

# Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 2016 - St. Peter's Draycott

## Agenda and Reports

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Draycott church.

### Agenda

Item	Report	Responsible	Page
1. Attendance and apologies			
2. Minutes from meeting on 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 (confirmation of accuracy)			
3. Vestry Meeting for the Election of two Church Wardens			
4. Statutory Reports			
a) Electoral Roll	A	<i>Richard Dingley</i>	2
b) Report on PCC proceedings	B	<i>Chris Green</i>	2
c) The financial report and accounts	C	<i>David Cheetham</i>	2
d) The churchwarden's fabric report	D	<i>David Cheetham</i>	5
e) Deanery Synod Report	E	<i>Thea Oliver</i>	5
5. Other reports			
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b) Choir	G	<i>Gill Dury</i>	7
c) Covenants	H	<i>Tricia Heckbert</i>	8
d) School	I	<i>Nikki Devitt</i>	8
e) Supporters of St. Peter's (SoSP)	J	<i>Thea Oliver</i>	9
f) Local Ministry Group	K	<i>Pam Williams</i>	10
g) Lent Groups	L	<i>Thea Oliver</i>	11
h) Church Magazine	M	<i>Rob Walker</i>	12
6. Election of Laity to the Parochial Church Council for 2016-17			
7. Appointment of sides men and women			
8. Appointment of independent financial examiner			
9. Remarks from the Church Wardens		<i>David Cheetham</i>	
10. Any other matters of important to the Parish			

To close with The Grace: *May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore, Amen* (after 2 Cor 13:13)

## Statutory Reports

### A. Electoral Roll

*Richard Dingley* Electoral Roll Officer

The electoral roll stands at 35, one less than last year. A full list is on the church notice board.

### B. Report on PCC proceedings

*Chris Green* PCC Secretary

This year there were two less on the PCC compared to the previous year- the rev. Chris and the rev Sue having left. We were: Tricia Heckbert (Lay Chair, covenant secretary, safe-guarding officer), David Cheetham (church warden, treasurer), Thea Oliver (church warden, Lay Worship Assistant), Chris Green (secretary, Reader), Richard Dingley (electoral roll), Alison Jeffries, Janet Jeffries, Colette Jeff, Trish Lumley, and Barry Rose. We held meetings on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct and 25<sup>th</sup> Nov in 2015, and on the 14<sup>th</sup> Jan in 2016.

The role of the incumbent in planning worship was largely filled by the Benefice Ministry Team (on which we were represented by Thea and Chris). When we did request specific types of service (such as Christmas midnight Eucharist and the Maundy Thursday service) these were supported by the Ministry Team, with Judith finding someone to officiate. We have generally felt ourselves to be well-supported as a PCC by being part of the wider benefice.

A major item for the PCC was the insurance reassessment (see the Fabric report)- discussion on this took up most of two meetings. One stipulation from the insurance company was to appoint a Safety Officer. We thank Richard Oliver for agreeing to do this on our behalf.

Our thanks also to Richard Dingley for hosting our meetings at Kundasan.

As in previous years, PCC minutes and APCM reports can found on the Website- Address is: [www.rodneystokewithdraycott.org.uk](http://www.rodneystokewithdraycott.org.uk) (go to Draycott, then Reports).

### C. The financial report and accounts

*David Cheetham* Churchwarden, Treasurer

#### ACCOUNTS

##### a. GENERAL FUND

*Receipts (£)*

Covenant and gift-aid	8491.50
Tax recovered	2755.21
Collections at services	1578.30
Other donations	1263.07
Fund raising	1017.35
Investment income	0.32
Magazine income	1235.00
Weddings, funerals, etc.	5007.00
Other income – gas rebate	73.25
Donations to INF	60.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>21881.00</u>

*Note:* 'Collections at services' includes £24.50 from collections at home communions

*Payments*

Grants made to charities	730.00
Parish Share	10457.52
Clergy expenses	272.98
Upkeep of church	201.88
Upkeep of services	212.28
Gas and electricity	1102.09
Magazine costs	943.58
Clergy fees	1986.60
Organists' and vergers' fees	1095.00
Church admin and insurance	1116.48
Payments to INF	460.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>18578.41</u>

General Fund Receipts	21881.00
General Fund Payments	18578.41
<u>Surplus for the year</u>	<u>3302.59</u>

**b. FABRIC FUND***Receipts (£)*

Covenants and gift-aid	390.00
Donations	50.00
Fundraising	1958.70
<u>Total</u>	<u>2398.70</u>

