsk Garden Centre for lunch, and enjoyed fun and fellowship at the Christmas lunch at the Royal Oak at Great Ayton.

The branch held the usual services during the year. The Lent service was led by members and in April, we held a Lady Day service in St Nicholas Church, led by the Rector. This service celebrated the 140th anniversary too. We enrolled Lynne O'Callaghan as a member during the service. For the Advent service in Church, we welcomed ladies from the other churches in Guisborough. Members attended 140th celebrations in other branches and, on Mary Sumner Day (August 9), a wonderful Deanery celebration, led by Worldwide President, Lynne Tembey. A most enjoyable Deanery 'Songs of Praise' was held at St Peter's Church, Redcar.

Two members attended the Deanery Quiet Day at Sleights while I attended Diocesan and Deanery Council meetings. Members manned the kitchen at the Bazaar with help from the Servers and helped with refreshments at the pantomime. Members also took part in the Women's World Day of Prayer service at the Salvation Army Citadel. We were able to make donations totalling £475 to several Mothers' Union projects from our funds over the year.

Two members of the branch, Clara Gibb and Blanche Wood celebrated their 90th birthdays during the year. The Mothers' Union sent greetings to the Queen, our Patron, on her 90th birthday. Photographs of all those members who had 90th birthdays in 2016 were on the card including Clara and Blanche!

The committee members are an unfailing support to me as Branch Leader as are all the members. Their continued membership of this amazing Worldwide Christian organisation and their prayers and financial support are vital. We may not be directly involved in the work, but every member fulfils the aims and objectives in their daily lives in the community. I am also very grateful to Alison for her support.

We begin 2017 with 33 members which is wonderful. We have seven new members, who, we hope, will be enrolled on Mothering Sunday. We welcome them and look forward to them joining in with our activities. Sadly, two members, Esther Nolan and Jennifer Glover, were unable to join us this year. We will miss them but will continue to hold them in our prayers.

Christine Parker Branch Leader, Contact – 01287 634102

Deanery Synod

This year the three meetings which were held at Brotton, Dormanstown and Redcar followed the normal pattern of presentations, synod business and news.

At Brotton, the presentation focussed on St Peter's C of E Primary School which had been awarded 'Outstanding' by those who assessed the school's Christian ethos and work programme for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. The Headteacher, Richard Unthank and Revd Rhodes, with the help of a video discussed the development of youngsters as worship leaders and showed how children can be fully engaged in leading and contributing to worship. The possibility of thus helping Sunday School groups 87 was explained along with details of Prayer Space and the schools contacts with other schools one in London, the Selby Abbey School and Coatham C of E School.

The Rev. David Tembey of Marske reminded the Synod members of the value of regular personal prayer and also how he as a new incumbent had valued a settled and knowledgeable team within the parish. His hopes of bridging the gap that often seems to exist between God's expectations and those of parishioners had been greatly helped by the team. Areas of parish life mentioned included occasional offices, pastoral visiting, work with children at the schools, Sunday Club and Messy Church and the Mothers' Union.

At Redcar the focus was on both Church activities and community interaction and how they had benefited from reviewing process as a result of attending the Diocesan conference on LyCiG. They are currently concentrating on areas already underway – fellowship groups, children/ young people and their families, a culture of invitation, community interaction and needs. This focus on God's people also included spiritual work with those new to the faith and those wishing to deepen their relationship with God.

Changes towards growth over recent years leading up to LYCiG were reviewed by the Archdeacon. She spoke of current plans, the vision for church growth, alongside recognition that funding within each church and the changes in diocese funding patterns were challenges to accept and overcome. The need for a network of relationships that will help deaneries adapt and work together in mission and ministry was emphasized. A later session followed by a further presentation on deanery development given by the Archdeacon, The Bishop of Whitby and the Rev. Gavin Wakefield, there was more opportunity for group discussion leading to a proposal for the Diocesan Synod.

Rev Andy Bowden, Children's and Young People's Consultant explained how well Darklite and its successor -Creation / Science / God's Universe / The Light of Christ – had been supported. In a different way the St Hilda's Pilgrimage Walk had offered a variety of support opportunities – walk with the team each day for the full pilgrimage – walk a section of the Pilgrimage – and hospitality at church rest points. Each of these became a part of a very successful Pilgrimage. Time was also given to the care and situation of curates and to a range of financial items.

The Rural Dean's installation as Canon of Bole (York Minster) was a very pleasing piece of news, as was Alan Gardner's acceptance of the role of Financial Advisor. His knowledge, experience and background will be extremely helpful to those who take on the role of parish treasurer in areas such as 'freewill giving', Gift Aid and Grant Aid:

Also Synod now needs to find a new Secretary, as Claire Soderman, the Secretary for many years has asked for someone else* to take over that essential communication position.

