

Benefice of Laughton, Ripe and Chalvington Annual Report of the Parochial Church Councils for 2016

From the Revd David Mathers

Five years ago I wrote my first annual report for our Benefice and began by recording our gratitude for the warmth of welcome you gave Lynda and me on our arrival. Now, it is with great sadness we will be saying our farewells and have to record that the kindness you showed us in our first year has remained constant and undiminished ever since. Thank you to all that so many of you do in the life, work, worship and witness in our three churches and three village communities and Deanland. Maggie, Jane and the churchwardens, together with our two church councils have made possible my ministry to be 'part-time', and Lynda and I are so grateful for this and for the friendship you have shown us as we look back on our House for Duty experience - such a happy one! You will continue to be in our prayers as you live out this year of the Bible, and, as I have mentioned in sermons, the hallmark of our Christian community must always be to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus so that we do not grow weary of lose heart (Hebrews 12.1-2) in His service. As to this past twelve months we have much for which to be grateful to God, and the evidence of this is reflected in what people have written in this Annual Report. Our finances continue to be in good shape, our villages Music Festival, so well attended, is such a lovely memory, and so too are the regular Sunday services, whether enjoyed by large congregations or small. We look forward in 2017 to all that is done together in fellowship, but it will be sad for Lynda and me not to be part of this fellowship. May the Lord bless you and keep you all.

Safeguarding: Report by Roger Dennien

The process whereby those working with vulnerable people may be registered and checked is called DBS, the Disclosure and Barring Service. The diocese of Chichester uses an organisation called CCPAS to provide the training and support systems to underwrite the service. This means that anyone in a parish who works with young people or vulnerable people in what is known as a "regulated activity" needs to be registered and checked by this service. It is the responsibility of the Safeguarding Officer to carry out this process on behalf of the parishes. CCPAS manage all the documentation on-line and the service is cost-effective and efficient. Training for those involved at parish level is provided by CCPAS and the most recent of these in this area was at Bexhill which Roger Dennien attended.

The government set up a review of safeguarding procedures chaired by a judge from New Zealand who subsequently has been replaced. The new chair has indicated that the process of review will be greatly simplified. However, the principle, that organisations which have demonstrated institutional weaknesses with regard to the care and protection of young people will be investigated, will continue. One of these institutions is the Church of England and, in particular, the Diocese of Chichester. There is nothing in our system to indicate any irregularities since we have not applied for any new registrations other than the formal ones for a new incumbent. No concerns have been raised by any member of the public. **If any member of the PCC has had a concern which they consider has not been properly dealt with then please let the PCC know so that it can instruct me how to proceed.**

The current Safeguarding Officer is Roger Dennien. His address is 3 Church Lane Cottages, Ripe. BN8 6AU His phone number is 01323 811674. His email address is roger.dennien@btopenworld.com

Over the course of this year no new applications for checking have been processed.

Roger Dennien attended a children's' choral workshop as safeguarding officer in July 2016.

Over the course of this year no concerns regarding safeguarding have been received.

If anyone in the parish has a concern that a young person or a vulnerable adult has been or is at risk arising from any activity associated with the conduct of the parish staff or as a consequence of any parish activity, they should report this concern to the Safeguarding Officer.

Having completed five years in this role Roger Dennien now wishes to stand down.

House groups and prayer groups: Report by Maggie Teager

We have a number of groups that meet together on a regular basis:

- Laughton - weekly on Tuesday mornings
- Ripe - weekly on Wednesday evenings
- Deanland - fortnightly on Thursday afternoons
Monthly prayer group
- Chalvington - fortnightly on Tuesday evenings
- Benefice - five times a year: Coffee and Prayer
- Chalvington Church - weekly Celtic Morning Prayer on Thursday mornings
Monthly *Lectio Divina* prayer on Sunday evenings

Our house groups have continued to provide opportunities to study the Bible, develop our faith through lively discussion, develop friendships and pray for our communities.

