



**Parish Church of St Mary
Barton upon Humber**

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Tuesday 16 April 2019**

**Commencing with the Eucharist in the
Chapel of the Holy Trinity at 7pm.**

**The main meeting starts at 7:30pm
in the Church Hall**

THE EUCHARIST @7pm in the Chapel of the Holy Trinity.

THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING @ 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

Please sign the Vestry Book before you leave this evening

1. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting 2018
2. Election of two Churchwardens for 2019/2020

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2019

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual Church Meeting 2018
3. Matters Arising; Not covered by the agenda
4. Presentation of the New Electoral Roll
5. To receive nominations for additional sidesmen and sideswomen
6. To receive the Annual Report for 2018
7. Discussion of the Annual report 2018 ***(This is not a decision making process)***
8. To elect 12 members to the Parochial Church Council for 2019/2020
9. To re-appoint the Safeguarding Officer
10. To adopt the Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018
11. To receive the Budget for 2019
12. To appoint Financial Examiners for 2019
13. To review our Church Mission Statement
14. Closing Prayer

THE NEWLY ELECTED PCC MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO REMAIN FOR A BRIEF PCC MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE APCM

PCC AGENDA

1. Election of PCC Officers: Vice-Chairman/woman; Secretary; Treasurer; Electoral Roll Officer
2. Election of the Standing Committee
3. Agree dates of 2019/2020 PCC meetings:
Suggested dates -
20 May 2019
15 July 2019
23 September 2019
25 November 2019
27 January 2020
23 March 2020 (provisional date)
21 April 2020 (provisional date of the APCM)

St Mary's Parish Church Barton upon Humber

Annual Church Meeting

Monday 16 April 2018

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Apologies:

Michelle Wright, Janet Petch, Stephen Bennett, David Dukes, Carolyn Smith, Rev Ivan Howitt, Alan Mabbott, Andrew Lord, Sue Brennan, Brenda Skinner, Ann Richardson and Father David Rowett.

Father Liz explained that Father David had been called to Chair Barrow's Annual Church meeting by the Bishop. The Bishop asked Father Liz to Chair the Barton Annual Church meeting in Father David's absence. Father Liz asked those present if she could have their permission to Chair the meeting. All in favour.

2. Minutes of the Annual Church Meeting 2017

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Church meeting were read out to those present.

Minutes accepted as a true record. Proposed by Val Dukes, Seconded by Amy Dubois, All in favour.

3. Presentation of the Revised Electoral Roll

Sue Wright Electoral Roll Officer presented the revised roll. With only one addition. The Electoral Roll is due for renewal and new forms will have to be completed by everyone who wishes to be included. An article will be published in the Parish magazine as well as the notice sheet when this is to be carried out. Father Liz thanked Sue for compiling the Electoral Roll, and would she be willing to continue as Electoral Roll Officer, Sue replied "that she would continue"

4. To receive nominations for additional sidesmen and sideswomen

Val Dukes presented her report:

We still have a committed group, welcoming everyone to our main three services on Sundays.

The 8am group has 5 members, including one who is often away from the UK, a married couple who can only be on duty for the first Sunday of each month. So many thanks to the other two for taking extra turns.

The 9:30am & 6pm groups have all been extra helpful, covering for various members' who have been recovering from illness. A special thank you to Janette Murray for acting as an 'honorary' sideswoman while her husband is not well. We wish him a successful recovery.

We have had quite a lot of weddings & funerals this last 12 months, and again some of us have realised how much Mike Mumby did in the role of Sidesman on these occasions. So, thank you to Sue Brennan, Bill Cox, David Croskell, Angela & Kevin Henson, Mavis Nutbrown and Brenda Skinner, who have all been supportive in this area. Thanks to my husband David for printing the duty rotas.

Finally if anyone would like to join the team, especially at 8am services, they would be made very welcome.

5. To receive the Annual Report 2017

Father Liz asked if there were any questions regarding the report? No questions were asked.

Additional thanks were given to David Croskell for clearing the gutters of leaves and paths of snow, Bill Cox for unlocking and locking up the church most days and to Gavin Chapman for spotting and treating the woodworm.

The Annual report was accepted. Proposed by Mavis Nutbrown, Seconded by Rev Gordon Plumb. All in favour.

6. To elect 12 Members to the Parochial Church Council for 2018 – 2019

The following were elected to serve:

Angela Henson, Proposed by Mike Searle, Seconded by Joyce Gibson.

