



**Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
(APCM)**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025**



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# **Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2025**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at 12:15**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Opening prayers**

### **2. Election of Churchwardens**

- I. The Churchwardens report.
- II. The election of Churchwardens

### **3. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

- I. Apologies for absence
- II. Notification of items for Any Other Business
- III. Minutes of the last meeting
- IV. Matters arising from last meeting.
- V. The honorary Treasurer's report and accounts
- VI. The appointment of honorary auditor
- VII. The election of Deanery Synod and PCC members
- VIII. The Electoral Roll
- IX. Reports from the Church Organisations
- X. Any Other Business
- XI. Thanks, and Closing Prayers

### **4. The PCC Meeting to Elect Officers**

- XII. Honorary Lay chair
- XIII. Honorary Secretary
- XIV. Honorary Treasurer
- XV. Electoral Roll Officer.
- XVI. Any co-opted appointments
- XVII. Confirm date, place, and time of next meeting.
- XVIII. Prayers

## **St Peter's: Incumbent's Report for APCMs across Swadlincote Minster**

As one of the stipendiary incumbents across our Minster I have been slowly getting to know the differences and joys of each of our 4 different churches and the various communities (businesses, charities, and public sector) across the whole area. It's a huge area to cover, because in such a 'small' market and ex mining town, there is so much going on – as a one of the fastest growing towns in England we have so many children and teenagers – hence 3 growing Secondary Schools with just over 3000 pupils between them.

As part of the new and growing Minster Team I am now leading and preaching across all 4 churches each month – only recently having begun to do so at St John's. Sundays are always a joy, but you don't realise how much talent and diversity there is until you begin to work across more than one church. We have several people leading worship across all 4 churches and our worship goes from the more traditional liturgical services at St John's and Emmanuel, to the more contemporary at Gresley and St Peter's.

At Emmanuel Church we have seen new people come and join the worship on Sundays which has added to the diversity and age range there. Rev Alison, who sadly for us retires in June 2025, has been continuing to be the team there alongside the growth in use of the church hall. At Gresley Church there are missional groups throughout the week who are growing in number and strength (The Ark, Drop-In and Craft Group), as well as outside users who have increased its use. The impressive Friends of Gresley Church have now submitted the lengthy bid for significant funds to restore the church building – by Easter 2025 we will hear the result of that bid. At St John's there is a small but welcoming gathering of worshippers each Sunday.

At St Peter's Church their worship goes from strength to strength on Sunday mornings alongside the reintroduction of the occasional Sunday night Live services that draw many people from across the area. The diverse range of leaders and preachers is thoroughly enjoyed by its congregations and new families have recently joined on Sundays. I have had the privilege of leading several baptisms there at 1230 on Sundays and, as often happens, several local families continue to see it as their local church – which in the post-modern era we live in is all the more impressive. The often packed and well-loved Little Sparks toddler session continue to draw families from across area who love the environment and professionalism and care they receive there. St Peter's has some considerable building works to fund and is in the process of exploring avenues and grants.

My thanks to all those who work so tirelessly behind the scenes – maintaining the church hall, the church, the churchyard, looking out for folks in need with pastoral care, lead us in worship, make decisions, plan services, are in the church PCC, and all the important roles and ministries that involve so many. A huge thank you.

In my work in chaplaincy, I'm weekly at both Granville and Pingle academies – often as a presence on gate duty where, quite literally, over 1000 teenagers daily will pass by and often say good morning – alongside many parents who will stop for a catch up with me. The deeper pastoral work though is in supporting students at risk of permanent exclusion, alongside the community work with CVS (and multiple other agencies) where I also support families in need of considerable support and often advocate on their behalf. In modern terms we call it chaplaincy with its uniform and ID, but all it is simply good old fashioned Anglican parish ministry.

Looking ahead to 2025 and Rev Alison's retirement the stipendiary clergy will need to work out how we lead and serve four churches differently, whilst also serving the specific and unique communities that make up our 4 churches across this growing urban area that we call Swadlincote Minster.

*Blessings of the Lord Jesus Christ, Mike Firbank (he/him)*

*Mike Firbank (Rev Dr) 07814 033183  
Swadlincote Minster/School Chaplain*

### **Curate's View of the Minster**

Coming to Swadlincote from a city which is famed, at least in geeky church circles, as the place where Ecumenical Partnerships were created, I came up with a fair few examples of how churches working together in established collaborations manifested themselves. However, I was deeply impressed with the depth and breadth of that collaboration for the common good in what is a relatively new partnership. From groups which run as distinctly minster groups, such as the Monday morning prayer group and the Minster Messy, as well as groups which work together across the area although not under the Minster name, such as the Assemblies team. This serving the wider church is also seen in individuals who regularly serve in churches other than their own to support the broader ministry of God's Church and the churches that sacrificially give of their best people, often at great cost to their own ministerial needs.

Perhaps less surprisingly was each church's keen interest in keeping its distinctness, but I have been delighted by the creative ways they have found to honour each other and the different talents of those across the minster. I have personally noticed a great openness to engage in interactive teaching at St John's, folk from St George's supporting me in using unfamiliar software used to display words in services, and the gentleness of Emmanuel when I have inadvertently been more relaxed about following their preferred formal liturgy, I haven't had as much time to spend with St Peter's but I hope to in the next year. One of the very first things that attracted me to Swadlincote Minster's profile was the collaboration, entrepreneurship, and creativity of the four churches choosing to work together. Choosing to do this before the legal structures are in place and before those in authority impose it, gives freedom for those in the churches to choose and influence the outcome of the collaboration and how that impacts not only the future of the Anglican

Church in Swadlincote but also in pioneering the future of how churches might choose to work together voluntarily.

Looking at the situation with a fresh perspective, I see a wonderful opportunity for the four churches to collaborate and support one another. It would be incredibly beneficial to gather groups of individuals who share similar roles from each church in what I call Role Huddles. This approach can foster better communication, reduce duplication, and make the most of the skills and experiences we all bring to the table. Additionally, it can help strengthen the bonds between our congregations, allowing us to grow together in fellowship and understanding. These huddles, in a similar way to how the service leaders' meeting is being developed, would be informal groups of people who have interests in similar areas of mission or ministry or who share similar roles among the different congregations. Examples would be people connected with building maintenance, those involved in safeguarding and those involved in finance, work with children, leaders of housegroups, bulletin editors and website/social media coordinators, people concerned with certain social action issues and many others.

