



# **ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, LITTLETON**



**DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER**

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES  
BY THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

**RECTOR: REVD KEVIN ROGERS (from March 2024)**

**CHURCHWARDEN: SIMON KINGSTON**

# ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH LITTLETON

## ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 2024

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Context

St Catherine's Church, Littleton, sits within the Downs Benefice, which was created in 2008 and comprises St Catherine's Littleton, St Stephen's Sparsholt with Lainston, St Mary's Crawley, St Mary-the-less Chilbolton and St Peter and Holy Cross Wherwell. The Downs Benefice lies within the Andover Deanery.

In March we welcomed our new Incumbent, Revd Kevin Rogers who, with his wife Lorna, has quickly become part of the community in Littleton and has led the Benefice competently and enthusiastically since his licensing by the Bishop of Winchester in St Stephen's. Throughout the end of the interregnum and the rest of the year we were also blessed with support from clergy provided by the Diocesan Registry and our own ministry team comprising retired clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and other lay leaders.

The five Parochial Councils and Benefice Council continue to be supported by the benefice administrator and a vast host of others, who each make a valuable contribution to the work of God in this place.

*Simon Kingston  
Churchwarden*

### 1.2 Representatives

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent:	The Revd Kevin Rogers (from March)
Wardens:	Mr Simon Kingston
Representative on Diocesan Synod:	Dr Michael Coleman <i>Secretary</i>
Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mr Clive Thompsett <i>Treasurer</i> (from APCM) 2 unfilled vacancies
Elected Members:	Mrs Carol Coleman Mr John Morrell Mrs Peggy Ormston Dr Carol Ward Mrs Kate Carslaw Mrs Molly Adamson (from APCM)

*Michael Coleman  
PCC Secretary*

### 1.3 Explanation of Strategic Priorities

The following strategic priorities were identified by the Diocese in 2013 and mission action plans (MAPs) have subsequently been formulated to focus on these priorities by the Deanery (dMAP) and through the Deanery by individual benefices (bMAPs) and parishes (pMAPs). The strategic priorities have not changed, but the Downs Benefice Council has periodically reviewed the current bMAP to chart progress and to refine the objectives by reference to the individual parishes. As in previous years, this Annual Review has been laid out in sections by reference to each of the 4 strategic priorities.

#### Strategic Priority 1 - Discipleship

We grow authentic disciples going out as individuals passionately, confidently and courageously sharing our faith, and coming together as creative church communities of prayer and worship that live out kingdom values.

- *dMAP Objective:* To train, resource, and motivate people more readily to live out their faith.

#### Strategic Priority 2 - Re-imagining the Church

We re-imagine the Church intentionally connecting and engaging with our local communities in culturally relevant ways. We will rejoice in the richness of the “mixed economy” of all ministry and proactively promote vibrant parochial and breathtaking pioneering ministries amongst ‘missing’ generations, eg children, young people, under 35s.

- *dMAP Objective:* To actively engage with young families, children and youth, especially in schools.

#### Strategic Priority 3 - Working for Social Transformation

We are agents of social transformation using our influence as a Diocese to transform public and personal life. We will demonstrate loving faith at work in local communities and across the globe, bringing healing, restoration and reconciliation eg through education, social enterprise, health care, spiritual care teams.

- *dMAP objective:* To develop a Pastoral Care Ministry which will transform lives in our local communities.

#### Strategic Priority 4 - Sacrificial Giving and Good Stewardship

We belong together in Christ, practising sacrificial giving and good stewardship of all that God has entrusted to us. We will combine radical generosity, care and capacity building with a clear focus on directing finance into the mission of Jesus. Sharing and multiplying local good practice, using people, buildings and other resources wisely, we will seek to prune, plant and invest boldly in building for the Kingdom.

- *dMAP objective:* To continue developing a more unified Deanery identity, sharing our resources more eagerly.

**Revd Kevin instituted a strategic review of the Benefice in September 2024 with the object of discerning, planning and then implementing strategic priorities during 2025 and the next few years**

*Simon Kingston  
Lay Chair*

## 2. STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

### 2.1 Church Membership

At 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023, there were 129 persons reported as being on the electoral roll of whom 84 (65%) lived within the parish and 45 (35%) lived outside the parish.

At 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024, there were 124 persons on the electoral roll of whom 77 (62%) lived within the parish and 47 (38%) lived outside the parish.

