

12. Parochial Church Council

As usual this report covers not only the activities of St John's Hindon but also All Saints Chicklade.

The Revd. Jo Naish continues very successfully as our non stipendiary (unpaid) Parish priest. Canon Simon Evans has assisted at several services which has been much appreciated. Lt. Col Rupert Janes also continues as our hardworking churchwarden.

During the year there were 46 Sunday services in Hindon and 9 services in Chicklade where Festival Church status has been confirmed. The Rogation service was held on Martha's Down (thanks to Rob Beale) as usual. In addition there were two weddings, one baptism, two funerals or memorial services and one interment of ashes in Hindon. Chicklade was delighted to welcome the Bishop of Ramsbury to their Patronal service of All Saints. The major services of Easter, Remembrance and Christmas were all well attended. Well over 100 came to the Carol Service in Hindon where the Grosvenor Inn kindly provided mulled wine and mince pies.

FABRIC: The major project this year in Hindon has been the renewal of the guttering in the church and some rearrangement of rainwater disposal which was completed just before Christmas. This work was paid for by the Friends of the church for which we are very grateful.

At Chicklade much needed work has been carried out to the north roof, again paid for by their Friends.

PARISH SHARE: The share payable to the Diocese for 2023 was just over £29200. We managed to pay only just over £16500 of this. The diocese is still conducting a review of the Share calculation. This remains a very heavy burden on a small number of people many of whom are on fixed retirement incomes. In the meantime the church remains available to everyone for life's important milestones.

EVENTS: We held two concerts in Hindon, St John's Singers in March which raised nearly £830 and Maerfolk in June which raised £512. The ever popular Saturday Markets raised nearly £1600 and continue at Blythe Cottage thanks to David and Carol Wilson's kindness. The Christmas Fair produced nearly £1830. Very many thanks go to those whose hard work organises these events and to those who support them.

Special thanks as always go to the Friends of both Hindon and Chicklade churches for their continued support for their respective church fabrics and also to the Parish Council for their grant for the upkeep of the clock, churchyard and church illumination.

Richard Vine PCC Member April 2024