

St Andrew's Church Report to The Guist Annual Parish Meeting

St Andrews has been in Guist since about 1300 and has been listed as a Grade II* listed building since 1960. We have services on the fourth Sunday of the month to which everyone is welcome, and we are part of the Heart of Norfolk Churches benefice.

Churches receive no funding from the Government, nor the Church of England and we must support ourselves for all running costs and our share of providing a priest. Our insurance, electricity and parish share costs amount to approximately £350.00 per month and these must be met out of our income, we are fortunate to own two fields and the rent received from this contributes to these costs. We are extremely grateful to Guist Parish Council who for the last two years have given us a grant towards the costs of maintaining our churchyard.

In the last few years, we have applied for and been successful in obtaining grants towards the tower repairs, a new noticeboard and more recently new lights. However, maintaining a 700-year-old building can be an uphill struggle, especially when our congregation is so small and we are all getting older. We have a congregation of just four regular attendees so any new volunteers to assist with some of the jobs involved in keeping the building open would be welcome.

Every year we hold a simple Act of Remembrance on Remembrance Sunday during which the names of the Fallen from Guist are read out, and we also have a Christmas carol service which is well supported by Guist villagers.

It is important that Guist amenities support one another, for example the shop looks after a church key so that visitors can look inside and we share Facebook posts. The Church organizes a coffee and cake meet up in the Guist Clock Café as an opportunity to catch up with village friends and to support our village shop. The next one happens to be tomorrow on 9th May at 10:30am and you are all invited.

Sally Norwood

PCC Secretary and Treasurer.

02 May 2026.

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