Kevin Henson, Proposed by Angela Henson, Seconded by Mike Searle.

Auriol Trubshaw, Proposed by Valerie Dukes, Seconded by Kevin Henson.

Mavis Nutbrown, Proposed by Michelle Wright, Seconded by Janet Petch.

Andrew Lord, Proposed by John French, Seconded by Edith Hobson.

Roger Lord, Proposed by John French, Seconded by Penny Phillips.

Susan Wright, Proposed by John French, Seconded by Joy Lord.

Michelle McManus, Proposed by Wendy Witter, Seconded by Mavis Nutbrown.

Total **8** elected. **4** vacancies.

7. To (re-)appoint the Safeguarding Officer

Robert Smith was re-appointed. Proposed by Mavis Nutbrown, Seconded by Val Dukes. All in favour.

8. To adopt the Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2017

Read by those present.

Father Liz asked if anyone had any questions regarding the accounts. No questions asked.

Val Dukes stated her husband David had looked over the accounts and that everything was in order.

Accounts adopted. Proposed by Robert Smith, Seconded by Mavis Nutbrown. All in favour.

9. To receive the Budget for 2018

Father Liz asked if any one present had any questions regarding the budget 2018. None were asked.

Val Dukes said her Husband David had a look at the budget and is happy with what is proposed.

Budget proposed by Val Dukes, Seconded by Peter Large. All in favour.

10. To appoint Financial Examiners for 2018

It was agreed to re-appoint RNS as Financial Examiners for 2018. A letter of thanks would be sent to RNS for their support which is given freely. Proposed by Mavis Nutbrown, Seconded by Val Dukes. All in favour.

11. To review our Church Mission Statement

Father Liz read out our statement and it was agreed that it was still fit for purpose and no change would be made this year. Proposed by Mavis Nutbrown, Seconded by Peter Large. All in favour.

12. Open discussion on any matter of Church life/ministry and mission

Friends of St Mary's has been established by Michelle McManus and Sue Brennan a leaflet has been produced and events planned with the first one been on 2 June 2018 in the church hall.

The group has been set up to support the church with additional funding for projects. Rev G Plumb asked if the organisers had considered writing a bid for funding to Tesco, a church in the low villages is at present through the token process at the Barton store seeking funding this way. Michelle and Sue would need help submitting any bid for funding grants from any source.

Father Liz thanked Michelle and Sue for their valuable work with this venture and asked the church community to support any events organised by the Friends of St Mary's.

Sue Wright stated that the Ladies Group is going to submit a bid for funding from Tesco. The Ladies Group does donate to St Mary's. Sue also raised the matter that members of the Ladies Group had to tidy up the Hall before they could set up, tables had been left out and the group only use one table. She thought the Caretaker would put the tables away etc. Father Liz reminded those present that the Caretaker is also a volunteer and has a business to run and family commitments and may not be available. Val said "that Bill Shakespeare put the tables away on a Wednesday if he is present at the 9:30am service" Val stated she would try and put the tables away if Bill was not present.

Amy DuBois asked if a notice could be placed on the church hall exterior doors asking people to close them especially in winter as this made the hall cold and draughty. Rob would place a notice on the door.

John French observed that the church hall footpath appears to be no longer flooding, Sue Wright said "it was still flooding" Geoff Brown said "in order to undertake repairs/investigation to the soakaway an archaeological survey would have to be carried out due to the location of the soakaway in the church yard near to the tower and would be expensive. We do not have the financial flexibility at the moment to commit to this. However, we will continue to monitor the problem"

Rev Alan Wright brought up a concern regarding the Parish Magazine. He has noticed that there are usually four articles a month from clergy not from this area, and could have an impact on readership and may give the impression to readers that they are somehow connected of St Mary's. Father Liz said "that you mentioned this recently at the diary meeting and that Father David would be looking into it with the magazine editor when time permitted" Rev Wright also mentioned that an article from the Ladies Group was omitted one month even though it was submitted in plenty of time before the deadline. The Rev G Plumb agreed with these observations. Mike Searle said "from a cost point of view the additional number of pages increases the cost of producing the magazine" he also stated there were at least 50 magazines left over each month which is more than usual in recent times. Geoff Brown stated "we should give thanks to the editor for their work on the magazine, again which is voluntary" those present agreed thanks should be passed on to the editor.

Father Liz on behalf of Father David we would like to thank everyone for their work and commitment at St Mary's without whom the church would not function.

The meeting closed with the grace at 9pm.

