

The image shows the exterior of a stone church tower. At the top is a green copper spire. Below it is a clock face with Roman numerals. The tower is made of rough-hewn stone. There are several windows: a small arched window above the clock, a large Gothic window with tracery below the clock, and a smaller arched window to the left. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The sky is a clear blue.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT &
ACCOUNTS
ST PETER'S CHURCH
31ST DEC 2025**

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ADMINISTRATIVE OVERVIEW

As charity trustees, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Peter's Church Filton has pleasure in presenting the annual report and accounts for the year ending 31st December 2025. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY

- Registered number 1131957
- Parish name: Filton
- St Peter's Church, Gloucester Road North, Filton, Bristol BS34 7BQ
- Independent Financial Examiner: Tony Malpass
- Bankers: The Co-operative, and NatWest Banks
- Safeguarding Officer: Anne-Louise Pam
- Church Architect: Steve Davis

TRUSTEES

Revd Rod Cosh (Interim Priest in Charge and Chair)	Chris Gooding (Secretary)
Thomas Moller (Church Warden)	Janet Moller (Church Warden)
John Cahill (Treasurer)	Amy Atkinson (Deputy Church Warden)
Claire Eade LLM	Roy Hale
Jenny Connor (Deanery Synod)	Jess Dyke
Sue Horseman	Ian Horseman
Anne-Louise Pam (Safeguarding Officer)	Faith Tutton (Parish Administrator)
	Mandy Leslie (Coffee Shop Manager)

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Management of the parish is performed by the Rector with the assistance of a number of parishioners who form the Parochial Church Council (PCC). All governance, management, procedures and policies are maintained in accordance with the standard Church of England practice.

APPOINTMENT OF PCC MEMBERS

PCC members are elected for a term of three years at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Candidates for election must be members of the church who following a conversation with the Rector and/or PCC Secretary (regarding the roles and responsibilities of such a position) have been duly proposed and seconded by members of the church, who are themselves registered on the electoral roll.

At the end of three years, PCC members may choose to be re-elected for a further term of three years, after which they must step down. PCC members who have served for six years are not eligible for re-election for a period of not less than 12 months. The Rector is a permanent member of the PCC. The PCC Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the PCC. Members of the congregation who have been elected to represent St Peter's at the Deanery Synod are also members of the PCC.

ORGANISATION OF THE PCC

The Rector takes the role of PCC Chairperson and a minimum of four full meetings is held each year, in addition to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

PCC meetings are structured around discussions regarding:

- Vision, mission and values
- Financial, general purposes and Hall
- Health and Safety and well-being, including a particular emphasis on accessibility, inclusivity and safeguarding.

The Standing Committee, made up of the officers of the PCC (Rector, treasurer, secretary and church wardens) convene on an as-needed basis to make urgent decisions on behalf of the full PCC regarding the day to day management of the church.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Peter's is a welcoming Anglican church with its heart in the sacraments and its place in the centre of the community. At St Peter's we are devoted to developing a holy consciousness. We believe that worship is something that can be expressed in everything we do. Our philosophy is deeply rooted in the Holy Scriptures and the sacraments. We provide a place for all, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, race or ability. We offer all members of the church a chance to become part of something greater, to grow their love for God and for one another in our beautiful community.

Our vision is to serve God, by serving individuals, families and the community of Filton. By placing God at the centre of all we do, we come together to grow in our faith and be sent out in our discipleship to create connections and build relationships with all those in the community. We act in and through our relationship with God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and with one another, to seek to make His kingdom known in this place. To enable us to do this as effectively as possible, our priorities are centred around four strands of growth: growing deeper; growing younger; growing in influence; and growing in number. This is detailed more fully in our Vision Plan which is updated biennially and can be viewed on our website.

Our worship is based on the Eucharist in which all are called to participate. We try to be liturgically innovative and spiritually challenging. We aim at musical excellence and try to involve our young people in worship as much as possible. The structure of the services is wide and varied, to cater to as many tastes as possible, including services taken from Common Worship and the Book of Common Prayer.

Pastoral care is a commitment shared by all members of the Christian community. The Rector is assisted in this by the Pastoral Care Team, made up of trained volunteers.