*Fabric Fund Payments (£)*

<u>Car park sign (Total)</u>	<u>82.32</u>
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Fabric Fund Receipts	2398.70
Fabric Fund Payments	82.32
<u>Surplus for the year</u>	<u>2316.38</u>

*Bank Balances at 31 Dec 2015 (£)*

General Fund	8910.63
plus the deposit account	4527.07
Fabric Fund	7528.23

**c. GRANTS MADE**

Christian Aid, April*	175.00
Nepal Earthquake Fund – PCC cheque, May*	50.00
Nepal collection, 3-5-15	87.00
Christian Aid envelopes (May)	1386.22
PCC St Leonards*	25.00
Somerset Churches, July*	30.00
CSC, Oct*	300.00
Royal British Legion (Nov)	220.00
INF donations	460.00
Children's Society	882.37
Children's Society (Dec carols)*	75.00
Embrace the Middle East (Dec carols)*	75.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>3765.59</u>

*NB. prev. table.* The starred items\* make up the £730.00 which came through the church accounts.

## NOTES

The Balance Sheets, and the Certificate of Inspection from the examiner of the accounts, can be viewed at the APCM. Or ask the treasurer any time.

Grants to other charities, either directly from the PCC or in the name of the church, have totalled £3765.59.

The General Fund made a surplus in 2015 of £3302.59. This contrasts with a deficit of £2301.71 in 2014.

Because the General Fund balance at the end of the year, together with the deposit account balance, was very healthy, the PCC has taken the opportunity to pay the whole of the 2016 Parish Share in one lump sum, thus attracting a discount of 1.5%. This has cleared out the deposit account, which in any case was paying negligible interest.

The church magazine has more than paid for itself, making a surplus of £291.42.

Income to the church from weddings and funerals was a little over £2000.

2015 was the year of the five-yearly insurance assessment, and has needed some expenditure on safety reports. 2016 will be the year of the architect's Quinquennial Survey.

The only expenditure from the Fabric Fund during the year was £82.32 for the car park sign.

I am very grateful to Trisha Heckbert, assistant treasurer and gift-aid secretary, and to Alan Rowntree, examiner of accounts, for their invaluable help.

## BALANCE SHEET

### *General Fund*

Balance at bank 1 Jan 2015		5546.24
Add receipts	21881.00	27427.24
Less payments	18578.41	8848.83
Less 2014 cheques, presented 2015	506.00	8342.83
Add 2015 cheques unrepresented	567.80	8910.63
Balance at bank 31 Dec 2015		8910.63

### *Fabric Fund*

Balance at bank 1 Jan 2015		5211.85
Add receipts	2398.70	7610.55
Less payments	82.32	7528.23
Balance at bank 31 Dec 2015		7528.23

### *General Fund Deposit Account*

Balance at bank 1 Jan 2015		4525.34
Add interest	1.73	4527.07
Balance at bank 31 Dec 2015		4527.07

£4500.00 has been withdrawn from the deposit account in Jan 2016, in order to pay the 2016 Parish Share, leaving £27.07 in the account.

There is also £1.05 remaining in the old Fabric Fund Deposit Account. (No interest added!)

## **D. The churchwarden's fabric report**

*David Cheetham* Churchwarden

There has been very little obvious work done on the fabric of the church in 2015. The various items highlighted in the 2011 Quinquennial Survey have all now been dealt with, except for the painting of the Nave ceiling. If you look up, you will see that there is very little paint left on the ceiling panels, but this is only a visual fault; there's no danger of anything falling down (!). It would be beyond our means to carry out this work at the moment. The next Survey by the architect is due at the end of 2016.

Looking forward into 2016, quite a lot of work has been done already this year. We have renewed the audio system and are in the middle of renewing the kitchen area, including new shelving. A new water-heater has been fitted, and the sink unit will be replaced to comply with hygiene regulations, provided that a replacement of the correct dimensions can be sourced.

2015 saw the five-yearly insurance assessment, which required surveys of electrical safety and an asbestos survey - still only partially completed. The assessed cost of rebuilding the church in the event of destruction has doubled to £3 400 000, (including £100 000 for the organ) and the insurance premiums have consequently risen.

There is an unsightly damp patch on the wall of the south transept, near the safes. A lot of work has been done to remedy this, both from above and underground, but it is drying out only slowly.

We have reported in written answers to the archdeacon that the seating in the church is very comfortable, the heating only moderately satisfactory.

