

Annual Report 2021 and Yearbook 2021/2022

Loving God, loving neighbours; sharing Jesus with you.



**Parish of
Holcombe &
Hawkshaw**

**What's been happening
in the Parish?**

This year the Yearbook and the Annual Report,
will be formally presented at the

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Emmanuel Church Centre,
Longsight Road,
Holcombe Brook,
Bury
BL8 4DB
7.30pm for 8.00pm.

25th April 2022

Vision Statement

“In our Parish:

- We will welcome others and serve the community through our love and care.
- We want to provide inspirational worship in various styles to meets the needs of all.
- Our teaching, based on the authority of the Bible, aims to connect faith to daily life, sustaining, encouraging and challenging everyone.
- We aim to have welcoming and warm buildings that enable us to worship, glorify God and aid mission.
- We seek to reach out through God’s love of all people, sharing the joy and wonder of the faith we have in our daily life with Jesus and growing his worldwide church in faith, hope and love.

The Parochial Church Council
Updated: 1st February, 2014

This booklet gives information about the activities of the various Parish Organisations and the Parish Annual Report.

Once again it is the product of teamwork by many people. Sincere thanks go to contributors who responded so promptly and made this Report possible.

We hope you will find the contents both interesting and informative.

Any errors are the responsibility of contributors/editor.



**Parish of
Holcombe &
Hawkshaw**

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The Parish of Holcombe and Hawkshaw Annual Parochial Church Meeting Minutes

Monday 24th May 2021 by Zoom 8pm.

Present:

Two Clerks in Holy Office, Rev. Paul Sumsion and Rev. Ian Fleming,
And the following lay members of the parish:
S. Partridge, J. Burton, P. Hanley, J. M. Venn, M. Burton, C. Baggoley, S. Newhouse,
S. Wilkinson, J. Houghton, L. Fleming, L. Webber, T. Webber J. Sumsion, R. Sumsion,
D. Lomax, R. Artley, S. Byrom, R. Byrom, B. Atkin, R. Simpson, B. Whittle,
V. Whittle, J. Smale, K. Jones, P. Jones, E. Houghton, R. Houghton and D. Yardley,

PART A: A Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting)

1 Opening Prayer; The Rev. Paul Sumsion opened the meeting with prayer

2 Chairman's Remarks: The Rev. Paul Sumsion outlined the proceedings
The A.P.C.M. consists of 2 parts, part A the Vestry meeting to elect Church
Wardens where attendees do not have to be on parish electoral roll, but have to be
on the council electoral roll. Part B is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting where
attendees are only eligible to vote if on parish electoral roll.

Paul said this is a sad year as we have lost Michael Booth a sitting Church Warden.
Michael made a huge contribution to the life of the parish. He grew up in
Hawkshaw and at Maine Road in 1961 at a Billy Graham rally, gave his life to
Jesus. He was a gentle, wonderful caring Christian and we are all sorry for
Geraldine's and the family's loss.
He will be greatly missed.

The procedures for voting by Zoom was explained.
Former parishes see item 11.

Patronage of parish.

After the death of Frederick Whowell, his widow passed the Whowell family share
of the patronage to the CPAS patronage board early in 2020. The patronage for the
Parish of Holcombe & Hawkshaw is now shared jointly between the CPAS
Patronage Board and The Rector of Bury. Patrons have an important role when
appointing incumbents to the parish.

3 Election of two Church Wardens (one from each former parish)
The nominations for Church wardens were Peter Hardcastle and Stephen
Newhouse, there were no other nominations, and they were both duly elected
all agreed.

PART B: A.P.C.M.

4 Apologies for Absence received from
B. Newhouse, G. Lomax, M. Lomax, R. France, J. Oliver, P. Lainton, N. Holt,
C. Holt, G. Metcalfe, P. Hardcastle, J. Hardcastle and Rev. R. Airey.

5 Minutes of last year's vestry meeting and A.P.C.M. were received with an
amendment to the 2020 Rectors Report, which should read:
'In February 2020 a smaller team from Capernwray Bible College joined us in
the parish for ten days for a local mission and discipleship week, which went
well. Just three weeks later, as we were preparing for Easter, with plans for
further mission, bible study and worship, Covid 19 changed all of this and the
church buildings were closed from March 22nd 2020'.
Amendment item 6: Presentation of electoral Roll should read 67 not 61 from
former Parish of Hawkshaw.

All amendments agreed and the minutes were received and accepted.

6 Presentation of the revised church electoral roll by Sheila Partridge
Total of 194: 123 from Holcombe and 71 from Hawkshaw.
The new members were welcomed.

7 Presentation of Annual Reports and Accounts for Holcombe and Hawkshaw 2020.
Accepted unanimously. Thanks were extended to Stephen Newhouse for producing
the annual report and year book.

8 Election of Church Officers
a. Election of Deputy Wardens:

Deputy Church Wardens for St Mary's Hawkshaw

Eddie Slattery and Ray Houghton

Elected unopposed.

Deputy Church Wardens for Emmanuel Church Centre

Jo Venn and Gwen Barnes

Elected unopposed.

Deputy Church Wardens for Emmanuel Holcombe

Susan Nuttall and Mike Burton

Elected unopposed.

b. Parochial representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod

from Holcombe: Claire Baggoley and Stephen Newhouse.

from Hawkshaw: Jean Houghton, with one vacancy.

In the meeting, Keith Jones was nominated to serve on the Deanery Synod, nominated by Ethel Houghton seconded by Stuart Wilkinson.

Agreed unanimously.

c. Representatives of the laity to the P.C.C.

Jenny Burton, Mike Burton, Jo Venn, David Lomax, Ethel Houghton,

Richard Byrom, Penny Hanley, Stuart Wilkinson. Liz Webber

Eddie Slattery, Rosemary Artley and Sheila Partridge.

All agreed unanimously and duly elected to serve on the P.C.C.

The Rev. Paul Sumsion extended a big thank you to the Wardens, Deanery Synod representatives and P.C.C. members and thanked Ruth Sumsion, Jane Fletcher and Geraldine Booth for their work on the P.C.C.

9 Appointment of an Independent Examiner

Stuart Moulton from St Anne's Church, Tottington was nominated as the independent Examiner.

Proposed by David Lomax, seconded by Jenny Burton

Agreed unanimously.

10 Rectors Report

- The Rector reflected on events since the last A.P.C.M. on 12th October 2020 and extended his thanks to all who bring the good news of the Gospel and show a Christian presence in our community.
- To the Quiet morning team, Linda Jackson, Romey Simpson and Barbara Atkin, to the musicians, members of the choir, Sheila and Rosemary, the Sumsions and Tim Webber.
- To those who work with children, the youth team, the Open the Book team and to Stephen Newhouse for recording the stories with the green screen that were sent to the three schools, to Ian and Layna Fleming and to Kathryn and Julia for running the Travellers.
- To all the governors of St Mary's and Emmanuel Holcombe schools for their continuing hard work.
- To those who have contributed to outreach and care to the elderly.
- To those who run the uniformed organisations
- To all those who have made the Parish work during this time of Covid including the P.C.C. and P.L.T. and the Rector's PA, Elaine.
- The Rector extended a huge thank you and a warm welcome to all those who have joined us.
- He said that it had been a tough year in the community, there had been grief, loss and anxiety and we have said goodbye to many of our friends.
- The P.C.C. have been working on values. These are behind what we do and should inform our response to different situations: Generous Hospitality,

Growing Faith, Worshipful, Recognising and responding to need, Compassionate, Bible-based Teaching, Missional. There is a real need to be growing. Two of the three congregations are older and greyer, we need to create better links with children and families but there is a lot which is good.

11 Matters of general parochial interest

- Stephen Newhouse offered thanks to Paul, Jo, Ruth, Caleb and Isaac Sumsion for their work over the past 15 months.
- A question from the floor enquired whether it was necessary to still refer in A.P.C.M.'s and voting to the former parishes of Holcombe and of Hawkshaw. Paul explained that when the two parishes became one in 2008 provision was made for the two former parishes in the notes to the scheme in regard for numbers of places on the Parochial Church Council. The pastoral scheme was approved by the Church Commissioners under the Pastoral Measure 1983. Under the Church Representation Rules (rule 12) we are able to change the representation to the P.C.C. in a way that better reflects the development of the parish. However, there is a process to follow, which means that we cannot change the arrangements for immediate effect in this meeting. A way forward would be for the P.C.C. to review the arrangements and, if required there could be a special church meeting about this.