The church aims to be the Spiritual Hub of the Community. We are actively involved in touching the lives of people of all ages and conditions in life, both in religious and non religious contexts. We do not seek to place barriers in people's way, aim to be accessible and approachable to all and hope to encourage people to undertake their own spiritual journey.

The church is carefully organised and run by its PCC, with day to day control in the hands of the Standing Committee. There are many aspects of church life that this report emphasises, and we publish our work through the weekly pew sheets, our web site, our social media presence, and through the wider press.

It is the parish's policy to prioritise our payment of parish share, to maintain the church structures in as best a state of repair as we can, to further our presence in the Community to support external charities as need directs, and to make a commitment to the work of the Children's Society and Christian Aid.

Reality of Strategy to date: This strategy has resulted in St Peter's Church enjoying a strong congregation with well-nourished souls. Our Lord calls us to be planters and sowers, not merely gatherers, and this process takes time.

REPORTS

APCM REPORT OF THE PRIEST IN CHARGE AND INTERIM MINISTER 2026

Revd Rod Cosh, Interim Priest in Charge

I have been with you for a year now. In that relatively short time, I have seen some positive signs of growth and development within the family of St Peter's.

Claire

In the autumn, Claire Eade was licensed as an LLM. Her ministry, her enthusiasm and her commitment have already shown us that there are other ways in which we can 'do church' and draw together as the people of Christ here in the parish. Thank you Claire.

Bible Study

During the year we have tried various things to enrich the life of the church. We had a bible study on St John's Gospel which I certainly found exciting. What was really refreshing about it was that all who took part were not slow on bringing their own thoughts and understandings to the fore. It helped many of us to deepen our understanding of the Scripture and rediscover the importance of John's view of Christ.

Away Days

Our away days earlier last year were not only well attended but came up with some vibrant ideas for the future. These were later taken forward with the PCC particularly at the meeting with Archdeacon Becky early this year.

Christmas Tree Festival

In December we held a Christmas Tree Festival. It was an opportunity not only for some wonderfully creative trees to be exhibited in church but, more importantly, it offered many who did not usually enter the building to do so and to meet with us and spend time talking, praying and reflecting.

The Pet Service

In the autumn we also held a pet service. It was another way of opening the church to others and although it may have not enticed many people and their pets, it was worth doing and perhaps should be repeated. Eventually it will catch on. We all have to continue to think of other ways we might get the community over the threshold. Having said it was not so well attended, the numbers were better than those for both services on Ash Wednesday.

Coffee on Sunday and the Coffee Shop

This year, coffee after the 10.00am service became reestablished, with the help of many volunteers. I think this an important development because it gives us a chance to talk and catch up with everyone. More importantly, it gives us an opportunity to welcome and get to know new people who come to taste our worship.

The Coffee Shop is, I believe, the jewel in the crown. So ably run by Mandy Leslie and her plethora of volunteers, it offers friendship and welcome to many from the local community. During this year lots of ideas of groups and events that could be added have been talked about. Ideas such as a carer and toddler group; a dementia cafe; even the possibility of Pilates classes at the back of church. These possibilities could give the cafe a great sense of meaning and purpose. Of course, it depends on people coming forward to help organise them. Perhaps this could be your 'hour for God'.

An Hour for God

Our Stewardship Campaign has shown green shoots and John Cahill, our tremendous treasurer, will be able to tell us more as far as finances are concerned at the APCM. The other two hours, one of prayer and the other of work have caught many people's imagination and I do hope that it will help us to share the load as far as supporting and praying for the parish go.

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union in this parish is a vital part of the pastoral work of the parish. Its sustained support and care of older people and not so old is wonderful. So many MU branches struggle or are moribund in many parishes. Not ours. Thanks to Linda and the team of volunteers.

Uniformed Organisations

One of the great things that I have enjoyed whilst being with you is my engagement with the Uniformed Organisations. I have been welcomed most heartily by the Brownies in particular. I always find it a real sign of what church could be when they join us for a parade service. I want to thank them personally for their involvement in the Crib Service on Christmas Eve. 'The Grumpy Innkeeper' was magical and it was so good to see so many people there enjoying the fun and expectation of children that is so infectious.

This church desperately needs young people. They are the Church of today and the hope of tomorrow. If we do not encourage and grow younger people who will be the family of tomorrow?

