

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH**

**COUNCIL OF**

**BUCKSHAW VILLAGE**

**CHURCH**

*Charity number: not currently required to register*

**TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT AND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**31 DECEMBER 2019**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Excepted Charity Name:**

The Parochial Church Council of Buckshaw Village Church

**Incumbent:** Rev.James Gwyn-Thomas

**Correspondence Address:**

Buckshaw Village Church PCC,  
1 Bridgewater Drive,  
Buckshaw Village,  
Chorley PR7 7EU.

**Bankers:**

Barclays Bank plc Central Board of Finance,  
15 Balfour Court, Church House,  
Leyland, Lancashire, PR25 2TF .

**Independent Examiner:**

Bronwen Roby, 3 Bamber Avenue, Buckshaw Village, Chorley PR7 7BD

*NB: The Buckshaw Village Church bank account is a subsidiary account within the St Andrews bank account. Therefore, the following accounts were audited as part of the St Andrew's account with BVC's accounts being extracted from these.*

## WHAT'S THIS REPORT ALL ABOUT?

Welcome to the second annual report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Buckshaw Village Church (BVC).

Our aim is to provide you with an overview of all the things that have been going on in the last year, and what a year it has been:

- We are now an established Conventional District within the Diocese of Blackburn with Church Wardens and a PCC to support our Priest-in-Charge, James Gwyn-Thomas, in the delivery of our mission.
- We continue to invest considerable time and effort in improving our communications via our church website, social media platforms and weekly electronic newsletter.
- We are overjoyed to have performed more marriages this year and have also formalised our baptism preparation. Consequently, we are continuing to see fruit as more and more people join us each year.
- In addition to our regular Sunday service we run a wide range of activities and community groups. We really do want to be "THE Church IN Buckshaw FOR Buckshaw" as we seek to love and serve our community.
- We are maturing as a church with an ever increasing focus on 'Building UP our church family' and 'Sending them ON' to work for Christ both locally, nationally and internationally.

If you would like to know more or have any questions please come and join us for our 3rd Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 26th April 2020.

## OUR STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Buckshaw Village Church was originally a church plant, established to reach the new and growing residential estate of Buckshaw Village. The church was set up in August 2010 with the support of Methodist and Anglican churches in Leyland, Chorley, Euxton and Whittle-le-Woods and with St Andrew's Leyland as the 'lead church'.

In September 2017 Buckshaw Village Church became a Conventional District within the Anglican Diocese of Blackburn, allowing it to begin the process of moving towards becoming a separate Parish and a separate Charity in due course.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 we held our first Annual General Meeting and elected our first Parochial Church Council.

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended). The PCC is not yet a registered charity.

The PCC has no subsidiary companies or organisations.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. New PCC members receive appropriate training in order that they understand their responsibilities and are able to carry out their role successfully.

The Parochial Church Council consists of ex-officio and elected members. The elected members hold post for three years and are elected at the Annual Church General Meeting held in April of each year.

Charitable Status : As income is less than £100,000 per annum we are not currently required to register with the Charities Commission. However, legislation is expected to change by 2021 and organisation's with incomes under this threshold may then be required to register. In anticipation of this BVC has drafted out the Charities Commission application in full.

Our normal place of worship is Buckshaw Village Community Centre, Unity Place, Chorley PR7 7HZ which is rented via the landlords RMG. We meet here for worship at 10.30am every Sunday. Buckshaw Village Church does not own any property.

### Our PCC

Rev. James Gwyn-Thomas*	Priest-in-Charge and PCC Chair
Cosmas Anazodo	
Katherine Buckley*	Church Warden and Deputy Safeguarding Officer
Andrew Crowe*	PCC Treasurer
<i>Position currently vacant</i>	PCC Vice-Chair
Ruth Houghton	
Dawn Longworth*	PCC Secretary
Georgina Woosey	
Lachlan McLean	Chair 'Building UP & Sending ON' Task Team
Gary Miller*	Church Warden
Nigel Thomson	Deanery Synod Representative
Eddie Wilson	Health and Safety
<i>Sue Thomson</i>	<i>Safeguarding Officer - not a member of PCC but with reporting lines to Diocese and PCC as appropriate</i>

### \* Standing Committee

The Standing Committee of the PCC is the only committee required by law. It liaises between PCC meetings and has power to transact business of the PCC between its meetings.

'Task Teams' continue to advance the mission of our church; the 'IN/OUT' team focus on being part of and reaching out to the wider Buckshaw community and the 'UP/ON' task team focus on building up and sending on members of our church family. These tasks teams comprise both members of the PCC and the wider church family.

