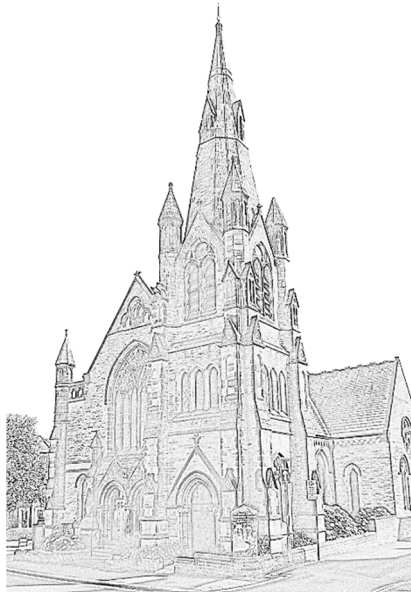


South Cliff Methodist Church

Annual Reports 2018

AGM Sunday 22nd April 2018



**‘Your kingdom come Lord, in our hearts and worship;
Your will be done Lord, in our lives and service.’**

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Minister's Report

Another year has passed as we follow Jesus together. It has been a year of change and challenge, a year of joy and sometimes sorrow, but most of all, it has been a year that has drawn us closer to the Lord Jesus and revealed the endless scope of his love for us. He may stretch our faith and test our resolve, but he never calls us beyond our ability to respond. It has been a joy to walk with you as you respond to the call of God offering back to him the gifts and talents he has given you, and in the process receiving his blessing.

We have been blessed through worship. Song and Story and Music and Message have gone from strength to strength, drawing in people from other churches in the town and circuit where there is no evening worship and some with no other church connections. The Wednesday Communion and devotional 3D meetings provide times of fellowship and mutual support and we have grown together as individual Christians and as a church. Numerically it has been a challenging year as growing age and infirmity have taken their toll, but new people have taken the place of familiar faces and already begun to become the familiar faces of the present and the future. A recurring comment that is made to me is how warm a welcome people receive from the congregation.

We take our place in the Christian Community of South Cliff working closely with St Martin's, St Edwards, St Michael's and St Andrew's. It has been good to share worship together and social activities too. Plans are already being made for new and exciting "Churches Together" events, and I hope and pray that more of our folk at South Cliff will feel challenged to get involved in the thriving Churches Together steering group which meets monthly.

In accordance with our mission statement, we continue to witness and to work and we are driven by a desire to express, show and share Christ's love within our fellowship, the wider community and the world. Perhaps the most noticeable achievement this year has been the installation of the new glass doors which symbolise perfectly the fact that we want to be an open and welcoming church. They also challenge us to look out from our safety and security and see the needs of the world around us.

It is impossible to say what the future holds but we know who holds the future, and our faith in him gives us confidence to step out and keep following Jesus.

Peter

Pastoral Report

As was reported at our last Church Council meeting, Shirley had decided to retire as Pastoral Visitor's Secretary. Shirley had given long service to this important work in our church and to its members and sincere thanks for her attention has been expressed.

So Hilary now has yet another position assigned to her, but when approached, I was very happy to agree to assist her.

With the dedicated help of our Pastoral Visitors we shall continue to give our attention to the welfare and care of all our members and those associated friends of the church whether we see them on a regular basis or they are now unable to attend church anymore, our contact and concern will remain. In so doing they know they belong to our SC family, still thought of and special to us.

Sadly, last month saw the loss of a very dear friend and member of our congregation: Dorothy Rushworth was a valued member contributing in many respects and is sorely missed.

Christine Wilkinson is now being cared for in St. Cecilia's Nursing Home and is quite ill.

On a happier note we are delighted to know Iain has settled so well at St. Cecilia's and is very happy there. For Marion this too is a much easier situation, knowing he is so well cared for at all times is a great relief. With Hilary's kind assistance Iain is able to attend Sunday morning services.

We are pleased to welcome several new people to our community role, hopefully some may become members of SC church.

Our Pastoral meeting had to be cancelled recently and awaits re-arrangement, mainly due to Peter's intensive commitments.

