



St Andrew's Dacre

2023 Annual Report for the 2024 Annual Meeting







Introduction

St Andrew's Dacre serves the villages of Dacre, Great Blencow, Newbiggin and Stainton.

This Annual Report reflects the activities of the church and the PCC over the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

As of October 2nd 2022 St Andrew's Church, following the due process of pastoral reorganisation, is now legally part of the Dacre Benefice along with Matterdale Church and All Saints Watermillock.

Staff

Priest in Charge	Revd Cathy Helm - appointed 28th September '21
Assistant Curate	Revd Gordon Dugmore - ordained 4th September '21
Lay Reader	Mrs Kay Halllicensed 18th November '23

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Membership 1 Jan. to 31 Dec.

Priest in chargeAssistant Curate	
Lay Rector	Mr Robert Hasell McCosh
Deanery Synod Reps	
Church Wardens	
Deputy Wardens	Mrs Brenda Walton
Elected Members	Mrs K Hall
	Lady E Leeming
	Mrs J Peall
	Mrs J Titterington
Parish Safeguarding Officer Treasurer Secretary	Dr R Hall





Standing Committee

Chairperson	Revd Cathy Helm
Secretary	Mr Jeremy Mead
Treasurer	Dr Richard Hall
Wardens	Mrs Jane Hasell-McCosh
	Mr Robert Hasell McCosh

Meetings

The PCC met 4 times in 2023 either at St. Andrew's or Newbiggin Village Hall.

All policies have been kept up to date. These are Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Data protection, Electoral Roll Privacy Notice and the Domestic Abuse Policy.

An 'Eco sub-committee' has been formed to ensure the PCC is working towards becoming carbon neutral and looking at Eco awards.

The Vestry (Parishioners) Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held on the 14th May 2023.

Church Attendance

There were 64 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll. In October 2023 the usual Sunday Attendance for 2023, excluding the additional services at Christmas and Easter Sunday, is 30.

Church Services and Ministry

The usual pattern of services over a month has been flexible to accommodate Baptisms. Services are usually 1st Sunday Morning worship 2nd Sunday Holy Communion Common Worship 3rdSunday Holy Communion BCP 4th Sunday Morning Worship

All of the PCC's within the benefice agreed that the fifth Sunday of the month should become a joint Benefice service and each church to take a turn at hosting the service. The PCC also agreed that when the Benefice service is held at All Saints or at Matterdale, there would be a service at Evensong at Dacre. These services have been well attended and enjoyed by church members from all three churches.

This year the joint services included a Songs of Praise, a service at All Saints focussing upon the Diocesan aims of Follow Daily and Tread gently was a Pet service on a very wet Sunday in July. The dogs and their owners enjoyed the service which had to be held inside.

Café church resumed for a Pancake party in February, which had a limited number came to. Despite considerable efforts to reengage with the families who had previously attended,





attendance was very low so it was decided to focus efforts on the Youth group which was very successful and to consider alternative ways to connect with families.

Messy Church continues to be very successful meeting once a month. Many new families have started to come to Stainton Village hall and several families have asked for their children to be baptised. The format of messy craft activities, worship, Bible stories and then a meal is popular with the children and parents alike.

We were able to invite families to the Christingle service and several of the children took part in the service. It was a wonderful celebration having all the families in church together. Just before Christmas we held a 'Christmas Book at Bedtime' to which all the children who had been baptised in the last year or lived locally were invited. It was well attended as the children enjoyed a cosy story under the Christmas tree and refreshments afterwards.

Throughout the year Gordon has led a monthly mid-week service in Newbiggin Village Hall on the first Thursday of the month. It was decided early in the year not to continue with the monthly service in Stainton Village Hall due to a very low attendance, and the folk who had attended in Stainton were happy to join the services in Newbiggin. The services, consisting of music, readings, prayer and reflection, have been well received and supported by local residents who for a variety of reasons are unable to regularly attend services in church. The average number attending is eighteen. The service for peace and justice is followed by a soup lunch. Our thanks go to all who have contributed and assisted with the catering. Also, thanks go to the Committee of Newbiggin Village Hall who provide us with the wonderful facilities free of charge.