- The Laughton group was led by Sue Armstead during Lent, at the home of Peter and Christine Waring. Since autumn, David and Lynda Mathers have showed a series of DVDs entitled *The Land well loved*, which recorded the inspiring talks given by Chris Hill as he led pilgrimages throughout the Holy Land.
- The Ripe group started the year by watching the films made by David Suchet: *In the footsteps of St Paul*. During Lent they followed the Diocesan Lent course: *Opening doors* – of mercy, of prayer, of witness, of service and doors to the future. They then went on to watch the film *Babette's feast*, before embarking on a study of the Old Testament prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus. In the autumn, they followed *The Prayer Course* which was based on the Lord's Prayer.
- The Chalvington group, led by Michael Royle has studied the book of Ecclesiastes, followed by Hosea.
- The fortnightly Deanland group has continued to meet under the leadership of Joyce Cox and Barbara Thorne. During the year they have studied the journeys of St Paul, followed by some of Paul's letters. Their focus then switched to God's creation and the beauty that surrounds us.
- Sadly, Paddy Mabey has now ceased leading her Bible study groups, but we have all benefitted from her inspiration and encouragement of Bible study throughout the benefice and are enormously grateful to her.
- House group leaders have met regularly throughout the year.

- Coffee and prayer meetings are held at different venues around the benefice, and prayers are led by different people each time.
- A new venture this year was to read Celtic Morning Prayer at Chalvington Church every Thursday morning at 9.30am.
- *Lectio Divina* prayer has continued to take place monthly on Sunday evenings. Both of these events at Chalvington Church have provided times of stillness and silence, and opportunities to listen to God.

Services Report by Maggie Teager

We have retained our usual pattern of Sunday services:

Sundays	8.30am BCP Holy Communion	10.30am
First	Laughton	Chalvington – Morning Prayer (BCP)
Second	Laughton	Ripe – Holy Communion (CW or BCP)
Third	Chalvington	Laughton - Family Service
Fourth	Ripe	Laughton – Holy Communion
Fifth	Laughton	Deanland – Holy Communion or Praise

At Ripe, the 10.30 Holy Communion alternates between BCP and Common Worship. Where there is a fifth Sunday, there is a 10.30 service at Deanland, alternating between Praise and Holy Communion.

Healing services have continued to be held this year. Two were held at 6.00pm on Sunday evenings, and in addition at two 10.30 services there were opportunities for those who wished, to come to ask for prayers for healing or blessing.

We were delighted that Ripe Nursery School joined us to celebrate Mothering Sunday at Ripe, and Harvest at Chalvington. We are extremely grateful to Kate Fleming and her staff for their active support and encouragement.

Other special services were held for Christian Aid, Remembrance, as well as the feasts of Christmas and Easter.

Deanery Synod: Report by Yvette Smith

Synod is a body consisting of all incumbents within the Deanery, plus two or three lay people from each parish, depending on the number of people on the Church Electoral Roll. In the case of Laughton and Ripe and Chalvington, we are very fortunate in having four representatives which enables us to cover all the meetings. The Synod meets four times a year 7pm (coffee) for 7.30 – 9pm. Venues are churches and church halls within the Deanery. At every meeting, issues of financial provisions, quotas (financial) worked out for individual parishes, and any Amalgamations are reported in the Pastoral Strategy Report. Each hosting parish gives resume of their Mission work and activities. There is usually a presentation on some subject or other. Recent topics have been:

In February: Kenneth Edwards gave a Call to Arms in support of the 37 thousand children and young people in Church Schools throughout this Diocese, following our motion last year for the release of funds to the Board of Education. This was passed by a substantive majority at Diocesan Synod. John Booth, the Diocesan Treasurer had confirmed the release of £900,000 voted for this important purpose. Kenneth also called for prayer support. The Diocesan Director of Education has said that, on the whole, in these difficult times, we are moving forward. The development of the Diocesan Multi Academy Trust is positive and an essential element in the struggle to safeguard and support particularly small Church Schools, especially in coastal areas, of which this Diocese has many. School improvement is the key to holding onto our schools and the Diocese has begun to strengthen its support for school improvement. He praised Ann Holt, who has been commended as one of the most capable and experience Directors of Education for church schools.

In May: Canon Rebecca Swyer spoke about the nature and rationale of the Department for apostolic Life for which she has responsibility. The Department was created in April 2015 with the launch of the Diocesan Strategy. It relates directly to the development of the strategy and has absorbed the Evangelism department which was ready for change. Rebecca is the only Director of Apostolic Life in the Church of England and she likes the title. Not only is it a good conversation starter but appropriately, “Apostolic” is an active not a passive word and is linked with the sending out of the Apostles – thus closely in line with the Diocesan Mission strapline – committed to develop people who “Know, Love and Follow Jesus”. The three key thrusts of the Diocesan Strategy being:

- Effective stewardship: The Diocese is rich in people and resources, with more Lay People and more Clergy than most other Diocese. The posts we have must be focussed on the mission of the diocese. Change must be part of our stewardship. These have led to new appointments including Young Vocations Officer, Continuing Ministerial Development Officer, Parish Development Officer, Adult Education and Training Officer, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Diocesan Spirituality Adviser, Diocesan Youth Officer and the Children and Families Work Adviser, all of whom need to be working in line with the thrust of the Diocesan Strategy.

