

AGM Report 2014

Background

The PCC is responsible for supporting the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church – pastoral, social and ecumenical. It is responsible for the maintenance of St. Mary's Church and churchyard, Chilcombe Church, the burial ground in Shipton Lane and the boundary walls of the Rectory.

PCC Membership

The following served on the PCC during the year, either ex-officio or following election in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Ex-officio Mr. Basil Dent (Church Warden)
Mr. Howard Bongers (Church Warden)
Reverend Mrs Susan Linford

Lay Representatives on the Deanery Synod Mr Ian Ibbotson (PCC Treasurer)

Elected Members Mr. Peter Broomhead (Vice Chairman)
Mrs Celia Cummins (Deputy Vice Chair)
Mrs Pauline Woodford
Mrs Susan Moores
Mrs Elizabeth Orza
Mrs Ann Read
Mr. Michael Read

Secretary Mrs Audrey Smith

PCC Meetings

The PCC met 7 times during 2014 with an average attendance of 87.5%

Committees and Working Groups

The PCC was supported by the following:

The Standing Committee (the only Committee required by law):

It has the power to transact PCC business between meetings of the PCC subject to any directives that the PCC may have given.

The Fete Working Group

This organises the annual Church Summer Fete

The Mission Sub-Committee:

This proposes each year – for consideration by the PCC – a list of charities to be supported through the Church. It has particular responsibility for St. Mary's links with the Church Mission Society and the Salisbury/Sudan Medical Link.

Review of the Year

The Church Electoral Roll- the number on the electoral roll was 88 (93). 5 names have been removed from the Roll and none added.

The average Sunday attendance at services through the year was 50 + 2 children (53 + 1.25 children). The attendance on Easter Day was 89 (95 + 16). The attendance on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was 52 (152 + 28). There were 4 (4) Baptisms and 5 (7) weddings during the year.

Organists:

David Woodford continued as our regular organist throughout the year, supported by Julian Piper and Heather Rogers. We thank them for ensuring we have organ music for our regular services.

Highlights of the year included:

- (a) The Summer fete which raised £6061 (£5486) in August
- (b) Carol singing around the village was very successful again this year and raised £198.99 (£232.13) for the Children's Society

Vice Chairman's Overview

The tragic death of our Rector Bob Thorn in early April cast a very long and dark shadow over all our lives. It was devastating and we were devastated .

He was a gifted preacher and musician and a man of many talents and above all a deeply committed and caring pastor. His funeral eucharist took place on Easter Saturday and was attended by over 500 people, some seated in a marquee and others in the churchyard.

In his ten years in Burton Bradstock he achieved much including the opening up of the Lady Chapel and the South Transept so enabling a more flexible use of the space including "Worship in the Round". His ministry was enlarged to take in the whole of the Bride Valley and he also served as Rural Dean.

He died at sea on a pilgrimage following in the traditions of the early Celtic Saints. Before he left he had emphasised to us his belief in the importance of pilgrimage.

His widow Jean has stood down from our Ministry Team for the time being. We all continue to feel concern for her and the family. It is good that she will not be too far away from us having found a new home in Shipton Gorge.

The Archdeacon advised us to look forward and keep matters moving on and not put anything off awaiting the arrival of a new incumbent. As far as possible, the PCC has continued "business as usual". We have enjoyed the support of the Rural Dean, visiting clergy and the ministry team.

The highlight of the year was the ordination as a Priest of Reverend Sue Linford at Salisbury Cathedral on June. It was a memorable occasion much enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be present.

Increased outgoings and parochial share have necessitated a call for increased giving which has had a positive response. The clear need for other fund raising initiatives has been accepted and these are being taken forward.

The possibility of creating more space for additional facilities within or outside the church has been further addressed and examples of different solutions in other Dorset churches have been investigated. This particular matter will be further considered when the views of the new Rector are known.

We have helped to play a part in the appointment process of our new Rector and we look forward to welcoming The Reverend Canon Stephen Batty and his wife Frances into our midst in May.

Peter Broomhead

Vice Chairman, PCC

Mission Sub Committee Report for 2014 Annual report.

The two charities chosen for support by fund raising events in 2014 were Tear Fund and the Pilsdon Community.

We held Lent lunches and also an evening of singing in November all of which were well supported.

