



## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH YELVERTOFT

*All for Jesus*



**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**2023 – 2024**

## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH YELVERTOFT ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE RECTOR**

Once again, our APCM has come round so fast, and I wonder why. For me it is because so much has happened. I am tempted to list everything that I can remember but will refrain. It is better to write in a more general way regarding this past year.

This year we have seen people growing in God, and that is wonderful. I have been so delighted to see the folk in Yelvertoft benefitting from the varied ministries of Rev Kris and Rev Jo. Even though they are/were training, I am sure that you will agree that our Lord has been doing things through them that we are benefitting from so much. We wish every blessing to Rev Kris in his new role, and are so very grateful – not only for what Rev Jo does, but also who she is. Also, Lorna is growing in her ministry at the All-Age services. In her unique way she is a real and genuine blessing.

My mind goes back to the village fete/show. What a fantastic time that was. I saw so many people from church putting their shoulder to the wheel and raising a tidy sum. What was just as important is that we were part of our village having some joyful fun together. I still have visions of Michael's constant way of keeping an eye on things to make sure all was well.

Thinking of the services, I have heard good feedback with particular emphasis on (i) the new orders of service, (ii) the variety of up-front ministry, and (iii) the enormous and wonderful contributions of Andrew and Ann.

Thinking of Andrew and Ann, I am sure that I speak from all of us how grateful we are for their musical help.. On top of that, Andrew's technical ability has been so very useful. Sometimes I have to remind myself that he has a full time job!

We have some financial challenges, and our Lord has been amazing in guiding us forward through Heather's ability and heart.

As to our Church Wardens, they have been marvellous. They have been so generous with their time, and have a real heart for the church.

Pastorally, we need to pray for and support the various people who are struggling right now. We know who they are, and they need our love.

I see this next year as having two main focuses. One of these is to grow in our relationship with our Lord ourselves. A home group is about to start, and I hope that this will be a platform for further spiritual growth. The other focus is for us to grow in confidence in drawing people towards our Lord Jesus ourselves. Let's explore that together.

Always with love and respect,

Rev. Graeme.

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH YELVERTOFT

## ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE PCC SECRETARY

The PCC continues to meet regularly. Each meeting is preceded by a prayer for God's guidance in the work that we do. The PCC will continue to meet regularly over the coming year.

Meetings follow a regular agenda with members of the PCC presenting updates, detailing the varied work that is required to keep the Church open for the whole community. Any major initiatives or repair work requires the approval of the PCC. In addition to looking after the fabric of the building, the PCC supports the Rector in ensuring that mission and outreach enables our Church to thrive and grow.

Regular agenda items include:

- The Rector's Report
- Church Wardens' Report – church management
- General correspondence
- Treasurer's Report – church finances
- Church fund raising and events
- Children's Work – including blessing our school
- Safeguarding
- Growing our church and outreach
- Reports from the Deanery Synod

We have enjoyed another busy year, supporting the usual Sunday services. The Churchyard has again been well maintained and is open for everyone in the community. Regrettably, after a number of local burglaries and an attempt to break into the church vestry, the church was been locked outside church services.

Fundraising in 2023 included a successful Ladies' Fashion Show, Cream Teas, Rev. Jo's sleepover and the Village Fete, which were all well supported.

The PCC would like to thank everyone who has supported the Church and its events over the past year, contributing their time and money to make them a success.

Our Church is an important part of our community, allowing us to join together in fellowship and strengthen our faith. We encourage everyone to join us in celebrating God's unfailing love for us all and following Jesus.

Sandra Odell

April 2024

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH YELVERTOFT

### CHURCH WARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

- 1 Weddings 2 Baptism 5 Funerals 1 Cemetery Interments
- Since the attempted break in to the Vestry it was decided that the Church would remain locked and unlocked for Services, maintenance and specific requests. David continues to wind the clock and maintain the bell ringing tower.
- We have a new electrician in the village (Ian Taylor) who has replaced the broken heating elements and 1 of the heaters in the meeting room.
- The organ has been serviced by Peter Spencer and following discussion with Andrew Hutley payment was withheld requiring a second visit to rectify concerns raised by Andrew this has now been rectified.
- Repairs to the Vestry window are in hand, we have one quote however Peterborough are requesting a second.
- Simon Barsby has been contacted to quote for decorating the remainder of the internal fabric which is very jaded, he is very busy and we await his response.
- The variety of Services held in the Church continue to be well supported and we are indebted to everyone who makes these happen we are extremely fortunate to have a dedicated team ably supported by the wardens, choir bellringers, readers and intercessors.
- Our ongoing links with Crick and Lilbourne continue to offer support and help where needed and we continue to work together as a Benefice in all aspects of Worship and Church life.
- Our link with the Chapel and Jim and Jan continues to grow and offers joint services for both congregations and outdoor events.
- Links with the School continue to grow and very much appreciated by the school.
- Statistics for Mission 2023 and Articles of Enquiry 2024 have been completed and returned to Peterborough.