There was a joint Lent course with Stainton Methodist church led by Cathy and Tim Cooke based on the York Corse 'The Third Day' This was attended by members of St Andrew's and Stainton Methodist. The ecumenical Good Friday walk of witness was able to go ahead this year and was enjoyed by a good number from Stainton Methodist and St Andrew's who walked from Stainton to Dalemain and on to church. Thanks again to Dalemain for providing refreshments for the walkers.

Special services were held to mark the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May which was a time of great celebration across the parish with community parties held in Newbiggin, Stainton and Dacre. The bells were rung in church prior to the Coronation in Westminster Abbey along with other churches across the nation.

The Marmalade Festival held its celebration in church and thanks to all who decorated the church and provided marmalade cakes. This year we were able to hold the Harvest supper and harvest festival service which were well attended. A great number of items were donated which, following the service were taken to the Salvation Army food bank in Penrith.

During 2023 we ran two Alpha Courses. The first was jointly run with Greystoke church in the Spring and thanks to Rev Martin Walker and his team for their support. Following its success we ran the course again on the autumn term, both courses were well attended. All those who came enjoyed the opportunity to eat well, to engage with the course and to have the opportunity to explore questions of faith in a safe and meaningful way.

In November we were delighted to attend Kay Hall's licensing as Lay Reader at Carlisle Cathedral after three years of study and placements. It was a joyful and special service. Also in November we joined with all three churches at take part in the Big Quiz to raise awareness, as





well as funds for Tearfund and their work in areas of poverty across the world.

On a dry evening in December we gathered, for our 'Carols on the Green' in Stainton. Led as usual by the Penrith Town Band we amassed about 140 people from the churches and community to sing well known carols.

Youth Group

The Stainton Youth Group has been running for a number of years now, and the number of young people attending is staying between ten and fifteen . Many of these young people are now in their mid-teens and they enjoy meeting with each other once a month at the Stainton Methodist Chapel. They attend a number of different schools, and coming to know and appreciate each other has led to them becoming a good team that care for each other

In early December the team held their second tea party for the elders of Stainton, providing home-made cakes, sandwiches, tea and coffee and various other well-received foods and drinks. They did everything themselves, and spent quite a bit of time talking to those they were serving and this was very much appreciated by all those attending.

Later, on 17th December, a number of the team helped with the Christingle Service, performing a drama, and again this was most appreciated. More recently we had a session concentrating on Easter and the Crucifixion, with the young people making crosses to take home with them.

The group is led by Tracey Cooke, David Martin and I help out. We are very conscious of the fact that we have not had any younger children joining in with our work for some time, and we shall be thinking of how we can deal with this very shortly, seeing if we can encourage some those children leaving Junior school at the end of this term. We shall discuss this with the current Youth group members to see what they feel about it first. We are not always indoors. Yesterday, the Youth Group members went out to enjoy Football, yoga and tree climbing in God's beautiful landscape!

Kay Hall

Funerals, Weddings and Christenings

The following table shows funerals, weddings and christenings for 2023, together with recent years for comparison:

Year	Funerals/ Thanksgiving	Weddings	Christenings
2023	7	2	2
2022	6	2	9
2021	3	1	3
2020	1 (graveside)	1	2
2019	2	2	2
2018	4	3	4
2017	4	7	2





Thanks, are also recorded to Mrs. K. Hall who continues to send baptismal and wedding cards to the families who have had baptisms & weddings at the church.

Safeguarding

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is David Harrison. Our thanks go to both David for agreeing to undertake this role across the Benefice.