They will not be expected to produce agendas or minutes or make binding decisions, they are merely ways of making the best use of the people and gifts within the minster and to make life easier and more fulfilling for people and to support those who are in positions of responsibility. They would meet as and when members wanted to and might often form email / WhatsApp groups rather than always meeting in person at a specific time. They would be encouraged to be in touch with either the Minster Team or individual PCCs as appropriate, depending on the role. I would envisage two huddles that would need to have a more defined way of working – those involved in safeguarding and those involved in finance both needing to report issues which need to be addressed by the Minster Leadership Team and PCCs.

### **Lay Chair of PCC's Report on 2025**

It's been an exciting year within our Church and Community. We seem to have a steady stream of new or re-visiting people coming along to our services, which is great to see. As a Church we are still moving towards being linked officially with Swadlincote Minster and the other 3 Church of England Churches - St John's Newhall, Emmanuel Swadlincote and St Georges Gresley. There are some real benefits that come from these relationships like shared resources and support for some of our activities and vice versa. We see a Vicar twice most months which I believe has helped the wider body feel that we have stability. Fortunately we have a Curate working within the Minster - Kara, who I'm sure we will see more of in the coming year.

We continued to meet throughout the year as a wider PCC every other month in Emanuel's Church Hall, with the first 30 mins giving opportunity to share any information that is beneficial across the 4 churches, before we move into our own church PCC groups.

My role of Lay Chair would not be possible if it was not for the people who support me and the church, you know who you are.... Thank you.

**Nigel Worth – Lay Chair St Peter's Church PCC**

## Churchwardens' Report 2025

### Church

Faculty Applications since last APCM:-

- Two applications in for the installation of a church bench.

### **A small working party has continued to work on our Heritage Lottery Fund application.**

The team consists of:

Catherine Rogers	Jane Horan
Andy Austin	James Johnson
Deb Worth	Christine Gardner
Nigel Worth	Jeff Patrick
Debbie Patrick	

Many thanks to those in this team, each bringing important skills and knowledge. The team are ready to submit the application (as of 11.03.25).

The work to widen the door to the disabled toilet in the church in order for it to offer full disabled access has yet to be completed. This work is not going to be straight forward and we are taking advice as to the best approach.

### **Other work recording in the Logbook since the last APCM are:**

The church is being used weekly for Sunday worship as well as Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms. There have also been several meetings across the year that have taken place in the church.

Several scouting groups have been into the church for tower and church visits with thanks to Andy and Kara for arranging and all the helpers that helped make these visits a success.

The church continues to be opened for quiet prayer and reflection on Wednesday and Saturday. We are looking to develop the missional welcome on these days. Prayer cards a prayer board have been introduced and tea and coffee facilities (still to be implemented) for visitors. Many thanks to Brian for supporting this missional opportunity.

Bill has been undertaking minor repairs on the windows as it is needed.

The Churchyard continues to be kept in very good condition and is used frequently by the community. Many thanks to all those who have given so much time into making our churchyard a place of retreat for all of God's creation from tiny bugs to humans.

## Church Hall

The hall continues to be used by 1<sup>st</sup> Hartshorne Scout group on three nights of the week. This relationship is managed by the PCC and reviewed from time to time to make sure that it is working for all parties.

Little Sparks continues to go well. The hall making a perfect environment for this group.

The grass around the church hall is cared for by Bill and Keith Weaver from Spiderweb Cottage for which we are very grateful.

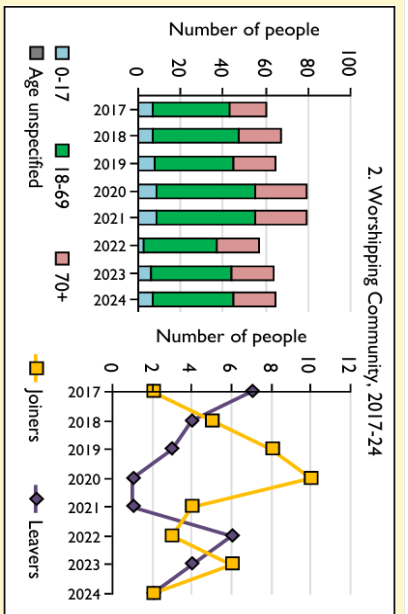
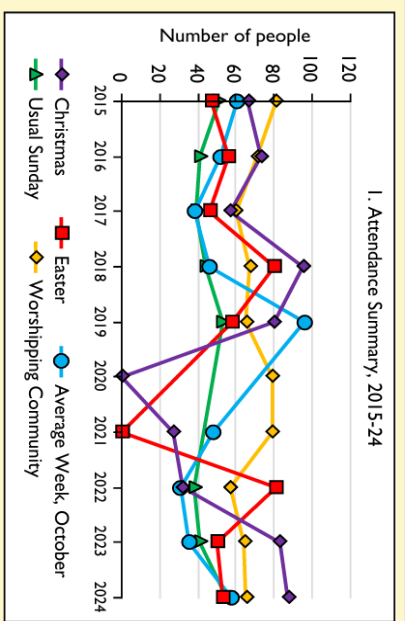
Full details of works can be found in the Logbook.

Debbie Patrick

The following two pages contain the Dashboard data for St Peter's church.