Liturgy and Ritual

For some in the parish, ritual is very important; the idea that things should be done 'properly'. However, for me, ritual is only a response to liturgy. What I mean by that is that the root of the word liturgy is '*the work of the people*' and for me it is the engagement of the whole congregation in the worship and adoration of the God Who Is unseen. Some Sundays I have presided at the Eucharist, and some I have been happy

to be with everyone in the congregation. I do not feel any less or more which ever I am doing. However, I do feel that, at St Peter's, there is a disconnect between those in the congregation and those in the sanctuary.

In my preaching over the last year, I have tried to encourage all to see that each one of us has an active role in the worship. There is a real danger that we can see our role, if we are in the body of the church, as passive, watching what goes on. In times past, the priest was called the celebrant. Now he or she is known as the president. Why? Simply because the priest is not the only person celebrating the liturgy. *All of us are celebrants.* Yes, some have specific roles such as reading, interceding or administering Holy Communion, presiding over the Eucharistic prayer, absolving or giving the blessing, but all of us celebrate together and each of us is as important as the other. I truly think that this is something the whole people of God in the parish should rejoice in and understand. I am not saying that ritual should disappear at all, but it should never overshadow the '*work of the people*'.

In the tenth edition of *The Parson's Handbook*, Percy Dearmer, an Anglican priest, at the turn of the last century, said, "*Ceremonial is not an end in itself; it is an expression of worship. Whatever does not help the people to worship should be omitted, however ancient its pedigree*". I understand that there is more widely a desire amongst some clergy to rediscover the 'ancient', however, there is a danger that we the people and our engagement in liturgy will be sacrificed for the sake of ritual. If we are the celebrants then we should reclaim our proper place as the people of God.

One of the things that has frustrated me over the last year is the desire of some to encourage worship eastward facing so that the priest has their back to the people. This pretty much died out in the 1960s with the onset of Vatican II because it was argued that priests and people should be able to see each other as they worship. Westward facing is, I believe, inclusive and that tells everyone what sort of church we are: entirely inclusive.

Inclusive Church

We have applied to be just that: an Inclusive Church. This means that all are welcome and as a family we embrace all of whatever colour, gender, age or sexuality. All are most welcome as I profoundly believe Jesus sees them and us as his people.

Saying Farewell

When I was licensed last year by Bishop Viv it was with the understanding that it would be for a year. Hasn't it flown by! But now I feel God is calling me to take a step back. *It is with some regret that I have to say that I will be finishing at the APCM as my year ends the following week.*

The Future

The future is what you want to make of it. As you begin to find yourselves as the community of Christ in Filton, you need to push forward with your ideas and plans. As you contemplate the sort of person you would like as your Rector, remember that the days of appointing a priest who will then do everything for

you are long gone. The sort of person you want will be drawn to you by the energy and depth of your Parish Profile. Yes, that person will be able to lead you but he or she will also want some enthusiastic and committed followers - you.

Thank you to all of you for the way you have welcomed both Pam and me. In particular I would like to thank the Churchwardens, Janet and Thomas, for their support. Further thanks must also go to Chris Gooding for his patience and encouragement as PCC Secretary; John Cahill for his tremendous acumen with our finances; Faith Tutton for all she does administratively for you, and for keeping me on the straight and narrow; Viv Wilkinson for so ably lending her musical and fundraising support; and finally for Claire Eade who is such a joy to work with in ministry. Thank you!

Please remember the words of St Paul, "*Pray without ceasing*". Our prayer is the only way we can move closer to God and forward in the mission he has for us.

Thank you to all of you and be assured you will continue to be in our prayers for the future.

Fr Rod

LICENSED LAY MINISTER'S REPORT

Claire Eade, LLM

Wow what a year. 2025 saw me officially licensed as a Lay Minister to St Peter's Church. I know it is a strange role for a predominantly sacramental church, however we are still learning how I can be used. The support that I have been given from the leadership team and the congregation has been amazing and I can't thank you enough. I have lots of ideas for St Peters for 2026 so I hope that they will come to fruition. I will still aim to be preaching every other month and supporting the priest on a Sunday every other week. I am still settling into the role, however with your support and open-mindedness I am hoping that we will make a difference to the community of Filton and the Kingdom of God.

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

Janet Moller & Thomas Moller, Church Wardens

1. General Condition of the Church

Over the past 12 months, the fabric of the church has required its usual programme of care and maintenance. Both the Church and Church Hall remain in very good condition.