*Bryan Harris*  
*Electoral Roll Officer*

### 2.2 Ministry Team

Revd Kevin Rogers has ably led the ministry team since his Licensing in March 2024. We have been fortunate to have the continued assistance of Canon Bruce Kington to take some services for us. We have also had assistance from outside the parish from several priests, some of whom have become regular officiants within the Benefice.

Our Licensed Lay Ministers Alan Disher and Charlotte Nash, continued to contribute to and support the ministry team joined by lay leaders Carol Coleman (Littleton), Alastair Barron (Sparsholt), Andrew Kent (Chilbolton) and Sally Wesley (Sparsholt). They all took on additional duties during Revd Jax's incapacity and the subsequent interregnum and we owe them a great debt of gratitude, not only for their hard work but also for the enriching diversity of worship we were privileged to enjoy during the year.

*Simon Kingston*  
*Churchwarden*

### 2.3 Services

#### Church Services and Attendance

The pattern of services for the Benefice, agreed in the autumn of 2021, has continued to be operated throughout 2024. Littleton's services are

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	4 pm	Café Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	10 am	Family Communion
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	6 pm	Peace and Wholeness
4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday	10 am	Communion
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10 am	Morning Worship
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10 am	Benefice service around the Benefice

*Clive Thompsett*  
*PCC member*

## Café Church

Café Church takes place at 4pm on the first Sunday of each month. We meet in Littleton Church Room for worship, study, singing and fellowship, accompanied by a wide array of cakes and biscuits generously donated by our members.

In 2024 we considered a variety of themes, from “An unexpected encounter with Rahab”, to being “An adopted child of God”, and from how we can offer “Sanctuary”, to how to be “In the world, but not of the world”. Our most popular service was “Meet the Rector”, when over 40 people came to hear Kevin’s story so far, and how he and Lorna came to join us in the Downs Benefice.

For details of future services please visit our Facebook page (Littleton Café Church) or look out for notices in Across the Downs.

*Carol Coleman*  
*Café Church leader*

## Peace and Wholeness

Peace and Wholeness is an informal service of healing, which comprises three songs/hymns, a reading, a reflection and prayers, culminating with the laying on of hands. The New Testament records many times when Jesus healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life through laying His hands upon them. This service aims to carry on this ministry, drawing on the power of Jesus. The reflection is sometimes offered by a guest speaker. In 2024 we were pleased to welcome Alastair Barron and Charlotte Nash. The laying on of hands is by two people, one of whom is usually the speaker. During this part of the service members of the congregation are invited to come forward to the altar rail but there is no obligation to do so. The service takes place on every third Sunday at 6pm and lasts for about 50 minutes, with an average attendance in 2024 of around 20.

## 2.4 Deanery Synod

The synod had three routine meetings in 2024. These meetings provide an opportunity for sharing of perspectives from across the Deanery on a range of topics. Areas of particular focus this year have included Stewardship, Lay Ministry, and continued discussions on the potential for links with the church in Burundi.

An additional meeting focussing on Creation Care was held jointly with Whitchurch Deanery

*Michael Coleman*  
*Diocesan Synod Representative*

## 2.5 Prayer

**The Benefice Prayer List** is produced monthly and is used in the weekly afternoon Prayer meeting held in the Church Room. Copies are available at the back of the church to anyone wishing to use it in their own intercessions. Please contact Carol Ward for electronic copy on [carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk](mailto:carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk).

A **short service of prayer** is held in the church room each Thursday afternoon and is based on the Evening Prayers for Healing liturgy, a psalm and the Prayer List. A list is produced each week of people who have asked to be prayed for and these names are included in the service. Everyone is welcome and in 2024 there were nine attendees.

For information about the Prayer List or the Thursday service, please contact David Targett on [dandtargetto@gmail.com](mailto:dandtargetto@gmail.com) or Carol Ward (as above).

The **Prayer Chain** is a means by which prayers may be offered immediately in response to a critical situation. This confidential chain of prayer, which offers support in times of urgent need, can be activated by contacting the Benefice office.

The **Julian Meeting** takes place at 4pm every Friday. A prayer or reading is followed by 30 minutes of silent meditation. Tea and biscuits are served afterwards. We generally finish by 5.30pm. For further details please contact Sheila Trussler on 01962 881089.

