

Holy Trinity Church Easton Royal

Churchwarden's Report 2016/7

Average attendance at 'usual' services has been 12. Festival and special services have been well attended. The addition of a regular evening service on the third Sunday was reviewed and it was decided to revert to 11am services. We continue to be grateful to Rev James Dickie for his continuing support. There have been two baptisms and two funerals. We were especially saddened by the deaths of Chris Lightfoot, who was secretary to the PCC and also Roger Swift. Clergy continue to be welcomed into school and the end-of-term services have been held in church. Open the Book is enjoyed and appreciated by children and staff.

The Nativity was a great success – thanks to Fiona de Pass and all the cast for an enthusiastic performance. Funds were raised for the church fabric fund and the 'Brighter Futures' appeal.

Fundraising activities during the year included a Call my bluff evening, teas at the Produce Show, Harvest lunch, Progressive supper and village Christmas card, which altogether have raised over £2,000 for funds – again thanks to all who helped in any way to make the events successful. Dry goods were again collected at Harvest for the Trussell Trust in conjunction with the school.

The path to the cemetery was finally resurfaced and is now providing a more level surface, and has now be widened to ensure safe carriage of coffins to the cemetery. Repairs were also made to the lych gate and church wall at the same time. Failure of the stone replaced three years ago will require further permissions. An application is also to be made to remove the three Irish yews by the path, crowning of the two English yews, work to the crab apple to clear the phone lines to the Manor and possible removal of two other Irish yews at the front of the church.

Fundraising in the village for defibrillators took place and one is now in place next to the notice board on the church wall. The issue of a faculty is ongoing – application is being submitted.

There are continuing challenges facing the PCC both financial and in membership. Planned giving has increased and with generous donations the year ended with a surplus. We have welcomed Margaret Holden and Carol Cramsie to the PCC. Marc Cramsie has agreed to take over as Treasurer from Roger Tilbrook for two years

I continue to be grateful for the ongoing support of PCC members and others in the parish – our organist B Dancer, sidespeople, readers, providers of refreshments, flowers and cleaners, deliverers of the Messenger not forgetting Marc Cramsie for his oversight of the Gift Aid.

H Hollinsworth
Churchwarden