12 Notices and thanks from the chair

- a. Archdeacons visitation: via Zoom for Church Wardens only this year, Dates still to be confirmed, but possibly Tuesday 9th June 2021.
- b. Next P.C.C.: 7.30 pm by Zoom on Monday 8th June 2021.

13 Closing prayer and Blessing

The Rev. Ian Fleming closed the meeting with prayer and a blessing at 8.45pm.

The Parish of Holcombe and Hawkshaw

Emmanuel Church, Holcombe.

and

Emmanuel Church Centre,

Longsight Road,

Holcombe Brook.

and

St. Mary, Hawkshaw.

In the Deanery of Bury, the Diocese of Manchester.

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the

Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December, 2021.

Rector:

The Rev'd. Paul H. Sumsion,
The Vicarage,
Bolton Road,
Hawkshaw,
Bury.
BL8 4JN.

Bank: Royal Bank of Scotland

Insurers: Ecclesiastical Insurance.

Honorary Treasurer: David Lomax.

Gift Aid Coordinator: Judith Horrocks.

Independent Examiner: Stuart Moulton.

Annual Report for 2021

Statement:

The P.C.C. of the Parish of Holcombe and Hawkshaw has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Rev'd. Paul Sumsion, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibility for St Mary, Hawkshaw, Emmanuel Church, Holcombe and Emmanuel Church Centre and Canon Lewis Hall, Longsight Road, Holcombe Brook.

Membership of the P.C.C.:

Members of the P.C.C. are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the P.C.C.:

Incumbent: The Rev'd. Paul Sumsion, *Chairman & Rector.*

Associate Ministers: The Rev'd. Robert. W. Airey.

The Rev'd. Vic. Fletcher.

Curate: Rev'd. Ian Fleming.

Ex Officio Members:

Wardens: Mr. Peter Hardcastle, *from May 2021, Michael Booth to May 2021*
Mr. Stephen Newhouse, *from May 2019, (Lay Vice-Chairman of P.C.C.).*

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

From Emmanuel and Emmanuel Church Centre:

Claire Baggeley and Stephen Newhouse.

From St Mary's, Hawkshaw: Geraldine Booth *to May 2021*, Keith Jones
from May 2021 and Jean Houghton.

Elected Members:

Fourteen members are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, (seven from the congregations of Emmanuel, Holcombe or Emmanuel Church Centre and seven from the congregation of Hawkshaw, St. Mary).

Those elected at the A.P.C.M in May 2021, were:

from St Mary's Hawkshaw:

Richard Byrom, Jane Fletcher *to May 2021*, Penny Hanley, Ethel Houghton, Ruth Sumsion *to May 2021*, Edward Slattery *from May 2021*, Stuart Wilkinson, Liz. Webber and Jo Sumsion (*co-opted from July 2021*).

from Emmanuel, Holcombe and Emmanuel Church Centre were:

Rosemary Artley, Jennifer Burton, Michael Burton, David Lomax, Sheila Partridge, and Jo Venn, (with one vacancy).

Readers and Deputy Wardens are not ex officio members of the P.C.C., but are able to stand for election at the A.P.C.M.

Readers:

Mr. Michael Burton, *(also Deputy Warden, (Emmanuel) and elected to P.C.C.)*.
 Mr. Richard Byrom, *(and elected to the P.C.C.)*.
 Mrs. Ethel Houghton, *(also elected to the P.C.C.)*.
 Mrs. Jane Fletcher, *(also elected to the P.C.C.)*.
 Mrs. Jo Sumsion, *(also co-opted onto P.C.C. and has been Children and Families Ministry Facilitator from September 2021)*.

Deputy Church Wardens

Emmanuel Church Holcombe:

Michael Burton and Susan Nuttall,

Emmanuel Church Centre:

Gwen Barnes and Jo. Venn.

St. Mary's Hawkshaw:

Richard Byrom *(to May 2021)*, Eddie Slattery *(from May 2021)* and Ray Houghton.

Structure:

(1) Standing Committee/Leadership Teams:

We are required by law, not only to have a Parochial Church Council, duly elected to represent our parishioners, but also a Standing Committee, which can attend to urgent parish business between P.C.C. meetings, if necessary.

In between P.C.C. meetings the Parish Leadership Team, (of which the Standing Committee is part), Emmanuel, Holcombe Leadership Team, Emmanuel Church Centre Leadership Team and St. Mary, Hawkshaw Leadership Team meet. Each Leadership Team organises working groups within their own church.

The Parish Leadership Team:

Rev. P. Sumsion, Rev. R. Airey, Barbara Atkin, Michael Booth to May 2021, Peter Hardcastle (from May 2021), Michael Burton, Rev. Vic. Fletcher, Ethel Houghton, David Lomax, Stephen Newhouse, Jo Venn, Rev. Ian Fletcher and Jo Sumsion (from September 2021 as Children and Families Ministry Facilitator).

Emmanuel Holcombe Team Report 2021

2021 was unsurprisingly a strange year.

The Emmanuel, Holcombe Team met three times during the year. Of course many of the regular activities and some minor building work did not take place.

Covid 19 Restrictions

We were able to hold regular service this year, with various restriction such a social distancing, one way systems, mask wearing, etc.

Building work

Our plans for building work were put to the DAC and their feedback generally supported our plans, but required clarification of some areas of work, resulting in some changes to plan drawings and the updated plans being submitted in the second half of 2021. We expect approval early in 2022. There have been numerous minor repairs throughout the year

Services

The decision to stop the 8am Holy Communion Service 1662 was taken as numbers attending had dropped, (even before the pandemic), to around five people, (including Clergy, Warden and Assistant).

We continued to provide video Choral Evensong and Compline until July when actual services re-started. It had been decided that Choral Evensong would re-join our schedule of services, with an evening Holy Communion 1662 about four times per year.

Family and Children Provision

Jo Sumsion started Weekly Coffee Mornings for parents and carers of our School children on Wednesday at 9am, (also Tuesday at St Mary's), which has been successful in attracting around 8 or 9 adults and a couple of toddlers each week.

For the future we are looking at family provision with a possible Café Church and have re-introduced regular Family and Parade Services.

Our thanks go to the numerous people who offer their time, skills, advice and support to all of the work at Emmanuel, Holcombe, we are extremely grateful.

Membership:

Rev. Paul Sumsion, Rev. Robert Airey, Claire Baggoley, Jennifer Burton, Michael Burton, and Stephen Newhouse.

Emanuel Church Centre Team Report 2021

This year has certainly shown us that the church is the people not just a building. We were all delighted to return as a fellowship together, but we had kept in contact by phone or in person.

Some of our groups and organisations are back as normal and there have been Services with and without masks. We have been delighted to be able to sing again in Church. Thanks must go to Sheila and Christine who bring us wonderful music before and after the service and lead our singing of hymns.

The garden has been kept as beautiful as ever thanks to Barbara, Stephen and Christine and we have had several working parties outside.

Once again we have held a Remembering Event in November around the Cross outside and we had Campfire Carols in December. This was a foretaste of Campfire Church that started in January with songs, prayers, a talk and activities for young and old alike with warming hot chocolate and gorgeous cookies.

A working group painted the worship centre, enjoying each other's company.

Thanks to Glenis for her flowers throughout the year and to Alex for all she has done for the centre over the years.

We thank John Partridge for all his work on maintaining the building and to

Tony Bliss for keeping the centre clean and tidy.

We may be small in number, but you can always be sure of a warm welcome and we have been delighted to welcome new members who have felt that the sharing of faith and fellowship is a tangible part of E.C.C.

Members: Rev. Paul Sumsion, Gwen Barnes, Geoff Clare, Alan Goldsmith, Ann Milius, Sheila Partridge, Romey Simpson, Gloria Metcalfe, and Jo Venn.

St. Mary, Hawkshaw Team Report 2021

**No
Report
Received**

Fabric Report 2021

Due to the continuing Coronavirus Pandemic a lot of the usual building work has been restricted. The general condition of all three buildings is however generally satisfactory and where there are defects and problems they are being noted and remedied when possible. Much work has been done in continuing to ensure the buildings were Covid safe, including the drawing up of a comprehensive Risk Assessments, devising one way systems, spacing seating, provision of sanitiser, etc.