During the summer we had cake and produce sales in the Reading room.

The total raised was £1797 which was divided between the two charities.

The Mission Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their generous support.

Celia Cummins

Sub Committee member

Bride Valley Benefice Council 2014/15

During the year the Benefice Council has met 6 times. Chairman for the year has been James Webster, and at the meetings all the parishes have been represented. Matters on the agenda range from the services rotas to decisions on what to study in the Lent groups.

The Benefice is responsible for payment of clergy and lay reader expenses; top of this list is travel, at 45p per mile. Benefice also pays the administrator's salary, and a number of incidental expenses. Anyone wishing to know more about the Benefice is very welcome to attend the AGM, which this year is on Wednesday May 20th at 7.30 in Puncknowle Village Hall.

A further responsibility of the benefice is the production of the BVN. Editor Will Newell, advertising manager Ian Ibbotson, and distribution organiser Irene Piper between them have honed the BVN to a magnificent profit turning enterprise. The money raised through the BVN means that the parishes have less to pay to support the work of the clergy in the benefice. Burton Bradstock have this year contributed £2520 towards the total expenditure of around £10,000.

Money distributed to the parishes through the Benefice depends on the occasional fees received in respect of weddings and funerals; this obviously fluctuates somewhat, this year the parishes received around £2000 less than in 2013.

The Benefice looks forward to welcoming Stephen; our AGM is a fortnight after his inauguration, and all are welcome to attend.

Elizabeth Orza & Peter Broomhead

Burton Bradstock representatives on the BVC Council

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Throughout this year visiting people in need of support has been a very important. These include the sick, those who have been bereaved and the lonely.

The Chesil Court group have continued on the second Thursday of each month – encouragement has been given for the over 60's to attend. We have widened the programme to include coffee mornings, luncheons, afternoon teas and an outing. The Christmas Lunch was held at the Three Horseshoes and enjoyed by all those who attended.

LPA work continues in the school via the school chaplaincy committee. Pastoral care is important and the building of bridges between the school and church.

Friday Assemblies are led by a team "Open the Book" is used -- a Christian programme which helps children to understand a series of Bible Stories.

Thank you so much to all those people who come in to help with all events. Without you it would difficult to manage, and thank you to those who pray for our work.

Christine Lawrence

Financial Statement . St Mary's Burton Bradstock with Chilcombe 2014

General Fund

2014 **2013**

see note 12

see note 12

Receipts

1	Planned Giving	16956	16932
1	Planned Giving 10% received for charity note 9	780	777
3a	Gift Aid occasional.	4049	2880
3b	Cash collections	2416	2652
4	Unrestricted Donations (including Wall Safe)	2032	228
6	All tax recovered through Gift Aid	4964	5045
7	Legacies Received	1100	0
10	Interest	366	514
11	Fees	1767	4796
12	Sales	197	71
3b	Chilcombe Cash Collections	137	182
	Compensation from TS Bank 2013	0	148
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	34764	34225

Payments

18	Donations to charities from PCC funds see note 9	113	0
18	Donations to charities and missions see note 6 & 9	780	777
19	Parish Share (plus £7,000 from Administration Fund in 2013)	30783	19438
20	Salaries, wages and honoraria	870	1005
21	Expenses (of clergy, staff,)	2520	2145
22	Local Mission and Evangelism Projects See note 10	323	461
23a	Churchyard & Cemetery see note 11	4414	3713
23b	Printing & Stationery for Church	497	580
23c	Altar & Church Running Expenses See note 5	902	698
23d	Insurance (paid by Fabric Fund)	2495	2480
23e	Church Minor Works see note 7 (from Fabric Fund)	10292	542
24	Church Utility Bills see note 8	1764	2361
26	Governance Costs	18	18
23c	Chilcombe Altar & Church Running Expenses	31	0
24	Chilcombe Electricity Bills	<u>78</u>	<u>48</u>
	TOTAL PAYMENTS	55879	34267