The churchwardens have it in mind to renew the pendant lights in the Nave, and comments about this or any other matter would be welcomed.

## **E. Deanery Synod Report**

*Thea Oliver* Deanery Representative

The Deanery Synod meets about 4 times a year, the pattern of the evening is the same starting with refreshments and a short time of worship and this varies slightly at each venue: for example we shared communion at Highbridge, and cafe style worship at Burnham.

*Summary:* (please see Thea if you would like to see full copies of the minutes).

### **Wednesday 15th April 2015 at St John's Church Highbridge**

NHS: under pressure and how the Church can help led by Rev. Dr Trevor Dean, an associate vicar in Nailsea and licensed in the Diocese of Bristol where he is an associate minister in the parish of Knole West. He is the senior partner in Knowle West medical practice.

The 2014 Floods and their aftermath

### **Tuesday 7th July 2015 at Holy Trinity Blackford**

- The Deanery Plan
- Shared Ministry
- LMG
- One PCC in one Benefice

### **Thursday 22nd October at St Michael's Brent Knoll**

- Vocations Clerical and Lay: Rev Sue Rose and Caroline Bruce
- The School of Formation

**Wednesday 3rd February at St Andrew's Burnham on Sea**

- Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group : update
- News from the parishes
- Presentation and Discussion
- Axbridge Deanery - "The body of Christ – or simply a collection of Limbs"

*The next gathering of Axbridge Deanery:*

**Tuesday 26th April. 7pm for 7.30pm at St Mary's, Berrow.**

*Note:* Tricia Lumley and I attend as many of these meetings as we can, they are always informative and can be fun, these meetings are open to everyone so please do consider joining us, just speak to one of us for more information!

***Other reports*****F. Worship and ministry team**

*Chris Green* Reader

**Services – frequency, attendance**

During the vacancy we covered all of our regular Sunday services, including all of the communion services. In total there were not quite so many services as last year, mainly because we have not continued regular evening prayer, and there were less school assemblies (15, down from 32, as more of them took place in the school). However there were more funerals, marriages and baptisms than in the previous period (previously there were 8 all together- this year there were 15; see table, below, for breakdown).

We have continued our Second Sunday Service, led alternately by Thea and Chris (with a break for the memorial day service in November), and there have been extras that took place outside church (the most regular being extended communion at Sealey Close and The Laurels, mostly led by Thea and Richard).

Sunday attendances are slightly down- in the previous period it averaged between 18 and 19, this year between 17 and 18 (all services excepting Easter and Joint Benefice services). There was on average about 1 less for the Second Sunday Service than for the other Sunday services. Attendance at other services is variable and often not noted- but school once again are likely to be around 45 to 50 (and so account for a large proportion of church attendance in the year, numerically).

<b>Category</b>	<b>Services (of which, communion)</b>
Sunday morning worship (including one joint benefice service)	46 (35)
Non-Sunday Eucharist services	2
Morning/evening worship, not Sunday or Eucharist	6
School services	15
Baptisms	4
Funerals, memorial services	8
Marriages	3

## Christmas

Christmas this year deserves special mention. We had carol singing at The Laurels, the Strawberry Special and the Cider Barn. Midnight Eucharist was not especially well attended with 23 people - part of a nationwide trend. On the other hand there were more than ever at the Family Service taken by Thea on Christmas morning (33); whilst the carol service on Sunday was especially successful with about 70 folk, including a good cross-section of the village. Several people remarked on the high standard of the music, organised and rehearsed by David Cheetham, whilst in the readings Annette Wills stole the show with a character part devised by herself. It was ably and sympathetically led by Alistair Glanvile.

### Who led services?

Following Sue's departure (effectively at the end of January), the largest burden of Sunday services was taken by Hilary and Judith- between them, 20 out of 46. Next the Second Sunday Services led by Thea and Chris counted for 11. So the Benefice Ministry Team managed 2/3 of the Sunday services. Judith and Hilary have also taken most of the Funerals and Baptisms and Marriages as a whole. We should say a big thank-you as a parish to Hilary and Judith especially, for regularly travelling out to Draycott to maintain our customary pattern of worship. I hope you agree that it has also been interesting to have a rather wider variety of preachers and officiants than is usually the case.

