



The White Horse
Team Ministry



Diocese
of Salisbury

Making Jesus Known in Westbury, Dilton Marsh, Westbury Leigh and Brokerswood

PARISH OF WESTBURY

Meeting of Parishioners & Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

All Saint's Church

Sunday 17 May 2026 at 10.45am



Parish Church of All Saints, Westbury



Holy Saviour Church, Westbury Leigh

PARISH OF WESTBURY

Meeting of Parishioners & Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

All Saint's Church

Sunday 17 May at 10.45am - Commencing with Holy Communion at 9.30am

Meeting of Parishioners - *For all parishioner and members of the church electoral roll*

Agenda

1. Election of Church Wardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - *For clergy and members of the church electoral roll only*

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting
3. Receive the Electoral Roll Report
4. Receive Annual Report
5. Receive Financial Statements
6. Receive the Fabric Report
7. Receive the Deanery Synod Report
8. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives
9. Election of 9 representatives to the Parochial Church Council.
10. Appointment of the Independent Examiner
11. Receive Supplementary Reports
12. Any Other Business

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISHIONERS OF THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS' WESTBURY

AND

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING OF ALL SAINTS' WESTBURY

Sunday 18 May 2025 - Commencing after Holy Communion Service

Chair - Revd Rebecca Harris **Minute Secretary** – Debbie McEntee

The Meeting opened at 10.55am by Revd Rebecca Harris

Meeting of the Parishioners

1. Election of 2 Church Wardens

One nomination has been received from:-

Ruth Hann *Proposed by Debbie McEntee* *Seconded by Gillian Bullock*

The meeting attendees were asked for their agreement - *All in Favour*.

Reverend Rebecca Harris explained that we had received one nomination from Ruth Hann and Rebecca would like to say a huge thank you to Ruth as there is a lot behind the scenes that the congregation don't see and she couldn't do a lot without her. This will be Ruth's last year as Churchwardens are only allowed to serve 6 years and they must have a 2 year break before being re-elected again. Rebecca said this is food for thought and we have 11 months for someone or two people to stand as Churchwarden.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1a. Apologies

The following people gave their apologies for the meeting:- Bill Clark, Gillian Bullock, David Bullock, Valerie Smith, Anne Ashman, Sheila Miles, Marion Sherwood, Eddie Pickup, Mavis Payne, Helen Thomas, Daphne Blake, Paul Skinner and Isabel Osborne.

1b. Attendees

Reverend Rebecca Harris, Debbie McEntee, Ruth Hann, Beth Thomas, Alan Bull, Hilary Price, Caroline Dunseath, David Hart, Lily Munday, Jean Jane, Sue Newell, Jenny Wray-Bliss, Beryl Drake, Robert Harris, Lois Wright, Lynne Weekley, Holly Newton, Jane Perrin, Chris Perrin, Anne Thompson, Judith Newton, Ian McManus, David Raines, Brian Osborne, Ron Plum, Chris Plum, Diana Hunter and Reshad Bukhory.

2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Annual Report and Accounts which included the minutes of our previous APCM 2024 were available two weeks before this year's APCM. They were also available as a link via the website and via email to all people on the e-newsletter list. No comments, questions or changes were noted. Revd Rebecca Harris asked if we were in favour of agreeing these minutes.

All in Favour.

3. Receive the Electoral Roll Report

This Report was in the printed and online Reports for people to read before. Revd Rebecca Harris read out the Electoral Roll Report which notes we have 83 people on the new Electoral Roll.

The Electoral Roll Report was received and All in Favour.

4. Receive Annual Report

These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and hard copies were available in Church for two weeks before the meeting. Revd Rebecca Harris asked if there were any questions or comments on the Annual Report which is the written section, before the accounts, on page 16. Revd Rebecca Harris explained this Report and Accounts is a legal requirement as we are a registered charity and that it is a good way for a potential replacement for Caroline Husband's position to see what has gone on within the Parish. No questions were asked. This Annual Report was previously approved by the PCC.

This Annual Report was received and *All in Favour*.

5. Receive Financial Statements

These are found from page 20 onwards. If there are any questions, Beth is here to answer these. No questions were asked. We still owe £97,000 to the Diocese for non-paid Parish Share. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked Marilyn Morgan who is our Treasurer and Beth for all their help with the Accounts, Ruth who sorts out the Donations, the Auditor James Gare together with David Bullock and Debbie who do the banking.

The Accounts were received and *All in Favour*.

6. Receive Fabric Reports

Ruth has written this Report explaining what has been done over the year and what still needs to be done e.g. Church Roof, items on the Quinquennial Report etc. A working party meets once a month to maintain the garden, cleaning gutters, cleaning etc. Thank you goes to Ron and Chris Plum for all their hard work with the casing around the organ.

