

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

Year Ended December 31st, 2013

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, 2011 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. Celia Cliff
Mrs Lesley Holland
Mrs. Doris Mullenger
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 ? on the Electoral Roll, of whom ?are resident within the parish and ? non-resident. The average weekly attendance has been 11 for the Eucharist (two less than last year) and 18 for Family services (also two less). Once again the Carol Service drew the largest congregation, 58. we greatly missed the wonderful contibution 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.

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. Thirteen members of the PCC have met four times. Throughout 2013, 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 sadly rarely any children. Benefice services were held on fifth Sundays and throughout August. Healing has continued to be offered, but has now been moved to the fourth Sunday, so that neither minister nor organist is dashing away to another service. The steering group continues to keep the format under review in order to make the ministry comfortable for everyone.

Just after Easter we celebrated Julia's time in training with us with very mixed feelings as she left us to be in charge of the Benefice of South Hartismere. We wish her well and have been pleased to see her locally occasionally.

During the year there was one funeral.

Fund raising continued throughout the year, most notably with our biennial Open Gardens in May.

On Bible Sunday copies of John, the lectionary Gospel for this year were distributed and were well received. 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 and to Stuart Wilson who maintains the churchyard so beautifully.