Carol

Finance Report

Finance to 1st April 2018:

Cooperative Bank £ 2,964.29 (at 16th April 2018)

CFB £27,851.78

TMCP £17,185.65

Possible Gift Aid refund - £2775 from declarations, £10 Easter Offering, £2000 GASDS

Our finances include £17,000.00 Mission Grant from the North Yorkshire Coast Circuit

In order to meet a Circuit deadline I have agreed with the Circuit Treasurer that South Cliff's contributions for 2018/19 will continue as before (£16,000 per annum, £1,334 per month) with the proviso that this will be looked into at the next Church Council with a view to increasing our contribution to £18,000 per annum, (£1,500 per month) An increase of £2,000 per annum, £166 per month.

At present the Treasurer is no longer a member of the Property Committee and I recommend he is invited back at the earliest opportunity.

Sylvia and I wish Colin well in his new post and we offer him any help and support that he may require.

Sid

Property Report

Appointees to the new Property Committee are: Rev. Peter Cross (Chair), June Carlill, Norma Dove, Maurice Macer, Michael More (Deputy Chair & Secretary), Malcolm Peart, Hilary Sims.

The following is a summary of the work overseen by the committee after its first full year of operation:

Eliminating the trip hazard of microphone wires on the floor at the front of the church, particularly on concert nights, additional radio

mics and associated electronic equipment were fitted at a cost of £539.

The biggest item the committee faced was the implementation of the outstanding works required by the July 2014 Quinquennial Survey. There were approximately twenty separate outstanding items, some carried over from previous quinquennial reports dating back many years.

The trustees of the church are required to see essential work is completed.

Items included:

Extensive repointing works on all four elevations of the church.

Repairs to rainwater goods & cowls for chimney stacks

Fitting of “tell-tales” to check for movement/settlement in the hall.

Asbestos testing & report.

Electrical test certificate required- all essential work completed including new kitchen fuse-board.

Fire equipment test certificate, completed

Fire risk assessment, completed

Insulate all roof voids. (unfortunately, this is not practical for the main church) hall roof void is now insulated.

Cleared out a large quantity of unused wooden chairs, equipment and general rubbish from the underfloor void, this was a fire hazard and access issue.

Inspect the tower void (pigeons removed and cleared out a large quantity of detritus, resealed entry points)

Outstanding Items:

Exterior painting scheduled for summer 2018

Tower entrance way and left-hand lobby redecoration to be included with the external painting.

Electrical repairs to the outside light Esplanade Road entrance

Replace polycarbonate sheeting-stained glass windows (deferred)

Ventilators to main church roof (deferred)

Woodworm re-treatment, at the moment we do not know where the problem is.

Replace the troublesome gas cooker in the kitchen with a suitable domestic electric replacement.

Make good rotted external timber work prior to repainting.

Storm damaged to tower notice board (in progress)

Optional work authorised by the committee now completed:

Rewiring the pulpit mic due to damage caused by fitting the new carpet

New emergency alarm fitted to the tower toilet.

New lock fitted to the main external notice board.

Replacement doorbell (Tower door.)

Repairs to the kitchen dishwasher.

Replacement fan for refrigerator.

Repair loose slates

Plumber called to unblock kitchen waste pipe.

New reading light for the lectern.

Plumber called to kitchen hot water supply issues.

Dale Smith Refrigeration called out twice to attend gas cooker issues.

Large notices with basic church opening times.

Mission Project:

The Church Council approved our application for funding for an

“Environmental Improvements Project” which is to make our church more welcoming, and is an important part of mission. This had to be prepared and agreed at short notice as the Circuit funds were time limited.

The project comprised three main elements:

Projector (new system). Now completed.

Redesign main entrance way. Other than the table, now complete.

Improvement of the lighting at the front of the church and entrance. Completed.

Glass Doors. Now fitted

Front porch entrance way. Redecoration has been completed.

Oak Table for entrance. Is being made at the moment.

Additional items. Now included in the project; In addition to the centre porch area, the cost of redecoration of the whole of the front entranceway.

This project has been authorised by the circuit and the whole undertaking is fully funded as a stand-alone project from circuit funds.

Blue Door: Formally known as “Mums & Tots Group” has been disbanded. After due consultation with the former leaders, it was decided that; with the exception of some tables, the toys etc. which have taken up so much space in the hall will be donated to the Rainbow Centre. Now completed.

We are all very sad to see this church group disband, however, due to the very difficult Safeguarding requirements now in force, there was no alternative for the church trustees to consider.