2. Building Maintenance and Repairs

At the beginning of the year, Dawsons of Weston-super-Mare undertook roof repairs to the former boiler room and the Sacristy. This included:

- Repointing various open joints around the Church and Church Hall
- Repairing splits in the leadwork on the Nave roof
- Installing new felt on the Sacristy roof to replace material that had deteriorated over 65 years

The next Quinquennial Inspection is scheduled for 2027, at which point further recommendations for works will be identified.

3. Organ Works and Asbestos Removal

As part of the organ works, Harrison & Harrison installed a new blower box to ensure the organ can be safely played and tuned for many years to come. The former blower box, which contained asbestos, was safely removed from the church. At the same time, asbestos was removed from the old boiler room prior to the removal of the heating units that had been in use since the 1980s.

4. Heating Project

A major achievement during the year was the faculty approval and installation of a new heating system serving the: Coffee Shop, Lady Chapel, Baptistery and Nave. Funding for this project was provided through generous grants from:

- West of England Combined Authority (WECA)
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Diocese of Bristol

These grants covered approximately 50% of the total cost. The remaining funds were raised through the Parish Heating Fund, supported by a range of fundraising activities including fayres, concerts and other events.

The new heating system was blessed by Fr Rod Cosh during Mass on the Feast of All Saints and was commissioned in time for the winter period.

The installation included:

- Eight 'Halo' heaters (Herschel, Avonmouth) installed in the Nave and suspended from the concrete roof space
- Nine Summit heaters installed between the Lady Chapel and Coffee Shop

This project has provided the church with an effective heating system for the first time in many years and represents a significant step towards achieving Net Zero Carbon emissions.

5. Restoration of Lady Chapel Altar Frontals

The four Lady Chapel altar frontals dating from the 1940s, made by Mrs Fry of the Fry's Chocolate family, were restored during the year following a generous donation towards their repair. Of particular note is the white frontal featuring an image of Our Lady, acquired by Mrs Fry during her travels in the 1930s. Due to its poor condition, it had been out of use since 2014. Following restoration by Ormsby Church Suppliers, it has now been returned to use.

6. Thanks and Acknowledgements

Grateful thanks are extended to all those who contribute to the life of the church, particularly the many volunteers without whom the church could not function.

In particular, thanks are given to:

- Fr Rod Cosh for his leadership during the vacancy
- Fr Allan Sheath for supporting Sunday worship
- LLM Claire Eade

The Verger, Nick Moller, continues to work diligently to ensure the Church Hall and church buildings are maintained to a high standard and remain welcoming to all.

7. Worship, Outreach and Parish Life

Thanks are also extended to:

- Viv and the Choir for their continued support of the liturgy
- Mandy Leslie and the Coffee Shop volunteers for their invaluable community outreach
- The PCC, especially Chris Gooding, John Cahill and Anne-Louise Pam, for ensuring the church is run effectively and in compliance with safeguarding requirements.
- The Pastoral Care Team and the Mothers' Union continue to support those unable to attend church and represent the church within the wider community.

8. Parish Administration

Despite an exceptionally challenging year, our Parish Administrator Faith Tutton has continued to:

- Collate and distribute the weekly news sheet
- Respond to enquiries
- Prepare numerous rotas

Her commitment and dedication are sincerely appreciated.

9. Sacristy and Serving

Thanks are extended to David Haslum, who continues to fulfil his role as Sacristan and Head Server with great dedication despite ill health, ably supported by Mary. Without their commitment over the last 80 years, the church would not be maintained to the high standard we currently enjoy. The Wardens would

particularly wish to thank them sincerely for all that they have done and all that they continue to do to support the life of St Peter's.

10. Conclusion

This is the final Fabric and Churchwardens' Report I will write, marking the end of a six-year tenure as Churchwarden. It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and I would encourage everyone to continue praying for the ongoing work and witness of St Peter's in Filton and that a new Rector may be appointed soon.

THE CHOIR

Viv Wilkinson, Musical Director

Church choir rehearses Fridays 7-8.30pm in the church. All are welcome to join, you do not need to be able to read music or be a fine singer. Help is given at rehearsals for all levels and ages.