Excess (-shortfall) of receipts over payments -21116 -42

Received from Fabric A/c for 2014 Fabric Expenditure. 12787

Decrease in General Fund -8329

Current & deposit a/cs 1 Jan 2014 28141 24348

Current & deposit a/cs 31 Dec 2014 19812 24306

Received transfer from Administration acc for Parish Share in 2014 3834

Current & deposit a/cs 31 Dec 2014 inc. Admin contribution in 2013 19812 28141

Deposit a/cs also include £420 Rectory Redecoration

Fabric Restricted Fund St Mary's

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Receipts		
4 Restricted Donations St Mary's Fabric	250	1645
4 Restricted Donations Fete St Mary's Fabric Fundraising	6061	5486
7 Legacies Received	0	0
10 Interest	<u>2994</u>	<u>2030</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	9305	9161
No Payments made direct	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Transferred to General A/c for 2014 Tower Repair	8610	
Transferred to General A/c for 2014 general repairs	1682	
Transferred to General A/c for 2014 Insurance Premium	2495	
Total transfer	<u>12787</u>	
Change in Fabric Fund	-3483	
Current & deposit a/cs 1 Jan 2014	<u>68560</u>	<u>59399</u>
Current & deposit a/cs 31 Dec 2014	65078	68560

Rectory Redecoration Restricted Fund

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
3b Receipts Easter Day Cash Collection.	87	96
Excess (-shortfall) of receipts over payments	87	96
Deposit a/cs 1 Jan 2014	1249	1153
Deposit a/cs 31 Dec 2014	1336	1249

Chilcombe Fabric Restricted Fund

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Interest received	<u>300</u>	<u>276</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	300	276
Payments		
Insurance	<u>793</u>	<u>788</u>
Excess (-shortfall) of receipts over payments	-493	-512
Deposit a/cs 1 Jan 2014	<u>9146</u>	<u>9657</u>
Deposit a/cs 31 Dec 2014	8653	9146

Statement of Assets & Liabilities

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
St Mary's with Chilcombe General Fund	19812	24306
Administration fund placed in General fund for Parish Share in 2014	0	3834
Rectory Redecoration Designated General Fund	<u>420</u>	<u>420</u>
Total General Funds	20232	28560
St Mary's Restricted Fabric Fund	65078	68560
St Mary's Restricted Rectory Decoration Fund	1336	1249
Chilcombe CBF Restricted Fabric Fund	<u>8653</u>	<u>9146</u>
Total of all Restricted Funds	75067	78955
Total of all funds	95298	107515

Assets

PCC of Burton Bradstock Current account	9083	5682
PCC of Burton Bradstock with Chilcombe second current a/c	1553	1468
CBF Deposit Funds(C of E Central Board of Finance)	84662	44365
Bank Term Deposits (returned in 2014 and placed with C of E CBF)	0	56000
Total of all Assets	95298	107515

We will receive a tax refund of £4646 in 2015 for money gift aided in 2014

Total excess (-shortfall) receipts over payments all accounts	-12217	255
Interest all accounts	3660	2913
Total receipts all accounts	44456	43850
Total payments all accounts	56672	43595

The following notes 1 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the PCC on 23/03/2015 and signed on their behalf by

Peter Broomhead Vice Chairman

Ian Ibbotson Treasurer

NOTES

- 1 Reserves Policy.**
Our general reserves have fallen to 5 month's expenditure against our target of 6 months. The PCC has initiated a campaign to encourage increased giving to raise income to match expenditure.
- 2 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments Basis.
- 3 The following assets are recognized but not necessarily valued in the Statement as Assets and Liabilities: Movable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.
- 4 The expenses paid to clergy and others may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.
- 5 2014 Church Running Expenses 23c
Sundry cleaning materials and spares, candles, communion wine.

- 6 Donations for Charities passing through the Church Bank Account in 2014.
not shown in these accounts.
- | | |
|--|-----|
| The Pilsdon community - Mission Committee Fundraising | 859 |
| Tearfund - Mission Committee Fundraising | 938 |
| C.M.S. | 679 |
| Royal British Legion RBL Remembrance Sunday Collection | 297 |
| Bible Society (£112 of this from Bible Boxes) | 235 |
- Collections in church not passing through the church bank account.
School Nativity Play Woodland Trust £184, Bible Society Boxes £313
Children's Society Total £862 including Christingle £79; Carol Singing £199
There have also been collections at Funerals :- RNLI and Woodland Trust £1,265,
Dorset W L Trust and Cancer Research UK £293, DHCF Hughes Unit £163,
RBL £369, Weldmar Hospice and Cancer Research £184

