

***St John the Baptist Church, Bishopsteignton***  
***Reports to the APCM, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025***

**Report of the Church Electoral Roll Officer**

As a result of their death or moving away from the village, the names of 4 people were removed from the Roll. None were added. The Roll stood at 67 on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

*Anne Whitaker*

**Churchwardens' Report of Church Fabrics, Goods and Ornaments**

This year has been one of change and adaptation. We have welcomed the Rev'd Dave Wilkie, his wife Donna and his four lovely children. His role as priest with outreach into schools and work with young people has meant that we have had to make adjustments to services and times. We do appreciate his efforts to bring young people into church. We realise that with eight churches in the team we are lucky to still have a village service every Sunday. We are glad too that we can keep up our link with our Methodist friends. We were sorry to lose our curates Elizabeth and Peter Burren as they were very supportive of our community... we wish them well in the future. We are also very appreciative of our retired and visiting priests who are so willing to help us out. All of our services have gone well with varying numbers in the congregation on a Sunday... but good support on special occasions. We were delighted to have the support of two excellent deputy wardens, and recently a rota of 'duty' wardens which has greatly lessened the burden... thanks to all of you!

The pews and their removal and replacement is still an ongoing issue which we hope will soon be successfully resolved. Grateful thanks to Ian and his team for their forbearance! The heating system has not caused too many problems recently and the evening productions by the Bishopsteignton Players have been much appreciated by a warm audience! We have proved that we can turn our church into a fully-functioning theatre or concert/party area with the use of removable seating.

The churchwardens are extremely grateful for the support of the PCC and in particular we wish the Secretary Roger a long and happy retirement from his post. Thanks to all who support our church... the Sacristans, Fran Edwards and her Coffee Cup and home visiting, the Sunday Stewards, the Fundraising Committee, and Jeff who is always willing to do running repairs. And of course we are grateful to Nick, our Organist, for what is a church with no music?

As for church fixtures and fittings... as far as we know all is well and nothing is missing.

*Liz MacNamara & Keith Hutchings*

## **Reports from Church Organisations**

### **Bellringing**

Bellringing has continued to be successful and has preceded the main service on most Sundays. There are 12 people who ring more-or-less regularly. There have been 6 visits from ringing bands from other churches and several from individual bellringers who have been on holiday in the area. We rang on Christmas Day, for the Carols by Candlelight service on 20<sup>th</sup> December, and for one wedding. A quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Doubles was rung on 30<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate the Tower Captain's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. The annual inspection showed that the bells and frame continue to be in good condition. The tower is affiliated to the Association of Devonshire Ringers and is now also affiliated to the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

*Roger Avery, Tower Captain*

### **Choir**

2024 was the first year in which we were able to function fully again for all twelve months. We therefore started the year with the end of the Christmas season and Epiphany. We went on to follow, musically, all of the church's seasons and festivals throughout the whole year. In addition to the regular Sunday morning Holy Communion services, we enjoyed singing at several special events (festive, commemorative etc) during the course of the year.

The first of these special events came in March with the Licensing of our new Team Vicar at St Michael's Church, Teignmouth. Five of our singers joined five of theirs to make a really good sound.

After Easter we were involved with the summer wedding season. First, in May, we accepted an invitation from Rev Carol Green to assist singing at a wedding in St Peter's Church, Shaldon. This turned into a jolly, social outing, complete with a visit to the Clipper Café! In September we had a wedding of our own here in Bishop. For this service we were augmented by three ladies from Dawlish Choral Society. Amongst other items, we sang "The Lord's my Shepherd" to the tune of Crimmond, along with a beautiful descant in the final verse.

A few weeks later, two of our men helped with another service at St Michael's. This time it was for their two hundredth anniversary. Other events followed in the autumn in Bishop, including Harvest Festival and Remembrance Sunday.

Almost before we knew it, we were into Advent. One particularly memorable moment came when three of our ladies sang "The Angel Gabriel" on the Chancel steps. Christmas came with some lovely extra services, including a very well-attended Community Carol Service.

We are a small, but very friendly, group. We work as a team and always welcome enquiries from anyone who might be interested in joining us.

