

St George's Church, Lupset, Wakefield

Annual Report for 2022

Background

St George's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the priest-in-charge in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic and ecumenical.

Administrative information:

St George's Church is situated on St George's Road Lupset. It is in the Wakefield Episcopal Area of the Diocese of Leeds within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 23c Broadway, Lupset, Wakefield WF2 8AA. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation rules 2019) and a Charity currently exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

Objectives and Activities

St George's church is a place of hope, refuge and safety for people in Lupset. We strive to live out the Gospel, sharing Jesus' message of love and hope in our community through prayer, worship and action'.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our church and to share in the life of the church community at St George's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and considers how our services can involve the many groups of people who live within our parish. Our services and worship are our response to God's love for us through Scripture, sacrament, music, and prayer.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

In particular we try to enable people in our parish community to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in our parish.
- Outreach to those living in our parish and developing our mission to this community and our link parishes abroad.
- Working in close partnership with St George's Community Centre.

Safeguarding: The Parochial Church Council has complied with their duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' Guidance on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults). The safeguarding policies and procedures of St George's Church were amended in May 2019 when the PCC adopted the Diocesan templates for Reporting Serious Incidents to the Diocese and the Charities Commission. In 2020 St George's began to use the national Safeguarding Data Dashboard as required by the Leeds Diocese Parish Safeguarding Board and we are working at level 2. The PCC received three updates during the year. All

PCC members have completed their DBS checks through 'thirty one, eight', the service used by the Leeds Diocese, and completed their 'Fit and proper persons' form as required as trustees under Charity Commission requirements. PCC members continue to update their training and some completed their Domestic Violence training in 2022. During 2022 we received four safeguarding concerns and all were dealt with appropriately. We have started to review the Risk Assessments for church led activities and to provide Role descriptions for the leaders of these groups.

Membership:

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. Membership of St George's PCC consists of the Priest-in-charge, the Curate, the Church Wardens, the Licenced Readers, three members of Deanery Synod and up to nine members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year 2022 and from the APCM on 3rd April 2022 the following people served as members of the PCC:

Ex - Officio Members:

Priest-in-charge	Rev Martine Crabtree
Assistant Curate	Rev Diane Komorowski
Licenced Lay Minister	Freda Jackson
Licenced Lay Minister	Pauline Shaw
Churchwarden	Michael Tattersall
Churchwarden	Alan Shaw

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Alan Shaw re-elected 18th October 2020

Mike Tattersall elected May 2021

Sue Lightfoot elected May 2021

Elected APCM 2022: Carolyn Broadbent, Juliet Taylor and Alex Lynch

Elected APCM 2021: Susan Ward and Julia Percival.

Elected APCM 2020: Mick Read, Jane Read

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees which meet between the full PCC meetings.

Standing committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings subject to any directions given by the council. It comprises the Priest-in-charge, the Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and the PCC Treasurer. The Standing Committee met once during 2022

Finance Committee

This is incorporated with the Standing Committee and attends to any matters regarding the income and expenditure, budgeting and stewardship of money as directed by the PCC. It did not meet formally in 2022

Premises Committee

This is joint with St George's Lupset Ltd and it deals with issues related to the use and upkeep of the Church and Community Centre and its environs. It comprises the Standing Committee and the managers from the Community Centre. It met twice in 2022 and reviewed the agreement for the use of the Crypt by the Community Centre. This will be reviewed annually in September.

Electoral Roll

The current roll was compiled in February 2019. At the end of 2022 there were 59 persons on the roll. During the year 1 name was added and no names were removed, therefore at the end of December 2022 there were 60 people on the roll.

Cynthia Abercrombie

Church attendance:

The usual Sunday attendance was for 2022 averaged at 42 people each week Sunday. Post-Covid some people found returning very difficult due to a variety of health issues and the printed service sheet with readings, hymns and a reflection has been distributed each month.

The following reports are for January to December 2022.

Report of the Vicar 2022.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

We give thanks for all that happened at St George's in 2022. It has been a wonderful year of celebration, events and mission. We had some issues at the start of the year with the Omicron variant of the Covid 19 virus. In spring we were pretty much back to normal and able to resume all our social activities.