The Parochial Church Council believes it has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (Duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

A full report on Safeguarding will be considered as part of the agenda for the Annual meeting. As PSO David writes: 'I am able to advise that there have been no reports, nor am I aware, of any Safeguarding issues during the year.

I can also report that during the year DBS checks have been completed. Also that Safeguarding Training is completed up to the Basic Grade, as defined by the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.' *Mr D. Harrison.*

Financial

The Friends of St Andrew's was launched in 2023 aimed at those who are happy to support the upkeep of the building and graveyard. Financially. There has been limited success with encouraging local interest in becoming 'Friends'.





St. Andrew's Church, Dacre

Annual Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Incumbent: Rev. C. M. Helm

Bank:

Barclays Bank Penrith

Independent Examiner:

Mr. M Nixon





St. Andrew's Church, Dacre

Treasurer's Report for the Year ended 31 December 2023

Receipts decreased £2,417 to £33,419 and payments decreased by £235 to £39,056 so the deficit increased from £3,490 to £5,637, similar to 2021. These figures exclude the organ restoration. Total assets at year-end were £98,890, £2,398 less than 2022, after £2,704 was taken from the reserves to pay towards the organ restoration.

Planned giving fell £4,251 (due mainly to donations being redirected to the organ restoration) and fees by £1,498. This was offset by an energy grant of £1,549. Special collections went up £531 (the appeal for Turkey and Syria raised £210, Libya £372, Christingle £193 and weddings and baptisms £322). Donations increased by £181 and investment income £1108. The harvest supper raised £910 and sausage supper £698, similar to 2022. Dacre parish council gave £500 towards maintaining the churchyard, £100 less than previous years.

The cost of oil fell by £1,587 and running expenses by £1,264 mostly because electrical work for the certificate cost £1,170 in 2022. The offer increased £523, benefice expenses by £459 and the quinquennial cost £900.

The equity investments increased in value by £3,299 over the year and £1,334 was reinvested in the deposit accounts, £729 more than last year. A total of £13,430 was raised for the organ fund - £5,550 in donations with £1,250 in gift aid, £5,130 from the CWMET grant and £1,500 from Allchurches Trust. The work cost £15,684 and the scaffolding hire £450 (after VAT reclaimed) totalling £16,134.

After almost 2 years the electricity company have provided accurate invoices which have been paid. Initially this was because the smart meter has no signal to transmit readings but this was compounded by the company not using the manual readings submitted and other issues. OFGEM regulations meant that we have not had to pay for electricity used over 12 months before the first invoice so £1,066 was refunded.

R W Hall Hon. Treasurer 05/05/2024





St Andrew's Church, Dacre

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC for the Year ended 31 December 2023.

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 3 to 7.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have 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.

M Nixon

Independent Examiner

Date 5/5/24





St Andrew's Church, Dacre Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		Γ	2023	2023	2022	2022
		Notes	£	£	£	£
INVESTMENTS						
Equity Investments:	General Fund	12	22,031		20,355	
	Fabric Fund	L	25,925		22,302	
				47,956		42,657
CBF Investments:	General Fund		40,890		45,564	
	Fabric Fund		857		2,966	
				41,747		48,530
CDBF Investments:	Hasell bequests		1,082		1,082	
	Hearse House		3, 678		3,678	
	Divestment	-	188		179	
				4,948	_	4,939
INVESTMENTS			-	94,651	_	96,126
CURRENT ASSETS	i		•		74	
Debtors			90		519	
Cash in Hand			470			
Current A/c		-	5,586	6 146	5,233	5,826
	*********			6,146		3,620
CURRENT LIABIL	ITIES			(1,907)		(664)
Creditors				(1,507)		(004)
NET CURRENT AS	CETC	i	_	4,239	_	5,162
NEI CURRENI AS	3E13		_	4,205	-	
TOTAL NET ASSE	27	ĺ	_	98,890	-	101,288
TOTAL NET 1852			_		=	
REPRESENTED BY	√ •					
REFRESENTED D	L •			!		
Unrestricted:	Receipts & Payments A/c		52,780	1	56,030	i
Cincincton.	General Funds (inc £8708.69		22,031		20,355	
	unrealised gain)		············	74,811		76,385
	3 <i>3. 3</i>					
Restricted:	Fabric Funds (inc. £10,248.06	13	26,783		25,268	
	unrealised gain)					
	Organ Fund	14	(2,704)		(365)	
				24,079	_	24,903
TOTAL FUNDS			_	98,89 0	<u> </u>	101,288
						- 0