### Salaried Staff

BVC 'employed' a number of staff, either directly or indirectly, during 2019;

James Gwyn Thomas, Priest-in-Charge	Paid a stipend by the Diocese of Blackburn
Rachel Harris - Youth and Children's Worker	Administered by St. Andrew's Church, Leyland - BVC reimburse St.Andrews for salary and associated costs
Andrew Kesiak, Pioneer Minister	Funded by local Methodist churches
Abigail Saunders, Vicar's PA	Administered by St. Andrew's Church, Leyland - BVC reimburse St.Andrews for salary and associated costs

## OUR RISKS POLICY

The principal risks faced by the charity are:

Risk	Mitigation
Financial - unforeseen costs or downturn in regular giving	Managed through the setting of an annual budget for each main activity of church life and through regular reporting of income and expenditure to PCC.
Reputational - adverse publicity	Managed through regular review of all church activities by the management team/ PCC / Standing Committee.
Safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults - accusations of inappropriate behaviours	The PCC has adopted safeguarding policies set up by the Diocese of Blackburn and has appointed a safeguarding officer who, in addition to being consulted on matters of concern also presents an annual report to PCC.
Loss of use of Buckshaw Village Community Centre	Ongoing dialogue with centre managers RMG. Back up plan to use Trinity School Hall.
Health and safety - fires ,slips, trips and falls, food hygiene, lone working	Formal risk assessments are carried out in relation to church activities and signed off by the PCC / Standing Committee in accordance with guidance provided by our insurers Ecclesiastical.

The PCC has approved a number of policies, including those in relation to safeguarding, and these can be found on the church's website.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) manages the affairs of the Church of England Conventional District of Buckshaw Village Church and is responsible for co-operating with the incumbent, Rev James Gwyn Thomas. These responsibilities include managing the financial affairs of the church and vicarage, and ensuring payment of employees. It also works to promote in the Conventional District the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Buckshaw Village Church has a distinct identity based in the centre of the growing village of Buckshaw. This gives opportunities and responsibilities to reach out to the increasing population, retirement village and local businesses, as well as forging relationships with local schools and other churches in the region.

The church's **Mission Statement** is to be a Church IN Buckshaw FOR Buckshaw:

We exist for the glory of God and the people of Buckshaw. We aim to share our FAITH, offer God's HOPE, show Jesus' LOVE. Our objectives are:-

Being **IN** the Community. We aim to;

- be aware of the needs of the community
- be known in the community
- partner with the community
- care holistically for people in our community

Reaching **OUT** to the community. We aim to ...

- facilitate real relationships between church and community
- provide regular courses that explore the person of Jesus
- host events that encourage questions, challenges and allow exploration of the Christian faith

Building **UP** our church family. We aim to ...

- be hungry to grow in faith
- grow in our relationship with God in a variety of ways
- grow in every respect of our lives, at every stage of life

Sending **ON** members of our church family. We aim to ...

- invest in our young people
- be a church that plants

- support our mission partners and church family members overseas
- seek out, train, send and support others - both locally and further afield

In order to enable the PCC to achieve its objectives the Conventional District holds services of worship each week and carries out Christian teaching to all age groups in a variety of settings and formats. We have duties in performing marriages and Baptisms for the Conventional District as a whole, including non-regular attendees of services. The church has a broad ministry to young people and a pastoral ministry to all within the Conventional District.

Volunteers play a significant role in the charitable activities of the PCC, undertaking a wide variety of responsibilities.

The PCC makes one off donations to missionary and charity organisations and for 'sending on'.

## **OUR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Sunday mornings**

As a church we are rapidly approaching our 10th birthday! An event we will celebrate in style at the end of August 2020. But that means we are growing up! We are no longer a small new church. We are starting to develop traditions of our own, a style of our own and memories of our own.

It is also always worth looking back and reflecting on all that we have learnt from the Bible and about Jesus as we realise how far we have come on the journey of our faith.

Sunday mornings are the tip of the iceberg of what we do here in BVC and they are a good indicator of the health and life of the church as a whole.

As we briefly reflect on the past year of Sunday mornings, some of the important headlines are:

### **Preaching topics:**

- We have specifically tried to equip ourselves as Christians with the spiritual tools at our disposal as we focused on a lengthy sermon series in prayer (looking at the prayer life of heroes and heroines throughout the bible) and worship.
- As part of this we ran our first 24-hour prayer room where people were able to spend significant time in quiet prayer for individuals, our community, nation and world.
- We also spent some time swimming in one of the most joyful books of the New Testament: Philippians.
- Christmas this year gave us the opportunity to make more of Advent than we have before. We focused on the meaning of the four advent candles: Hope, peace, joy and love and specifically where we find these themes within the Christmas narrative.
- Equally, through our first ever pre-recorded sermon - we also took time to mark another of the regular occurrences in the Christian calendar - Lent.
- Since Christmas we have embedded ourselves in the glorious and practical letter of Paul - Colossians.