# Dashboard data for St Peter's Hartshorne in the Deanery of Mercia



### Parish Census and deprivation summary

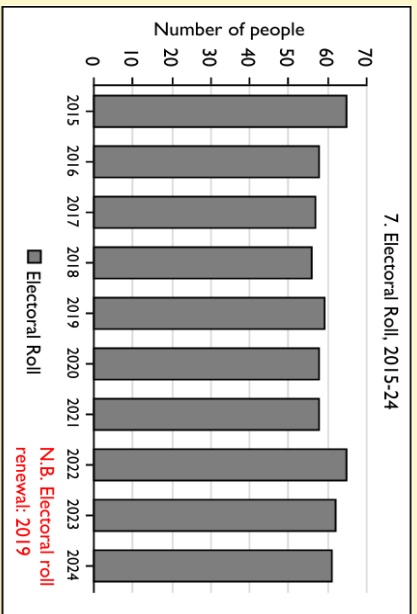
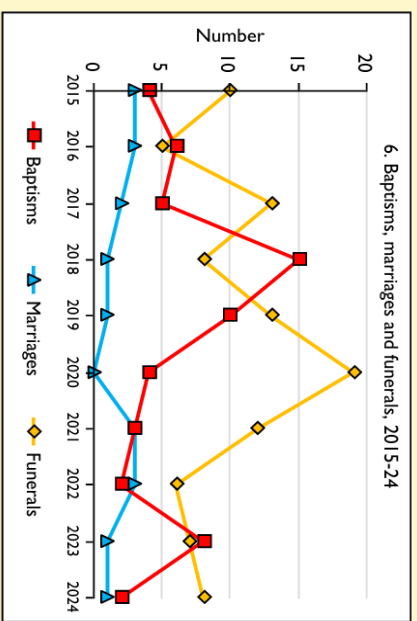
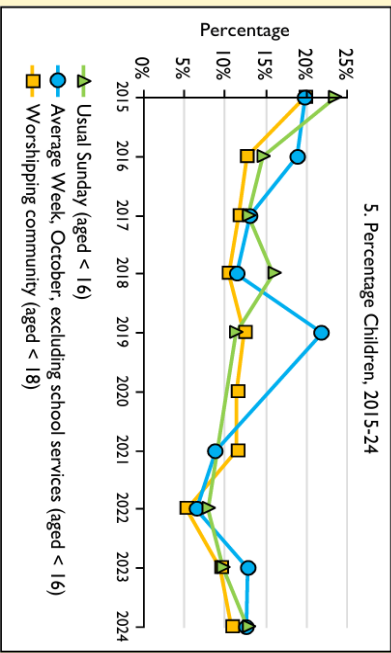
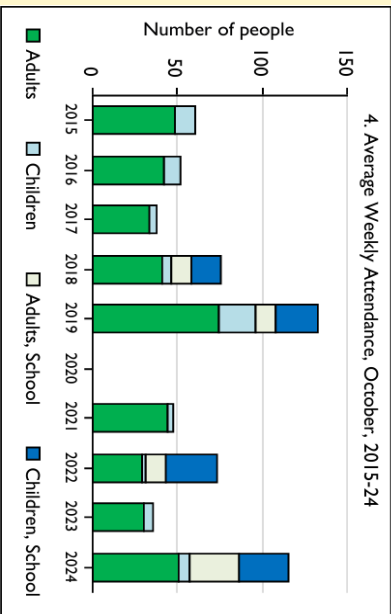
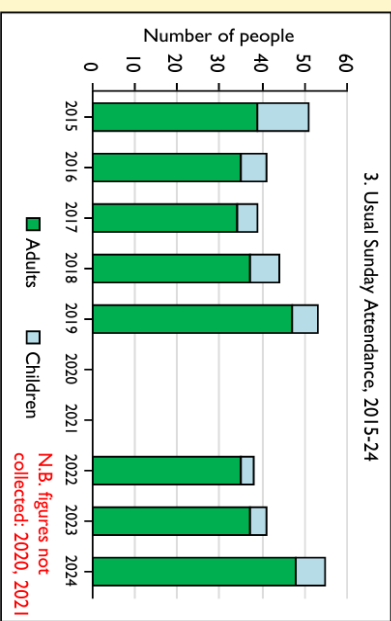
Parish population (2021): 5273

	Parish	Diocese	National
% aged 0-19	23%	22%	23%
% aged 20-44	28%	30%	33%
% aged 45-69	34%	33%	31%
% aged 70 & over	15%	15%	14%
% Christian	49%	46%	46%
% non-Christian religion	1%	6%	11%

Parish deprivation rank (IMD 2019): 2726  
 (=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,178=least deprived)

For more detailed census & deprivation info: see <http://arcg.is/Ra54CS>  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/> and  
<http://www.cif.org.uk/shinealight/>

Number of churches in parish (2024): 1 Parish Code: 120332



This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish

Average weekly attendance: taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

Attendance statistics: taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

fresh expressions in October; Figs 1 & 5 do not include attendance at services for schools.

Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day; Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Baptisms: all baptisms & thanksgivings.

Marriages: marriages and services of prayer & dedication after civil marriages.

Funerals: those held in church & at crematoria/cemeteries.

Because of pandemic-related church closures, Easter figures were not collected in 2020.

Census data: taken from the 2021 national Census.

Deprivation statistics: IMD taken from the English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Sept 2019.

The above statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries so are approximations.

For more information, see: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/>

Variations in attendance from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.

Number of churches included in returns: 2015 1; 2016 1; 2017 1; 2018 1; 2019 1; 2020 1; 2021 1; 2022 1; 2023 1; 2024 1.

Produced by Data Services, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 11/03/2025.

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be pleased to be notified of any significant errors or omissions by email to [statistics@churchofengland.org](mailto:statistics@churchofengland.org)



## SfM Dashboard Data for the Parish of Hartshorne: St Peter in the deanery of Mercia

Report	Field	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1. Attendance Summary	Christmas	66	73	57	95	80	0	27	32	83	87
	Easter	47	56	46	80	58	-	0	81	50	53
	Average Week, October	61	52	38	46	96	-	48	31	35	58
	Usual Sunday	51	41	39	44	53	-	-	38	41	55
	Worshipping Community	81	71	60	67	65	79	79	79	57	64
2. Worshipping Community	Total			60	67	65	79	79	57	64	65
	0-17			7	7	8	9	9	3	6	7
	18-69			36	40	37	46	46	34	38	38
	70+			17	20	20	24	24	20	20	20
	Age unspecified			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Usual Sunday Attendance	Joiners			2	5	8	10	4	3	6	2
	Leavers			7	4	3	1	1	6	4	2
	Adults	39	35	34	37	47	-	-	35	37	48
	Children	12	6	5	7	6	-	-	3	4	7
	Adults	49	42	33	41	75	-	44	29	31	50
4. Average Weekly Attendance	Children	12	10	5	5	21	-	4	2	5	7
	Adults, School	-	-	-	13	12	-	-	13	-	29
	Children, School	-	-	-	18	25	-	-	30	-	29
	Usual Sunday (aged < 16)	24%	15%	13%	16%	11%	-	-	8%	10%	13%
	Average Week, October, excluding school services (aged < 16)	20%	19%	13%	11%	22%	-	9%	6%	13%	13%
6. Baptisms, marriages and funerals	Worshipping community (aged < 18)	20%	13%	12%	10%	12%	11%	11%	5%	9%	11%
	Baptisms	4	6	5	15	10	4	3	2	8	2
	Marriages	3	3	2	1	1	0	3	3	1	1
	Funerals	10	5	13	8	13	19	12	6	7	8
	Electoral Roll	65	58	57	56	59	58	58	65	62	61

## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Minutes of meeting held on Sunday 21st April 2024.**

Lay Chair Nigel Worth opened the meeting in prayer at 12:15pm with 25 people in attendance, and 1 apology for absence (Jim Gosden).