Emmanuel Church, Holcombe

We continue to rely on our band of volunteers who do many minor repairs. The plans for the development within the building have developed further this year. The DAC are considering our responses to concerns they had raised. We believe the Faculty will be approved early in 2022.

There is a problem with rain leaking into the church from the clock tower and also through lead flashing on the south aisle, the problem is being investigated.

Emmanuel Church Centre

The building and surrounding gardens are in a generally good state of repair, due in no small part to the dedicated work of volunteers, which has continued, during the pandemic. At one working party a group painted the E.C.C. interior walls.

The five yearly electrical system inspection was conducted with only minor recommendations, and several electrical repairs being completed at the same time.

St. Mary's, Hawkshaw

The grounds/garden and graveyard are well maintained and in good order. There are signs of general wear and tear in the

church building which is to be expected as the building is used a lot; so interior decoration will have to be addressed soon.

Some thought needs to be given to a replacement heating system in the near future.

It is a continuous battle with slipping slates and leaking gutter systems, but overall these have held up reasonably well under some testing times.

Feedback from the DAC with regards to the kitchen/toilets/sound desk/storage plans showed that they approved in principle but at present cannot support the proposal, resulting in some changes to plan drawings and fresh plans will be submitted in 2022.

General Comments

We thank everyone who works quietly behind the scenes cleaning, washing the linen, cleaning the brass and silver, flower arranging or sound, PA and streaming technicians, Deputy Wardens and last, but not least, the sidemen and women who play such an important role in welcoming people to our services.

The practical help and financial assistance of many people continues to play a major part in the care of the buildings, and our grateful thanks go to everyone who has contributed in any way.

*Peter Hardcastle and Stephen Newhouse.
Churchwardens March 2022*

P.C.C. Review of the Year 2021

The P.C.C. met eight times during 2021, all but two of the meetings taking place via Zoom. An average of 17 members attended each meeting. In addition, the Parish Leadership Team (P.L.T.) met every few weeks via Zoom with delegated authority to approve or initiate certain measures where necessary, reporting back to P.C.C.

So much of the business of both the P.C.C. and P.L.T. centred around the impact of Covid 19, discussing ways to mitigate its damaging effect on the church's ability to worship together, provide for fellowship and spread the gospel.

The following matters were considered during the year:

Treasurer's Report:

The P.C.C. received an update on our financial position at each meeting. Following the previous year's success in paying the Parish Share in full, David Lomax advised that there would be a shortfall of £4,000 during 2021.

Covid Restrictions:

The P.C.C. ensured that all government rules and Church of England advice was adhered to throughout the year. Much of the planning relating to Covid was conducted at P.L.T. meetings allowing for a more timely response to the ever changing situation. Services continued to

be streamed online and other activities such as Open the Book were pre-recorded and available on YouTube. In July a survey was carried out to gauge the feelings of the congregations in regard to the relaxing of Covid-safe measures. The responses from this online survey informed the P.C.C.'s decisions.

Holy Communion:

There is a legal requirement to provide Holy Communion within the parish and the Bishop must be informed of any changes in pattern. While Covid levels were very high, Holy Communion took place twice a month at Holcombe and once a month at E.C.C. only. As the year progressed a more comprehensive pattern emerged across the parish, but with Holy Communion being in one kind, (bread only) with wafers instead of bread as a temporary measure.

Mission Communities:

The Diocese will be divided into 33 Mission Communities, the Bury and Rossendale Deanery comprising five Mission Community areas. This will come into effect during 2022. The P.C.C. discussed the implications of such a pooling of resources and the need to replace retiring stipendiary clergy.

Mission and Outreach:

Experience Easter took place outside for our two church schools. Easter trails for families were organised at all three centres. "Thy Kingdom Come" booklets were distributed between Ascension and Pentecost. Digital Family Prayer Adventure maps were also distributed through the schools. There was an opportunity to remember departed loved-ones at E.C.C. in November. Experience

Christmas took place in Hawkshaw and Holcombe Churches, but had to be abandoned for Holcombe Brook Primary School due to rising Covid infections.

With Jo Sumsion's role as Children and Families Ministry Facilitator commencing in September opportunities for mission and outreach were identified. These included a weekly morning drop-in for parents of school children at both Holcombe and Hawkshaw and the introduction of Camp-fire Church at E.C.C.

Children's Work:

The year started with little scope for providing substantial children's and young people's work. Work sheets were made available for younger children at Hawkshaw Church during services and, as restrictions lifted, activities were provided outside. However, from September, Cellar youth club and Sunday School resumed.

Ordination and Licensing:

During July Ian Fleming was ordained and Jo Sumsion was licensed as Lay Reader.

Children and Families Ministry Facilitator:

In 2021 the P.C.C. approved funding for the employment of a Children and Families Ministry Facilitator to work 15 hours per week. The position was duly advertised and following a rigorous interview process carried out by a small team, the P.C.C. was delighted to appoint Jo Sumsion to the position. Jo thus started in her new role in September. Jo Venn agreed to be her line manager and will continue to monitor and support Jo's progress going forward.

Safeguarding:

During the course of the year Liz Webber took over from Elaine Allum as Safeguarding Officer. The members of the P.C.C., along with people in various other relevant roles, were required to undertake online safeguarding training.

Health and Safety:

A revised Health and Safety policy and new Emergency Plan were approved by the P.C.C.

Buildings:

Various plans for projects to improve facilities at both Holcombe and Hawkshaw Churches made slow progress through the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the P.C.C. was kept updated as relevant.

Church Groups:

Regular groups such as mid-week meetings resumed from September.

Training:

A.L.M. training was approved for several members of the parish and First Aid training took place in November.

Michael Booth:

Sadly, during the year we lost Michael Booth, Churchwarden, Lay Reader and long-serving member of the P.C.C.. His death has left a huge gap in the life of our Parish, particularly within the Hawkshaw family, and he will be greatly missed.

Verger:

Eric Shortt was appointed Verger at Hawkshaw Church.

School Governors:

The P.C.C. endorsed the appointments of several members of the church to the governing bodies of our church schools.

George Sandiford Legacy:

A legacy of £25,000 was received from George Sandiford who worshipped at Emmanuel Church Centre.

Penny Hanley, P.C.C. Secretary

Report for the Bridge, Bentley and Ramsbottom Trust for 2021.

The work of the Trust has continued during the year with Trustees actively looking for ways to help those in need. Please read the promotional information below and if we can help anyone in need please let them know about the Trust.

The Expenditure for the year was £5724.

Grants were awarded in the following ways:

(1) 'One off' book grants to University students, (23) Welfare, and (1) Educational.

The Bridge, Bentley, Ramsbottom Trust was created as an amalgamation of the John T. Bridge and three other smaller charitable trusts in 2002.



Bridge Bentley Ramsbottom Trust has small grants available to those in need living within a three mile radius of Emmanuel, Holcombe Church, Holcombe or those living within the Bury Deanery as defined on 1st January 2020.

**The five Trustees treat each application in strictest confidence.
Applications are welcomed from people of any faith or none.**

The Diocese of Manchester, the Deanery of Bury and Rossendale Synod Report 2021

The meetings of Synod gives representatives valuable opportunities to meet and discuss matters with members of other parishes across the deanery. Each parish is entitled to representation according to their size. Our Electoral Roll entitled us to four members.

The Deanery Synod met two this year.

New Deanery

This year saw the formation of a new Deanery: the former Bury, Rossendale, Radcliffe and Prestwich deaneries were combined to form **ONE** deanery: the Deanery of Bury and Rossendale with **ONE** area Dean. The new Area Dean is Revd Canon Dr. Rachel Mann, who was Area Dean of Withington, Incumbent of St. Nicholas Burnage and Curate of St. Chad Ladybarn (Manchester Diocese). In June, Mrs. Kathryn Pollard was appointed as Deanery Lay Chair.

The inaugural meeting was held on 6th July, via Zoom with a further meeting in September, also via Zoom.

The year has again been overshadowed by the Covid Pandemic.

As reported last year the main focus of this year has been the formation of the Mission Communities throughout the diocese. Our deanery is to be divided into five Mission Communities. Our parish will be Mission Community 3 comprising Holcombe and Hawkshaw, Ramsbottom Team and St. Anne, Tottington.

