

**ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR,
BARNSELY**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL
CHURCH COUNCIL
INCLUDING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2013

Bank:

**Barclays Bank
10-18 Queen Street
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 2AJ**

Independent Examiner:

**Mr D Mokes
275 Park Road
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 1QL**

Administrative information

The Church of St. Edward the Confessor is situated in Racecommon Road, Barnsley. It is part of the Diocese of Wakefield within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:-

St. Edward's Church, Racecommon Road, Barnsley S70 6JY.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2013 until the date this report was approved are:

Priest in charge: Revd Mark Poskitt

Reader: Fred Thompson

Wardens: Gordon Fletcher
Heather Fletcher

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Gordon Fletcher until APCM 2014

Heather Fletcher until APCM 2014

Elected members:

Eileen Carr (C) until APCM 2013

John Gostelow (C) until APCM 2013

Margaret Gostelow (B) PCC Secretary

Lynette Mace (C) Deputy Churchwarden

Ann Wood (A) Deputy Churchwarden

Pam Smailes (A)

Leslie Broadhead (A)

Lorraine Taylor-Kent (B)

Terry Gelder (B)

Ray Dawes (C) from APCM 2013

Structure, governance and management

Currently 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.

St. Edward's PCC members are elected for 3 years with one third retiring and being elected each year. Deanery Synod representatives are elected for 3 years.

PCC term of office ends at APCM in

A - 2014
B - 2015
C - 2016

Objectives and Activities

St Edward's PCC is responsible for promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church and grounds of St Edward's, Racecommon Road, Kingstone, Barnsley.

Achievements and Performance

Church attendance

There are 66 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 32 of whom are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance in 2013 was 44 on a Sunday and around 12 on a Wednesday, but this number increased at festivals.

Review of the year

In 2013 there were 3 weddings, 35 baptisms and 15 funerals. There was a communion service every Sunday at 9.15am apart from the second Sunday of each month when the service started at 10am and included Fun Church. There was a communion service on Wednesdays at 10am, and Time and Space, a service of intercessory prayer set in an Office for Julian of Norwich, on the last Friday of the month. Breakfast prayers took place once a month on a Saturday morning. A decision was taken to move the Memorial Service from November to Easter.

Services were advertised on the noticeboard outside church, in the Barnsley Chronicle every Friday and on the church website www.stedwards-barnsley.org.uk. A card inviting local people to our Christmas services was delivered to homes in the parish.

Information was given to the congregation on a weekly pew sheet and in a quarterly magazine. The diocesan news sheet Awake was also distributed in church.

Pastoral care is given to those in hospital or unable to get to church.

A new window in the Lady Chapel, funded by and in memory of George and Lillie Stone, was dedicated by the Bishop of Wakefield on March 2nd.

Our Lent course followed 'Glimpses of God' by David Winter. A discussion group has met monthly since September and has looked at what sections of the Communion Service say to us and tell us about God.

A fortnightly Friendship Club has continued to meet. Currently up to 32 members and helpers meet to have lunch and share in an activity.

The St Edward's Guild has met monthly.

We have continued to support our Mara link, holding a very successful Mara Evening in June, attended by Rev'd Bill Henderson.

The PCC met ten times in the year. Thanks were given to Eileen Carr and John Gostelow who stood down at the AGM in April. The PCC continued to discuss re-ordering the church nave and placing a temporary building in the church grounds to provide additional space for community activities. The PCC agreed to apply for certification as a Fairtrade Church as soon as the criteria are met.

Social events have taken place throughout the year, for example coffee mornings and summer and Christmas fairs. They are part of the church's mission to be open, welcoming and hospitable to local people and have also made a profit of £4430.

Regular Activities (all held in the vestry)

Keep Fit - Held on a Monday evening from 7pm until 8pm. The group is lively & friendly and costs £2-50 for a session.

Councillor's Surgery - Cllrs Kath Mitchell, Tom Sheard and Donna Green (Kingstone Ward) hold a monthly surgery in the vestry.

Reader's Report

I was licensed to the office of Reader in 2008 and was re-licensed at the Triennial Re-licensing in Wakefield cathedral on 12th October.

In the past year, I continued to preach occasionally at Parish Eucharist at St Edward's and lead and preach at Evensong at St Thomas's Gawber. I also occasionally distributed Holy Communion by extension at St Edward's. On the last Friday of each month I led the Time and Space intercessory prayer service. On Good Friday I led the Last Hour meditation at St Edward's.

On May 11th I renewed my commitment as a Companion of Julian of Norwich at the lady Julian Festival in Norwich.