Nigel Worth started by thanking Christine Gardner for creating the report, & to all those who submitted reports to be included. He reminded everyone present that the APCM is a time to reflect on the past year, and look forward to the year ahead. Nigel explained that there are 3 parts to the meeting 1. The Election of Church Wardens 2. The APCM and 3. PCC meeting (elected PCC members only).

### **1. Election of Churchwardens**

i) There has been no Church Warden's for the last year (2023). Nigel Worth thanked Nigel Worth thanked Debbie Patrick and Sexton Bill Morris), for all their hard work.

ii) Election of Church Wardens

There was one nomination for the position of Church Warden.

Debbie Patrick nominated by Deborah Worth, seconded by Nigel Worth

Also one nomination for the new post of assistant Church Warden.

Jack Illsley nominated by Alison Westley, seconded by Paul Brownhill

Both of the above were duly elected. Nigel thanked them both for standing, and asked everyone to support them in their new roles..

### **2. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

i. Attendance list was completed as a record of all those who attended or sent apologies.

ii. Minutes of the last meeting: - Acceptance of the previous year's (2023 pg. 7-9), AGM minutes was proposed by Sean O'Toole and seconded by Jeff Patrick. All in favour.

iii. Matters arising from last meeting – none which are not covered elsewhere.

iv. The Electoral Roll -The Electoral roll has been updated and now stands at 61. Nigel Worth thanked the Electoral Roll officer – Christine Gardner for updating the electoral roll.

Anyone who is eligible who has not completed a form can still do so and be added at the next PCC meeting.

v. Reports from the Church Organisations

Nigel Worth started by thanking everyone, whether mentioned or not, for working hard often in the background. Leaders or members of various church groups have submitted reports outlining what their group has been doing. He then went through the group reports in turn, and then summarised it, by giving thanks to everyone for all the hard work, lots of love and care which are celebrated by all the groups represented in the pages of our report.

vi. The honorary Treasurer's report and accounts

The audited accounts were available for all to see in annual report. Nigel Worth started by thanking everyone for their generous giving during the last year. He then proceeded to give the highlights of the account activities over the past year. The giving has enabled us to pay in full the Common Fund for the last 5 years.

These accounts were accepted by everyone as a true record, and there were no questions relating to the accounts. Thanks were given to Deborah Worth, for all her hard work throughout the year in maintaining the church accounts.

vii. *Deb Worth proposed Mr Bernard Taylor as honorary auditor, seconded James Johnston. All voted in favour.*

viii. *The election of PCC members, and Deanery Synod members*

### **Deanery Synod**

*Nigel Worth explained that Deanery Synod representatives are elected every 3 years. The current representative (James Johnston) was elected in 2023, our church currently has 1 vacancy for a Deanery Synod representative. If anyone else feels called to take on the role of Deanery Synod representative for our church please speak to Nigel Worth & complete a nomination form.*

### **PCC**

*Nigel announced that sadly Sandra O'Toole has made the decision to stand down from her role on the PCC, he thanked her for all her hard work over the last 30 years.*

*This year we have 5 positions available and 5 people interested in standing; therefore, all were duly elected to the PCC.*

*The following were proposed and seconded as below:*

<u><b>PCC Members</b></u>	<u><b>Proposed by</b></u>	<u><b>Seconded By</b></u>
<i>Christine Gardner</i>	<i>Debbie Patrick</i>	<i>Nigel Worth</i>
<i>Deborah Worth</i>	<i>Debbie Patrick</i>	<i>Christine Gardner</i>
<i>Ayesha Squire</i>	<i>Deborah Worth</i>	<i>Nigel Worth</i>
<i>Katie Smith</i>	<i>Deborah Worth</i>	<i>Nigel Worth</i>
<i>Matt Smith</i>	<i>Deborah Worth</i>	<i>Nigel Worth</i>

### **Minster Representatives**

*We have 2 Minster Reps as part of the new Minster team. Our current reps are: -  
Debbie Patrick and Nigel Worth*

**Churches Together Representatives** – *Currently James Johnston, there is a vacancy for another representative, please speak to Nigel Worth or James if you are interested in learning more about this role.*

*Thanks were given to all those willing to stand to take on these vital roles within the church, and prayers said for the PCC for support and for new gifts to be given as we start to develop our vision.*

ix. *Any Other Business –*

x. *Nigel Worth thanked all those who take on roles and responsibilities within the church, whatever they may be, for their hard work and ongoing support. He then closed the meeting in prayer and said a blessing for the whole of St Peter's Church.*

**Christine Gardner - PCC Secretary**

## **PCC Secretary's Report**

All PCC meetings are held at Emmanuel Church, where the PCC's of the Minster churches join together for the first 30mins, where we have a short worship followed by any brief discussions of activities which affect us all, before splitting up to hold our separate PCC meetings.

5 PCC meetings have taken place during the year, chaired by Lay Chair Nigel Worth. Regular standing committee meetings have taken place, (attendees PCC Chair, Treasurer and PCC Secretary), along with separate groups to focus on worship, mission, Sunday night

Live, Health and Safety etc. which has helped us in reducing the length of time of the main PCC meetings.

The PCC meet to discuss practicalities of the upkeep of the church, churchyard, church hall and grounds, the financial position and to implement solutions and discuss forthcoming events.

**Christine Gardner**

### **Electoral Roll**

This year the full Electoral Roll has been taken and now stands at 43.

Anyone who is eligible who has not completed a form can still do so and be added at the next PCC meeting.

Christine Gardner – Electoral Officer, April 2025

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is on the agenda at all PCC meetings, where I report on DBS Checks completed, & those required to be renewed, training courses completed & refresher training required (Safeguarding training is required to be refreshed every 3 years). All PCC members are up to date with all their mandatory Safeguarding training.

I regularly review & update our Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. The Dashboard supports parishes in understanding the safeguarding requirements of the Church of England and the Charity Commission, and tracks progress in meeting these requirements. There are three levels to complete, with the completion of most questions on one level progressing a parish to the next level. These levels focus on safer foundations, safer activities, and safer practices. Regular updating of the Parish safeguarding dashboard helps maintain and implement our Safeguarding Action plan, which is approved by the PCC annually. This year we have progressed up to level 3, which has given us more to do. (See our Action Plan Summary below, this only shows items still to be actioned, not those already complete).

A church Safeguarding email address & my details are on the church notices, website & posters. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact me.

