

ST DENYS' CHURCH, NORTH TAMERTON

CHURCHWARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

Churchwardens: Susan Turnock, James Oldham.

This year has been notable for the completion of the Bells Project, a great team effort under the leadership of Mrs Suzanne Harper. The bells are now hung and have been rung several times. It is a delight to hear them resounding right across the valley. The bells were rehung by Taylor's of Loughborough.

Our attendance at services has held up, with the usual high points at Harvest and Christingle. The overall feeling is one of continuity. We have managed to keep to three services per month, alone in the benefice in doing so, but the onus has inevitably fallen on our lay worship leader to maintain this level of ministry. Our Rector, Rev. Michael Dobson, was licensed last September and, so far, he has taken three services at St Denys' Church.

We are extremely grateful to Rev Helen Davies for maintaining our one communion service per month. Her support of our parish is invaluable, and greatly appreciated.

We have held several events over the past year, always very well supported by the village. In addition to our annual Pancake Brunch, which is always popular, we had a highly successful soup and roll event.

We are fortunate to have welcomed the Bishop of St Germans, Rt Rev Hugh Nelson, on two occasions this year. He came to bless the bells after their completion, and before they were hung. He held a memorable and moving service and there was an excellent attendance of 60 in church.

He also came to take a Confirmation service, with five candidates from our Benefice, including two from our parish. This was followed by refreshments in the Victory Hall, with Bishop Hugh in attendance.

We have maintained a good number of visitors through the year, many of whom have written appreciative comments in the Visitors' Book. Thanks to the efforts of our church family, our church feels warm and welcoming and, we hope, full of Christian love. Visitors are invited to help themselves to biscuits, tea or coffee and bottled water.

Finally, our thanks go to the loyal support of our church family, who attend services faithfully whatever the weather, and especial thanks go to Diane Turnock who provides tea and coffee after all the morning services and several others as well, including Easter Day. This makes an invaluable contribution to church life as it enables us all to socialise after the service and to cement our friendships.

Susan Turnock

James Oldham