7 Church Minor Repairs 23e. details

A P Chant - Gas Test	108
Simon Scott - electrical repairs	428
Loc Out Security Systems - Alarm Repairs	626
K R Fire Safety Extinguishers	73
B A Walbridge De Scale Water Heater	102
D P Thompson Organ Repairs	315
C G Fry tower Repairs	8610
Bulbs	<u>30</u>
	10292

£308 received from insurers & £100 donation from C G Fry to pay for Vestry Window repair by Bridport Stained Glass

8 Energy Bills

Consumption down and more favourable contract on changing supplier

9 Charitable payments made from 10% tithed Regular Giving.

Salisbury DBF Medi-link	389
CMS	389

Proceeds from Harvest Supper donated to Home Start £40 and Julia's House £73

- 10** Local mission activity is any local activity showing the church in the community including hall hire

11 Churchyard & Cemetery Expenditure -

includes Gary Parsons contract for Grass cutting £3,840

Gary Parsons sundry payments £525 for strimming & cutting back on 3 occasions

- 12** The marginal numbers are C of E cost codes
& All figures are rounded to the nearest pound

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Tel 01308 897042

Secretary of the Parochial Church Council
Parish of St Mary's Burton Bradstock with Chilcombe
Burton Bradstock

23rd March 2015

Dear Members of the PCC,

I have completed my review of the Accounts for the twelve months ended 31st December 2014 in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and the Church Accounting Regulations.

I am satisfied with the quality of the Accounts, their accuracy and the analysis.

I shall be happy to sign off the final copies of the Accounts at your convenience.

Yours faithfully

John Bowden
Independent Examiner

Treasurer's Report for St. Mary's Burton Bradstock with Chilcombe 2014

I thank John Bowden for acting as the Independent Examiner for the PCC and for his work and helpful comments. I also thank Irene Piper our Gift Aid Officer who has recently completed the successful application for a return of £4,646 in 2015.

I have now completed my sixth and last year as Treasurer and I am hoping that the PCC will appoint Irene as Treasurer at the PCC meeting immediately after the APCM.

Income and Expenditure

The General Reserves are down by £8,329 to such a level that we are requesting increased giving. The process of explaining to people that more funds were required should have begun a year ago but was interrupted. The PCC is looking into other sources of income and any reductions in cost.

The St Mary's Fabric Fund has dropped because of the large tower repair bill. The Fete Committee have raised a magnificent £6,061 and we thank them for their efforts. Without the unusual expenditure, the income to the Fabric Fund is sufficient to pay for fabric expenses, including insurance, and leave an addition to reserves for emergencies or useful works to the church.

The interest to all accounts is high in 2014 because our bankers TSB have closed their investment department and returned all the monies to us paying us an extra year's interest in compensation. In 2015 onwards we will be receiving a much lower level of interest from the C of E Central Board of Finance perhaps £500 rather than the £3,660 of 2014.

Donations for Charity and Mission

Funds raised for and donated to charities are listed in the detailed notes but do not form part of these financial statements. The PCC donated the surplus from the Harvest Supper to charity.

As in every year, 10% of giving from those donors who so instructed has gone to the two chosen charities, the Sudan Medical link via Christian Aid in Sudan and the Church Missionary Society, CMS.

Giving to the Church

In 2015 parish Share rises from £30,550 to £32,746, interest will be much reduced so the PCC encourages an increase in giving to the church General Fund during 2015.

Lyme Bay Deanery Synod Report.

This exists to consider matters concerning the Church of England, bringing together the views of the parishes of the Deanery, acting as a channel of communication between parishes and Diocesan Synod and to effect decisions made by Diocesan Synod, raise matters with Diocesan Synod and elect representatives to Diocesan Synod and General Synod.

Our Diocese is twinned with the province of Sudan and it is hoped that our Deanery will twin with the Diocese of Wonduruba and our prayers are requested to support them.

A resolution querying the almost monopolistic position of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company has been passed up to Diocesan Synod. Many churches have been worried by the large increases in property valuation and hence premium forced on them. (We are currently in long term contracts with Ecclesiastical but may review them at their end.)

In June we will be discussing Fairer Share, the method by which the Diocese and the central Church raises money which is used to fund the Church of England and its clergy.

