

## St Michael Church, Burnett - report from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022- to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### Worship & Special services

Attendance has increased and we have re-introduced coffee and biscuits in the last six months after the service, which has been very popular. The **Easter** services went well. The **Rogation** service was on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and in the traditional rural manner the congregation rogated around the village blessing the water and giving thanks and prayers for the livestock and crops. This was followed by a Baptism in the church. **Harvest Festival** on 18<sup>th</sup> September ended with a sale of produce after the service. This was followed by a ploughman's lunch at Whitson Lodge and the proceeds of the day were donated to the Keynsham Food Bank.

Tom Peryer led a very moving **Remembrance** service on the 13<sup>th</sup> November in which we joined the Cenotaph recording at 11am.

The **Carol Service** was on the 19<sup>th</sup> December followed by Mulled wine and Mince Pies at Stable Barn, hosted by Tom & Wiola Peryer.

**Christmas Day** also saw a very good attendance of villagers and their extended families.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> March some villagers joined St John's parish service to meet Bishop Michael, and Nick and I had a very pleasant supper with the Bishop and the Parish church wardens the following evening.

### Social

We held a celebration of the late **Queen's Jubilee** on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 for the church members and villagers, which was to have been in the garden of Whitson Lodge but unfortunately rain forced us all inside which was a bit of a squash but was very much enjoyed. We also organised a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday cake for our long serving organist, Owen Cole.

We held an autumn **Church clean** on the 10<sup>th</sup> September which was very well attended by volunteers from the village.

Father Bernard and Father Emmanuel from Chipata South joined us in our Worship on the 12<sup>th</sup> February and talked about the work in their Parishes.

As part of our fund-raising initiative Tom Peyer produced a very interesting and entertaining talk on John Newton the writer of **Amazing Grace** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023, at half time we enjoyed a glass of wine and delicious nibbles. The proceeds of £170 went to Church funds.

### Church Fabric & Church Yard

On the advice of the **Quinquennial report**, we engaged Graham Rogers, a steeplejack to inspect and report on the condition of our **Church Bell**. On the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 he inspected and took photos but no report was forthcoming. We were informed that we would get the report when we paid the bill, Nick paid on the 20<sup>th</sup> February but no report has arrived yet.

Paul Doyle fixed the church slates, cleaned the windows and cleared the gullies and downpipes on 14<sup>th</sup> July and is yet to do the painting of the downpipes, guttering and window in the Manor Garden.

**Fire Extinguishers** and blanket were inspected and serviced on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

An Electrician installed a **new fan** in our church toilet on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 to replace the faulty fan.

### Finances

The treasurer, Nick Milton's report shows that St Michael's finances for the past year are in good shape.