We use the details provided on the Data privacy consent sheets, as a method for keeping in contact with everyone within the church family, providing prayer chain messages and notice sheets. If you have not completed a data privacy consent sheet, & you are happy for the church to have your contact details, please complete a form, to clearly indicate how we can use your data, or speak to me for more details. Copies of St Peter's data privacy notice & the consent form are available from the rack behind the sound system in church, or from myself.

Christine Gardner – PSO

### Hartshorne: St Peter Safeguarding Action Summary - Level 3

This shorter version of the Safeguarding Action Plan ignores any completed actions.

#### Policies and Action Plan

	Status	Notes
Recruitment of Ex-Offenders The PCC must have a policy regarding the recruitment of ex-offenders.	The PCC needs to approve a policy regarding the recruitment of ex-offenders.	Diocese policy for recruitment of ex-offenders to be reviewed by PCC & amended for St Peter's Hartshorne as appropriate.

#### Church Activities

	Status	Notes
<b>Little Sparks</b> - Mother & Toddler group meeting in Church Hall on Wednesday and Friday mornings		
<b>Risk Assessment</b> The PCC must ensure that an 'activity risk assessment' is completed and reviewed regularly.	Action is required.	Check to be performed
<b>DBS Checks</b> The PCC must ensure that all eligible leaders and helpers are DBS checked every three years.	Action is required.	Check to be performed
<b>Safeguarding Training</b> The PCC must ensure that all leaders and helpers undertake the required safeguarding training.	Action is required.	PSO to visit group and review with leaders

#### Safeguarding Procedures

	Status	Notes
<b>Responding to Concerns or Allegations</b>		
The PCC must approve a procedure to deal promptly with any safeguarding concern or allegation (including suspicion of abuse).	The PCC needs to review their procedure before 16/05/2025.	Review / update & share with PCC for approval at May PCC

#### Non-Church Activities

	Status	Notes
<b>Hartshorne Scouts Groups</b>		
<b>Hire Agreement</b> This non-church activity must have a hire agreement that includes a signed safeguarding addendum.	Agreement to be checked	Hire agreements are required for all activities including those which no charge. Scouts have their own safeguarding procedures & leader training

#### Reviews and Reports

	Status	Notes
<b>Reports to the PCC</b> The Parish Safeguarding Officer must give regular reports to the PCC regarding safeguarding in the parish.	The PCC needs to receive a safeguarding report before 21/06/2025.	Report to be shared for APCM
<b>Review List of Church Activities</b> The PCC must confirm that the list of Church Activities on this dashboard is complete.	The PCC needs to review the list of Church Activities before 18/07/2025.	List will be reviewed quarterly by PCC
<b>Review List of Non-Church Activities</b> The PCC must confirm that the list of Non Church Activities on this dashboard is complete.	The PCC needs to review the list of Non-Church Activities before 25/04/2025	To be reviewed after APCM

## St Peter's Church, Hartshorne

### Legal and Administrative Information for the year ended 31 December 2024

<b>Committee of Management:</b>	Mr N Worth Mrs D Patrick Mrs C Gardner Mrs D Worth Mr M Smith Mr P Brownhill Mrs K Smith Mrs H Davies Mrs J Horan Mrs A Squire Mr J Patrick	Lay Chairperson Lay Minister / Church Warden Secretary Treasurer
	Mr J Johnston	Deanery Synod Representative
<b>Principal Address:</b>	Church Street Hartshorne Swadlincote Derbyshire DE11 7ER	
<b>Correspondence Address:</b>	3 Sharpswood Manor Woodville Swadlincote Derbyshire DE11 7JT	
<b>Charitable status:</b>	In common with other Parochial Church Councils St Peter's Church, Hartshorne is a charity excepted by Statutory Instrument from registration with the Charity Commission	
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	Bernard Taylor FCMA 41, Derwent Road, Burton On Trent DE15 9FR	
<b>Bankers:</b>	Lloyd's Bank plc High Street East Ham	

## **Independent Examiner's Report for St. Peter's Church, Hartshorne for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

This report is conducted under the "Church Accounting Regulations 1997 -2001" (regulations) as amended.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

I rely on these regulations as the basis of my examination, and that the "council" (PCC) has prepared the "statement of accounts" under these regulations.

The Council should be aware that if the Council's gross income or total expenditure exceeds £250,000 in the relevant year, or in either of the two immediately preceding years, or if the Council so chooses, the report shall instead be a report by an auditor as provided by these regulations.

The review for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 consisted of an examination of the records as kept by the PCC, relevant questions being asked as to the source and nature of selected items of income and expenditure, and a comparison of the accounts as supported by these records.

Having conducted the examination, no material items have come to my attention, and the method of accounting and accounting records are in accordance with the requirements of the regulations.

In my opinion the Income and Expenditure statement as examined, provides a true and fair picture of the financial activities for St Peter's Church for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

Bernard Taylor FCMA  
41, Derwent Road,  
Burton On Trent  
DE15 9FR



**St Peter's Church, Hartshorne**  
**Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**  
**General Fund – Receipts and payments account**

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from donors</b>				
Tax claimable giving	20281.21		18287.71	
Collections and other giving	9342.09		7528.34	
Income tax recovered	6306.63		6103.56	
		<b>35929.93</b>		<b>31919.61</b>
<b>Other voluntary incoming resources</b>			1119.35	
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Legacies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Donations for restricted purposes	9881.89		2569.70	
Other	21.65		2417.06	
Bellringers	583.00		65.00	
		<b>10486.54</b>		<b>6171.11</b>
<b>Income from charitable and ancillary trading</b>				
Fees	4555.30		7699.00	
Little Sparks	1094.64		1764.11	
		<b>5649.94</b>		<b>9463.11</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		52066.41		47,553.83
Less payments		45915.19		51,653.42
Excess of receipts over payments		6151.22		-4099.59
<b>Bank Account @1st January</b>		14429.91		18,529.50
<b>Bank Account @ 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>		20581.13		14,429.91

	2024		2023	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Grants</b>				
Home and overseas missions			3565.00	
Hartshorne St Peter's Care Fund			2020.00	
				5585.00
<b>Activities directly related to work of the church</b>				
Common Fund	21197.00		21,197.00	
Church - running expenses	6424.51		6424.51	
Church - maintenance	0.00		0	
Upkeep of services	3635.08		3398.64	
Support costs - education, training, Sunday School	1014.48		124.90	
Upkeep of churchyard	391.07		2442.42	
Church hall - running costs	3173.90		2684.55	
Church hall maintenance	278.13		1760.38	
Bell Ringers	494.40		120.00	
Other	1246.46		1032.66	
Little Sparks	977.65		1126.27	
Minster Expenses	311.00		252.00	
Funerals/weddings & Diocese expenses	1896.00		2854.00	
Outreach/Evangelism	1225.55		2155.09	
		42265.19		46068.42
<b>Church management of Administration</b>				
Postage and stationery	0.00		0.00	
Printing	0.00		0.00	
		00.00		00.00
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>45915.19</b>		<b>51653.43</b>