Ian Ibbotson - Deanery Synod Representative

School Report

School Organisation

At present we have 85 pupils on roll which is the lowest number we have had on roll and is 20 below our full capacity. Two thirds of our intake is now outside our catchment area and we rely on parental choice.

The children are split into four classes as follows:

Sails Class - 15 Reception and Year 1 pupils taught by Mrs Procter.

Boats Class - 25 Year 1 and 2 pupils taught by Miss Sanderson.

Class 3 - 22 Year 3 and 4 pupils taught by Mrs Wardle.

Class 4 - 23 Year 5 and 6 pupils taught by Miss Varndell.

Each class also has teaching assistant support and we have 5 teaching assistants who work with children on a 1:1 or small group basis.

We have a full-time school secretary/finance officer who works in the office as well as two midday supervisors, three kitchen assistants and one caretaker and cleaner.

Since the previous meeting we have welcomed five new members of staff into the school - Mrs Wardle has joined us as class teacher, we have two new teaching assistants, Mrs Smith and Mrs Porter and we have Mrs Brook who works part-time as a kitchen assistant and a different Mrs Brook who works part-time as a kitchen assistant and school cleaner.

We said goodbye at the end of August to Mrs Rattenbury who retired after over 20 years as teacher at the school and Mrs Clift resigned from her post as cleaner at the school.

Governing Body

Mr Julian Piper continues in the role of Chair of Governors this year with Mrs Pat Lewis-Badgett as Vice Chair. The Governing Body will be reconstituted this year in line with new recommendations.

School Development

This year the school has been working hard on the priorities in the School Development Plan. These include:

- Raising attainment and progress in Maths
- Raising attainment and progress in English
- Delivering the new DfE Statutory Frameworks within the context of our school aims and values

There have been a number of new reforms from the DfE that has resulted in great change in schools and education. This year has seen the introduction of a new National Curriculum, new assessment legislation and the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Reform.

These changes have resulted in the school developing a new creative curriculum that is based around Learning Quests where the learning is personalised to the needs of our children. The Learning Quests this year are: Forest Adventure, How it Works and the Jurassic Coast.

After School Clubs

The school offers a number of after school clubs through professional providers, school staff or volunteers. This year the range of clubs include Football, Tag-Rugby, Photography, Cookery, Puzzle club, Arts and Crafts, Netball, Gardening, Choir, Keyboard, Recorder and Flute.

Friends of Burton Bradstock School

The Friends of the school continue to work tirelessly to fundraise for the school and to organise community events for the children and their families. In 2013/14 The Friends raised over £3,300 through their fundraising events. This year they have donated money to the school to subsidise transport for visits and trips as well as contributing to the purchase of a new interactive whiteboard in the Sails class. They have also purchased new Maths equipment across the school to support this area of our school development plan.

Links with the Church

We continue to have strong links with the church. Our Friday assemblies are led by the 'Open the Book' team and give the children the opportunity to hear the major Bible stories accompanied by relevant prayers and quiet reflection. We also hold our major celebrations in the Church - Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and our Leavers' Service.

Links with Parents and the Local Community

We have weekly Good Work Assemblies where the children lead and share their work and achievements. We have a new Parent Forum that has been set up to enable parents and school to work together for the benefit of the children.

We hold regular events in the village and welcome support from the community. These include our Christmas Fair, The Annual Duck Race and the Beetle Drive. The children also take part in the Remembrance Sunday Poster competition run by the British Legion, the Art competition for the Village Flower and Produce Show, the Photography Competition sponsored by Burton Bradstock Online and competitions run by the village Library.

Links with the Wider Community

As a school we continue to build strong links with other schools within the Bridport Pyramid for the benefit of the children and to ease transition into the next phase of their education.

There are a number of opportunities for the children to come together in different events such as the Kenway Cup Football Tournament, Tag Rugby Tournament, Key Stage 1 multi-skills festival, the Dance Festival, Tri-golf tournament and Able and Talented Workshops.

Mrs Claire Staple- Head Teacher

Sacristan's Report

Although I explained last year just what this job entails, I will start with a brief reminder:

Care of the communion linen, and the white altar cloths, together with the laundering of these along with the smaller cloths used on the credence tables.

