

THE PARISH OF BRAMLEY IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS



**To engage with the people of Bramley;
to share God's love for them, through
worship, friendship, learning and service.**



cc-by-sa/2.0 - St Peter's Parish Church... by Michael Woodhead - geograph.org.uk/p/387202

**BRAMLEY PARISH
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2016**

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BRAMLEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Parish Church: St Peter's Church, Hough Lane, Bramley, Leeds, LS13 3JF

Tel: 0113 2578590 Website: www.bramleyparish.org.uk

Licensed Building: St Margaret's Church, Newlay Lane, Bramley, Leeds, LS13 2AJ

Priest-in-charge The Revd Paul Crabb

Bank: Yorkshire Bank, Town Street, Bramley, Leeds

Independent Examiner: Valerie J Walton CTA, ATT

Background

Bramley Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the buildings of St Peter's Church and St Margaret's Church.

Mission Statement

"To engage with the people of Bramley to share God's love for them through worship, friendship, learning and service".

Members of the Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd Paul Crabb (Ex-officio)

Churchwardens: Michaela Stevenson to 2017
Marlene Hudson to 2017

Diocesan Synod David Jorysz

Deanery Synod Representatives: Jonathan Foote to 2017
David Jorysz (Ex Officio)

Elected members: Beverley Bradshaw
Linda Craven
Stephen Craven
John Hepworth to 2017
Aron Knowles
Julie Knowles
Claudiu Nita (resigned)
Veronica Nita (co-opted)
Emma Smith
Edward Turner
Martin Wallace
Rachel Wallace
Susan Woodhead (Treasurer)
Ann Stead (resigned)
Clive Stead (resigned)

PCC Secretary's Report

No PCC secretary was appointed at the PCC Annual meeting in April 2016. A number of people volunteered to take the minutes at the meetings until October when I took on the role. I stepped down as Halls Booking Secretary in September 2016 to take on this role. The PCC met every month, apart from August 2016 in addition an Extraordinary meeting was held in September.

The PCC formally adopted the National Church of England Safeguarding Policy in July 2016 and the Disclosure and Barring Service Safer Recruitment Policy. Other Items included:-

The future of St Peter's building, Use of St Margaret's, Hall's User Group, Fundraising and grant applications, Parish Boundary changes, Appointment of Architect, National Church of England Christening Policy. The Revd Paul Crabb and Michaela Stevenson attended a Consistory court in December to resolve the issue regarding the erection of the fence in St Peter's churchyard.

I wish to thank The Revd Paul Crabb, Michaela Stevenson, Marlene Hudson and Susan Woodhead for supporting me in this role and to Gillian Jorsyz who has often sent me bed time reading regarding the role of the PCC secretary.

Linda Craven
PCC Secretary

Deanery Synod

This year, Armley Synod was held at St Paul's Drighlington, St John's Farsley and St Mary's Beeston. The format combined a topical presentation at each meeting with ongoing business.

Andrew Tawn spoke about baptism ministry, and pointed out that while there is a great deal of contact with people at the point of baptism, the church could capitalise on this link more effectively.

Gemina Parker spoke on the importance of caring for the environment as Christians and helped the synod to see how as churches and as individuals we could be advocates for change.

Millie Holmes spoke about her experiences as a member of general synod and some lessons she had learned. We also heard from members of the Lighthouse Church about how the ministry has helped them. The Synod has continued to look at how changes to deaneries could affect Armley. We continue to be grateful for the leadership as Rev Arani Sen as area dean (and for part of the year acting archdeacon) and Ian Waterhouse as the lay chair and their efforts to provide leadership. We thank Felicity Lawson and Paul Tudge for their service as area deans, and also to the standing committee.

Rev Phil Arnold
Deanery Secretary

Churches Together around Leeds 13

Churches Together has met quarterly to see how we can work together to minister to our area. During the year, more of the local churches have come to join this group and we look forward to our future work together.