* (Offers through the Rector or Synod members)

John Simmonds contact 01287 634575

Bell Ringers

Thanks to all our loyal team members who have made Sunday ringing possible throughout the year, and to those who rang when required for weddings and at funerals. During the year we have progressed individually and as a group, and have grown in numbers; a young person has learnt the art with us and progressed well enough to be proposed as a member of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers. Also, we have been joined by a young adult who contributes significantly to practice and tuition. We would encourage and welcome other young people to join the team.



Richard Henbest – contact 01287 634569

Fellowship Group

Once again we have had a busy year. In April we held a Fund Raising Evening to celebrate St George's Day and the birthday of the Queen. The late Spring and the Summer months saw us cater for the "Strawberry Fair" the Youth Group BBQ, Mother and Toddler events and help with "Open Doors", followed in September by catering for the "Heritage Weekend" whilst providing many cups of tea, coffee etc to "Concert Goers". The Christmas Festivities began with wine and nibbles to open the "Christmas Tree Festival", followed by light refreshments at the Choir Practice the following evening. We served Mulled Wine and mince pies on Tuesday, the late opening evening and finished with wine, mince pies and shortbread at the end of the Nine Lessons and Carols Service. All is quiet at the moment - the Beer Festival is next and after that??....



Sandra Cowan (chair) – 01287 635396

Craft & Collectables Fair Report

Nine Craft & Collectables Fairs were held in 2016, skipping January, February and August – the latter due to so many crafters being away on holiday. The fairs contributed **£1,527** to the church and also provided the opportunity for Diane, Christine and Julie to raise funds through their sales. Thank you to them for their commitment in supporting the event and providing attractive and interesting stalls for visitors.



As ever, a huge thank you to our great team of volunteers who give their time unstintingly, for their commitment and support, through all weathers and the many other demands on their time. They include Sandra, Margaret C, Margaret A, Honor, Trisha, Dawn, Ann, Alan, Joyce, Sue and others who step in on an ad hoc basis. This great team bake and donate a wide range of cakes and scones, cook, make sandwiches, serve refreshments with a smile, wash up, take the money, etc. We make most of our money from refreshments and the volunteers are really are invaluable. And thank you for all of the work involved in setting up and restoring the hall afterwards to Mark and Samuel, to Helen for delivering the key, and hall committee members for their occasional help.

May I also give my sincere thanks to our Crafters for their commitment, perseverance and for sticking with us through thick and thin. During the year we've lost some Crafters for various reasons, and gained others with their stunning creativity and ideas.

Last year I introduced colouring for adults, in addition to the puzzle books etc. And some visitors and crafters enjoyed learning how to fold hedgehogs and Christmas trees from old library books. The technique took about 2 minutes to teach and I hope they enjoyed showing others how to do the same.

The word “collectables” has been introduced to the title, reflecting the change in stalls, with the aim of adding interest and drawing a wider range of visitors. This year, I need to get to grips with Facebook; develop a wider ranging publicity strategy; and some new banners are in the pipeline (thanks to Joe Shutt’s graphic design skills). And adults will be able to try their hand at crafts, if they wish.

The two month trial of a Tombola stall went well, so I’m introducing it as a regular feature. What a steep learning curve that was – easy, do I hear you say? - no way! It was a real eye opener, with raffle tickets from one end of the house to the other and a cat thinking oh, this is a new game for me to play. “Guess how many sweets in the jar” in November and December caused amusement and Crafter Val diligently counted every single one for me, including lots of chocolate covered raisins.

The children’s craft and colouring activities seem to go well, with the number attending ranging from 4 to 10, due to their other commitments (football etc). Over the period of a year, it’s nice to see so many children and some families are starting to coming regularly. Crafters’ (grand) children are also encouraged to get involved.

Perhaps you’ll be able to look in occasionally for a cuppa, invite a friend, or tell your neighbours about our enjoyable Craft & Collectables fairs? It would be much appreciated.

Pam Rayment, Coordinator (contact – 01287 636953)

St Nicholas Ladies Guild

St Nicholas Ladies Guild meets on the third Thursday of the month from September to June. We enjoy talks and presentations from various speakers on various subjects. The meetings are held at member’s homes and are informal and friendly. We would welcome new members.

