

**The Parish of St. Andrew's Corbridge with St. Oswald, Halton
and Newton Hall.**



ANNUAL REPORT for year ending 31st March 2022

Incumbent

Canon Dr David J Kennedy

Bank

Lloyds Bank, Priestpopple, Hexham. NE46 1PA

Barclays Bank, Priestpopple, Hexham. NE46 1PA



Parish of Corbridge with Halton and Newton Hall Our Parish Mission Statement

Sharing the length and breadth of the love of Jesus

We are a community of Christians, committed to serve the Living God we know in Jesus Christ. Along with every Church in the Diocese of Newcastle we strive to grow the Church and bring hope

- through worship and prayer that is engaged and holy
- in living out and sharing the Gospel by word and deed
- through reaching out to the entire community by caring for all
- by seeking to grow in faith as Christian disciples
- by welcoming visitors into our buildings and our Church life
- by working in partnership with other Christians in our parish, deanery and diocese

To this end

- our doors are open
- our minds are open
- our hearts are open

Inspired by the example of St Andrew, we strive to bring children, teenagers and adults to Jesus.

July 2019

ANNUAL REPORTS

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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CHURCH AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH
MEETINGS HELD IN ST ANDREW'S CHURCH AT 11.10am
ON SUNDAY 23rd MAY 2021**

PRESENT

Canon David Kennedy (Chair), Rev'd Lynn Caudwell, Rev'd Sam Lochhead, and 37 laity.

APOLOGIES

Val Barnes, Jo and Bob Eldridge, Ron and Jane Gold, Mary and Robin Gray, Carol Moffatt, David and Margaret Preece, Sheila and Michael Priestley, and Gail Williams.

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

David Kennedy said this meeting was for election of two Churchwardens, and there were two nominations: Jean Wilks (proposed by Gail Williams, seconded by Val Barnes), and Sue Graves (proposed by Jean Wilks, seconded by Linda Hunter). There being no further nominations, both were elected unanimously. Their term of office would commence after being sworn in at the Archdeacon's visitation in June.

David thanked Jean for her contribution during her first year as Churchwarden, and Sue for accepting the role and for all that she would bring to it. He then thanked Linda Hunter, who would be standing down after the Archdeacon's visitation, for her immense contribution to the church's activities and ministry during her 11 years as Churchwarden, as well as in her other role as Lay Minister, and wished her well in her progression towards ordination.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The minutes of the APCM. held on 13th September 2020 were approved and accepted as a true record: proposed by Ian Graves, seconded by Pauline Bennett, and agreed unanimously. There were no matters arising.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Cliff Wright spoke to the report and accounts. He thanked all who support him as Treasurer, especially Linda Hunter for the considerable help and support she had provided over the last 8 years.

The net movement of funds over 2020 showed a year-end deficit of £21,422. A number of factors had combined to produce this result including a shortfall of £23,200 on Routine Activities, mainly due to the pandemic which severely curtailed all activities, especially fundraising and events. There had also been planned expenditure on Projects, especially the organ refurbishment including money raised in the previous year, and re-roofing of the cottage. We had received two generous legacies, of £66k and £14k. There had been an encouraging response to the Giving Weekend. Our parish

share contribution had stayed at a similar level to the previous year.

Given all the difficulties of 2020, Cliff thought we had ended it in a healthy position, with reserves of £182k, of which £132 were unrestricted. He expected 2021 to be better, with the hoped-for return to fundraising and events.

David expressed everyone's gratitude to Cliff for the enormous amount of work which went into managing our finances and accounting, and for the good cheer and diligence with which it was always undertaken.

ELECTORAL ROLL

David thanked Maureen Davison for maintaining the Electoral Roll, which in 2020/21 had risen from 156 to 159.

ANNUAL REPORTS

David thanked all who had contributed reports, Linda Hunter for compiling the Annual Report booklet, and Ian Wylie for supplying many of the photographs.

Approval and acceptance of the Financial Report and Annual Report was proposed by Pauline Bennett, seconded by Carol Knott, and agreed unanimously.

Liz Buckley asked about the reference to replacing the cottage boiler, and whether we would be looking for an environmentally friendly solution. David said we would, but in any case, it would not be imminent as the current priority was correcting damp in the cottage.

David warmly thanked all who contribute in their many different ways to the worship and activities in both churches. Special thanks were due to Suzette and Warwick Milne, who had cared for the cottage for the past 20 years; Suzette was now standing down from this role due to health problems. He also thanked his colleagues in the Ministry team for the high quality of their ministry and pastoral care. He looked forward to us all being able to move ahead as we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Roger Jones had informed us that he would not be continuing as Independent Examiner of accounts. Therefore, we would need to appoint someone else during the year. David invited suggestions for anyone we could approach.

ELECTIONS TO PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Members continuing in 2021/22 were:

2019-2022

Ian Graves

2020-2023

Kate Jenkins

Anne King-Lewis

David McEwan

David Preece

Edward Pybus

Jon Williams

Deanery Synod

Max Philbrick,

Monica Philbrick

David thanked Pauline Bennett, who was standing down from PCC, and Jennifer Wright who was standing down from Deanery Synod. There were now PCC vacancies for 2 members to serve for 2 years, and 3 members to serve for 3 years.

Nominations had been received for Jo Eldridge (proposed by Margaret Thompson and seconded by Pauline Bennett) and Val Barnes (proposed by Jean Wilks and seconded by Colin Williams). Both were elected unanimously. There were no further nominations or volunteers for PCC or Deanery Synod. David invited any volunteers to approach him later.

David said that, after the Archdeacon's visitation, Linda Hunter would no longer sit on PCC as Churchwarden. Once ordained she would become an ex-officio PCC member. To cover the time until then, he made the following proposal: that from the date of the Archdeacon's visitation, this APCM agrees that Linda Hunter should continue to be member of PCC as a licenced Lay Reader and member of the Ministry team. This was agreed unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Pauline Bennett asked if something could be done about ivy growing up the outside of the south transept wall. David said the Maintenance Committee would follow this up.

Linda Hunter thanked everyone who has supported her as Churchwarden over the past 11 years; she said she had enjoyed her time in office.

She thanked David for his vision and enthusiasm. His leadership had been purposeful, caring and supportive, during what had been a difficult year. She also thanked Janet for all her support behind the scenes to David and the parish.

The meeting then closed at noon with a prayer and the Grace.

