

Parish of Cromer

**Annual Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens
and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**

Thursday 23rd April 2026 at 7.30 p.m. at St Martin's

Please read through the paperwork before the meeting. You are strongly encouraged to submit any questions at least 24 hours in before the meeting.

Agenda

Welcome and opening prayer

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1) **Election of Churchwardens**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

1) **Minutes of the APCM held on 25th April 2024 and Matters Arising (Pages 2-5)**

2) **Election of FIVE representatives of the laity to serve for three years on Repps Deanery Synod** (Those elected will also serve on PCC.)

3) **Vicar's reflections**

4) **Electoral Roll report (Page 6)**

5) **Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements**

Please submit any questions in advance, and at least 24 hours before the meeting.

6) **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

7) **Proposals from PCC to the APCM**

i) To note the Terms of Reference for a 'St Martin's Oversight Team' to be created by PCC as provided for in the Church Representation Rules (Rule M32).

ii) To create a scheme under Church Representation Rules (Rule 12(1)), modifying the rules for the conduct of elections at the APCM such that nominations would close one week before the APCM. (CRR requires that, to be successful, the proposal must be approved by at least two-thirds of those present and voting at the meeting.)

8) **Reports from Ministry and Group Leaders on the Mission and Ministry of Cromer Church during 2025 (Pages 7-24)**

An opportunity to respond with questions, comments, encouragements and ideas. Please submit any questions in advance, and at least 24 hours before the meeting.

9) **Matters of parochial or general Church interest raised by the meeting**

An opportunity to raise questions, concerns, encouragements and ideas regarding the life of Cromer Church, and to request future PCC discussion of particular matters.

10) **Closing Prayer**

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners and the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
held on Thursday 24th April 2025 at 7.30pm at St Martin's**

58 members of the Electoral Roll were present: David Anderson, Jonathan Anderson, Judith Anderson, Caroline Ashworth, Anne Attfield, John Attfield, Jackie Austin, Alison Bell, Jilly Boocock, Jill Boyle, Elizabeth Bridger, Frances Britton, Dennis Broughton, Meg Claridge, Nick Claridge, Anna Coghlan, Terry Draper, Maurice Fiddy, Valerie Fiddy, Sarah Hancock, John Hodgkinson, Warwick Hooper, Dorothy Ilines, Christopher Jacquier, Jenny Jacquier, Heather Kimble, Ivan Kimble, David Loades, Christine Lockwood, Carol Loten, Ray Loten, Hazel Mardlin, Jon Mardlin, Donald Mayes, Andrew McCandlish, Sarah McCandlish, John Mead, Pru Mead, Clive Mitchell, Margaret Mitchell, Tim Moon, Wendy Neale, Alison Orsborne, David Orsborne, Mary Pallister, Jacky Peacock, Tony Peacock, Glyn Purland, Pamela Purland, Simon Purslow, Sue Purslow, Ann Redfern, Paul Redfern, Jill Salisbury, Doug Tuthill, Sue Wells, Cynthia Wilson and Don Wilson

Others present: Revd Will Warren, Revd Tim Britton, Revd John Chandler, Revd Dee Freeman, Revd Jennie Hodgkinson, Revd Paul Neale, Paul Rosier, Janet Rosier and Rachael Stannard

Apologies were received from: Lynda Brown, Mike Brown, Revd Julia Chamberlin, Anne Cottingham, Stewart Johnson, Tracy Johnson, Rachel Leake, Tim Morton, John Rattle, Joyce Richardson, Dave Walker and Eileen Woodfield

Welcome, Introduction and Prayer

Revd Will Warren (WW) welcomed everyone to the meetings, briefly explained their purpose and led the meeting in prayer.

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

AMP25-01 Election of Churchwardens

Two nominations had been received: Ivan Kimble (Proposed: Hazel Mardlin; Seconded: Ray Loten) and David Loades (Proposed: Judith Anderson; Seconded: Carol Loten)

There being no other nominations, **Ivan Kimble and David Loades were elected to serve as churchwardens for the coming year.**

Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM)

APCM25-01 Minutes of the APCM held on 25th April 2024 and Matters Arising

The minutes were **APPROVED** as a correct record, with none voting against. There were no matters arising.

APCM25-02 Election of representatives of the laity to serve on PCC

Nine nominations were received for the seven vacancies: Jill Boyle (Nominated: Andrew McCandlish; Seconded: Donal Mayes), Dennis Broughton (Nominated: Terry Draper; Seconded: Ray Loten), Anna Coghlan (Nominated: Hazel Mardlin; Seconded: Heather Kimble), Christopher Jacquier (Nominated: Richard Lee; Seconded: Anne Cottingham), Hazel Mardlin (Nominated: Ivan Kimble; Seconded: David Loades), Jon Mardlin (Nominated: Ivan Kimble; Seconded: David Loades), Sarah McCandlish (Proposed: Jill Boyle; Seconded: Sue Wells), Simon Purslow (Proposed: David Loades; Seconded: Ivan Kimble) and John Rattle (Proposed: Jackie Austin; Seconded: Ivan Kimble).

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Ballot papers were issued, voting took place and Revd Jennie Hodgkinson and Revd Paul Neale counted the votes.

The following were elected to serve as representatives of the laity on PCC: Jill Boyle, Anna Coghlan, Christopher Jacquier, Hazel Mardlin, Jon Mardlin, Sarah McCandlish and Simon Purslow.

WW thanked all those who had put themselves forward for election, particularly Dennis Broughton and John Rattle who had not been successful on this occasion. He also thanked those currently serving as PCC members and Alison Osborne, Mary Pallister and Glyn Purland whose terms of office had come to an end. The newly-elected members were prayed for, along with all the work of PCC.

APCM25-03 Vicar's Reflections

Revd Will Warren reminded the meeting of words from Psalm 118: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures for ever." It's important to look back and celebrate God's goodness to us as a church, and the reports prepared for the meeting will help us do that later. But the APCM is also about looking forward to what God is calling us to do 'building for the future'. WW outlined four areas of focus for the coming year:

Prayer – There have been some important developments since last year (The Prayer Course, Thy Kingdom Come, for example) but there is more to do. A prayer initiative team has been established to help us move forward with this. Historically, revival is always grounded in prayer, so a group has begun meeting on Tuesday mornings in the Prayer Chapel at the Parish Church to pray for renewal and revival. It was noted of the Ulster revival: "When God revives His work it is always in answer to prayer." Other ideas and initiatives will follow, offering opportunities for corporate prayer, and encouragement for us to pray individually that God will move in our lives, our families, our church, our community, our nation and our world.

Evangelism – This is the counterpart to prayer (which opens our eyes to God's sovereign work to which he calls us as partners). Even though we're an evangelical church and there are many good things happening, evangelism is not yet a whole-church priority. We are God's 'Plan A' for sharing the Good News in Cromer. CPAS – our Patron and one of our mission partners – calls it 'nurturing a culture of faith sharing' and we need to do more to make this a priority and make it a more natural thing for everyone to be part of. The monthly Café Church at St Martin's and the new monthly 'All-in' services at the Parish Church will help make it easier to invite others and provide opportunities to share our faith. There's a lot of goodwill towards the church in Cromer and the 'Quiet Revival' makes it clear that many people are open to talking about Jesus and would respond positively to a personal invitation to consider the Christian faith. We could build on this by starting some door-to-door calling in the parish: asking people how we could serve them better, offering to pray for or with them and inviting them to get involved.

Buildings – Work on this priority started last year. It's a call to invest in and repurpose some of our buildings (especially the Parish Church) to make them more fit for ministry in the 21st Century. A small buildings team has been working over the past year to discern what might be possible, and some options are to be presented to PCC soon. Moving forward will involve exciting opportunities and big decisions.

Structures and staffing – "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few." We're very grateful for our volunteers, who do a fantastic job, but there are some specific roles that can only be undertaken by the clergy. With Joanna's move to Coltishall and Julia's leaving Cromer at the end of May, WW will be the only member of the full-time stipendiary ministry team. This is not a sustainable position in the medium-term. With Bishop Jane and the Diocese, we're urgently exploring what can be done – including having a new curate as soon as possible – but recent uncertainty and upheaval in the Church of England mean that the number of

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ordinands coming through is much reduced, especially among evangelicals, so clergy staffing is likely to remain an issue. We should consider making some lay appointments including, possibly, a Children and Families Minister. All our work with toddlers, children, youth, schools and families needs greater resourcing and investment and a post like this would support and give a boost to the work of our volunteer teams. Andy Bagwell, an experienced consultant, has been invited to come during May to audit our organisation and operational structures. His work will help us think things through and make appropriate changes. Please pray for him and for PCC and others as they undertake this work.

Other reflections – WW has been granted a three-month sabbatical to take place between June and September this year. This was planned last year when we had a full staff team, but Will has now been in Cromer for seven years and in full-time ministry for 12 so despite the depleted staff team, it's timely to take this opportunity to recharge and reflect. Various activities are planned – retreat, travel, family time etc. - and we are invited to pray for Will and his family, and for the church, for this important period in his ministry.

Finally – WW thanked David Loades and Ivan Kimble for their service as churchwardens; Doug Tuthill for his work as PCC Treasurer; Mary Howard the former PCC Secretary who died last autumn; David Orsborne for taking on the role of PCC Secretary following Mary's death; Alison Orsborne, who was presented with a bouquet, as she stepped down as Parish Safeguarding Officer; and John Hodgkinson who has stepped down as Catering Manager.

APCM25-04 **Electoral Roll Report**

Glyn Purland (GP), the Electoral Roll Officer reported on the previous Electoral Roll: During the past year, seven names were added and 15 names removed (11 deaths and 4 removals by request). The 'old' Roll 'closed' with 288 names.

GP then reported on the New Electoral Roll: 2025 is the year in which a new Electoral Roll is formed and everyone is required to re-enrol. This process produced an Electoral Roll of 246 names, 32 of which were not on the previous Roll. Almost 25% live outside the Parish. 50 people from the 'old' Roll have not re-applied because they have moved away, have gone into care, have joined a new church or have died. The Roll will re-open for applications after the APCM.

WW thanked the Electoral Roll Officer for his work and thanked all those who had signed up for the Roll as a mark of their commitment to the mission and ministry of Cromer Church.

APCM25-05 **Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements**

Doug Tuthill (DT), PCC Treasurer, presented the report. Income and expenditure in 2024 had been very close to the budgeted figures, which indicated a good budget-setting process and good in-year management by fund-holders. A programme of rolling fixed-term investment had been put in place to maximise income while maintaining essential access to funds. The External Examiner had not identified any issues with the accounts and continued to work well with us to ensure that the accounts meet our needs as well as satisfying Charity Commission reporting requirements. Overall, it had been a good year. 'Thanks be to God.'

DT highlighted the issue of lack of continuity and the importance of succession planning. He appealed for anyone interested in learning about the role and what it required to contact him to discuss it.

Tony Peacock asked a question the three separate Organ Funds. DT explained that there were three Fund because some gifts specified which organ they were to be used for (Parish Church or St Martin's) and one was specifically for income from the summer recitals and was earmarked for major repairs and updating of the Parish Church organ.

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Simon Purslow commented on the impact of the 'Depreciation' entry in the accounts. Our operating accounts are 'in the black'.

APCM25-06 **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

It was proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by Valerie Fiddy that Timothy Hignett and Partners Ltd of 7, High Street, CROMER. NR27 9HG be reappointed as External Examiner. The proposal was **CARRIED** with none voting against.

APCM25-07 **Reports from Ministry and Group Leaders on the Life, Mission and Ministry of Cromer Church during 2024**

The reports were RECEIVED. There were no questions or comments.

APCM25-08 **Matters of parochial or general church interest raised by the meeting**

Warwick Hooper (WH) asked what we could do to help with the staffing situation.

WW replied that there was no easy answer. It's possible that we could seek a recruit a new Associate Vicar but would need the right person to hear the call and come forward to support all that is going on. Above all, we can pray.

WH then asked a question about the relationship with Roughton and Felbrigg.

WW said that discussions were under way with Bishop Jane but that the future was uncertain. Some good things had come out of the collaboration, but the different needs of the parishes made it a real challenge.

Nick Claridge commented that the number on the Electoral Roll falls well short of the number of people actually involved with Cromer Church. He asked if PCC could look at ways of closing the gap as decisions about buildings, staffing etc. need to be based on real levels of engagement with the community. This should include trying to determine the impact of Cromer Church on the town.

Janet Rosier commented on the work of Open the Book. The schools we work with are not church schools but welcome us in. Open the Book has a wide appeal and has an impact on staff as well as children. We could more for the schools (if they were willing) if we had more resources and more people – especially men.

Tim Britton asked about administrative and PA support for the Vicar.

WW replied that the Church Secretary has been taking on more of this workload and that this has been very helpful. Further areas have been identified for the future. Discussions about appointing a PA have also been going on at PCC and this is moving forward gradually. Some wider responsibilities are being handed-on and the sabbatical has been a good driver for this.

Tony Peacock said that he appreciated WW sharing the four priorities (Minute APCM25-03) but asked how we could do things in a way that wasn't too alien for those who had never been involved with church before. He asked PCC to ensure that we take this into account when planning so that we don't do things just for our own comfort and benefit.

Tim Britton asked that PCC discussed climate change and the way that we are responding as a church to the 'green' agenda.

APCM25-09 **Closing Prayer**

WW thanked everyone for coming and acknowledged the huge amount of support and commitment that contributes to his ministry and to the work of Cromer Church.

The meeting closed with a time of prayer and The Grace at 8.45 p.m.

Cromer Church Electoral Roll Report for APCM 23rd April 2026

Following a complete revision of the Roll last year, there were **246** people on the Electoral Roll reported to the 2025 APCM.

During the year, **eight** people have been removed from the Roll:
four who have died, **two** who have moved away and **two** for other reasons.

During the year **14** people have been added to the Roll.

The total number of people on the Electoral Roll at 30th March 2026 is 252

Glyn Purland
Electoral Roll Officer
31st March 2026

Parish of Cromer APCM 2026

Reports from Ministry and Group Leaders on the Life, Mission and Ministry of Cromer Church during 2025

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) invited reports from those responsible for the following ministries, teams, groups and activities in the life of Cromer Church: Audio Visual Team (St Martin's), Audio-Visual Team (Parish Church), Band Musicians (Parish Church), BeachFest and BeachFest Extra, Bellringers, Blokes Brekky, Bookstall (Books), Bookstall (Gifts and Cards), Brass cleaning team, Catering team, Cromer Church Community Choir, CCKids, CCToddlers, Choir and the Christmas Choir, Cornerstone Café, Counting and Banking team, Crafts2Share, First Aid team, Flower Arrangers Team (Parish Church), Frontals restoration team, Holiday Ministry (Parish Church), Meeting Point, Mission Partner Champions, Mothers' Union, Music and Musicians (St Martin's), Mustard Seed, Open the Book (Infant School), Open the Book (Junior School), Organ and Organ Recitals, Refreshments Team (Parish Church), Refreshments Team (St Martin's), Table Tennis Group, Visiting and Pastoral Care Team, Website, Weekly Update and Women's Ministry.

Not everyone was able to provide a report, but the remaining pages of this booklet give a wide-ranging and interesting insight into the life and work of Cromer Church during 2025, as recorded by those directly involved in its ministries, groups and teams. Please read them and be encouraged – and perhaps challenged – by all the ways in which the Cromer Church family at the Parish Church and St Martin's reached out last year with the good news of Jesus. Those who wrote the reports would, I'm sure, be pleased to answer any questions and to tell you more about their work and how you could get involved.

The Statutory Reports capture other aspects of church life and can be found in the *Trustees' Report and Financial Statements* booklet.

We're hugely grateful for all the practical service that is recorded there and in this booklet. So, to those who have served God in all the ways noted and to those who wrote the reports we say a heart-felt 'thank you'.

David Orsborne
PCC Secretary
March 2026

Audio Visual Team (St Martin's)

The St Martin's AV Team continues to support our services and other church activities, ensuring that all enjoy their worship experience. Once again, I am indebted to Diane Hartley and Annette Williams for their help and support. Additionally, my thanks go to George Carter for stepping in on the odd occasion when all the AV team are away. The AV system at St Martin's is flexible and simple to use, ensuring that other ministries and activities are able to use it at other times of the week. We have further enhanced the system by the addition of an active loudspeaker in the lounge which can be used to broadcast the service to that location. This speaker can also be used independently within the lounge and is Bluetooth capable as is the main sound desk following the acquisition of a Bluetooth adapter.

Dave Walker

Audio-Visual Team (Parish Church)

For each service, the audio-visual team runs the sound desk, projects the words and images and manages the live stream. A team of eight – Dennis Broughton, David Anderson, Chris Jacquier, Tim Morton, David Orsborne, Tony Peacock and Tim Warren - does this for our main services, with David Loades and others running the sound desk for weddings, funerals and some other events. The whole team showed significant commitment and technical expertise in carrying out their roles in 2025. They gave freely of their time and talents, and we are fortunate to have people willing to serve God in this way. We receive many appreciative comments (and some suggestions for improvement) and we try to be responsive to these and to the needs of the congregation and those leading services. We continue to improve the sound desk setup to improve audibility and sound quality for everyone, including those listening on the livestream.

Prayer points

- We thank God for our audio-visual team, whose work helps ensure that services run smoothly and effectively and makes them accessible for people at home.
- We pray that they will continue to work well together, attract new recruits and develop their skills so as to bring glory to God and help people draw closer to him at our services.

David Orsborne

Band Musicians (Parish Church)

We are blessed to have a group of musicians who give freely of their time and talents to lead the music at the 10.30 and 6.30 services at the Parish Church.

During 2025, the team was led by David Orsborne, Simon Purslow and Jon Mardlin, and we are fortunate to have a group of skilled people willing to serve God in this way.

Our aim is to harness the power of music to help people worship God. The musicians receive many appreciative comments about this (and some suggestions for improvement!) and we try to respond to these in a way that meets the needs of our congregations and helps service leaders and preachers in their roles.

We welcome musicians of any age and would love to see more people joining in as singers or instrumentalists with this important ministry.

An item for praise and thanksgiving

We thank God for our musicians and praise Him for the beauty and power of music that can lift and inspire, communicate and touch the heart where words alone fail.

An item for prayer

We pray that God will help our musicians lead well, attract new members to the team, and continue to develop their skills in a way that brings glory to God and helps people draw closer to Him in worship.

Simon Purslow and David Orsborne

BeachFest and BeachFest Extra

The summer tides worked against BeachFest 2025 being on the beach and a new venue was found in North Lodge Park. During the week, in total, we were able to welcome more than 90 youngsters who came and shared in the story of 'The Greatest Treasure'. It was good to welcome holiday makers who joined us for a day or two as well as local families. The youngsters were offered games, crafts, competitions, refreshments and, of course, a daily Bible story exploring just who the greatest treasure is, as we shared stories of Jesus. Following on from the BeachFest week, we also offered some BeachFest Extra sessions during the rest of the year.

None of this outreach would be possible without the team who supported activities, cut and prepared boxes of craft resources, prepared North Park or the church to be a safe space to receive youngsters, offered welcome, hospitality... the list is lengthy, and grateful thanks is offered to all.

As with any ministry and outreach, we need time to reflect and evaluate our work so far, and to plan how best to foster Biblical engagement, partnership with our local families and develop a real inter-generational connection that, whatever our age, we can grow into meaningful and lasting ways to serve, worship and learn across the generations. To this end, we are having a 'fallow time' from BeachFest this summer, to prayerfully consider 'next steps' and we ask for prayers from our church family to support us on this path.

Dee Freeman

on behalf of the BeachFest Team

Blokes Brekkie

Blokes Brekkie took place only two times in 2025. The first was on 25th January, when Adrian Walton, the associate pastor at Weybourne church, came to talk about themes that are relevant to men everywhere as they seek to understand what it means to be a man in today's world.

The second was on 15th March, when Joe Carey, the winner of the Best in Show garden at the Chelsea Flower Show, came to talk about his and his wife Laura's design approach for their 2025 garden. Their hope was that the garden would promote Norfolk's very own 'slow

you down' way of life, an approach to life which they felt should help to combat many people's feelings today of being too busy - an approach which came from their own Christian convictions.

The aim of Blokes Brekkie was to encourage men on the fringe of church life or not yet engaged, to join other men in a slap-up breakfast followed by an interesting talk with an evangelistic flavour. Most of the men were in fact already members of a church, with only a few non-members. Nevertheless, all who were involved thought it a worthwhile venture.

Our grateful thanks go to Richard for leading so faithfully, John Hodgkinson, Doug Tuthill and Steve Salsbury for all their hard (and delicious) work in the kitchen, and all who helped set up and clear away.

Richard had been leading Blokes' Brekkie for several years, contacting speakers and organising a team of helpers. However, he and Louise have moved to Sheringham and attend Weybourne church, and Richard felt that the time had come for him to let go of leading Blokes' Brekkie. If anyone would like to take on this role, we are sure you would find several men willing to help.

Tim Britton and Ivan Kimble (helpers, not leaders!)

Bookstall - Books

The PCC's decision to extend the bookstall at the beginning of 2025 has enabled a wider variety of new Christian books to be displayed for adults, young adults and children. Sales in 2025 increased over 2024 by 60%, fully justifying that decision!

The Bookstall is very popular with visitors to the church throughout the year although our busiest months in 2025 were, as usual June, August and September. It is worth noting that the closest Christian Bookshop to Cromer is now "Green Pastures" in East Dereham as there is no longer a Christian bookshop in Norwich.

The top selling book in 2025 was "The Greatest Story Ever Told" a new book by Bear Grylls which received a lot of national publicity. The most popular Bibles sold were the New Living Translation and The Message. In addition to new books, our shelves of modestly priced, pre-owned books in good condition are enthusiastically browsed by our visitors.

Glyn Purland

Bookstall - Gifts and Cards

2025 was a good year, with sales increasing, so that the budget had to be adjusted in September as we had reached the expected income for the year.

The figures tell their own story: expenditure on stock for the year was £11,946 (against a budget of £12,000) and income from sales was £21,000 (against a budget of £18,000). Both figures include both gifts and cards and books.

The extension to the bookstall, and more Christian shops closing in this area, made it more important to increase both the quantity and range of our stock. The crosses and prayer cards were very popular. My aim is to maintain a good variety of Christian cards and gifts.

The donation hub, which was reconfigured to allow bookstall sales by card, has been a great help for visitors when volunteers are not around to take the money.

I want to thank all the volunteers who help during the holiday ministry season. Thank you, also, to everyone who supports the bookstall by buying cards and gifts and also to Glyn for his support and excellent choice of books.

Please pray that each item is bought with the love of Jesus in mind.

Pray for our charities and suppliers: without them, we could not provide this service.

Joyce Richardson

Brass cleaning (Parish Church)

Not much has changed during 2025 with a continuing lack of brass cleaning volunteers. During 2025, just two volunteers joined the group, so it was not a good year for recruitment. Luckily, other members of the team stepped in to cover as well as covering their own month.

We're still building the team for 2026 with four more volunteers hoping to join. It is better to work in twos, particularly on the large jobs, and more people are needed to make this possible. The eagle lectern is still cleaned by one person, which is a big job, though this is not done weekly. The communion rail is cleaned by one person, which is manageable. Again, this is not done weekly.

Weekly cleaning in the vestries includes two candle holders, two lecterns, one cross and one large offering plate. Weekly cleaning around church includes the brass rail in the prayer chapel and various brass plaques. In the lounge there are two wall plaques and one brass offering plate.

Visitors are interested and often stop to chat, comparing our work with the work done in their local church.

One of the future volunteers is not a churchgoer, but with prayer and the encouragement of his partner who attends church, we hope he will come to join us.

Betty Dukes-Smith

Cromer Church Community Choir

The choir continues to be a very friendly, supportive, and welcoming group. The members have become such a lovely 'community' of like-minded, inclusive people who come along to share an hour of singing together with no pressure, no judgement and lots of fun and laughter. Everyone is welcome regardless of musical or singing ability.

Each week is always different as members drop in and out throughout the year, but we do have a solid core of regulars who keep everything together. As there is no pressure to practice for performances, we just sing for the joy of it.

With a good mixture of songs (some more challenging than others) the choir provides a safe space to relax and unwind from everyday worries. This usually means that those that come along are there because they really want to be... not because they feel obliged. This in turn creates a unique and very happy group of people who say they always leave 'uplifted' after a rehearsal.

We currently meet on a four-week term basis with one week break in between each term. We have a longer break over the summer school holiday period. Each session is on a Tuesday evening at St Martins 7.15-8.30 p.m.

Rosemary Fereday

CC Kids

CCKids welcomes between 10 and 15 children each week ranging in age from 2-15. They are a happy, fun, group from different backgrounds and cultures who are welcoming and friendly. The group is like a family, with older and younger children working together and forming friendships through storytelling, activities, craft and play. Visiting children are warmly welcomed and several families and grandchildren of church members visit during the year.

This year we have covered a huge amount of ground, including a deep dive into Nehemiah as well as Mark's gospel. We also learned more about the Fruit of the Spirit and finished the year with *The Adventure of Christmas*. Our sessions are divided into three parts, each led by a different volunteer. This consistent approach helps the children anticipate the flow of each session and has also divided the workload amongst the volunteers so that no one feels overwhelmed. In many sessions our "youth" numbers are equal to the number of under-11s, so we continue to offer an opportunity for deeper Bible study each week.

We are always looking for ways to help CCKids be more active in worship, so we have been returning to the congregation for Communion and final prayers once a month, and some children have chosen to read or lead prayers in the new 'All-In' services. We helped with an interactive prayer station for children and families during Thy Kingdom Come and also participated in the Christmas Tree Festival (placing first in the nativity class).

After losing a few volunteers during the year for various reasons we are very happy to welcome Jane Myhill to the team. We continue to pray for more help.

Please continue to pray for the CCKids team and families.

Thank you,

The CC KIDS Team

CC Toddlers

The CCToddlers team consists of Caroline Ashworth, Tim Britten, Victoria Blogg and Jane Myhill, with Jonathan Anderson and Gavin Hart coming to help set up and tidy away the hall. We do have a couple of people we can call on to help if we are short of helpers any time, though we could definitely do with more. Praise the Lord that this team is really efficient and each has a role to play during the morning. Victoria is taking on more of a lead role with stories and songs, which has been lovely.

We have a trip to Amazona Zoo every year which is paid for by CCToddlers, though quite a few have annual membership. This is a great opportunity to walk round chatting to all the adults, especially while the children are on the play equipment. We give the children a book at Christmas when Father Christmas visits (thank you, Ray). We also give daffodils to the

adults for Mothering Sunday and a treat at Easter. Although we usually just have biscuits available for snacks, in a specified area in case of allergies, we also have times when we all sit down and have crisps, fruit and biscuits together, usually once a term, and pancakes on Shrove Tuesday (thank you, Joanne).

Quite a few of our children, who started with us as babies when we began after COVID, started school in September. This was a sad, but also joyous event. Some of the parents still come along occasionally to see us. Of course, our numbers went down substantially for the Autumn term. However, we have had an influx of new families, including lots of babies and we are beginning to build up relationships with the new children and adults. The more established adults are welcoming to new people and are seen supporting others, with babies often passed around. Praise the Lord for these relationships and pray that this continues.

We still have tidy up time before we do story and singing and everyone is involved. It is great to see the older children enjoying this time and helping each other to carry things to the back of the hall. This term, Victoria has told stories which link to emotions, leading up to the Easter story. The children are mostly attentive, and we are getting fewer adults chatting during this time, so thank you for your prayers for this. It is lovely seeing the adults joining in with songs with the babies.

Thank you for your prayers for CCToddlers.

Caroline Ashworth

Sunday Choir and the Christmas Choir

At the beginning of the year, we received the news that Philip Sapwell would not be able to continue his membership of the choir due to ill health. Philip has sung in the choir for over five decades and was held in the highest regard by all. His fine bass voice and dedication to ensuring the continuity of traditional music was inspirational. We miss him very much.

The choir has continued to build on the work done last year, extending the repertoire of hymns sung at the 8.45am services and performing short anthems during the distribution of communion. Anthems are chosen with care so that they enhance worship and do not overstretch the capabilities of our small choir. Music from the 16th and early 19th Centuries has suited us well. The Carols by Candlelight service is always an annual highlight, enjoyed by both choristers and congregation. As well as recruiting experienced singers from the church family, this year Pam Draper was delegated to invite singers from the other choirs with which she is involved. This revised policy meant we could reduce the number of rehearsals at such a busy time of the year and, more importantly, time and energy were spent on refining performance rather than basic note bashing.

Tim Moon

Cornerstone Café

Cornerstone is a valuable contributor to Mission for Cromer Church and is going from strength to strength with a committed group of volunteers either serving teas and coffees, baking cakes week in, week out or keeping the café clean.

A review of August till receipts shows at least 1000 visitors used the café during the month, an amazing number for which our volunteers should feel proud. On top of that 70% of the transactions were processed by card which saves on cash handling bank charges.

All visitors to our church can expect a warm welcome in an incredible building with a choice of quality refreshments. 2025 saw a 30% increase in revenue which suggests our visitors are telling their friends to visit us, too. Our volunteers are keen to get started in 2026 and continue to welcome locals and visitors from near and far.

Doug Tuthill and the Cornerstone Team

Crafts2Share

We are a fluid, open-ended, inclusive group of seventy-three members that goes well beyond crafting. We value every gift that members bring to the group and we provide an environment for these gifts to flourish. We are a mix of church and community members, crafters and non-crafters who look out for each other by offering love, support, prayer, sharing expertise and who enjoy eating birthday cake! For some members we are the first step they make in joining the church family, which is wonderful.

All members receive a monthly newsletter as an important way to 'keep everyone in the loop' and a birthday card each year to nurture the pastoral aspect of Crafts2share. Last year we continued to donate an incredible number of handmade gifts and cards to our local hospitals, care homes, community groups and individuals. And, of course, in 2025 the Quilting Group, which is a-sub group of Crafts2share members, designed and made the Prayer Banner for the Prayer Chapel.

We appreciate the support we receive from people who donate wool and fabric to us, and are grateful, too, for an income from the church budget each year to help fund some items. Our cup continues to be full and running over, as does our distribution centre in my garage!

Prayer points:

- We give thanks for the love, support and friendship we find within the group.
- We pray for all those who receive a handmade gift.

Jackie Austin, Diane Hartley and Anne Anderson

Cromer Church and the Cromer Peregrine Project

Since Winter 2018, a pair of Peregrine Falcons have taken up residence on the Church Tower and have raised chicks (apart from 2021 which was an unsuccessful breeding year). Peregrine Falcons are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Protection Act (1981). This means that only licensed people can climb the steps up to the top of the tower. Even though the church has lost revenue and disappointed some visitors who particularly wanted to climb the tower, numbers of visitors popping into the church to watch and learn more about the birds have increased with the addition of live streaming of the nest site on the television in the church lounge during the egg-laying and chick-rearing season. Cromer Church is very grateful to the Cromer Peregrine Project for a generous donation of £2,000.

Jonathan Anderson

Flower Arrangers Team (Parish Church)

Margaret, Jane, Christine and I take it in turns, every fortnight, to create a flower display on the stage near the pulpit. We would be very happy to have more team members. If you would like to be part of our team, please talk to one of us. We are always happy to help people 'have a go!' and you don't need to be a very accomplished flower arranger!

Prayer points

- Some more regular team members
- A team of 'extra' people who would help decorate the church for Festivals

Jane Sapwell, Margaret Mitchell, Christine Hopkins and Alison Orsborne

Holiday Ministry

We are a happy, supportive team of around thirty volunteers who have the privilege of welcoming people to Cromer Parish Church throughout the holiday season and to special services and events. We are the first to greet visitors to the church and initially, welcomers on our team are there to direct people to where they need to be, to guide them to points of interest in the building and to be sensitive to those who 'just' prefer a smile as they enter the church. Our bookstall volunteers have the opportunity of selling Christian books, gifts and cards and helping people make choices about their purchases. During 2025, our role has been extended to provide tourist information about Cromer.

At our end-of-season meeting in September, we reviewed our volunteering in 2025 and rebranded ourselves as the 'Holiday Ministry Team' rather than using the separate 'welcome and bookstall titles', as this more accurately reflects our team of volunteers.

Just as we welcome people into the church, we always try to give a friendly smile and say goodbye to people as they leave the building. The comments in the Visitors Book confirm how so many people appreciate all they experience during their visit to the church.

Prayer points

- We give thanks for the joy of being on the Holiday Ministry Team
- We pray that each person who visits the church is blessed by their visit

Jackie Austin and Astrid Cimals

Meeting Point

Meeting Point, (Church Club to our 'friends'), has been running for about 30 years providing a Christian environment for those with learning needs within our Church family and the local community to socialise and join in with worship songs, Bible stories, activities and prayer. We meet every Thursday afternoon in the Parish Hall. We take breaks over the main school holidays but always meet during half terms.

A few years ago, several of our 'associated' homes closed, scattering the residents to the four corners of Norfolk and beyond. Over recent years a number of those who came have died. Only two homes now send people to Meeting Point and currently we have 12 regular friends. A new friend who, once settled in, said it was like one big family.

Our team of helpers is wonderful and each fully joins in with the afternoon's activities. We have had three helpers leave over the course of the year and we currently have eight people helping, most of whom come on a regular basis. Without them there would be no Meeting Point.

At Meeting Point, as everywhere else, we are all getting older and without an influx of 'younger' helpers and additional friends I anticipate that it will gradually decline. This is a few years down the line but must be considered.

Prayer points

- Thank God for the constancy of the helpers and our friends from the homes.
- Pray for the future of Meeting Point that it will continue to provide support for those with learning needs within Cromer in the years to come.

Terry Draper

Mission Partner: Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Throughout 2025, Cromer Church continued to support Christians Against Poverty (CAP) as Mission Partner, by financial donation and prayer through inclusion in the monthly prayer diary. During focus month in October 2025 there were additional prayers included in services and CAP prayer diaries were made available.

More nationally, CAP continue to provide debt support to many people across the UK. Their latest published annual client report (May 2025) shows that over 15,000 calls were made to their helpline in the reported period. Debt help was provided to 8,716 people, they supported 638 households with emergency aid so that people could put food on the table, and 2,436 people became debt free. This was achieved with the help of churches across the country, who together donated £1.8m (2024-25) and provided practical and prayerful support.

Claire Harber

Mission Partner Champion

Mission Partner: Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)

CPAS continue to be based at the University of Warwick Science Park with the Revd Jon Scamman as the CEO. Being patrons to nearly 700 churches in England and Northern Ireland, including Cromer Church, the patronage team have been kept very busy encouraging and supporting the clergy and working alongside PCCs to appoint clergy when vacancies arise. Please pray for the Patronage Church recruitment processes taking place at this moment in time.

Good leadership is crucial for vibrant, growing churches and each year CPAS invests in over 3,000 Christian leaders with training events and resources. In the past year The Leadership Development Team has been so encouraged by the significant engagement with the online ministry, the Quiet Revival event and the Healthy Boundaries webinar. Please pray that many more leaders will access and benefit from this online training.

Following on from the celebrations to mark 100 years of running holidays for young people the 2025 summer season welcomed over 2,700 young people with 2,000+ leaders giving their time to plan and lead 46 Venture and ten Falcon Holidays. As supporters we are asked to give thanks for all that has been achieved and pray for the plans taking place now for this coming season.

Viv Benford

Mission Partner Champion

Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone (formerly Gideons UK)

The North Norfolk Branch of Good News for Everyone is committed to sharing God's word in our local community via our three volunteer members.

During the Spring, we delivered a hotel pack, containing a Bible and Hope magazine to hotels in Cromer, Sheringham and Wells.

In 2025, we endeavoured to deliver Youth Testaments to secondary schools. The gift from Cromer Church, as a Mission Partner, enabled us to purchase 700 more Youth Testaments to distribute to the local secondary schools. North Walsham has unfortunately declined the offer of Youth Testaments as some past students tore apart some Testaments in the local park and staff felt it showed a lack of respect. Students in that school will not receive the gift of God's word. We pray that the staff will have a change of mind.

In the summer, during the Carnival, we gave from the church 27 Explore, 9 Hope magazines and 59 New Testaments and after the Christmas Carol Service 136 Hope magazines.

£1,460 was donated to supply the cast at the Thursford Christmas show with New Testaments. We are thankful for the encouragement of the Thursford management who gave us this opportunity. Unfortunately, the ordered Testaments did not arrive in time, so the Scriptures will be offered to the cast during Christmas 2026. We pray that all the performers will accept the offer of these scriptures and read them.

We thank God that we still have the freedom to offer His word but do continue to pray that the scriptures are read and lives changed.

Chris and Jennie Jacquier

Mission Partner Champions

Mission Partner: Hope into Action

2025 saw the completion of the three-year cycle of mission support for Hope into Action.

It is hoped that during this time, more members of Cromer church have come to appreciate the work of Hope into Action and to understand how the charity's support for the homeless differs from other homeless charities. This is first and foremost through its rooted faith in Jesus Christ and his saving grace, which it conveys to the tenants through loving action.

During the focus month, the congregation was shown a powerful video of a tenant who talked about his journey through homelessness as a result of being a war veteran, which led to addiction and a prison sentence. Addictions are a common reason why people offend and

then find themselves homeless when released from prison. We saw another example of this in the case of Susie who was given a home and support from the wonderful team in Norwich and who was featured on the front page of a Christian newspaper. "I know for a fact that if not for Hope into Action, I wouldn't be alive today" is a quote from Susie on the homepage strapline of the Hope into Action website!

We are so lucky to have a Hope into Action office in Norwich, where at the last count, nine houses were supported in the city. This makes the charity feel like a "local" charity. Most of the towns and cities where Hope into Action operates are run via a franchise, sometimes set up through an existing Christian organisation. There are only two or three branch offices in the whole of Britain.

Katharine Checketts
Mission Partner Champion

Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor (SIM)

Michelle has been one of our sponsored mission partners for many years, working for the SIM mission as a nurse in Mukinge hospital, Zambia. She came on leave in the early summer of 2025 and visited Cromer church for a weekend in May when we heard all about her work. She came to both the Parish Church and St Martin's on the Sunday morning and gave a more detailed presentation in the Parish Church lounge on the Sunday afternoon.

When Michelle returned to Zambia after her leave, she felt that God was leading her back to the UK to pass on her wisdom and experience to new SIM mission partners and to those returning on leave. She therefore came back in November and has been on a three-month sabbatical, during which she has met up with other members of the team she will be working with, and attending some courses. As of the end of 2025 we had not heard exactly what her work will involve; however, she is still a SIM mission partner, and we are continuing to support her. Michelle's focus month is January, and those leading intercessions in church that month made a point of mentioning her in their prayers.

Tim Britton
Mission Partner Champion

Mission Partner: Tearfund

It was a joy and privilege to have Tearfund voted back again as a Mission Partner, in January 2025. Judith and I are so grateful for the wonderful support this charity has from Cromer Church.

As most will know, Tearfund is an international Christian relief and development agency based in Teddington, UK. It currently works in around 50 countries, with a primary focus on supporting those in poverty and providing disaster relief for disadvantaged communities.

In the monthly prayer diary, we try to encourage our church members to pray for particular world issues and disasters and also highlight the struggles of those living in the third world, whose problems are rarely brought to light in our national media.

During our focus month last June, we hosted a garden party which was very well attended and over that month £345.50 was donated which we passed on the Tearfund. This went towards their “disasters fund” which is ready to be used in unforeseen natural disasters, as well as man-made disasters like war.

In November we once again hosted a very successful and popular Big Quiz Night. An amazing £708 was raised, which was added to the national total of over £37,000. We were aiming at over £700, the amount needed to transform a community and enable them to work together on sustainable projects.

Thank you from those whose lives you have changed through your prayers and sacrificial giving.

Galatians 2:10 “All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.”

Lynda Brown and Judith Anderson
Mission Partner Champions

Mothers' Union

The Cromer branch of MU has had a mixed year.

Our treasurer Yvonne Hoggarth and Hospitality lead Val Williams have been diligent in fulfilling their roles; but the secretary role has been officially unfilled; with Eileen Woodfield and Jane Myhill covering and arranging as necessary.

Attendance has been varied at the monthly meetings, from eight attendees at a couple to 23 at the Harvest Festival, and more than 21 at the annual Strawberry Tea in Jackie Austin’s garden.

Two other meetings worthy of note were the outing to Binham Priory for which Jane organised a minibus; and the talk from ‘Ben’ at the Surf School; to which the toddler group Mum’s were invited; and two came with their under-fives.

Sadly, membership has not increased since we admitted three new members in 2024; and the other activities/commitments and increasing age of the members has led to a decline in overall enthusiasm for the branch. This is sad given that it is MU’s 150th year and in the Diocese; nationally, and internationally, much celebration is planned. However, it is probably time to close the Cromer branch. I will leave this to our Father God and the women (not necessarily mothers) of Cromer Parish.

Finally, a positive note is that our own Margaret Mitchell has an article published in the Diocesan Mothers’ Union 150 Year Celebration booklet. Copies will be given to all members at the first meeting of 2026, in March.

Eileen Woodfield

Addendum for APCM: On 17th March 2026 we had a blessed final meeting with 14 members and associates, where we decided to close the Cromer Mothers’ Union Branch. Current and any new members can continue as Norwich Diocese members and enjoy celebrating the

150th annual celebrations. At the meeting, we thanked our long-standing President, Jean Steward, with a beautiful bouquet, and cake.

Eileen Woodfield
Branch Secretary

Music and Musicians (St Martin's)

We have seen a few changes this year and have been pleased to welcome Jay Tayler-Webb on bass guitar and also helping out with the producing of manuscripts for the songs, which has been particularly helpful with several new songs we are now singing. Mike sometimes now joins Jay in the rhythm section with electric drums, which make a good change.

Sadly, Don has been unable to rejoin us after his operation at Christmas, but we continue to pray for his healing. Rachael Stannard has continued to sing with us, and we thank her and John Drury for stepping in when Mike and I were abroad.

We continue to be close, working well with each other both musically and spiritually, and we enjoy at St Martin's the combination of the hymns on the organ, and well-known songs along with some new ones. We would however be pleased to speak to anyone who might be interested in joining this ministry, to see where they might fit in.

Thank you as always, to Dave Walker, Diane Hartley and George Carter for their support on the sound desk.

Our vision and prayer for the worship at St Martin's is that we can encourage and enable the congregation to truly worship our living God in song, and to bring an atmosphere of praise through the power of the Holy Spirit, and to see Him working.

Lynda and Mike Brown - leaders of music at St Martin's

Mustard Seed Monday Meals

On Mondays, we have a wonderful team preparing food, preparing the hall with the necessary tables and preparing the church for the children. We serve an average of just over 55 meals each week. At about 1.30, the elderly come for lunch which consists of soup, a choice of main course and various desserts, finishing off with tea or coffee.

After school has finished, the children come: someone from the Academy first followed by families when the other schools finish. At about 3.45, Rachel and a brilliant team of helpers have the older children in the lounge followed by the younger ones in the church. Some of the mums go into the lounge for a Christian discussion while the hall is cleared away.

Everything finishes at 5.00 p.m. when we get together to pray. We are blessed with our team of helpers and especially encouraged by the help from John Chandler and Tim Britton. It has been a privilege to watch God at work, with three adults being baptised and Café Church once a month being available for families.

Tracy Johnson, Rachel and Phil Stirland, Joy Gates and Anne Graveling

Mustard Seed Thursday Drop-In

Thursday's drop-in has been useful for getting to know new families. We offer the clothes exchange once a month, which is always popular, also cooking with Sue Brocklehurst once a month. Bev and Georgina Hayes are brilliant with the children, and we are grateful for the kitchen ladies - Tract and Shirley - supplying hot drinks, cereals, toast, scrambled eggs etc. It's a happy Group.

Tracy Johnson and Anne Graveling

Open the Book (Suffield Park Infant School and Nursery)

Suffield Park Infant School and Nursery warmly welcome the Open the Book team every three weeks, approximately, and we are delighted to go and tell the children and teachers/classroom assistants Bible stories. Teachers tell us it is the only assembly when the children readily come in from playtime!

During the Spring Term we presented the Visit of the Wise Men, Jesus lost in the Temple, the Widow's Mite and a sensitive account of Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection. The Summer Term involved stories of Pentecost, The Beautiful Gate, and Saul on the Damascus Road, while during the Autumn Term we told the stories of the Jesus and the children, The Good Shepherd and the Leper who came back to say thank you. At the end of this term, we gave each child a book about Christmas.

Each story is narrated, and the team dress as the characters with some children enthusiastically taking part wearing costumes too.

We have a good relationship with the school, and they asked us to go in and help the younger children create Easter gardens which we did. They also invite us to go and see their Christmas and end of year productions.

In July, Paul Neale, who had expertly led the team for two years, left due to imminent relocation. We thank him for preparing the stories and leading each time. It is as much fun to practice as it is to perform the story!

We thank God that we still have the freedom to talk about Jesus and pray that, as we do so, the children will realise that each of them is special and loved by God and that seeds will be sown.

Janet Rosier

Open the Book (Cromer Junior School)

The OTB team continued to visit on a (more or less) weekly basis sharing Bible Stories. We take the part of narrator or characters, using props to bring the stories to life. Each assembly concludes with a Reflection and an invitation to pray. The children love to be involved, some are usually in costume and, occasionally, will take one of the spoken roles. As in previous years the School Carol service was held in church, with parents attending. This was led by Revd Dee Freeman, with the team and pupils sharing in presenting the Christmas stories.

In September, we held a get-together, with lunch, to which we invited members of teams from other nearby schools, to share ideas and pray for one another. Revd John Chandler came as speaker and brought a message of encouragement. Also in September, several members attended a celebration event in Norwich of 25 years of Open the Book, which included sharing with teams from across the region and some training by Bible Society staff.

OTB in the Belfry School, Overstrand. has continued during 2025 with members from Cromer Church going about 4 - 6 times a term.

Again, we thank George Carter for making costumes.

Prayer points:

- Gratitude for the opportunity to take the message of the Bible to children.
- Some team members have retired, and we very much need new members.
- The Cromer Headteacher is retiring - pray that his successor will welcome Open the Book.

Frances Britton

Organ Recitals

As I reflect on the 2025 Summer Organ Recital Season the hymn 'O praise ye the Lord', based on Psalm 150, comes to mind and one line in particular stands out: 'loud organs his glory forth tell in deep tone'. The format of our organ recitals is, in my experience, unique. The evening is framed at the beginning and end by prayer, and we always sing a hymn thus giving everyone present the opportunity to make music together.

The recital season, our 137th, has been highly successful with nearly 1000 people attending, an average of over 80 each evening. Those people also made generous donations to the Organ Fund for which I am most grateful. All twelve of the recitalists had strong Norfolk connections with over half living and working in the county. As well as some familiar faces, we also welcomed organists playing our magnificent organ for the first time. Of great importance to me, we offered a platform to three young undergraduate organists and two of the recitals featured instrumentalists: a flautist and a cellist.

The recitals would not have been possible without the support of a dedicated, enthusiastic and hard-working team and, in particular, I would like to thank David Anderson and David Osborne for all their help behind the scenes as well as during each recital.

Tim Moon

Refreshment Team (Parish Church)

There are three Refreshment Teams at the Parish Church, a different team for each service. The 8.45 am service has a small team who take turns in setting up making the refreshments and serving those who stay after the service. This group hand over to the team for the 10.30 service who make and serve refreshments. As this is a larger congregation, and more coffee is served, more teams are needed especially as this group has to clear up when serving refreshments has finished. In the past year three new people have come forward to help and

now there are sixteen people who work in teams of two or three. Refreshments are also served at The Gathering in the evening. This is more informal with 'serve yourself' refreshments mainly before the service but carrying on afterwards. There are two people who organise this. Serving refreshments is an important ministry and it is good to be able to talk to visitors whether they are those who have come to find out about faith or those who come to their own holiday accommodation or those who are on holiday, visiting for the first time. "Serving God, serving the church by serving coffee." This strap line came to my mind when I became the co-ordinator of the refreshment teams. This of course means making sure that there are enough provisions to enable the teams to operate. There is always room for more people to serve refreshments especially for the 8.45 and 6.30 services.

Jane Loades

Restoring the Frontals for the Communion Table in the Parish Church

In May 2022, we asked Helen Jenkins from the Broderers' Guild to come and discuss the work that needed to be done to repair the sets of Frontals and Super Frontals. Between then and the autumn of 2025, following her advice, we:

- replaced the worn cloth of gold on the white set and purchased new St Nicholas (white) fabric from the Guild, for a new Super Frontal.
- replaced the green Orphrey and restitched all the loose gold threads on the green set.
- replaced the background fabric and replaced all the gold work and beads on the red set. (This set had been bought for the church at the end of the 19th Century and required the most major work.)
- bought new fabric for the Superfrontal and new fringing for both the Frontal and the Super Frontal on the purple set.

The work was finished in the Autumn 2025.

Margaret Mitchell and Alison Orsborne

PCC Secretary's note: Margaret Mitchell's expertise and experience were crucial and meant that we could undertake this repair and restoration work in-house. We are very grateful for the time and effort she and Alison put in to getting things right. The completed work is of very high quality so, when you have the opportunity, do go and admire the finished result.

Table Tennis Group

This has been an excellent year for the table tennis group. Our membership has doubled, with 23 members now playing regularly. Each week averages between 12 and 18 players. We have added a third table which is regularly in use. In January we enjoyed a lunch together at the North Lodge Bistro. We were able to give a gift from our funds to the Mustard Seed ministry at St Martin's. Pastoral care has naturally developed with members showing genuine concern for each other.

Judith Anderson

Website

The Cromer Church website, hosted by Hubb Church, provides helpful information for anyone thinking of visiting us, as well as for our own congregations.

The website includes links to the recorded morning services at the Parish Church, which are hosted on YouTube. The latest approved PCC minutes and our prayer diary are also available for downloading – with grateful thanks to those who provide these.

Please do let me know - at the following email address - of any additions or amendments needed on the website, relating to groups and/or events that you run for our church:
web.admin@cromer-church.org.uk

Jill Salsbury
Website Administrator

Women's Ministry

2025 was a good year for the Women's Ministry events. Each event we held in the Parish Hall was very well attended by people from the church and the community. Many people brought their friends and neighbours along, too, which was lovely to see and has resulted in a few of those 'new' people coming along to other church events since then, which is wonderful.

Food and crafting seem to be the two main areas that attract people to our events so that is what we now focus on. The Women's Ministry breakfast in September branched out into also providing hot food as well as our usual Continental style breakfast, so I am thinking this might lead to a 'fuller' English breakfast at some point! Around seventy people attended the craft day in November who enjoyed making Christmas crafts and eating wonderful homemade soup. The Parish Hall space was full, and the buzz of conversation never stopped the whole of the five hours! People went home happy, well fed and with some creations to adorn their homes for Christmas.

I am grateful to the team of three other ladies and several helpers who volunteered to help make sure these events happened in 2025, they gave so generously of their time and resources.

Prayer points:

- We give thanks for all those who came to our events and went away feeling blessed.
- We ask for prayer for our 'new' Women's Ministry team heading up our three 2026 events.

Jackie Austin