



Pulham St. Mary Magdalene Church

TO PULHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

FROM PULHAM MARKET CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

April 2025

REPORT FOR 2024 / 25

Under the leadership of the Rev Carl Melville the church community continues to deliver on our mission to be the heart beat of the community. Community activities such as Coffee stop, a facility for young Mums / Dads and their pre-school children to meet from school, and community lunches, twice a month, for people who prefer not to eat alone satisfies a growing need in Pulham for outreach projects. The Brewhouse is operated and financed by the church and is in constant use, both as a meeting place for the community, church meetings and events. We are currently investigating ways of reducing the running costs.

We are very fortunate to have gained the services of Gillian Shaw. Gillian is a trainee ordinand and is bringing new ideas and enthusiasm to all the churches in the benefice. Gill is a talented musician in addition to her skills as a former teacher. She is with us three days a week and her costs are paid for by the Diocese of Norwich.

Matt Thornton has taken over as Tower Captain and has revitalised the ringing team. Bells are rung twice a month for services in addition to weddings and funerals. Visiting teams of ringers often come to ring what is regarded as an excellent chime of bells.

The heated seats have proved successful being inexpensive to run and effective at warming people. The church does however remain cold during the winter months and we are currently exploring ways of supplementing the heating. The main issue is the supply of three phase electricity which will be expensive to install. It is sad that the cheapest form of heating is still oil which it is now banned for all churches, in order to comply with climate change goals

Our links with our Church of England primary school have continued, and the Rev Carl attends school most weeks. Together with the Open the Book team they support school staff in the developing the children's Christian knowledge. The whole school, often with parents, attends church for all the major Christian festivals, and on occasions like Remembrance Day.

The church has the facility of contactless giving as it is seldom these days that people carry any amount of cash with them - this enables people to give in a modern way. It has proved a very successful in generating revenue. The Parochial Church Council would like to thank the Parish Council for their support during the year. The church is open every day from 09.30am - 4.30pm so that we can continue to share the love of Jesus with the people of Pulham Market and of the wider Community.

Alan Thorp and Tony Gray – Churchwardens

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Church Wardens
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