The Report was received and *All in Favour*.

7. Receive Deanery Synod Report

Rebecca asked if there were any questions or comments on the Deanery Synod Report on Page 10. No comments regarding this Report.

The Report was received and *All in Favour*.

8. Election of 2 Deanery Synod Representatives

We actually have vacancies for 3 Deanery Synod Representatives; this will be checked after the meeting as we only now have 83 members on the Electoral Roll this may mean we only need two members. If anybody feels they would like to take on the 3rd vacancy please speak to Rebecca. There are 3 meetings during the year and they all go together to these meetings.

Beth Thomas and Simon Thorne are still elected as Deanery Synod Representatives.

9. Election of 12 Representatives to the Parochial Church Council

Revd Rebecca Harris went through our nominations being:-

Name	Proposer	Seconder
Lily Munday	Mavis Payne	Debbie McEntee
Judith Newton	Debbie McEntee	Lily Munday
Jenny Wray-Bliss	David Raines	Beth Thomas
Caroline Dunseath	Debbie McEntee	Ruth Hann
Brian Osborne	Debbie McEntee	Ruth Hann

Debbie McEntee then explained that she was stepping down from the PCC and as PCC Secretary. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked Debbie for all she had done as a PCC member and Secretary. Revd Rebecca Harris explained that some people are automatically on the PCC without filling a form and being elected e.g. Churchwarden, Deanery Synod Representatives and Lay People. We will look into the amount of PCC Members are required under the new 83 members on the Electoral Roll.

The attendees were *All in Favour* of the above nominations. Our next PCC Meeting is on the 29 July 2025.

10. Appointment of the Independent Examiner

Beth Thomas proposed that we re-appoint James Gare from Monaghans as Independent Examiner. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked James Gare for his hard work.

Proposed by Beth Thomas Seconded by Ruth Hann

The attendees are *All in Favour*.

11. Receive Supplementary Reports

These were available via a link on our e-newsletter/website and hard copies were available in church two weeks previous. The Reports commence from Page 9 onwards.

Rebecca asked if there were any questions/comments on these Reports. Rebecca thanked everyone who had produced a Report for this year's APCM. She also thanked Debbie and Lynne (Parish Office) for all their hard work organising the document.

All Reports were agreed and *All in Favour*

Revd Rebecca Harris gave the following Supplementary Report:-

Rector's Comments: - Using the summary version of the MAP, copies given out with parish prayer diary. At our annual meeting, we have the opportunity to review and reflect on our parish's mission and ministry: what is going well, and what we need to work on. Just to remind you: our vision statement is: **We seek to make Jesus known in Westbury by being a confident, joyful and prayerful community.**

We share this with the White Horse Team where we seek to make Jesus known in Westbury, Dilton Marsh, Westbury Leigh and Brokerswood. This is inspired by our Diocesan vision of Making Jesus known.

The idea is that whatever our church tradition, history or background, Jesus is the One who brings us together, who is with us and who unites us. We are called, as Christians seeking to work together, to share our common faith in Jesus the Son of God, who died and rose again and ascended on high to bring us close to God the Father and who inspires us through the Holy Spirit to grow into the people he wants us to be. We long for the people of Westbury, Westbury Leigh and all our communities to come to know Jesus for themselves and to know the love of God and the life that Jesus brings to all who believe and trust in him.

We are living in difficult times for the Christian church. I have said this before, but we are still suffering the after-effects of the Covid 19 pandemic, when many people left, and though we do have some new people and they are all very welcome, the number of people who are moving away, no longer with us or have a change in circumstances outnumber those who are joining us. We have many opportunities to reach out to our communities through all our relationships with our local schools, nursing homes, through baptisms, weddings and funerals and through all those who visit our churches in different ways. We seek to make the most of these opportunities, and although there are many of them, it is a challenge to encourage them and draw them in to Sunday worship and being part of the church community. We are not alone in this. Many other churches across the country and in the western world are sharing the same challenges.

I am sure you are also aware that at this current time we are rather stretched in our Ministry Team at the moment. Since Caroline left last October, the Team Vicar role has been vacant, and so we are covering services at Dilton Marsh. Fortunately, there are a couple of Lay Worship leaders there who can lead non-eucharistic services. And Helen & Graham Stevensen are doing a sterling job there as well.

Today we heard the news that our Curate Holly will be leaving us at the end of July and also Lynne our Team Administrator will be leaving at the same time. Unfortunately, it is impossible for me to tear myself in two, three or four parts. And there are still only 24 hours in a day, and if I'm going to look after myself, so I can continue to serve our parishes in one piece, then there may have to be some adjustments to be made. We shall be working this out as we go along, but I would like to appeal to your patience and understanding as we all adjust to changes ahead. Fortunately, God is good. And it's not all up to me. We are all part of the body of Christ. We can ask him for his strength and the power of his Spirit, to sustain and guide us during this time.