Safeguarding: Room Hire: the contracts for the regular users have been brought into line with current requirements.

Room Hire Signatories: has been updated to include the minister of the church plus any church trustee (Church Council Member.)

The Property Committee no longer deals with general finance, these matters are now decided at Church Council level.

Mike

Mission Report

Our chief events were a special coffee morning for Home Mission, not well attended despite special efforts at outreach; and a more successful Pancake Lunch on Shrove Tuesday. We have two generous givers through World Church boxes. We raised £162 for World Mission and £169.20 for Home Mission. Our thanks go to all supporters, and to Janet, my right-hand woman.

Joyce

Bible Study

The Bible Study started out a few years ago in response to a need mentioned in a church questionnaire. 5 of us attend regularly, though we have been visited by others on occasion. We started the year meeting at the flat of Revs Ann and John Staton, and we have been largely working our way through Matthew's gospel this year. All members are encouraged to participate and share their views. We held a party with carol singing at Christmas time. However, as Joyce's movement became more difficult it was

necessary to move the meetings to her bungalow. We begin with a time of singing, followed by reading and discussion of the Bible passage, then a time of open prayer and refreshments. If anybody else would like to join us, please contact either Ann or John Staton.

John

Monday Night is Music Night

During the last year we have had a great deal of fun largely entertaining ourselves. People sing songs - from Gregorian chant to “relatively” modern pop songs, classical, music from the shows and much else too. Others entertain us with monologues and comical poems, or just straight jokes. We have been corporately entertained by Tenor XI and we hope to welcome Bill Scott and Friends at the end of this session. All finished off with refreshments and a quiz to get the brain working. We meet every fortnight on a Monday evening at 7:30pm, and we are always ready to welcome new members.

John

3D

For those who do not know the Ds stand for Devotion, Discovery, and Diversion. Every month we have a Devotional session led by Rev. Peter Cross or Rev. John Staton. On other weeks we learn through discovery, as we hear about people’s travels, or about the history of our country or our local town. Bob and Brenda Whitfield gave us their Desert Island Discs, Ann Staton gave us a fascinating

introduction to Card-Making, and Andrew Clay told us about some of the Royal Jewellery Collection. On Diversion weeks we have been entertained by friends of Vivienne England, by the Seamer Singing for Fun Group, and by a motley collection of tenors! We have also celebrated with some entertaining parties organised by Malcolm Peart. On a sad note, we remember with sorrow the passing of our friend, Dorothy Rushworth, who booked all the speakers in the Discovery section. She will be much missed.

We meet at 2:30pm. on Tuesday afternoons and always welcome new arrivals.

John

Wednesday Communion

We meet at 9:45am on Wednesday morning for communion, following a variety of liturgies. The services are led on a rota basis by Rev Peter Cross, Rev John Staton, and Rev Nigel Spencer, with occasional help from other supernumeraries. Numbers are usually around 10. The service is followed by refreshments and fellowship.

John

Thursday Friends

Thursday Friends continues to be a successful and enjoyable afternoon. With between 12 and 25 participants playing table tennis, rumicub, scrabble, dominoes or just chatting.

We have recently acquired two new members who are not church goers but live locally, a man who is recovering from a stroke and his carer.

At the beginning of the church year we donated £1,000 to the church from our subs of £1.50 per week.

We have a rota for opening and setting up the room which works very well, the openers also make the tea and coffee and serve it, and a committee consisting of all the people on the rota plus Janet Calvert (Chair Person); Lynne Harper (Secretary) and June Carlill (Treasurer).

We are always happy to welcome new members and have plenty of empty chairs if you would like to join us.

Because members are very generous providing tea, coffee and biscuits we have a healthy bank balance of £865.35 at 31st March.

Janet

Bowls Club

We meet on a Friday evening at 6:30pm and have the short mat rolled out by 6:45pm. We play triples if there are six of us, doubles if only four and if we end up with an odd number we invent our own game. However if we have four players Aussie Pairs is very popular. No matter what type of game we play one thing is certain we all enjoy every minute of the evening.

We usually play until 8:30pm or 12 ends (if the score gets close we have been known to play a 13th end) and clear away and head home by 8:45pm.

Due to illness Denise and Sylvia have not been playing but we hope their return will be soon.