Reports

Vicar's Report

One does not have to be particularly observant to note that it's been an eventful year at St Mary's, particularly the improvement made to lighting in the south aisle by the removal of part of the roof.

My report's in three sections, though obviously they're not independent of one another – ministry, mission and building. There are one or two things from my work beyond the parish which feed into the mix as well.

First, the building. Having had our hand forced, we are considering the longer term development of the building, including the hall. Some improvements are simple and cost-effective – putting LED tubes in the hall and replacing the lighting in St James'. As the fabric report says, PCC has set up a small group to explore ideas about what the improvements we would like to make and how we might get funding from outside sources, which latter task has been taken up by Sue Wright and Michelle McManus. The building is an integral part of our mission strategy. I'd like to express our thanks to everyone who's working on this part of our task.

Inevitably people wonder why progress is slow, but setting aside cost, projects in listed buildings are tightly controlled: eight months and counting to get authorisation for repairs to one of my other churches. Some issues we just have to live with: it would be difficult, costly and irresponsible to heat our building to living-room temperatures. If anyone grumbles to you, well, now you know what to tell them.

Second, ministry. We've had the best part of a year one priest down, as Liz cares for Barrow and Goxhill (whose ongoing situation also eats into the Rural Dean's diary), and is currently Diocesan Director of Ordinands, both full-time posts. There's no avoiding the impact on what can be done here, despite, for example, Alan taking on an increased occasional office (=weddings, funerals, baptisms) workload just when he might have been hoping for a slightly easier time of it.

Lay ministry, both in the form of the original team and the Readers and in the ministries (for example) of Toddler Time, wardens, the MU and individuals who have taken on regular visiting or the social outreaches of OCC, Fair Trade and the Food Bank are flourishing. The diocese now has a highly able person overseeing Reader and Lay ministry and I very much want to use Sally Buck's expertise to look at how our lay ministry is organised, supported and developed, since the future of the Gospel is the calling of all the people of God.

I've not yet mentioned Robert Jaggs-Fowler, who is coming to us for his training curacy. Robert will be a 'proper' NSM – that is, he'll be working here for a couple of days per week while he fits in his other commitments. He's being ordained on the morning of St Peter's Day, Saturday 29th June, and on the 30th June there'll be a Benefice Service here at 9.30 to welcome him and mark the beginning of his new ministry among us. Please keep him and Linda very much in your prayers.

Finally, mission. For some folk that's a threatening word. For others, it's the thing St Mary's doesn't do – and should. Acknowledging both that we are already doing and also need to expand our mission work is crucial.

We're a modest one-parish market town with a duty to be accessible to all who live here: 'niche' churches only suit multi-parish towns, pulling people in from a wide area, but not necessarily appropriate to the people of the parish. It doesn't mean we have to be colourless, but most people who'd describe themselves as CofE must feel they belong here as part of what Desmond Tutu described as the rainbow people of God.

'Mission' comes from the word for 'Sending Out' in Latin: it's about all of us, without exception, being sent by God to make Him known to those we meet. Whatever shows people the face of God, even imperfectly, is mission. Toddler Time: mission. Food bank: mission. Our open baptism policy: mission. Opening the building to all: mission. Even something as minor as our notice boards – for which the diocese gave us the money *because good displays are missional*. Mission, then, isn't just something for the public speaker, but something for everyone in the place where God has placed us.

Bishop David, who ran a flourishing charismatic evangelical parish church in Cromer, made an important observation on mission: agonising about styles of worship misses the point. People aren't avoiding Church because they don't like the hymns, but because their lifestyle doesn't see the point of Church. Only if people see in us something worthwhile, which makes some sort of sense will they consider giving us a go.

The things we highlight here week in, week out – compassionate service to others, a deepening relationship with God, a sense of confidence in speaking about the faith - are exactly where the diocese is coming from. It is doable, because in some measure we're doing it already – as witness, this from a diocesan email:

“Your church (St Mary, Barton on Humber) .., as you are one of the Top 20 fundraisers for Christian Aid in the Lincolnshire area...”

Naturally, I wish to thank on behalf of us all the wardens and PCC and all those who work so hard to support our mission here, but must make special mention this year of Rob Smith, who as administrator and more recently PCC Secretary has taken over much of the governance and compliance work, highly technical areas, and ensured that we are as fully compliant as we can be, at the cost of several pints of coffee per week. One valuable ministry among the many going on quietly here, for all of which we give grateful thanks.

Treasurer's Report for the year ending 2018 – Alan Mabbott

Verbal report to be presented at the meeting.