We are currently working on the profile for the new Team Vicar post which is coming along. I am hoping we can get the first draft to the Archdeacon by the end of this month. The post is due to be advertised later in the summer, with interviews planned in November. If all goes well, I am hoping we shall see a new appointment being made and a new person starting in the spring next year. The post is being advertised as a Pioneer Team Vicar with a special responsibility for children and families. This is because we have some new opportunities at the moment, with a new Christian Headteacher at Dilton Marsh School, who is v keen to engage with the church, and we have also just appointed a new HT at WJS, whom we also hope will help us to develop our mission with our children in our parish.

As we go forward into the future, I would like to recommend the following actions we can all take, in order to support and develop our church life, and our mission and ministry to our parish:

PRAY : We can do nothing without the love and the power of God. In the MAP, the first part is about our relationship with God. We depend on God for all that we do, and for helping us to be the kind of people he wants us to be. I have put together this prayer diary based on our MAP, which we are distributing today and I hope you've all had a copy. Please could I ask you to take this away and use it in your daily prayers? I am trusting that you will all do this as a minimum, in order to support our church and our life going forward.

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH AS MUCH AS YOU CAN: Come to all the services and events you can! I know we're going into the summer and I'm sure we'll all be taking a break and perhaps going away somewhere, including myself. But please try to support your church by your presence as much as you can. It is sometimes disheartening when numbers are low, and when we have new people amongst us, it is really helpful to have people who are able to stay and chat and get to know them. Church life isn't all about numbers. We are called to be faithful and to support our church as much as we can.

CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE YOUR GIFTS, TIME AND MONEY: As Christians who have signed up to be on the ER for the next six years, we have a responsibility to support our church by contributing towards the life of the church. Yes, by being here for worship, but also by contributing our gifts and skills. So, whether it is singing in the choir, playing a musical instrument, welcoming people into church, taking part in the service by reading, leading intercessions, or in other ways, or by supporting us in administrative tasks, looking after our money, taking care of our buildings and churchyard – all these things really matter, and we really need as many people as involved as possible. I understand that for some people this is difficult, but as many of us as possible need to do what we can. There are many ways in which you can help, and if you're not already involved in something, I would love to have a chat with you and help you find your place amongst us.

I would like to thank all those who have responded to our Gift Day so far. We don't have a final total yet, as some gifts are still coming in and some are coming straight into the bank account, but it all helps and means a lot, that you are supporting your church financially. And if you haven't got round to it yet, it's not too late. Please take home the latest version of MAP and read it carefully and think about it. I'd be happy to talk about any aspect of it. If anyone has any questions about any aspect of our church, our faith or anything which concerns you, please don't hesitate to be in touch. We are called to be God's people in this place. We may not be perfect. No one is. But God has called us, whoever we are, and with all that we have and are, to offer him the best we can, and to trust him that he has a plan for us and for our church. He is at work within us, despite our weaknesses and failings, and he can take whatever we offer to him, and use it for the growing of his church and his kingdom.

12. AOB

a) Beth gave an update on the Parish Hall. She and others have worked hard to push the CIO idea. 6 people have come forward to support this idea. She would like to see the community take on this project so we can concentrate on this beautiful building. The PCC, at their next meeting, will discuss the lease. The people in this room are not the people we are looking for to move this project further; it is the wider community we need to encourage to join. Revd Rebecca Harris thanked Beth for undertaking this particular difficult job and she has put a lot into it and would appreciate it if anybody in the congregation would have a think if they know somebody who would like to join the Hall Steering Group.

b) We omitted to get a Report from the Musical Director, Ian McManus but he has only been with us for 9 months but he would have only reported on 4 of those months.

Rebecca invited questions and the APCM finished with a Prayer at 11.34am

Post Meeting Notes:

- **We only need 2 Deanery Synod Representatives due to the number of people on the Electoral Roll.**
- **We only need 9 PCC Members due to the number of people on the Electoral Roll.**

APCM REPORTS

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

This year was a revision of the Electoral Roll. We commenced with 83 people as of the 4th May 2025. During the year following the 4th May, 1 person was removed from the roll due to passing away and 9 people were added to the roll up unto the 12th April 2026, when a revision ensued over the next two weeks resulting in 91 people on the Electoral Roll.

DEBBIE McENTEE – ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(please see attached report)

FABRIC COMMITTEE REPORT

Our historic church building, having a Grade 1 listing will always be a challenge to maintain.