Ras. C. M. Hole

Rev C. M. Helm

Incumbent

Date 5/5/2024

MorkAnlyon

M. Nixon

Independent Examiner

R. W. Hall

Hon. Treasurer





St Andrew's Church, Dacre Receipts and Payments Account for Year Ended 31 December 2023

INCOME	Notes	General Funds	Resticted	Total	Total
INCOME		runus	Funds	2023	2022
INCOME				£	£
	Ì				
Planned Giving	1	10653		10653	14,904
Collections	2	4059		4059	3,168
Gift Aid tax refund	3	4313		4313	4,652
Donations	4	2741	2240	4981	2,553
Social & Fundraising Events	1	2104		2104	2,205
Investments	5	2025	38	2063	955
Church Fees	6	4917		4917	6,415
Sundries	7	2607		2607	1,023
Organ Fund	14		8190	8190	2,150
Total Income		33419	10468	43887	38,025
	[
EXPENDITURE	ľ				
Parish Offering		21464		21464	20,941
Mission & Charities	8	2253		2253	2,152
From In Memorium Payments		1108		1108	835
Church Running Expenses	9	6965		6965	8,229
Benefice Expenses		1780		1780	1,321
Visiting Clergy		372		372	345
Utilities	10	2140		2140	3,682
Fees to Diocese		1319	1	1319	1,306
Social & Fundraising Events		666		666	454
Miscellaneous	11	989		989	60
Organ Restoration	14		10529	10529	6,265
Total Expenditure		39056	10529	49585	45,590
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)		(5637)	(61)	(5698)	(7565)
Unrealised Gain on Investments		1676	1624	3300	(3528)
Transfer to Fabric Fund		2388	(2388)	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	ŀ	(1573)	(826)	(2398)	(11093)
TOTAL FUNDS b/f		76385	24903	101288	112381
TOTAL FUNDS c/f		74812	24077	98890	101288





St Andrew's Church, Dacre

Notes to the Accounts for Year Ended 31 December 2023

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
1 Direct & Annual	10238		14454	
Envelopes, regular Gift Aid	0		50	
Envelopes, regular non-Gift Aid	415		400	
		10653		14904
2 Collections - General	785		543	
For - DEC Turkey & Syria	210		0	
Christian Aid Libya	372		0	
Royal British Legion	0		105	
Children's Society	155		138	
In Memorium Collections	2215		2282	
Wedding and Christening Collections	322		100	
		4059		3168
3 Gift Aid Refund	3455		3762	
Gift Aid Refund GASDS	858		890	
		4313		4652
4 Gift Aid Envelpoes, one-off	441		366	
Donations with Gift Aid	965		940	
Donations without Gift Aid	435		130	
Church Box	448		705	
Contactless Giving	452		411	
		2741	•	2552
5 CBF Deposits General Fund	1334		606	
Hasell & Hearse House Bequests	246		32	
Unit Trusts	444		279	
		2024		917
6 Doicesan Fees	1540		1627	
Church Fees	1875		2267	
Additional Church Fees	267		560	
Churchyard Fees	995		1481	
Organist	240		480	
		4917		6415
7 Parish Council Grant	500		600	
VAT Recovered	490		312	
Post Cards and Guide Books	68		111	
Energy Grant	1549		0	1000
		2607	100	1023
8 Donations to The Bible Society	100		100	
Friends of Carlisle Cathedral	110		110	
NISCU	100		100	
SSAFA	100		100	
St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy	100		100	
Tearfund.	100		100	
Christian Aid Middle East Appeal	100		0	





