

All Saints' Church, Dewlish

Annual Report 2023

Dewlish Church is in the parish of Milborne St Andrew with Dewlish and is joined with Puddletown and Tolpuddle to make up the Benefice

Members of Dewlish Church Council

The Rev. Sarah Hillman, Chair and Vicar

Mr Jim Burg, Vice Chair, Church Warden, Deanery Synod Representative and Lay Worship Leader

Mrs Daphne Burg, Treasurer

Mrs Sue Britton, Church Warden

Mrs Margaret Groves, Keeper of the Rolls

(Mrs Sandy White, Secretary)

Committee Meetings

Four meetings were held in conjunction with the other Parishes in the Benefice and the AGM with Milborne St Andrew.

Church Attendance

The number on the Church Electoral Roll was 15.

The average Sunday attendance was 10 but was higher on special occasions and these were not included in the average.

Review of the Year

We had a good year, both financially and numbers attending services, especially festivals, and particularly the Carol Service and Remembrance Day Service. We held a Mothering Day Service, an Easter Day Holy Communion, Ascension Day Service, a Pet Service, a service to celebrate the King's Coronation, a Farm Service at Parsonage Farm, Harvest Festival and Christmas Carol and Christmas Day Services.

Our curate, Rev. Maggie Crosbie, sadly left our Benefice in October, to continue her curacy in Shaftesbury. Jim continued to take Morning Prayer, Family Services and Lenten Evening Prayer, with Margaret Rickard assisting Sarah, and also taking some services.

Fundraising

Several fundraising events were held this year including providing teas at an Open Garden event, a Spring Sale, Harvest Supper, a pop-up Market Stall with teas and a Christmas Bazaar. These all raised good amounts for Church funds and proved to be a good opportunity for members of the community to meet up. Jim also took part in the Annual Ride 'n' Stride Dorset Historic Churches Trust fund-raiser, which also raised a considerable amount.

Donations

The Dewlish Church Council donated to five charities:

The Leprosy Mission: The Bible Society: The Mission to Seafarers:

The Church Missionary Society and The Salisbury Sudan Link

We also held special fund-raisers and collections for:

Water Aid (Lent lunches and Auction of Harvest Produce)

The Children's Society (from the collection taken at the Carol Service)

Farm Africa (from collection at Farm Service).