### **Sunday Service highlights:**

Looking back on the year we wonder what Sundays stick in your minds?

- Cecelia's adult baptism was a cause for great celebration and joy.
- Remembrance Sunday is becoming more and more special to both us and the community. Another 200 people joined us again for this years' memorial walk.
- James particularly remembers conducting a Book of Common Prayer service at 8am in Euxton and then making a rapid change for the slightly different Holiday Club celebration service dressed as a pirate!
- The school choir joined us for Harvest Festival this year and were brilliant! They were FANTASTIC!
- Christmas saw our first ever Christingle service. It wasn't as big as we would have liked but we hope this tradition will grow and grow!
- As ever, we had a huge Christmas Eve celebration - joined by nearly 300 members of church and community.
- We've continued to enjoy and really cherish our monthly Bitesize services. We are blessed to have an amazing team who plan the services and work so hard to bring all the church family together in a really practical yet faith-focussed and Christ-centered way.

We look forward to another full year of Sunday services.

### **Mission Matters**

We are privileged at BVC to be able to support members of our church family and others who are serving the Lord both overseas and in the UK, sharing the good news of Jesus with those who might not otherwise hear about him and using their skills and experience to work in areas of need.

- **Derek and Nerina Harbourne**, two of the founding members of BVC, have been working in Mbarara, Uganda in the hospital, university and church since 2012. It was lovely to see them briefly when they were in the UK over Christmas and as we have their daughter Gwen in our church family, we can get updates about them.
- **Lydia** is also working in Africa- in a place we call Wonderland. Her exact location and full name need to be kept secret because of the danger, to her and others, if those details were to become known. We were able to hear from her in person about her work before she left last September to start an initial 3 year placement, and many of us were challenged and moved by her servant- heartedness and courage- and in the nicest possible way -how 'ordinary' she is! We also get regular letters from her which help us to pray in an informed way for all that she is doing.

She is very grateful to the BVC family for their interest and support and has asked that we pray for her continued language study and opportunities to practise what she has learned from her neighbours.

- **Nat and Abs Orr** are former members of our church here at BVC who are now serving in The Garn in the valleys of South Wales. God has given them a passion to live a mission focused life and to reach out to artists in the world who might be neglected from hearing the Gospel. Whilst Abi is currently ministering through a season of mothering young children (looking after Anna, 2 and baby Joshua), Nat is now part of a ministry called "All Create" which aims to help artists to create, to train, to support other Christian artists and to care for non-Christian artists. Unfortunately, during their last visit to Buckshaw other church commitments did not allow for them to give us an update as part of the service but we hope to be able to get a church wide update on their next visit and to be more proactive in supporting them practically and prayerfully going forwards.

Please do keep praying for them all.

We may not be able to go to another part of the world or even to South Wales to tell people about God's love for them but we can be part of what Derek, Nerina, Lydia, Nat and Abs are doing by praying faithfully for them.

After all, this is what Paul asked of the church family at Colossae: *"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ.....Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should"* Colossians 4:2-4

### **Pioneer Ministry/Retirement Village - Andrew Kesiak**

- **The 20 Guitars Project**

Project 20 Guitars is a pioneering idea of creating an amateur 20-person ensemble of guitarists designed for people who desired to learn to play the guitar but, through adverse circumstances of their lives, never had a chance to do so. The aim of the project is not just learning to play the guitar, but also public performances of the ensemble at the end of the project. I am guided by the principle that it is 'never too late' to learn music and play an instrument and that the fulfilment of unrealised aspirations can completely change people's lives.

The project is part of new initiatives created and run by Buckshaw Village Church and the Chorley and Leyland Circuit of the Methodist Church. We have had 60 sessions so far (we started in January 2019) and it seems that the project has been successful. The group performed in public 5 times. The demand has been so high that in January 2020 I formed another group. Overall, as many as 60 people attend both groups every week. They come from different areas: Chorley, Leyland, Buckshaw, Bamber Bridge, Hesketh Bank, Lytham St Annes.

- **Music therapy sessions**

These are run at Buckshaw Retirement Village every Monday. There is one session at the Lodge in the morning and another at the Grange in the afternoon. The feedback is really good; I have been told that the sessions not only bring joy and fun but also enable some people to overcome their loneliness. There are a few people who never want to leave their rooms except on Mondays when the music sessions take place and some who talk or smile only on those occasions.

