

## St Brevita's Church Lanlivery in 2015

### People

Farewells. During the year we said goodbye to our parish priest Fr Philip Conway. He was unwell for the early part of the year and resigned from the end of September. He was a guest at our Harvest Supper and we made a presentation to him there. We wish him well in his new ministry. We have been well looked after during the vacancy by the retired clergy, especially Preb. James Funnell. Tim Turner & Ellen McConnell, Lay Worship Leaders have continued regularly to take non-Eucharistic services.

There were three baptisms during the year, Maisie Roberts, Laci-Mai Kemp and Finlay Hodgekinson. One marriage was conducted for Sean Pearce & Zoe Newton. Funeral services were conducted for Doreen Keighley, Terry Bonney, Oenone Richardson & Charlie Gay.

During the year the PCC met ten times and there were also meetings of the Cluster Worship & Ministry Planning Group and the Cluster Finance Committee. There were 49 members on the 2015 electoral roll. Church attendance on a normal Sunday averaged 20 and the total attendance at the Christmas services was 215.

### Church & Community

In May, Feast Week began with the well dressing at St Brevita's Well and Feast Evensong in the church followed by cheese and wine, hosted by the Feast Committee. The church was also successfully used for the Saturday afternoon produce show, displays and refreshments and for the evening concert.

#### *Leadership training:*

*Children:* Children's activities restarted at the Morning Prayer service and the number of children is slowly growing. On special occasions, like Mothering Sunday, more come and take part in the service. The Good Friday pilgrimage to Helman Tor, despite the pouring rain, attracted a number of families with children who helped with carrying the cross and also read some of the Stations of the Cross. After a short service at the top of the Tor the children enjoyed the egg-rolling competition that followed. Shrove Tuesday fell in half term so there was no activity for the children from Lanlivery School in church. The school continued to use the church for a variety of activities and in December it held its school play and its Christmas lunch there.

**Finances:** The finances for 2015 have been rather disappointing resulting in a deficit of £2,081 in the General Fund. Over the years, donations from the Vintage Rally Committee have been crucial to maintaining the building in its current sound condition. The Building Restoration fund received £3,300 from the Lanlivery Vintage Rally. Donations made to charities were £647, which included £265 to Shelter Box, £105 to the British Legion Poppy Appeal and £118 to the Arthur Rank Centre.

Three months average expenditure will be kept in reserve in the General Fund (£5,671) and £2,000 in the Restoration Fund to cover any Insurance excess (£1,000) plus any emergency building related work. The year 2015 has been very challenging with the Common Fund up by 28% to £18,680 which I am pleased to report we have met in full. The level set for 2016 is 3% above the level set for 2015 (£18,994). Fund raising and individual giving needs to rise to meet this new very difficult challenge.

Fund Raising has become an essential part of the work of the PCC but members of the congregation, have given generously of their time, to raise funds for our beautiful church to continue its mission in the parish. This year fund raising events raised a total of £4,415. Once again the Handbell ringers, led by Tower Captain, John Littleton, went out in all weathers at Christmas time, to ring their bells at different houses in Lanlivery. They raised an amazing £1,240 for church funds. Carols in the Crown added to our enjoyment of the Festive Season and we hope that more people will join in this event as it is an opportunity to take the message of Christmas outside the church. Mary and Morley Richards again held a coffee morning and raised the huge sum of £546. The Parish lunch was held in church and raised £380 for church funds and a raffle held at the same time raised £77 for Shelter Box. At the Harvest Supper 35 people sat down to a delicious meal. This together with the Auction in the Crown Inn, with auctioneer Roger Tappin, raised £642 and the raffle £118 for The Arthur Rank Centre. The Lanlivery Feast events and refreshments raised £218, Easter Lilies £74, Pelyn Garden Walk £234, Teas at Trethew Garden £500 and the Bath choir £259.

### **Church Matters:**

#### **Building and Land:**

Fortunately in spite of so much stormy weather the church building has suffered no material damage whatsoever and therefore, as last year, is basically in sound condition both externally and internally.

Roof Slopes: sound; some moisture penetration where the nave rood abuts the tower.

Walls: Lime mortar generally in good condition.

Gutters and downpipes: sound and free of debris.

Roof valley: appears to be in good order, but a close inspection has not been made

Windows: good condition, except for three or four holed diamond panes as reported in 2015.

Doors: basically sound, however yearly treatment with linseed oil or Danish oil is recommended.

Locks, latches and hinges require regular oiling!

Tower: vulnerable as even during severe winter weather rain eventually penetrates the granite walls and also through the louvres. Timber joists and flooring to bell chamber and intermediate chamber must be kept clean of debris and treated with preservative as necessary. Lime mortar pointing advisable to any eroded areas. Roof valley sound – see 2015 report.

Steel joist supporting tower roof. Maintenance work carried out during May - June 2015. Rust removal: two coats red oxide paint followed by heavy coating of Waxoyl. Scaffolding to enable this work to be carried out was supplied and erected by M & M Scaffolding, a major task in itself and very expensive!

The Bellringers organised the repair and refurbishment of the iron frame which carries the guides for the bell ropes, the work was carried out in January 2016.

Doors to the tower from ringing chamber are in a poor state of repair and ought to be repaired/rebuilt now or in the very near future.

### **Internal condition of church building, furniture and memorials.**

With regard to the interior the last year's report still applies.

Further treatment to eradicate woodworm in the chapel chairs and "Stations of the Cross" was carried out during the year. There are ongoing problems with the lighting which will be attended to as soon as possible by a qualified electrician.

The minor leak in the heating system pipework alongside the south wall was repaired.

Vestry/Kitchen Area: The Buffalo water heater donated by Ellen, was installed during December.

Nave Altar: The new nave altar, in memory of Elsie Secker was received into the church during March 2016. A beautiful piece of furniture which matches the lectern, both made of ash wood.

### **Church Grounds**

Closed churchyard. A new concrete path, 1.4 metres wide, was constructed during 2015 linking south, east and west gates to the church entrance and Village Hall.

Church Notice Board. A new board erected, in memory of Howard Roberts, to the right of west gate entrance December 2015. The area at the base to be paved.

Tim Turner.

We thank all the people and organisations which support us financially and practically.

The church's website address is, [www.lanliverychurch.org.uk](http://www.lanliverychurch.org.uk) and it has links to the Church of England's, A Church Near You website and the Diocese of Truro website.

There are also a Facebook and Twitter pages where you can find photos and up to date information on services, events, the building and family history.