Sandra Cowan (chair) – 01287 635396

Men’s Group

We had another successful year, meeting monthly. The activities ranged from bowls evening, through talks from invited guests, to carrying out work in the Church and Church Hall. Our planned outing unfortunately fell through. We helped provide food at the 2016 Beer Festival in the Church Hall. Our attendance varied, but was usually in the teens, the most popular, as usual, being the December quiz. We welcome any men who would like to come to our meetings.

Chris Ellis - contact 01287 635219

Churches Together in Guisborough

The Churches Together Group includes seven churches in Guisborough and is the umbrella organisation of the Bridge Project and the Guisborough Christian Aid Group. The Committee meets four times a year to organise various ecumenical events.



In January The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was based on a theme from the churches of Latvia entitled "The Salt of the Earth". A series of short lunchtime services was led by the different churches and the main Sunday service was held in the Methodist Church. The Lent Courses were based on the "I Am" sayings of Jesus and were again held on alternate weeks at St Paulinus and the Methodist churches. Because of concerns over the safety of the marchers it was decided not to process along Westgate on Good Friday but to hold a static service at the Market Cross. This was led by ministers from the various churches and the Salvation Army Band provided the music for the hymns. More than 150 people attended. The ecumenical Harvest Festival was held in St Nicholas Church where the speaker was Heather Black from The Church Urban Fund.

A Competition was again held for the front of the Churches Together Christmas card which gave details of all Christmas services at the various churches. I would like to thank the volunteers who delivered the card to all houses in Guisborough.

Roger Jackson

Guisborough Bridge Association

The year has seen few changes but progress in the activities undertaken has continued to grow. We said goodbye to our Gap year student from South Korea – Isabella Moon in January. She had worked tirelessly in all aspects of the Bridge's activities. We wish her well in her studies at home.

Activities involving the young people have been well attended be it the Escape group at North Guisborough or the Kavern Klub at Costa Coffee. Also there has been a steady increase in the numbers of older people involved in Monday Friends and Kemplah lunches. Soup and Roll continues to be our main source of income and numbers on a Thursday remain pretty constant. Separate fund raising events include coffee mornings, refreshments at Choral Society concerts during the year and the annual Barn Dance at the Parish Hall in January.

Foodstop, active on a Tuesday and a Thursday lunchtime, continues to be well used by those individuals and families who are facing hardship caused mainly by problems with their benefit payments. Our Street Pastors continue to patrol the streets on Friday or Saturday nights offering warmth and solace to those in need, whether it be a pair of flip flops, a comforting word, a warm drink or organising a taxi home. The Christmas Day meal was yet again well attended with over 70 people sitting down to traditional Christmas fare, friendship and fellowship.

A word of thanks to all those in our church who by their continuing generosity in financial or material giving have kept the Bridge active and growing.

However there is a situation developing which we are asking people in all churches to help us with – the question of volunteers. The progress of all our activities is dependent on volunteers, whether it be working with young people or at the groups for all ages in the community. Sadly over the year some of our volunteers have suffered illness which has meant their withdrawal from the groups in which they were involved. We desperately need helpers at coffee mornings, Soup and Roll and Monday friends. If you feel that you would like to help please see the present volunteers – names are in the March Priority magazine. We continue to serve God through prayer and action to the people of the town.

Graham Johnson

Christian Aid

The town raised a total of £5,364.90 during Christian aid week 2016 a creditable sum although down on the previous years due mainly to a shortage of collectors affecting all the churches. I am standing down from the committee but Julia Hutchinson has agreed to be the official Guisborough Christian Aid representative. Please give her and the rest of the committee your full support during Christian Aid week this year as we attempt to cover this ever expanding town.

My personal thanks go to all those who have given generously of their time consistently over the past few years joining in the fun of barn dances and quiz nights etc as well as knocking on doors and counting all that loose change!

Contact Julia Hutchinson on 01287 630973 to help with the 2017 collection –
CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2017 14 - 20 MAY

Audrey Carr

Pantomime Group

Guisborough Parish Pantomime group is a not-for-profit amateur dramatic, church-based community group who hold week-long productions in the second week of January each year in the Parish Hall, Bow Street, Guisborough.

Each year we donate the raffle proceeds and performance profits to local charities and good causes. The 2016 production the group put on was 'King Arthur' by Paul Reakes and directed by Barbara Watson. It was performed during the week commencing 11 January 2016 and almost 700 people come to see the show.

The group in 2016 supported Bowel Cancer UK as it's chosen charity as one of the members was diagnosed with the disease during rehearsals. Previously the group has supported the national charity Cardiac Risk in the Young - as one of the performers' daughter had a fatal heart attack in the run up to the show in 2015. Locally in recent years the group supported the Bridge Association, Westgate Park and Clevearc to name but a few.