We sometimes sit amongst the congregation which has at least two benefits – it helps the congregation sing up and hear us at close range, and, it unites us as one church. This year we achieved our target of singing in Welsh. It was a Christmas carol 'Tua Bethlem Dref' We do sing in other languages, but this was a first in Welsh!

At this time of not having a permanent priest we are positively working to unite the church and become more proactive. We are encouraging more amongst us to take responsibility for our future.

Autumn Leaves Sing-a-Long is popular as always. We have a caring support network and enjoy our fellowship. All are welcome, you don't have to sing, just come and have a good time. There's much more happening than just singing! We meet in the church coffee shop 10.30-12noon first Saturday of the month.

Viv Wilkinson 07884374448

COFFEE SHOP

Mandy Leslie, Coffee Shop Manager

The coffee shop continues to open Monday to Thursday mornings between 10 am – 1 pm.

The ladies' group meets at the coffee shop every second Monday of the month, and Time to Grieve is taken by Margaret, a retired grief counsellor on the first Wednesday of every month.

We have had to replace our fridge freezer as the old one was faulty and was causing the electrics in the coffee shop to trip, resulting in no power to the coffee machine, urn, toaster and most importantly, the fridge and freezer. We have had no problems with the electrics since. The new heating system has also been fitted in the coffee shop.

We have had to stop the provision of fresh soup on a Thursday, as we were told we needed to commit to taking no donations not only for the soup, but for anything served on the day of the soup (so could not accept any money for drinks or cakes on that day). This was discussed at PCC and the decision taken that it was not a viable option for the coffee shop.

The coffee shop is a real team. Not only myself as manager, but the volunteers, cake makers and our regular customers all make an invaluable contribution to making the coffee shop a welcoming and inclusive space. Over the past year, we have supported a young Turkish family with learning and improving their English, which couldn't have been done without our 'regulars' ensuring they were fully included in conversations and making them part of our family. Others who come into the coffee shop comment on the sense of peace they get here, and there are always comments on how good the cakes are.

We have welcomed a couple more volunteers, who have settled in really well. We are going through the cakes fast – so would welcome any new cake makers who could bake for us on a monthly basis. We do need to have a list of ingredients with the cakes to comply with council regulations.

On a personal note, I would like to send heartfelt thanks to all of the volunteers who have supported and looked out for me after the death of my mother-in-law in January and ensured the coffee shop has remained open as usual.

BELLRINGERS

David Haslum, Tower Captain

The bells were rung for Sunday services and practice nights throughout the year.

Several quarter peals were rung during the year. The most important of which was rung by Bristol University Ringers for Fr. Rod's licensing by the Bishop of Bristol. A quarter peal was also rung for the Corpus Christi procession on Sunday 22nd June and it was good to hear the bells as we processed around the perimeter of the churchyard. Six Bristol members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang a peal of Spliced Surprise in 41 different methods at Christmas time.

Thomas and Andrew have carried out a careful maintenance check of the bells and fittings and adjusted the clappers where necessary.

Practice night is on Thursday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

PASTORAL CARE TEAM (PCT)

Louise Lyddon

St Peter's Church has a small, dedicated team of fully-trained volunteers who support the Priest in Charge and the PCC, giving pastoral support to those members of the community who need it, at times when they need it most. The group either ring, visit, or take communion to our ill or housebound church members when necessary, including visiting Elderly People's Homes. We have some volunteers meeting to discuss this church work.

The PCT team are: Roy Hale, Lousie Lyddon, Janet Moller, Margaret Qoura and Linda Rawlings.

TIME TO GRIEVE

Margaret Qoura

Time to Grieve – Wednesdays (first of month)

Note: Two Wednesdays were not covered due to 1) Sickness and 2) Injury

On many of the Wednesdays there were no people needing help. On some Wednesdays there were! The important thing is to be there, whether or not I am needed. Sometimes the original contact will be directly by telephone e.g. if I am informed of a bereavement experienced by a church member, or it can be directly when I have been to the Thursday morning service. Losses can often be of parents, but sadly also deaths of sons or daughters, for one person the loss was by suicide. Sometimes the loss is of a very close friend: very relevant for more elderly people. Not all the people I have endeavoured to help are church members. I am glad that Filton neighbours feel able to make use of the service. I have followed up some people by phone (with their permission). On the occasions I was unable to attend, a message was left at the café and I expressed willingness to be contacted by mobile phone if necessary. 07730663477

MOTHERS' UNION, FILTON BRANCH

Linda Rawlings, Branch Leader

Our group meet meets in the Church Cafe on the 2nd Thursday each month at 2pm. This year we celebrate 150 since Mary Sumner, our founder, who started the first group.

