

St John's Church Yealand Conyers

Annual Report 2025



All Welcome



Jacob is an enthusiastic supporter of
Coffee Mornings and Lunches at St John's

See also inside the back page!

The Parochial Church Council of St John, Yealand Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2025

Vicar: The Revd Alice Ormondroyd

Licensed Lay Minister (LLM): Annette MacKenzie

Address for correspondence: Linda Gardner, Beechfield,
Yealand Conyers, LA5 9SG

Independent Examiner: Chris Gartside

Bank: NatWest, 262 Marine Road Central, Morecambe,
LA4 4BJ

This report was approved by the PCC on **29th April 2026**
and signed on their behalf by **Clare Hunter (PCC
chairperson)**

Aim and Purposes

Yealand Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent for promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Achievements and Performance

The PCC is keen to offer the range of services, during the week and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Our worship is centred on the Eucharist; our usual pattern of services includes a celebration each Sunday and Wednesday.



Life event services in 2025 included two weddings, three baptisms and six burials of which four were of cremated remains.

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. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the different groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship strengthen our faith through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we are mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable 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.
- Outreach work.

We seek to develop our life together as we affirm individual strengths; value diversity; nurture growth, vocations and leadership; work towards accessibility and respect and sustain our environment.



To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St John's Church building, care for the burial ground and make the interior a welcoming space.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

The Yealand PCC consists of the Incumbent (the Vicar), the Parochial Churchwardens, the Deanery Synod representatives, the Licensed Lay Minister and up to nine members elected by those who are on the electoral roll.

All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The standing committee of the PCC includes the vicar, the churchwardens (of whom one is also the treasurer), the deputy churchwardens and the church secretary. It meets as necessary and reports back to the PCC.

The Mission and Ministry Committee is responsible to the PCC and reports back to it, with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025, held in May, there were 64 names on the church electoral roll.



Administrative information

St John's Church (the Parish Church) is situated in Church Lane, Yealand Conyers. The church is part of the United Benefice of Warton and Borwick with Yealand, in the Deanery of Tunstall, in the Diocese of Blackburn, within the Church of England.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2020) and is an exempted charity.

PCC members are either ex-officio, elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (the APCM) holding office for three years, or co-opted by the PCC. Members of the Deanery Synod are ex-officio members of the PCC, holding office for three years; they are also elected at the APCM. All appointments and elections are done in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020.

PCC members who have served at any time in 2025 are:

Incumbent: The Reverend Alice Ormondroyd

Churchwardens: Mrs Clare Hunter (Treasurer)

Mrs Jennifer Chapman (Safeguarding Officer and ALM)

Licensed Lay Minister: Mrs Annette MacKenzie

Elected Members:

Paul Daunter (Fabric Officer)

Linda Gardner (Secretary)

Martin Smith (Health and Safety Officer)

Gillian Turner

Duncan Woodcock

Steph Burford

Rhian Burford

Vicki Bould (Electoral Roll Officer from May 2025)

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Jean Tunncliffe Wilson (Electoral Roll Officer up to May 2025)

Granville Tunncliffe Wilson (Gift Aid Treasurer)

Deputy Churchwardens from May 2025

Granville Tunncliffe Wilson

Jean Tunncliffe Wilson

Duncan Woodcock

Churchwardens' Report *Jennifer Chapman and Clare Hunter.*

We are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Churchwardens, outlining the key areas of parish life, building care, and ongoing responsibilities.

Worship and Parish Life

Services have continued smoothly, with good support from the ministry team and volunteers. We are grateful to all who contribute to the life of the church through reading, leading intercessions, welcoming, cleaning, and supporting our worship in practical ways. On Dec. 28th we appreciated our vicar's last service. We give thanks for her work and pray for her as she goes on to pastures new.

Buildings and Grounds

The Quinquennial inspection highlighted a large crack to the North Ailse wall above the organ. It also identified drainage work that needs to be undertaken. Our Fabric Officer continues to work with St. John's architect, the Diocesan advisers and construction contractors, to determine and plan the restoration work required. This will be costly and will need careful consideration.

We continue to monitor the fabric of the whole church building and churchyard to ensure everything remains safe, tidy, and well cared for.