The group has also supported the running of the Parish Hall in providing the stage lighting and curtains for the group and others to use as well as making annual donations to The Mothers Union and St Nicholas' Ladies (both of whom along with the Fellowship Group provide the refreshments during performance week); Open Door and Guisborough in Bloom.

It is an excellent example of the church reaching out to the wider community, as the majority of members/performers are not regular St Nicholas' worshippers, but the committee has a vast majority of regular St Nicholas' worshippers.

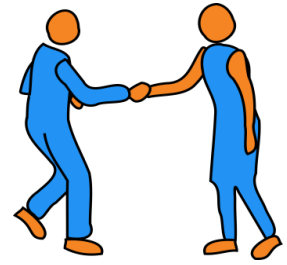
The group is always looking for 'new blood' to help with the on-going entertainment and that it not just on the acting front. Skills in set building, decorating, sewing, are a few of the other facets to this group. It holds it's AGM in the hall on the first Sunday in March and auditions for forthcoming pantomime are held in the same venue on the first Sunday of September. Then there's 17 weeks of rehearsals before the show begins.

Phil Sandford 07743 791002 or visit the group's Facebook page or www.guisboroughpanto.org

Churchwatch

There has been a significant increase in the number of visitors to church this year.

During the 5 months May to September, Thursday afternoons had the highest number followed by Wednesday mornings, and August was the busiest month. Many compliments were paid to helpers, who were welcoming, helpful and friendly. One was described as "a lovely gentleman".



Visitors commented that our church was well kept; and kneelers, font, windows choir stalls, tiles and pews were admired as was the De Brus Cenotaph. Many people arrive knowing about the Cenotaph already thanks to the good publicity of the De Brus friends.

About 52 people from 11 countries worldwide had signed the book including 22 from Australia. One of these a former choirboy in 1940s and 1950s now lives in Adelaide.

A lady who now lives in Western Australia was a former bell ringer here and was confirmed here in 1962 by the Bishop of Whitby, father of Jon Snow the television presenter. She and her friend remember church cleaning, especially the ancient plain glass windows above the vestry door. How many people realise about the "graffiti" signature etched on one of the panes in 1888?

A total of around 1640 visitors was recorded including Picnic in the Priory (41), the Somme exhibition (276), Open Door (197), Heritage weekend (189) and a school visit (33).

Many thanks again to all the volunteers. One of our new ones remarked "I've really enjoyed doing it". I hope this speaks for you all.

Christine Campbell - contact 01287 632322

St Nicholas Afternoon Tea Dance

We meet every Thursday 1pm to 3.30pm in the Parish Hall. We meet for Sequence dancing and pay Kevin Paul a Dance Teacher to provide the music and give some tuition. We have recently had a few more people joining us since we lowered the price to £4 per person. Our numbers vary between 28 on a good day and less than 20 when we struggle to pay the Hall Rent.



On New Year's Evening we held a dance of Ballroom, Latin & Sequence with 63 attending which enabled us to give £150 profit to the Church. We also raised £132 from the Raffle to give to the Bridge Association.

Rita & Tony Morris - contact 01287 281737

**St Nicholas Church
Guisborough**

**Financial Statements of the
Parochial Church Council
for the year ending
31 December 2016**

Bank:

Yorkshire Bank plc
19 Church Street
Guisborough

Independent Examiner:

Rachel Wilmot
1 Abercorn Close
Redcar
TS10 2TX

Incumbent:

Rev A Phillipson

Hon Treasurer:

Avril Hadfield
27 Tedworth Close
Guisborough

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas, Guisborough

Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ending 31 December 2016

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Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP (2005).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets, and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

The PCC has previously considered it sound financial management to maintain reserves of between 25% and 33% of annual turnover. This implies that reserves of between around £39,700 and £52,400 are required in respect of the proposed budgeted expenditure for 2016.

Incoming Resources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on covenant or gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued.

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

All incoming resources (e.g. funds raised by the bazaar, craft fair and similar events, sales of books and magazines) are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources Used

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by section 96(2) (a) of the Charities Act 1993.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December 2016.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

Treasurer's Report 2016

This is my last report to the APCM as honorary treasurer, as I am stepping down from the position today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Geoff Hill and the Gift Aid Officer, John Carr, in particular, for all their help and advice during the last year. In addition, I would like to thank members of the PCC, and the congregation for all the help and advice they have offered.

In addition, I would like to thank all those who assist with the weekly Gift Aid Envelopes and weekly cash counts, and those who have helped with the management and accounting of income and expenditure during the year, both in the Church and at the events, concerts, and fund raising activities.

