

**“Seven whole days not one in seven”**  
**Inspiring people through worship and word to live out God’s love in their daily lives**



The Parochial Church Council of Horne, St Mary the Virgin

The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for 2025-2026

### **General Functions of the Parochial Church Council**

The Parochial Church Council of Horne, St Mary the Virgin (PCC) co-operates and consults with the Rector and liaises with other members of the Windmill United Benefice in promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Horne and the Windmill United Benefice.

### **Meetings of the Parochial Church Council**

The Parochial Church Council of Horne, St Mary the Virgin (PCC) met on four occasions this year. There were three Benefice Joint PCC meetings, including a Mission Action Planning meeting to work on the Benefice strategy and co-ordination plans for the future. (29/9/25, 13/1/26 and 7/6/25)

### **Members of the Parochial Church Council**

The PCC currently consists of the Rector (Chair) and a maximum of twelve representatives including ex officio members made up of churchwardens and deanery synod representatives.

During the year 2025-2026 the following have served as members of the PCC:

Revd Alan Bayes: Rector and Chair  
Andrew Goudie: Churchwarden and Safeguarding Officer  
David Spruce: Former Deanery Synod now Elected Representative  
Sara Gough: Deanery Synod Representative  
Liam Harvey: Elected Representative  
Michael Harvey: Elected Representative  
Peter Hill: Elected Representative  
Veronica Hill: Elected Representative  
Lauma Kazuša: Elected Representative and Treasurer  
Jenny Mackay: Elected Representative until Jan. 2026  
Steve Robinson: Elected Representative  
Barbara Verco: Elected Representative until Dec.2025

### **Events**

I am pleased to report the events listed below that took place during the year:

Plant sale: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May '25  
Fairtrade Fortnight Event: 21<sup>st</sup> Sept. – 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. '25  
Harvest Barn Dance: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September '25

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Organ Recital given by Peter Nye at St Mary’s, Horne: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
Christmas Café and Market in church: Dec. ‘25  
A Victorian Christmas Eve dramatization: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec. ‘25  
Pancake Bonanza – Benefice event held in Smallfield Church Hall: 4<sup>th</sup> March ‘26

Thank you to all who thought of the ideas and who helped with the organisation of the above.

### **Eco Church:**

Having achieved our Silver Eco Church Award the previous year, this year has offered a quieter season of consolidation and creative planning. A proposal for a prayer garden incorporating natural habitat features, (including bee hotels and hedgehog houses), has been developed, reflecting our commitment to weaving ecological care into the life and landscape of the parish.

We participated in the national Churches Count on Nature survey, contributing local biodiversity data to this important citizen science initiative, and marked Butterfly Awareness Day with a display of wooden butterflies throughout the churchyard, which brought a gentle seasonal charm to the space and prompted many a pause for reflection among visitors and passers-by.

While formal progress toward our Gold Award awaits the resources and momentum to carry the prayer garden proposal forward, the vision is firmly in place — and the butterflies, we trust, will return.

### **Windmill United Benefice Occasions**

During the year St Mary the Virgin, Horne has joined with St Bartholomew, Burstow and St John, Outwood on several occasions for Benefice services such as Choral Evensong, All Souls, Festive Firs, Advent Carols, Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, Candlemas, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday Seder Meal with Holy Communion, Good Friday and an Easter Day dawn service on Outwood Common.

Choristers at St Mary’s have delighted in the fellowship of singing regularly with choristers from St Bartholomew and St John as members of the Benefice choir under the expert direction of Ginette and Peter Nye.

St Mary the Virgin, Horne church members have engaged with and support other Benefice activities such as Café Church, WOW and CAMEO all of which helps to enhance the presence of the Windmill United Benefice in the community.

### **So, What Makes St Mary the Virgin Horne, such a great Worshipping Community?**

This year at St Mary the Virgin, Horne the PCC has continued to review and appraise fundraising events, greatly encouraged by treasurer Lauma to invent, plan and create new ideas.

The new format of the Family Service is developing, with the Saint David’s Day Service on 1<sup>st</sup> March ‘26 being the first. Many people worked hard to achieve pleasing results with an interactive format and it was well received by the congregation. There is a working group which regularly meets to plan the organisation of these services.

The group Followers of the Way also continue to meet, (see separate report).

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Many have joined the teams that clean inside the Church, tidy, mow, strim and trim outside and make a much-valued contribution to the life of St Mary’s.  
The PCC is grateful to everyone who contributes to the work and success of all events and activities ... the PCC appreciates your energy and commitment to ministry at St Mary the Virgin, Horne.

Andrew Goudie (Churchwarden) (April 2026)  
in lieu of Secretary to The Parochial Church Council of Horne, St Mary the Virgin