



2022 Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of Hoghton, Holy Trinity

Aims and Purposes

Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Hannah Boyd, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of Holy Trinity, Hoghton and the church hall in the grounds of the church.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the 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 ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our 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 the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of Holy Trinity and the church hall.

CHURCH OFFICIALS

MINISTRY TEAM

Vicar: Rev'd Hannah Boyd

Curate: Rev'd Bryn Naylor

Readers Emeritus: Mrs Christine Keenan
Mr Howard Watson

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (2022)

Church wardens: Mrs Viv Clayton
Ms Elisabeth Sawle

Deanery Synod representatives:

Mr Bob Collins
 Mrs Veronica Roper
 Mrs Viv Clayton

PCC Members:

(end of 3-year term in brackets, currently have 2 vacancies)

Miss Victoria Swallow (2023)
 Mrs Janet Deakin (2023)
 Mr Paul Armitt (2023)
 Mr Matthew Watson (2023)

Mrs Judith Pearson (2024)
 Mrs Sue Leigh (2024)
 Mrs Sue Flitcroft (2024)

Mr Ian Murray (2025)

PCC Officials:

Chairperson	Rev'd Hannah Boyd
Lay Vice chairperson	
Secretary	Mrs Sue Flitcroft
Treasurer	Mrs Janet Deakin
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Bob Collins
Safeguarding Officers	Mrs Sue Leigh & Ms Elisabeth Sawle

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

At the time of the APCM (8th May 2022) the electoral roll is made up of 55 names

Church attendance October 2022

Average adult attendance 30
 Average child attendance 2

Worshipping Community Totals 2022

0-17	17
18-69	40
70+	31

Occasional offices 2022

Baptisms	13
Confirmations	0
Marriages	4
Funerals held in church	4
Funerals held at Crematorium	1

CLERGY REPORT

Looking back over the last year, 2022, feels like a great celebration of what life looks like in our 'new normal.' There were no interruptions to our worshipping life and our activities, and we were able to just get on with our calling as a church to worship God and be a witness in our community. We are so blessed to be involved in a busy parish and plurality where there is much life and energy. A particular highlight of this past year was our Dog Show which saw hundreds of people come to take part and was followed by a successful pet service on the Sunday where we welcomed visitors to church. We also finished the year on a real high with our Narnia experience, held at All Saints which saw the building transformed into a Winter wonderland, thanks to the amazing creativity of many people. We had an amazing team of over 25 volunteers from across the plurality get involved in some way and this enabled us to welcome 150 visitors from the public, alongside 233 children from various schools and groups as well as all the staff!

We spent much of the year fundraising for our heating project, and we are so grateful for all those who caught the vision and got behind this project which meant we were able to commence work in November.

Making Disciples

We have continued our pattern of worshipping in 4 different congregations across the plurality; at 9.15am on Sundays at All Saints, at 11.15am at Holy Trinity. Our family orientated worship service '4forAll' is held every Sunday at 4pm open to everyone and on Wednesdays we have a midweek 10am service held at All Saints. Each of these congregations is established and growing and allowing people to meet for worship at times and in ways that suit them and can be managed by our current resources. We have also reintroduced our monthly informal worship on a Sunday evening for those who would like to experience more Holy Spirit focused worship.

One of the real highlights and joys for us in the past year was our introduction of bi-monthly Celebration Sundays, worshipping with people from across all our congregations together, the joy and excitement of these services has been a blessing to all.

2022 also saw the reintroduction of Parade Services and these have been a great success, welcoming our uniformed organisations to church for informal worship and we have also been delighted to welcome many parents and family members coming to us for these services too.

At Easter we were able to worship together in a variety of ways and styles. We were able to hold our Memorial Service in November and were delighted to welcome over 70 people into church for that service. We also held Remembrance Day services which were well attended. Moving to the hall for worship at the end of the year while the heating project happened turned out to be a huge blessing, and many people enjoyed worshipping in a warm space and the closeness and extra fellowship this brought us. At Christmas we held a whole range of services in both locations and welcomed lots of people to come and celebrate the good news of Christmas.