### *Officiants- Sunday services*

Person	Services
Hilary Thomas	11
Judith Rose	9
Thea	6
Chris	5
Ken Brown	4
John Angle	2
Sharon Crossman	2
Hugh Talbot, John Hall, Nicholas Jepson-Biddle, Nicola Sullivan, Sue Rose, Alistair Glanvile, Paul Kingdom, unknown (one each)	7
All	46

### Ministry Team

Before she left Sue Rose recruited more people to the benefice ministry team, and asked Judith Rose to chair it and Chris Green to be its secretary. The team is 11 strong, with Judith and Hilary as the clergy, two representatives from each of Draycott and Rodney Stoke, Alistair Glanvile (Reader at Wells) and the rest being Lay Worship Assistants from Cheddar (note Thea is also a LWA). We met eight times in 2015, and with our help Judith maintained service rotas and made sure that all services were covered, together with other activities such as Lent groups, messy church etc. The existence of a well-organised team has made the job of churchwardens a great deal easier during the vacancy. Once again we must thank Judith Rose especially for this.

### G. Choir

*Gill Dury* Choir member

The new choir under the direction of David Cheetham is now almost one year old.

A big thank you must go to David for his assertive, yet quiet, patient teaching manner, for “shaping up” this group of ten people: a group which has such a variety of musical or even non-musical backgrounds.

One thing is for sure, the hour practice on Tuesday evenings is good fun, learning a new anthem each week to sing at Sunday services, learning to enunciate, to breathe properly, to smile in the correct places, and to even sing in Latin and Welsh! There is usually plenty of good humour and laughter.

Many positive comments from the congregation show that the choir and the variety of music chosen is very much appreciated. A couple of the favourites were “Huna, blentyn” and “Cantate Domino”.

Uniting with St Leonard’s choir for Christmas celebrations was a different experience, but nevertheless, enjoyed by all. Likewise, singing with a larger group in the massed choirs of the Axbridge Deanery on the 18th October was exciting and uplifting.

This choir is open to all who enjoy singing. New members are always welcomed!

## **H. Covenants**

*Tricia Heckbert* Covenant secretary

I have completed the twice yearly Gift Aid claims and in the last year the Church has been able to reclaim £2,705.21 from HMR&C.

There has been little change in the contributions - the total number of covenants stands at 19.

## **I. School**

*Nikki Devitt* School assembly leader, School Governor Advisory Committee member

This year has seen major changes in the management and governance of Draycott and Rodney Stoke First School. It is now a federated member of the Mendip Edge group of schools, which also includes Shipham and Cheddar First schools, along with Fairlands Middle School. The individual schools no longer have their own governing bodies, and our school sends two governors to the Federation Governors' Meeting based in Cheddar instead. The proportion of Foundation Governors (appointed by the church) in this new enlarged governing body is much smaller than that which we used to enjoy under the old system. However each member school does have an 'Advisory Committee' which meets twice per term. This committee has no statutory responsibilities, but it allows the interested parties with knowledge of the day-to-day running of the school still to contribute to school life. This committee may delegate our two governors to raise issues at the Federation Governing Body meetings, if required, and otherwise it provides a forum for discussing such local issues, without statutory significance, as for example involvement of our school with the church. Nikki Devitt and Steve Percival, from the church electoral rolls, are members of the current advisory committee at Draycott.

The second major change is the appointment of our new head teacher, Mike Jory. Mike is a shared head, between Shipham and Draycott schools. He started his post in September 2014. He is very keen for the school still to be actively involved with the church. When Rev Sue Rose was still in post, we continued with the weekly school services in church on a Wednesday morning. Since Sue's departure these have now been reduced to once per fortnight, with the service being led by Nikki Devitt. We had a special school service for Christmas and one for Easter in St. Peter's. In a new departure, the school Mothering Sunday Service was actually held at St. Leonard's church this year. The children are enthusiastic participants in these services, enjoying the activities, the prayers and the singing. The shape of the future connections between our church and the school will partly depend on the wishes of our new priest in charge, but in the meantime we are maintaining a healthy relationship.



## **J. Supporters of St Peters (SoSP)**

*Thea Oliver* Leader

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in whatever way continuing to support us in raising much needed money for the fabric fund of our village Church. The donations given at Coffee and Cake are mounting up and are already being used to pay for the ongoing improvements to the kitchen area in St Peter's. For more detailed account of monies raised please see the treasurer's report.