Introduction: 3 steps forward, two steps back!

When, in April of last year I wrote my annual report, we were just emerging from the Spring lockdown and Sunday morning services had just resumed in time for Easter. In Church, we had strict social distancing, compulsory face-masks, communion in one kind, and congregational singing was prohibited – we were invited to ‘sing in our hearts’. We went out into the churchyard for the final hymn as singing outdoors was permitted, and we continued doing that well into the autumn. We were glad to celebrate long postponed weddings in Church, we held the Civic Service on Remembrance Sunday and we began again to hold concerts including the Corbridge Chamber Music Festival. It seemed that with the developing vaccine programme we were getting there. But as Advent approached, news of the spreading highly transmissible *Delta* variant hit the news. We were glad that we were able to restore the Christmas Tree Festival, albeit on a smaller scale, but as December progressed so our concerns rose. As Christmas approached, we had to take the difficult decision to limit attendances at Christmas services up to a maximum of 160 people using every inch of St Andrew's. In the end we had a happy celebration, including our second outdoor Carol Service with *Hexham Brass*, but we knew we were far from being out of the woods. The New Year brought some optimism with Covid numbers falling significantly, but as we entered Lent, an even more transmissible mutation of *Delta* hit Corbridge in March. On Mothering Sunday, I was heard to comment that St Andrew's felt like the *Marie Celeste*! The terrible invasion of Ukraine and economic turbulence added to the sense of foreboding. But fortunately, by the time we celebrated Easter, we were coming through the local outbreak and we kept a full and moving Holy Week and joyful Easter Day with some 250 people at worship at either Corbridge or Halton.

But this narrative illustrates that the last twelve months have been as challenging as the previous year. Our planning has had to be provisional and adaptable, and the stop-start realities make it difficult to break new ground and develop the life of the Church in the way in which we would have liked. We hope for a good Spring, Summer and Autumn ahead, but we can't be sure what next winter will bring. We will continue to meet challenges with faith and fortitude.

I have two responses. The first is that I am so grateful to everyone who has helped to keep the light of faith burning brightly at St Andrew's and Halton over the last year. You have been wonderfully supportive. I'm also grateful to everyone who has encouraged our efforts to press on and seek to re-open so many areas of Church life. We know that there are aspects of our calling, such as our ministry to children and families, where it feels we are starting again from scratch, but I do believe that over time God will give the increase as we pray, support and work hard to develop our worship and mission in uncertain times. Hence, my strong sense is that we have taken three steps forward

this year, and even if circumstances have forced us to take two back, we are still making progress.



Harvest 2021

Worship

We have had some significant highlights. The Organ rededication in October with a splendidly augmented choir will stay long in the memory, following the wonderful donors' recital the previous evening. To hear Parry's *I was glad*, Stanford's setting of Psalm 150 and the remarkable Noel Rawsthorne setting of the *Sanctus*, *Benedictus* and *Agnus Dei* was spine-tingling. We worked with Corbridge RBL to restore the Civic Service for Remembrance Sunday. The outdoor Carol Service attracted 200 people with wonderful accompaniment by *Hexham Brass*, and the Festival of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve was adorned by wonderful carols sung by the Church Choir – I'm not sure I have ever heard the choir sing better.



John Lightbown and Malcolm Lightbown – Organ builders

In January, we celebrated the Methodist Covenant Service with Anglican Communion, led by myself and Marie Beard as part of our ecumenical commitment. We were delighted to restore our monthly Informal Service, re-branded as *River*, and while it will take time fully to establish it, many have valued the informality, creativity and music that *River* enables. We made the ministry of healing a focus for the New Year with a sermon series and then the ministry of prayer with the laying on of hands and anointing at the 10am service when the vast majority of the congregation received this ministry. Sam, our Curate, has developed regular short services of contemplative prayer, exploring prayer and the senses, Taizé worship and special services of Compline with address in Advent and Lent. We are working hard to re-establish Messy Church, and we have recently resumed regular celebrations of baptism. Many people have commented on how helpful they have found our preaching ministry and many have valued the sense of rhythm and solidity that we receive from our liturgy, a rock in times of disturbance and uncertainty.

In February we dedicated *Hymns Ancient and Modern: Hymns and Songs for Refreshing Worship* in memory of Meg Humphries, and already we are enjoying the rich resources it provides. As I write, Corbridge Methodists are holding their first service in St Andrew's following the closure of their building on Easter Day. It was moving to share preaching with Marie on Good Friday at Chapel and Easter Day at St Andrew's, and we look forward to working ever more closely with our Methodist brothers and sisters as the year progresses.

The invitation to hold a recording of BBC *Songs of Praise* at Corbridge came completely out of the blue and with about 4 weeks' notice! Despite raging Covid levels, 12 hymns were recorded on 21 March at St Andrew's and will feature on the programme based on the Hadrian's Wall 1900 programme on 22 May as well as other broadcasts over the coming months. We will try to keep track of the programmes on which St Andrew's is featured and spread the word. But it was a joyful evening of singing and the Producer, Musical Director and Organist were highly complimentary of St Andrew's welcome, of our newly refurbished organ and the singing of our Church choir.





Songs of Praise March 2022

People

We were delighted to welcome Sue Graves as our new churchwarden, working alongside Jean Wilks in her second ear. Sue oversees our ministry of welcome, while Jean has special responsibility for fabric matters. Both have done a fantastic job as wardens this year. In May we welcomed John Roper as our new job-share Organist with Marc Bryant and we have gained greatly from John's musicianship and cheerful presence at worship and choir practice.



Rev'd Sam Lohead on the evening that he presided at his first Eucharist

We celebrated Sam's ordination as priest last July at St George's, Jesmond; I was honoured to be invited by Bishop Christine to lead the pre-Ordination Retreat at Shepherds Dene and to preach at the Ordination services of both deacons and priests at our Bishop's final ordinations as our Diocesan. Sam's first Presidency of the Eucharist was a joyful and moving occasion, with many receiving a personal blessing from him at the end of the service. Linda Hunter has had a very fruitful year in preparing for her ordination as Deacon this July, and it has been a privilege to oversee her contextually-based training. Lynn is coming towards the completion her three-year Curacy this year and is beginning the process of discerning where God will call her as she moves towards incumbency. We are fortunate to have such talented and complementary ministers in the life of our Church. Jennifer Wright completed the Diocesan Pastoral Assistant course and in November was commissioned as a Pastoral Assistant for this Parish. Jennifer now attends part of the weekly Staff meeting and already, her care for members of the congregation with pastoral needs is very evident. Jennifer is a great addition to our ministerial team. In January, we welcomed Lynne Davidge as our new part-time cleaner. This year, we are looking to appoint a part-time Parish Administrator. We were saddened by the death of a number of worshipping members of our Church community over the recent year, notably Canon Campbell Matthews and Keverne Piper, along with Demelza Ross, wife of John our Organist Emeritus, and Charles Ford, husband of our Verger, Brenda. Campbell's

funeral was a moving tribute to his life and ministry including his long retirement ministry at St Andrew's and the Tyne Valley, when Lynn fittingly preached from John 11, the Resurrection and the Life.

