

ST DENYS' CHURCH, ANNUAL REPORT 2025-

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In terms of the Benefice as a whole, the most significant event of the year is the suspension of our parish priest, Rev. Michael Dobson, on unspecified safeguarding issues.

Once again, we have been heavily reliant on the ministry of Rev. Helen Davies, who has taken almost all our Communion Services and has, effectively, served as our Parish Priest, not only taking Sunday services but also funerals and weddings and weekday services. She has also made pastoral visits, despite having a full-time job as a solicitor. We, and the whole Benefice, are deeply grateful for her ministry to us all.

Here is a synopsis of the various events that have taken place over the last year:

Now that our peal of bells is in full working order there have been visits from ringers of various parishes, eager to try out the bells for themselves.

Ernie Hicks is in the process of training new bellringers, four at a time. There is a pleasing enthusiasm for this.

At the village celebration of VE day, the church played a central role, with inaugural prayers said outside, within sight of the reconditioned bells, followed by a service in the church.

There was a commemorative bell peal, and, at dusk, the church was illuminated in red, white and blue, and the village flag was flying at the flag mast.

St Denys' hosted the Synod meeting with the Bishop of Truro, Rt Rev David Williams preaching. His presence with us was greatly appreciated.

We were also honoured by his presence at our Harvest Festival.

St Denys' hosted Truro AMM meeting of Truro Prayer Book Society followed by Evensong.

In September, we held our Sausage and Apple Brunch, which raised £409, and our Pancake Brunch raised £451.

In addition, our outstanding Christmas Tree Festival raised the sum of £902.32, an amazing sum.

Recently St Denys' hosted the Guild Day for the Tamar Valley Guild of Bellringers. It was last hosted in St Denys' in 1953.

For all these events we are immensely grateful for the assistance of our wonderful band of volunteers who give their unstinting assistance to all our events. It is their support which makes these events possible.

We would like to pay especial tribute to two individuals: our Assistant Churchwarden Diane Turnock and our Tower Captain Ernie Hicks who help us with the smooth running of St Denys' their help and support is invaluable.

We continue to be the only parish in the Benefice to hold three services each month, and attendances at these services are invariably in double figures, which is quite pleasing for a small village, and we are aware of the support of the vast majority of our village community, for which we are very grateful.

We are very grateful to the Community Benefit Fund for financing the rental of the Victory Hall, it is very much appreciated.

James Oldham and Susan Turnock

Church Wardens