***Holy Trinity Church***

***Easton Royal***

**Churchwarden’s Report 2018**

The average attendance at regular services at 11, was slightly up on last year.

Festival and special services were well supported.

There were three baptism services for 5 children and three funeral/memorial services during the year.

End of term services for the school have been held in church. Open the Book continues up to the summer but did not take place in the autumn term but has since restarted, supported by clergy-led assemblies. My thanks to the volunteers who tell the stories. The children and staff do enjoy and appreciate the involvement. Volunteers also helped make the Christingles for the service in December.

This year, we introduced Easter Lilies to remember loved ones, resulting in a lovely display of lilies for the Easter services.

For the celebration of the end of WW1, volunteers helped the children make poppies which were displayed in the church for the Remembrance Service. This formed part of a weekend of celebrations – a special service for the children on the Friday afternoon, followed by a tea party in the village hall. The Saturday saw the Troupers Show and supper. The service in the Sunday was very well attended and followed by a curry lunch. Funds were raised for the RBL and the Church. All in all this was a very special weekend with thanks to all who helped plan the events, provide food and participated. I Johnson also produced a valuable record of all who served in WW1 with a connection to the village.

The Walking Nativity was again successful, supporting the Air Ambulance appeal and the Church Fabric Fund.

Fundraising during the year has included a Call my Bluff evening and the village Christmas card. The harvest festival service was followed by refreshments. Dry goods were again collected for the Trussell Trust. The village recipe book is still planned but awaiting production.

The 100 club was successfully re-launched in November and any proceeds will go the Fabric/Restoration fund.

Three yew trees were taken out by the path to the church, opening up this aspect of the church. Another was also taken out and some pruning undertaken to other trees in the churchyard.

Thanks also to I Johnson for his work on the comprehensive plan of the cemetery – a valuable record of those buried there. Rabbit numbers were reduced by a visit from the ferrets.

Plans to refurbish the lighting in the church are in hand.

My thanks to Mark for his continuing pastoral support in the parish, James Dickie for his continued support in leading services, the members of the PCC, Brian our organist and all those who read, provide refreshments and flowers. Marc Cramsie has continued to oversee the accounts although he has since moved out of the village. Thanks to Carole Cramsie for her time on the PCC. She brought a fresh perspective to our meetings. Also to Keith Wheeler and now Carole and Ivan Gale who have stepped in to take over the running of the 100 Club.