Mission Community Leader

We will start this new way of working from January 2022. As part of that process it is hoped to make appointments of all Mission Community Leaders between January and June 2022. P.C.C.'s, Wardens and congregations were asked to put names forward late in 2021.

Focal Leader

Within the each Mission Community, every centre of worship will have a named focal leader who will provide the pastoral care for that centre. This will be either a stipendiary priest, (who may also be the mission community leader), another ordained minister, or a lay person – such as a Reader, or Authorised Lay Minister (A.L.M.), or any other suitable lay person – who is appointed to the role. There will be a focus on developing specific ministries and skills to meet the needs of local people. They should be appointed by 2023

*Claire Baggoley, Keith Jones,
Jean Houghton and Stephen Newhouse.
March 2022*

The Rector's Report will be given verbally at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the 25th April

Safeguarding Report 2021

Psalm 82 verse 3 says, 'Defend the weak and the fatherless, uphold the case of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy and deliver them from the hand of the wicked.' As a church, we want to ensure that the children and vulnerable adults in our community are protected. We recognise the calling and duty to love and care for the vulnerable and marginalised and protect all from abuse. The Parish of Holcombe and Hawkshaw continue to follow the Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and continue to review our own Safeguarding Policy annually.

I recently took over the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer from Elaine Allum, which coincided with groups restarting following closures due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and a change in policy which now requires DBS checks and Parish Safeguarding Training to be updated every three years as opposed to five years, as it had been previously. This has meant a lot of people have needed DBS checks updating in the past few months and I'm extremely grateful to everyone who has completed applications during this time. Many people have also completed their Diocesan Safeguarding Training, though we still have a number of people needing to do this, in order to ensure we meet the criteria as set out by the diocese. Part of the problem has been due to the leadership courses being oversubscribed, I hope these will become more readily available during the coming months.

There has been one safeguarding report which has needed to be investigated over the last year.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Ensuring your DBS and Safeguarding Training requirements are up to date, alongside acting on any concerns you might have, regarding children and vulnerable adults, is absolutely necessary for all those in qualifying roles.

Thank you to everyone, for the collective effort in making our churches as safe as we can.

*Liz Webber
22nd February, 2022*

SAFEGUARDING POLICY PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) meeting held on 14th March 2022 .

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (P.S.O.) to work with the incumbent and the P.C.C. to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (D.S.A.) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints: Mrs. Liz Webber as the Parish Safeguarding Officer

Incumbent: Reverend Paul Sumsion.

Churchwardens: Mr. Peter Hardcastle & Mr. Stephen Newhouse.

Date: 14th March, 2022

Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended
31st December, 2021.

Holcombe and Hawkshaw Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Holcombe and Hawkshaw 2021		
	£	£	£
Voluntary Income			
Planned Giving - Gift Aid	61,424.17		
Planned Giving - Un-gifted	2,088.42		
One off Gift Aid	312.50		
Cash/Collections	4,411.57		
Income tax recovered	16,501.11		
Fund Raising Events	158.04		
Magazine	36.20		
Use of Church Buildings	3,912.50		
		88,844.51	
Other Ordinary Income			
Dividends and Interest	31.36		
Fees to PCC (includes £2,013 fees paid to Diocese)	6,074.00		
		6,105.36	94,949.87
Extraordinary Income			
Restricted Donations	33,630.00		
Legacy	500.00		
Headstone	144.00		
Insurance Claim	2,859.20		
Special Appeals	356.97		
		37,490.17	132,440.04
Total Income 2021			132,440.04
Income 2020			114,897.73

Holcombe and Hawkshaw Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	£	£	£
The Ministry			
Ministry Expenses	12,726.10		
Support & Education	1,977.10		
	<u>14,703.20</u>		
The Church and Services			
Energy	8,577.87		
Water	596.56		
Cleaning	0.00		
Insurance	7,302.58		
Upkeep of Services	5,005.69		
Minor Repairs, Fire Inspection	7,087.00		
Churchyard	1,483.20		
	<u>30,052.90</u>		
Other Ordinary Expenditure			
Wages	13,417.46		
Magazine	0.00		
Fund Raising costs	0.00		
Verger/Organist	435.00		
	<u>13,852.46</u>		
The Diocese			
Parish Share	41,000.00		
Other Diocese costs	2,013.00		
	<u>43,013.00</u>		
Payments to Missions/Charities			
Mission/Charities	1,674.00		
	<u>1,674.00</u>	103,295.56	
Extraordinary Expenditure			
ECC Garden	163.86		
ECC	622.44		
Holcombe Church	1,987.00		
Hawkshaw	375.00		
Hawkshaw Heating			
Holcombe Organ			
	<u>3,148.30</u>	106,443.86	
Total Cash Expenditure 2021		<u>106,443.86</u>	
Expenditure 2020		107,016.55	

YEAR END STATEMENT 2021

Bank Balances 31 December 2019	Total
Current Account	-
Deposit Account	69,395.50
Direct Giving Accounts	15,356.32
Restricted Funds Account	820.65
Cash	-
	<u>85,572.47</u>
Less Unpresented cheques	
Year End Total	<u>85,572.47</u>
Restricted/Designated Funds	
Gardening (ECC)	-
ECC	17,527.56
Holcombe	30,735.99
Hawkshaw	2,275.00
Hawkshaw Heating	30,000.00
Malawi	1,931.64
	<u>82,470.19</u>
Working Balance	3,102.28

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Balance 31/12/2020	Balance 31/12/2021
Santander	310.55	351.54
CCLA - Restricted Holcombe Endowments	995.51	985.45
<u>Bank Accounts</u>		
Current Acc		-
Deposit Acc	44,958.28	69,395.50
Direct Giving Acc	13,797.28	15,356.32
Restricted Acc	820.53	820.65
Cash Not banked		-
	60882.15	86909.46
Less Cheques unrepresented	0.00	0.00
	60882.15	86909.46
TOTALS	60882.15	86909.46

Yearbook 2021

Soup Company

For the first part of the year we were still on weekly deliveries, but we were delighted to be up and running again after the Summer. September saw us start again. We have met the second Thursday of every month for delicious home made soups and cakes and have had as many as 30 people, including deliveries to those who are still isolating.



The group is exactly as it was meant to be, good soup and good company and this is followed by a communion service.

But don't just take it from me; this is what some of our members say:

'Excellent food', David.

'Friendly Company', Ross.

'Very satisfying', Ken.

'Good selection of soups and lovely Company', Elfie.

'It makes my day and it is nice to be waited on', Muriel.

'It makes a Thursday special', Betty

'Very enjoyable company and food'. Susan.

'Lovely to go out and meet friends when you are on your own', Ann.

'So many choices of soups and desserts we are spoilt', Maureen.

'Food, Friends and Fellowship',

Annette.

This says it all. With up to seven choices of soup, and trifle or cakes to enjoy there is something for everyone especially vegetarians.

Thanks as always to: Romey, Annette, Jenny and Christine, for their culinary skills and to all our friends who make Soup Company the great place it is.

If you have never been, you are missing a treat.

Jo Venn

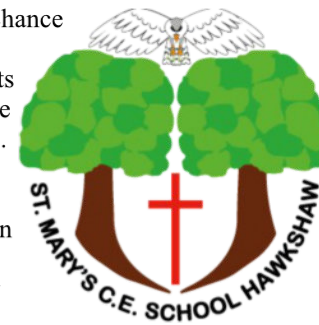
St Mary's Church of England Primary School

As a school community we really appreciate being able to 'Believe and Achieve Together'. The St Mary's family is back together and thriving. The children are thrilled to be able to play out freely, share whole school collective worship, and attend after school clubs. We are welcoming visitors into school and we have been able to arrange educational trips. The whole school attended The Octagon Theatre in Bolton to watch Peter Pan. It felt like a huge celebration. Class 4 were able to visit Yorkshire Camps for outdoor challenges and a residential stay. Children are able to enjoy much wider and enhancing experiences.

We have re-formed School Council and Faith Ambassadors allowing children to have a voice and to be able to influence decisions. The School Council have selected the charities we are going to support this year. We have an ongoing project to collect food for Ramsbottom Pantry. We also acted as a collection point for the Ukraine emergency supply appeal. We have recently created a passionate group called Planet Protectors. They have completed an audit and have chosen areas to improve. The main project aims to reduce our consumption of gas and electricity. We are making a whole school effort. We are also collecting crisp packets for recycling until July 2022. The children are so proud of our school and are relentless in their passion to contribute. We are truly blessed.