After 3 years our monthly get together on the first Saturday every month now has around 50 regular attendees not only from Draycott and surrounding areas but some from much further afield who enjoy conversation, coffee (or tea) cake, board games, knitting and much more besides! If you've never been you are warmly invited to join us. In addition to these ever popular Coffee and Cake mornings we had events throughout the year, including:

**April:** Another ever popular Jumble Sale at The Strawberry Special .

**May:** The Holy Rollers started skittling!

**June:** We had a Book stall at the Strawberry Fayre and raised £64.68.

**July:** Some of us accompanied The Rural Dean of Axbridge Reverend Sharon Crossman visit, mainly on foot, as she visited all thirty churches in the Deanery 16th- 19th July.

We were also involved in a fundraising fayre for The Beacon Centre at Musgrove Park Hospital

**August.** Summer Skittles: the Holy Rollers played our best again this year and ended somewhere in the middle of the league table... at the end of season celebration we were presented with a cheque amounting to £789.56 for the fabric fund

**September:** SOSp's September Surprise 2015 turned out to be a great success! So much so that we had to bring forward the start time to 5.15 pm! On a lovely sunny evening 14 cars containing 50 people set off from St Peter's car park. I counted them all out and eventually counted them all back in again!! They followed a route set by Richard Oliver that took them up over Draycott steep to Priddy, through Ebbor Gorge into Wookey Hole, across to Wookey Village via narrow back roads from Panborough to Wedmore, where there were clues to be found on foot, then on via Cocklake & Nyland to the secret location 'Valley's Edge' Latches Lane, Draycott .. the home of Kevin & Janette Vining for a BBQ and great party atmosphere.

Thank you everyone who was involved we raised £200 and had great fun!

**October:** We held our first Michaelmas Fayre in St Peter's Church on Saturday October 3rd from 10.30 to 2pm. Incorporating our usual Coffee and Cake Morning with a variety of stalls including crafts and gifts and SOSp and raised £470.

We served Ploughman's lunches. This was such a successful event we are planning to repeat the format on October 1st 2016.

Everyone was invited to bring their Harvest gifts for the Sisters of the Church's loaves and fishes project to help decorate the Church for our Harvest Festival Service which was on Sunday 4th, at which the Rev John Hall presided.

**November:** Coffee and Cake, with an extra cake sale: proceeds from which went to general fund towards heating etc that we use.

**December:** We sold Fair Trade Chocolate Real Advent Calendars

Draycott and Rodney Stoke First School PTA held their Christmas Fayre on Saturday December 5th from 10am to 12 noon in the School

SOSP invited everyone on Saturday December 5th from 12-1.30 in St Peter's Church to a Soup lunch with bread and cheese and cakes! This followed on after our monthly Coffee and Cake Morning.. We were supplied with an amazing array of delicious soups and cakes.

SOSP members joined in with the carol singing in the Laurels, the Strawberry Special and the Early Doors Cider Barn as well as all the Christmas Church Services. Money raised at Carol singing events was sent to The Children's Society.

**January:** the first Coffee and Cake morning of 2016 was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan.

**February:** Another curry night at The Strawberry Special just before Valentine's night,

**March:** another very successful Lent soup lunch on March 6th, we were able to send £148 to Christian Aid

**Future events planned:** Monthly Coffee and Cake continuing on the first Saturday of every month, sometimes with a little extra something! In addition to these regular events we are hoping to have:

- Jumble sale on April 23rd at The Strawberry Special
- Cake stall in May, and the start of the Summer Skittles League for The Holy Rollers!
- Supporting the Queen's 90th birthday celebration street party on June 12th,
- Walking treasure hunt in July,
- After our very successful Michaelmas Fayre we plan to repeat this in October...

Please look out for posters or in this magazine or contact any of the SOSP committee members for information or to offer to help or be involved in any way!

*Please join us to have fun while raising funds for Charity Including St Peter's Church refurbishment fund*

## **K. Local Ministry Group**

*Pam Williams* Secretary

The Mendip LMG now covers Axbridge, Shipham & Rowberrow, Cheddar, Draycott & Rodney Stoke, the Crook Peak group, Wedmore, Theale, Blackford & Allerton.

The past year has seen a variety of events organised by the Steering Group, which meets bi-monthly:

- In January 2015, a Beetle Drive was held in Church House, Cheddar. It was a very enjoyable and hectic evening and an opportunity to say farewell to Revd Sue Rose and family before their departure.
- In February, Wedmore hosted the Marriage Preparation morning and twenty one couples attended. Many have since commented that it was a very helpful session and good to be thinking about deeper things than the ever present practicalities for the day.
- In May, we celebrated Ascension Day together at Wedmore with a picnic, followed by a Communion Service. To round off the evening, three rockets were let off outside to symbolise Father, Son and Holy Spirit!
- In June, the churches in the LMG supported the annual ecumenical Father's Day event at the Kings of Wessex.
- Paul Kingdom in Wedmore led a course for Lay Worship Assistants with six participants. It was very affirming and enriching for those taking part.