In 2021 we looked at re-emergence after the changes made due to Covid-19 and the national lockdowns. Jane Read facilitated a vision morning where she encouraged us to look at the hope of our church and see the heart of God for Lupset. We followed this up at PCC meetings in 2022 and invited the Church family to join us for another day where we prayed together and looked at aspirations for the life of our Church. People contributed to a discussion about the heart of St George's. People described the Church with many different words: "Beacon, Haven, Sanctuary, Patient, Contact, Inclusive, Love, Hope, Welcoming, Flourish, Available, Rest, Tap, Growing, Vibrant, Bold, Loud,

Approachable, Acceptance, Hospitable." We then looked at all our activities and discussed ways in which we could make progress. We affirmed all the good work that people were doing or planning to restart: Face to face home groups, Tuesday drop in lunch, Crafty chat, Bembridge and other home visits, Thursday morning Communion and coffee, Saturday night group, School Work, more worship and singing, Church socials, Monday night Prayer and prayer ministry in services and hoping to do, Alpha, Cap Money and relaunch the Youth work. We also wanted to carry on some opportunities for outside services, Facebook, WhatsApp, the Church website, newsletters and using every opportunity to stay connected and reach outside the Church walls.

Prayer and bible study is a high priority to our Church. Everyone is welcome to join a home group or ask to join an Alpha group. Prayer is always available, just ask!

We launched a WhatsApp group in Covid and decided to keep this going. We use the group to share daily prayers, worship songs and bible verses. It is also a place to keep in touch. We also have another group set aside for Church news. We send Sunday readings and prayers to everyone on email and print copies for people who have home visits. I appreciate that Julia, Diane and Juliet have helped me to keep the Facebook page active. Freda and Julia have also done a great job with updating our website.

It was a great joy to go to Cober Hill for the Parish weekend. Unfortunately, the Speaker was ill at short notice. I had one day to prepare the talks. I was still preparing the Sunday session on the Saturday evening (Thank you to the lovely people who sent some chocolate up to my room). I was grateful that Stuart and Diane also helped with this task. We believed that God blessed us all that weekend and gave us time to reflect on our spiritual lives and committing ourselves to deepen our prayer time with God.

I thank the Ministry team: Revd Diane, Stuart, Freda, and Pauline and our trainee Reader, Juliet. I thank them for their commitment and energy for working together to serve our Church. Revd Joan Viles is a Retired Priest who has also contributed to the work of our team, we were devastated that her husband Kevin who was Churchwarden and Treasurer at St James tragically died at Easter. He has been a great loss to the Church family. We are also very sad for Revd Joan who is grieving and stepped down from duties for the time being. We keep praying for Joan and the family.

We have continued to use resources and inspiration from the Diocese. We follow the Principles of Leading Your church Into Growth (LYCIG) and use the LYCIG prayer every week. We use Jesus Shaped people (JSP) material, and I invited Revd Gordon Dey to preach again this year and keep us focussed on our aspiration to be Jesus shaped in our mission. We hope to do the best for our church and aspire to be Jesus Centred in our approach to prayer, worship, ministry, and evangelism.

I would like to thank Carolyn for continuing to Coordinate our Prayer ministry team and the church WhatsApp group and the daily prayers along with the worship songs sent by Jane. The daily commitment to prayers, songs, and contributions from the different members of the church family has been a great support for many. I would also like to thank the home group leaders: Juliet, Freda, Pauline & Alan, Mick & Jane along with those who open their homes to host the groups.

I thank Janice and the team for continuing the Messy Church activities. It was brilliant to meet in person again and to give a warm welcome to the families. Janice has also done

a fabulous job of keeping in touch with Messy Church and baptism families in the Messy Church WhatsApp group. I also thank Catherine and Christine for their continued work with Junior Church. They orchestrated another amazing Nativity at Christmas. Thank you to all the Children in our Church family who bring so many blessings. We also welcomed schools into our Church building again and did some school visits. I particularly thank Freda and Diane for their support in this work. We have connections with St George's Centre youth work, nursery, and Uniformed groups. We are always happy to welcome them into Church and support their work. The Cubs packed out Church at their Christingle. Snapethorpe school swelled the numbers at our community Christingle. We love to welcome children and need to keep this priority high in our mission.

