



Down St. Mary

Easter Celebrations. Following on from our Wednesday Lent Evening Prayer services, we held a short service at our Church on Maundy Thursday. The service concluded with the Altar being stripped and led us into our vigil until Mid-night. We are pleased to report that people came from across our Mission Community to take part in both aspects of the evening. On Easter Day our Church was beautifully decorated with superb floral displays to celebrate the risen Christ. Rev. Lindsey Starrs led the Eucharist service to a substantial congregation. Following the service fellowship continued with wine, sherry and Simnel cake and everyone took the opportunity to enjoy the flower displays further. Thank you to those who have done such a great job arranging the flowers and I hope that you were able to pop into the Church to have a look.

Annual General Meeting. On Wednesday 30th April we held our Church's Annual General Meeting in the Church. It was reassuring to know that the Church community had every confidence in the manner of how the Church is managed. The Chair (Rev. Lindsey Starrs) summarized the main events in our Church's year and recorded her thanks to everyone who participated in the life of the Church, and the upkeep of it and the churchyard. The financial report was given by Mr. Nigel Fidock and the balance sheet of the annual accounts presented. Copies of the Chairs report and treasurers accounts are on display in the Church. Further reports were received from Mrs. Heather French (Worship Group), and on behalf of Mr. John Phillips (Churchyard Co-ordinator) and Mrs. Jan Phillips (Pastoral Officer, Flower Team and Church cleaning). Mr. Nigel Fidock was elected as Churchwarden for the coming year also as the treasurer, secretary and the deanery synod representative. Mr. Fred Cann, Mr Alan French, Mrs Heather French and Mrs Verity Morrison were re-elected to the PCC.

Village Fete. On Saturday 7th June from 2.00 pm, there will be a village fete where the refurbished village hall will also be opened. There will be stalls, games, entertainment, burgers, cream teas, a beer tent as well as stories for children, who we hope will come in fancy dress. As part of the fete, The West Gallery Singers will be singing in our Church during the afternoon. Proceeds are all in aid of the village hall.

Bell Ringing Competition. It's that time again to open your windows, (or close them, depending on your level of appreciation for this art!) and listen to the teams in the bell ringing competition being held at our Church. The competition takes place on Saturday 28th June starting at 2.00 pm and finishing at about 9.00 pm