Total funds in 2016 have increased by £51,359, with the general trading account increasing by £10,192 (including unrealised profits on the general trading account investments of £2,438). This is in contrast to the general fund deficit of £2,098 in 2015 (including unrealised profits on the general trading account investments of £295). There were total unrealised profits on investments of £6,521 in 2016 as the in stability of financial markets have continued (this compared to a total unrealised profit on investments in 2015 of £917).

The Parish's Freewill Offering (the amount that the Church pays to the Diocese) for 2016 increased by £1,800 from the 2015 amount. The success of the Giving in Grace stewardship programme helped the amounts raised through tax efficient and planned giving in 2016 to exceeded the budgeted figure.

The use of Gift-Aid envelopes in the pews has remained steady, and I would encourage any tax paying members of the congregation to use them whenever possible. Alternatively, you can give directly from your bank account using bankers standing orders, or you can request your own set of weekly giving envelopes, and if you are a tax payer and sign a Gift-Aid declaration, the PCC as a registered charity can recover the amount of tax you have paid on that (currently 25p for every £1 given in this way) **at no extra cost to you.**

While general fundraising in 2015 raised a net £17,217, the Bazaar continues to be our main source of general fundraising from a single event, raising over £6,100 in 2016. However, other fundraising took place during the year including regular coffee mornings at Sunnyfield House, monthly Craft Fairs, Beer Festival, Christmas Tree Festival, and numerous other events.

In 2016 the Parish Hall Kitchen refurbishment was completed with the assistance of additions grants of £3,000 which were received in 2016, and £45,000 was received in respect of Chancel Repair Liability.

The PCC has previously considered it sound financial management to maintain reserves of between 25% and 33% of annual turnover. This implies that general reserves of between around £39,475 and £51,711 are required in respect of the proposed budgeted expenditure for 2017. General Reserves at 31 December 2016 were at the top end of that range, at £51,275.

Once again, I would like to thank everybody who has assisted me, with advice, guidance, and the counting and banking of monies coming in and going out. Without your help I would undoubtedly have struggled.

Finally, many thanks to all those who support this Church, both financially (planned givers, tax efficient givers, those using Gift-Aid envelopes, and all those who put into the plate or give using bankers standing orders), and with their time, skills and talents. A sincere thank you all for giving so generously, in order that we are able to continue to maintain both this beautiful and historic building, and look to expand the ministry of our Church.



pp. Avril Hadfield

Hon Treasurer
Guisborough PCC

3 April 2017

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the PCC of St Nicholas, Guisborough

This report on the accounts of the PCC of St Nicholas, Guisborough for the year ended 31 December 2016 which are set out on pages 6 to 14, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

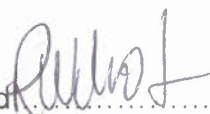
Independent examiner's statement

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 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulationshave 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.

Rachel Wilmot

Signed



Date

8/4/2017

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st December 2016

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Total Funds £
Incoming Resources						
Incoming Resources from Donors	2(a)	107,895.45	19,276.06	0.00	127,171.51	124,130.49
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2(b)	17,217.74	12,639.26	122.00	29,979.00	17,857.49
Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading	2(c)	36,906.79	23,194.40	0.00	60,101.19	57,318.72
Other Ordinary Incoming Resources	2(d)	0.00	49,057.00	0.00	49,057.00	17,307.68
Income from Investments	2(e)	821.91	1,281.41	0.00	2,103.32	2,466.16
Total Incoming Resources		162,841.89	105,448.13	122.00	268,412.02	219,080.54
Resources Used						
Grants	3(a)	6,000.00	14,614.56	0.00	20,614.56	18,745.44
Activities directly relating to the work of the Church	3(b)	133,842.14	23,099.40	0.00	156,941.54	156,428.70
Fund Raising and Publicity	3(c)	1,270.64	900.00	0.00	2,170.64	603.90
Church Management and Administration	3(d)	13,975.18	29,872.32	0.00	43,847.50	24,045.37
Total Resources Used		155,087.96	68,486.28	0.00	223,574.24	199,823.41
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		7,753.93	36,961.85	122.00	44,837.78	19,257.13
Gains/Losses on Investments						
- realised						
- unrealised		2,438.76	794.46	3,288.43	6,521.65	917.14
Net Movement in Funds		10,192.69	37,756.31	3,410.43	51,359.43	20,174.27
Balances brought forward at 1st January 2016		41,082.41	139,763.76	30,930.41	211,776.58	191,602.31
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2016		51,275.10	177,520.07	34,340.84	263,136.01	211,776.58