## 2.6 Music

During 2024 the Church Choir continued to sing at the Monthly Communion Services at St Catherine's, endeavouring to sing an Anthem at these Services. The Choir also aimed to support the Congregation at other Services. The Choir is available to sing, when requested, at Weddings and Funerals, and can also be available to sing at Wedding and Funeral Services at the other Benefice Churches.

Throughout the year, Services at St Catherine's have had the benefit of organ music played by Tim Rogerson, Harry Halliwell, and Deirdre Wratten together with occasional help from Anthony Burns Cox and Richard Morse.

In December, the Annual Carol Service was held and the Choir welcomed assistance from former Choir member, Lydia Morrell. As in previous years the Carol Service was enhanced by the music played by our organist, Tim Rogerson, who also prepared the format of the Service.

Our Choir, and Organists aim to continue to provide music for the regular Services at St Catherine's.

*John Morrell*



### **3. STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2**

#### **3.1 Littleton Church Toddler Group**

This group meets in the Church Room every Monday morning during term-time, and is open to all babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their carers from across the Benefice and beyond. A total of 44 families attended at least one session in 2024, with a weekly attendance of between 3 and 14 families.

Each session starts with free play and a craft based on a Bible story. Snack time is followed by the Bible story, and rounded off with singing, accompanied by our wide range of percussion instruments. Our topics for 2024 included the parables of Jesus, Joseph and his brothers, and Moses. The resulting crafts are displayed throughout the year on our board in the Church Room - anything involving paint or glue is particularly popular!

At Easter, Harvest and Christmas we hold a celebration in the Church. Our Christmas Celebration included a 'scratch' Nativity, with Mary enthusiastically riding the 'donkey' up and down the aisle!

For more information on the group, please visit our Facebook page: Littleton Toddler Group, or email [carolcoleman123@hotmail.com](mailto:carolcoleman123@hotmail.com).

*Carol Coleman  
Children's Work Coordinator.*

#### **3.2 Children's Work**

In addition to Toddler Group, the main focus for children's work at St Catherine's is our popular Posada. Mary, Joseph and their entourage were delighted to be able to carry out their usual tour of the village, visiting 15 families and the three local nursing homes. We welcomed them back into Church at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, an occasion which once again saw the building full of young (and not so young!) families, retelling the Christmas story.

The collection at the Posada Service at the beginning of December, together with donations that came in as it progressed round the village, totalled £655, plus Gift Aid. This goes to Toybox, a charity which works with street children around the world, and brings the amount we have collected over the years to over £8,700.

*Carol Coleman  
Children's Work Coordinator*



### 3.3 Social and Fundraising Events

The fund-raising committee were able to organise some fundraising events during the year. Not only are they a valuable source of income for the church, but, importantly, they do form a key part of the church's outreach into the community. Feedback indicates that they are enjoyed and the opportunity for getting together socially, is appreciated.

	£ 2024
	Net
Autumn Bazaar	1150
Car Boot Sale	560
Safari Supper	685
	<b>£2,385</b>

A special thanks to Carol Ward who organised all three events .

*Clive Thompsett*  
*PCC Member*

### 3.4 Littleton and Harestock Show

As a church, we place great importance on having a presence at the Show, as it is a wonderful opportunity to engage with our wider community. This year we offered bracelet making with Kumihimo braiding (a skill picked up at the Karis Kids Summer Camp – see section 4.3), as well as inviting visitors to comment on what deterred them from attending the local church, and how it could become more relevant, to aid us in our future planning.

A fun time was had, and many interesting conversations entered into, and connections made.

*Carol Coleman*  
*PCC Member*

## 4. STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

### 4.1 Parish Visitors

Parish Visitors have been faithfully delivering pastoral care to people in their respective local village communities across the Benefice in accordance with our Pastoral Care Policy and Procedure. The Parish Visitors are Lesley Kent, Charlotte Nash, Colin Sheath, Carol Ward, Clive Thompsett, Alastair Barron and Susan Ansell. All have valid DBS clearances and are continually attending to the required Safeguarding training and procedures. This care has included, amongst other things prayer, visiting people in their homes, accompanying them to appointments, running errands, doing odd jobs, arranging further support as requested, and telephone/text calls to keep in touch.

