

PCC Report 2023

Services

Our Village worship service continues to be the best attended of our regular services, although numbers have remained lower since the construction of HS2 began and since the Covid-19 pandemic, which seems to be having a lasting effect. However, the service remains popular with those who do attend, and it is a good service for children to attend, there being food and only a short service. It also provides a welcome opportunity for villagers to meet and chat over coffee and croissants. Thanks to all who help with this service; the readers; and those who provide refreshments at their own expense.

The Service of Remembrance was well attended in November, and supported by the Scouts, Cubs and beavers. Their presence made a real difference to the service.

The Christmas Carol service was held for the first time since 2019 and it was wonderful to celebrate Christmas in this way again, with a congregation of just under 50 people attending. People continue to say that the carol service feels like the start of Christmas. The finger buffet and mulled wine is very much appreciated afterwards and many thanks go to Penny Kirkland for organizing the food and to everyone who contributes dishes. The 'just-in-time' choir lead the singing beautifully and it was lovely to have a talented new soloist to open the service in 12 year old Isla.

Holy Communion services continue to have a small but committed congregation. Children are always welcomed at these services and continue to engage well with the 'communion service wheel'. Toys and craft material are always available for the children. Rev'd Paula Smith always provides an interesting and thought provoking sermon and her spiritual leadership, guidance and enthusiasm are greatly appreciated.

Fund Raising

With the end of restrictions due to the pandemic, it is likely that fundraising will once again be split between the church and village hall, which has just been refurbished. This means that the few people who organize these events are not competing and we make the best use of this small resource.

A summer picnic was held in the playing field which was quite well attended. People brought their own picnics and purchased tea and cake. The weather was lovely and everyone enjoyed the event.

A craft, tea and cake event was held on Easter Eve. Lizzie Babister worked with children on a variety of Easter themed crafts, many of which were used to decorate the wooden cross placed on the gate of the church on Good Friday. There was a treasure hunt, with Easter eggs for those children who found all of the letters and worked out the anagram. The adults and children also enjoyed home made cakes kindly donated by villagers.

The annual sponsored walk is always well supported in September, with a great team of walkers raising funds for our Church and the Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. Quite a large group walked from Tingewick to Turweston, stopping at the Turweston airfield café for refreshments. Very many thanks go to those who joined the walkers and to those who sponsored them.

Flowers and Cleaning

Our thanks go to Penny Kirkland for organizing what is now a small team of flower arrangers who keep the Church looking so nice for the various festivals. Thanks also go to those flower arrangers. It makes such a difference when the church is decorated. Thanks also go to The Friends of Turweston Church who pay for someone to clean the church each month. This is greatly appreciated.

From the registers

Our Church continues to be a popular choice for the baptisms and funerals of people with a connection to the village, and those from the neighbouring town of Brackley.

Margaret Tilley
Churchwarden