Preparation for the services of Holy Communion; that is to say putting ready wine, wafers, and the water, the linen, candles and the hymn board.

The sacristan also looks after the altar frontals, which are changed according to the liturgical seasons, along with the matching bible ribbons.

In 2013 all the altar frontals and the curtains were dry cleaned, and look very much better for it.

We have experienced quite a lot of trouble with the altar candles throughout this year but only recently discovered that it is the type of candle with which we had been supplied that is unsuited to use with the 'candle caps'. Currently we are using these candles without the extensions, that is, directly into the base candlestick with a drip tray, and this is proving satisfactory until we obtain a different supply. We also need to overcome the problem of the insecure 'construction' when the extensions are used. The candlesticks, the brass shield and drip tray, and the wooden base extensions are all made to differing scales of metric and imperial and nothing fits properly. Candles available are either of too small or too large diameter for the candlesticks, which were made for Canon Stevens in the 1920s, by the artificers on HMS Dreadnought, and this is another problem.

In all other respects I believe everything to be in good order.

Jane Stubbs - Sacristan

Fabric.

Once again I am happy to report that our St Mary's is in first class condition. This is not only the actual structure but also applies to the visual appearance – a look at the Visitors' Book to see the numerous comments on how well it is kept will confirm this. We are fortunate in being able to carry out any necessary repairs before they become a major problem, thanks to having a healthy Fabric Fund.

Finally to "thanks you's" – if they were not included, questions would surely follow as to why. In no particular order, Gary Parsons for how he keeps the standard up with the grass cutting, especially in the Shipton Lane Burial Ground, to our Sacristan, Mrs Jane Stubbs, for her dedication to her tasks, Pat and her team of Flower Arrangers, the Brass Cleaners, Sidespersons, Lesson Readers, to those who prepare and serve coffee after our services, the Holy Dusters who merit the comments in our Visitors' Book, and to each and every other parishioner who has contributed in any way to the life of our beloved St Mary's.

Basil Dent – Churchwarden

Bells

As for so many years now, I am again pleased to be able to report that our Bells are all in good order. We are fortunate in having Mrs Jane Stubbs as our Steeple Keeper who, along with one of our team, Roger Brown, carries out regular inspections and maintenance on the Bells and the associated fittings.

Although two of our long serving members are no longer ringing at present due to medical conditions, we have still been able to ring for all necessary occasions – Services, Weddings and National Celebrations. Also we have covered festivals and weddings at Shipton Gorge and weddings at Abbotsbury, Symondsburry and Toller Porcorum.

Our three young female learners have progressed very well considering the practices they have had to miss due to school commitments and are now very close to Service ringing. Finally I stress as always that we are only too pleased to welcome anyone who has a genuine interest in learning the art of bell ringing – come along any Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

Basil Dent – Tower Captain

Church Fete (Thursday 7th August 2014)

For yet another year, we were blessed with excellent weather for the church fete. And yet again, so many residents came together on the day to ensure that everything was ready for the event by mid-morning. As well as the usual attractions, a fun dog show was a new attraction and very much appreciated by our visitors. Also new to the event was a BBQ which also proved popular. The usual attractions including the "Punch & Judy", St. Swithun's Band, added to the wealth of games and stalls, helping to make this a most enjoyable afternoon for all. The Pig Racing and Human Fruit Machine were very popular.

Our fete team were so grateful to everyone who oversaw the games, stalls, auctions, teas, church flowers, tower tour, public address and car parking. As many of the parishioners will appreciate, the preparation for the fete activities commenced back in January and proceeded through until late August. We are so fortunate to have an experienced and dedicated team who managed the organisation and implementation of the fete so well and efficiently – thank you.

We had over 750 paying visitors, accompanied by lots of children, who appeared to have really enjoyed their day, which is so rewarding for all concerned. As a result, we exceeded our target of £6,000 to enhance the Fabric Fund

Peter Tompkins – Fete Co-ordinator

Flower Arrangers Report 2013/14

The flower team have had a happy and successful year.

We have decorated the Church for all the Festivals and the Church Fete. The theme for the Fete was "Music" and we were lent various instruments which were used as part of the displays. We had a tape of classical music playing which was much appreciated by everyone and provided a beautiful atmosphere within the Church.

