

St Mary's Church Bacton. Churchwarden's Report
Parish Council A.G.M. on the 13th of May 2024

Since your last A.G.M there have been a few changes at St Mary's church. The other Churchwarden resigned in July and our Secretary in October, we therefore co-opted Brenda McLoughlin as our Minute Secretary. Brian Manley stepped down as Treasurer at the A.P.C.M at the beginning of April and Pete Bonner was co-opted on as our new Treasurer.

As you all are aware, Rev. Carl Melville's last service was the 3rd of September, therefore we are now in a Vacancy. Rev. Stephen Snelling who lives in Bacton is our Priest during the Vacancy, taking services, Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms which we all appreciate.

We had no one apply for the position of Rector after the first advertisement, so we are praying that we

have applicants this time, ready for the set interview dates of the 2nd and 3rd of July.

We had our Quinquennial in June, some of the priority A & B works in the report that we received, have been carried out by Mike Hall, Brian Last, Kevin Laflin, David Chambers and Pete Bonner.

The main focus of the Quinquennial report is the Tower and the Northwest wall, which we are combining as one project, so to make it possible to go for much larger grant opportunities.

The Friends of St Mary's Church have given us a grant to pay for the Structural Engineer to come and have a site visit on Wednesday of this week, where specified holes have been dug for her to gain a full understanding of the works that will need to be undertaken and the urgency of each area. This is for her to produce a schedule of work, so to enable us to obtain pricing from contractors.

A few small fundraisers have taken place, we held a garage sale, a couple of successful quizzes and a categories evening in church. For the first time we held 'A Slice of Summer lunch' which was well supported and we will be holding another on Sunday the 21st of July. Many thanks to Bacton village hall for lending us their tables and chairs.

Lastly, I would like to thank John Kingsley for his hard work, cutting the grass and for keeping the churchyard looking so neat and tidy. I would also like to thank Andrew Cuthbert who cuts the Rectory grass for me and for cutting the churchyard grass in John's absence.

Hazel Laflin
Churchwarden