We had many events throughout the year and the highlights were celebrating with a joint benefice gathering as our Curate, Revd Diane Komorowski was ordained Priest. We had baptisms, including adult baptisms and a confirmation. We were able to have all our Holy week, Easter and Christmas services and celebrations. We went all out to organise a huge Platinum Jubilee celebration fun day for the Queen with lots of wonderful Messy Church activities (little did we know we would be having a memorial service for the Queen and signing the book of condolence so soon after). We also welcomed lots of families through the door for the light party and Christmas fun day. Thank you to everyone who helped at these events which are such great mission opportunities for our Church.

I thank the pastoral ministers: Cynthia, Janice, Susan, and Julia. I am grateful for the care they have taken to keep in touch with people. I also thank all those who work with the foodbank and other volunteering jobs at St George's Centre. I thank all those who help the Tuesday lunch team.

I thank each PCC member for all the work that they have done this year. We have worked carefully together to try and make the best decisions for our church family and building. I especially thank Mike (Treasurer & Churchwarden), and Alan (Churchwarden), for their hard work, time, and dedication. I thank the PCC secretary and safeguarding Officer Freda, for all her time and hard work. I am thankful to Mick Read (Health and Safety Officer), Mel Broadbent (Environment Officer) and Catherine Whitlam (Disability Officer) for all their work and reports to the PCC.

I also give thanks to Julia, Ben Stuart, Sue, Keira for their wonderful music and Alex, Andrew, Alice and Joel for their work on the AV team. I also thank Jacob who returns in the holidays and at the Parish weekend and Janice who occasionally provides cover. I particularly thank Julia for helping to coordinate and provide so many wonderful slides for our Sunday worship. I must not forget to thank Jerome who comes early every week to turn all the monitors on and helps at the end of the service.

I thank the sides people, readers, servers, welcomers, people who provide refreshments and all the people who do so many jobs around the church. I thank Susan for her work and dedication as Sacristan who keeps everything in good order for us to worship each week. Thank you to all of you who come and help clean and decorate the Church for Christmas and Easter. Please come along and help us to do a good job this Easter.

I thank Mark and the team who help with the Saturday night group and Pauline for the Chatty Craft group. These groups are a great asset to our Church and part of our vision to become more available and inclusive.

We have started an annual gift day and we were able to celebrate the generosity of our Church family. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the life and ministry of our Church with their financial gifts, time and talents.

I pray that we will continue to love God, our church and community and to keep faithful to our vision statement: "A Family rooted together in love. Living and growing in Jesus." Let us look forward to the future and continue to pray that new people will join our church family.

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
and power to our witness.
Help our Church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Revd Martine Crabtree - Vicar of Lupset and Thornes

Churchwardens' Report 2022

We, as Churchwardens, would like once again to thank Martine and Diane for their support over this year.

Basic church maintenance has been carried out where necessary, but with no major works being undertaken.

The five yearly Quinquennial report, regarding the church buildings, carried out in October 2021, identified various of items that require attention a number of which relate to external areas. It is hoped that these can be addressed over the coming summer months either by an in-house working team or engaging external contractors.

Mike Tattersall and Alan Shaw

PCC Secretary's review of 2022.

The full PCC met on nine occasions during the year, all meetings were in person and held in the Lady chapel. Eight of the meetings were quorate. The APCM took place on April 2022 when three people were elected to the PCC leaving vacancies for one and two years on the PCC.

As we have emerged from the pandemic we have continued to be aware of the need to maintain care about keeping each other safe as we know that the virus remains in our community but we are confident that our actions are sensible and considerate.

Under Revd. Martine's chair the PCC have fulfilled duties beyond their statutory ones and given formal consideration to many aspects of church life including the management of the Church and support of St George's church family.

The PCC is responsible, with the Churchwardens, for ensuring that all issues of Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Data Protection are well managed. St George's Church is up to date with legislation and the requirements of the Bishop of Leeds and Church of England in all these respects.

