

Building and Fabric MAP team report 2019

Team members: Paul Kirkbride, Nigel Stalley, Marcus Newton, Michael Lickiss, Steve Benson, Jane Gorrie, Francois van Schalkwyk

The team wish to thank the many members of the Church family who have carried out various tasks and have given generously of their time and talents during the last year, for which we are all very grateful.

The team would like to express special thanks to Jane Gorrie, our Verger, who looks after our Church building on a day to day basis. We wish to express our thanks also to Paul Kirkbride, our Church Centre manager, and the many volunteers, who week in week out assist with the smooth running of our Church and Church Centre.

The team would also like thank all the cleaners who work hard every week to keep our Church and Church Centre clean and tidy. Thanks also go to the flower arrangers who, week in week out, produce beautiful floral displays to enhance our lovely building.

The team would also like to thank the many members of our Church family who helped to put up / take down the Christmas trees and crib and for the refreshments provided by Pam & Martin Dexter. It is great that so many of our Church family work together at events such as these during the year. During 2018 Warren Jeapes took on the Churchyard grass cutting. We are grateful for his care and attention to detail to keep our Churchyard looking so beautiful last year.

The 'Thanks A Million' (TAM) project teams have continued to meet and look at plans and designs for the re-ordering of the Church South Aisle and the redevelopment of the Church Centre. J. D. Clarke Architects (Eastbourne) are now overseeing both projects. We are hoping that during 2019 we will be able to move both of these projects onto a wider consultation stage. We are very grateful to all the fundraising that took place during 2018 including the very successful 'Fun Run' and the Jazz evenings. We are thankful to Janet Palmart and Glynn Wright who lead the TAM project teams.

In December our Church Architect Simon Dyson (HMDW Architects) completed the quinquennial inspection of our Church. There are no immediate urgent issues that need to be addressed. The key areas that we will need to address over the coming years include repairs to external masonry and repairs to more stained-glass windows. A condition report on the Hoo Memorial is also required.

Projects completed during 2018-2019

Health and Safety - Continues to be regularly reviewed at the Building and Fabric Team meetings. The annual **testing**, including electrical and PAT has been carried out during the last year.

The annual gutter, gully and valley clean out, together with a clear out of south side drain-pipes which were found to be blocked, took place during the year. This work was carried out by Jeff Blanks.

We continue to monitor the Church **Maintenance plan** and carry out tasks as they arise.

The **Church yard gardening team** (led by Manny Holden) has continued to carry out work keeping our Church Yard tidy. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped during the year. We are also grateful to HDC for the ground clearance work they have continued to carry out during this year.

A new **sound mixing system** was installed in the sound cabinet during the year which enables the sound system to be controlled remotely around the Church. Thanks to Bram van Huet Linderman who undertook this work for us.

Repair work was carried out to a **stained glass cinquefoil window** in the South Aisle. A Faculty was obtained for the work which was then carried out by Clifford Durant under the direction of our Church Architect.

Repair work was undertaken on the **Bell Tower** stairs where several stair treads were replaced.

Work was also carried out in the ringing chamber to repair crumbling mortar. This work was carried out by Jon Tilley under the direction of our Church Architect.

Another Faculty was granted for the installation of a **Hot Air Curtain** over the North entrance door to the Church. This work was carried out by Paine Manwaring and many will agree that the church has been slightly warmer this winter. This work was also overseen by our Church Architect.

An interim Faculty was granted for repair work to **decayed roof rafters** in St. John's Chapel (South Aisle) that had been damaged through insect attack. It is planned to carry out a full repair to the rafters in 2019.

A few Church **floor tiles** were repaired during the year, the work being carried out by Jeff Blanks.

Projects for 2019 and beyond

As our two 'Thanks A Million' project teams move forward into the more detailed planning stages this year, we will need to work hard to raise significant funds to fulfil our vision for St. Mary's Church in its future role in the life of Horsham in the 21st century.

To finish the redecoration of the **Bethany toilets and kitchen**.

Plan to address the points raised in the 2018 Quinquennial Inspection.

To repair the damaged roof rafters in St. John's Chapel in the South Aisle.

Steve Benson / Nigel Stalley
Churchwardens