A dedicated but small group ensure routine tasks are completed on a regular schedule. The roof tidying & gutter clearance ensures the roof drainage & downpipes remain clear. The perimeter walls & drains are kept clear of debris, weeds etc. We are blessed with a regular team of volunteers who Hoover, dust & polish the interior maintaining a welcoming place for our many visitors. The gardens are generally tidied & more recently a new volunteer (Andrew Maggett) has really elevated the standard of the flower beds & grassed areas – which has been noted by many individuals passing through the grounds. A tree by the entrance gates was damaged by high winds late in 2025 & promptly removed by the Town Council as confirmed to be a safety hazard. Lead roof repairs / renewals & stone work deterioration remain the priority issues, now that the Organ restoration is progressing, we can hopefully move forward with these.

More volunteers are always needed to ensure these items can continue & progress.

SIMON THORNE

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

There were three meetings during 2025. These were held in Christ Church Warminster, Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall and Holy Trinity Dilton Marsh. The Deanery Synod provides an opportunity for members of the parishes in the Heytesbury Deanery to discuss common issues and to hear reports from Diocesan Synod.

We have been ably led by the Rural Dean, the Revd Clifford Stride but we continue to struggle to identify a Deanery Synod Secretary and Treasurer. In July our guest speaker was Elizabeth Harvey, the Diocesan Director of Finance and Operations who gave an update on her role within the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF), how the DBF works (similar to a PCC), Parish Share and the income received from the national church.

Much of the discussion at our meetings has focused on the clergy vacancies in the Deanery and the continuing struggle of the parishes to contribute their full Parish Share and the impact this has on the Diocesan finances. We heard about the review of the Faculty process in the Diocese and we have received regular updates from Maridi our link diocese.

BETH THOMAS- DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

After 5 years James Gare is stepping down from being our Independent Examiner. We are very grateful to him for his patience and diligence in undertaking this role.

We are very pleased that Elizabeth Harvey has agreed to act as Independent Examiner for Westbury PCC. Elizabeth is a qualified accountant and Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). She has also recently registered as an Associate of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners (ACIE). Elizabeth is the Finance Director of Salisbury Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF), which is both a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The PCC recommends that Elizabeth Harvey be approved as Independent Examiner for 2027.

BETH THOMAS ON BEHALF OF WESTBURY

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) REPORT

The purpose of the PCC is five-fold:

- To enable the church to play its part in God's mission to the world.
- To co-operate with the Incumbent in sharing leadership.
- To ensure legal compliance with charity and ecclesiastical law.
- To care for our church buildings and churchyards.
- To be a channel of consultation within the wider church.

Over the last year, the PCC has met six times, on alternate months. We have discussed a wide variety of subjects. We oversee the parish's Mission Action Plan which was first put together because of a couple of away days in 2021 and 2022 and as a result of some training days offered under the "Flex" programme for rural churches by the Diocese of Salisbury. Ever since then, we endeavour to keep the plan up to date and a revised copy will be shared at the APCM again this year.

Each member of the PCC has a particular role, eg whether in finance, oversight of our buildings at Westbury and Westbury Leigh, the parish hall, safeguarding and other policies, our relationships with our local schools, children, families and young people, pastoral care, worship services, fundraising events etc... Everyone has something to bring to the table. To enable our meetings to run smoothly, we submit reports to the Council in advance of our meetings so that we have time to read and think about them before we meet. We sometimes have difficult decisions to make, eg, finance is a challenging matter because despite our best efforts, our income falls short of what is required. It concerns us that we are not paying our full ministry costs. We were very grateful to Bishop Andrew for supporting a full-time Team Vicar appointment at a time when Diocesan funds are also very stretched.

We were kept abreast of the process of appointing the new Team Vicar and approved of the profile before the advert went out. We have four members of staff to oversee, and we must comply with employment law etc. Over the last year, we have overseen the departure of our Team Administrator Lynne Vercoe and the appointment of her successor, Sharon Waggott. We reviewed all our policies and updated them and put them in line with Dilton Marsh parish, so that they are all Team policies. This includes safeguarding, safer recruitment, data protection, use of social media, dignity at work and a lone worker policy.

We were sorry that Debbie McEntee stepped down as PCC member and Secretary last year and we were unable to appoint a new person, despite advertising for the role. We hope to appoint a new Secretary this year and if anyone would like to find out more about this, please be in touch.

We always have a reflection and prayer at our meetings and seek to work together as the body of Christ as we make Jesus known in our communities. We are under-represented on the PCC and it would be good to recruit some new members this year. We can have up to nine elected members, in addition to those who are ex-officio, such as churchwardens and Deanery Synod representatives. Please consider whether you could serve your church in this important role. Thank you to all our PCC members for all they have contributed to the mission and ministry of our parish and churches over the last year.