Mission and Ministry

Many aspects of our regular ministry have continued as other reports illustrate, namely Take 5, the Book Clubs, the Church choir, our Home Group, Prayer Group, and Women's Fellowship, with a mixture of in person and Zoom meetings. Last September, the PCC held an Away Morning to carry forward developing our Parish Mission Statement. We continue to make visible the life of our Parish through the Parish Web-site, our Face-Book and Twitter profiles, and weekly bulletin, the Parish News, and the spiritual and devotional resources we make available – sermons, weekly written reflections, and our week *YouTube* service of the word. We are delighted to be taking School Assemblies in the Church of England First School, and we welcomed the School community to celebrate Harvest, Christmas, and Easter in St Andrew's, while some class visits to church have also resumed. I am grateful to Monica Philbrick and Alastair Jenkins who have served on the new Federation Governing Body of Corbridge and Broomhaugh Church Schools. We wish Jennifer Ainsley the Headteacher every blessing as she leaves her post of Executive Head of the Federation in July, giving thanks for Jen's brilliant tenure as Head of Corbridge and then the Federation.

Many, many people contribute to the diverse life of our Church and I will make that a feature of what I say at the APCM.

The Deanery of Corbridge

As Area Dean, my responsibilities range beyond this Parish. We are seeking to draw up a new Deanery Mission Plan for the next 5 years in the context of rapid change in the diocese. As well as my own role, Lynn, Sam and Linda have led worship across the deanery to cover sickness and clergy leave. Our retired clergy Jenny Kinnaird, Barbara McNamara, and Michael Thompson have done excellent work supporting the vacancy at Riding Mill and long-term sickness cover at Shotley and I'm grateful to them, as well as valuing their ministry here in Corbridge. Linda Hunter has provided great support as acting Deanery Secretary and David McKenzie from Riding Mill is now Lay Chair of the Deanery. Max and Monica have been ever-present and supportive representatives of this Parish on Deanery Synod.

Conclusion

At the Easter *River* gathering, the theme was 'Unexpected Blessings' reflecting on the story of the Walk to Emmaus. As part of that, the congregation went for a walk around the churchyard, looking and listening for sights or sounds or something someone shared that were a blessing. Jesus does come to us unexpectedly, and we received blessings, gifts of grace, that cheer our hearts, strengthen

our faith and that assure us that our labour is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15.58). So, let us press on faithfully, expectantly, and cheerfully as we seek to serve the living God and bring to this Parish the good news of God's love, life and healing.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.



Linda, Sam, Lynn and David during the Songs of Praise set up.

ELECTORAL ROLL

Maureen Davison

The total number at the beginning of the year was 159. During the year there has been 1 removal and 2 additions. The current total of names on the Electoral Roll is 160.

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either exofficio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules or co-opted by the PCC.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Vicar:	Canon David J Kennedy
Assistant Curate:	Rev'd Lynn Caudwell
Assistant Curate:	Rev'd Sam Lohead
Churchwardens	Jean Wilks and Sue Graves

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Max Philbrick and Monica Philbrick

Elected Members:

Val Barnes	Kate Jenkins	David Preece
Jo Eldridge	Anne King-Lewis	Edward Pybus
Ian Graves	David McEwan	Jon Williams

Co-opted

Cliff Wright	Treasurer
Carol Moffatt	Minute Secretary
Linda E Hunter	Lay Minister and Ordinand

It is a requirement by law that a Standing Committee is appointed. It sets the agenda for the PCC meeting and deals with business in between meetings.

Members: Vicar, Assistant Curates, Lay Minister, Churchwardens, Treasurer, and two members appointed by PCC: Kate Jenkins and David Preece.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Eight meetings of the PCC and eight of the Standing Committee were held during the last year, following the APCM on 23rd May 2021. The September PCC meeting was an away-day at which we discussed and reviewed progress with the Mission Statement. PCC has been very busy throughout the year with a range of topics discussed. More detail may be found in the Minute file available at the back of church and on the website.

TOPICS COVERED

As well as our regular business and one-off events covered elsewhere in this report, we have also discussed:

- Mission statement: part of each PCC meeting is used to review a specific section of the mission statement, and all sections were discussed/reviewed in detail at our September away-day meeting
- New hymn books
- “Try Praying” booklets and activities
- Diocesan projects, including the Transformation Self-Review exercise, and “Rural Strand”
- Welcome card and pack for new residents in the village
- Corbridge Community Partnership: opportunities for joint working
- Corbridge Methodist Church: opportunities for joint working
- The Queen’s platinum Jubilee
- Response to the Ukraine conflict
- Plans for St Andrew’s 1,350th anniversary celebrations
- Plans for Josephine Butler anniversary celebrations
- PCC team-building exercise
- On-going Covid safety measures in church
- Card-reader machine for donations, installed in Nov. 2021
- New cleaning arrangements for church and cottage



PCC Away day



CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

Jean Wilks and Sue Graves

In May 2021, Linda Hunter stood down after many years as Churchwarden to follow her new journey as an Ordinand. We are thrilled that she is to be ordained Deacon in July 2022, and we wish her joy and success in her new role. On behalf of all at St Andrew's, we thank her for her tireless work as Churchwarden. She still takes on a substantial part of the work of running the church, and has been a continual source of support and guidance to both of us as we strive to fill her enormous shoes!

As ever, we thank all our Ministry team for their tireless work and enthusiasm, and for being so inspiring to work with. A second year of ministry in a pandemic has given them yet more new challenges, and led to new ways of working. We also thank their partners and families for supporting them in all the work that they do.