Safeguarding report *Jenny Chapman*

There were no safeguarding concerns reported in 2025, and no disclosures, incidents or issues were raised.

The Diocese has instructed all parishes to remove existing safeguarding files and posters in preparation for the rollout of updated safeguarding materials. These new resources were expected to be issued before January 2026; however, no updated materials have yet been received.

To ensure safeguarding information remains visible, accessible, and compliant in the interim, the current safeguarding file and posters at St John's, Yealand will remain in place until the new diocesan materials arrive. Once received, the existing resources will be removed and replaced promptly.

Health and Safety

Regular checks have been maintained, and no new issues have been identified. The building continues to be safe for worship and community use.

The First Aid box has been checked to make sure there are no expired contents.

Thanks

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all volunteers, PCC members, and members of the congregation who support the life and work of the church. Your commitment and care are deeply appreciated.

We will continue to oversee the practical and pastoral responsibilities of churchwardens, ensuring the church remains a safe, welcoming, and well-maintained place for all.

Secretary's Report *Linda Gardner*

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners was held on Wednesday the 14th of May at St John's Church. Jennifer Chapman and Clare Hunter were appointed as churchwardens for the period 2025/2026. St John's PCC thanked Clare and Jenny for their commitment to St John's and the Benefice.

Following the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, the Annual Parochial Council Meeting was held and the PCC for 2025/2026 was duly elected. At the present time, St John's PCC has 14 members and no vacancies.

St John's PCC meetings

Five PCC meetings were held during the appointed period. All meetings were held at St. John's Church.

Mission and Ministry Group

The Mission and Ministry Group met four times and their considerations were presented at PCC meetings.

Benefice Co-ordinating Team

The Benefice Co-ordinating Team, formerly the Benefice Advisory Group, was re-formed in 2025 to offer support to the Vicar, and for the churches in the Benefice to work together in the best interests of the Benefice.

The BCT is made up of members of St John's PCC, St Mary's DCC and St Oswald's PCC. The BCT works in an advisory capacity to PCCs, with PCCs making final decisions.

The BCT met four times in 2025. Agenda items included: Benefice Administration, Benefice Expenses, Benefice Website, Diary and Planning, Parish News, Photocopier.

Children and Young People

St. John's welcomes families with young children into church. Activity sheets linked to the gospel reading are provided for children attending St. John's and the Sunday School room is open for use.

Fabric Report *Paul Daunter*

2025 has been a year of investigations and future planning around the major problems we have with the building. In a nutshell we need:

- Replacement of defective cast iron rainwater downpipes which are heavily corroded and now leaking. It is proposed to replace the existing cast iron with a powder coated aluminium product, with a heritage finish.
- Relining of the stone gutter which is defective, and to adapt it to allow for increased rainwater run-off by widening the apertures and draining into hoppers.
- Replacement of defective below ground drainage, to positively drain the building (the blocked drainage means the ground is saturated by the North Wall of the North Aisle).
- Repairs and rebuilding of parts of the North Wall of the North Aisle which has cracked right through in places.
- Local repairs to the roof where it is leaking.

We now have the information needed for repairs and replacement and are seeking the necessary permissions to get the repairs done.

This will be a very costly undertaking and the responsibility for financing this lies with the PCC.

Looking forward, St Johns will need a major fundraising effort to enable the building work to continue.

Eco Church Report *Linda Gardner and Paul Daunter*

Eco Church is a learning community of churches of all shapes and sizes open to all denominations. It provides a framework to support your church and its leadership to take practical action on caring for God's earth, through the Eco Church survey. The survey covers five key areas of church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Buildings and energy
- Land and nature
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

St Johns was awarded an Eco Church Silver award in 2025 recognising the work that everyone has been involved with.



Tunstall Deanery Synod Report *Granville and Jean Tunncliffe Wilson*

There were three meetings of Tunstall Deanery Synod in 2025.

In January 2025 Bishop Jill introduced the theme of the Synod which was to look beyond Vision 2026: Carolyn Barton explained that the Diocese had consulted with all parishes and C of E schools in the Diocese and the results of this survey are the subject of Deanery Synod meetings throughout the diocese. In May 2025 the Diocesan Vision and Strategy Group would review the information gathered from the Deanery Visits and present it at the Diocesan Synod in July 2025 with a view to launching a new vision in November 2026.