We have had three house groups running this year. It has been so encouraging to see so many people growing as disciples. Our teaching series in our sermons have covered different books of the bible as well as some themed series focusing on our Mission Action Plan, each of us identifying and using our gifts and learning to minister for Jesus effectively on our personal frontlines. We also used lectionary readings at different points in the year.

Being Witnesses

We have continued to respond to our call to be witnesses in varied and creative ways throughout 2022. In the first part of the year we had a teaching series entitled Fruitfulness on the Frontline, helping us to think through how we might share the gospel with those we come into contact with in our daily lives. Some of our house groups also did an accompanying course together.

We held a number of successful events during the year which have helped us reach out to the community and those on the fringes of our church family, including the community Easter Egg hunt in April, the celebration of the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, the dog show in September, the light party in November, and the Narnia event in December. These events have also seen families from our other ministries in church, such as Trinity Tots, coming along to church events for

the first time. And this has all been possible thanks to the willingness and hard work of volunteers from across the plurality.

Occasional offices continued to be a big part of how we share the love of Jesus with those in our communities, as we journey with families during times of both great joy and sadness. Across the plurality we had 13 funerals, 22 baptisms and 5 weddings during 2022.

In autumn we ran another Alpha course, this time in person, helping people to explore the big questions of life and faith together. We had around 12 people attend the course and this has led to the formation of another house group, allowing people to continue their journey of faith in a safe and welcoming space.

In the run up to Christmas we were again able to give blessing boxes to many across our plurality. We continued to support our local foodbanks, as well as responding to the needs of Ukrainian people by supporting the work of International Aid. We also continued to tithe some of our income to different causes – local, national, and global – as a way of sharing what God has blessed our churches with.

Growing Leaders

We continued to be blessed in 2022 with the generosity of so many across our plurality who volunteer their time and skills to serve our church and community. We are extremely grateful to those who have participated in the leadership of our churches on our PCCs and the buildings, finance, and fundraising sub-committees. We also continued to be blessed with the work of Sue Flitcroft as our Parish Administrator, and it was a joy to see Sue licensed as an Authorised Lay Minister (ALM) in October. Tash Green successfully continues her Licensed Lay Ministry course with the Diocese and we have greatly benefitted from her ministry among us.

Others across our plurality also led in additional ways throughout 2022, including but not limited to those who helped to lead and contribute to our worship services, those who run house groups, those who volunteered to lead during our Holiday Club, and those who helped to lead at Kingdom Kids and Youth Group. We are hugely grateful for the ways in which people step forward and serve in all of these ways, and we are excited to see how God will continue to grow us as a church of people who are eager to serve him with the gifts he has blessed us with.

Inspiring Children & Young People

This year it was wonderful to be able to develop some regular work with children and young people and see a whole range of people from across the plurality getting involved in that. We held a hugely successful Holiday Club in the summer inside Higher Walton Primary School and welcomed 55 different children as well as a team of volunteers from both churches. On the back of that we have introduced Kingdom Kids which is a monthly meeting for primary school aged children with food, fun and learning. This has reached out to some families who were previously not attending other church events. Our Youth Group continues to meet monthly with a small group of girls attending regularly. We were also able to continue offering regular weekly worship at Higher Walton school, this is such a huge blessing to be able to regularly invest in the lives of these children. We have also had many of the classes visit All Saints Church for lessons and prayer stations. We were also able to welcome the school into church for the Year 6 leavers service and their Christingle/Carol Service.

2022 has been a year of great blessings for us and although no blessing goes uncontested, we thank God for his faithfulness to us in everything. We are deeply grateful for all of those who in whatever way large or small contribute to the running and flourishing of our plurality, our public worship, our many events and activities and our life of faith together. We look forward with expectation to what our Lord has in store for us in the coming years.

Rev Hannah Boyd & Rev Bryn Naylor

SAFEGUARDING

All PCC members and Churchwardens are required to complete online Safeguarding training. The Basic training has been completed by all required parties, with the Foundations Course and Domestic Abuse Course being completed over the next month. As Safeguarding officers myself (Sue Leigh) and Elisabeth Sawle have completed the Leadership Safeguarding training course delivered by Blackburn Diocese.