Mothers' Union aims to transform lives through faith, community and action. As a group we actively participate by supporting projects by knitting items for Filton Children's Centre, Friends for Parents at

the Children's hospital, and by decorating church. We also fund raise and give our time freely supporting other projects.

Our door is always open so, come along, JOIN US, JOIN IN! More details from Linda Rawlings or Louise Lyddon.

ROSARY GROUP

Louise Lyddon

The Rosary is the story of the New Testament. Through the beads we follow the Life of Mary & Jesus. Saying the Rosary takes about half an hour. Rosaries can be provided.

We are a small group of 3-4 people. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 11am at Mary's house. Refreshments and fellowship are very much part of the act.

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Deb Wilkey & Debbie Curry

We have had a busy year having adventures and earning lots of badges. Rainbows have earned their Present Maker interest badge by making drinking chocolate reindeers, making a Christmas card, and making their own Christmas wrapping paper. They also worked on a Laughter interest badge, where they tried different ways of making each other laugh. They also worked on their First Aid interest badge where they learnt about germs, bites and mending a friend.

The Rainbows joined in a County Rainbow Day at St Brendan's college, where 200 girls played on the bouncy castle, learnt circus skills, and made bug hotels.

Brownies have been doing a Wallace and Gromit badge where they made shaving foam pictures, wore wrong trousers, made Wallace and Gromit clay figures, and painted them, designed their own Wallace bench picture, and had a dragon's den competition. They have also worked on a Celebration interest badge and a communication badge where they have explored different ways of communicating.

The Brownies had a trip to Rolls Royce where they made their own air balloons, made aeroplanes, made rockets, and launched them across the room.

The Rainbow and Brownies have done a Get Messy Challenge badge where they did marble painting, made armpit fudge, bath bombs, mud painting, splatter painting, water games, made their own bubble

and did bubble painting and did a scavenger hunt. They also did an Ocean Challenge Badge where they made Ocean slime, lolly stick turtles, octopi's cupcakes, peg mermaids, mermaid suncatchers and sealife snow globes. We have just finished a Minute to Win It! Challenge badge where they have done lots of activities in a minute.

The Rainbows and Brownies have been bowling, been on the Santa Train at Bitton and went to the SGS Panto to watch a production of Enchanted. The girls have taken part in the Harvest festival church parade, took part in the Christmas Nativity in the Christmas Eve service.

All units decorated the church, had a sleepover, and attended the Remembrance Church parade. The girls also took part in a World Thinking Day activity afternoon, had a sleepover in the church hall, and attended the Church Parade where they celebrated 100 years of World Thinking Day. They enjoyed dressing up in old uniforms.

Guides and Rangers have taken part in challenge badges working with organisations outside of guiding – Wallace and Gromit supporting the grand appeal. Rugby and Police resource. We have also supported the County International trips with their fund raising by taking part in the Brussels and Sweden challenge packs.

During the summer we had outdoor activities with cooking, penny hikes. The Guides had a rowing session and Ranger a paddle boarding session from the Guide and Scout Boat house at the Docks in Bristol. Teams of Guides and Rangers took part in a Monopoly run around Bristol, looking for clues. This is a county event with guiding and scouting.

Rangers attended a large weekend camp called Strategy in Cirencester, the main event taking part in challenges around the course. A group also visited Amsterdam to take part in the Laser region 'Where's Wally' hunt around Amsterdam. We also took a ride on the 'All you can eat pancake boat,' stayed in a Hostel in Rotterdam and explored this area.

Guides attended a day organised by the RFU, who held a skills session in the morning, we then were the flag bearers for the Bristol Bears v Sales ladies match in the afternoon and watched an exciting match. A team visiting Cardiff to take part in the Girlguiding Cityscapes challenge. Following a trail to look for clues around Cardiff. Both groups had a lovely end of term Christmas treat of Bowling and Chips to end the year.

Guides have been completing badge work – Be Prepared, Entertainer, Code Breaker, Personal Branding and Fitness.