Covid has affected us all, of course, including the Churchwardens and Sidespeople. We all work hard to make our church as safe as it can be for everyone who visits and worships here. All our Sidespeople have been ready and willing to step in and offer help when needed, such as covering last-minute absences; we are very grateful to them. At times it has felt like being on a roller-coaster: just as it seemed as though things were getting back to normal, there would be a huge spike in infection rates and we would be back to taking bookings for services and arranging socially distanced seating. This was especially challenging at Christmas, when we found ourselves having to restrict attendance numbers at our popular Crib and Carol services.

We are both members of the PCC and Standing Committee, so we share in all decision-making about the work of our churches. We are always involved in major events in the church, such as the Chamber Music Festival, Christmas Tree Festival, and the recent Songs of Praise recording session. We are also responsible for maintaining the church building and property, and for addressing health and safety issues, and we are both active members of the Maintenance Committee. In particular, this year we have worked on arranging for the replacement glass door, commissioning our architect to conduct the quinquennial inspections, and arrangements for a new church cleaner.

We would like to thank everyone involved in all the different tasks, rotas and committees to ensure that things run smoothly for all our different services and activities. There are far too many of you to mention by name, but we really do appreciate all that you do.



The year started with our celebration of Holy Communion on Easter Day, an especially triumphant and joyful occasion coinciding, as it did, with the end of services being suspended on account of lockdown. Over the rest of the year services of Holy Communion were held on the first Sunday of each month, including our Harvest Thanksgiving in October, and on Christmas Day. Canon David Kennedy, the Rev'd Lynn Caudwell and the Rev'd Sam Lohead severally conducted the services and preached. On Christmas Day Linda Hunter preached. The Revd David Kennedy also said Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer, each on one occasion, and conducted one baptism.

David, Lynn, Sam and Linda make an outstanding team for the spiritual strength and support they bring to the parish and to Halton in particular. Our congregation comprises around fifteen regulars and more who attend less frequently. All of us recognise how fortunate we are to have them and are truly grateful to each of them for the time and devotion they give us.

Halton continues to attract a large number of visitors. Many write messages in the Visitors Book. A common theme is the delight in finding the church open, lockdown notwithstanding. A universal theme is appreciation of the quiet peacefulness and the beautiful scenery, a perfect place for prayer and reflection. Many recall family and friends who have been connected with Halton in one way or another. One had clearly been moved to do some family research: "My ancestor Henry Wood was baptised here in 1793".

Warwick and Suzette Milne continue to organise the cleaning of the church and the flower rota and Sir Hugh Blackett the external maintenance of the church building and the churchyard. We are deeply grateful to them and all others who help.



Halton Church

SAFEGUARDING

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Safer Recruitment Officer
Asst PSO (Admin)

Mandy Norton
Richard Adams.
Linda E Hunter

Tel: 01434 632585
Tel: 01434 634869
Tel: 01434 633742

'The Church of England is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within the church community so that all can flourish in faith and know the love of God. Here in St. Andrew's and Halton we need to remember that we are all responsible for keeping each other safe. Mandy is always available to talk to if you have any safeguarding concerns. She can also point you in right direction if you need any information. Richard looks after the recruitment paperwork in particular the Volunteer forms and on-line DBS checks, new and renewals. This year Mandy has been trained as an Ambassador for Domestic Violence and Linda has qualified as a Mental Health First Aider.

We use the National Church Dashboard in order to keep up to date with all that we need to do to ensure that our churches are safe places. People are recruited to roles safely and those who work with children or vulnerable adults have all the appropriate checks. All those involved in roles which require Safeguarding training have participated in the appropriate course for their role - Basic Awareness, Foundation or Leadership.

Safeguarding is on the agenda of every PCC meeting. All PCC members have been issued with the Safeguarding pocket guides and our parish updated guidelines. Over the last year, in addition to keeping the dashboard up to date PCC have:

- Been advised on all the new or changed regulations and national policies including the necessity for all PCC members to complete the on-line Domestic Awareness training.
- Updated the Parish Safeguarding Policy, Parish Domestic Abuse and Recruitment of Ex-Offenders and Social media policies
- Agreed to comply with (i) Data Protection legislation and (ii) Risk Management Plans and Safeguarding agreements.
- Agreed the Lists of (i) Church activities and (ii) non-church activities which involve children, young people or vulnerable adults.
- Looked at risk assessments and when they should be undertaken.
- **www.churchofengland.org/more/safeguarding** for further information.

FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

Michael Rae and Jon Williams

Maintenance Committee

Jean Wilks and Sue Graves

Churchwardens

THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The committee meets regularly and reports to PCC. Members are Michael Rae, Jon Williams, David Kennedy, Linda Hunter, and both churchwardens. The committee is especially indebted to Michael and Jon, for all their wisdom, expertise and hard work. Jon has recently been designated Eco-Champion on the Maintenance Committee, to ensure that environmental concerns are taken on board in all discussion and decision-making.

The fabric of the Church is in serviceable condition, and all goods and ornaments are as required for worship and events to take place in St. Andrew's and St. Oswald's.

QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTIONS

St Andrew's Cottage

The Quinquennial Inspection of the cottage has been completed and reviewed. It revealed a substantial amount of work that will need to be undertaken if more extensive use is to be made of the building. Principally:

- Control and elimination of the ingress of damp especially in the lower floor;
- Installation of a new central heating boiler;
- Repair to the floor in the kitchen and installation of under-floor heating;
- Redesign of the layout of the kitchen and installation of new units.

The inspecting architect has now been appointed as project manager to prepare detailed specifications of the work. In the light of these documents PCC will make further decisions as to how the project can be progressed.

St Andrew's and Halton Churches

The Quinquennial Inspections of both churches will be completed this year.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH: MAINTENANCE AND WORKS UNDERTAKEN

- **Statutory Requirements.** During the year we have had inspection of the fire extinguishers, boilers, alarm system, PAT testing and regular inspections of ladders.
- **Clock.** Automatic Winding was fitted to the clock in October 2021, and the clock's annual inspection has been completed.