The accounts are available in a separate booklet.

St Mary's Choir - Geoff Brown

We have had a very successful year. We have been lucky to have been joined by several new members, mostly experienced singers, and with a membership of two dozen, the choir is larger than it has been for some time. We continue to sing for one or two services nearly every Sunday in the year. Once again we were joined by additional volunteers for the Christmas carol service, which was as successful as ever. We enjoyed helping Mary Robinson to celebrate being a member of the choir for fifty years. I believe the record for belonging to a church choir is 93 years. It is encouraging to reflect that we do have one or two members who could set their sight on beating that record!

Following its success in 2017 we sang another, equally successful sung evensong in Horkstow church, this time employing an instrumental trio of recorder, violin and 'cello to play in dialogue with the choir. We are planning to sing another choral evensong in Horkstow this June and also have plans to sing at Goxhill for their harvest festival (which is on a Friday) in October.

Just because we have more singers than we did last year does not mean that we do not want even more! I think the sopranos would welcome a couple more strong singers, but all the parts would happily make room for new recruits.

Fabric Report – Geoff Brown

Our church building has weathered a few storms this year, most notably the theft of lead from the south aisle and the considerable damage to the north aisle and St James' chapel roofs caused by the thieves' attempts to steal the copper roofing. Our south aisle now has a temporary roof which is designed to last one year, which is until this October. We hope to be allowed to repair the roof with alternative material which will be slightly cheaper and will not attract any return of the lead thieves, but we do not yet have permission to do this.

We have a long term buddleia (named after A. Buddleia, an 18th century English botanist) problem on the north wall of the chancel. We have had it removed several times but it always grows back. Our architect, Don Kitching, is in touch with a possible firm at the moment, and I have two other possibilities given to me by Edward King House, so we keep hoping, but it will not be cheap.

A group co-ordinated by Alan Wright has investigated ways of improving the church heating, and acting on its findings several (affordable) works were put in hand. There was temporary success when the blowers were cleaned out and serviced and the system flushed through, but this was followed by a partial electrical failure which will require more work this summer.

Chris Dunderdale has rebuilt the meter shelter in the corner of the churchyard and replaced the doors of the boiler house alongside other smaller jobs.

We have had new lighting installed in St James' chapel. This has been very successful and may lead to improvements in other parts of the church when we can afford them.

There has been no progress recently on the lifting floor in the north aisle. Everyone who has inspected it seems perplexed and it looks as though some digging is going to be required, always a difficult thing in an old church where there are likely to be burials and so on.

As ever, money is a big issue. Once again I urge everyone to support the Friends of St Mary's in every way they can. PCC has commissioned a group looking at improvements to the building within which Sue Wright and Michelle McManus are working hard to explore grants and other ways of raising more funds for the maintenance of St Mary's, but it is obvious that the more we can raise ourselves, the easier it will be to obtain money from outside.

Finally, we should thank Ian Wilson and David Crosskell for being willing to climb out on to the church roof whenever necessary (you will not see either of your wardens up there). We have a week in May put aside for Ian to do more painting in the hall and porch. We are very fortunate that Don Kitching, our architect, is also one of our bellringers and makes himself easily available at all times. We are very grateful for that.

St. Mary's Ladies' Group – Sue Wright Secretary

The group continues to thrive with a membership of over 90 this year, still providing an evening meeting for ladies of different or no faith background. Meetings take place in the church Hall on the first and 3rd. Wednesdays of the month. At 7:p.m. An innovation this year is our Singing Group on the 2nd. And 4th.Wednesdays lead by Fiona Tannock at 7p.m.

Once again we have enjoyed a variety of speakers Opening with Caroline Hawley from the Auction Rooms in Beverley (and a regular Bargain Hunt expert). T.V.

Calendar presenter and previous Humberside Police Commissioner talked about both his roles. Others included a return from Nancy Birtwhistle speaking about her life since 'Bake off', Doug Stewart (Radio Humberside Gardening expert) and Phil White also a regular presenter on a Saturday morning. Pip Bennett (Community Champion from Barton Tesco) spoke about the ethos of the company regarding reduction of non- reusable plastics, their weekly food donations to the Foodbank and the money raised through the tokens put in the boxes at the store for local causes e.g. all the local schools and the Citadel now have fantastic play equipment, local churches such as Ulceby have a new kitchen area in the church to enable community use, Songs and scones (which is in our Hall. We are hoping to have support for one of our many projects in St. Mary's.) **Watch this space and look out for our box in the store!!**

Visits are popular, this year including: 'Harewood House at Christmas' which was amazing- both the grounds and the displays in the House. (Mary Berry was involved too. (You might have seen her visits to Stately Homes programme.) Ladies went to Bradford to see the musical, Matilda; and a forthcoming visits are planned to Saltaire and Sewerby Hall (Bridlington) in the summer.