Carolyn explained that we need to look at where God is leading us next; Bishop Philip is looking to a Vision leading out to 2033 which will be 2000 years since the death of Jesus. She presented the survey results on 24 slides. Group discussions followed.

In July the Deanery Synod meeting had as speaker Rev Steve Haskett, Diocesan Director of Mission, who spoke about the Centenary of the Diocese of Blackburn in September 2026. A weekend of Mission has been identified 11th – 13th September. All churches have been asked to host events with the emphasis being on mission and NOT FUNDRAISING.

Events suggested: coffee mornings, bingo or music nights, craft/art exhibitions, historical talks.

There were also discussions regarding the LYCIG (Leading Your Church Into Growth) programme and how we can lead our church into growth. (Prayer cards for LYCIG are now at the back of St John's).

The November synod agreed that for many parishes the cost of maintaining an old (often listed building) was not sustainable and asked for the national church to take responsibility for funding maintenance. This motion will move forward to the General Synod.

The synod agreed on a motion to reform the parish share and agreed to bring a more detailed motion to the next Deanery Synod.

An update was given on the Lindisfarne Pilgrimage. This will occur on the weekend of 19-21st June 2026.

The main speaker of the evening was Rev Sam Lee from the Ignite project. The aim of the project was to double the numbers of under 18 worshippers by 2030 and to facilitate this aim by the provision of 30 youth workers across the Diocese over the next 3 years.

The Diocese will provide funding support for the Youth Worker over 5 years, with the support tapering off and the cost of funding being thereafter supported by the parish or parishes within the Deanery. This could require £30-34,000 annually.

St John's is an Active Church-

- every Friday morning hosting a coffee morning attended typically by some 40 members of our community, whose donations are used to support St John's and other Christian concerns. Then once a month this is followed by a lunch, with, during winter months, a choice of soups provided by generous members. As usual our Shrove Tuesday Pancake lunch was very popular, as was our Harvest Service and Lunch.

Musically, our small choir at Sunday Eucharist has sung special items once a month and their contribution to our Christmas Bethlehem mass was greatly appreciated. An appreciative audience also attended a presentation of the Pergolesi Stabat Mater by friends of the church during holy week. A successful summer concert by a variety of performers was most enjoyable.

On the 'crafty' side, the monthly Knit and Natter group returned after a summer break to be renamed Crafternoon, and Rhian Burford hosted three popular Wellbeing events demonstrating craft skills.

We foster links with the other worshipping communities in the village, being hosted at the Friends Meeting House in autumn, to hear about their tradition of pacifism. For the first time, our Ecumenical Carol service was hosted by the Sisters at Hyning Priory, with an open invitation which packed their beautiful and, fortunately, quite spacious chapel.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St John's Church, Yealand Conyers

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out in the 2025 Annual Report.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and Independent Examiner

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 PCC 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 the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

Chris Gartside FCIB
The Paddock,
151a North Road,
Carnforth, LA5 9LU
28th March 2025

signed : 
date: 28/3/2026

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, YEALAND CONYERS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER
GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

INCOME	2025	2024
	£	£
Regular collections	20036.00	16518.00
Donations	258.00	1978.39
Collections	7395.08	7204.86
Gift Aid reclaim	6375.47	5058.75
Warm Spaces Grant	1250.00	1100.00
50/50 Club	2163.00	2378.00
Fees PCC	2428.00	364.00
Online Giving	124.77	125.58
Give a Little	1503.75	814.77
Feed in tariff	2643.23	1753.58
Ofgem RHI	1728.32	2210.78
Fees DBF	817.00	84.00
Payments for Priests	0.00	597.00
TOTAL INCOME	46722.62	40187.71

