

St Martin's Church. Report for Seamer Annual Parish Meeting 6/5/25

Thank you to the Seamer Parish Council from Revd Claire and St Martin's Church wardens for the opportunity to let you know some of the things that have been happening in the last year. (Revd Claire sends her apologies for not being able to attend this year's Seamer Council AGM)

It has been a year of two distinct halves. From April to the beginning of October St Martin's was in a period of vacancy during which there was a continuity of services, events and activities. We continued to see couples getting married and others bringing their children for baptism, and we are very grateful for the many clergy in our Diocese who have helped with these.

In October we were delighted to welcome Revd Claire to our parish and to the parishes of St John's in East Ayton and St John the Baptist in Cayton. The Church service where she was officially admitted to our parishes was a delightful and joyous ceremony, where many people from all three parishes welcomed Claire into our benefice family.

Claire has quickly established herself into the life of our benefice and we are very grateful for her ministry. Praise the Lord.

A variety of activities and events have taken place throughout the year, providing missional opportunities within the community. These have included our Summer Family Fun Day, the Christmas Fayre, and the hosting of the Seamer and Irton Primary school, and the Rotary Club Christmas Carol services.

The church room is used regularly for many activities; prayer and bible study; The Thursday coffee morning runs throughout the year and this is extended in the cold months to provide a "Warm Room" with soup, sandwiches, and cakes. Many chat and knit as they share life together. There is also a weekly "Little Sparks" group in term time on Wednesday mornings for pre-school children and their carers.

The church room is also used by the local “Brushstrokes” Art Group who meet on a Friday morning every fortnight.

The Church is open on two days a week and enables people to come in and look around and find out about the history of St Martin’s, or spend some quiet time.

A thankyou to the Seamer Parish Council for their continued support by providing funding towards the upkeep and maintenance of the church grounds; this is gratefully received.

We are also grateful to our Diocese, who were able to fully fund the repair and renovation of our bells in September. The bells have been tolled at the start of our Sunday services since October, and their use has been requested for inclusion in several of the Church weddings planned this year. They will also be rung out this Thursday, 8th May at 6.30pm, as part of the VE 80th celebrations.

We thank our Lord for His goodness and love, and for all that He is doing in our Parish and the communities of the whole benefice.

Thankyou.

John Brindley.
(Warden at St Martin’s Church, Seamer)