- **Icon.** The icon was fixed to the wall in the sanctuary.
- **Roof.** Maintaining a watertight roof, as with all historic buildings, is an ongoing challenge. The recent storms and torrential rain caused a few problems; repairs are in hand.
- **Lighting.** All of the defective light bulbs in the chancel have been replaced.
- **Broadband** was installed in the church in June 2021.
- **Glass entrance door.** The Atkinson memorial door shattered without warning on Easter Sunday 2021. After much consultation with our insurers, the Diocese and the Atkinson family, a new door was installed at the end of November. We are grateful to the Atkinson family for their financial support of this project.
- **Churchyard and garden.** We have a close working relationship with the Parish Council, which has responsibility for the churchyard, including grass cutting and safety of footpaths. In March 2022, a volunteer working party was organised to do an extra tidy-up. Special thanks are due to Warwick and Suzette Milne for their work in the cottage garden.



Michael Collins, Michael Rae and Paul Morris – Clock Winders

PLANNED WORK

- **Photocopier.** The cottage photocopier printer has become very unreliable, and is being replaced with a more robust model.
- **Audio-visual systems.** The sound system has needed frequent attention during the year, and needs an overhaul to bring it up to date. We also need to install the technology needed for live-streaming services and events. We are therefore planning to commission a new audio-visual system in the coming year.

CONTRACT RENEWAL

Electrical contracts for St Andrew's, Halton and the cottage are fixed until 2023. The cottage gas contract is fixed until 2024. St Andrew's gas contract runs until 2025.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Our health & safety audit checklist was reviewed last year, and all policies and risk assessments will be looked at during the coming year. Event risk assessments are carried out for all new events, and have been reviewed regularly during Covid.

SECURITY REVIEW

We regularly monitor our security arrangements. If you have any church key and are no longer in the role for which it was issued, please return it to the churchwardens.

THANK YOU

The fabric of our churches is well looked after, and we are extremely grateful to all those who contribute to this in any way, by giving their time, expertise or financial help. It is impossible to thank all those who play a part in this, as so many people are involved. We are always looking for more volunteers to take on maintenance tasks; if you could offer some help, please speak to the churchwardens.



The replacement Atkinson Door

MISSION AND MINISTRY

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Louise Stubbs



Messy Church is currently celebrating its twelfth year and once again we are reflecting on very challenging times, with the Pandemic now being in year three.

Our team have continued to conduct planning/review meetings via 'Zoom' and I can confidently say, that we can be considered experts (for at least the majority of the time!) Canon. David Kennedy, Rev'd. Lynn Caudwell and Rev'd. Sam Lohead continue to attend our meetings whenever they are available. We are grateful for their input, especially, on the videos produced. The Messy Church banner is erected in the Church grounds in advance of the proposed date. It is eye catching and serves as a reminder for our families and visitors. Everyone is made to feel welcome at all times.

Linda Hunter (Lay Minister) continues to lead our team and regularly continues to contribute to the online productions. Linda ensures we all stay on task during our planning meetings and the team greatly appreciate her enthusiasm, encouragement and patience. Thank you, Linda.

The format (of Messy Church) has remained largely unchanged, when being presented online, but at some point, the team felt it beneficial to slim down the content. Consequently, there is now a brief introduction to the theme or story, a craft activity, a song, a short video illustrating the story and prayers.

Since September 2021 we have been able to return to Church for Messy Church days but with altered arrangements due to Covid



Easter Messy Church 2022

The afternoon starts with a game for everyone to take part in and includes all team members! (This is usually linked to our story). The theme is then introduced. Activity boxes are then collected by each family. The boxes contain activities (with instructions) which are prepared by the team. The team members can then support and talk with families. Pre-pandemic there would have been several 'table top' activities with families 'on the move' to the different areas. The current sessions conclude with a video, song and prayers. Teas are provided in paper bags in preference to a 'help yourself' buffet. This was felt necessary due to covid and has continued to be the norm. The attendance at the church sessions have been considerably lower than in previous years but we are hopeful these figures will begin to climb.

Some of the themes we have addressed have included *Easter Activities, *Doubting Thomas, *Talents (Gifts; Peter), *Summer fun, Lost Sheep, Lost coin, The Prodigal Son, Christmas Journey Part 1 & Part 2 (Part 1 in December 2021 and Part 2,*The Journey of the Magi, in January 2022) Jesus in the Temple- Lost and Found, The man let down through the roof.(*These sessions took place online.)The videos for all the online presentations can be viewed on the 'St. Andrew's You Tube channel'. It is encouraging to note that our productions have been viewed by members of the congregation as well as Messy Church families. Viewing figures continue to be varied.

As in previous years, and at this point in my report, I would like to convey my thanks to all the current and past members of the Messy Church team. Their unwavering support, dedication and creativeness throughout these challenging times have enabled us to continue with the Messy Church provision. The team will continue to work together to provide 'Face to Face' Messy Church sessions and 'online' when deemed necessary.

A special mention must also go to Max Philbrick. His endless patience, expert editing and collation of all our submitted videos/activities go towards producing a seamless Messy Church online (whenever this is required) He also produces a colourful monthly flyer which is distributed in school and is available at the back of the Church. Thank you, Max.

The 'Take 5' team (named after the 5 Marks of Mission) is responsible for making recommendations about how to distribute the planned giving and encourage engagement with the current external mission partners of St Andrew's and Halton. This is done in line with our mission statement, and we support five projects that reflect the holistic nature of mission. The partners we engage with are Phil and Sylvie Good working with the Church Mission Society in the Middle East, Getachew and Gezashingn Yohannes engaged in Bible Translation with Wycliffe Ethiopia, 'Gap' working with the homeless in Hexham, the 'Lighthouse' project in Byker and 'A Rocha' UK encouraging churches to be more intentional stewards of God's creation in all aspects of church and personal life.

The highlights of this last year include:

Our original members, Richard Adams, Anne King- Lewis, Coleen Petrie, Max and Monica Philbrick, Jennifer Wright and Revd Lynn Caudwell recommended that this year we continue supporting the current identified projects as there had been limited opportunity for engagement with those already supported due to Covid. However, we will now meet monthly for the next few months with the hope that we will see some significant progress with these projects in the coming year.

We have been pleased to add to our numbers and welcome Malcom Warin and Rev'd Sam Lohead. Malcom brings much experience of working with refugees and Sam has a particular interest in environmental issues. We look forward to their contribution in this coming year

The 'A Rocha' church Eco survey was completed, and Richard Adams was able to identify several areas where the church and individuals could become more environmentally friendly. Rev'd Sam Lohead agreed to help Richard with making some initial concrete steps in this area of church life. The appointment of Jon Williams as an Eco champion on the maintenance committee and the development of a booklet to be given out to church members about how to live more sustainably, are just two of the immediate outcomes.