- **Buckshaw Village Rickshaws**

Buckshaw Village Rickshaws is a community partnership set up to help raise funds for three battery-powered rickshaws. Once purchased, these rickshaws will be ridden by various volunteers from around Buckshaw who can take residents from the Retirement Village out and about.

The launch event (14<sup>th</sup> June 2019) kicked-off at Market Square in The Lodge with photos, interviews and a raffle. In the afternoon residents enjoyed a rickshaw ride with stops at Costa, KFC Drive-thru, Trinity Primary school, Merlin Cycles and even a power pedal up the dairy aisle of Tesco.

A few months after the event, we received a very generous donation which secured funds for two rickshaws. In Spring 2020 we will be holding another event launching our own rickshaw and start taking the residents out and about.

- **Gregorian Chant**

I am planning to introduce Gregorian Chant services for those who long for a deeper spiritual experience or connection. This is for anyone who is seeking a more traditional worship, as well as for those who are not currently church goers, and for whom sacred music may open the door to experience the living God.

The services will take place on the third Sunday evening of the month in the beautiful chapel at Lisieux Hall (Dawson Lane, Chorley).

In January 2020 I formed the so-called Schola Cantorum, a group of singers that will be singing Gregorian Chant during the services. After weeks of training and rehearsing the group is ready for its first service.

We kicked off with our first concert on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020, in the time of Lent in which the Gregorian Choral fits well with its meditative and ascetic character; then the service will take place every third Sunday of the month.

The services are ecumenical and open to everyone.

- **Chetham's School of Music 'comes to Buckshaw Village and Chorley'**

After months of efforts and talks I managed to organise an event which was hugely inspirational for our kids.

Violetta String, 38 children ensemble age 8-12 performed on the 13th November 2019 at Buckshaw Trinity and St Gregory's in Chorley. Apart from performing, they also ran a musical workshop for the pupils: lots of fun, easy-listening classical music and the presentation of various bowed instruments.

We were very excited about this extraordinary adventure and for the fact that the students from Chetham's School of Music in Manchester had never visited Lancashire before; we were privileged to host their very first visit in the region here, in Chorley.

- **Buckshaw Soul Children**

I have been actively involved in bringing an international choir movement Soul Children to Buckshaw; but as this has been a joint initiative and an adequate report has been already produced by Rachel Harris - please do see her report below.

- **Contagious Pioneering**

As a Pioneer who works for both BVC and the Chorley and Leyland Methodist Circuit I have been visiting various groups and congregations sharing with them my ideas, talking about several ongoing projects, as well as about pioneering itself which should become part of every Christian church.

Those visits take place on Sundays, during a regular Sunday worship as well as part of regular meetings (Bible study, Fellowship group, Men's/Women's meeting, etc.).

## **Growth Groups**

Tracking back and looking at our Growth Groups is always a real joy to do. Our groups have moved and changed shape throughout the year but they remain strong and purposeful.

We still have at least eight strong groups but this is likely to increase over the year ahead with adult and youth Alpha courses planned plus a second Marriage Course. Likewise if we start to look at Soul Children and the teams that run these ministries - they also tend to form families and groups where people can belong and walk alongside each other. Growth Groups are happening in many different ways and it's beautiful to see God's hand at work.

Our Sunday evening prayer group has continued to walk together and they still support each other on a daily basis via WhatsApp - a huge thank you to Cosmas and Judith for keeping that group in touch.

Our prayer for the existing groups is that they continue to be strengthened and always be a safe place for others to come and find community, company and a deepening desire to know the living Lord Jesus.

If you aren't yet in a Growth Group but would like to join one, please do speak to Abi Saunders.

### **Mens Ministry**

Buckshaw Village Church Men's Ministry is a ministry that seeks to enable men to become better equipped to live a life that reflects the love of Christ. We also intend to have fun and build up relationships amongst the men of the fellowship in order that all men would feel welcome and enjoy life at BVC. We are linked to Christian Vision for Men (CVM) which provides great resources for studying the bible and helping men grow in Christ. We also enjoy sharing time together over events like beer and biscuits, whisky tasting evenings, games nights and anything else we can fit in. We hold to the three F's. Faith, Fellowship and Fun.

- **Who Let the Dad's Out?**

At WLTD0 we want to create a space where dads, father figures and their children can have fun together, and is based on the Christian principle of wanting to demonstrate God's love to our community. We believe that to 'turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers' (Malachi 4:6, NIV 1984) is a powerful way to show the love of Christ to families. The group met once a month at Yarrow Valley Nursery - to enjoy fellowship, conversation and great food - all whilst the children enjoyed playing. We look forward to seeing this ministry grow.