These Parish Visitors and their ministries are an indispensable part of the life and witness of the respective Parish Churches. A huge shout out to each and every one for all they invest into the kingdom of God in this way. There is also an army of people who are not Parish Visitors but form part of our worshipping community, and others who are sympathetic to the witness of their Parish Church, who by virtue of who they are, care for their neighbours in many and varied ways.

A meeting has taken place to consolidate the work and plan a way forward to ensure the ministry, and the people exercising this ministry, can flourish.

*Revd Kevin Rogers  
Rector, The Downs Benefice*

### 4.2 Mission Support Group

Due to various circumstances, the Mission Support Group has suspended meeting in person for now, but continues to share news from, and to pray for, our Mission contacts, including these mission links in the Benefice weekly prayers on a Thursday afternoon.

Our Mission links include: Ben and Esther Brown, serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in Arnhem Land, northern Australia, and Chris and Kesia Pain working for OMF in Japan. We were delighted to welcome Ben and his mother to a 'Tea and Cakes' get-together in the Church Room just after Christmas, where we heard an update from Ben about family life and their work in Arnhem Land, just prior to the family's return after home assignment. A small number of us also met up with Chris and Kesia at a service in Bishops Waltham towards the end of the summer, whilst they were in the UK.

St Catherine's has had longstanding interest in CMS' partnership with the Diocese of Northern Argentina and, we continue our prayer and financial support linking with one of the indigenous Bishops, Crisanto Rojas, together with upholding the work of the

Brickworks, supporting projects in South Sudan, and Karis Kids, working with families in the slum area of Okuvu, Kampala, (see below for more details).

The Mission Support group produces a bimonthly prayer dairy, which also includes prayer for the work of Tearfund, Open Doors and local Winchester organisations supporting those in particular times of need (Trinity Winchester, Basics Bank, Winchester Beacon, Street Pastors, Winchester City Chaplains).

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to join our small support group or who would like to receive the prayer diary. Contact Carol Ward ([carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk](mailto:carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk)).

*Carol Ward  
PCC Member*

### **4.3 Karis Kids**

Since 2012, The Downs Benefice has been linked with St Paul's, Okuvu, Kampala through the Karis Kids charity. Individuals and families across the Benefice support 9 families living in the slums, providing money for education, healthcare and basic food and household goods, and developing relationships through the exchange of letters, videos and small gifts. St Catherine's Church also donates money each year to the central Benefice fund which provides additional support as required.

During 2024, Michael and Carol Coleman were fortunate enough to travel out to Kampala to take part in a service at St Paul's, and to join the team running the biennial Summer Camp. Much fun was had learning how to be "In the world, but not of the world" (the camp theme), with Bible teaching and discussions, as well as crafts, sports, and much singing and dancing!

At Christmas, we were delighted to hear confirmation that one of our families had "Finished Well", with the children having completed their education and training, and secured employment, and the family now being in a position to leave the slums and return to their home village to start a new life.

If you would like to know more about Karis Kids, and maybe become involved with supporting a family, or giving a one-off donation, please contact me:  
[carolcoleman123@hotmail.com](mailto:carolcoleman123@hotmail.com).

*Carol Coleman  
Karis Kids Co-ordinator for the Downs Benefice.*

#### **4.4 Littleton Luncheon Club**

The Littleton First Friday Lunch Club continues to meet in the Littleton Church Room and is enthusiastically attended by its members. All of the members are very appreciative of the wonderful meals cooked and provided by a team of approximately a dozen volunteers, each cooking one dish twice a year. There are also seven or eight people who regularly assist in the church room with laying tables, serving and washing up, and several drivers who collect and bring members to the club. New volunteers would be most welcome. In particular Deirdre Wratten is in need of help with the monthly information list which needs to be sent out to all volunteers on email.

Thank you very much to all of those who support this monthly Lunch Club.

*Deirdre Wratten.*

#### **4.5 Home Communion and Care Home Communion**

Four people are licensed to take Holy Communion to the house bound. These are Charlotte Nash, Lucy Kington, Alastair Barron, and Susan Ansell. They work according to Pastoral Care Policy and Procedure and the Lone Working Policy. All have valid DBS clearances and are continually attending to the required Safeguarding training and procedures. Often, people receiving Holy Communion invite neighbours, family and friends to join them.