In July: Church Music in the Deanery. John Stamper and Musicians from Ringmer demonstrated Taize music, leading Synod in a typical chant “Bless the Lord O my soul...”, and a closing chant “Let your servant now go in peace O Lord.” Ringmer varies their traditional music approach with occasional Taize style services, involving readings and chants. Synod members then discussed in small groups about their own churchmanship.

In November: Bishop Richard gave a presentation on “The Year of the Bible”. The year will have two emphases: “Education” and “Engagement”. This year, the second Sunday in Advent (4th December) should be seen as “Bring your Bible to Church Sunday. Each member would also be asked to make a personal commitment to read their Bible, or part of it – regularly – over the coming year.

Throughout the year, there will be work in schools involving the teaching of the Bible. This includes an Art Competition. The Diocesan Board of Education has launched an RE project open to all schools in the diocese Christian and non-denominational; to help RE teachers fully understand Christianity themselves,

Aware that even in some of our own Voluntary Controlled schools, there is only a sketchy and sometimes significantly inaccurate knowledge of Christianity and of how the Bible is understood by Christians.

Parish Magazine:

We continue to be very grateful to Michael Slot for his wonderful editorship of the Parish Magazine and to Jean-Mary Crozier for its production and co-ordination of distribution. We thank them for their continuing enthusiasm and dedication.

Benefice Website: <http://www.lrcchurches.co.uk>

We continue to be extremely grateful to Chris Powell who ensures that the benefice website is kept up to date and provides interesting and useful information for regular worshippers as well as for visitors.

Parish of Ripe and Chalvington

Functions of the PCC

The PCC of Ripe and Chalvington co-operated with the House for duty priest, the Revd David Mathers, for the combined benefice of Laughton, with Ripe and Chalvington Parishes. Their primary function is to promote in the Parishes the whole mission of the Church: evangelical, social and ecumenical.

Membership

House of Duty Priest	Revd David Mathers	Standing Committee
Wardens	Dr Joan Royle	Standing Committee
	Mr David Taylor	Standing Committee
	Mrs Leaghie Wainwright	Standing Committee
	Mrs Thalia Brotherton-Ratcliffe	Standing Committee

Deanery Synod Representatives

- 1) Mrs Pat Appleby
- 2) Mrs Yvette Smith
- 3) Mrs Maggie Teager

Elected Members

Mr Douglas Gee
Miss Pru Hobbs/Treasurer Standing Committee
Mrs Gill Ross
Mrs Joanna Hoban/Secretary Standing Committee
Mrs Maggie Teager/Planning Giving Secretary

The Standing Committee has the legal power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given to it by the PCC.

Church Attendance

Extracts from the annual statistical returns:

	2013	2014	2015	2016
1st Sunday of October - Harvest	67 Harvest	35 Harvest	41 Visiting Choir	65 Harvest
2nd Sunday of October	69 Visiting	50 Visiting	19	45 Visiting

	Choir	Choir		Choir
3rd Sunday of October	15	18	10	13
4th Sunday of October	10	4	50 Evensong	8
5th Sunday of October - Deanland	-	-	-	20
Christmas Communicants	55	35	60	56
Easter Communicants	57	59	75	36
Baptisms	3	-	5	2
Weddings	2	4	-	1 +1 blessing
Funerals	2	4	3	3

Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is a list of names and addresses of every person who can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. In 2016 there were 146 names on the roll – an increase of 3 on the previous year.

PCC meetings:

The PCC has held the usual four meetings as well as the APCM in March to cover the worship in our churches and the caring of our church buildings.

The parish again supported the Ride and Stride event in September.

Ripe Café

How can the Church contribute to the common good? This was the challenge that the PCC set itself at the beginning of the year. In response, it was decided to support and enable the introduction of a café in the newly refurbished Ripe Village Stores and thus enhance the facilities and services already being provided by the community shop. This is now an important and much welcomed addition to village life, and appreciated by villagers, their families, friends, along with visiting cyclists and walkers. The café has been staffed predominantly by a wonderful team of enthusiastic volunteers. Thank you to all.