The Ladies enjoyed a very high quality hot Harvest supper catered for by 'Occasions' from Ealand with puddings to die for! Entertainment by Pam's People. An excellent Christmas celebration at the Ropewalk with a buffet supper and dancing (the music given by the band Del Vikings from Barton. Also an afternoon tea followed by a film night ('the Bookshop') at the Ropewalk.

As you can see our programme is varied and we raise a lot of money both for the church and for local charities - this year we have chosen the 'The Young Carers' and the Church Building fund . Many of our speakers donate their fees to their chosen charity. We supported the Church by donating cakes to the cake stall and had our own 'previously loved' jewellery at the annual bazaar and Summer Garden party. We also help with church cleaning and making 150 plus Christingles for the Christingle service in December.

The meeting aims to provide something of interest for everyone, not forgetting our church 'roots'- originally as an offshoot of the Mothers' Union for 'Young Families'. New members are always welcome throughout the year.

Toddler Time - Michelle Wright

Toddler Time continues to be large and lively group. We have sixteen mums/grandmas/carers that attend our sessions. Many of them attend weekly and others when time and work commitments allow, bringing with them up to eighteen children. Our numbers did seem to drop last year but they have gradually increased making for a lively group once again.

We continue to start at 9.30am which benefits our mums coming in directly from the school or playgroup run. The service part of our sessions continues to start at 10.15 to give everyone plenty of time to arrive.

Mavis and I continue to be the leaders of Toddler Time and it still works very well. The parents and children alike appreciate familiarity and that in turn enables us to develop good relationships with one another.

We continue to incorporate a craft type activity in the sessions which is always well received by both parents and toddlers alike. The money for the materials used for these activities is taken from our toddler time account.

The poster on the outdoor notice board continues to bring us some new mums along with the smaller flyers at the back of the church (often picked up at baptisms) and word of mouth.

A huge thank you to Mavis for her time and all that she does for the group and special thanks to Auriol and Linda for providing the refreshments and giving generously from the money collected.

Barton St Peter's Church of England Primary School – Sue Wind Foundation Governor

This report overlaps two academic years!

We had seen a few staff changes at the beginning of the school year and things are going great guns!

The number of children is fairly stable – 255-260 – usual ins and outs – house moves being the main reason for movement.

The summer term saw several trips taking place and our annual visit to PGL at Caythorpe Court, Grantham – the children (Y5/6) love it as do the staff who volunteer to give up their weekend to accompany the children. Y1 & Y2 children visited Hall Farm, Y3 & Y4 visited the Yorkshire Wildlife Park and Reception had a visit from Zeus Buddies (small animals) – all of the visits were part of their topic work.

The Year 5 children joined with other Y5's in the cluster for a day of crafts, drama and worship at St Mary's organised by Rev Alan Wright.

Year 6 went to Lincoln Cathedral for the Church School Leavers Day – activities and worship – a thoroughly enjoyable day for children, staff, and governors. The end of year production 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' was a huge success. Our Y6 Leavers Service was held at St Mary's and the children received a farewell gift of a bible.

The autumn term saw another change in staffing – newly appointed Deputy Head teacher, Jack Danson and 3 new teaching assistants.

We have a new 'Vision Statement' and also a new website – www.barton-st-peters.n-lincs.sch.uk

Trips during the autumn term – 30 children went to London – sightseeing and the theatre to see School of Rock; Y1 & Y2 went to Lincoln Castle – their topic was about Knights. Y3 & Y4 went to The Deep – Penguins!!

Spring Term - Y5 & Y6 visited Lincoln Castle – their topic is Crime & Punishment.

Worship visitors have included clergy from St Mary's, Trinity, Evangelical Church and Iman Ahmed from Scunthorpe. Puppet Power from Barrow, Lincolnshire Wildlife, PSCO Mundy have also visited.

We have a Y6 Worship Council and they lead worship most Fridays – an invitation has been sent to all parents and governors. Each half term we have a Celebration Worship – parents of the chosen children are invited to join us. We also visit St Mary's Church and Trinity Chapel for worship.