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2016

		Note	2016		2015	
			£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets						
	Tangible fixed assets	12	130,000.00		130,000.00	
	Investment assets	13	66,473.92		59,952.27	
				196,473.92		189,952.27
Current Assets						
Debtors		14	5,181.00		4,598.20	
Short term deposits						
	Friends of St. Nicholas at CBF		12,797.60		11,516.19	
	General Fund at CBF		24,183.69		23,361.78	
	Current Bank Account		66,815.02		24,179.56	
	Total		108,977.31		63,655.73	
Payments in Advance			0.00		133.90	
Sundry Creditors						
	Restricted	15	(531.00)		(169.00)	
	Unrestricted	15	(832.22)		(844.32)	
Net Current Assets				107,614.09		62,776.31
Long Term Liabilities		12	(40,952.00)		(40,952.00)	
Net Assets				263,136.01		211,776.58
Funds						
	Unrestricted					
	General Fund		44,691.91		34,499.22	
	Development Fund (Designated)		6,583.19		6,583.19	
	Restricted					
	Children and Young People		3,009.91		3,022.90	
	Wish List	16	51,795.79		10,605.43	
	Roof Fund		1,506.79		1,506.79	
	Open Door		850.02		812.02	
	Youth Group		484.50		484.50	
	Friends of St Nicholas (Fabric)		28,496.04		27,288.57	
	PCC Equity in Curacy		89,048.00		89,048.00	
	Mother & Toddler		(202.40)		(193.40)	
	Hall Kitchen		0.00		7,188.95	
	Choir Fund		1,706.60		0.00	
	Servers Fund		824.82		0.00	
	Endowment					
	Endowment Fund		34,340.84		30,930.41	
	Total		263,136.01		211,776.58	

Prepared for the Parochial Church Council


 Geoff Hill
 Chair of Resources/Acting Treasurer


 Rev A Phillipson
 Rector

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2016

Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2016 Total Funds £	2015 Total Funds £	2016 Budget £
2	Incoming Resources						
2(a)	Incoming Resources from Donors						
	Tax Efficient Giving (including Planned Giving)	64,843.32	-	-	64,843.32	62,699.06	63,000
	Tax Recovered	16,473.07	162.50	-	16,635.57	18,418.79	17,000
	Regular Collections	9,416.69	1,836.00	-	11,252.69	10,318.95	7,500
	Occasional Collections	8,007.14	-	-	8,007.14	7,824.85	6,000
	Non Gift Aided Envelopes	7,673.80	20.00	-	7,693.80	3,843.20	4,000
	Special Collections	-	15,292.56	-	15,292.56	14,258.19	
	Donations	1,481.43	1,965.00	-	3,446.43	6,767.45	1,800
		107,895.45	19,276.06	-	127,171.51	124,130.49	99,300
2(b)	Other Voluntary Incoming Resources						
	Donations in Memoriam - Memorial Book	-	-	122.00	122.00	105.00	
4	Fund Raising	17,217.74	4,194.65	-	21,412.39	16,752.49	16,450
	Development Fund	-	-	-	-	-	
	Bequests	-	8,444.61	-	8,444.61	1,000.00	
		17,217.74	12,639.26	122.00	29,979.00	17,857.49	16,450
2(c)	Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading						
	Sunday Coffee	803.91	-	-	803.91	813.19	250
5	Magazine Income	4,069.30	-	-	4,069.30	3,523.10	3,300
6	Church Hall Income	13,605.23	-	-	13,605.23	15,555.43	13,500
7	Non PCC Fees	-	21,254.40	-	21,254.40	23,782.00	
	PCC Fees	12,228.60	-	-	12,228.60	10,287.00	8,000
	Flower Fund	320.00	-	-	320.00	320.00	
	BRF Subs and other lay training income	264.75	-	-	264.75	258.00	
	Insurance Claims received	-	-	-	-	150.00	
	Contributions towards clergy expenses received	615.00	-	-	615.00	510.00	
	Curacy Rental	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00	-	
8	Bellringers Fees	-	1,940.00	-	1,940.00	2,120.00	
		36,906.79	23,194.40	-	60,101.19	57,318.72	25,050
2(d)	Other Ordinary Incoming Resources						
	Income received for "Friends of St Nicholas"	-	10.00	-	10.00	35.00	0
	Miscellaneous Income	-	1,047.00	-	1,047.00	387.58	
9	Projects/Special Income/Grants	-	48,000.00	-	48,000.00	16,885.10	
		-	49,057.00	-	49,057.00	17,307.68	0
2(e)	Income from Investments						
	Dividends	710.99	1,225.28	-	1,936.27	2,285.48	1,000
	Interest	110.92	56.13	-	167.05	180.68	
		821.91	1,281.41	-	2,103.32	2,466.16	1,000
	Total Incoming Resources	162,841.89	105,448.13	122.00	268,412.02	219,080.54	141,800