There were no pulpit exchanges during the year due to the clergy vacancies.

The Clergy and some Readers continued to meet on Thursdays for Morning Prayer in Axbridge, Cheddar, Weare and, from July, Wedmore.

2015 saw many changes in our Local Ministry Group. Sue Rose left in February and Paul Kingdom became associate priest at Wedmore. The Revd Judith Jeffery was licensed at Compton Bishop in October to the Crook Peak parish and Ann Wait who has led the group for the past 9 years retired. Pam Williams has taken over as secretary.

The regular worship at Morning Prayer, together with the planning meetings, continue to be a support and encouragement for clergy and others in leadership roles during vacancies, giving the opportunity to share plans, ideas and concerns.

## **L. Lent Groups**

*Thea Oliver* Group Leader

Across the Benefice there were 6 groups, 5 in Cheddar and 1 in Draycott. Approximately 40 people took part including hosts and leaders. Also 2 people did their own home study. One person came from Rodney Stoke and there were others who came from the Catholic Church and, I believe, the Community Church.

We studied Bishop Tom Wright's Lent for everyone course, based on his book: Luke for everyone. The book grows out of a project to encourage Lent reading in the diocese of Durham, and was chosen for us by Rev Hilary Thomas.

"Lent for Everyone: Luke, Year C" promised to "provide readers with an inspirational guide through the Lenten season". Readings were chosen from throughout Luke's gospel, with a contemporary translation by the author. There was a reading for every day.

Our group enjoyed the chance to have daily scripture readings and reflections but we found it a challenge to know how to organise our weekly study sessions and get the most out of them as there were no notes or directions for group leaders. Because of this we sometimes felt that perhaps we must have missed the point as the reflections seemed a little "simplistic" and perhaps more suited to helping someone who is new to Christianity..? Despite saying this we are looking forward to next year's Lent course!

As usual we ended the course with an excellent plenary discussion and service in St Peter's Church arranged by and led by Chris Green, our Reader, during which we read the passion according to St. Luke, using Tom Wright's translation- chap. 22 verse 47 to end, chap. 23 verses 1-47. We read it in parts, with each character represented by a different person. During the discussion part of the evening that as usual extended well into the coffee time it became apparent that each one of us got something out of reading and or listening to the passion narrative in this way, perhaps heard something new or was affected emotionally.

One thing that this course has done for us is that we have lived out the words in Tom Wright's preface to the book that there is a willingness for Christians of different traditions to read and study the Bible together, and in fact by the end of the Plenary session we were discussing how we could continue and move forward this fledgling idea of fellowship in Bible study or house groups throughout the year... so watch this space!

## **M. Church Magazine**

*Rob Walker* Editor

### *Content and Editorial Policy*

The magazine's editorial policy remains unchanged from previous years. It retains its format of 24 A5 pages, including an eye-catching coloured card cover with 10 editions a year.

Advertising has been maintained at over four paid for pages per edition and the subscription circulation remains steady. This translates into a useful, dependable income which is shared between Draycott and Rodney Stoke.

In terms of content, there have been a number of subtle changes:

- The ever popular 'Parish Portrait' have been broadened in scope. This has been partly a conscious attempt to reach out further into the community but it would also be true to say that many of the parish 'old guard' had already been featured.
- Where appropriate, or possible, articles are being followed up in subsequent editions so there are some underlying running themes.

It has also been necessary, on occasions, to resist pressures to function as just another community bulletin board. This need is already well provided for by local newspapers, free magazines and the civil parish newsletter with whom the magazine does not seek to complete.

### *Production and Product Quality*

The magazine continues to be printed by the Kings of Wessex print shop which has excellent facilities with high production standards as well as lower costs than those of the Benefice Office in Cheddar.

### *Contributors*

The Parish Magazine is very much a group effort and thanks are due to all involved. A typical edition includes editorial material from a good dozen sources not to forget the hidden contributions relating to distribution, invoicing and subscriptions management. The magazine owes a particular debt of gratitude to its regular contributors who reliably provide material month in, month out. Regular features do make for a loyal readership.