After two years we have been able to have face to face Parents' Evenings and services in church with parents. We have

missed the chance to share achievements and celebrate with parents. The live Nativity production in church was treasured by parents and grandparents.



We are so thankful to our PTA who arrange fun activities for our families. They have raised enough money to update the Information Technology devices used by the children and staff. We are so excited to have a full class set of the latest Chromebooks and group sets of iPads. The quality equipment will enable us to provide outstanding Information Technology teaching. We cannot thank the PTA enough.

We are delighted with our new stylish railings and gates. They have increased site security and help us all to feel safer in school. We have applied for SCA funding via Manchester Diocese to complete the project by adding railings to the church and playground boundary. We await their response.

We are grateful for all the wider opportunities we are now able to provide for our children and are thankful for the support we receive from St Mary's Church community. A special thanks to Jo Sumsion who has led our choir, arranged Thursday collective worship, and provided refreshments for parents every Tuesday morning.

Kind regards

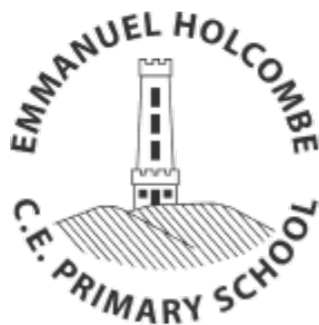
Geraldine Woodward
Head Teacher

What another unusual year. This time last year we were in the second national lockdown and were hoping that 2022 would start virus free. Unfortunately, this is not the case and we are continuing to live with the daily interruptions the virus brings. Not all is downtrodden and glum though. We have achieved some amazing things this year that we would like to share.

We were delighted to be able to work closely with the church at Easter to hold the Experience Easter extravaganza on the land at the back of school. We also held our Easter service outside and it was lovely to all be together again.



We continue to embrace positive mental health and wellbeing as part of our curriculum following the lockdowns. As part of the curriculum, we make good use



of our immediate local area with children walking on the moors and into the woods on a weekly basis. Please give us a wave if you see us out and about.

Returning to school in September with less Covid restrictions was fantastic. We were finally able to come together for worship, work across classes, be on the playground together and get back our family feel to school. We thoroughly enjoyed holding our Harvest festival and our carol concert in church this year. The children were fantastic and you could hear every word they said in both services.

Following the success of the Easter story extravaganza, we enjoyed the Christmas extravaganza which gave the children the opportunity to explore the Christmas story in a different way. We are extremely grateful for all those who planned and led this event.

We were also able to hold our nativity performances in school welcoming parents and grandparents to watch. The children made us laugh out loud with their expressions and dances- a welcome relief at the end of another challenging year. We said farewell to Mrs. Sanderson at Christmas after 9 years of working at school and wish her all the best in her new position.

Returning from the Christmas holidays has seen a spike in infection rates in the borough and we are hoping that this will cause us minimum disruption in school. We are all ready with our online learning,



although we hope we can continue with face to face learning for as long as possible.

Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

*Catherine Bennett
Headteacher*

*Emmanuel Holcombe
Primary School*

Mothers' UNION

Like many other organisations, the Mother's Union did not meet from March 2020 until September 2021, because of the Coronavirus epidemic.

Our speakers at our last few meetings included our own Pauline Howker, who spoke about the "garden services" from Canterbury Cathedral; Gloria Metcalfe who read us a selection of her poetry and Richard France who shared with us several of the monologues written by his father, Philip, about Holcombe church life and times at their home at Dickfield.

In December, we held our usual Christmas Lunch at the Sykeside Hotel, despite it being a wet and windy day, there was a warm welcome and good food when we got there.

Despite our short meeting season up to this report, we did manage to have two Annual General Meetings, one postponed from 2021 and our regular one in February this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee members for all their hard work over this last year.

We have a full programme over the next year, meeting on the first Tuesday of each month in the Emmanuel Church Centre at 2.00pm. All are welcome. So please keep an eye on our Notice Boards, the church magazine and the regular weekly emails about church events.

Robert Airey
Correspondence Officer.



There is better news in this year's report!

The Drop In is open – with caution. There are presently fewer people gathering than when we re-opened last July, but the pre-Christmas rise in Covid infections forced some members to isolate or shield. As government advice changes and restrictions lift, more might well return.

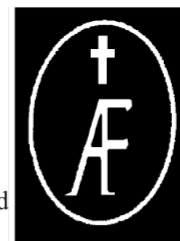
There is such need for fellowship and conversation is a real means of being together – particularly for those who live alone.

As ever, we offer tea, coffee and biscuits to accompany our chats and all are welcome each Monday morning 10.00am until mid-day.

Gloria.

Afternoon Fellowship

We re-started 2021 on September 13th with only four members, and were able to have a good catch up chat.



September 27th: Gloria gave readings of her own written poems. *Seven members.*

October 11th: Sheila provided a musical afternoon, which as always is wonderful, *only five members today.*

October 20th: Robert very interesting talk with the title of "Perfumes in the Bible". *Six members.*

November 8th: Bessie "Remembrance Readings" with photos and stories of interest. *Five members.*

November 20th: Robert "Ladies in the Bible". *Ten members today!*

December 6th: Robert shared "Different Christmas Stories". Lots of facts and stories. What would we do without Robert helping us out!! *Six members.*

December 20th

Joint Carol Service for all Hall users. *Good attendance.*

New Year we started to meet once a month starting with "A Different Israel" by Mr. & Mrs. Kellington. Film show and talk.

Which very well presented.

We are always pleased to welcome new members, please come and join us, we need you! on the 4th Monday of the month, with interesting talks and of course tea and biscuits.

More details from:-

Mrs. Pauline Keighley 01204 884476
Mrs. Ann Milius 01204 880677
Ann Milius.

E.C.C. Prayer Group

Activities during 2021 were severely reduced by the Covid pandemic.

The usual opportunity for private prayer and reflection on Good Friday



(2nd April) was significantly pared down, with E.C.C. open from 10a.m.-12 noon with much-reduced input.

Mindful of the need for opportunities to reflect on the events of the preceding year, all three worship centres offered "My Pandemic Experience" for a couple of hours on five days in May. Based on material produced by CPAS, interactive prayer stations on the themes of Thanksgiving, Lament, Learning and Prayer were set up as an aid to personal prayer.

As circumstances changed and restrictions slightly eased, an updated version of this, "Looking Back & Moving On", was offered at E.C.C. on Friday evening and Saturday morning of 15th & 16th October.

Also in October, the usual monthly **Quiet Mornings** resumed. These had clearly been missed as there were record attendances for the 3 months up to the end of the year. (An average of 21 people)

Taize services also resumed, with one on the evening of 3rd October (Harvest) and one as the morning service at E.C.C. on Advent Sunday (28th November).

We hope to offer opportunities for reflection and meditative worship throughout 2021, and a warm invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us at any of these events.

Emmanuel Holcombe Choir

Another year has passed in which life has been full of unexpected turns.

This time last year we were still in lockdown, and though there was no law requiring us to close the churches, it was felt to be safer.

So we started meeting on Zoom for our choir practices, and while this has its limitations, it was better than nothing. In addition to our music-making, it gave us a little more social contact than we would have had otherwise. Our Good Friday service took place on Zoom with the help of some recordings.

It was not till late July that we resumed choir practices in person. After so many months of hearing none of the other voices, we had to practise listening to one another again and found ourselves doing more unaccompanied singing than usual in order to focus on this.

The first Sunday when singing was permitted in services was an emotional occasion for choir and congregation alike.

In the autumn we moved back into the choir stalls, though with more space between singers than there used to be. Eventually Choral Evensong resumed. Even now, it is shorter than before the pandemic, but we are looking forward to singing the Lord's Prayer at some point in the future.

We had a relatively normal carol service, to which a group of children contributed. This was the period when

there were large numbers of Delta cases, and then Omicron took off, so some children did have to miss practices as a result of Covid. It was a great relief that enough children were well on the day of the service.