## **Deanery Synod Report 2024**

St Peter's Church is represented on the Deanery Synod by James Johnston - there is also a current vacancy for another Deanery Synod representative

Since we have been a much larger Deanery, the chair ship of the committee has been delegated to the Lay Chair Maggie Femby-Taylor (Ticknall Church). This is to help to alleviate some of the work pressure that would be on the shoulders of the Area Dean with meetings. At the meetings they are always very interesting and it's always a great opportunity to meet all the Christians from all the churches within the deanery and I've made some wonderful friendships with other representatives some of these representatives were coming along to Sunday Night Live as they all enjoyed fresh expression of faith.

The Deanery covers most of South Derbyshire apart from the Western parishes of the District which fall within another Deanery. The meetings are held three to four times a year, they are generally held at the church hall in Hartshorne but sometimes we do get to go out to other churches which is always a nice experience to enjoy the hospitality that the other churches provide for us. The meetings are always well attended by a mixture of clergy and laity members. It is always refreshing to see how different churches approach their worship and yet there is always a sense that people genuinely want to work together to further the kingdom of God.

At the meeting we generally get split into little groups so we can discuss the matters that need to be discussed and so that a good cross section of different styles of churchmanship can work together and explore how we go forward with things like the new Diocesan Vision that we have heard so wonderfully from Bishop Libby Lane over the last couple of years. We also often have ArchDeacon Matthew Trick coming along to the meetings and he is always so inspiring the way that he comes and speaks to us with the fantastic new initiatives that the diocese are rolling out. We've also had discussions about how we can empower laity to take on a bigger responsibility within our churches due to the lack of clergy and with the increasing work roles on the existing clergy.

The Synod has just had a change of leadership with the appointment of a new Area Dean to cover the Mercian Deanery! Rev Steve Short from Repton Church has just taken up that new appointment we wish him very well with his time as the Area Dean. We also want to a special thank you to Rev Dr Mike Firbank as the previous Area Dean with the wonderful work that he has done over the last four years.

James Johnston

## **Churches Together - Swadlincote & District Report 2024**

Churches Together in Swadlincote Are represented by James Johnston With the committee currently being chaired by Rev Dr David Palmer. For anybody who doesn't know

churches together in Swadlincote is a body made up of all the Anglican Churches of the Minster, the Methodist circuit locally, Hill Street Baptist Church, the Catholic Church and the Salvation Army. They joined up to become a complete committee in 2000 as a way of promoting unified evangelism within Swadlincote and the rest of the urban core area (Hartshorne, Newhall, Woodville, Church Gresley and Linton).

As a general rule of thumb churches together normally have the following events throughout the year in January they have the Week for Prayer and Christian Unity which culminated in a joint service at the Catholic Church in mid-January. We also have a joint event on the first Friday in March for One World Day of Prayer that includes a joint service of Prayer and Reflections.

The next event that we focus on is the Good Friday walk of witness which we haven't been able to have since 2019 due to the Covid restrictions so this year will be our first year back where we are having a silent walk of witness through Swadlincote Town Centre. This year we have collectively decided to go back to doing the Good Friday walk of witness in the traditional way that we used to do it prior to lockdown with the marching drum leading the cross and the walk of witness. Then having a joint praise and worship service with reflections for Good Friday outside Swadlincote Townhall.

We are truly blessed to have some absolutely fantastic worship leaders who will be leading a special service that a lot of the local dignities will be coming along to! Putting these quality events on is a true outreach and a massive witness to people in Swadlincote.

The next major event that we got to look forward to is our joint service with the Minster on Sunday 31st August on Maurice Lee Memorial Park in Church Gresley. This will be a fantastic opportunity for us to all get together and celebrate what we are doing as churches together in the United Way in the Swadlincote area. We also are planning to have all the local services like the council and the Scouts come along and join in with us so it will be a wonderful family event for everybody.

Our last event of the year is always Christmas again this is still to be totally decided what we are planning to do we have a couple of things in the pipeline the first thing will be to have a Christmas event in Swadlincote again on the Delph and the second thing will be doing our online video again that we did for the previous Christmas hopefully this year we will be recording a full live carol service with a full live congregation in one of the local churches which will be broadcast around the area over the Christmas period.

Another resource that churches together are very involved in are the assemblies team which was the original vision of the Rev Dr Graham Rutter back in 2012. The assemblies team regularly goes into many of our local primary schools to lead assemblies and to tell the children about God's love for them in an accessible way please assemblies are usually fun and often involve the children dressing up or holding up props many of the children and the staff look forward to the assemblies provided by the assemblies team. I even know from personal experience from some teachers that I know that they speak very highly of the work of the assemblies team. On a second note another vital resource that

churches together is involved in is the it's your move book that are provided to year six pupils when they leave primary school to make their way up to secondary school this book is provided by Scripture Union and this is normally given to the children on their leaving assembly And this is to give reassurance to the pupils going to secondary school about what secondary school life will really be like because sometimes they can feel very daunted making that transition from primary school to secondary school.

As churches together we have a very strong vision for evangelism in Swadlincote and the local area.

Prayer - For all our endeavours they need to be underpinned by prayer, Please pray that our people will be fully empowered to declare the love of Jesus Christ to all the people that they meet and pray that people will meet with God through the power of the Holy Spirit through the witness that we bare to those people.

Funding - In order for churches together to keep running the wonderful events that we do and keep all the activities going that we are involved in like the summer camps and the baseball camp that we had a few years ago we need to have constant funding. This funding will be even more important as we are hoping to run a Christians against poverty centre with Inn Swadlincote somewhere. We ask each other churches to provide funding through annual subscriptions and potentially through other donations. Please would you consider prayerfully how much your church or even as individuals within your church you are able to give in order to carry on with all the evangelistic work that we do.