REVD REBECCA HARRIS (as PCC SECRETARY)

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The PCC of All Saints Westbury with Holy Saviour (Westbury Leigh) have continued to adopt Promoting a Safer Church – the Church of England's Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and adults. This policy and related documents are available:

- A. Online at <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance> with hard copies of the Safeguarding Policy and associated handbook also available to view in:

- B. The Team Parish Office 01373 859450 and office@whtministry.org.uk
- C. All Saints church in the choir vestry and,
- D. Holy Saviour church in the Vestry.

We remain committed to:

- A. The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all children, young people and all adults.
- B. The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- C. The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse.

All these commitments are managed using The Church of England's online tool, known as the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This facility can be accessed by computer, tablet or smartphone, to help the PCC keep track of Safeguarding requirements in our church. These requirements have been reviewed regularly and have ensured that we remain up to date with local and national changes in Safeguarding policies.

All those who hold any role in our churches are required to undertake Basic and Foundation levels of Safeguarding training which are available online through the Church of England training portal.

Jenny Wray-Bliss who was appointed as the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) in Autumn 2023 continues in the role. Her contact details are Westburypso@Whtministry.org.uk mobile 07850 646686.

JENNY WRAY-BLISS – SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC REPORT

All Saints Choir has continued to lead worship at services throughout the year. I am grateful for their dedication and look forward to working with them again this year. During the year, I have had the privilege of leading the music & worship at All Saints. It has been a busy year where I have played for at least eight funerals and two weddings. Other notable events include the concert by Westbury & District Choral Society for their centenary, performing Haydn's The Creation and a specially commissioned piece by Malcolm Archer, Their Voices Rose. At the end of November, we welcomed Bishop Andrew for the confirmation service (the first for a number of years) which was a blessed occasion and a wonderful opportunity to play a wonderful Stanford Prelude as the closing voluntary! We cannot forget the Town Carol Service in December.

The Carol Service was a great success, and we had a considerable amount of positive feedback from those in attendance. We welcomed members from the Westbury & District Choral Society to help bolster our numbers and a few others. The music was a combination of music previously sung and a couple of newer pieces. I am always on the lookout for good music, so if you have a Christmas or Easter piece you would like or an anthem for communion, do let me know.

This year also saw the launch of the Organ Appeal, and we had the novel idea of asking people to sponsor a key. We are hoping for £11,000 to do some essential maintenance work on the action of the organ so that we don't have any more of those nasty sticking notes. This will also help with the tuning.

I am hoping to reach out more into the community, especially through the schools to see if we cannot begin a children's choir. Hopefully, we will be able to incorporate those who attend into our regular Sunday choir. Please pray that we have an opportunity to go into schools and drum up some interest.

If you know of anyone who loves to sing, please send them my way, we are always looking to increase our numbers.

IAN McMANUS – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

CLEANING REPORT

We are still proceeding with "Working Party" gatherings on a second Saturday morning of the month commencing from 9.30am. These mornings are open to anybody who are willing to clean, garden or maintain the buildings.

A huge thank you goes to numerous people being Robert Harris, Ruth Hann, Beth Thomas, David Bullock, Wendy Wood, Anne Ashman, Jane Perrin, Mavis Payne, Sarah Wiseman, Julia Barr, David Barr and Simon Thorne. In particular we would like to say a big thank you to Andrew Madgett who has made our churchyard look beautiful with all his hard work during the Working Party mornings and numerous other times during the past few months to make our Churchyard stand out!!

DEBBIE MCENTEE

FLOWER ARRANGERS

The Flower Arrangers have done flowers for the major festivals this year, Christmas, Easter, Harvest and our Patronal festival. We have an artificial arrangement available for use at other times. We have been joined by Sarah Wiseman, who enjoys doing the lovely of vases of flowers at the entrance table. Many thanks to Jacky O'Hare, Sharon Gillham, Elaine Cheshire and Wendy Wood, who have continued to help with arrangements in a difficult year.

DIANE PERRETT - FLOWER ARRANGERS TEAM COORDINATOR

LINEN AND SILVER CLEANING

During this last year I would like to thank again the teams for their care and diligence in looking after the linen and silverware. At our February get-together it was mentioned that we needed some more purificators. We were delighted that Agnes Capes agreed to make a dozen new ones. which we were very grateful for, and these were blessed at our Easter Sunday Service. We would welcome more helpers and if you are interested, please see one of the team below.

