

Halvergate with Tunstall Parochial Church Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The Rector, Rev. Martin Greenland, together with members of Halvergate with Tunstall Parochial Church Council were responsible for the Church activities in Halvergate and Tunstall and for the maintenance of the building of St Peter and St Paul, Halvergate.

MEMBERSHIP

INCUMBENT	Rev. Martin Greenland	
CHURCHWARDENS	Mr. Nick Butcher	Vice Chairman
	Mrs. Sally More	Gift Aid Secretary
REPRESENTATIVE ON DEANERY SYNOD	Mrs. P Butcher	
ELECTED MEMBERS	Mrs. S. Blake	Electoral Roll Secretary
	Mrs. P. Butcher	Treasurer, Secretary
	Mrs N. Cann	Minute Secretary
	Mrs F. Collins	
	Mr. C. Reader	

SERVICES:

The usual pattern of Sunday services has been:

- 1st Sunday 9-30am Matins
- 3rd Sunday 9-30am Holy Communion
- 4th Sunday 9-30am Morning Prayer

Benefice services are usually held on the 5th Sunday of the month, but in March with the fifth Sunday being Mothering Sunday, Halvergate hosted a Prayer Book Day for the Benefice.

Matins has been led by Nicholas Cowen; Holy Communion by the Rector with Morning Prayer by a variety of Lay and ordained celebrants. Sue Shillam from Hemblington, led five of these services, Revd Pat Atkinson and Revd Helen Lynch one each and Nick Butcher, Church warden, four. Revd David Hares led one morning Communion and Christmas Eve Communion. We have had two joint services with the Methodist Church: their annual Covenant service in January at the Methodist Chapel and at Reedham Parish Church for the celebration of Open the Book. The Bishop of Thetford visited the Benefice in February, hosted by Freethorpe Church. Remembrance Sunday was observed at Halvergate for the villages of Halvergate, Tunstall Freethorpe and Wickhampton.

The Prayer Book day in March consisted of Morning Prayer, followed by The Litany: both of these were led by Nicholas Cowen. Then followed Holy Communion led by the Rector. Following lunch in the Village Hall there was a talk by James Marston, an ordinand and part time journalist with the EDP who then led sung Evensong. The Benefice choir supported this and Michael Nicholas composed a work for it.. This was the service supported by members of the other churches in the Benefice but there were representatives of the Norfolk Branch of the Prayer Book society present for most of the day.

The Book of Common Prayer has again been used for all services with readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible except for Christmas when the King James Version was used.

Special Services in the Parish:

Easter Meditation on Wednesday of Holy Week with the Methodists
Easter Eve at Tunstall
Lammas at Tunstall with Communion instead of Matins at Halvergate
Remembrance Sunday for Freethorpe, Wickhampton and Halvergate
Service of Lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve Midnight Communion

The Service of Lessons and Carols was again held at 6pm and was attended by 30 people.

Attendances at Sunday services have ranged from 3 to 90 (Remembrance). Average attendance at Communion Services has been 15, and for all services not counting , Prayer Book Evensong, Remembrance Service, Carol Service and Christmas Eve Communion was 11. There were 54 people at Midnight Communion.

Organists have been Brenda Pawsey and Ian Hytch (travelling from Norwich) with the fourth Sunday being covered by two members of the congregation. Michael Nicholas played on Remembrance Sunday and Timothy Patient at the Prayer Book day Evensong.

Occasional Offices: There were six funerals with Burials at Halvergate and one at Tunstall. There was a Baptism at Tunstall . There were no Weddings.

ELECTORAL ROLL

There were 13 people on the electoral roll.

OTHER EVENTS

The Highlight of the year was the Prayer Book Day and the Choral Evensong

attracted a congregation of 81

The refreshments were provided for three of the Acle Farmers Markets and raised £175 plus a share of the profit from the rent from stall holders.

Two members took part in the Churches Bike Ride as well as a resident of Tunstall riding for Tunstall Church.

The Church has continued to be open daily at least between the hours of 10am and 4pm and is regularly visited. John and Frances Collins and Doug and Sue Blake have been responsible for unlocking and locking the Church building.

Two ladies from Halvergate attend the Benefice Christian Link group and took part in the Women's World Day of Prayer.

'Open the Book', dramatizing Bible stories, has been undertaken by an Ecumenical Benefice Group in Reedham and Freethorpe Schools and supported by Halvergate members.

There have been two services at Tunstall Church: a Benefice 'Service of Light' on Easter Eve, preceded by drinks at a member's home and Lammas Day service followed by breakfast. There was also a Baptism and a Funeral Service at Tunstall.

Freethorpe School held its Christmas Concert/Service in the Church.

Bellringers visited the Church twice and the newly formed group from Reedham, including John Collins from our own village, rang for the Prayer Book Day and on Remembrance Sunday.

P.C.C.

Three full P.C.C. meetings of Halvergate with Tunstall and two short ones, one following a morning service to finalise the annual report and one after the Benefice wide Annual Meeting at Acle School in April were held. The Benefice Council chaired by Michael Brook, Churchwarden at Limpenhoe, continued to meet. Reports of these meetings are given to the PCC.

FINANCE

The Benefice was again asked for an increase of 15% for our Parish Share. After discussions with the Rector and Benefice Treasurers, the Diocese was approached and an agreement of a reduced fee was made: our share of the total was £7240 which was paid but only by using £1800 from the Capital Account. An unexpected £700 had to be spent on tree work at Tunstall.

Insurance was again paid by a monthly payment.

Tax recovered under Gift Aid increased to £1205.85

The year opened with a balance of £205.81 in the current account and £37759.44 in deposit (fabric, Hewitt and organ which are restricted and capital, unrestricted) The year finished with £176.33 according to the Treasurer and Bank but according to the Examiner it should have been -£39.89, as a cheque had not been cleared. This will need to be investigated. The year finished with £24460.07 in deposit accounts.

£1000 was deposited into the Hewitt account following a legacy from the late Pauline Holloway. The organ was tuned with money being transferred from the Organ Fund (restricted). £14400 was transferred from the Fabric fund (restricted) and Capital Account (unrestricted) for which £1800 had to be used for day to day expenses.

The Parish Council has paid for grass cutting in both Churchyards - for which the PCC is most grateful.

Doug Blake was the Independent Examiner of the Church books

FABRIC

The plastering work in the Nave and Chancel was undertaken by Atthowe Builders Ltd, starting at the end of September and was completed just in time for the Freethorpe School Concert/Service. During this time, the contractors made it possible for Sunday Services to be held, in some part of the Church, and were particularly helpful so that the Remembrance Sunday activities and two funerals could be accommodated. The painting will take place in 2020. . .

A Church cleaner was finally secured in August, working an hour a week on three occasions in the month.

During the year, testing of fire extinguishers took place but a new firm had to be sought to undertake the work. The Insurance Company did a site visit, and insisted that the gas fires should be removed. A new Electrical heater was installed and the lights in the Chancel changed whilst the scaffolding for the plastering was still in place. Electrical PACT testing was requested but this was not undertaken until 2020.

The Organ was tuned

On behalf of the P.C.C.
Lay Vice Chairman