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## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES REPORT

### **All Age Services**

At the moment we have one All Age Service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

Jo and I have decided to continue with the current format; going forward, as we feel that the congregation is growing slowly but steadily. We have seen a few young families start a regular attendance which is encouraging.

The Teenagers from the discontinued Scarf group will be continue to be asked for their input on readings and prayers.

### **Baptisms**

There have been a couple of Baptisms across the year, these were preceded with Baptismal Preparation meetings with the parents.

The Church looks forward to receiving these children into Church as they grow older.

We are hoping to encourage them to attend the All Age Services with regular invitations.

### **Scarf**

Unfortunately, our Scarf group has now come to a finish.

Cathy no longer felt it was viable to continue with the group, as she and her family had changing needs, together with the other teenage children attending.

We organized a day out at Holdenby Hall Falconry Centre in the summer. It was a great day with a Falconry display and also with a talk about British Wildlife and meeting some of the animals they have at Holdenby.

The children enjoyed the grounds especially the rope swing and climbing the Tower mound. We had a picnic and planned to play games but ran out of time.

We gave Cathy and Hayley a thank you card and gift for their commitment to this group across the years which has given many children a great opportunity to learn about Jesus in a different way through craft.

### **Shepherds Delight**

This is Jo's project and is still very successful, her report on the group and its significance in our community is below. It is very important that we continue to have this presence in the local School and bring Jesus to the children in this environment.

We look forward to planning some childrens events across the coming year to try and encourage more to attend.

Lorna Taylor  
Reader and Leader of All Age Services

## **Shepherd's Delight Report from Rev Jo**

Shepherd's Delight is still being enjoyed by Yelvertoft Primary School children and the team and we are told it is the most popular afterschool club in the school.

The children enjoy a snack together, games, bible stories, praying together, craft activities and fun and chatter. We regularly use, or adapt, the Jesus Story Bible in our sessions and bargain priced copies of these have been given to each Shepherd Delighter for use at home with their families. The craft activities are often designed so that the children are aided in retelling the bible story with their families.

Currently there are 17 children from reception to year 6 who attend every week. There are now spaces available which are being advertised in the school and among the families. Shepherd's Delight continues to enjoy a super relationship with the school's head teacher and staff.

The team has grown this year and now includes Barbara Brazier, Kerry Clayton, Anne Grant and myself with occasional help (which is hugely appreciated) from Sean Brazier, Judy Anderson, Harlene Griffiths and Rev Kris while he was with us. Everyone is up to date with their DBS check (or in the process of renewal), safeguarding training is ongoing and safer recruitment is completed for everyone on the team.

Since my curacy started last June, Barbara has very ably led the sessions when they clash with my curacy training. I currently prepare the material for her because of her time pressures (not because she is incapable). Kerry remains a faithful and thoughtful team member and Anne has led parts of some sessions too.

I would very much like to thank all the team for their amazing contribution to making Shepherd's Delight happen and to making it so enjoyable. Well done - you are stars!

Rev Jo Ognjanovic

April 2024

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## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

**At Yelvertoft All Saints we take Safeguarding very seriously.**

We have a regular safeguarding update at all the PCC meetings, and I discuss any issues with Graeme the Rector on a regular basis.

Currently we are looking at a few new helpers at Shepherds Delight and they are going through the DBS checks and training process under Jo's guidance.

The January review for this year highlighted the need for some new training to be undertaken by some people.

I will contact the necessary people with the details of what and when they need to be doing this, and the correct access to the training for the Diocese.

I continue to be the Lead Safeguarding Officer; but Rev Graeme or Rev Jo are available to be approached with any concerns.

Lorna Taylor  
Parish Safeguarding Officer