

**Annual Report of St Barnabas Church, Great Tey for the year ended 31 December 2023**

On behalf of my co-churchwarden Chris Percival and I, we are pleased give the following report. Just in case there are some PCC members who have not been to the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) for our Parish before and for the rest of us a reminder of the Aims, Membership and Church Attendance, before I give our Review of the Year.

**Aims.** The purpose of the PCC is to work closely with our Rector in growing and developing the mission of Worship and Care in our Christian Community here in our Parish, as well as in our Benefice, Deanery and Diocese.

**Membership.** Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the APCM or co-opted. The members who served in 2023 are stated on page 1.

**Church Attendance.** There are 41 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 32 of whom are resident within the Parish and 9 non-resident. The average Sunday attendance in 2023 was 25.

**Review of the year.** We continue to benefit from the great input given to us by our Rector Ian Scott -Thompson and his wife Jane. Last June, Ian celebrated 40 years since he was ordained - congratulations. Jane S-T has been the driving force in starting 'Open the Book' the Bible Story activity for our Primary School with a number of us in the congregation helping - a big thank you all round. In May we celebrated the Coronation of their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Our Bishop of Chelmsford Bishop Guli gave Holy Communion to their Majesties during the Service. There are still a few of us in the Parish who remember the late Queen Elizabeth's Coronation over 70 years ago!

Our Church services continue to attract slightly increasing numbers, although, it would be lovely to have more children and teenagers attending.

We continue to expand our activities out in the Village and Benefice Communities. In large measure aided by the initiatives and energies of Ann Bartleet and her many helpers. These include the ever popular 'Pop up Teas' in July, Church Heritage Day, Harvest Supper and the Kelvedon Singers coming to St Barnabas Church. Other events such as the Church Fete and Carols outside the Chequers appear to be as popular as ever. Most important is the Community outreach of the Church, however, the boost to Fundraising is key, with which our very hardworking Treasurer Richard Bareham agrees. Thank you so much Richard, also, for all your finance and fabric guidance and keeping our accounts so meticulously - much appreciated by us all.

Our Ringers continue to ring for every Church service we have in Great Tey and their efforts in encouraging new ringers especially the young and a new generation of ringers are wonderful. The Bells of Great Tey are more widely recognised by the ringing community than for many years - well done the ringers, your efforts are much appreciated.

Chris Percival and I would particularly like to acknowledge the huge contribution made by others (apart from those people already mentioned) especially Jane Pearson our Secretary, Valerie Bartlett for leading many of our Services and encouraging the Choir and of course Mary Dyer for every aspect all that she does in and for our Church. Peter Wakeling our Safeguarding Officer is establishing himself in this new role. Martin and Deb Ives have added a lively contribution to the preaching and reading in our services, as have the other readers. We are always aiming to expand the numbers of people contributing in key roles in our services - we need you. Please forgive us if we have omitted to thank anyone else who has helped us throughout 2023.

Chris Percival and John Carr, Churchwardens. 20th March 2024