

# **St. Andrew's Church, Wickham Skeith Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council**

**Year Ended December 31st, 2014**

## **Administrative Information**

St. Andrew's Church is situated in Church Lane, Wickham Skeith. It is part of the Bacton Benefice in the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich within the Church of England.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC Members who have served from January 1st, 2014 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent: The Rev'd. Dr. Liz Varley

Reader: Mrs. Sheila Wright

Elders: Mr. Peter Paine  
Mrs. Jean Willoughby

Wardens: Mrs. Liz Davidson  
Mrs. Jean Willoughby

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: Mrs. Liz Davidson  
Mrs. Mary Paine

Elected Members: Mr. Philip Cutting (Treasurer)  
Mrs Lesley Holland  
Miss Margaret Jones-Evans  
Mrs. Mary Paine (Secretary)  
Mr. Peter Paine  
Mr. Oliver Richards  
Mr. Ron Wright  
Mrs. Sheila Wright

## **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC Members is set out in the Church Representative Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

## **Objectives and Activities**

St. Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

## **Church Attendance**

There are 53 on the Electoral Roll, of whom 45 are resident within the parish and 8 non-resident. The average weekly attendance has been 12 for the Eucharist (one more than last year) and 21 for Family services (the same as last year). The total attendance in October was 78. Once again the Carol Service drew the largest congregation, 82. We again greatly missed the wonderful contribution of Alan and Lynne Watts for their delicious mulled wine and mince pies which undoubtedly

make the occasion particularly festive, but members of the Choir took on the role for a second time.

### **Review of the Year**

Once again the year has flown by, and from a PCC point of view a rather less busy one than previously. Ten members of the PCC have met four times.

Throughout 2014, our full programme of worship has continued. The Family Service, on the first Sunday of each month has proved popular with parishioners who are less comfortable with Eucharistic services, and there are generally a few more attendees, though still rarely any children. Benefice services were held on fifth Sundays and throughout August. Healing has continued to be offered on the fourth Sunday of each month. The steering group continues to keep the format under review in order to make the ministry comfortable for everyone.

In November a very successful Remembrance Service was held in the Village Hall, which included the dedication of the Memorial from the Old Wesleyan Chapel. We are very grateful to Liz and Pete Davidson for their generosity in having this fully restored.

At the end of the year we said goodbye to The Revd. Dr. Liz Varley in a flurry of farewell and birthday parties, as she left to take up her new post in the Church in Wales.

During the year there were two baptisms, a marriage blessing and there was one funeral and two burials of Ashes.

Fund raising continued throughout the year, most notably with our biennial Flower Festival in May. The Monday Morning Group, which arose from a previous Lent Group and was carefully nurtured by The Rev. Julia Lall, has continued to meet and to flourish. Thanks must once again go to each and every person who contributes in any way to the life and upkeep of our Church, both the building and the community. Particular gratitude must go to Liz Davidson and Jean Willoughby, our stalwart Churchwardens, to Jilly Newstead and Ron Wright, our regular organists, to Anita Kemp who also plays for us from time to time, and to Stuart Wilson who maintains the churchyard so beautifully.