### **Children and Youth Ministries**

The children and youth ministries continue to grow in terms of numbers at each group, depth of relationships and the range of groups taking place. There is always more we can do to reach out to the children and youth in Buckshaw and to deepen the faith of the children and youth who we have contact with, but we have much to celebrate:

The highlights - see below for more details:

- Tots on Tuesday - Combining the best of the Tuesday and Thursday toddler groups
- Limitless – A community focused, activity group for youth in years 6-9
- Soul Children – A faith-based choir for the area for children in years 4-9
- Holiday Club – 40+ children sharing faith together
- Strengthening ties between Buckshaw Village church, Trinity School and our ecumenical partners

- **Tots on Tuesdays (ToTs)**

In September 2019 Semiquavers and Big Os merged to create a new baby and toddler group on Tuesday morning during term time. We maintained the same great things about the group including themed crafts and sensory play; singing times for babies and toddlers; a separate area for babies with age appropriate toys; lots of great toys for toddlers; snacks and drinks for children and adults and a welcoming, friendly environment. The biggest change we made was to incorporate a focus on parental/carer mental health, in particular, maternal postnatal mental health. Some members of our volunteer team went on training and visited an NHS centre in order to establish where we fit in the current provision of mental health support in our community. We set up a display board with information about mental health and where to seek support as well as placing handouts and leaflets on tables for parents to look at and for team members to use during

conversations. As a team we started wearing badges to identify us to those coming so that they knew who to speak to if they wanted a chat, and we made sure we were intentionally looking for anyone who may need a conversation that day.

Since its launch in September, ToTs has been a great success. We have on average 30-40 families each week and plenty of regulars who tell us they enjoy coming and find it to be a really friendly group. There have been lots of good conversations with people and some who have been able to continually share and find support at the group. We have more ideas for developing this aspect of the group and hope to make ToTs a place where those who are struggling can come and find a friendly welcome so they do not feel isolated or alone.

Last term we had two themes. First, we did a story a week and read the story for the week during singing time. Then we did a song a week and sang the song for the week during singing time. This term we are focussing on fairy tales and transport. We aim to have both the craft and sensory play linked to the theme each week.

We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of volunteers on the team, without whom we could not run ToTs. Each week the team ensures the room is set up and packed down; that snacks and drinks are provided and cleared away; that craft and sensory play are available; that both singing times happen and that there is a fun, friendly environment. It is a great way to serve our community and we always welcome new team members to join us.

- **Legacy Group (for children in primary school during the Sunday Service)**

A lot of fun is had over in the hall in Trinity School on a Sunday morning. We get to praise God, learn more about him, pray and play together. The wide age range of children, from 4-11, has its challenges, but also means that we are more like a family. One of the joys is seeing friendships made and strengthened, children welcomed in and children looking out for each other. The themes we have followed are: Prayer (in line with the main service) King David and Journeys through Luke. The aim is for the children not just to learn the stories but help them on their journey of faith. It is amazing to experience their depth of insight and excitement.

- **Creche (for preschool aged children during the Sunday Service)**

We have a good number of preschoolers this year which changes the dynamics in the creche. The leaders need to be quick thinking to adapt the lessons that have been planned to suit the range of children that attend each week. We are looking at getting some audio visual equipment for the creche room to enable a greater use of different ways to enable all in creche to worship God.

- **Limitless (young people in years 6-9)**

We started the year with a small group 4-6 children attending Arrows on a Sunday evening in the community centre. This group has been reformed and repurposed. The new Limitless group, headed up by Chris Cranswick, started in September as a community youth group and now has 20 members. Each month the group does a trip out which has really helped to form the groups identity. We are working on how this fits into developing the youth ministry at Buckshaw Village. How can we use this group to invite young people to explore faith?

- **Messy Church**

This is becoming a much more settled congregation with a good number of families coming regularly and inviting friends. Other families have come through our contact within school or Toddler groups. Each month we have messy, crafty, games around a bible theme, a time of worship then share food together. Lots of noise, laughter, chat and well, mess! At the beginning of February we combined Messy Church with a celebration of our partnership with the Methodist church.

## • **Holiday Club 2019**

The pirates set sail to find the greatest treasure! On board was Captain Clueless, First Mate Kate, Mischievous Marcus, Bob and Marley the Parrots and the rest of the motley crew. We had over 40 children with an increase in the number of children attending with whom we had not previously had contact. Using stories Jesus told we explored how being part of God's family is the greatest treasure. Once again, the time spent together exploring what we believe was a privilege and many, many thanks to all the people who enabled this to be such a great week. And I must just mention the terrific set designed by Terrific Tracy.