<i>Silver Cleaning Team</i>	<i>Linen Cleaning Team</i>
Judith Newton	Sue Newell
Ruth Medhurst	Isabel Osborne
Jean Jane	Wendy Wood
Marian Sherwood	Jean Jane

JEAN JANE

MINISTRY OF SERVICE - HOLY SAVIOUR

We all work together to have the services running smoothly and I would like to thank everyone for all the work done during the last year.

Server	Helen Thomas
Organist	Charmian Horseman
Intercessions	Lily Munday & Iain Brownlie
Readers	Mavis Payne & Bill Clark
Side Persons	Lily Munday & Beryl Drake
The Cleaning of Silver	Iain Brownlie
The Cleaning of Linen	Helen Thomas
Flowers	Beryl Drake, Helen Thomas & Lily Munday
The Cleaning of the Church	Charmian Horseman and Lily Munday

LILY MUNDAY

BELL RINGING REPORT

2025 started well with Tuesday practices being normally, well attended. With the local band being supported by our regular visitors.

A peal attempt in April, organised in memory of our former Tower Captain Peter Baker was unfortunately unsuccessfully. Plans were made to use the early 2026 slot to repeat the attempt.

We gained two new learners who are progressing well and hope to join us for Sunday service ringing soon. This will help boost the numbers on a Sunday and help to reach our aim from a few years ago of being able to ring all 8 bells on a Sunday.

We were approached by the leader of the Southwick Beavers who asked if they could visit the tower one evening and learn about the bells and bell ringing. With lots of factors and logistics to overcome, the plan was put on hold until early 2026

Plans to carry out the needed electrical work were put on hold due to diary commitments by myself but we are now aim to undertake this work in 2026.

The waiting list for peals at All Saints is now into late 2030. With possible sound control still an option, we again hope to be able to reduce this waiting time.

The bells at All Saints still continue to be as popular with visiting bands and indeed ringers around the local area. We are so very lucky to have them and be able to ring on them weekly. We will continue to support the church in the way we can going into 2026.

CHRIS JENKINS – TOWER CAPTAIN ALL SAINTS' BELL RINGERS

MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

The Mothers' Union theme for 2025 was Join up, Join In. Our branch AGM was held in January 2025, when Jean Jane agreed to continue as Chairperson, Hilary Price as Treasurer and Mavis Payne as Secretary. Lily Munday also agreed to join the committee and was duly elected. We were delighted to welcome two new members, but more would always be warmly welcomed.

We had three very interesting talks throughout the year. Hilary Reed, accompanied by her very well behaved current trainee Elsie, told us about training a guide dog puppy. Carrie Walsh, one of the MU Diocesan Trustees, spoke to us about the work of the Mothers' Union in the Salisbury Diocese. We were pleased to welcome the Rev. Gay Maynard, who was accompanied by Mama Rejoice, the wife of Bishop Moses. They spoke to us about the work of the Mothers' Union in Maridi, South Sudan. Other meetings saw us sharing the 'Stations of the Cross', a Day of Reflection, led by Rev. Margaret Davies and tea and cake at Crockerton garden centre. We also held a coffee morning, our annual Mary Sumner Tea Party, Patronal Festival and Carol Service.

In July we joined Dilton Marsh MU for a coach trip to Tewkesbury and this was a very enjoyable day. We also joined them for a soup lunch followed by the Wave of Prayer service in February and their annual tea party in August. We took part in the Women's World Day of Prayer service, held at the Catholic church and the Mothering Sunday service at All Saints. Some members attended a service for 16 Days of Activism Against Domestic Abuse in Salisbury Cathedral, and the MU diocesan Autumn Gathering.

We have been very grateful for the support of the clergy and congregation throughout the year. With their help, we have raised funds for the Holiday Home at Rockley Park, All Saints Children's Mission Fund, the MU General Fund and our Overseas projects, and collected items for Salisbury Women's Refuge.

We would also like to thank Peter Jane, Ruth Hann and Ian McManus for providing music for our services.

MAVIS PAYNE

OPEN CHURCH REPORT

This year we have managed to keep the church open to the public most days although we have still had some damage caused by young people coming in and using it as a playground. Two plastic chairs in the children's corner have been broken and some of the toys destroyed. The local Police Officers regularly patrol around the church and often come into the church to show a presence during school holidays and weekends when most damage is done.

We have had a lot of visitors over the year and many have written in our visitors book. We have also received donations for our Organ Fund since launching our appeal in October as many members of the community have come into church scanned the QR code to make a donation towards the Organ Refurbishment. When the church is closed we do lose quite a lot of money, so if you are passing through the Churchyard you might like to drop into church for a few minutes just to be a presence which may deter any young people from coming in and running around. We have also placed a small bookcase inside the porch with books on that anyone is welcome to take and read, this has proved very popular and many people are now using this facility. *RUTH HANN*

DISABILITY AND CHURCH INCLUSION GROUP REPORT

Those who remember our former curate, Holly Newton, will know that she opened up the subject of disability and church inclusion for us, with the research and learning she did on the subject while she was with us.