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2016

Note		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2016	2015	
3	Resources Used	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total	2016
		£	£	£	Funds	Funds	Budget
					£	£	£
3(a)	Grants						
	Missionary and charitable giving: (See Schedule 1)						
	Church Overseas	2,900.00	-	-	2,900.00	3,000.00	6,000
	Home missions and other Church Societies	3,100.00	2,954.48	-	6,054.48	3,520.82	3,000
	Other Charitable Societies	-	11,660.08	-	11,660.08	15,117.77	-
		6,000.00	14,614.56	-	20,614.56	21,638.59	9,000
3(b)	Activities directly relating to the work of the Church						
	Ministry: Diocesan Parish Share & Deanery Expenses	94,202.96	-	-	94,202.96	90,681.00	94,600
	Clergy Expenses	2,325.39	-	-	2,325.39	1,955.30	1,600
	Rectory Costs	784.34	-	-	784.34	1,584.87	1,000
	Curacy Costs	620.54	-	-	620.54	1,525.74	1,500
	Honoraria	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	-
	Church - heating and lighting	4,035.23	-	-	4,035.23	8,807.83	4,500
	Church Insurance	4,697.68	-	-	4,697.68	4,435.63	5,200
	Church Services Costs	738.55	-	-	738.55	322.18	400
	Church Repairs and Maintenance	1,874.25	-	-	1,874.25	2,294.01	2,430
5	Expenditure on Parish Magazine (now printed in-house)	800.00	-	-	800.00	400.00	400
6	Church Hall Running Costs	15,806.17	-	-	15,806.17	10,372.78	9,000
	Mother & Toddler	-	1,845.00	-	1,845.00	-	-
	Church Commissioners - Rental Income for Curacy	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Lay training	379.50	-	-	379.50	626.57	3,000
	Organist & Choir	6,554.83	-	-	6,554.83	5,748.00	6,900
	Sanctuary	782.20	-	-	782.20	1,380.57	1,000
	Flowers expenditure	240.50	-	-	240.50	73.00	-
7	Fees paid out for Weddings & Funerals	-	21,254.40	-	21,254.40	25,306.00	-
		133,842.14	23,099.40	-	156,941.54	156,513.48	131,530
3(c)	Fund Raising and Publicity						
	Costs of Fund Raising Events	1,230.64	900.00	-	2,130.64	1,724.65	600
	Publicity/Posters	40.00	-	-	40.00	-	-
		1,270.64	900.00	-	2,170.64	1,724.65	600
3(d)	Church Management and Administration						
	Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Loan Interest on Curacy	1,708.88	-	-	1,708.88	1,662.04	1,700
	Stewardship Envelopes	140.98	-	-	140.98	214.71	250
	Stationery	619.69	40.56	-	660.25	787.60	800
	Postage	120.90	-	-	120.90	244.10	300
	Office Wages	5,301.00	-	-	5,301.00	5,061.60	5,850
	Office Telephone	424.03	-	-	424.03	490.41	500
	Maintenance of Office Machinery	4,264.27	-	-	4,264.27	3,488.10	4,400
	Memorial Book Printing	30.00	-	-	30.00	60.00	-
	Fellowship Expenses (Sunday Coffee)	689.43	-	-	689.43	551.70	-
11	Miscellaneous Expenses	676.00	727.18	-	1,403.18	566.53	170
8	Bellringers Payments	-	1,370.00	-	1,370.00	958.00	-
9	Projects/Special Expenditure	-	27,734.58	-	27,734.58	37,038.58	-
		13,975.18	29,872.32	-	43,847.50	51,123.37	13,970
	Total Resources Used	155,087.96	68,486.28	-	223,574.24	231,000.09	155,100

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF St. NICHOLAS, GUISBOROUGH

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2016

4 Fund Raising

	£
Bazaar	6,164.94
Coffee Mornings	1,714.08
Craft Fairs	1,789.10
Miscellaneous Efforts (including Beer Festival, Book of Smiles, Harvest Supper)	8,094.62
Choir funds introduced	1,706.60
Servers funds introduced	874.00
Miscellaneous Efforts (Hall Kitchen)	1,069.05
Total	21,412.39

5 Magazine

	Income £	Expenditure £
Subscriptions	2,566.30	
Advertisements	1,503.00	
Printing Costs		800.00
Total	4,069.30	800.00