Special Collections - Royal British Legion	0		105	
Children's Society	139		142	
Salvation Army	0		40	
DEC Turkey & Syria Appeal	210		0	
Christian Aid Libya	372		0	
Stainton Youth Group	0		159	
Stainton School: Bus and Bibles	230		87	
Costs of Mission	292		667	
Messy Church	300		342	
now, character		2253		2152
	£	£	£	£
9 Insurance	2670		2456	
Sanctuary Requisites	79		91	
Church Yard Maintenance	1397		1017	
Other Maintenance	1368		2685	
Other Expenses	77		115	
Fees to Verger	145		280	
Organists	1187		1503	
Organ Maintenance - Separate Fund	0		0	
Stationary	42		41	
Books	0		41	
		6965		8229
10 Electricity until April 22	0		245	
Debt for Electicity	1009		664	
Oil	694		2281	
Water/Sewerage	77		132	
Broadband	360		360	
		2140		3682
11 Quinquennial Inspection	900		. 0	
Kitchen	49		0	
Gift	0		60	
Lights and Books	30		0	
Wildflower Seeds	15		0	
Less duplicate payment for books	(5)		0	
		989		60

12 The equity investments were bought in 2001 for £25,000 and split 50:50 between the general and fabric funds. Further deposits of £2,000 were made in March 2022 and 2023 to the fabric fund which altered the ratio of assets held from 50: 50 to 45.9398:54.0602. In September 2023 the investments were moved from income units with Evelyn Partners to accumulation units with the CCLA C of E Investment Fund.

	Balance	Interest	Receipts	Payments	Balance	Unrealised
	01-Jan-23				31-Dec-23	Gain(Loss)
General fund	20355	222	0	222	22031	1516
Fabric fund	22302	222	2000	222	25925	1784
Total	42657	443	2000	443	47956	3300





	Restricted Funds					
13	Fabric Fund	Balance 1 Jan 2023	Interest	Receipts	Payments	Balance 31 Dec 2023
	CBF Deposit Account	2966	38	240	2388	857
	Equity Investment	22302	222	2000	222	25926
	Total	25268		2240	2609	26782
14	Organ Fund	-365		1700	9419	
				5700	540	
				90	570	
			_	700		
				8190	10529	-2704

The balance of £2,704 was taken from the reserves.

15 Designated Funds	Balance 1 Jan 2023	Receipts	Payments	Balance 31 Dec 2023
Benefice Fund	-74	4489	3874	541

The balance of £541 consists of £460 held on behalf of Dacre, £170 for Watermillock and Matterdalc owe the fund £89





Eco Church Sub-Committee

The Dacre Eco Church sub-committee was established in 2022 and met twice in 2023. The sub-committee members are: Revd Cathy Helm, Anne Dugmore, Rachael Mead, Georgia Mead and Hannah Mead.

There are five areas that a church should demonstrate environmental engagement with – these are:

- 1. Worship and teaching.
- 2. Management of church buildings.
- 3. Management of church land.
- 4. Community and global engagement.
- 5. Lifestyle.

Following the areas identified seeds were bought and sown in the autumn to start to establish the wildflower meadow.

The use of Fairtrade products and produce has been promoted in the Ullswater magazine and mostly products used in church are now Fairtrade

The water butt has been kindly donated and is waiting to be connected.

The bulbs in church and Vicarage are now completely LED and all printing uses recycled paper. Earth Hour was promoted in church and members encourage to consider their use of electricity.

Social Committee

In October we held a very successful Harvest Supper in Newbiggin Village Hall attended by eighty people.