## • **Primary School work**

- **Worship** – once a week at each school site worship is led by someone from BVChurch or our friends from the Methodist circuit.
- **Prayer Space** – for 1 week in November a classroom was converted into a prayer space with many activities that encourage prayer. The space was used by groups of parents, staff and all the children in the Unity building. This is something we will hope to do again.
- **Lego Connect** – the after-school club uses lego as a way into finding out more about faith. The sessions are full of noise, creativity and yes, lego! The club is supported by adults from BVC, the Methodist circuit and a governor from Euxton parish church. We are looking at developing this to give the children opportunity to respond to what they hear.
- **Life Path and other bible-themed lessons** – RE themed days, half days, lessons have been resources and delivered for every year group in the school. Martin Luther King for year 6, "Diary of a disciple" looking at Luke's Gospel with year 3, "How cool is that" Jesus' miracles with year 1 etc. This has asked for a big time commitment from people and has been greatly valued by staff and students.
- **Governors** – many of the governors are from BV Church
- **Links** with the PFA
- **Members of staff!!!**

## **Soul Children:**

Soul Children is more than a choir. It has become an outreach focused worshipping community. The quality of the songs, including the lyrics encourage worship and gospel conversations. The structure of the sessions including singing, games, values talk enables a fellowship to develop.

We have completed one term of the Soul Children pilot in conjunction with Scripture Union. This went really well and so we have continued to run the choir.

Highlights have been:

- The developing of new friendships in the group
- Performing at the Buckshaw Community Christmas event
- Partnering with Leigh Soul Children to sing for a royal visit to Parbold
- Singing and praising together

Scripture Union gave us the initial £500 to cover our costs of running the pilot and an extra £500 towards the sound equipment that we can use for BVC on a Sunday morning as well as Soul Children.

One parent said, "My girls have really loved it and how blessed are we to have a choir that isn't just singing, but Christian teaching too. And also an opportunity to see other young people who share their faith and aren't afraid to show it."

## **Secondary school work**

- One of the key people groups that we have contact with here at BVC is the local secondary schools. Balshaw's in Leyland and St Michael's in Chorley are the schools James spends most of the time with, but this year he has also visited St Wilfrid's Church of England Academy in Blackburn.

### **Balshaw's:**

- This year we have grown our relationship with Balshaw's as James is now a foundation governor of the school. This allows him to support the school in the best way he can as well as continuing to visit for termly assemblies and attending special events. He continues to regularly provide communion for the staff.

### **St Michael's:**

- James regular provides communion for both staff and pupils
- This year James took a member of BVC, Luke Askew, with him to provide a workshop on the issue of pornography to year 10s and later in the year an afternoon of "any questions" to year 9s. These questions ranged from "What is the evidence for God actually existing" to "My mum is suicidal, what do I do?". Our presence in these schools is greatly appreciated.
- We have gone in for a day's RE teacher training to help regional RE teachers explore what it means to be a faith school in the Twenty-first century.

### **St Wilfred's:**

- We were invited in to speak to all teachers about their vision statement as a school and help them understand what Jesus meant when he said "I have come so that you may have life and life to the full."

Working in a school environment is challenging and it is a joy to be able to support them in any way we can.

### **Making Church accessible to all - from Lynn McCann**

My ministry is called Included By Grace and it has the aim of equipping churches to consider and enable people with learning disabilities, autism and other additional needs to become fully part of the body of Christ. Our team includes people of all abilities. This year we have put on some courses in partnership with the Diocese Children's coordinator, Sarah Earnshaw. These have been titled "Belonging:" and then Autism, Behaviour, ADHD and Makaton training sessions have developed from this central theme. There have been people from over 50 churches attending across the Diocese and two churches are asking us to work with them more closely to make their children's work more accessible. We have worked with the North West Partnership youth workers and will be presenting a workshop at the New Wine Accessible Church training day in Preston in April. I am writing some accessible Sensory Bible stories and working with the Board of Education to develop teaching ideas for SEND pupils in their RE curriculum. Thanks be to God, this has been a long time passion that he planted in my heart, and He deserves all the Glory.

### **Ecumenical**

Buckshaw Village Church is an ecumenical church, meaning we intentionally work with churches in other denominations, primarily Methodist in our case. Some of the joint ventures consist of:

- Sharing the Easter dawn service on Buckshaw Hill with other local churches
- Sharing the services and ministry at Buckshaw Retirement Village

- Sharing the work of Messy Church each month:
  - This year included a special joint celebration in February 2020 to mark the two years since we signed the Ecumenical Declaration of Welcome and Commitment
- Partnering together to enable the existence of our Pioneer worker Andrew Kesiak

### **Adoption and fostering support group**

- The adoption and fostering support group continue to enjoy meeting together each month. There are currently 5 regulars in the group (soon to expand by one newly approved foster carer!). We can be brutally honest about the unique challenges we face with our families. To meet with people who understand, don't judge and offer care and concern is so vital. Our meetings are hope-filled because we share a love for Jesus and know that He is with us in all the difficulties. We pray, eat cake, celebrate the good and share in sadness together.