One of the aims of this group is to encourage more church engagement with the projects and so we were delighted when on 17th June 2021 we were able to host a visit from Phil and Sylvie Good (our CMS partners working in the Middle East). This mid-week meeting was well attended and gave us great insight into the challenges and joys of ministering in this part of the world. We were also able to invite Dave Johnson, a leader from the Lighthouse project in Byker, to come and speak to us in the main Sunday Communion service on 7th Nov 2021. This gave the Take 5 initiative more exposure to a wider section of the church family. This visit was followed up with a reciprocal visit from some church members to the church in Byker to hear an outline of the planned building project.

We have developed a new notice board that is refreshed monthly giving information about the various projects that the church supports. This has been warmly received and one often sees visitors reading the various posters. We now have holders where information sheets can be stored so that people can take them away to read.

We continue to get updates from several of the projects and this keeps the prayer information fresh for updating the noticeboards and integrating into the intercessions in church.

We have plans to visit 'Gap' in the next few months and to set up a live link to interview Getachew and his family in one of our services in the Autumn.



Our informal, inclusive afternoon service River continues to meet in the afternoon on the fourth Sunday of each month. It has been wonderful to explore new ways of worshipping together and exploring the Bible, including drama, discussion, and creative prayer - to name just three!

Since Christmas, we have come together to reflect on how we celebrate joyfully together as a community (looking at Nehemiah); the Transfiguration (putting puzzles together!); and women from the Bible who changed the world.

This gives a sense of just how varied and different each River is - our most recent River looked at the story of the journey to Emmaus, which we talked about together whilst going on prayer walks of our own! River has been a brilliant opportunity to discuss our experiences with each other, and we've loved having the chance to link our daily lives to what we hear and see at church. The more informal setting also allows us to use our amazing church space differently (including the churchyard), and see it from a new perspective - something those who have come along have really valued.

It has also been great to learn new worship songs together as we're led by our excellent musicians, and to welcome friends and newcomers into St Andrew's by sharing refreshments after (and sometimes during!) worship.

Each month River continues to grow (flow?) in exciting ways, and has something to offer to everyone - whether you've never been to church before or you've been a member of St Andrew's for years. If you've not been to River before, now is a really excellent time to 'jump in' - we'd love to see you!

CHURCH MUSIC

Colin Williams Musical Director

From the Choir Stalls:

*Mask on, mask off
- standing away from each other
Sometimes six of us, sometimes more!
Waving at each other with The Peace - smiling happy choristers!
Only bread for a while - but now dipped in wine!
No robes, then robes - no processing, then we could - then out came the cross.
But did we waver?
We certainly did not fluster - we just got on with it - then....
'Songs of Praise' we were so excited - Thirty-six times we sang the hymns Loving every moment.
Then the choir got COVID.
Were we disheartened?
Not St Andrew's choir!*

Liz Collins

Despite these strange times there has been much to celebrate. After the restricted opportunities in 2020 it was a real joy to be able to sing the Christmas Services, including Carols for All accompanied by Hexham Brass, in the churchyard festooned with Christmas lights. The well-attended service on Christmas Eve featured both traditional and new carols, and it was wonderful to experience once again a full church in candlelight.

A very significant celebration was the weekend of the rededication of the organ culminating in a special service. Our choir was augmented by the Antiphon Choir allowing us to achieve an ambition shared between David Kennedy and myself that once the organ restoration was complete, we would sing I was Glad by Charles Hubert Parry, an anthem for double choir and organ accompaniment which fittingly demonstrated the voicing and power of the restored organ. It was also a perfect opportunity to invite our organist emeritus John Ross to join our two resident organists, John Roper and Marc Bryant in the music for this service.



John Ross (Organist Emeritus), John Roper and Marc Bryant - Organists

And then, out of the blue the church was asked to host an edition of Songs of Praise, a fascinating experience of full-hearted hymn singing in a theatrically lit church surrounded by all the equipment

necessary for an outside broadcast.

St Andrew's has a unique arrangement whereby we have not one but two organists in a shared post. Practically this ensure a consistent and uninterrupted coverage for all the services, and allows the choir (and the congregation) to enjoy the talents of two very different musicians, whether it is an accompaniment or playing a voluntary. We are very fortunate to have John and Marc.

I asked for comments from the choir for this report, and I find it deeply rewarding that a common theme in the responses is the strong sense of family, the shared enjoyment of making music together within a warm, caring and welcoming community.

Everyone in the choir makes an essential contribution but special mention should be made of Liz Collins our mistress of the robes, Warwick Milne and Ian Graves for frequently tidying the vestry and sorting music, and Jean Wilks our indefatigable secretary, who has played such a vital role in monitoring the applicable pandemic health and safety protocols and keeping us so well in touch with each other.



Carols for All on Christmas Eve

BOOK GROUP

Rev'd Lynn Caudwell

The original Book group, studying the book series "Sensible Shoes" by Sharon Garlough Brown has continued meeting weekly on zoom throughout this whole year. We have finished the whole series of 4 books, and it has proved to be a source of encouragement and spiritual development for all involved. Some of the members have gained confidence to branch out into other areas of ministry through this experience. When we finished the 4 books in the series, we moved on to two other books and have just finished reading a book called 7 Ways to Pray also by Sharon Garlough Brown. We have also had an outing to the prayer labyrinth up on Hadrian's Wall. We will be meeting again after the Easter break to consider what our next steps should be.

The second group of 6 formed after the success of the first group and Jennifer Wright (one of the members of the first group) is co-leading this. We have read 2 books and plan to continue to read all 4 books. We are also meeting up socially to sew, chat and pray together. Again, this has helped people gain confidence in their spiritual lives.

The success of these groups has encouraged other groups to form in other parishes and Lynn is acting as a mentor to the leader of another group. Lynn is also being trained and supervised in Spiritual Direction which helps in this type of ministry.

HOME GROUP

Anne King-Lewis, Max Philbrick, Paul Morris

Apart from occasional short breaks, and a longer break over summer, Home Group continued to meet both in-person when permitted (initially all sitting well apart and with the windows open) and online. Zoom attendees have joined from as far apart as Bath and Whitley Chapel; and we have enjoyed welcoming others from the village too. Numbers are typically around 8-10, with 15 people having been at least once over the year.

Our discussions – conversations really – have been based on several New Testament letters, and we've used recently published books in Lent and Advent: 'Walking Backward to Christmas' was thought-provoking and enjoyed by all!