We are sad that we have had to say our final farewell to Colin, who was a member of the choir for thirty years. But it was good to play our part in the celebration of his life. We miss him, Hilda and several other members whose health has deteriorated: Richard Carr, Doris Lockett, Pat Carver and Gwyneth Adshead. We are sorry that Beryl now prefers to sit in the congregation when she is here, but we understand her reasons. We are grateful for all she has done for the choir over many years.

We are glad that John Fairclough has returned to play for us, and he has agreed to take choir practices for me should the need arise. But I have no plans to break any more bones.

We occasionally welcome people from elsewhere to augment our forces. We were pleased that Keith Ball was able to sing with us at the carol service and Colin's funeral. When there are two basses but no tenor, Richard France often supplies the missing part, which is most helpful. Jill Hunt's husband Brian will also be singing bass with us from time to time, and we appreciate his contribution.



Rosemary Artley
19.2.2022

Music at Hawkshaw

Our year of music at St Mary's during 2021 was one of a gradual and cautious return to some level of normality, albeit an often very different normal than what we had previously known. As soon as Christmas 2020 was out of the way, we were plunged back into a national lockdown and services were back solely online. We took advantage of all the Sumsion family's recorded music from the previous summer and were able to take it in turns streaming live music as part of the services recorded on a Sunday morning in a near empty church. Thanks, as ever, to Jo, Paul, Ruth, Caleb and Isaac as well as the streaming team of Stuart, Rob, David and the much-missed Michael Booth for getting us through those dark months.

From March, the country and our churches began to reopen and services began taking place again. No congregational singing was allowed but we were able to sing over the congregation and restore a degree of normality to our services.

In May, Jo and Paul organised the first of a number of outdoor services in which we were, at last, able to sing again. There was a real sense of joy at these services and members of other local churches joined us for the opportunity to sing God's praises as a church once more. Another special thanks to David, Stuart and Rob who added live online outdoor broadcasts to their CV's.

Early July saw the Iron Man return to Bolton and we were able to provide musical encouragement to the riders on their way past St. Mary's, that is until the heavens opened and we had to make a swift retreat inside. Thanks to Jo, Paul, Caleb, Isaac and Ruth for going along with my plans to turn them into a jazz band.

From September, we welcomed back our team of singers – David, Dot, Jane and Susan - who had been unable to participate over lockdown due to social distancing requirements. It was also wonderful to welcome Loraine and Keith to the team and we are now able to rotate singers and musicians which is a lovely position to be in. Thanks also to Caleb Sumsion

who stepped up to leading and choosing songs by himself and has done an excellent job.

Sadly, September was also a time to say goodbye to Ruth Sumsion, who, after achieving spectacularly in her A levels, departed for Lea Abbey in Devon. Thank you Ruth for all you have given to St Mary's.

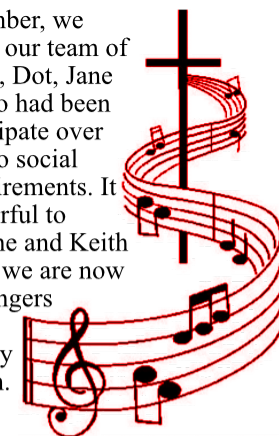
At Christmas, the carol service music was again organised by Jo. Thanks to the musicians and singers involved. December also saw the first Campfire Churches in which we were able to sing Christmas carols around a warm fire. These continue to go from strength to strength in 2022.

With Jo's new role in the parish, we were also able to begin welcoming St Mary's School choir to participate in leading songs on a regular basis. Many of us, will have felt the emotion of seeing a large group of children joining the musicians at the front of church, waving flags and shaking percussion and singing the words from 'The Blessing':

*May His favour be upon you
And a thousand generations
And Your family and your children
And their children, and their children*

May these words be our prayer for our families, friends, churches and communities over the next year and beyond.

Tim Webber



Hall Things Bright and Beautiful 2021.

Nature never stops!

While working in the garden, many of the visitors have said to me that during lock down, the garden was a life saver. That is so wonderful and makes me feel really pleased that the team put all the effort into making the garden happen six years ago. The garden is used so much by so many people for so many varied reasons it really makes it all so worthwhile. Nothing so, so about it!

Maintenance has been kept up, we have managed a few working parties as restrictions eased, but mainly our thanks go again to Christine who keeps on weeding, cutting back and generally keeping on top of things while the more major projects are dealt with.

It is lovely to see the flowers come up again each year and also to plant bedding and see it thrive. Thanks to kind donations during the year, we have added: a small pond at the front of the garden; a bench in the middle; a wood shelter for



the campfire area and a few new bushes - and lots and lots of bulbs.

Also due to other donation, we have been able to re-fill most of the barked areas to keep down the weeds and maintain the path ways.

The rabbits seem to have left the garden, (the flowers have not been eaten for a while now), but we still have visits from deer, and numerous types of birds especially our friendly Robin and something that visits every day, to scratch up the bark along the left side path. Our aim is to encourage wild life, by keeping some areas uncultivated as well as having the more formal beds. So far there seems to be a good workable balance.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the garden in any way whatsoever. The team will carry on cutting grass maintaining the area and keeping the garden a pleasant, useful and enjoyable place to be.

*Barbara Newhouse
For the Hall Things Bright and
Beautiful Team.*



**What it used to
look like in 2015**



Open the book

Open the Book has taken a different format this year due to the Pandemic, but nevertheless we have provided Assemblies based on Bible Stories for St Mary's Hawkshaw, Emmanuel Holcombe Primary School and Holcombe Brook Primary. These have involved the team, which includes members from each of our worship centres, meeting at the Centre, socially distanced and at intervals with Sheila organising it well and Stephen filming and editing the introductions, stories and conclusions.

We have had very favourable comments from all our schools and our assemblies have also been part of the daily Acts of Worship in Primary Schools in the Wigan and Blackburn Dioceses. Such is the power and versatility of modern Technology.

Although we have not managed to visit the schools in person, except for 'Experiencing Easter', we have been in touch. Experiencing Easter happened in Holy Week when the team re-enacted the Easter Story in Emmanuel Church. The pupils took a full part: writing prayers; throwing anything they wanted to say sorry for in the Courtyard remembering where Peter denied Jesus three times;



visiting the Garden of Gethsemane; making their own Easter Gardens and praying and making crosses; seeing the empty tomb and sowing seeds representing new life.

Sadly, we lost one of our very dear members this year, Colin Gaskell, who has played and dressed as many Biblical characters over the years. He was loved by us all for his sense of humour and fun and will be remembered particularly when we think of how he loved to see his grandsons when we visited Holcombe Brook Primary.

The team have worked well despite restrictions, but we are looking forward to meeting together on a Monday morning, to have the fun and banter we love whilst preparing to educate our young people spiritually.

If anyone wishes to join our happy band, we are always looking for new members.

Holiday Club

It was great to be able to welcome so many children back to holiday club after the previous year's lockdown restrictions. For many of the very youngest children it was a brand new adventure to be able to be free to have fun with friends and enjoy games and activities outside of the home or school bubble.

Holiday club ran during the second week of August. Our theme for the week was Hawkshaw Rock. There are several angles of attack for this from having a sticky encounter with a tooth-rotting delight; or by getting down with the beat of our resident band; through to building lives on something, (or someone) solid. I think we managed all three!

Our stories followed the "Open the Book" format with narration plus drama starting with, of course, the Wise and Foolish Builders. The following days saw the Good Samaritan, the Lost Coin, the Unmerciful Servant and the story of the Talents getting the treatment from our troupe of thespians. As usual we enjoyed plenty of crafts and games, albeit mindful of the ever present danger of Covid that could so easily have put the kibosh on proceedings. But God kept us all safe all week!



On the Thursday evening we invited children, parents and members of the Church family to a barbecue with yet another story, this time of the Wedding Banquet. This was very well attended by children and parents and it was a great opportunity to be able welcome new families after such a long, fallow period. It would have been even better if more of our regular congregation could have been able to join us! But thanks go to those who did managed to come and support us in this vital mission.

Of course, many thanks go to the fantastic team who helped all week. You know who you are! But particularly to Ruth, Caleb and Isaac without whom the week wouldn't have rocked so well!

Penny Hanley

19th Ramsbottom Brownies

We have had a 'Zoom Year!'