EXPENDITURE	2025	2024
	£	£
Parish Share	19404.96	18219.96
Benefice expenses	816.00	1380.00
Church expenses	2226.75	3767.45
Church maintenance	269.29	88.60
Churchyard maintenance	1145.00	1273.00
Professional Fees	3690.00	
Electricity	5610.22	5497.58
Water	122.89	116.04
Insurance	2481.54	2361.15
Charities	3405.00	3965.00
DBF Fees	775.00	84.00
Cleaner	528.00	576.00
Priest Costs	742.00	778.00
Admin assistance	550.00	416.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	41766.65	38522.78
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	4955.97	1664.93

ACCUMULATED FUNDS	2025	2024
Bank account at 1st. Jan.	8071.41	6406.48
Add surplus (deficit) for the year	4955.97	1664.93
Bank account at 31st. Dec.	13027.38	8071.41

**STATEMENT OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER
CCLA INTEREST BEARING ACCOUNT AS AT 31ST DECEMBER**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Balance @ 1st January	18185.39	17268.80
Interest	823.00	916.59
Balance @ 31st December	19008.39	18185.39

Reserves Policy

The policy of the PCC is to keep a minimum of £5,000 in an interest-bearing account to cover unforeseen expenditure.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH 2026 BUDGET

INCOME	£
Regular collections	18000
Donations	2000
Collections	7000
Gift aid and GASDS reclaim	5000
Warm Spaces Grant	500
50/50 club	2000
Fees PCC	500
Feed in Tariff (PV Panels)	2000
Ofgem RHI	1500
Fees	500
Payments for costs of Priest	2000
TOTAL INCOME	£41000

EXPENDITURE	£
Parish Share	17405
Benefice expenses	500
Church expenses	2500
Church maintenance	500
Churchyard maintenance	3000
Electricity	6000
Water	150
Insurance	2500
Professional Fees	6000
Charities	2000
DBF Fees	750
Cleaner	600
Payments to Priests	800
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£42705
Surplus or (Deficit) for the Year	(£1705)

Treasurer's Report

Clare Hunter

Firstly, I would like to give a big thank you to all who kindly donate to St John's. We had a surplus in 2025, explained in part by an increase in regular collections (given through standing orders) and the gift aid from those and the weekly collections. But also included is £943 from the 'Craft for Wellbeing' evenings led by Rhian, raised in anticipation of the repairs soon needed to our church fabric. Furthermore, the surplus includes a generous contribution towards the felling of the fir tree in the churchyard. Because half of the tree has fallen in gales, we are advised the remainder must be felled, at a substantial cost. These sums, committed but as yet unspent, together with a charitable payment deferred to the next financial year, have contributed to our surplus. Our reserves include a sum set aside for renewing the lighting in the Chancel

We have now been quoted £80,000 plus VAT to repair the crack in the north wall of the church and replace the drainage along that wall. Much of the organ will be removed, to give access to the repair works to the wall behind it, and re-instated at a cost of £15000 . With the help of Diocesan advisors, our Fabric Officer has already been making enquiries about grants which could support the repairs.

I am once again grateful to Chris Gartside for acting as the Independent Examiner of our accounts, and to Granville Tunnicliffe Wilson for acting as Gift Aid Treasurer, his 50th year in the post.

CHARITABLE GIVING 2025

	£
Children's Society	250.00
Mosamaria	580.00
Practical Action	340.00
St John's Hospice	425.00
Christian Aid	460.00
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	470.00
St Oswald's Junior Church	250.00
Yealand Outdoor Games Area	630.00
Total	3405.00

Note: A further sum of £550 was given to the RNLI. However, this was not paid out until after the year end, so is also included in the surplus for 2025.



The Ossie Sisters *Sing Christmas*
to entertain those at lunch
in St John's on 30th November

Activity at St John's 2026

Services at St John's

Sunday 11am Parish Eucharist, or occasionally Service of the Word.

Wednesday 9:30am, said service of Holy Communion

Both services use contemporary language and celebrate the presence of God in the Scriptures and in Holy Communion.

At the end of each service coffee, tea and biscuits – and a good chat – are enjoyed by all.

Toys and activities are available for children.

On Fridays we meet for coffee and cake between 10:30am and 12pm, with jigsaws and books available.

In the second week of each month, on the Wednesday we meet in the upper room for Crafternoon (and refreshments) while on Friday we have lunch from 12pm.

On the Wednesday of the fourth week we meet for prayer at 2pm.

All Welcome