During the year the PCC have taken the following action on behalf of the whole church:

- In January we received notification that we have become a Joint Benefice with St James' Thornes and Martine became the 'Vicar of Lupset and Thornes'.
- Received reports from the church officers - Health and Safety, Environmental, Disability, Giving, Copyright and Safeguarding and acted on them as appropriate.
- Dealt with a range of diocesan requirements for safeguarding as outlined in the Safeguarding officer's report.
- Held a Platinum Jubilee celebration, for the Queen's 70th year as monarch, jointly with the Community Centre.
- With support from Pauline Shaw planned and enjoyed a Parish weekend at Cober Hill. When the speaker was ill with Covid we were very grateful to Martine for leading the studies and teaching sessions.
- Considered a request from the Community Centre to extend their building further and consequently researched the relative responsibilities of the Church and Diocese with respect to any agreements that are made.
- Held an 'Outreach Review meeting' on 15th October.
- Continued to support the work of Christians Against Poverty in the Parish and also maintained giving to local and international charities including our link parishes in the Tanzanian diocese of Mara.
- Learned about the possibility of a joint bid to the CofE Strategic Development Fund for youth workers. This would be with St Catherine's and St Helen's. The potential for this bid to be worked through would be with a starting date around September 2023.
- Supported Juliet Taylor as she trains to be a Licenced Lay Minister.
- Were successful in a bid for a digital card reader which we received from the parish but found that the Wi-Fi signal was inadequate for use where the Reader would be placed!
- With Mick Read, the Parish Giving officer, planned a Gift day for November but in the light of national crises, rapid inflation and concerns about personal finances decided to hold this over to April 2023.
- Continued the work on the Architect's Quinquennial report to maintain the premises in good order.
- Maintained the responsibilities of the PCC as a charity under the regulations of the Charity Commission in particular with respect to financial probity.
- Shared a Christmas celebration with the Community Centre which was attended by over 200 children and adults.
- In April were informed that we were unsuccessful in our bid to the FCC community grants for refurbishment of the crypt but will consider alternative plans.
- Completed the new church website (many thanks to Julia Percival) and launched it in September.
- Considered how St George's church might make effective use of some of its finances through potential investment opportunity.

This year has been one of re-opening and new thinking which has brought challenges for everyone but the PCC have continued to work hard and have met to continue to focus on fulfilling their formal role as Trustees of St George's Church. They have worked to maintain the church family in changing circumstances and are grateful to Mick Read for all his continued work as Health and Safety Officer. The PCC are particularly indebted to Revd. Martine as, with support from Revd Diane she has worked to keep the church family together and build it up as it emerges from the pandemic that has had an impact in so many different ways. They would express their great thanks and gratitude to her for all that she and her family have done during this last year to maintain and develop the work and worship of St George's Lupset.

Freda Jackson - PCC Secretary

Treasurer's Report 2022

The Church finished the year with a surplus of £9,270 against last year's surplus of £3,771 regarding unrestricted funds.

Planned Giving was, overall, in line with the previous year, and with some additional income. Expenditure, overall, was also in line with the previous year, apart from some ups and downs.

This will leave the Church with cash at the bank of £30,325, of which £19,606 are general funds, £10,719 foodbank funds, with funds on deposit with the CBF of £60,000. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind those members of the congregation who gift aid their giving, to check that they are still paying sufficient income tax to cover the amount reclaimed by the church from the HMRC, if not please let me know. The current recovery rate is 25p for every £1 of giving.

Mike Tattersall - Treasurer

Parish Giving Officer

St George's continues to be a generous church. As a PCC we give generously to charities including from our annual budget. The food bank is generously stocked and staffed by members of the congregation. Members of the congregation here at St George's continue to give of their time and energy to help in the smooth running of our church. However, while we do give generously financially to St Georges, we usually continue to "sail close to the wind" when it comes to balancing our budget at the end of the year. Times are difficult right now and our individual budgets are ever tighter but as a church it is important that we pay our way.

We plan to have a Parish Giving Day on Sunday 23rd April.

