

# Christ Church, Fulmodeston NR21 0LZ

**Annual Church Report** on the activities of the PCC for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> Decembe 2017 prepared by the Churchwarden, Andrew Lee on behalf of the Priest in Charge, The Revd Francis Mason

**Churchwarden:** Andrew Lee

**Bank:** NATWEST 4 Market Place, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 9BA

**Treasurer** – Robert Smith, Honeysuckle Cottage, Croxton Road NR21 0NJ

**Independent Examiner:** John Davies, Fulmodeston Hall, NR21 0LY

**PCC Members:** Alan Heath, Christopher Sharpin, Elizabeth Sadler, Gillian Lee, James Woodfield, Stephen Miles

**Secretary:** Carolyn Thomas

**Christ Church, Fulmodeston is ‘Committed to Growth’.**

**Mission Statement:** To continue to provide cohesion and a focal point to the local working rural community and to use the church building for as many services and special events as possible, including concerts, art fairs, book sales, lectures, etc., as part of the church’s outreach both to the locality and beyond. To provide all the above free at the point of entry so that anyone may be included and contribute to the work of the church both in religious and secular activity. To help all feel needed and valued and to provide in a considerate and compassionate way for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals.

**2017 - The congregation of Christ Church, Fulmodeston** has worked tirelessly throughout the year to raise funds in order to play its full part in diocesan life and pay the Quota in full as part of its agreed responsibility in conjunction with its sister church at Fakenham. We continue to work closely with Francis Mason and Reader, Amanda Sands, in an atmosphere of mutual respect and friendship.

**Christ Church has mounted forty-thre services this year**, with others held jointly at the Fulmodeston Methodist Chapel. Although regular services are from the Book of Common Prayer, a number have been in modern language, including Harvest Festival, Christingle, Advent Carol Service, Good Friday Liturgy, Mothering Sunday, and a crib service led by the Keep Fit Group in which children took an active part. The average attendance during the year for the purpose of Statistics for Mission was 16. There have been a number of events mounted by the church as part of its outreach to the community. These are listed in the appendix to this report.

**2017 saw the final payment of the Historic England grant for the roof works and the claiming of the final VAT rebate from Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Christ Church now has to report to Historic England for the next ten years to show that the renovated standard of the fabric is regularly maintained and checked.**

The regular monthly house group continues to meet. Members share a time of fellowship with colleagues and friends from St Mary's Church, Barney, the Fulmodeston Chapel and from elsewhere in the area. Currently, there are contributions from five Christian traditions, all living within the Fulmodeston Civil Parish. Ecumenism in Fulmodeston is alive and well with both the Church and Chapel offering chances for all to meet in an inclusive atmosphere. Highlights of such events were the New year's Unity Service, the Harvest Festival and the Carol Service.

Charitable donations in 2017 were made to E.A.C.H, The Royal British Legion, The Poppy Factory and Water Aid. Donations of produce are being collected in the church in aid of the Mid Norfolk Foodbank. At least 100 kilos were collected in 2017. Christ Church has also offered its newly introduced 'Mission Budget' of £250 towards the drive to provide AEDs (defibrillators) for both Barney and Fulmodeston.

The Benefice Quota has been paid in full and the church is committed to paying the 2018 request. This is increasingly a challenge but ideas for further fund-raising which brings together the community are already being discussed for the year ahead.

The PCC met four times under the Chairman and Lay Vice-Chair with a good turnout at each meeting. We are grateful for the careful stewardship of church funds by treasurer Robert Smith. Thanks to Carolyn Thomas for her work as the PCC Secretary. Thanks also to John Davies for serving as the independent Examiner.

There have been regular reports from the Deanery Synod, where appropriate.

The revamped A Church Near You website continues to provide valuable information about the church and its activities, and Christ Church has a page on appear on the Fakenham parish church website and also a page in the Beacon magazine. These provide wonderful avenues of communication and advertising for church events.