We are now down to 19 arrangers. We have said goodbye to Betty Palmer and Jill Spinney who have gone to live nearer to their respective families. Betty Champkins, Jenny Conway and Shelagh Morgan have retired, all of them after many years of service. I have thanked them on behalf of the PCC. It was with great sadness that Daphne Hewlett passed away in December. She will be very sadly missed.

We welcome Rebecca Bryan onto the list and hope that she will enjoy taking part.

The money raised in the church at the time of the Fete continues to cover our running costs. The arrangers each give their own flowers.

We have had our annual gathering with coffee and discussed the coming church year. We look forward to Easter and all that is in store.

Pat Broomhead – Organiser of Church Flowers

Tiny Tots Pram Service

It has been a great privilege to work with the Tiny Tots and their parents, grandparents and carers, for another year, sharing Bible stories, singing, marching and enjoying all kinds of messy activities.

As usual the attendances have fluctuated hugely, ranging from 4 to 16 children, during the past year. There are many factors which make this inevitable.

We have also been experimenting with a Friday weekly Drop-In session during term time from 2.00 - 3.20pm, so that pre-school children can play safely while parents and carers socialise over a cup of tea before collecting older siblings. This has had a mixed response.

This year we celebrate 20 years since the inception of Tiny Tots, so we are holding a special celebration garden party on July 10th, inviting all who have helped in the past to join with us, and to welcome Pam Atkinson, the founder of Tiny Tots, to be with us on that day.

Sincere thanks to the team, all who help with publicity and those who are on the rota of helpers. We could not do this without you.

Please support us in prayer and encourage any you know who have pre-school children, babies or bumps, to join us on the second Friday each month (except August) at 2.15pm. Thank you

Heather, Ryder and Audrey - The Tots' Team

Children's Society

Many thanks to all holders of home boxes for returning them and for the grand total this year of £550.34p. If you, too, would like to have a box for your loose change it will collectively make a real difference to many vulnerable children. Recent media coverage of children who are carers for their parents highlights one of the many areas that The Children's Society works in. It also lobbied Parliament about the issue of payday loans and the ensuing poverty trap and implications for children growing up in this kind of culture.

Our Christingle was a happy occasion with many excited children who appeared to thoroughly enjoy the service. Conducted by Rev'd Sue Linford it included a very brief talk by Mr Roy Koerner about the work of WAVES which is run by the Society and based in Weymouth. The Christingle collection was £78.59p and the children's candle boxes added £13.97p to this. Following the service there was a party for the children in the Village Hall with plenty of food, games, the 'Birdy Dance' and a story and presents from Father Christmas.

Carol singing round the village was well attended and as usual finished at 'The Shoes' where we were kindly hosted by Mandy and Will. Thanks to all who sang and all who donated. The total was £198.99p.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed this year. Details of our grand total of £861.89p for 2014 are listed on the porch notice board of St. Mary's Church.

Pauline Woodford – Local Representative for the Children's Society

Open The Book Team

This team is part of the outreach work of the Church. Open The Book is a national Christian organization, now affiliated to the Bible Society, that dramatizes bible stories and leads one of the weekly assemblies in schools. Burton has been doing this since 2008 and we have a very enthusiastic and dedicated team. We are always welcomed by the school staff and the children are very anxious to take parts in these stories.

Our team has grown over the years and we now have 10 members. We welcome new members to join us both from this Church and other churches, whatever their denomination, who live in the area. We are planning to do a presentation of Pentecost with the children during the 11 am service on Sunday 24th May. Thank you all for your prayer support.

Pauline Woodford

Church Brass Cleaning

Brass cleaning continues, thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers. If you enjoy cleaning brass, we have room for some new helpers – it takes about an hour per year and it's very satisfying when you've finished!

Please contact Mary Ibbotson – 898484.

Mary Ibbotson

Holy Dusters

We had a favourable response following requests for more people to join the Holy Dusting team. 4 new members have joined us which has enabled us to keep each cleaning area to a manageable size and allow for a better one-month-on one-month-off rota.

We have also been boosted by 2 young girls who are keen to assist as part of their volunteering in the community for a Lions Young Leader Award. Their enthusiasm and agility has been a great asset.

The Church building remains well cared for and many thanks go to all those who share in this much appreciated task.

Irene Piper