

ALL SAINTS HACHESTON ANNUAL REPORT

People

In May at the APCM John Bradfield was elected as church warden; Graeme Hall as Vice Chairman and Michael Dawe as Secretary/Treasurer. Hazel Woodard stood down from the PCC and gave up her role as electoral roll officer.

As last year, although Kaye and Michael Dawe no longer live in the village, they nevertheless continue to assist with the day to day running and maintenance of the church and will continue to do so until successors can be found.

The management of the churchyard is undertaken by Kaye Dawe, Michael Dawe and Chris White.

Services

As at the end of 2023, due the ever-diminishing congregational numbers and lack of people willing to stand as church officers, it was proposed at the APCM that All Saints becomes a Festival Church to which, in July, Bishop Martin gave his agreement.

We are now holding only six services a year and so far we have celebrated a Holy Communion service on Ash Wednesday, a Celebration of Saints service in November, a Carol service in December which was very well attended, a service for St Valentine's Day and a service on Palm Sunday which was split between the village hall and the church.

Additionally, there were two funeral services (Kay Brett, Jean Kelsall) and a Thanksgiving service for the life of Helen Brookes. Rev'd Ann also led a funeral service for Pru Harrison at Ipswich crematorium.

Other Activities

On Saturday September 28th after having previously leafletted the village, we held a well-attended "Discover your Church" day when there were exhibitions, floral displays, bell ringing, photographic displays of past activities, and background organ music provided by Tina Morford and Geoff Lavery.

In September we began our once-monthly 'Big Breakfast' on the last Saturday of the month in the village hall. This is offered free of charge and has been a growing success. We now regularly serve between forty and fifty people.