

REPORTS ON 2022

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH CLEANING

When I first joined the Monday Morning Cleaning Group there were ten volunteers. We are now just three – which includes our churchwarden, who has many other responsibilities.

The church has been swept and vacuumed, the pews, tables and chairs dusted and surfaces cleaned with anti-bacterial wipes. We trust this has helped protect the congregation and visitors against Covid etc.

St Michael's has many visitors, especially during the summer months and we are able to welcome and guide people round the church when needed.

However, as two of us are well into our eighties we need younger help – or a different way of cleaning this large building – all offers gratefully received.

Mary Reid

ST MICHAEL'S FLOWER GUILD

Over the year we have been able to decorate the church despite the decrease in numbers of our team of arrangers, BUT the task, pleasant as it is, is falling to a smaller number of volunteers and this is a real concern.

An exciting event for the Guild was the floral decoration for the Queen's Jubilee when the church was filled with many wonderful arrangements. The decoration for Remembrance Sunday was admired by many visitors to the church.

Decisions have had to be made about the future of floral decoration due to the increasing cost of fresh flowers and the number of arrangers we now are able to call upon. From Christmas to Lent we will use silk flowers, from Easter to Harvest fresh flowers and from Harvest to Advent silk flowers.

If anyone would like to join our small team contact Ann Eckersley 01 502 712765

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT 2022 ST. LUKE'S

We have had another busy year at St. Luke's with the building at full capacity several days each week, with 13 groups meeting regularly. Our Saturday morning Cuppa and Chat in the main hall has been a notable success this year, and has become a place for regular socialising, for those using Parish Pantry, church members and friends, and others who come in for a free breakfast. This time has also been used by the East

Suffolk Financial Inclusion team to offer help and advice, an opportunity to distribute Comfort Food Vouchers and electricity vouchers, and to offer help in other ways.

Parish Pantry has seen a vast increase in the number of people coming for food, with an average of 40 each week. We continue to receive generous help from Morrisons each week and also a generous donation from Townlands Trust and from individuals.

We had several notable events during the year, one of which was a Jubilee Tea, which took the form of a street party in the hall. This was a very happy occasion attended by around 80 local people. This was followed within a few months by the church being open specifically for people to come in to sign a Book of Condolence after the death of Queen Elizabeth.

Our Carols and Candles was a great joy especially as some of our Parish Pantry friends came along as they felt they wanted to and they consider this to be their church.

We held our Christmas Market on a Friday evening, which proved very successful, and a Christmas Dinner for over 70 people of all ages, both great team efforts which brought joy to many.

We have, of course had some sad events too. We have lost some longstanding members of our church; notably Jim Lumsden, Angela Morgan, Di Fleming and Brian Holland.

Throughout the year there has been ongoing maintenance to the building, including a new Fire door in the main hall, and the reduction in size of the radiator covers, both of which have made a vast improvement to maintaining heat. Our 5 year electrical inspection and all PAT testing have been successfully completed.

Roger and Fran

TODDLER GROUP

Every Thursday morning apart from school holidays between 9am -11am Parents , Caregivers & children under school age meet in St Michael's Church Undercroft. There are a variety of toys, drawing paper & crayons & a toy kitchen for the little chefs. Coffee & tea is provided for the adults, while the children can have juice, fruit , cheese & cheese biscuits provided as a snack. Everyone attending enjoys the morning chatting & playing together.

Regards
Sue Son