We have undertaken joint activities for One World Week, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and Christian Aid Week; shared the Lent Course and worshipped together during Holy Week and on Advent Sunday. This year we undertook a Good Friday Walk of Witness from the shopping centre along Town Street, up Westover Road and back down Hough Lane. We stopped at various locations to hear part of the Passion Gospel, sing and pray. Those who attended found it a really good way of sharing witness together with members of other denominations. We ended 2016 with another successful well attended Carol Concert in Trinity Church led by the Abbey Grange Academy Concert Band. Carol singing in Tesco's was also a great success.

Edward Turner, Moderator, Churches Together around Leeds 13

Safeguarding

Linda Craven was appointed Joint Safeguarding Officer with Judith Armitage at the PCC meeting in April 2016. Linda comes with 13 years of experience in Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment within the Church of England and has attended a "Training the Trainers" course to enable localised parish training to take place.

The Disclosure process has changed to an on line application system with Churches Agency for Safeguarding. An individual can join the DBS Update service, free of charge for volunteers, in order to make the disclosure portable between other voluntary organisations. Judith has worked extremely hard in ensuring the disclosure applications are up to date.

Judith Armitage and Linda Craven

Music Ministry

We are very fortunate to have a group of highly talented and dedicated musicians to provide a good spread of music for a variety of worship styles, ranging from the more sedate in Choral Evensong to the exuberant when providing music for a Kidz Klub service. We lack a permanent organist and during the year Tim Knight, who had played for one morning and one evening service a month, became unavailable for any morning services due to his position at Kirkstall St. Stephen's.

We have worked with the challenge of moving to worship at St. Margaret's and nearly got our robes and much of our music squashed into the building. Where we actually sit is still under constant review! The move has affected our planned recruitment in St. Peter's

Primary School but we have developed other plans for next year.

We have continued to provide music for most of the baptisms as well as all the regular services plus the occasional visit to sing and play in Trinity.

We have even branched out into fund-raising, being the musicians at the Banquet to raise money for St. Margaret's roof repairs.

Edward Turner

Junior Church

We thank God for his blessing during 2016-2017 and for what He accomplished in and through our church children.

We enjoy seeing kids laugh and have fun together while participating in various activities. We celebrate the spiritual interest we see in our kids at Bramley St Margaret s and their increased love for God.

We bless Bramley parents for taking seriously their role in nurturing spiritual life in their kids!

Children can experience worship together with their families and crafting related to the service subject on Sunday morning.

Our purpose is to teach children to focus on seeing God for who He is.

Numbers - A significant percentage of the church's children are participating on a weekly basis.

Enthusiasm - The joyful enthusiasm and positive attitude of the staff, parents and the children themselves are essential to building trust with the leadership of the church and with the parents. Parents, and other leaders really appreciate the hard work that goes into activities and the care that is being shown to individual children.

Thank you to everyone who helps us in our work with the young people of the church. We appreciate your support and encouragement.

Veronica Nita

Bramley Parish Theatre Group

Although not a church group, we operate following many Christian values, caring for our members of all ages as well as our audiences. We have been pleased to welcome some new members adding their talents in the early part of the year. Our pantomime, Babes in the Wood, put on during February 2016 was successful, well-attended and an event enjoyed by all who came.

In the summer, we put on two Quiz evenings with entertainment which were again well attended and appreciated. We continue to try and provide entertainment which is

affordable to local families and enjoyed by them as well as those us on stage. We pride ourselves in being a group which values all its members, on stage and back-stage, children and adults. We would welcome anyone who wishes to join the group, although for Child Safety reasons we have a waiting list for under 18s.

Class Act

We work with children from reception age up to around 18, who want to perform on stage. We have a younger and an older group and put on productions to match the developing abilities.

Our aim is to provide affordable, high level instruction and help to attendees plus the opportunity to share their developing skills with an audience. During the year, as well as the two shows we prepared and put on, we worked to provide entertainment for a fund-raising banquet for St. Margaret's roof. Although we co-operate with BPTP and share some resources, we are a separate group.

Edward Turner and Emma Smith

Bramley Mothers' Union

2016 proved to be a year of illness and bereavement, even so we continued to work towards our Mothers' Union aim to support and strengthen family life. We helped raise awareness of gender based violence. We facilitate, in Bramley, Mothers' Union project 'Loving for Life'. We head up the 'Christening' team. We manned 'Vestry hour'.