I was elected to the Diocesan Reader Chapter at the Readers Triennial Re-licensing on October 12th as representative for the Barnsley Deanery.

I continued my membership of the Worship and Pastoral Committees, and visited and distributed Holy Communion to those who requested it in the Firs and Autumn House residential homes and to those who are housebound, with Mrs T Adcock, Lay Pastoral Minister.

Along with Rev Mark and Mrs T Adcock I visited the Firs and Eboracum residential homes each month to assist in a simple service and to meet with the residents.

As part of my ministry I am a co-opted member of the PCC. In that role I continued as St Edward's' Mara Link Officer and as a member of Christians Together in Barnsley.

I attended the thanksgiving service in Wakefield Cathedral on 21st April for 25 years of the Wakefield Mara Link, when Bishop Hilkiah preached. The celebration evening at Christ Church Battyeford on November 13th was a great joy when wonderful and inspiring testimonies were given to the Wakefield Tanzanian Link, because the church has grown to three dioceses!, and reference was made about it being the most successful international diocesan link in the Anglican Communion.

Fred Thompson

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met three times during 2013. In February the Synod met at Holy Trinity School in Carlton. There was a tour of the school and a presentation from the headteacher Mr Barber. The business agenda included a debate relating to the new Fees Structure which Synod felt should be reconsidered by the Diocesan Synod with a view to pushing it back to general Synod, the biggest issue being the increase in funeral fees.

On 11th June the Synod met at All Saints, Silkstone. The curate of Dodworth, Fr Darren Percival, gave a presentation on his work with the Leeds based charity 'Caring for Life'. This led Synod to a discussion about how Barnsley Deanery might explore a project to help the homeless of Barnsley. This was to be explored further and a Day of Prayer was designated for 14th July.

The final meeting of the year was held on 6th November at St George's, Barnsley. The Rev Mick Neal (Methodist Superintendent) gave a presentation on the Barnsley Foodbank. Parish achievements for 2013 were presented and there was an update on the Deanery Project. Homelessness in Barnsley is pretty well covered by statutory bodies and so the Deanery agreed to consider a different way to provide help.

Rev Mark Poskitt

Fabric Report

Churchwardens are required to make an annual inspection of the fabric and furnishings of the church under the Jurisdiction Measure of 1991. We try to keep St Edward's maintained to a reasonably good standard, and this is right as we have to secure our heritage for, we hope, future generations. This year has been quite an easy year as to the maintenance and repair of our church building. This is because we have kept our general yearly maintenance up to date. There is no major work that needs to be done. General yearly maintenance is all that is required during the coming year (2014). As long as we keep to this plan and we keep

vigilant everything should be fine. One or two items do need attention; the south east corner of the churchyard needs a good tidy up, the main doors and vestry doors need repainting, as does the wooden fencing that separates the church from the vicarage. The three iron gates also need repainting. As a general reminder we need to keep our attention on the West Window and our Binns organ. A final reminder; the vestry area is in need of refurbishment and the main church was last redecorated in Sept/Oct 1997.

Gordon and Heather Fletcher, Churchwardens

Financial Review

Common Fund

With the move to a new diocese, the Bishop offered to write off all Common Fund arrears for parishes that paid their Common Fund in full in 2013. The PCC agreed to do this as it meant that our debt of over £100,000 has now been written off. This was done by transfers from our Fabric Fund, by using the General Fund reserves and by paying our insurance monthly instead of in one lump sum.

The PCC have budgeted to pay 75% of our Common Fund in 2014 and in order to do this we will need to continue to transfer large sums from our Fabric Fund.

Fabric Fund

Our Fabric Fund which now stands at £104,996, has risen this year following transfer of the proceeds (£12,311) from the enforced sale of our treasury 8% stock. As this fund is not restricted it is viewed by the diocese as our reserves.

It is the intent of the PCC to save the Fabric Fund for the upkeep of the fabric of the church and to put it towards the re-ordering of the church which will enable greater use of our facilities by both the congregation and the local community. However we will continue to need to use some of the fund to pay our Common Fund unless the new diocese radically alters the way the Common Fund is calculated.

Giving

We are once again running at a deficit as we spent more than we received in 2013. Our planned giving (standing orders and weekly envelopes) was down by over £1000, but more significantly our income from Gift Day was only 40% of that raised in 2012.

Expenditure

Since our income is continually declining, we must very diligent with our expenditure and continually look for ways in which to save money. If we do not pay attention to this, our Fabric Fund will soon be depleted and the church will be bankrupt.

John Gostelow, Treasurer.

Approved by the PCC on 18th February 2014 and signed on their behalf by Rev'd Mark Poskitt (PCC Chair)