

The intended thank yous for our Annual Meeting 2 March 2025

My thanks, first and foremost, are to Kim for everything she has done for us in the last 12 months both here at St Leonards and at our two Hagley churches. Taking into consideration her other commitments it has been an enormous work-load. The arrival of Father Tom has, I hope, brought a measure of relief and our thanks go out to him.

Thank-yous to everyone else are the recognition of the many people who cover their own particular niche zone to ensure that this Church functions so well. This ranges from Rose Hughes with her team of cleaners, Liz Squire with her team of baristas and tea makers, Louise McMichael with her florists to keep us attractive, Martin Whittaker with his ringers to encourage us to come here.... Then there are the not-so-obvious behind the scenes such as Anne Harris, who ensures two readers for every main Sunday service, Sarah Eagle with her supply of essential breads, wine and candles.... the list goes on. The biggest thank-yous are to my new Warden colleagues, Nick and Neil. They have shown enormous "courage", I think is the right word, in accepting the challenge of taking over from Rosemarie and me and improving things so much. Without them, St Leonards would gradually fade into a degree of chaos. I must record their terrific willingness to take things on and ensure that matters are properly looked after. Fancy Nick Maybee moving so expertly into Jon Prior's position and Neil Harvey seizing the baton of the Clent Church Lands Charity and neither of them trained accountants !

No such list would be complete without naming Janet Steele whose work on the door and counting the collection, not forgetting her refreshment duties, is typical of a number of parishioners in quietly keeping the church alive and functioning. And I must thank Alison Lewis and Rosie Padmore for their first Sundays in the month services. And Harry, the best organist in the deanery, (in my humble opinion) for almost every service.

Neill Robb