We supported families facing adversity, debt, and food poverty. We raised funds for Mothers' Union 'Away from it all', 'Overseas' and 'Make a Mother's Day' projects. We say 'Midday Prayers' at Leeds Minster on a diocesan rota on Tuesdays.

Our 2016 programme included 8 meetings with speakers of interest, 2 fellowship, thoughtful, prayerful times and the Annual General Meeting for the branch. We also enjoyed two lunches at various venues. And all this underpinned by prayer. If you have a prayer request that follows the aims please have a word with us.

We have a full 2017 programme planned please ask for a copy. Meetings are open to all, women, men and children.

Margaret Beaumont.

Christening Team

We supported Revd Paul Crabb at the christenings of 26 children and adults throughout 2016. During the year we formulated a new layout for christenings following the guidelines of the Church of England. This will begin in January 2017.

We have a small team of helpers doing sterling work making church ready for the preparations and christenings. They meet and greet the people of Bramley and beyond,

assisting in every way on those occasions. Please speak with me if you feel drawn to this most important outreach ministry. Let the people of Bramley know that a welcome and a friendly smile is just through the church door.

Finally, our grateful thanks go to two retiring team members, Susan and Catherine, for their many years of dedicated service. THANKYOU.

Margaret Beaumont.

Spring of Prayer

This is an Ecumenical group which offers up to two weekends away each year in Marske, Swaledale at a cost of around £40 per person. Although the house is set in a beautiful wooded area the access is rugged with a steep spiral staircase to bedrooms on two floors, so not accessible to all.

'The Whole Armour of God' and 'The Fragrance of Christ' were the themes for 2016. Travellers were 11 in March, 8 in September.

We read the Bible, meditated, prayed, talked, listened, created crafts, walked, laughed and cried. We shared on every level, created space to 'be' and much more.....
A timetable is available on request for 2017.

Margaret Beaumont.

Bramley Parish Social Club

Once again the Bramley Parish Social Club has completed a busy and successful year, despite some organisational difficulties. Continuing along the lines of opening just once a month, the Club has provided some excellent themed evenings in the surrounds of St Peters Lower Hall.

During this past year, these themed evenings have included.....Games and Tournaments, St Patrick's Day celebrations, St Georges Day themed evening, Trivia Quiz with Bingo, and a "Highland Games" evening both inside and outside on the grass, to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday. The Annual Social Club BBQ in July was an amazing event, with over 50 members enjoying a lovely summers evening outside and some equally amazing food prepared by our resident chef, Duncan Armitage.

In September we combined our Club AGM with a Quiz and Bingo evening, which has set a pattern for the future, and in October we enjoyed our usual Harvest Theme evening.

The year ended with a move to St Margaret's for the St Cecilia's Concert in November, then back to St Peters for the Club Christmas Party in December.

Our selection of traditional bottled Yorkshire ales from the Copper Dragon Brewery at Skipton remains increasingly popular amongst members, and the young people seem to go through vast amounts of our wide range of soft drinks. Even those with a taste for hot drinks are catered for, with a plentiful supply of tea and coffee available at all times.

Advertising our openings has always been a problem, but technology has come to our rescue. In addition to the posters displayed, which we think are not seen by many of our members, we now email details of our events to as many of our members as possible. If you are not on our list, please send us your email details.

Looking ahead there are a whole series of themed evenings planned for 2017, and there is no doubt that the Club will remain at the very centre of Social life in the Parish.

David Cox
Social Club Secretary

Youth Club

In 2016 the youth club had 40 children on its records, with about 28 – 30 attending each week. Our goal is to ensure children socialise, play safe and have fun. Each month the children receive a free takeaway treat of hot dogs, pizza and juice.

During the year we held Easter, Summer, Halloween and a Christmas Disco and party. We have a range of equipment for use, netball, football nets, table tennis, football table, large twister, bowling and arts and crafts.

Dave Turner
Youth leader