We have supported the following charities throughout the year - Food Bank, Seafarers, Children in Need, Shoebox Appeal, Save the Children (Christmas Jumper Day), Comic Relief, MacMillan Coffee Morning and had great fun dressing up for World Book Day.

Something new we have tried this year, and it is working really well, is Open Hour in individual classes – parents are invited in on set dates to join their child for a lesson – this is very well supported by the parents.

As this report is being written the emphasis is on SATS for Y2 and Y6 and also the Phonics Screening for Y1's and then we can look forward to celebrating Barton St Peter's being open for 40 years!!

Parish Magazine

We currently have 194 subscribers to our magazine, and around 15 Barton businesses who purchase advertising space, this enables us to keep our costs to our subscribers down, currently £5 per year.

Each month the magazine is assembled by Joyce, Mike, Rob, Carolyn Linda, Michelle and Gavin.

The magazine is distributed each month to our readers by 20 volunteers. We are grateful to Mike Searle who each year visits each business to ascertain their advertising needs and collects their payment. We must also thank Joyce Gibson who for many years has been our magazine coordinator, and to the team who assemble it each month. And finally a huge thank you to Carol Thornton the magazine editor.

Readers & Intercessors

There are 20 members in this team, some who only do readings and others who do both readings and intercessions. This is a good example of members of St Mary's congregation taking an active part in our services. We have 2 new members who joined the team this last year, Dr Robert Jaggs-Fowler and Vikki Leaning.

Last year Dennis Cowe decided to retire from our team after many years' service, Dennis always liked to do the readings every year on Remembrance Sunday, we thank Dennis for his time as a reader and intercessor.

If anyone is interested in joining this team please contact one of the Church Wardens.

Social Committee – Auriol Trubshaw

We continue to organise events which are well attended and raise much needed funds for the Church Hall and other projects. A small but steady income is generated from the sale of books and jigsaws. We would welcome donations of books and jigsaws. Many thanks to our team who help deliver our events throughout the year.

Friends of St Mary's - Michelle McManus.

The Friends group was mentioned as a possibility in PCC maybe back in 2017, and during 2018 we finally got some activities going. We organised our first Fundraising activity in June 2018 in the form of a quiz and refreshments one Saturday afternoon – this was great fun for everyone there and attracted a couple of non-congregation members. Not a lot of money was raised but it put us on the map.

Next we had a Vintage Afternoon Tea which was really well attended by the congregation and a few extras – we had loads of fun just chatting and being dressed up and had no need for the extra activities we had planned – this was a good format and we planned to do something similar again.

Recently we made pancakes after the Sunday service and had a “tossing” competition – we used a chocolate bar instead of a pancake to ensure no food was wasted – again everyone present enjoyed it and many are asking when the next event will be.

It seems that Friends of St Mary's is never going to make mountains of money from its activities, but we have had large contributions from anonymous donors whom we cannot thank enough – watch this space for how the money will be used!

St Mary's Mothers Union – Angela Henson Leader

The A.G.M. meeting on January 17th, 2018 proceeded with Angela Henson being duly elected leader, and Karen Henson duly elected as branch Secretary for another term which would be reviewed at the next A.G.M.

The average monthly attendance of members throughout the year at corporate communion was 6 and average attendance for the monthly M.U. meetings was 12. A program of monthly speakers reflected a varied set of topics that were challenging and interesting in keeping with the aims of the Mother's Union.

The Lady Day service was well attended by members in March and 100 bunches of daffodils were made by members and given out at the Mother's Day Service at St Marys, an increase of thirty bunches due to the children from local schools attending. Flowers were also donated to Mothers at St. Mary's toddler time the following day.

April 5th M.U. corporate communion saw the enrolment of Ann Chapman as a new member by Father Ivan Howitt presiding. A photograph was taken, and it appeared as a full page spread in the summer edition of the M.U. Diocese of Lincoln News magazine.

With great sadness we lost Elinor Cartwright who died on the 20th April 2018 aged 88. Elinor was our M.U. Treasurer for 30 years, we all agreed that Elinor was such a lovely lady and an inspiration to us all we will miss her greatly.

July saw members busy making a food hamper that raised £86 for St Marys Summer fair. The M.U. Winter Warmer Hamper Raised £98 for St Marys Christmas Bazaar.

In September Ann Chapman kindly volunteered to take over the role of treasurer for the branch.

We have had an open-door policy on our meetings to try to bring in people to try out the meetings and this has proven very fruitful and we look forward to more new members in the future.

The membership has risen to **14**.