DBS checks are up-to-date for all relevant persons, PCC members, Trinity Tots helpers, Kingdom Kids and Youth Club helpers.

The Diocese have set up an online portal/safeguarding dashboard for churches to use to keep all records up to date.

Safeguarding is discussed at every PCC meeting and regular meetings held with the safeguarding team.

Safeguarding contact details can be found on the notice board at the back of church and on Holy Trinity Church website.

Sue Leigh & Elisabeth Sawle
Safeguarding Officers

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Six full PCC meetings were held in 2022. All meetings were held in person. There was an average 66% attendance by members at each meeting.

The meetings were held in conjunction with the PCC of All Saints, Higher Walton. Each meeting began with a joint session when the Vicar's Update and Safeguarding reports were presented. There were joint discussions covering safeguarding policies, the contents of the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook and the Church of England Safer Working Practice document, the plurality Mission Action Plan and the Warm Welcome initiative. At the November meeting there was a joint review of all the good things that had happened across the plurality during the year and what would have made the year even better. Following the joint sessions, the PCCs held separate meetings to follow the agenda specific to each PCC.

Two extraordinary PCC meetings were held. One in April to approve both the APCM Report and two applications for inclusion on the Electoral Roll and one in October for an update on the heating project.

Sue Flitcroft
PCC Secretary & Parish Administrator

HOUSEGROUP REPORT

During 2022 we had three house groups meeting across the plurality:

The 3Bs (Bible, Brew and Biscuit) group continues to meet regularly on a Tuesday evening. We tend to follow the sermon series, using these as a starting point for our discussions, and so we have also looked at Discipleship Explored, being Fruitful on our Frontlines, a series called Be Still and the book of Ruth. We also organised the Prayer Stations in both churches during the period between Pentecost and the Ascension.

On a Wednesday evening a group met at the Hoghton Vicarage and looked at the Be Still course, The Bible Overview and Discipleship Explored.

On a Wednesday evening a group met at the All Saints Vicarage and looked at Fruitfulness on the frontline, Be Still, The Bible Course, and an in-depth study of the book of Romans.

We also had a small group meeting on a Wednesday morning for parts of the year.

We would all highly recommend that you join a house group as it provides a wonderful opportunity to grow as a Christian and to share fellowship, support and prayer.

Elisabeth Sawle, Bryn Naylor & Hannah Boyd

FINANCE REPORT

I should like to start by thanking you all for your financial support in 2022, through regular giving, donations and fund-raising events. By the end of 2022 thirty people had signed up to the Parish Giving Scheme. This means that not only do we receive the majority of our income in one regular monthly payment, but that the Gift Aid tax relief follows automatically within days. It enabled us to pay our Parish Share in full but did not cover the costs of running the church. We have had to rely on other sources of funding, for example hire of the church hall has increased dramatically this year.

The focus of all donations and fund-raising in 2022 was the heating project, payment for which straddled 2022-2023. Earlier in the year, however, money was spent on the roof, the path to the church hall and our screen and projector. With this in mind, £20,000 was withdrawn from our investments. Our aim for covering the cost of replacing the heating, over £90,000, was to raise half through appeals and fund-raising. We came very close to achieving this ambitious target; thank you. The rest is being taken from our investments, which have fortunately grown quite considerably. We owe a big debt of gratitude to those who left money for the ongoing stewardship of the church.

2022 was a challenging year financially, but we have come through. God continues to provide. I should like to thank all who have contributed financially, but also everyone involved in fund-raising. Thanks are due too to Owen Leigh for being the official examiner of the 2022 accounts, and the Finance Committee for their ongoing input and support.

