

On the main road, overlooking the Inner Harbour, our church is at the heart of the West Bay community, both physically and spiritually. The small local population is supplemented by many who work in nearby pubs and restaurants; by thousands who enjoy many weeks in mobile homes at local leisure resorts; and by thousands of day-trippers, especially during the summer months. Throughout the day people pass our door. Some drop in to look around.

OUR MISSION

At West Bay God's creation is evident all around us. A glance one way in the early morning light picks out a fishing boat, battered by heavy seas, entering the safety of the harbour with its catch of fish. A glance elsewhere at sunset takes in the golden-yellow beauty of the Jurassic cliffs, their bases dangerously hollowed out by rising seas in an era of climate change.

Our mission is to help people of all ages enjoy our beautiful natural surroundings. To recognise in them God's evolving creation. Through formal Christian worship or informal performances and art installations. Through participation in fun activities for families or quiet contemplation. Our church and activities are open to people of all faiths and none.

OUR PROGRAMME

COME AND SEA This programme of summer activities particularly targets families visiting West Bay. Strongly focussed on creative craft activities that use local natural materials, it also features an element of informal worship. The pilot project in August 2024 attracted around 300 participants. We wish to expand the programme over the coming years, to include performances and art installations as well as creative workshops.

PRESERVING THE BUILDING On the quayside, exposed to south-westerly storms and rain, St John's requires regular maintenance. Nor have basic facilities been much upgraded. In 2024 we rewired the entire church and installed a new energy-saving lighting system. In 2025 and 2026, we shall be repairing the roof and installing a new heating system to embody our aspiration to use green energy and reduce our carbon footprint.

REFRESHING THE INTERIOR We wish to create a comfortable space for quiet and contemplation. A space also with thought-provoking installations to help casual visitors learn about the wonders of our natural surroundings and to reflect upon God's Creation as they tour West Bay. We also wish to improve our toilet facilities, and to install basic refreshment-making facilities for the comfort of all who visit our church.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you can help us fulfil our ambitions by donating your money, time or skills, please click this link. We shall be grateful for any help you can give. Above all, please pray for us and visit us if you can.