I would prayerfully ask that everyone look carefully their giving to St George's in the coming year. **Mick Read**

Parish Disability Officer

During the year I maintained my involvement with the Diocesan Disability team and undertook an accessibility audit of the Church Crypt. I also followed through the Diocesan work with Roof breakers an organisation that supports and advocates for disabled people of all ages. By signing up as a 'Roof breaker' St George's can receive resources and can be added to the map that shows we are serious about including people with all disabilities. **Catherine Whitlam**

Worship Group report of 2022

The Worship Group is a group of people in our church who have a heart for worshipping God through the gift of music. We meet prior to the Sunday morning service both to rehearse and to prepare ourselves and the congregation for worship. Our aim is to enable the congregation to engage with God through musical worship.

This year saw a relaxation of Covid-19 measures and we have gradually seen a return to normal services.

We have been pleased to be joined by a member of our Junior Church who sings with us regularly and we have appreciated the support of other members of the wider church family at the Christmas services.

We are always happy to be joined by Jacob Crabtree when he is home from university and we are grateful to both him and Janice Holt for covering for Ben when he was unavailable.

We continue to introduce new worship songs which fit with the themes of our services. We were pleased that this year we were able to hold the Holy Week Services, Memorial Service, Carol Service and Midnight Mass as normal.

We are also indebted to Joel and Stuart Crabtree, and Andrew and Alex Lynch, who have supported worship throughout 2022 with their technical skills.

Julia Percival on behalf of the Worship Group

Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod met 3 times during the year.

The speaker for the February meeting was Reverend Jude Smith, Director of Church Revitalisation and how various events could be used to encourage church growth.

The June meeting main topic was a talk by Theo Sheridan-Watts speaking about the work of The Wellsprings Together Project and the services they could provide training for different projects.

In the final meeting of the year Liz Morton talked about her role as Children, Young People and Families Team Leader for the Diocese and the help she could give to parishes in this area.

Mike Tattersall

St George's Lupset Limited

Mike Tattersall and Freda Jackson continue to serve on the Board of Trustees as representatives of St George's Church. Mike takes Trustee responsibility for Health and Safety and Freda supports Human Resources issues.

This year the Community Centre is developing initiatives related to the mental health and wellbeing of people between 16 and 25. The Youth team has expanded and there are employees who work with vulnerable people of all ages and particularly with the elderly. The Centre is designated as a Community Hub and is busy supporting people all week. The lunch club and small support groups are particularly popular with older people and the café has re-opened and is becoming increasingly popular. The allotment is busy in the warmer months and generally things are getting back to normal.

At Christmas there was a joint Christmas Fun day with Church and at least 200 hundred people attended enjoying activities in the church and a disco in the Crypt hall.

Freda Jackson

Christians Against Poverty

In my last report I said with great sadness that Sarah Cutts had stood down as the Centre Manager which was based at St Helen`s Church after 10 years of service.

I also reported that they were actively searching for a new manager. I am pleased to report that a new manager Nick Drayton is now in place. He is seeing clients some of whom live in our Parish

We will continue to support the Debt Centre financially to the tune of £1000 per year.

Mick Read will remain in post as Community Links Coordinator

Mick Read

St George's Junior Church

Our Junior Church has been able to learn and share together on the first and third Sundays of the month this year. Attendance has fluctuated but we have enjoyed meeting new friends and catching up with those we have known a while. We have been following the Roots material and enjoyed working on the Creation.

We were glad to share the Christmas story with our congregation. We enjoyed thinking about inclusion and sharing the Roof breaker story in All age worship recently.

We would like to thank those who have stepped in to help us out over the past year and ask for your prayers for the growth of Youth Church through the coming year.

Christine Lynch, Catherine Whitlam

Crafty Chat GROUP

Since reconvening after Covid we, like many other organisations have lost casualties due to various reasons; nothing serious thank goodness.

We have 8 regular members at the moment but we are always welcoming to others joining us.

We now hold our meetings on Thursday afternoon at 1pm - 2.30pm. Meeting in the community centre beforehand to enjoy lunch together, if we so wish; no one is forced to join us for this.

Up to now this year we have been particularly busy as we were graciously donated lots of wool from Sirdar to make blankets, gloves, hats and scarves for those in need; this has escalated to making blankets for the Snapethorpe Hall residents while two of our ladies continue to make Poppies for the Royal British Legion.

We charge £1 per week per person to help pay for any equipment or materials we may need and we often have a day out or a meal together with the proceeds we have collected. At the moment we are planning a fish and chip lunch.