We have three local care homes, namely Flowerdown, Westholme, and Winchester Heights. Regular Care Home Communion is provided by myself, Charlotte Nash, Alastair Barron and Andrew Kent, in the context of a service suitable to the Care Home Residents. Care Home Staff are in attendance and this ministry is wonderfully supported by Deirdre Wratten and Sylvia Arnold, who provide the musical accompaniment via a keyboard. There is also a support team of Shirley Lupton, Valerie Sangwine and Sarah Flood who support and enable the Care Home Residents to engage with the service.

Supporting both the Home Communion and the Care Home Communion is Caroline McAulay in the office who makes sure that the Care Home services have leaders, all the consumables are replenished, and the equipment is ready to go. Caroline is also our point of call to ensure the safety of those engaged in this ministry.

*Revd Kevin Rogers  
Rector, The Downs Benefice*

## 4.6 Safeguarding

A Parish Safeguarding Policy has been formulated; it is a statement of what the parish is doing to keep children and vulnerable adults safe, and the mechanism by which they will respond to any concerns raised. Each PCC in the Benefice has its own designated Safeguarding Officer, details of whom can be found displayed in the porch of each respective parish church. Safeguarding Officers report directly and in confidence to the Rector. Safeguarding is a compulsory item raised at each PCC meeting to ascertain any additional concerns. The Safeguarding Policy document is to be considered for revision annually prior to the APCM.

DBS clearance is sought for any individuals deemed to be working with children and vulnerable adults. All PCC members, Church leaders, employed staff and most volunteers are now required to take various courses providing safeguarding information and training and to have their respective roles defined and formalised. Safeguarding is, however, the concern and responsibility of us all.

If you have any concerns relating to safeguarding issues, please raise these with the relevant parish Safeguarding Officer or, in an emergency, please contact the Rector.

*Kate Carslaw*  
*Parish Safeguarding Officer*

## 5. STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

### 5.1 Finance

It serves no purpose for this report to duplicate the full financial report, which is circulated separately. However, three points need emphasising.

- a. The church had a surplus of £558 this year, which is 0.6% of income. We aim to make a surplus, and in 2022 we did so with a surplus of £651. but 2023 was a deficit of £249. We are in a healthy position and this is only achieved because of the generosity of our Planned Givers and the consequent tax rebate generated. Parishioners and HMRC contributed £63,850 in 2024 and this is 79% of our income. Thank you for continuing to support the church so generously.
- b. The PCC spent £4,832 on three projects in 2024, made possible by the generosity of parishioners who left legacies in their wills in favour of the church. We have been very fortunate to have been recipients of such generosity.

	£
ECO Church	687
Income enhancement	2000
Yew Tree crown lifting & hedge reduction in height	2145
	<b>£4,832</b>

These are all worthwhile and needed projects which would not have been affordable without legacies. Thank you to the benefactors and to those in the community who have already included a legacy within their wills. Perhaps this is something others may wish to consider.

- c. St Catherine's reserves are healthy and as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 are

	£
<b>Unrestricted</b>	82,012
<b>Designated</b>	
Anna Chaplaincy	59,516
ECO Church	2,429
Church and Church room Fabric	10,000
Churchyard	4,469
Income enhancement	8,000
<b>Restricted</b>	
Church room	2,602
Flowers	88
	<b>£169,116</b>

*Clive Thompsett*  
PCC treasurer

## 5.2 Volunteers

We were well blessed with volunteers in 2024 but, sadly, several have indicated they will not be available after March 2025. These divide into two parts.

- a) There are 18 jobs that need to be filled each year to ensure a smooth-running routine. The volunteers for the church-year 2024/25 were as shown in the following table. Volunteers to fill these positions will be sought each Spring for endorsement at the APCM.