Treasurer's Report by Pru Hobbs

The total assets held at 31.12.2016 stand at £88,260 (£79,063 at 31.12.2015). Receipts are down 5.2%, £30,931 (2016) versus £32,631 (2015) and payments slightly up 2.2%, £27,936 (2016) versus £27,333 (2015). Further details of receipts and payments for the general and restricted funds are detailed in the Financial statement.

This year there were no significant Fabric expenses for Ripe church but funds are being held in the Fabric fund awaiting the outcome of the next Quinquennial report due in 2017. At Chalvington, preliminary work has started for the planned roof repairs to church steeple. Chalvington church was awarded £13,000 by the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair fund for this work after a second application worked on and submitted by Thalia Brotherton-Ratcliffe was successful, a brilliant outcome for all her hard work. The remaining balance will come from the Andrews Trust and Fabric fund. The PCC is also very grateful to our amazing fundraisers led by Sarah Carrol (Ceilidh) and Joan Royle (Music events) who once again have put on some wonderful events for the enjoyment of the community and made a fantastic contribution to funds, both church and community - Ceilidh (£670), Choral workshop (£1133) and Villages Music Festival (£3200 to church Fabric and £500 to Parish Magazine). The PCC would also like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has donated to church funds this year.

The PCC works hard to keep costs down and in spite of rising prices payments have only risen 2.2%. The total in the General Fund has risen this year (£6562 2016, £4153 2015) after several years of decline as the PCC voted this year not to make an annual transfer from General fund to the Fabric fund and hereafter only to place funds given/raised specifically for Church Fabric in this restricted fund. The General fund, which is unrestricted, can be used for Fabric purposes where necessary if the need arises but the reverse is not possible.

This year the PCC was very happy to make donations to St Peter and St James Hospice (£600) and the Royal British Legion (£775) of the collections including gift aid given at Harvest Festival & lunch and the Remembrance services respectively and also to donate to the Barnabas Trust (£290) all monies collected in the Lent Boxes. The PCC was also delighted to support the Ripe Stores Café project conceived and initiated by Maggie Teager in conjunction with Ripe Village Stores Committee by donating £425 towards start-up costs. This project aimed to create a friendly meeting place within Ripe village stores and seemed an excellent opportunity to create new links between the church and the community. The cafe has quickly become popular both with the local community and visitors. The hard work of everyone involved especially the volunteers is leading to increased use of the shop, reflected in the finances and further development of a real community hub for everyone.

Chalvington Church Fabric: Report by Thalia Brotherton-Ratcliffe and Leaghie Wainwright

Whilst holding regular traditional services, St Bartholomew continues to attract visitors for contemplation and quiet prayer. Drawn by its small-scale simplicity and rural, tucked away position, people rejoice in the possibility the building presents, for intimate services. These have included marriage blessings, baptisms and special services. Sunday evening, Lectio Divina readings (the ancient contemplative practice of listening deeply to the voice of God through the scriptures) takes place regularly; last September Maggie Teager initiated Thursday morning, Celtic Prayer meetings.

The church was bursting at the seams for Harvest Festival, rated a huge success by Kate Fleming's pre-school children as well as the grownup congregation. A group of her 2-3 year olds walked across the fields to church recently, from their base, the village hall. Some of their remarks: 'I love Chalving (sic) church', 'I like the wooden cross', 'Our Mummies and Daddies come here and I come here', 'You pull that rope and the bells ring outside'. Lovely for us to hear their sense of belonging and familiarity with this 13th century building at such a tender age.

In June we received a letter from The Listed Places of Worship: Roof Repair Fund confirming success in our grant application for financial help with urgent repairs to the shingle clad tower and tiled roof. They decided to award St Bartholomew 'a grant of up to £13,000, 54% of the total eligible project cost of £23,940, towards the repairs, to ensure the building is watertight'. The Roof Repair Fund is being administered by the National Heritage Memorial Fund on behalf of the Treasury. National announcements of successful applicants were made in July. We continue to be extremely appreciative of this award and also thank Emelia Booth, our Grants Officer for all her encouragement and assistance with quite a hefty project. Our treasurer has recently received £9,100, along with permission to start work on the tower: this commences March 1st.

As always, we as churchwardens are most grateful to the group of cleaners and flower arrangers who have made the church so sparkling and welcoming this year. Special thanks to our choir, to Mark for maintaining the churchyard and a huge thank-you to Graham Catt our dedicated organist.

