

Churchwarden Fabric Report for All Saints 2025 – 2026

Prepared by Chrystal Poon & Alison Lyndon

Since the major re-ordering at the west end of All Saints last year, the new facilities have vastly improved our gospel ministry and outreach by providing a welcoming space and allowing for easier catering and hospitality. The PCC are now in the process of planning phase 2 of the project, considering how we might make better use of the church building for break out space, especially for children's groups on Sunday mornings and smaller church meetings throughout the week. We are working closely with Christian Randall, our church architect, and the PCC has employed the services of Oxford Heritage Partnership as heritage consultants to help us with our statement of need and to give technical advice on this project. Once ready, we will submit our application to the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches). Please join us in praying for wisdom and discernment for this next stage.

In addition, we are working our way through our most recent Quinquennial, and carry out maintenance works as required. We would like to express our gratitude to Neil Rowe, who after stepping down as churchwarden last year continues to support the churchwardens in all building and fabric matters, and also to Doug Simmons and James Crafer who undertake much of the day-to-day maintenance and upkeep of both All Saints and St Luke's. An overview of some specific works which have been carried out in the last year at All Saints can be found below:

Completed works in 2025-2026:

- 1) Painting of the tower, stairwell, office and porch was carried out, and a new mat and noticeboard were fitted in the porch
- 2) The gas boiler was serviced, a new pressure vessel was fitted to the heating system and electrical safety certificates obtained
- 3) Cleaning and oiling of the main church door was undertaken
- 4) Snagging jobs from the west end re-ordering were completed
- 5) Repairs to the porch roof and the pigeon proofing on the tower were carried out
- 6) A trench was dug to allow an underground route for three-phase electricity when we move to this as part of our building project
- 7) Clearing and weedkilling the gullies around the base of the church building. As always, the parish council carry out any necessary routine maintenance to the churchyard, including grass-cutting and tree surgery.

Pending works for 2026-2027:

- Working through the recommendations and priorities from the last quinquennial inspection
- Moving towards three-phase electricity when needed
- Our major focus will be the design, funding and permissions for the next phase of our building project.

We pray that All Saints would be a blessing to our local community, and are thankful that we have a space for making and growing disciples and sharing the love of Christ to all who enter this building.

Churchwarden Report for St Luke's Church, Garford (2025 – 2026)

Prepared by Alison Lyndon and Chrystal Poon

Services

St Lukes has continued to hold a service each First Sunday of the month with additional services also taking place for key festivals such as Mothering Sunday and Remembrance Sunday. Additionally there was a special service for those who have lost loved ones and Advent Carol Services both key features in the St Lukes calendar and well attended. These have been led by a range of ministers from across both the diocese and beyond. These include The Revd Mike Dilly, Archdeacon David Tyler, Rev'd Jane Haslam, Rev'd Campbell Paget alongside both Nick and Phil.

We have been grateful for their care and ministry to the congregation at St Lukes this past year.

Practical Support

Alongside the monthly services the church continues to open up weekly for parishioners and those visiting the church to have a space for reflection and quiet prayer. This is ensured by the support of a small supportive group of those from both St Lukes and All Saints. This group also has ensured that St Lukes has been open, cleaned, decorated, music played and services run. We would like to thank each of them (Ben Skipp, Bryan Eccles, Carolyn Whiting, Debbie Flint, Gay Campbell, Mike Greig, Sally Viney, Sue Lawton, Tony and Pam Carter). A particular thanks to Ben Skipp for the work he does in not only playing but often curating the music for and leading the choir most services.

Mothering Sunday ministry

All women within the village received a primrose on Mothering Sunday weekend in 2026 which was warmly welcomed – this was headed up by members of St Lukes Church.

Completed works in 2025 – 2026

Heating – the repair of the heater at the back of the church alongside general maintenance of the church and churchyard.

Pending works for 2026 – 2027

Repair of the flashing on the tower is set to go ahead in the Spring / Summer of 2026 and has been approved by the PCC

Additionally we are working our way through our most recent Quinquennial, and carry out maintenance works as required. We would also like to extend our thanks to Neil Rowe, Doug Simmons and James Crafer for their work to support the upkeep of St Lukes.

We continue to pray for St Lukes that it will continue to be a space of fellowship and discipleship for those within Garford, Marcham and surrounding villages.