We again had a 'Sausage and Mash Supper' in the Newbiggin Village Hall in late November with music provided by the Penrith Town Band. This has become an annual event in our calendar and as usual it was a sell-out. The evening provides an excellent platform for the younger members of the band to perform in public.

Both events, as well as being joyful and wonderful fellowship evenings, provided sizeable contributions to church funds. Our thanks to Newbiggin Village Hall who contribute by allowing us the use of the hall and the facilities free of charge.

Our sincere thanks to all who gave of their time in preparing and organising these events.

Ann Dugmore

Music in the Church

We were able to celebrate the full restoration of the organ with a Songs of Praise held on 29th January 2023. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed choosing and singing their favourite hymns.





The church is very grateful to Ian France, Lady Elizabeth Leeming, Mrs. Juliet Shuttleworth and Philip Bell who have played the organ in 2023 at the Sunday services.

Fabric Report

The year began with the completion of the restoration work on the church organ. As expected, the original works were augmented by necessary repairs required as they occurred. The organ layout was re-modelled to achieve greater access for servicing and a hatch was created in the toilet ceiling to access the swell division improving ease of maintenance.

Our thanks to our organists, Ian France and Philip Bell who have been in regular contact with Anthony Kitchen as works progressed and it the Songs of praise at the end of January was an good opportunity to enjoy the fuller and improved sound.

The PCC has been awarded grants towards this work by Cumbria Waste Management Environmental Trust.

Church maintenance has concentrated on keeping the church in a safe condition and ensuring the roof, gutters and downpipes are clear and in working condition. There was some storm damage at the end of the year with several trees coming down across various areas within the churchyard. Thanks to Richard Hall and Steve Helm who did the initial tree work to ensure access to the churchyard was safe and to Richard for extensive repairs to the external wall facing the castle.

George Hasell McCosh presented a very useful Tree report to the PCC which has informed the continuing work to ensure the fallen trees are removed safely and without damaging the grave stones.

The pathway to the church was replenished with new stones and again thanks to the team who came to spread the load.

The Quinquennial Inspection was carried out in August of this year and the Report was received in December. The PCC have tasked a small group to summarise the priories for necessary works.

The PCC would like to record their appreciation to Brenda Walton who provides a lead in respect of coordinating the volunteers who clean the church in five teams, each of whom cover week each month, and also to the flower arrangers whose input greatly enhances the church week after week throughout the year.

Our particular thanks to Brenda Walton and Paul Avis who ensure that the church is open and closed every day throughout the year.

Online Presence & Magazine

St. Andrew's Church is now accessible at two internet locations, the PCC Secretary, with contributions from the PCC promotes the Church. The internet locations are:

A Church Near you: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/12304/

A hosted website at: www.Dacrechurch.com





Ullswater Together magazine has now been published for 18 months. This magazine is supported by all the churches in the Ullswater community, including the Methodist churches and also the Community associations.

Our contacts are

Rev Gordon Dugmore: Newbiggin & Great Blencow revgordondugmore@gmail.com

Sue Harbottle: Stainton <u>sharbottle@aol.com</u>
Morna Simms; Dacre <u>morna@sims40.plus.com</u>

They will collate any information and send it to the Editor. We have a new sub editor Alan Rich who does an amazing job with the layout of the magazine and our thanks go to him for a tremendous job. The magazine has been very well received and shows a good range of both church and community activities in and around the lake.

Our thanks go to all involved in both sending in articles but also to all those who deliver the magazine around the parish.

Finally

The PPC would like to thank Members of the church who serve the church in many ways, including cleaning, arranging flowers, leading services, preaching, acting as sides people, readers, sacristan, and chalice administrators, making refreshments, ringing the bells, playing the organ, maintaining the churchyard, organising building repairs, opening and closing the church, being school governors, helping with social events and acting as secretary, treasurer, PCC members and church wardens.

The PCC would like to express its thanks to everyone who has supported and contributed to the work of the church at Dacre.