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Rev'd Sam Lochhead

As part of the 'Prayer strand' of our Mission Statement, a regular time of Contemplative Prayer has been established within the life of St Andrew's. This has been running since September 2021 as an opportunity to both explore different forms of prayer, as well as a practical opportunity to deepen both our individual and corporate prayer life.

The group began with five evenings considering the relationship between prayer and each of our senses. For example, following the installation of an icon of St Andrew next to the high altar, we reflected on how our sight, and what we see, can act as a window or invitation into prayer with God. There have also been two evenings of Taizé-inspired worship and prayer as part of this group, allowing us to learn new chants together and to delve into some significant festivals of the church year, such as Candlemas.

I am incredibly grateful to all who have come to pray contemplatively (whether to one, several, or all of these evenings!), as well as those who have given of their musical talents to help support this meditative time and space. I am also very thankful to Linda, Lynn, and David for their Compline reflections during both Advent and Lent as part of this time of contemplative prayer, as it has been a much-valued form of preparation for the great festivals of Christmas and Easter.

As we head further into 2022, this time of contemplative prayer will continue to form part of the life of St Andrew's, including an upcoming evening where we will reflect further together on the place of healing within our faith, following on from a sermon series and healing Eucharist earlier in the year. There will also be space to explore new types of prayer, for example imaginative/Ignatian prayer, *lectio divina*, and the Jesus Prayer. I also hope that this time of contemplative prayer may also begin to establish the link between contemplative prayer and our intercessory prayer on behalf of one another, the community, and the world, as a way of further engaging with other areas of our Mission Statement's 'Prayer strand'.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Linda E Hunter, Leader

Up until September 2021 we continued to meet monthly over zoom. The committee agreed that beginning in September we would try out meeting in the afternoon, obviously the school was not available so we decided to meet in church.

Our first meeting back was our old friend Tony Atkinson who talked about Ada Lovelace of Seaham Hall, it was a bit of a racy talk but then Ada was quite a racy person. In October John Clark talked to us about Featherstone castle and shared some interesting documents that he had with us. The Clàrsach society played for us some lovely music in November and that was a really good opportunity for us all to chill out on the run up to Christmas. Our Advent service was an opportunity for us to have some quiet reflective time amidst that Christmas hustle and bustle.

We have sat in various areas of the church but always gravitate back to the tables for our refreshments. The committee feel that to meet in the afternoon, in church, with the opportunity for chat after our speakers, over refreshments has been a good move. So, we are going to continue meeting in the afternoons here in church.

Despite the last 18 months we have still managed to raise £250.00 for the children's bereavement services and this year we will give half of what we raise to PCDC – we were going to split our 2020 fundraising but were not able.

A huge thank you to Rosemary, Sheila, Liz, Elsie and Janet, who have all helped to keep things running smoothly and to Janice McLean who has organised the refreshments.



St. Andrew's Women's Fellowship Committee with Charlotte Pearson from Tynedale Hospice at Home.

The prayer group is now meeting every Thursday afternoon. It continues to use the on-line facility of Zoom. We continue to pray for current issues relevant to our lives here in Corbridge as well as those relating to the country and the rest of the world.

We pray for the work of the Ministry team and all of the groups working within our church including the regular church services, Messy Church, book groups, home group, YouTube services etc. We also pray for people we know of who are unwell, or have asked for us to pray about their particular needs.

In addition, we remember those we have chosen to support financially through the "Take 5" initiative.

This includes:

- Stop Gap - helping Hexham's homeless.
- The Lighthouse Project- a church in Byker where they are working to make their church into a flexible modern space for the whole community to use including a place of worship.
- CMS (Church Mission Society) - for Phil and Sylvie Good in Lebanon • Getachew and his family in his work as a Bible translator in Ethiopia.
- The Eco Church programme involving St Andrew's in environmental issues and looking at ways we can get involved as a church. (see Church notice board for regular updates of Take Five projects).

We all value and enjoy the time together each week, and when we resume meeting in the church for the prayer meeting it will be advertised on the church bulletin. For the time being we will continue to use Zoom enabling those who join from a distance and/or those who feel safer to do so can continue to join in.



War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.



Singing outside on a Sunday morning.

OUTREACH

WEST NORTHUMBERLAND FOODBANK

Monica Philbrick



With COVID, donations via the boxes at the back of the church were reduced, though no doubt many supported the Food Bank via supermarkets and through cash donations. In 2022 the Food Bank continues to grow in impact as - sadly - needs are spiralling.

COVID made household collection of food from the Hexham warehouse and office problematic, and in 2021 two vans were purchased, and bags delivered directly. 25% of households being supported are outside the main towns of Hexham, Prudhoe and Haltwhistle. (The Prudhoe and Haltwhistle branches are now closed.) Deliveries now stretch from Haltwhistle and its surrounds to Prudhoe; and as far as Bellingham, Kielder and Allendale. Last year deliveries were made in 38 towns and villages in our area.

Of those being supported, 51% of households accessed Food Bank services for a short crisis period, and just 13% received deliveries more than 25 times in a year. Only 5% requested help every week.



After Christmas 2020, lockdowns led to a shift from food donations towards direct cash donations. This ensured the Food Bank could purchase items to go into every bag – food and household essentials. At the same time cash donations helped finance the refurbishment of the storeroom, support a dedicated helpline, extend opening hours, and set up a hardship fund for people in crisis. A small

grants scheme was launched to support other grassroots community projects – for example projects tackling child poverty which is a growing issue in the region.

The helpline and admin office also take calls about money and debt-related issues – helping people identify relevant services and benefits, maximising the income for households.

The project manager commented to me that the demand for help has risen significantly this Spring, and there is real concern about the impact of the rising cost of living. Her words about the months ahead were “look at the numbers we are helping and double them”.

We will continue to collect congregation and village donations of food and household essentials which are gratefully received, but as you have read, donations of money are also well used! Details are on the Food Bank website (see below).

The project manager’s report for Oct 2020 – Sept 2021 makes an informative read, at www.westnorthumberlandfoodbank.org.uk, and if you have time, I would urge you to read it!



ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Simon Hunter

The increased use of social media, smart phones and mobiles devices has meant we have been able to communicate with more people in the parish than ever before.

At St Andrew's we have sent out a weekly church email which has helped to keep everyone up to date. It has provided links to: the bulletin, reflection, orders of services, YouTube services, Messy Church Videos and other relevant information.