Birthdays are celebrated with tea, cake cards and flowers etc. and Christmas is usually celebrated with secret Santa and a 'fuddle'

We are a close knit group (excuse the pun) and find that lots of support, understanding, sympathy and love are necessary sometimes as most of our ladies have recently lost loved ones or are awaiting medical procedures or have members of their family who are ill. As you can imagine some days we don't get much work done as we talk and share our thoughts and feelings. This is a brilliant platform to do so and we all understand that nothing that is said leaves St George's because we trust one another.

We speak openly about our faith and we occasionally pray; if the person in need wishes us to do so. I have found that speaking about our faith to others has often brought people to Jesus.

Pauline Shaw

Prison Report 2022

Julia and Alan have not been able to go into the prison since the pandemic began. Julia has emailed the Prison Chaplaincy a couple of times over the last year or so with no responses. We don't want this to lapse so we will keep on trying, But for now it is a case of waiting to hear from them. This is a shared ministry with Rev Phil Maries from St George's, Barnsley.

Julia and Alan

Fair Trade Report

Firstly a big Thank You to my regular customers for your orders! It has however, been a quiet year for Fair Trade orders throughout; but they did amount to around £100. And an even bigger 'BUT' - it was so wonderful to welcome Sandra and Colin back with their Fair Trade Christmas Sale again after 3 year's absence due to the Pandemic! I think it was the highlight of Fair Trading for St. George's and you spent around £300! Thank you for your support. We seem to have embraced the use of cafetiere ground coffee in Church and I thank the Ladies who make it on Sunday mornings for managing the cafetieres so well and coping with those of us who still like the 'instant' version! Thanks also to those who have stepped in at the last minute when supplies have been difficult to obtain - even through Traidcraft. Traidcraft have had some supply problems themselves over the past couple of years due to the Pandemic, the war in Ukraine, rising energy prices and transport costs. All these combined challenges have led them into a weakened financial situation, so we will have to watch this space and I will do my best to keep you informed of their situation.

As usual, I close with a heartfelt THANK YOU to St. George's Church for supporting Fair Trade. **Janice Tattersall**

The Mara Link

We continue to support our link villages of Mkirira and Kyamajoje financially and by sending greetings cards at Easter and Christmas. We know that we need to find out more about how everyone is doing especially as they too have suffered during the pandemic and changes in weather patterns are have an impact on their crops and availability of food. **Freda Jackson**

Prayer Team

I would like to begin this report by thanking members of the Prayer and Ministry Teams for their continued commitment to prayer and ministry at St George's.

During 2022 the Prayer Team has provided the opportunity for prayer ministry to people in church each Sunday. In addition, the Prayer Chain has provided a source of prayer support away from Sunday morning services, both have continued to be frequently used. In fact, the Prayer Chain has been contacted on many occasions and works well where a more immediate need for prayer arises.

During 2022 the Prayer team has sadly, shrunk in numbers, this has meant that the remaining members have been very flexible in order to ensure that we have two people available each Sunday, and have occasionally relied on support from Pastoral Carers. Unfortunately, this has meant that some of our "best practice" guidance has not always been followed. This is of concern but not a major issue. Martine, Diane and PCC are aware.

In November (Christ the King Sunday) members of the team were commissioned by PCC and Martine to continue in their ministry.

On a Monday evening we have continued to have an hour of prayer using our STG WhatsApp group as a way of joining together our prayers by adding them to the chat. This seems to have worked well. It does enable people who wouldn't be able to make a physical meeting to contribute their prayers. At some point in 2023 we may try to meet in church once a month.

As we look to 2023, we will continue to seek out ways to bring church together to pray.

Carolyn Broadbent - Prayer Team Leader

St George's Centre - Saturday Evening Club.

St. George's Saturday Evening Club meets between 7.00pm and 8.30pm each Saturday evening at church.

We are a friendly, inclusive group who like to have a cup of tea/ coffee and biscuits, chat, share jokes (sometimes very bad ones!!), play board games or do some crafty artwork/ activities. We have missed Mark helping whilst he has been unwell and give a special thank you to Catherine for stepping into help. Our numbers have grown slightly but we are always pleased to have new members and new helpers. If you are interested please come and speak to one of the team: Mark, Mike, Alan, Sue, Juliet, Freda or Catherine. Thank you to all who support this work both through action and prayer.