Resources - In order for people within Swadlincote and the local area to encounter a relationship with Jesus Christ, we need to have people who can show them that way. All our people are volunteers and feel that God has called them to be involved in churches together and that could be a variety of roles whether it be leading worship, planning events, discussing funding, dealing with administration roles and of course the most important to providing prayer support. However this being sad we always need more assistance and more members to join the churches together committee. If you feel that God is calling you to be involved with any aspect of churches together or any strong aspect of evangelism then please get in contact with us because we have a very passionate heart for continuous evangelism within Swadlincote and the local area.

Human Resources - churches together are always looking for new representatives and we definitely need another two representatives from StPeters to go along to the meetings. It's a fantastic way of going out and reaching people for Jesus Christ in this area. So if you have a heart for evangelism come and join churches together, it will be a wonderful thing for you to do. Because Churches together is really moving in a good direction at the moment.

I personally want to thank all the members of our churches and all the representatives from those churches who support the work that is given to churches together and Swadlincote and district and thank the very continued hard work of our chair and leader Rev Dr David Palmer for all of his dedication and diligence

### **Friday Morning House Group**

We were saddened to say farewell to two of our members who went to be with the Lord last year. Although ill health prevented their attendance for some time, we still considered them a part of our group and we thank the Lord for the special relationship we had with both Pauline and Wendy over many years.

I find it such an encouragement to be a part of this house group. Although our average age is around the mid seventies, there is such an eagerness to learn more and to grow in faith. One of the things we have been doing is to get to know our bibles better. A challenge to learn the names of the books of the New Testament in order led to groans about how difficult that is, but they have done it, and that is just one of the things they have been asked to do.

Another indication of the determination of the group to grow spiritually is that we have agreed to go on the rota for leading intercessions in the Sunday service. This is yet another hurdle for many in the group, but they have risen to the challenge and are trusting that the Lord will help them through.

The friendship and care which each member feels for the others makes this a very special meeting. Everyone makes a contribution in their own particular way, and we are all blessed as a result.

Something which Paul wrote to the Thessalonians sums up, for me, the attitude of the group: "Dear sisters, we can't help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing."

Sandra O'Toole

### **Bell ringing at St Peter's**

The Hartshorne society of Bellringers exists to ring St Peter's bells as a call to worship and to mark or celebrate local and national events.

It is also a worthwhile activity which can be enjoyed by anyone in the local community. Ringing a tower bell is more challenging than might be expected but does not need strength or musical ability - it's all about technique. Its a sociable group activity with personal challenges, needing a physical skill and a little mental activity. We practice at 7.30 on Wednesdays. Potential ringers always welcome.

We have managed to ring for all services this last year and almost always with all 6 bells. The band is a happy group and making progress with the ringing. In spite of the Tower Captain being unavailable for 3 months, they have just managed to ring Plain Bob Doubles.

A new rope was ordered but the lead time was so long that we had to borrow one till ours arrived. Once we confirmed it fitted correctly, we ordered 5 more and are very grateful

to the Hartshorne Charities for sharing the cost. The ropes should be with us in early summer.

We have ringers at all stages of learning and look forward to all of them making more progress this year. For the most experienced, a quarter peal is our next target, but a bit of a stretch.

Andy Austen (Tower Captain)

## **Netherhall**

Have you ever been surprised by what God is doing in your life? Visiting Netherhall to lead services was not on our agenda but the opportunity to share a short service with some of the residents and staff has proved to be a blessing to us and, we are told, to all those attending. We are welcomed graciously. It is a real joy to worship in a different setting. The services are short and include singing hymns, praying, reading the Bible, and giving a short talk. We then chat with residents. We are thrilled to hear elderly residents, including those with dementia, joyfully participating in singing hymns and reciting the Lord's prayer. The residents teach us that those lessons, learned long ago at Sunday School, in school and at church, are still relevant, full of meaning and a source of precious memories. The services are very informal and last about half an hour. You would be most welcome to join us.

Sean O'Toole

## **Social network – Facebook, Twitter & Instagram**



St. Peter's Church has been engaging with the local community through social media for around 11 years. Our platforms provide updates on services and a glimpse into church life.

With over 2,900 Facebook followers, we've become a key point of contact for wedding, baptism, and funeral arrangements, highlighting our commitment to community accessibility. The page is administered by Matt Smith, Jeff Patrick, Rev. Mike Firbank, and Helen Davis."

## **Matt Smith**

## **The Prayer Chain**

St. Peter's Church Prayer Chain, Coordinated by Matt Smith, provides confidential, immediate prayer support via text messaging. Established to serve both our church family and fulfil our calling to pray for one another, the Prayer Chain has seen numerous answered prayers.

We believe it strengthens community bonds. We encourage all to submit prayer requests, trusting in their confidentiality. To join the Prayer Chain and receive requests, please contact Matt Smith or Christine Gardner for a form and GDPR information.

Matt Smith

### **Worship Group**

We are so thankful for the growth of the St. Peter's Worship Group! We've been wonderfully blessed with the addition of Emily on flute and Alison on keyboard, enriching our musical expression.

We offer a diverse range of music, from cherished hymns to contemporary worship, to engage all age worship in our services. Our group prioritises flexibility, ensuring members have time for rest and preventing burnout. We are excited to see how God will continue to shape and develop our team in the year ahead.

Please join us in praying that we will remain focused on seeking Jesus, moving forward together in harmony, and drawing nearer to our Lord.

God Bless, St. Peter's Worship Group.

### **Website**

It has been 10 years since I set up the church website. Over the past year there have been some changes in the way that the website has been hosted and I have relied on the help of Jeff Patrick to sort out the related problems. We have an SSL certificate - a padlock icon on the left side of the URL address bar shows that the connection is secure. I have kept the church and church hall calendars up to date, these are published on the website. Copies of our weekly newsletters can also be found and links to Facebook (St Peter's, Little Sparks and Hartshorne Society of Bell Ringers).

There are also details of burials plots to assist people in finding the whereabouts of relatives' graves. Church information pages are also updated when new information becomes available. Please let me know if you find things that need changing.

Jane Horan

### **Flowers and Church Decoration**

This year a small team has been established to create floral displays for key events during the year. The team have been very grateful to be supported by members of the congregation to decorate the church during the past year. Last year Bill was asked to construct a frame to fit round the top of the pulpit. This has enabled the pulpit to be more easily decorated for harvest, Remembrance and Christmas.



May - the font and surrounding area was decorated to mark the coronation of King Charles III.

October the church was decorated for Harvest and seasonal flowers, fruit and vegetables was gathered to create a beautiful display around the font

November- a display was created for Remembrance Sunday, with crafty members of the church knitting and crocheting poppies to mark the 80th anniversary of D Day.