Following a presentation to us in February 2025, a small group was formed to take forward some of the matters raised. We used the resource handbook which she left us, as a guide. Since then, four of us have been meeting quarterly to consider how we may make our church buildings, events and services more accessible for people with a wide range of different needs and abilities. We have put together the following mission statement: We are committed to improving the accessibility and inclusiveness of all our Church services and events so that as many as possible feel they belong.

We have been reviewing the information we put out to our many visitors and new people, in print as well as on our website. We are in the process of revising our orders of services, our welcome cards and a suggestion box to encourage people to let us know what they are concerned about. Please have a look at this at All Saints, in the south aisle, and let us have your ideas. We will consider them at our next meeting.

We would like to have a disability audit done at some point, but this would be a big task and at the moment, there isn't a disability officer for the Diocese who could help us. At the moment, we are taking small steps and hope that others may want to come and join us. *REVD REBECCA HARRIS*

WESTBURY PRAYER NETWORK REPORT

We have nine members this year and have had fewer requests than usual, but it has been good to be able to support people with various needs. If you have any requests for people relating to family needs or other situations, we would be pleased to pray for and with you. Everything will be treated as confidential, unless we have your permissions to mention items in our church prayers. Please contact me with requests or for information on 01373 827912. If you would like to join us we would be very pleased to welcome you. *DAVID HART*

FIRST STEPS TO WORSHIP REPORT

First Steps continues supporting and entertaining carers and pre school children each Wednesday morning in term time. This year we will celebrate our 36th Birthday in May. Although a small group we regularly have 8 or 9 children and their carers. I would like to thank Jean and Peter Jane and Hilary Price for their continued support. It is much appreciated. *SHARON JONES*

LITTLE LIGHTS STAY AND PLAY REPORT

Little Lights Stay and Play has enjoyed a successful year in 2025:

Attendance: An average of 12 families attended the sessions in 2025 which is consistent with the 2024 figure. The group has a good core of regular families but towards the end of 2025 there was a slight decrease in new families coming onboard. This may be due to financial constraints or the increase in free nursery hours available to families. The quieter sessions over the Autumn term, largely attended by regular families, generated a relaxed, friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Finances: Weekly donations from families (£1.50 per session) and fundraising are currently covering the group's expenses. The group continues to run the 'Toy Exchange' at the weekly sessions, attend occasional Table Top Sales and sell donated items on Facebook Marketplace. Over £100 was raised by selling pre-loved toys, books and games at the 2025 TractorFest Summer Fair at All Saints' Church and the group would greatly appreciate this opportunity in 2026.

Staffing: Many thanks are extended to all of the group's volunteers for offering their time and for completing/renewing their safeguarding training to be eligible to attend sessions.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining the team please get in touch with Judith Newton on 07787 830390 or judenewton14@gmail.com.

JUDITH NEWTON

FRIDAY NIGHT FUN YOUTH CLUB REPORT

The Friday Night Fun Youth Club met on 45 occasions in 2025. It continues to be partnership between Westbury PCC who provide funds, space and volunteer support and 4Youth (SouthWest) who provide two youth workers to support the sessions. 4Youth take on the safeguarding responsibilities and maintain records of members and sessions. During 2025 the Club has increased numbers to its capacity of 30 young people most weeks. We have several young people who have been with us for 2 or 3 years. As they grow up they are less interested in activities such as crafting and more interested in spending time with their friends, listening to music and relaxing at the end of the week. Any activity related to food is popular with 'pitta pizza' where they create their own mini pizza using a pitta bread base and 'pick and mix pasta' where they can add their own toppings to a simple bowl of pasta.

Expenditure is mainly on the two members of staff, snacks and activity costs. During 2025 the club has started to pay a hire charge for the use of the Parish Hall each week. The Hall is running at a loss and so the PCC can no longer afford to subsidise the club in this way.

We are very grateful to those who have generously funded the Club over the last 18 months: National Lottery Community Fund, Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Community Foundation, and Westbury Town Council. Their generosity has meant that we have been able to continue to provide this important service for the young people of Westbury. Our thanks go to the 4 volunteers who attend on most Fridays.

We are very keen to welcome more to join us in supporting this very worthwhile outreach project.