Ripe Church Fabric: Report by Joan Royle

Planned services have continued as usual during 2016, with the addition of an evensong combined with Hellingly church choir in September. We are delighted that Ripe Nursery school has used the church for a Nativity play and for a concert during the Villages Music Festival. The church has also hosted a wonderful chamber music concert during the Festival, and a choral workshop in October.

Maintenance of the churchyard has been helped by the continuing services of Mark Randle who cuts the grass, hedging by Alan Blackwell, and four working parties of volunteers. Churchyard notices have helped to improve tidiness and disposal of waste. The east church path was professionally edged and the stones renewed. It remains a very beautiful and tranquil place. Chris Smith has very efficiently mapped the existing graves. It is estimated that there are 150 unused spaces, with 8 reservations.

The Hayton Baker Hall Committee has applied to the Diocese to purchase a small strip of church land on the western edge of the hall. The application is strongly supported by the PCC, but the logistics of achieving the sale have proved challenging. Approval has been granted by the Diocese but legal work awaits completion.

A quinquennial inspection took place in November by John D Clarke, Architects and the report is awaited.

A temporary sound system has been installed which was used at Christmas to good effect.

An exhibition of historic photographs of the church and village from the archive of the late Jim Beckingham is on display.

Pelham Choir: Report by Joan Royle

The choir has managed to sing for morning prayer at Chalvington and Holy Communion at Ripe throughout the year, but sadly there are declining numbers of singers, and four-part harmony is no longer possible on a regular basis. Special services, two evensongs, Good Friday service, Patronal Festivals and Carols by Candlelight at Christmas have been supported by additional singers from outside the benefice, which has been most helpful. A special choir under the direction of Nathan Waring sang for the Ripe Patronal, and the City Chamber Choir enriched worship at Holy Communion in October.

We are grateful to our organists, Graham Catt and James Robertson who have played so devotedly on a regular basis, and to Stephen Rooke and John Ross who have played occasionally.

The Villages Music Festival was a huge success with some outstanding musical and artistic contributions. A sizeable donation was made to Ripe and Chalvington PCC at the end of the Festival. The City Chamber Choir-led choral workshop in October featured Handel's Israel in Egypt, with unforgettable rousing choruses enjoyed by singers and audience.

A chamber music weekend is planned for September 9th and 10th 2017.

Thank you

- to our organists, Stephen Rooke, Graham Catt, James Robertson and John Ross for faithfully supporting our worship.
- to Joan Royle and the Pelham Choir
- to Stephen Beckingham, Peter and Val Hay and other visiting bell ringers
- to Chris and Yvette Smith, Maggie Teager, Roger Dennien and David Taylor for - administering the Chalice
- to Joan Chislett, Mary Major and all the flower arrangers
- to Leaghie Wainwright, Yvette Smith and our teams of cleaners
- to Roger Dennien - our Safeguarding Officer
- to Chris Powell - our Webmaster
- to sidesmen, those who read, welcome people, lead the intercessions, serve refreshments and perform all the other countless (but often hidden) jobs.
- to Jeremy Godwin for winding the clock at Ripe
- to Mark Randall, Alan Blackwell and the team of willing volunteers who keep the Church yards looking neat and tidy

Parish of Laughton

Functions of the PCC

The PCC of Laughton co-operated with the House for duty priest, the Rev David Mathers, for the combined benefice of Laughton, with Ripe and Chalvington Parishes. Their primary function is to promote in the Parishes the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

Membership

House for duty Priest	Revd David Mathers	Standing Committee
Wardens	Mrs Sue Armstead Mr Mark Hartley	Standing Committee Standing Committee
Deanery Synod Representatives	1) Mrs Margaret Pedder 2) Mr Michael Slot	Standing Committee
Elected Members	Lord Newton Mrs Marion Kemp Mr Jack Mapplebeck	Treasurer Secretary

The Standing Committee has the legal power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given to it by the PCC between meetings.

Church Attendance

	2013	2014	2015	2016
1 st Sunday of October	8	5	5	5
2 nd Sunday of October	8	10	6	4
3 rd Sunday of October	28	30	21	18
4 th Sunday of October	28	30	15	25
Christmas Communicants	41	32	36	32
Easter Communicants	35	41	30	35
Baptisms	2	2	2	2
Weddings	2	1	1	2
Funerals	0	3	2	3

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll is a list of names and addresses of every person who can vote in the annual parochial church meeting. In 2016 there were 143 names on the roll.

PCC Meetings

The PCC has held the usual four meetings as well as the APCM in April 2016 to cover the worship in our churches and the caring of our church buildings.

