

# CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT ANNUAL MEETING – JULIA TURNER

**Tuesday 13th May 2025**

Good evening,

At the Annual General Meeting last year, John was looking forward to his Sabbatical and we were looking forward to the completion of all the building works. Clergy in place, thanks to Steve Barnes and the Archdeacon Guy, Jeremy and Phillipa, we wished John well, see you in July.

The next few weeks the scaffolding went up inside the church as the builders started repair work to the ceiling panels. Of course nothing is straight forward. Whilst less panels needed to be replaced, more work in a few areas was required. At last the decorators moved in, and I think you will agree transformed the church interior. It is now a light and airy space. A Joy to look up....cracks and flaky plaster a thing of the past. A great effort by many helped to put the church back in order and cleaned the dust away in time for John and Emma's wedding in early June. A very happy day!

Just when we thought we could relax David, our tower captain, drew our attention to damp in the ringing room. You may recall just how wet it was last year. The Quinquennial had also flagged up some roof problems that needed to be fixed. So up went the scaffolding again. Eventually a split in the lead hopper of the down pipe was fixed along with some pointing and replacement of slates.

I would like to thank Phillipa for all she does as secretary. She successfully applied for grants which has made all the recent work possible. She also does a tremendous amount in the organisation of the services and fundraising events, notably the Snowdrop Walks, Christmas Coffee morning, Carol Singing and the Plant Fayre.

With regard to this year's Plant Fayre, I would like to thank Ivan Mears for finding the plant stall holders, and David Boyer for his help, along with Jodie Battrum for the advertising, Marcus Feinhols for the road signs, and a small committee of Diana Williams, Debbie Jones and Sylvia Eames. It was a lovely day and raised a fantastic amount.

I would like to mention John Hall who raised over £900 for the church, growing tomato plants from seed, and selling them, £1 each. He has also supported MK Coronary Group, and tomorrow the last few plants will be at Stoke Hammond's Christian Aid Coffee Morning.

I would particularly like to thank Phillipa for the Annual report and slide show, a truly comprehensive view of the life of our church.

There are many people I should thank, members of the PCC, Sophia for the Safeguarding, the bell ringers, the flower arrangers, the cake makers and cleaners, the readers and sidesmen, the mowers, it is wonderful that so many different people are involved. Of course the choir and organist, Jerry. You are all appreciated.

I am indebted to Stuart for stepping up to be the next Churchwarden. It was a role I had never thought about until John asked me, way back .....! I have grown to love the peace of this church and the fellowship of the people who come here. I love the history

of the building and I hope I have in some way helped to preserve and keep it for another generation.

I look forward to taking on another role, a supporting role, happy to assist in any way I can.

Finally John, thank you for the work you do, not just in our Parish but across the Benefice, and take this opportunity to wish you a very happy 65th birthday on the 27th of this month, along with best wishes for the completion of the 65 things you have always wanted to do.

Julia Turner  
13 May 2025