6 Church Hall Account

	Income £	Expenditure £
Nursery School	1,245.00	
Church Bookings	1,854.50	
Regular Bookings	9,398.50	
Casual Bookings	1,106.00	
Donations/Junior Youth Interest	1.23	
Wages		4,502.52
Gas/Electricity/Water Services		4,442.02
Cleaning Materials		371.07
Repairs/Renewals		4,729.95
Performing Rights		120.00
Miscellaneous		21.00
Insurance (See Note 15)		1,619.61
Totals	13,605.23	15,806.17

7 Non PCC Fees paid for Weddings and Funerals

	£
Incumbents Fees	14,464.00
Organist/Choir Fees	4,870.40
Vergers Fees	1,920.00
Total	21,254.40

8 Bellringers Account

	£
Income from Weddings and Funerals	1,940.00
Total Income	1,940.00
Bellringers Contribution to "Friends of St Nicholas"	(570.00)
Fees paid out to the Bellringers	(1,290.00)
Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers	(80.00)
Total Expenditure	(1,940.00)
Balance	0.00

9 Projects/Special Income & Expenditure

	Income £	Expenditure
Children and Young People Grant	-	12.99
Chancel Repair Liability	45,000.00	-
Open Door		277.00
Hall Kitchen	3,000.00	12,185.00
Notice Board		954.00
Bell repairs		494.40
Stained Glass Window		6,920.00
Hymn Books		3,378.22
Clavinova		3,449.00
Web Site development	-	63.97
Total	48,000.00	27,734.58

10 Lay Training

	£
Other Lay Training including Holiday Club	114.75
Bible Reading Fellowship	264.75
Total	379.50

11 Miscellaneous Expenditure

	£
Giving in Grace	312.00
Advert and interview costs	265.00
Picture repairs	77.00
Leaving gifts	749.18
Bereavement flowers	
HMRC interest	
Lecturn (Wish List)	
Roof Survey	
Total	1,403.18

12 Property

The PCC is the beneficial trustee of the following property which is vested in the Property and Trust Committee of the York Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd. The PCC has an Equity Share of 68.5% of the value of the Curacy. The Church Commissioners have the remaining 31.5% (£40,950). The PCC is also the owner and beneficial trustee of the Parish Hall in Bow Street, Guisborough, whose estimated value is £350,000. The PCC does not own the land on which it stands.

	Curacy 16, Lealholm Way £
Gross Book Value: At 31st December 2016	130,000

13 Investments

Valuation at 31st December 2016	No	Bid Price p	Value £	Market Value Totals £	2015 Value	Unrealised Profit
Unrestricted						
Investment Fund						
CBF Investment Fund Income Shares	1623.24	1503.70	24,408.66	24,408.66	21,969.90	2,438.76
Total						
Restricted						
Fabric Fund						
CBF Investment Fund Income Shares	528.79	1503.70	7,951.42	7,951.42	7,156.96	794.46
Total						
Endowment						
Endowment Fund						
CBF Investment Fund Income Shares For purchase of more shares	2268.66	1503.70	34,113.84	34,113.84	30,825.41	3,288.43
Total						
Grand Total				66,473.92	59,952.27	6,521.65

14 Debtors

	£
Income tax recoverable from gift aid	3,700.00
PCC Fees due re 2016 Services	405.00
Non PCC Fees due re 2016 Services	1,076.00
Total	5,181.00

15 Creditors

	£
Restricted - Non PCC Fees re 2016 Services	211.00
Christmas Tree Festival	405.00
StainedGlass Window	320.00
Unrestricted - Loan Interest on Curacy	427.22
	1,363.22

16 Wish List

The balance includes £45,000 received in respect of Chancel Repair Liability

Schedule 1
Charitable Giving from Unrestricted Funds

	PCC £
Christian Aid	1,000.00
Church Army	300.00
Church Urban Fund	400.00
Embrace the Middle East (formerly Bible Lands Society)	500.00
Guisborough Bridge Association	1,000.00
Order of the Holy Paraclete	400.00
Teesside Hospice	200.00
The Junction	200.00
Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland	500.00
US	500.00
Water Aid	500.00
Wydale Hall	500.00
Totals	6,000.00

Retiring / Special Collections and Funerals

£

The total received by the PCC from designated funeral collections in church during the year, and paid out directly to the charitable organisations requested by the families concerned.

11,660.08

A total of 7 retiring and special collections were held in church during the year, raising a total of

2,954.48

Additional PCC agreed charitable giving

6,000.00

20,614.56