Janet Deakin
Treasurer

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Synod met three times in 2022. The first meeting in March was held at Leyland St Andrew and the guest speaker was Lisa Moncur, Diocesan Registrar. She is also Registrar at Chester Diocese and was appointed to Blackburn in June 2021. Lisa explained what her duties were and mentioned a typical week could involve tree damage, PCC falling out, consecration of land and clergy discipline. The meeting also elected the Deanery Standing Committee; no-one stood for Lay Chair and there was only one candidate for the three clergy posts.

The June meeting was held at Higher Walton All Saints. The guest speaker was Carolyn Barton, Director of Vision Delivery. The theme of her talk was Mission and Financial Flourishing; she reminded us of the aims of Vision 2026 including maintaining stipendiary clergy numbers and the parish being the core unit. She explained how MFF would work, and that the Diocese would seek grants from the Church Commissioners to enable growth. There was one volunteer to fill the vacant

clergy posts with another name mentioned to contact. As the Lay Chair post had not been filled, Bob agreed in consultation with the Area Dean to take on the role while looking for a replacement.

The October meeting was held at New Longton All Saints with Revd Steve Haskett as our guest. Steve is the lead for Parish Renewal, and he spoke about changes within the Diocese with churches closing or merging, decline in clergy numbers with a third of them coming up to retirement. He asked how we could maximise potential for growth; he listed various options that parishes could use to increase their own congregations; Prayer is the beginning and end of any renewal for church growth. We have to trust in God.

Your deanery reps are Bob Collins, Veronica Roper and Viv Clayton.

*Bob Collins
Deanery Rep*

FABRIC REPORT

Various meetings took place over the year regarding replacement of the heating system. The original planned replacement was deemed unsuitable so a new plan using air source heat pumps was drawn up and sent out to tender. This was more expensive than the first plan, so a different contractor was selected. The faculty was applied for and granted but a delay occurred due to mis-information regarding planning permission; this was resolved and a start date was agreed for November. To assist the contractors, the church was closed for worship and services moved to the hall. It is anticipated that work will be completed in February.

During heavy rain, we are still having an issue with water filling the cellar; this was found to be caused by blockage in the pipe leading away from the church. It has not been possible to identify the location of any restriction due to the depth of the pipe and its run under graves. The solution is to block off the outfall from the cellar and install a sump pump to lower the water level if it rises; this work will be carried out as part of the heating project. The depth of the pit where the pipe is located is sufficient to store water during heavy rainfall allowing it to drain away when the weather improves.

The water ingress problems relating to the roof have been resolved and the scaffolding removed. Several loose slates have also been sorted out.

The path to the hall was deemed unsafe with uneven flagstones; these have all been re-laid.

The Quinquennial has been carried out and the report passed to the Buildings Team; they will allocate any works required based on the surveyor's recommendations.

The church buildings continue to be kept in good order and repair; thanks go to those responsible for the upkeep.

Bob Collins & Viv Clayton

FUNDRAISING REPORT

The Fundraising team have worked hard during the year to raise much needed money for the heating project. Once again we held a successful Afternoon Tea, Viv and Judith organised a Grand Day Out when people walked all or some of the Three Yorkshire Peaks, Veronica once more opened her garden to us, and Paul and Maggie Armitt kindly hosted a Croquet Afternoon. I would like to express my thanks to Lizzie and Stephen Walker for letting us use their farm for the Dog Show in September. It was very successful and will be bigger and even better this year! In October we joined with All Saints for a delightful Ceilidh and hot pot supper. At Christmas we held a raffle with some amazing prizes.

I would like to express my thanks to all those who work so hard and tirelessly to ensure these events happen. We have many activities planned for this year, so do please support us in all our ventures.

Elisabeth Sawle
Churchwarden

BELLRINGERS REPORT

Our band is currently 9 strong, the ringers being Ray Clayton, Viv Clayton, Donna Jones, Judith Pearson, Ian Murray, Alison Harrigan-Doyle, John Reeves, Jan Reeves and Marcus Rumney.

We have rung most Sundays throughout the year, plus additional ringing for the Queen's Platinum jubilee. When the joint celebration services have been held at All Saints our band has transferred to Higher Walton to ring their lovely sounding bells instead.

