

## **Report for Breamore Parish Assembly**

### **From Rev Nicky Davies, Associate Priest in the Avon Valley Partnership, with particular responsibility for Breamore**

My first six months in post have been very enjoyable. There is a regular, small congregation at our services and we have had some much larger congregations at special occasions, including Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter. A huge thanks must go to all those who work behind the scenes to keep the church in such a good state, and to those who decorate it with beautiful flowers, and also to those who prepare it for worship.

Breamore Church is a beautiful, ancient building and there are many weddings, baptisms and funerals requested. So I am kept busy with these.

I am slowly meeting and getting to know local people and I have been warmly welcomed and encouraged by them. Special thanks go to the Rector Gary Philbrick, for his support and guidance.

We are hoping that high level repairs required by the most recent Quinquennial Inspection will be undertaken this year. We have accepted a quote, have all the necessary legal permissions, and are just waiting for the weather to be right and the contractor to fit us in.

We are also proposing to level a couple of ancient table-top tombs to the left of the path to the main door, to make them safe. We are not aware of any surviving relatives who may be affected by this.

We are also investigating the idea of installing an outdoor toilet, a much-needed amenity with all the services and events that take place at the church. There are several fund-raising initiatives taking place this year to raise funds and we aim to apply for some grants too.

We continue to work closely with Breamore School, leading assemblies, classes and leading school visits to the church. The Year 6 children designed and made this year's Easter Garden – still on show in the window and worth a look. I have been invited to go into school with my Fairtrade Tuck Shop. I hope to start that this month. This is a great opportunity to chat with families as they pick up children at the end of the day, offering small treats for the children and adults, as we support farmers in developing countries. Fairtrade is a topic covered by the children.

In the wider community we enjoyed singing Carols in the Pub just before Christmas and there was a Lent Course run locally too.

Across the Avon Valley Partnership we are currently advertising for a Children's, Youth and Families' worker. We look forward to welcoming someone to encourage us and support us in our work of reaching out to families and young people in our local area.

In conclusion, Breamore has a beautiful church that is well used and well supported. That doesn't mean that we couldn't use more support? We are soon going to need a new Churchwarden, as Edna Dymot will step down after 20 years dedicated service. There are always challenges caring for old buildings and we'd value any support the parish council can offer us, so we can continue to be at the heart of the community? You are warmly invited to join us on Sundays and at all our events.