Thanks to the 'sidesmen' who are always present to greet the congregation with a smile. A debt of gratitude is owed to Gwen Chapman who keeps an eye on the church. She has now given the church key to Neceda and James Woodfield who open and lock the church on a daily basis so that Christ Church is always open from dawn till dusk.

Gillian Lee, Neceda & James Woodfield, with Elizabeth Sadler, have been instrumental in organising and preparing the refreshments which are now served regularly after some services in the church.

Thanks to Alan Heath for providing music at services and to Stephen Miles for helping to prepare the structure and content of the worship at Christ Church in conjunction with Francis and Amanda.

Special thanks to Chris Sharpin for his care of the churchyard which always looks tidy and well kept and is a wonderful focal point for the village. The church bell would not sound so good if it were not for his skillful knowledge of campanology!

We would also like to thank our Methodist friends for continuing to provide us with a voice in the village newsletter free of charge and for working with us to meet for several 'United Services' throughout the year.

In an ever increasing regulatory world, Christ Church seeks to fulfill all of its obligations concerning health and safety and safeguarding. We are grateful to Dave Webb for checking all of the electrical equipment.

Highlights of a full year of community events were: The Great American Songbook Concert; 'Coffee at the Crossroads' for the visibility of church activity in the village; the visit of the Purcell School Impulse Outreach Team; the concert and Eucharist presented with the choir of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; the Eve of Advent Market which helps local crafters and charities sell goods and raise funds; the Christmas Carol Service, with a reception; the Crib Service which drew the largest congregation over the Christmas period.

Lastly, thanks to Heather Schofield for the Learning Corner for children of all ages which is regularly updated to link with the themes of the church year.

It has been good to welcome those who are new to the vicinity to the church.

Andrew Lee– Churchwarden      January 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

## **Christ Church Services & Events 2017**

### **January**

1	2.30pm	Ecumenical Service for the New Year at the Chapel with Francis Mason
8	11.00am	Holy Communion
15		No service
22	3.00pm	Evening Prayer
29	11.00am	Morning Prayer

### **February**

5	3.00pm	Evening Prayer
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12	11.00am	Holy Communion
19		No service
26	4.00pm	Evening Prayer

**March**

5	4.00pm	Evening Prayer
12	11.00am	Holy Communion
19		No service
26	10.30pm	BST Family Service (Mothering Sunday)

**April**

1	11.00am	Great American Song Book Concert
2	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
9	11.00am	Holy Communion (Palm Sunday)
14	9.30am	Good Friday Liturgy
16	10.30am	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
23	5.00pm	Evening Prayer Earlier service time followed by Vestry APCM at 6.15pm
30	11.00am	Morning Prayer

**May**

7	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
14	11.00am	Holy Communion
21		No service
28	6.30pm	Evening Prayer

**June**

4	6.30pm	Evening Prayer –Pentecost
11	11.00am	Holy Communion
18		No service
24	6.00pm	Purcell School Concert
25	6.30pm	Evening Prayer

**July**

2	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
9	11.00am	Holy Communion
16		No service
23	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
30	11.00am	Matins

**August**

5	10.30-1.00	Coffee at the Crossroads
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6	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
13	11.00am	Holy Communion
20		No service
27	6.30pm	Evening Prayer

### September

3	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
10	11.00am	Holy Communion
17		No service
23	5.00pm	Corpus Christi Choir Concert
24	10.30am	Holy communion or Matins with Corpus Christi Choir

### October

1	4.00pm	Evening Prayer
8	11.00am	Holy Communion
15		No service
22	3.00	Harvest Festival with Marriage Registers Ceremony
29	11.00am GMT	Matins

### November

5	3.00pm	Evening Prayer
12	10.50am	Remembrance Sunday
19		No service
23	6.30pm	Gresham's Concert
26	3.00pm	Evening Prayer – Christ the King, Feast of Title

### December

2	10.30 - 1.00	Eve of Advent Market
3	3.00pm	Advent Carol Service
10	11.00am	Holy Communion
17	3.00pm	Christmas Carol Service
24	3.00pm	Crib Family Service
25	10.30am	Christmas Day Holy Communion
31		No service