Although each year we ring with the bells half muffled for Remembrance Sunday and during Holy Week, the only occasion when they are required to be fully muffled is after the death of the monarch, so this last year is the first time any of our band have rung with fully muffled bells when we rang following the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

On a more joyful note we rang for a few weddings through the year and our bells were used for an invaluable training session for improving ringers from throughout the country.

At our Wednesday evening practices we have been joined by the learning band of ringers from Samlesbury whilst their bells were out of bounds due to structural work taking place on the tower. Just after Christmas we were joined by some of our ringing friends from Brindle and Samlesbury for a lovely meal out at Barolo.

Viv Clayton
Churchwarden

MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

We have had an interesting year starting with Rev Hannah giving us Holy Communion, continuing with excellent speakers including Rev Bryn talking about life before his ministry.

We celebrated 40 years since the Branch started by planting a Rowan Tree attended by Rev Hannah and Rev Bryn together with past members including John Knowles, Harold Eastham and Ian Murray. We have raised money for various projects including the Caravan Fund, Mothering Sunday, Summer of Hope & Literacy & Development Programme and bibles for the baptism families.

In November we had a very successful Floral Demonstration by Laura from 'Call Me Flower' which raised £471 for Bishop Philip's Mothers' Union Harvest Appeal for the Literacy & Educational Programme in Burundi & so far the appeal has raised £160,000 – which will go a long way with the programme.

Craft Projects have included Crosses in your Pocket for the Church Baptism families, Royal Preston Hospital and Chorley District Hospital, Hearts for RPH & CDH, Angels at Christmas for Arrowsmith Lodge where a lady aged 108yrs burst into tears when she received her angel.

I am afraid that with a heavy heart I have to report that Holy Trinity & All Saints Mothers' Union Branch has closed due to the lack of members due to many reasons, therefore, we are not big enough for the branch to be viable. However, some members have joined as Leyland MU Deanery members so that we continue to take part in all MU activities including Deanery and Diocesan events. We are continuing the monthly meetings i.e. 3rd Tuesday of each month and lunches the first Tuesday of each month. Our new title is HOLY TRINITY & ALL SAINTS FRIENDSHIP GROUP. We are all very sorry for this decision. It has been a very active branch and members have worked very hard over the years. We have organised Flower & Jigsaw Festivals, knitted poppies for displays over the Remembrance weekend, supported Make a Mothers' Day project, Mothering Sunday,

supported the MU Caravan Fund by selling Easter chicks & hedgehogs, helped with church events and Blessing Boxes. These are only a few of the activities we have taken part in.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting the Mothers' Union branch over the years and thank you to the committee and members for all their hard work.

Veronica Roper
Branch Leader

STAMP TRIMMING

We continue to be a small group from the community united in a desire to help *Stamp out Leprosy*. Unfortunately, The Leprosy Mission is not trading with stamps anymore, but we are now supporting Age Concern in Lancashire. Keep saving your stamps please and do join us on the 4th Wednesday of most months, all you need to bring is a pair of scissors and a desire to chat.

Elisabeth Sawle
Churchwarden

TRINITY TOTS

Trinity Tots, our Friday morning toddler group held at Holy Trinity Church Hall, continued to grow and flourish during 2022. Not only did we have a regular attendance of around 15 families, but we also welcomed new families at various occasions throughout the year. We continued not to ask for any entry money, but families continued to be generous with their donations each week. This meant that we had the money to be able to hand out Easter eggs and booklets about the Easter story in April, hire out a soft play in September to celebrate the group's first birthday, hold a Christmas wreath-making social for parents, as well as giving out Christian advent calendars to all our families. The Trinity Tots children also made the Easter garden for Holy Trinity in April, and we saw Trinity Tots families attend other church events for the first time in 2022, including our Light Party in November and our Nativity Service in December.

We heard that some attendees have changed their working patterns so that they are able to attend the group, which is real testament to the hard work of all our volunteers. They give of their time and skills each week to make the group the success that it is, providing a warm welcome to all families who attend, and we are very thankful to each of them.

Rev Bryn Naylor