Church Fabric Report by Sue Armstead and Mark Hartley

The Parish Church of All Saints, 13th Century, Grade 1 Listed: The PCC ensures that the church is kept in good repair and we are grateful to our Architect, Contractors, Health and Safety Officer and cleaning team who help to maintain and care for the building and the grounds, providing a peaceful, welcoming space for worship, our visitors and the Community of Laughton.

The Quinquennial Inspection took place on 29th October and the report received in November and will be presented to the PCC in March 2017. The priorities listed requiring attention are categorized indicating the importance of the works: Priority A – Within one year, Priority B within two years and Priority C within five years. Some of these works have already been achieved. The remainder will commence March 2017.

Works completed : Clean and clear ground gutters – Churchyard working party
December

2016, Redecorate and repair Notice Board – October 2016, and Remedial works to Lightning Conductor, completed 8th December 2016.

Annual Maintenance

Gas Boilers and fire extinguishers received their Annual Service. Organ retuned. The high gutters cleared.

Health and Safety

Tom Dean will complete the Annual Inspection in February 2017. Health and Safety Policy, Risk Assessments and Evacuation Procedures are pinned up under the Tower and contractors and volunteers are asked to be aware of their contents. We are very grateful to Tom for his thorough care.

Churchyard Maintenance

Thank you to Mark who arranged a Work Party in December and for all who helped. The paths were cleared of weeds, general tidying and the ground gutters cleared and a bonfire lit. Thank you to Len Booth for his constant care of the churchyard.

Much Needed - Disabled Cloakroom and Kitchenette by Sue Armstead

Informal consents for the Project have been obtained from the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee), SPAB (Society for the protection of Ancient Buildings), Historic England and the Victorian Society. From their visits they comment that the church lacks basic facilities which have become a requirement in modern times. The proposal would take up a relatively short area of space at the west end of the Nave and would be designed as fully enclosed compartments. They would encourage a greater and more flexible use of the church.

Our fund searcher, David Axford, from CSC Regeneration, completed a Community Audit between December 2015 and February 2016 to explore the level of support with the community for the Project. The report concluded that, although there is a small minority concerned about the cost, there is a very strong level of support both for the principle of basing more community activity in the church and for the detailed proposition of establishing kitchen and toilet facilities at the west end of the Nave. This support is shown to come from across the whole community, not just those who worship at All Saints.

These conclusions will strengthen future funding applications. We are grateful to Lottery 'Awards for All' for funding this research. In March 2016 we held an Open Meeting in the Roebuck. The Community were invited to explore with our Architect and PCC members the need for the Project, the legalities and permissions involved and the reasons for building at the West end of the Nave, which was approved and agreed in discussion with the Diocesan advisory Committee and PCC members in 2010 and re-affirmed in 2015.

In April we received an 'alternative' proposal from two parishioners to build the Project under the Tower. We have sought a second Architect's opinion in order to respond with professional advice.

We are grateful to those who have supported our fund raising events –

- A stall held at the village fair in August at the Roebuck
- Faurés Requiem in March at the church with the Laughton Village Choir
- Strictly Come Dancing in the village hall in November
- An evening of Christmas music in the Roebuck with the Laughton Village Choir
- We received a generous donation from the Music Festival

Lottery 'Awards for All' have given us a further grant, enabling us to proceed to the next phase of the Project, which will include an Archeological Survey, Builders Tenders and Faculty Application.

Our continuing grateful thanks to all who have faithfully contributed to the life, upkeep and care of All Saints. Thank you to David Mathers and PCC members for their careful and considered decisions in all aspects of the care of our Parish church.

Thank You

To the Reverend David Mathers and to the Reverend Jane Sherwin

To our Churchwardens and PCC Members

To Richard Newton, our Treasurer

To Michael Slot, our Organist, for faithfully supporting our Worship

To Stephen Beckingham and his team of bell ringers

To our Communion Assistants, Richard Newton, Margaret Pedder, David Taylor, Sue Armstead

To all sidespersons, those who read, welcome people, lead the intercessions, serve refreshments and perform all the other countless but often hidden jobs

To Rosemary Newton and her team of flower arrangers

To Christine Waring and her team of cleaners

To Mark Randall who keeps the Churchyard looking so tidy

To Mark Hartley, Len Booth, Anthony Verelst-Way and team of volunteers who help to keep the Churchyard in good order.

To Peter Pritchett, our inspecting Architect for his advice and support and all our Contractors

To Mike Preece for helping to maintain our heating system

To Linda Glenn and the Laughton Village Choir