*Nicholas Gardiner, Organist & Choirmaster*

## **Flower Report**

A small group of Ladies continue to try to keep the Church looking welcoming by making sure there are lovely arrangements for the congregation and visitors to enjoy. Should anyone feel they would like to do an arrangement then please don't be shy about joining us on the odd occasion - you would be welcome to do so.

*Margaret Rawlings*

## **Bishopsteignton Parish Chronicle**

The Chronicle has maintained its popularity with an increasing number of articles from different organisations within the village. The number of pages is now regularly 44. The introduction of the directory helps to keep you all in touch with what is going on in the village and who to contact.

We have 625 copies printed each month. The subscription for 2024-2025 remained at a cost of £10 for 12 months, as it will be for 2025-2026. It works out at 83p per month. Excellent value!!

We now have new printers – Black Swan printers in Dawlish. The quality of the paper and the printing is excellent. The support in putting the Chronicle together is wonderful.

Many thanks are due to everyone sends in articles each month and to my wonderful team of 30 distributors who go out in all weathers to deliver between them 615 copies each month. And to Carol Kingman and Pam Tate for giving up their time every month to batch them up.

*Keith Hutchings*

## **Welcome Pack**

The Welcome Pack scheme has been running for 20 years, 887 packs have been delivered to newcomers up to December 2024. Volunteers deliver the packs, which is always done in person to give a Christian welcome to the village. The packs are always well received and appreciated. 26 were delivered in 2024.

After so long, Hilary and I have decided to call it a day and hand the packs over to the Parish Council. After running down our current stock we will cease to deliver any more packs.

Many thanks to those who have delivered the packs, and the 'checking team' (Anne Whitaker, Margaret Rawlings, Sarah Robbins, Hilary Corlett and Sue Stevenson) for keeping the packs up to date.

It has been a long and rewarding journey.

*Tony Corlett*

## **Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

### **Administrative Information:**

St John the Baptist Church is part of the Haldon Team Ministry, Kenn Deanery in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, 3, Moors Park, Bishopsteignton, TQ14 9RH.

#### **PCC Membership:**

*Team Rector:* The Rev'd Carol Green

*Team Vicar:* The Rev'd Dave Wilkie

*Church Wardens:* Mr Keith Hutchings (who also has responsibility for *Safeguarding*) and Mrs Liz McNamara, *assisted by* Mrs Helen Boyd and Mrs Rosy Plumb

*PCC Treasurer:* Mr John Plumb

*PCC Secretary:* Dr Roger Avery

*Elected Members:* Mr Ian Boyd, Mrs Hilary Corlett, Mr Jeff Gibson, Mr Alan Gillespie, Mr John Stevenson, Ms Anne Whitaker, Mrs Belinda Wollen.

*Deanery Synod Representatives of the PCC:* Mrs Liz McNamara and Dr Roger Avery

### **Structure, governance and management**

The PCC comprises ex-officio and elected members (there are currently no co-opted members) in accordance with The Church Representation Rules and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. It is a *body corporate* established by the Church of England. A 3 year term of office applies to elected members. It is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Church Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

### **Safeguarding**

The Parochial Church Council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). A copy of the church's Safeguarding Policy is displayed on the Notice Board.

### **Committees**

The Fabric Committee, chaired by Mr John Stevenson, with The Church Architects, Benjamin and Beauchamp, manage the major works required to the church. This committee reports directly to the PCC.

### **Objectives and activities**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible for co-operating with the Team Rector and the Team Vicar in promoting, within the ecclesiastical Parish, the mission of the Church, pastoral and ecumenical.

### **Achievements and performance**

Church Membership: As at 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2024 the Church Electoral Roll stood at 67.

## **Review of the Year 2024**

The PCC held 5 full meetings in 2024, together with a shorter meeting following the APCM. Average attendance for the full meetings was 82%.

The PCC have met the full Common Fund request of £39,505 in 2024. Social & Fund Raising events have continued to be held.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>The Rev'd Carol Green</i> | <i>The Rev'd Dave Wilkie</i> | <i>Keith Hutchings</i> | <i>Liz McNamara</i> |
| <i>Team Rector</i>           | <i>Team Vicar</i>            | <i>Churchwarden</i>    | <i>Churchwarden</i> |