Successful, but different. While on Zoom, the Brownies enjoyed games and activities as well as achieving a great deal within the Programme. We also grew in numbers, but it has been so wonderful to get back to face – to – face meetings since September.

The new Brownie programme has six Themes available for each girl to achieve. This happens over the three years with the pack. Lois was our first Brownie to get two Themes and gain her Bronze Award. Since then, another three Brownies have also managed this wonderful achievement and we are so pleased for them – next step, Silver and Gold – no mean feat.



We plan to re-start other 'back to normal' activities eventually, but for now, one step at a time!

We are lucky to have enough leaders to spread out the workload and we are all enjoying being with the girls and working through the activities aimed at developing many useful skills in a fun way.

We are also pleased to welcome two young ladies who are working with us to fulfil their Duke of Edinburgh Service to the Community. It is lovely for the Brownies to share time with younger helpers.

*Lisa Coulborn, Janet Halliwell,
Mary Souter and Barbara Newhouse.*

10th Ramsbottom Guides

In November, after a break of 20 months due to Covid, 10th Ramsbottom Guides began meeting virtually by Zoom. We've enjoyed virtual scavenger hunts, Christmas crafts making reindeer and stars, played pass the pigs, as well as adapting the Guiding program for the virtual world. We're looking forward to meeting outdoors in the not too distant future.

I'm delighted to welcome Kathryn Fry to the unit as a leader, and grateful for her helping to get us "Zooming"!

As ever, we couldn't do this without the help of our volunteers, so it's 'Thank You!' for everything they do.



Annual Report 2021

There's a saying that goes *"All good things come to an end"* and unfortunately that's what happened on Friday 16th July, 2021. The 11th Ramsbottom (Holcombe) Guides held its last meeting. Before Covid, we used to meet every Friday at Emmanuel Holcombe School but for the last 12 months we have been keeping in touch via our weekly Zoom Meetings. With numbers being low, some girls moving on to 6th form college and the leaders taking the decision to step down, the unit was closed.

It was an extremely difficult decision as we have been Guiders at Holcombe together for the last 28 Years (though I had been at Holcombe Guides for 38 years and Janet joined us from another Guide Company). Janet should have been

awarded her 30 years long service award from Girlguiding, but unfortunately, it's been delayed.

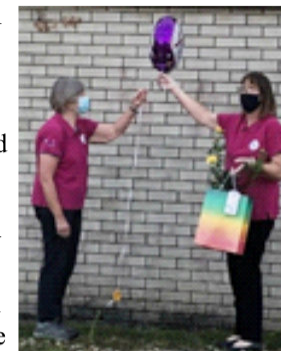
So, following our 34th & last Zoom meeting, we all took the short trip to Canon Lewis Hall,

where we could see each other face to face again, (socially distanced) for the first time in 484 days. Here

we presented the girls with a goodie bag of gifts and photographs and wished them "Good luck for the future". Janet was presented with a rose plant, as gift from the Guides to recognise her 30 years' service. We both want to say a big thank you to the Guides and their parents for the lovely flowers and cards they gave us.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who over the years has helped and supported Holcombe Guides in any way, it was and has been greatly appreciated. As Guiders, we have had the honour, privilege and pleasure of knowing that we have helped 100's of girls on their guiding journey.

Kathryn Fry & Janet Howarth



Children and Families Ministry Facilitator

In July we held sessions for the Year 6 pupils at St. Mary's, Emmanuel and Holcombe Brook Primary schools, using the 'It's Your Move' material from Scripture Union to help them to prepare for the transition to secondary school.

In July we also began to prepare for restarting Sunday school at Hawkshaw after the long break due to restrictions. Leaders met together to plan and prepare to make sure that everything was in place for the start of the September term when, finally, the groups would be able to meet again.

In planning for September, I could see the need for parents, particularly those new to the schools, to have the opportunity to meet together and get to know each other, especially after spending 18 months in lockdown with their little ones. Weekly coffee mornings have started in St Mary's and Holcombe for the respective parents and carers, after they have dropped off at school and there's always plenty of cake!

We have contact with our church schools each week. We lead whole school collective worship on a rota - Paul, Ian and Robert and Jo Dolman, (Bolton circuit Methodist youth worker) - are all involved. Each week, I have been into Emmanuel to lead class worship for a different class over a half term. We have explored the values of generosity and compassion.

I have also been helping to run the choir at St. Mary's and a good number of children and their families have joined us to sing with the church music group for All Age Worship.

We've also held special services for our schools at Harvest and Christmas.

In December, we were able to invite the schools into church to Experience Christmas at Emmanuel and St. Mary's. One at a time, each class joined us for a session to explore the Christmas story with interactive storytelling and reflective activities. Unfortunately, with the rise in Covid rates towards the end of term, we had to cancel the two days we had planned to take Holcombe Brook Primary school through a similar experience at Emmanuel Church Centre. We hope to be able to offer them Experience Easter Outside.

Last term we were also planning towards the starting up of Campfire Church, which met for the first time on 9th January. This is a new initiative aimed at engaging and encouraging people of all ages to meet with God and grow in faith while meeting in an outdoor environment. We plan to meet on the second Sunday of each month at 3pm in the garden of Emmanuel Church Centre. I have been successful applying for a grant from the diocese's Family Worship and Beyond Fund for Campfire Church and we have been given the full £750 towards the start up and running costs.

Looking forward, we will be running Marriage Preparation on two Saturdays in February, supporting family life from the outset, and we are planning to take the children in Year 3 to Year 6 for a weekend to Yorkshire camps in March.

Thank you to all the volunteers who work tirelessly and inspire in so many ways. Our children and families' ministry could not happen without each one of you.

*Jo Sumsion
January 2022*



Cellar and Youth at Hawkshaw

In this last twelve months we have (finally!) been able to restart the Cellar Youth Group. Since we joined the parish last year, Cellar was something that we had heard so much about, and without exception everyone we spoke to were hugely grateful to the work Richard and Sue put into the group for so many years.

So, after a nearly two-year break, it was with great joy that we relaunched in September 2021. We are blessed to have roughly 25 young people on the books from school years 7-9 and most weeks we have 15-20 of them in attendance.

We began last year by using some material from Scripture Union called Rooted which got us back on our feet, then firmly established as a group once again. This year, we're looking at John's gospel and will be following the same pattern through Lent as the rest of the churches across Ramsbottom Churches Together.

Huge thanks are due, in no particular order, to Anne, Geoff, Penny, Isaac, Callum, Paul, Maria and Layna for the time they dedicate to preparing each week, and for the kindness and wisdom they each bring to the group each week too. We couldn't do it without you all!

Ian



Equally huge thanks, of course, are due to our young people too! The energy and interest you all bring are what make cellar the blessing that it is.

This year, too, we have introduced a new group form our older teens in years 10 -13. Once a month, Roast Club meets in the Cellar and all who attend are treated to a full roast dinner. Caleb Sumsion can be thanked for the challenge of delivering a full roast dinner to cellar. It took a bit of thinking, and I had to buy a new shelf for the oven, but now we've got it down to a smooth operation.

So far, Roast Club has had a pattern of "ask me anything" sessions, which has definitely made me think on my feet! We're excited to see that the next few months will bring!

Sunday School at Hawkshaw

The year began in lockdown and so we were unable to hold our Sunday morning children's groups for the first part of the year. We continued to provide activity pack during the All Age morning worship. Many thanks to Penny Hanley for coming up with new ideas each week which were linked to the theme of the service.

As the weather improved and restrictions lifted, some sessions were held outside, using games and activities to teach the Bible to the children. The children thoroughly enjoyed the interaction with each other, after so many months of restrictions.



Finally in September, we restarted groups for children aged 3 to 11. These are held twice a month during the morning service, with the other services being All Age. The children have been learning about some of the miracles of Jesus using material from Scripture Union.

We have had several families joining the church over the past few months and are very pleased to welcome these new children into Sunday school.

Thanks go as always to the group leaders who make running our children's groups possible.

*Jo Sumsion
January 2022*

Afternoon Pilgrim Group

We were glad to meet up again for Pilgrim group again this Autumn after the Pandemic break. We had an average of 14 of us meeting on Tuesday afternoons to look in depth at the 'I am' sayings. Starting with I am the Good Shepherd and finishing with I am the Alpha and Omega the truth and the life we discussed our faith and how God meets us on a daily basis in the good and challenging times of our lives. The Pandemic certainly tested us and gave us time to reflect on life, its



blessings and its problems. The group share in confidence and faith is nurtured.