### **Mental Health Care Support Group (All of Us)**

- The "All of Us" mental health support group has been meeting for some of the year in an evening, and has recently moved back to a Tuesday morning in the community centre. The group provides a supportive environment for people to come together to discuss emotional and mental health issues. We have over 100 people following the online group and regularly communicate 1:1 with people in need. Most of the members of the group have come through social media contact or referral from mental health practitioners.

We are looking to embed mental health within all our ministries. This has begun at ToTs, and has started to access training for staff and volunteers in this area. Staff and volunteers have had training on Paediatric mental health, youth mental health first aid and adult mental health first aid. We had a mental health awareness event funded by NHS England, provided by Lancashire Mind, and hosted by Costa.

We are looking to write a mental health/emotional wellbeing policy for BVC to help us develop this work further.

### **Courses**

One of the most significant things we have been involved in as a church this year is hosting the Marriage Course. Lynn and Steve McCann from our church family hosted the course in Lisieux Hall on Sunday evenings in June/July and 14 couples from the church completed the course. Some who couldn't attend the evening sessions did it together in the comfort of their own homes! It proved such a successful course that we will be running it again in 2020.

Various growth groups over the course of the year have spent time working through other courses this year such as:

- The Purpose Driven Life
- Discipleship Explored
- Alpha
- Life Explored
- The Diocesan Vision Course
- Gospel Shaped Worship

These courses are a wonderful way of structuring studies and growing in discipleship.

### **Creative arts**

- James is desperate to increase the use of Creative Arts in the life of Buckshaw Village Church. We have seen a slight increase in its uses over the last year. The Gwyn-Thomas family all went (children included) to Germany on Boxing Day 2019 to join a Creative Arts acting team for a large evangelism conference and are hoping to continue to be involved in this again in the future.
- A few members of BVC all joined with the Bishop's Leadership Team, including all three bishops, to put on a really special performance of the Mark Drama, this time in Blackburn Cathedral.
- James is trying hard to include song, drama, art and poetry in more Sunday services. If you would like to help in this endeavour in any way please do contact him.

### **Summary**

This year, more than any other previously, it has felt like we are growing up in every way. Interestingly we haven't grown in numbers this year which is a shame (we haven't declined either!). But we have grown significantly in maturity of faith, biblical understanding, awareness of answered prayer, willingness to get involved in projects and eagerness to show love to Buckshaw. It has been a year of growing leaders and roots! Something that prepares us for future growth!

But let us not become comfortable. Comfort will kill a church. Let us always be desperate to reach out in faith, hope and love and desire to increase in numbers, not for the sake of it but for the desire for more to come to know Jesus. We will always be looking for new ways to do this.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Income:**

The principal income source of the church is donations from those members of the public who attend and participate regularly. Income is also received from fees for weddings.

### **Expenditure:**

The main expenditure of the church is on staff costs, community centre rent and on running costs of the church in support of the objectives and activities set out above.

**Reserves:**

It is PCC policy to maintain a free reserves balance equivalent to two months average monthly costs for all staff, general expenditure and emergency situations equivalent to (parish share excluded) £6000 to cover emergency situations.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Trustees

**Signed Date 2020**

Revd James Gwyn Thomas

*Chairman*

## Financial Statements

Accounts – Receipts & Payments basis in line with ACAT / Charities commission guidance for churches with under £250,000 per annum income.

# Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	<i>Note</i>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	
		<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	72,062	19,017	91,079	53,322
Other trading activities	2	0	-0	0	
Investments	2	0	-0	0	
Charitable activities	2	2,576	0	2,576	4,235
<b>Total</b>		<b>74,638</b>	<b>19,017</b>	<b>93,655</b>	<b>57,557</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	3	56,306	951	57,257	44,356
<b>Total</b>		<b>56,306</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>57,257</b>	<b>44,356</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-1,689</b>	<b>18,066</b>	<b>16,377</b>	<b>13,201</b>
Transfers between funds		<b>- 0</b>	<b>- 0</b>	<b>- 0</b>	<b>- 0</b>

<b>Net movement in funds</b>		-1,689	18,066	16,377	13,201
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds at 1 January 2019		3,314	16,707	20,021	6,820
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2019	8	<u>1,625</u>	<u>34,773</u>	<u>36,398</u>	<u>20,021</u>