Rangers have gained the following badges – Animation, Genealogy, Entrepreneur, Festival Goer.

DEANERY SYNOD

Jenny Connor

A recap of the Deanery Synod meetings (Jenny Connor and Claire Eade (St Peter's Reps) attended wherever possible on behalf of St Peter's) and significant events and notices across the Bristol City Deanery throughout 2025 up to March 2026

(1) Continued acting Archbishop of Bristol is Neil Warwick, following the retirement of Bishop Viv in September 2025

(2) Overarching theme this year is for churches across the Diocese to make a difference to those in their communities – providing outreach to over 40,000 people through activities bringing help, friendship and hope. At St Peter's we took part in the social action audit, highlighting the work happening in our parish and sharing details with the diocese/deanery of the help and fellowship we have enjoyed through shared engagement between our congregation and the local community.

(3) Bristol City Deanery Synod met as follows at various locations, covering various themes as indicated:

13 Feb 2025 @ Holy Trinity, Horfield

Theme was welcoming and hospitality, opening up churches and buildings as meeting spaces for local communities, businesses and activities, utilising ideas such as the "Sharesey" booking system to enable this.

17 Jun 2025 @ St Nick's in the City

Theme focused on thoughts from Synod regarding "Vacancy in See Committee"

16 Sep 2025 @ St John's Fishponds

Theme was "Generosity" what do you like or not like about Synod, what topics would you like to cover in future? What is God's generosity asking of us in our different contexts? Speakers included reps from B&A Kitchen, St Agnes Church and the Loaves and Fishes Project

4 Feb 2026 @ Holy Trinity Hotwells, Clifton Vale

Theme was "Asset based community development for church life and community engagement" – Speakers included Rosy Ashley (Adviser for parish development), Toni Bush (Buildings for Mission) and Hugh O'Boyle (Bristol Council Community Development Practitioner) – introduced idea of the "ABCD" approach (thinking about church and outside of charge looking at assets /strengths- concentrating on positives not negatives, combatting negative mindsets within churches. Recognising the gifts, buildings,

knowledge, skills and passions already within our parishes, using scripture and exercises, and release these gifts, skills and assets to develop the congregation and local community.

Jenny Connor and Claire Eade are Deanery Synod Reps on behalf of St Peter's Church.

ONLINE PRESENCE

Faith Tutton, Parish Administrator

Online worship continues to remain vital. There is a whole group of people for whom online worship has become their preferred mode of worship. This group is valued as part of the church community just as much as those who come in person.

We have an active and vibrant Facebook page which gives details of special services and last minute changes to services.

You can find information on all of our services and up to date news on our website, and on the A Church Near You website, both of which are updated weekly, or more often as the need arises.

BRABAZON BELLES

Claire Eade

Brabazon Belles meet on the first Monday of the month (excluding Bank Holidays).

We have a group of 16 ladies, who meet for friendship, fellowship and fun. In 2025 we held a range of events including Sip and Paint, Chocolate Tasting and building bird and hedgehog boxes with Men in Sheds. The subscriptions are £30 per year and we are still open to new members. We are looking forward to more fellowship and fun in 2026.

OTHER GROUPS

Open House: Tuesdays 9.00am - 11.00am in the Church Hall.

Leaders: Caroline and Richard White, 0117 975 5681, which much help appreciated help from some of the group.

We are an outreach group providing friendship, companionship and some laughs. Available are teas, coffees and toast together with Richard's home made cakes. We average about 22 of us but we have had 30.

We had 2 trips out last year with the help of Four Towns Community Transport and are planning the same for this year. We also have a pancake Tuesday as well as a Christmas get together.

Due to the hard work of some of our members we were put forward and were both winners of the South Glos Community Heroes awards.

Knitting Group: Thursday 5pm - 6.30pm Mary's House

We meet at Mary's every Thursday. Just a small group, but we are willing to teach knitting, crochet, or help with knitting problems. We will also do knitting for charities. Sadly we lost one of our members in June (Mary's dog Honey). She didn't knit but enjoyed biscuits when they were passed around. Lots of laughter and chat as well as knitting. Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits provided. Only one rule, can knitters please leave by 6.45pm as Mary wants to watch Eastenders...

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Please see additional document 'Accounts 2025'