We were very sorry to lose a few members who had been with us from the beginning and had not come back yet, either through caution or transport difficulties, but pleased to welcome several new members.

Jo. Venn

Traveller's (Adult and Toddler Group)

Annual Report (March 2021 – February 2022)

Finally, on the 8th September, 2021 after an 18-month break, we were able to re-open our doors and welcome everyone back to Travellers. Although, we had kept in touch with everyone via WhatsApp, what a surprise we had, when one boy who was only three months old when we had to close, came in walking and talking!

We have had to make changes so that we follow the relevant guidelines (windows open, table and chairs cleaned, everyone sanitise their hands plus lots more!). Although, we don't put out as many toys, there's still lots to go around and all of them are cleaned before they are put back in the cupboard.

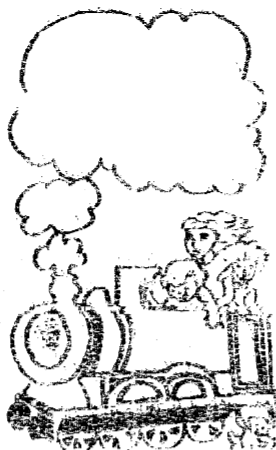
We have purchased a Princess Castle Play tent and Dinosaur Pop up Tent, which the children have great fun playing in.

In November, we held our Pudsey Bear Afternoon where the children took part in a treasure Hunt and made a magic wand helping to raise £75 for BBC Children In Need. We've also made snowmen, gingerbread men, Christmas tree decorations and Father Christmas visited us and brought everyone a present.

On average six adults and 12 children come along each week, recently a Grandma came with her daughter and Granddaughter, she was telling us that she

used to bring her daughter when she was little back in 1996 and was now looking forward to bringing her Granddaughter. So, if you've never been why not come along and join us on Wednesday afternoon,

(term time only) from 1.30pm. to 3.00pm., (full details are on our notice board in the Hall).



For your notes . . .

Rector: Rev. Paul Sumsion,
The Vicarage,
Bolton Road,
Hawkshaw,
Bury,
BL8 4JN
01204 888060.



Associate Ministers:

Rev. Robert Airey 01706 224743
Rev. Vic. Fletcher 01204 882750
Curate: Rev. Ian Fleming, 07543213743

Readers: Mr. Michael Burton, 01706 822664.
Mr. Richard Byrom, 01204 883110.
Mrs. Ethel Houghton 01254 704758.
Mrs. Jane Fletcher 01204 882750.
Mrs. Jo Sumsion 01204 888060

Children and Families' Ministry Facilitator:

Mrs. Jo Sumsion 01204 888060

Church Wardens:

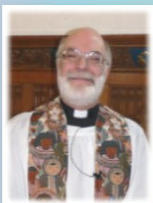
Mr. Stephen Newhouse (Lay Chair P.C.C.).
01706 412657.
Mr. Peter Hardcastle 01204 853999

Why not visit our website:

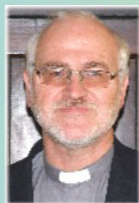
www.holcombehawkshaw.org

Each Sunday There is a service at each worship centre and the 10.45am service at St. Mary, Hawkshaw is "streamed live" on YouTube and is available all week, so you can watch it at any time. Just visit our website www.holcombehawkshaw.org.

We have also been sending out regular e-mails with news updates, so if you haven't received those please email a request to stephen.newhouse@sky.com



Rev. Robert Airey



Rev. Vic. Fletcher



Rev. Ian Fleming

Annual Report and Yearbook 2021



Holcombe and Hawkshaw Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Holcombe and Hawkshaw 2021		
	£	£	£
Voluntary Income			
Planned Giving - Gift Aid	61,424.17		
Planned Giving - Un-gifted	2,088.42		
One off Gift Aid	312.50		
Cash/Collections	4,411.57		
Income tax recovered	16,501.11		
Fund Raising Events	158.04		
Magazine	36.20		
Use of Church Buildings	3,912.50		
		88,844.51	
Other Ordinary Income			
Dividends and Interest	31.36		
Fees to PCC	6,074.00		(includes £
		6,105.36	94,949.87
Extraordinary Income			
Restricted Donations	33,630.00		
Legacy	500.00		
Headstone	144.00		
Insurance Claim	2,859.20		
Special Appeals	356.97		
		37,490.17	132,440.04
Total Income 2021			###
Income 2020			###

2,013 fees paid to Diocese)

Holcombe and Hawkshaw Parochial Church Council

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021		
	£	£	£
The Ministry			
Ministry Expenses	12,726.10		
Support & Education	1,977.10		
		14,703.20	
The Church and Services			
Energy	8,577.87		
Water	596.56		
Cleaning	0.00		
Insurance	7,302.58		
Upkeep of Services	5,005.69		
Minor Repairs, Fire Inspection	7,087.00		
Churchyard	1,483.20		
		30,052.90	
Other Ordinary Expenditure			
Wages	13,417.46		
Magazine	0.00		
Fund Raising costs	0.00		
Verger/Organist	435.00		
		13,852.46	
The Diocese			
Parish Share	41,000.00		
Other Diocese costs	2,013.00		
		43,013.00	
Payments to Missions/Charities			
Mission/Charities	1,674.00		
		1,674.00	103,295.56
Extraordinary Expenditure			
ECC Garden	163.86		
ECC	622.44		
Holcombe Church	1,987.00		
Hawkshaw	375.00		
Hawkshaw Heating			
Holcombe Organ			
		3,148.30	106,443.86
Total Cash Expenditure 2021			###
Expenditure 2020			###

YEAR END STATEMENT 2019

Bank Balances 31 December 2019

	Total
Current Account	-
Deposit Account	69,395.50
Direct Giving Accounts	15,356.32
Restricted Funds Account	820.65
Cash	-
	<hr/> 85,572.47
Less Unpresented cheques	
Year End Total	<hr/> ### <hr/>

Restricted/Designated Funds

Gardening (ECC)	-
ECC	17,527.56
Holcombe	30,735.99
Hawkshaw	2,275.00
Hawkshaw Heating	30,000.00
Malawi	1,931.64
	<hr/> ### <hr/>

Working Balance	3,102.28
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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Balance 12/31/2020	Balance 12/31/2021
Santander	310.55	351.54
CCLA - Restricted Holcombe Endowments	995.51	985.45
<u>Bank Accounts</u>		
Current Acc		-
Deposit Acc	44,958.28	69,395.50
Direct Giving Acc	13,797.28	15,356.32
Restricted Acc	820.53	820.65
Cash Not banked		-
	60882.15	86909.46
Less Cheques unpresented	0.00	0.00
	60882.15	86909.46
TOTALS	60882.15	86909.46



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Parish of Holcombe & Hawkshaw, Lancashire

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2021

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

1,2 and Trace July22 A1, Trace July22 B1, Summary of Traceability

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

15/7/2022

Name:

Stuart Moulton

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

AAT membership number: 20269328

Address:

9 Hunstanton Drive, Bury. BL8 1EG

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

I have carried out the independent examination

I have noted an increase in Direct On-Line banking payment and have followed some transactions but not selected – all found to be accurate and tracable.

I have cross referenced financial statements with links back to accounting records: - Bank statements, Receipts, Bank Details & Summary (held by Treasurer), Invoices.

I have selected various sample receipts & payments and traced back through all accounting sheets including Bank Statements. Details of one sample – see **'Trace Jul22 B1'**.

I have selected various sample payments on Bank Statements and traced back through all accounting sheets Receipts. Details of one sample – see **'Trace Jul22 A1'**.

I have selected various Incomes and follow back 'Direct Giving' money transfers and 'Weekly Giving' and am satisfied that these accounts give no cause for concern.

See **'Summary of Traceability'**

I have reviewed the minutes of the PCC and I have obtained background information on the PCC, how it is organised. The parish includes St. Mary's Hawkshaw & Emmanuel Holcombe and within the Parish there are 3 churches - St. Mary's (Hawkshaw), Emmanuel Church (Holcombe Village) & Emmanuel Church Centre (Holcombe).

Three sheets attached: -

Trace Jul22 A1

Trace Jul22 B1

Summary of Traceability