This information can also be accessed via the Church website, or directly via YouTube: St. Andrew's Church, Corbridge.

If you haven't already subscribed to the weekly email, you can do this online on the church website or via our database application form available in church.

Website: www.corbridgechurch.org.uk

Website: Each week the website is updated with the Sunday service resources and also the link to the YouTube channel. Streaming takes place on our YouTube channel at 10.00am. each Sunday.

Facebook: We have three Facebook pages: Corbridge Church, Corbridge Church Families and St. Andrew's Church Christmas Tree Festival and a twitter account:

Corbridge Church tweets@CorbridgeChurc1

At the main festive seasons i.e., Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter we produce a booklet containing all the relevant service and event information.

We would welcome contribution for the News and Events section these can be emailed to sahunter@corbridgechurch.org.uk.

Paper copies are available to members of the congregation who don't have access to the internet.

PARISH NEWS

Max Philbrick

With our growing use of electronic communication, and the introduction of Advent and Lent booklets for services and events, the need for a regular Parish News has probably declined. Only two editions were published last year (in April and October), with a January edition opening 2022. Copies are available to download from the church website, with a limited number available at the back of church.



This irregular and 'as needed' pattern is likely to continue, but if you have a contribution – particularly something that would benefit from the full-colour magazine-style format of the PN – then please give or send it to max.philbrick@gmx.co.uk.

EVENTS & FUNDRAISING

MUSICAL EVENTS

Linda E Hunter and Jean Wilks

A small team comprising Mary Oswell, Jenny Watson, Coleen Petrie, Gail Williams, Nicki Swart and Marc Bryant and ourselves meet regularly to plan the musical events for St. Andrew's. 2021 proved to be a slightly better year than 2020

One of our first musical events was when we welcomed the Gould back for the Chamber Music Festival in July. This was closely followed by our lunchtime Summer music series. Performing in 2021 were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Marc Bryant, John Roper and John Ross | Organ |
| Cristo Harijan | Piano |
| Deborah Thorne and Julia Kennard | Cello and Piano |
| Faye Robinson and Nicki Billington | Vocalist and Piano |
| Nina Winstanley and Ben Chiltern | Flute and Oboe |

Jill Crossland gave a wonderful piano recital in September.

Lander Mason and Dark Sky voices performed in November and our first English Music Festival took place in December.

Our year was rounded off with the traditional mulled wine, mince pies and Carols by the Choir.



Dark Sky Voices in November

EVENTS

We were delighted that we were able to hold the Tree Festival this year and even more delighted that we had 78 trees displayed. As usual there were many innovative ideas interpreted in a range of ways, it was a delight to walk round and see them all.

Over 4,500 people visited the festival and were all very accommodating of the restrictions. In fact, quite a few people commented that as it was less crowded it was easier to see the trees! Staying open later on 3 nights helped ease the congestion.

A huge thank you to all those who helped in any way: the setup and take down teams, those who stewarded, made refreshments, donated mince pies and sang carols.

We raised a total of £7,892.91 which with gift aid should be about £8,000, this was a fantastic result.

FUNDRAISING

Thanks to Suzette and Warwick for arranging the Grand Draw which brought in over £1,000.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Sheila Goldsworthy, Convenor

The Flower ladies produce lovely flowers each week. Flowers from the garden and the Super markets, all stunning. The list is on the notice board in the North Transept for your chosen dates and the name of the monthly duty flower ladies, all ready to arrange your flowers. You may like to arrange your own, which would be lovely. Celebrate a birthday or anniversary with us all.

If there are flower arrangers, water and sort ladies who would like to join our teams, please contact Sheila Goldsworthy 632595 A huge "Thank You" for all the donations you give to The Easter Box and the Christmas donation boxes.

THE FEDERATION OF BROOMHAUGH AND CORBRIDGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

Annual Parish Council Meeting 2022

Chair of Governors / Jennifer Ainsley, Executive Head Teacher



As Executive Head Teacher of Corbridge Church of England First School I am proud to work with the team of fully dedicated teachers and governors to ensure the best education and social experiences

for our pupils, enabling them to flourish and be self-confident, proud members of their community.

I will be leaving the federation in September 2022, but following a thorough appointment process I can announce with pleasure that Mrs Hart will be taking over as Executive Head Teacher of the Federation – leaving both Broomhaugh and Corbridge in a fantastic position to continue to grow and thrive.

Following the difficult challenges we have faced in managing education through the pandemic, I could not be prouder of the team and all that has been achieved for our pupils and families. We are now welcoming families back into school and to our church events safely. We are grateful to be heading back to what we always enjoyed, and we will never take for granted the special events and experiences, which for some time, we were unable to enjoy.

Our Christian Values: Respect, Forgiveness, Truth Thankfulness and Friendship continue to underpin our ethos for ensuring all who are part of the Corbridge family can continue to flourish and grow.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Below is the most recent school information.

Current number on roll	141	% of SEND pupils (Special Education Need / disability)	10%
Age range of pupils	4-9	% of disadvantaged pupils	16%

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The Federation of Broomhaugh and Corbridge Church of England (VA) First Schools officially began in September 2021. The Federation benefits continue to remind us that we are stronger together! Children from both schools have benefitted through additional experiences and shared resources. Specialist teaching has been introduced including; Sports specialists, music specialist, ICT technician support and a dedicated computing teacher at CFS. Some financial savings resulting from joint procurement have also allowed us to focus the little money we have directly to areas which have clear benefit for our children.

A very key strength lies in staff benefitting from working together and sharing skills across the schools. This year secondments between teachers in our schools has enable staff development and strength in both school teams which has led to a great educational offer for our children. The special Educational Needs offer at Corbridge is outstanding through the deployment of our SEND leader across the federation. SEND needs have seen a significant raise over the past two years and the provision in place at CFS is now second to none.

Our school development plan has 6 key areas which include further development of character education through continued commitment to Forest Schools and Commando Joe's provision, leadership development and a continued cycle of review which ensures we can always be the best we can be!



Sam dedicating the bench for the Royal British Legion Corbridge Branch centenary



Dedicating the centenary pennant for the Corbridge Branch of the Royal British Legion



Opening of the Christmas Tree Festival



Burnbrae Lodge Christmas Tree



The Rev'd Kate Bottley interviews the vicar for Songs of Praise