<b>Number</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Agreed to serve for Church year 2024/2025</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Bryan Harris
<b>11</b>	<b>Terrier, faculties &amp; insurance</b>	Simon Kingston
<b>12</b>	<b>Maintenance of church &amp; church room, Quinquennial, etc.</b>	John Maskill
<b>13</b>	<b>Church room management</b>	Barbara Kingston
<b>14</b>	<b>Gift Aid Secretary</b>	John Morrell
<b>15</b>	<b>Allocation and mapping of burial plots</b>	Eryl Thompsett
<b>16</b>	<b>Banns &amp; Wedding registers.</b>	Barbara Kingston
<b>17</b>	<b>Link with Baptism families</b>	Louise Williams
<b>18</b>	<b>Verger for Funeral services</b>	Whomever is available
<b>19</b>	<b>Children / Youth Co-ordinators</b>	Carol Ward & Carol Coleman
<b>20</b>	<b>Link with Sunrise</b>	Vacant
<b>21</b>	<b>Link with Flowerdown</b>	Vacant
<b>22</b>	<b>Road Links co-ordinator</b>	Alison Philp
<b>23</b>	<b>Mission Group</b>	Carol Ward, Christine & Alan Disher and Hilary Shaw
<b>24</b>	<b>Magazine Distribution co-ordinator</b>	Barbara Kingston and Diana Briggs
<b>25</b>	<b>Organisers for First-Friday Lunch Club</b>	Deirdre Wratten and John Maskill
<b>26</b>	<b>Churchyard Maintenance</b>	Clive Thompsett & Ian Muir plus Tony North, Dave Retter, Chris Stevens, Ian Stuart, Malcolm Hand, Henry Howell and David Briggs
<b>27</b>	<b>Events Team</b>	Carol Ward, & Clive Thompsett



b) The system for supporting the parish's services and outreach, introduced in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021 has worked well throughout 2024. It has worked efficiently, and we continue to have enough volunteers.

*For services* this covers service administration, welcoming, lesson reading, flowers and coffee.

*For cleaning* this covers Church, church room and brass. (we need more church cleaners)

*For outreach*, we have cover for Care Home support, Lunch Club and help with fund-raising events

The PCC is indebted to **all** of our volunteers; without them we would not be able to sustain our regular church services nor our many and varied outreach projects. **If any reader is inspired by these words and wishes to volunteer in any capacity, please contact me.**

*Clive Thompsett  
PCC member*

### 5.3 Church Fabric

The church building is generally in a good state of repair, and the log book and terrier are up to date.

In July 2020 the required quinquennial inspection was carried out by the appointed architect, Duncan McKellar. The subsequent formal report noted that 'the church was well-maintained at every level' with no significant items requiring immediate attention. Various items highlighted in the report were carried out in 2021. Repairs to the stained glass and upgrading the lights was carried out in 2022. Routine inspection and maintenance work was carried out during 2023 and 2024.

The next quinquennial inspection is due to be carried out in 2025.

*Simon Kingston  
Churchwarden*

### 5.4 Churchyards

The churchyards continue to be well maintained. We held our annual clear-up with 35 helpers. This year the weather was fine and we all enjoyed an excellent ploughman's lunch provided by 5 more volunteers.

Throughout the year a rota of people who can operate strimmers keep the area tidy and, in the autumn, there is a need to collect and dispose of the huge volume of leaves. Ian Muir again assembled volunteers for regular leaf-blowing sessions to ensure that the leaves are kept under control, and all were cleared by early December leaving the whole area tidy for Christmas and the winter.

Ian Muir has also led a team who are systematically repairing graves with damaged stonework. Stunning results.

During the year the crown was lifted on the yew tree situated next to the church. In addition, the hedge between our two northern churchyard had its height lowered by 30 inches; this will enable the top to be cut without using ‘precarious ‘ steps.

The way the churchyard and wildflower meadow are maintained continues to be really appreciated by all those who have loved ones buried at Littleton and thanks are expressed to all who have helped.

*Clive Thompsett*  
*PCC member*

**5.5 The Church Room**

Our faithful regular groups such as the Art Group, Toddlers, the Prayer Group and the First Friday Lunch Club continued throughout the year. In addition, the Room hosted meetings of the PCC and the Parish Magazine committee, as well as some Benefice meetings and presentations, including a couple of First Aid courses. The monthly Café Church services have continued, as has the post-Sunday service coffee. The very early Ascension Day breakfast, and lunch following the annual churchyard clear-up were repeated and the Patronal Festival lunch was also greatly enjoyed by those who attended.

The Autumn Bazaar again took place in October and, oh yes they did, the Eve of Eve Panto troupe returned for their rehearsals at the end of the year!

The Room witnessed a handful of private and family events in 2024, but could easily cope with an increase in this kind of use. The room has capacity for up to 48 people seated at tables or 56 without tables. If you think that it might be able to accommodate a gathering or meeting you are arranging, please contact me and I will be happy to show you the facilities.

*Barbara Kingston*

.....

Simon Kingston

Church Warden

On behalf of the PCC

Date: ..... 2025

.....

Clive Thompsett

Treasurer

On behalf of the PCC

Date: ..... 2025