We have to say a big 'thank you' to Elizabeth who is our treasurer and keeps all the financial books in order.

Our thanks also have to be extended to the members of South Cliff Church for the use of the hall and for the hours of fun and excitement we all enjoy. Many thanks!

If anyone wishes to join us and can stand the excitement do come along.

*Denise, Elizabeth, Sylvia, Alan, Brian, John (Har),
John (Has), Ken and Paul.*

South Cliff Churches Together

Events 2018 – What, When & Where:

Wednesday 25th April 2pm - St. Andrew's 'History of St. Andrew's & the URC.

Pentecost – Sunday 20th May 6.30pm at St. Mary's Church.

2018 AGM – Tuesday 29th May 2pm at St. Martin's Church.
Need to review the Constitution

Strawberry Tea – Thursday 28th June 2pm at St. Michael's Church.

Summer Fair – Saturday July 14th at St. Martin's Church.

Songs of Praise – Sunday July 15th 6.30pm at St. Edward's Church.

Safari lunch – Sunday 21st October 2018

Possibility of United Passover Feast in Holy Week 2019, together with some teaching on the subject.

CTiS Pentecost United Service 2019 on Sunday 9th June at South Cliff Methodist Church.

Sid

Steward's Report

I am thankful for the love and support I receive from everyone in the church which enables me to do what I do. We have a good steward's team of eight who are always willing to help each other out. Revs. Ann and John Staton are committed to duty on the first Sunday in the month and are very happy to continue. Jacqueline will have completed six years and will therefore be standing down at the end of August so that will reduce us to seven. We have had only one steward on duty on a Sunday morning this past year but it has worked well as Carol has fulfilled most of what used to be number 2 duties each week and we are very grateful to her.

The winter meetings are now drawing to a close and soon the Summer Concert Season will begin. There is always something happening at South Cliff and we are grateful for all the time, effort and hard work given by so many to ensure all runs smoothly week in and week out.

The Church Anniversary preparations are under way for 7th and 8th July. The Celebration Singers are putting on a concert for us on Saturday 7th at 3 p.m. the proceeds of which will be for Feed the Minds. This will be followed by an Anniversary Tea. We are pleased that Peter has agreed to lead both services on Sunday 8th and we do hope as many as possible will share these celebrations with us.

The new glass doors have made such a difference and the building looks so much more welcoming – people have actually been coming in! We do appreciate all the time and effort involved in seeing this project through.

It is always good and encouraging to hear comments from preachers and visitors alike who feel blessed when they worship with us and that is down to each and every one of you and the love and welcome you offer.

We are all another year older and with age comes more aches and pains but God has called us here to spread the good news and share His love and He will give us the strength to carry on.

Bless these aching bones and put them to your service.

Take these feeble words and give to them a boldness.

Accept the little I can do and let it be my witness.

© John Birch

Hilary

Future Dates

START Course - Singing Together and Reading Together
Thursday 3rd May - 26th July 10:30 a.m.

Easter Offering Circuit Service Sunday 6th May 6:30 p.m. here
at South Cliff.

Church Council - Tuesday 8th May 7:30 p.m.

Music and Message Service - Wesley Big Sing - Sunday 27th
May 6:30 p.m. with The Thornton-le-Dale Singers

CTiS Pentecost Service Sunday 20th May 6:30 p.m. at St.
Mary's Parish Church.

CTiS Springtide Conference at St. Mary's Church Friday 8th to
Sunday 10th June - 'Lord, teach us how to pray'

Circuit Service at Westborough afternoon and evening Sunday
24th June - Celebrating Fellowship as part of Holy Habits.

Church Anniversary Weekend 7th and 8th July 2018
Concert 7th at 3 p.m. with The Celebration Singers
in aid of Feed the Minds followed by Anniversary Tea.

Harvest Services Sunday 25th September 2018 at 10:30 a.m.
and 6:30 p.m.

South Cliff Methodist Church
Annual Church Meeting Sunday 22nd April 2018

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Devotions
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of Meeting held on 30th April 2017
4. Matters arising
5. Reports - written
 - 5.1. Circuit
6. Finance
7. Property
8. Elections
9. Future Dates
10. Any Other Business
11. Date of next meeting
12. Closing Prayer/Lunch