**The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.**

**All the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.**

# Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2019

	Note	2019		2018	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5		-0		-0
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors		0		2,065	
Cash at bank and in hand		36,398		18,637	
		36,398		20,702	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		0		(681)	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			36,398		20,021
<b>Total Assets less current liabilities</b>			36,398		20,021
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>			-0		-0
<b>Net Assets</b>			36,398		20,021

**Funds**

Unrestricted	19,691	19,460
Restricted	16,707	561
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>36,398</b>	<b>20,021</b>

These financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on .....3rd May 2020..... and were signed on its behalf by:

Rev J J Gwyn-Thomas

Chairman

# Notes to the financial statements

## **Accounting policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the church's financial statements.

## **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention; in accordance with the applicable accounting standards; and under the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102). The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern as there are no significant current or longer term liabilities; and the entity has significant net assets and reserves.

## **Funds**

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. Restricted Funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in note 8. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the financial statements of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

## **Income**

### ***Donations and capital sources***

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the donation is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable.

### ***Income from Investments***

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

### ***Deferred Income***

Payments received in advance of revenue recognition are recorded as deferred income.

## **Expenditure**

### ***Grants***

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

### ***Activities directly relating to the work of the Church***

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due.

### ***Pensions***

The PCC operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are accounted for as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## **Fixed assets and depreciation**

### ***Fixtures, fittings and office equipment.***

Equipment used by the church is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## **Current Assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the bank.

## ***Reserves Policy***

Minimum £6000 to be held to cover average 2 months costs (excluding Parish Share instalments)

### ***Parish Share***

£18,000 paid towards the annual Diocese Parish Share request

### **Restricted Funds**

Total £19,017. Comprising £16,500 for Buckshaw Retirement Village rickshaws, £951 charity collections, £1,566 for church activities and equipment only

## Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

### 2 Income

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2019	Total Funds 2018	<u>Source in P&amp;L by Class</u>
	£	£	£	£	
<b>Income from:</b>					
<b>Donations and legacies</b>					
Planned giving: Regular donations	62,833	0	62,833	37,277	Giving/Regular <i>(includes balance from end 2018)</i>
Income tax recoverable	0	-0	0	6,232	Tax reclaimed
Collections	9,229	19,017	28,246	5,021	Giving/GASD + Giving/One-off
Grants	-0	0	0	4,792	Grants
Legacies	-0	-0	-0		Legacies
	72,062	19,017	91,079	53,322	
<b>Trading activities</b>	-0	-0	-0	-0	
	0	0	0	0	

**Investments**

Dividends	-0	-0	-0	-0	Dividends
Bank and building society interest	-0	-0	-0	-0	Bank interest
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	0	0	0	0	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

**Charitable activities**

Fees	0	-0	0	159	Total Fees
Outreach	2,576	-0	2,576	4,076	Contributions
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	2,576	0	2,576	4,235	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>74,638</b>	<b>19,017</b>	<b>93,655</b>	<b>57,557</b>	

## Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

### 3 Expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total	Source in P&L
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	by Class
	£	£	2019	2018	
	£	£	£	£	
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Missionary & charitable giving: Overseas (note 4a)	-0	-0	-0	-0	Overseas Missions
Home (note 4b)	-0	951	951	1,122	Home Missions
Ministry: Diocesan parish share	18,000	-0	18,000	9,000	Parish Share
Parsonage house & Working expenses of incumbent	3,500	-0	3,500	3,132	1 Bridgewater Drive Total Expenses
Assistant staff	6,733	0	6,733	9,488	PA to Vicar
Youth & Children's ministry	11,071	0	11,071	12,081	Children's Worker
Outreach	1,337	-0	1,337	1,173	Youth Activities
Church running expenses	15,539	-0	15,539	8,360	Total Expenses – everything else
Major repairs	-0	-0	-0	0	
Support costs	-0	-0	-0	0	Abi
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Independent examination	-0	-0	-0	-0	Audit
Bank charges	126	-0	126	-0	Bank charges
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,306</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>57,257</b>	<b>44,356</b>	

## Notes to the financial statements *(continued)*

### 4 Staff Costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:	2019	2018
	£	£
Gross Wages and salaries	15,741	17,899
Employer's National Insurance costs	174	-199
Pension costs	1,889	2,148
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,804	19,848

During the year the PCC employed a Children's Worker and an Administrator

none of whom earned £60,000 p.a. or more. This represents an average of 1 full time equivalent staff.

The average weekly staff numbers for the year based on average headcount were 2.

The total employee benefits to key management personnel were nil. Note that the stipend and benefits received by the Vicar are administered through the Diocese.