

Scarning PCC Report

Scarning Annual Parish Meeting 2015

At this time last year the PCC was still some way short of securing sufficient funds for the restoration project at the church involving high level repairs and the installation of a new rainwater system.

English Heritage funded the lion's share of the project. On the back of the success of the local fundraising campaign, we were able to secure grants from the National Churches Trust, the Wolfson Foundation and the Garfield Weston Foundation to enable the work to go ahead. It began in July but unfortunately has been delayed for a number of reasons and is due to be finished in the next few weeks.

As is inevitable with such a project, there have been some unexpected difficulties including an east wall which was in a very poor state of repair. Fortunately savings have been made in other areas so the project is expected to come in within budget.

The PCC would once again like to record its thanks to everyone who helped in any way with this project. We are delighted that the Bishop of Norwich is coming to Scarning on 30 June at 7 pm to lead a special service to mark the end of the project. We hope that members of the Parish Council will come along to the service.

The PCC would also like to record its thanks to the Parish Council for the maintenance of the churchyard and clock. This contribution is a significant help to the PCC and is much appreciated.

On behalf of the village, the PCC would also like to thank the Parish Council for the Christmas tree which, together with the lights on the Village Hall, makes a splendid focal point over the Christmas season.

Significant events for the church during the year included:

- the splendid Flower Festival on the theme of Inspiration
- a confirmation service for four members of the congregation
- the special service commemorating the beginning of the First World War
- the rededication of the memorial to Dr Augustus Jessopp and his wife.

The PCC is delighted with the success of the monthly coffee mornings in the village hall. These were the brainchild of Tricia Foreman and include splendid refreshments - the bacon butties being particularly noteworthy.

Highlights for this year will include a Gardens Open Day and Barbecue on 14 June. On Friday this week we have a first - a Pop Up shop of ladies Luxury fashions by the Francois Bouttier Studio of Holt.

During the year the Dereham and District Team Ministry has been expanded to include Bradenham and Shipdham with an additional part time vicar.

We are pleased that our regular congregation continues to grow steadily - boosted by the support of our own team of bell ringers with their distinctive red sweatshirts.

Mrs Sue Rockley
20 April 2015