Juliet Taylor

Environmental Officer's Report

My report for 2022 is brief due to there still being some hangover from covid at the beginning of the year.

A Travel Survey based on data taken from the congregation's previous travel survey and reduction in the congregation would suggest our travel's impact on St George's carbon footprint would still be low.

The increase in Fuel costs and use of the church on a much more regular basis after the lockdowns by the community centre and other groups such as crafty chat, Tuesday lunch and Thursday morning services compared to the previous year means it is highly likely that St Georges overall carbon footprint for 2022 will have increased.

The environment continues to be of great concern so now things are returning to normality, we must ensure we continue to take steps to reduce any waste of energy, and use greener options where we can. **Mel Broadbent**

Foodbank.

The Foodbank at St George's has changed to become a 'Food Pantry' where for a nominal sum people come and select their own goods. Church members support this on the Tuesday and Mick Read has given tremendous support to the Community Centre by shopping and collecting the bread each week. Emergency food parcels are still given to fill in when people are in even more of a crisis situation. We have also been able to support by applying for funds from the Lupset Co-op members scheme and also from Sainsbury's Local who provide regular donations of food and money.

The foodbank lunch is a time each Tuesday when people are able to drop in for a warm drink and a sandwich and people do appreciate the opportunity to talk with friends or in confidence to discuss particular problems. The team from DWP (Job Centre) are also available and provide excellent support to people every week.

Over the year this has provided a real lifeline to many people locally who appreciate the friendship and care of the team. **Cynthia Abercrombie and Freda Jackson**

Bembridge House

This is a joint ministry between St George's and St James'.

This year, 2022, saw us return fully to our regular routine of services on the first Friday of each month.

The congregation is smaller than it was prior to the pandemic. Some residents have moved to alternative places of residence.

We maintained our usual format of a short service with prayers, bible reading, talk and hymns followed by a cup of tea and chat afterwards.

The residents who attend are always delighted to see us and value our offerings.

Julia Percival – on behalf of the team

Work in School

We were delighted to again be able to offer the opportunity for weekly collective worship for pupils from Snapethorpe School. This is a great opportunity to let the

children know that God loves and cares for each one of them and that the church is there for them and their families. We were delighted that the Early Years children joined us to celebrate Christmas and that the choir from Snapethorpe school joined us at Christingle.

It has also been good to engage with The Mount school with RE lessons in school and the church as well as their Harvest Festival service.

In September Diane began to visit the Cathedral Academy and now has monthly meetings with the school chaplain.

Additionally Martine and Diane hosted a church visit from Kingsland School.

Freda Jackson

Messy Church Report 2022

We are pleased to report that Messy Church has managed to keep going throughout the year even though we have had fewer volunteers to help out. But Thank You to everyone who has helped, and to those people who have stepped in to help at the last moment when things have become desperate!

We met in April, May and July and provided Bible based activities and 'teaching' for up to 16 children and their families. These covered the Church's Birthday when we shared a Pentecost Pass the Parcel and an event entitled FISH! We also organised the ever popular Light Party in October which saw the Church brimming with families and children enjoying Christian crafts and fun and hot choc and hot dogs!

The Community Centre joined up with us once again in December for a well-attended Christmas event with activities, photographs and a visit from Santa!

Our WhatsApp link is still available for families although it has been somewhat quieter this year as people are getting out and about again.

Sadly, we have lost Janet from the Team this year and we miss her input and artistic talent! She is still putting them to good use working with disadvantaged teenagers in Wakefield. She was a driving force behind keeping families connected on WhatsApp during Covid. Thank you so much Janet.

We also thank Nora and Sylvia for their help in the past as they step down for health reasons. Jan is still active in the Team but has relinquished some of the responsibilities she had.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and prayed for Messy Church in 2022, and also to St. George's for its spiritual and financial support. **Janice Tattersall.**

**Approved by PCC on 14th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by
Reverend Martine Crabtree (PCC Chair)**