

MUSIC REPORT 2013

This time last year we were still in an Interregnum, so I was kept busy choosing the weekly hymns and music. Martin is happy for me to continue to do this, so I suggest hymns for each week and he approves them, sometimes suggesting new ones for us to learn, which is great.

Our Choir is very loyal, but is getting quite depleted in numbers. This means that on some Sundays we can't sing what we have rehearsed, due to vital parts being absent. If we had more singers, the gaps would not be so noticeable! We were delighted that our 2 Junior members were able to sing with us up until Christmas, but now there is just 1 Junior – hopefully she will be joined by others soon. Please come and see me if you would like to try singing in the choir – singing is a great way to spend an evening and it's fun!

At Christmas we had our traditional 9 Lessons and Carols, though this was unfortunately dogged by illness, and we didn't have our full complement of singers on the night. However, we were all able to sing carols at The Bullfinch, raising over £70 for the Children's Society, as well as enjoying a meal together afterwards.

Members of the choir have taken part in various ecumenical services - the North West Fellowship Advent Carols at St Thomas RC, The Women's World Day of Prayer at St Nicholas and the Good Friday music and readings at St Mary's Kippington. The Drive Methodists's Christian Unity service had to be cancelled because of the snow.

The Music Group goes from strength to strength, with 2 flutes, 1 violin and 2 cellos. Many of the congregation will remember the wonderful playing they did so recently at our Mothering Sunday service, and I am very proud of them. Thanks are due, as always, to their supportive parents who bring them to rehearsals and make sure they actually practise the music I give them!

I am grateful to Martin for all his encouragement and help in trying to find someone to share the load, and I would like to thank all the choir and Music Group for their constant support and lovely music-making.

Janet Sharp