December members of the congregation came together to decorate the church for Christmas. This year we purchased a new pre-lit Christmas tree and baubles.

March the Friday house group kindly supported the flowers team to create posies for Mother's Day.

Thank you to those who have made donations toward the cost of flowers and for placing flowers in the church on a regular basis.

Jane, Pam and Katie

### **Goseley Coffee, Conversation & Company**

This is social group that meets at Goseley Community Centre twice a month on the second and fourth Thursdays, 10.30am till midday. We provide an opportunity for people who live in the neighbourhood to meet up and chat over a cuppa. Most live on Goseley estate but there are others who attend St Peter's and come along to support the group.

When the group was set up six years ago by Rev Stella Greenwood it followed a more structured format with bible readings and prayers with the opportunity to chat over tea & coffee. It has since become a more relaxed opportunity to socialise and share experiences.

We have welcomed a few new faces this year. In December we met at Garden King to share a meal in the café and browse the Christmas fare.

Jane Horan

### **Weekly Newsletter**

I have been producing a weekly newsletter since 2013, with a short break during COVID when it was compiled by Deb Patrick and circulated by Rev Stella. Every issue since October 2013 can be found on the website. Each week the newsletter is emailed to 40 people. Others can access the newsletter via the church website or pick up a copy in church on a Sunday morning. Thanks go to Bill for printing these; it makes it easier for me to produce the newsletter when I am away on holiday without the worry of making sure that hard copies are in church each Sunday.

Our current format is for the person preaching each week to write something to include in the newsletter which is linked to the scripture reading for that Sunday. If anyone has items to include in the newsletter, please email it to me by the Thursday before.

Jane Horan ([jane.horan52@gmail.com](mailto:jane.horan52@gmail.com))

### **Swadlincote and District Youth for Christ**

A huge thank you to all at St Peter's Church for your support of Swadlincote and District Youth for Christ, for your prayer support, financial giving and for those who give time to support the work. The last twelve months have been busy, as we continue to be in all three local secondary schools, Granville, Pingle and Mercia (William Allitt). We have spent time with young people in small groups supporting them with their mental health and wellbeing, and also at lunch times, having discussion around faith. These sessions have all been well received. We have seen God bless relationships with not only the young people, but also staff, and regularly are asked to pray for individual needs.

Thank you for supporting us. If you would like to know more please email [helen.davis@yfc.co.uk](mailto:helen.davis@yfc.co.uk)

Helen Davis

### **Little Sparks**

Little Sparks continues to grow with new families joining our number on a regular basis. We open Wednesday and Friday mornings with Friday being our busiest morning overall.

The morning routine remains generally unchanged with Story Time being an opportunity to get the message of God's love across through interactive stories and usually a lot of laughs. But the most important aspect of the sessions will always be the conversations we have with the grown-up's sharing stories of parenthood and hope. Some people have been coming to Little Sparks for several years and those relationships have developed over time.

We continue to explore how to develop the ministry of Little Sparks into a Fresh Expression of worship. This may take time to develop but please pray that we hear the Lord and that, over time, we see this work become a little worshipping community of families.

We would like to especially thank all the folk from church who play such an important part in delivering a warm welcome to the families. And to Sharon and Annabelle from the village who are both very faithful helpers.

Debbie Patrick, Karen Alexander, and Carol Hulse

### **Hartshorne CE Primary School**

School life continues to go well with children receiving a good learning experience in a close-knit environment.

Last year Rev Sam Mackie played an integral part in developing the new school vision and values, which we chose to draw on the creation story for. This is our new school vision that can be found on the school website at [Vision and Values | Hartshorne CofE Primary School](#):

***Our vision and values are born out of God's love and nurture of all creation.***

***Together we work as a family to see one another grow and flourish:  
knowing that we are precious and unique to God.***

***We aim to live out our values in our school and the world around us:  
as we play our part in God's wonderful creation story.***

Please pray for the leadership and teaching of the school, particularly that this new vision will become an integral part of the lives of the staff and children.

Assembly Team continue to lead Collective Worship for the school every other week and school continue to have whole school worship in the church to celebrate the major Christian celebrations such as Harvest, Easter and Christmas. Each of these celebrations are very well attended by parents and frequently fill the church.

This year we held both Experience Easter Outside and Experience Christmas in church, giving us a wonderful opportunity to minister directly into the lives of the children and staff attending.

**Important notice:** we have a space on the Governor body for another Foundation Governor. If anyone from church would like to get involved in the Leadership of the school and ministry to staff and fellow governors, please speak to Debbie Patrick.

### **Assembly Team**

The team are going strong we are currently delivering assemblies in 10 schools: keeping the team very busy. Assembly Team is made up of members from the Minster churches. It is a great opportunity to share God's love with the schools. We are so amazed by the openness of the schools and by the many opportunities we get to be a part of the school community.

Our Assemblies/Collective Worships take on different themes; sometimes our planning is wrapped around seasonal themes such as easter, Christmas and harvest and sometimes we will follow a set of characters such as the disciples, early church leaders or old testament characters and other times we will take on a set of Jesus' parables or Old Testament stories.. the options are endless really.

The important thing is that, as we are invited in specifically to deliver a 'Christian' assembly, we are free to be honest about our faith and how much God loves everyone.

Please continue to pray for the Team and for the schools in which we minister.

Hartshorne CofE Primary	Fairmeadows Foundation Primary
St Georges CofE Primary	Pennine Way Junior Academy
Church Gresley Infant and Nursery	Newhall Infant and Nursery
Elmsleigh Infant and Nursery	Netherseal Primary
Belmont Primary	Springfield Primary

Debbie Patrick

### **Sunday School**

At Jigsaw, Helen and myself continue to lead the sessions,( Katie is taking time out as. She is looking after baby Ernie.) OK. Amazing news. We now have extra helpers to help with our children, for which we are very grateful. Thank you.

We continue to have our secessions in the north aisle. The number of children that we have in Jigsaw does tend to vary from week to week.

Before we start our sessions we have a general chat to the children to see what they've been doing during their week. We take the register, and the children have their own charts on which they place a sticker each week they attend. When they have gained 10 stickers, they are allowed to choose a small gift from the gift box.

In 'JIGSAW!' we continue to use the Scripture Union books , we do a number of activities:- small games (depending upon the lesson); a reading from the bible, craft activity, have a healthy snack and drink and prayer time.

Jigsaw is an important part of our church family and we are so blessed that we have more helpers and sometimes children. Please continue to pray for Jigsaw and everyone who's involved in the group. Thank you.

Carol Hulse