BETH THOMAS

TEA, CAKE AND COMPANY

Tea, Cake and Company continues to be a valuable opportunity for people to meet for conversation and support. Monthly meetings took place in 2025 from February to November with an average of 22 people attending, largely from the Westbury Area Churches Together congregations. In 2025 a total of £219.75 was collected in donations at Tea, Cake and Company and this has been paid into church funds. An additional gathering took place in early May 2025 to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. There were 32 attendees at this event and £105.50 was raised and donated to the Royal British Legion. Many thanks to the volunteers who have baked cakes and contributed to setting up the venue and serving at the monthly meetings.

If you, or someone you know, would like to join the team of volunteers please contact Debbie McEntee 01373 865722 or Judith Newton 07787 830390. Please continue to spread the word!

JUDITH NEWTON

FUNDRAISING

General Fundraising - During 2025 members of the congregation were individually contacted and encouraged to review or start regular giving. Regular contributions make it easier to plan and maintain cash flow. We continue to see a shortfall in our giving and the PCC will continue to encourage members to make a meaningful contribution in order to make Jesus known in Westbury.

To help support our general funds the following fundraising activities took place during 2025:

Summer Fair

Refreshments for Westbury Festival

Christmas Tree Festival

Tower Tours

Christmas Raffle

Gift Day

£6019 (£5416 in 2025) was raised through these activities. The funds raised at these events contributed to maintaining the life and work of the church. They also provided an opportunity to provide hospitality and welcome to all.

Specific Campaigns - The church organ requires substantial repair work and a campaign to raise the funds was begun in 2025 and is continuing into 2026. Work is expected to take place over the summer of 2026.

Our thanks go to all those who help to make our fundraising activities possible by providing their time and support.

BETH THOMAS

PARISH HALL REDEVELOPMENT REPORT

During 2025 there has been progress in moving plans forward for the Parish Hall. We now have a lively community led group ably guided by a new Chair, Joanne Heafield.

The group are awaiting the result of their application to the Charity Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation called the White Horse Community Hub. Once this is complete, they will be able to take on a lease of the Hall. This will enable them to take on its management and fundraise in earnest. They have already made a difference with works to improve the condition of the Hall while they further develop their plans.

They have also held a number of community drop in events to engage with more people and recruit more supporters. Please give them all your support as they move forward. It is hoped that the new CIO will take on the lease in 2027.

BETH THOMAS

CAFE CHURCH

Café Church has continued to thrive as a Christian community, which celebrated its 10th birthday this year. It is a team Ministry bringing people together from All Saints, Holy Saviour, Dilton March and the wider community.

Highlights:

- 1) 10TH Birthday celebration – 7 of us were sent out by the Team to start this missiological work in February 2016 These 10 years have seen numbers ebb and flow but always numbers have stayed the same with some people leaving and others joining
- 2) We now give half of our collection to the Sudan Link
- 3) The continued successful implementation of the Zoom link – People have joined us on holiday in Europe as well as locally. In covid we were able to serve the wider team by taking our turn on the weekly service rota We have also provided a place for people from other denominations to worship when their own church is not meeting
- 4) We have a community of 15- 20 strong
- 5) Several members participated in the Carols in the Pub at The Hollies joining the locals celebrating the message of Christmas
- 6) Carols in the pub had over 65 people join in the singing with music supplied by members of the Bratton Silver Band

Plans for the coming year:

- 1) Develop links with the wider community to grow Café Church
- 2) Review worship styles to reflect different ways of learning and make the gospel more accessible
- 3) Ask other leaders inside and outside the local church to lead café church
- 4) To develop closer links with the school community

Most of all be a sign of Christ to the wider community We extend a welcome to all members of the Team to join us and see what we do.

ASHLEY JONES

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The festival took place on the first weekend of December and coincided with the Town's Christmas Tree Light switch on. Over the three days over 1600 people visited the Church and nearly £3000 was raised for Church Funds.

The usual Friday evening formal occasion was supported by pupils from all the Westbury Church Schools who entertained us with readings, songs and Christmas Carols played on brass instruments. ALW dancers of all ages showed off their coordination and movement skills. After the entertainment the new Headteacher at Westbury Junior School, Lindsay Clough turned on the Church Christmas Tree lights. On the Saturday and Sunday musical entertainment was provided by assorted local musical groups and John Knapp's Fairground Organ.

As usual it was clear that a long time had been spent preparing items to decorate the trees- 48 this year. Again, much praise for the excellent standard was shown by all the visitors. After many years of trying, 1st Westbury Scout group managed to win the prize for the best decorated tree.

The committee wishes to thank all the businesses, schools, clubs and other groups who participated this year by sponsoring a tree, providing a raffle prize, allowed us advertising space or just turned up on the days to help with the in-Church arrangements.

It is proposed that the 2026 Festival will take place over the last weekend in November, but this will be confirmed nearer the time. Thank you again to anybody who was in anyway involved in making the 2025 festival such a success.

DAVID BULLOCK – CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE