

Wardens Report 2020/2021

When Martin Wells asked me 18 months ago if I would consider becoming Church Warden, having worshipped in Uplyme church for more than fifty years it was time to give something back. Little did I know what was ahead, it was expected that I would be elected as a warden at the April 2020 APCM, this was not to be, because of the pandemic. The next few months were strange and Jo and Martin carried on, services were mainly through Youtube, we had also become part of the AVMC in 2019 and our office closed in 2020. The exciting part of last summer was that Nicky joined the AVMC team and we are lucky that she has come to live at the Rectory in Uplyme, what a blessing this has been. During September 2020 the APCM took place and I was elected as church warden, it wasn't difficult as I was the only candidate.

And so the year began, in November I was installed officially as church warden by the Archdeacon in a zoom meeting. We have had to get used to services without being in church and we are very grateful for all those involved in the preparation and presentation of these services. Services were held in church in October for harvest (the church was beautifully decorated for this) and Light a Candle to Remember in November, both were well attended with limited numbers. The Remembrance Sunday service was live streamed, even the laying of the wreaths at the War Memorial, the school laid crosses there on the 11th November, this service was much appreciated by the community. The church was open on 11th November and several people gathered (albeit distancing themselves) and stood for the 2 minutes silence at 11am. In December we held the Carol service with a small choir, and at Christmas there was communion at 10am, how good it was to be in church for this beautiful service.

Since Christmas we have been in lockdown once again, so Youtube and live streaming have become our main source of worship. We have been able to access other churches within the AVMC giving us a variety of services. Well done everyone and thank you. We look forward to Easter when we can now be in church again, and hopefully this will be the start of some sort of normality (probably with distancing and masks).

Oh how good it will be to have meetings and contact with others and also to meet those team members in the AVMC, instead of the numerous zoom meetings I have attended.

I will finish with a very big thank you to all those who have supported me during the year, special thanks to Martin and Jo who continued as wardens until September, and are still a listening ear. I mustn't forget thank you Nicky for putting up with my questions and texts, you have been so patient, thank you. Looking forward to 2021/2022. Jenny