

**CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT ON THE
FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCH 2015/2016**

Works carried out during the year

- Churchwardens' routine visual inspection of the church and grounds.
- Maintenance of the church log book and inventory.
- Maintenance of the church lighting.
- Annual inspection of the tower clock.
- Maintenance of the bells.
- Inspection, maintenance and repairs to the fire and intruder alarm systems.
- Annual resistivity test of the lightning conductor and recommended remedial works.
- Testing the sound system.
- Annual maintenance of the boiler.
- Maintenance of the organ.

Other comments

The architect has sent us the quinquennial report and the news that the copper roofs on the north and south aisles need to be replaced.

We are planning a schedule of works as prioritised by the architect to respond to the Quinquennial report

The procurement of a new sound system is progressing but as the roofs need replacing that must come first. It has also been recognised that the lighting system in the church is past its sell by date. Indeed the spotlight bulbs are no longer in production.

We are still applying to the Ministry of Justice to close the New Churchyard. There is no room for new graves and so it is possible to close the churchyard if permission is given. The process is complicated.

We are both very grateful to the members of the Fabric Committee for their time and expertise. In particular to those who turned up to help clear the churchyard before the wedding of the year.

During the year we had 2 stained glass windows cleaned. (The 2 by Kempe of the story of St. Martin.) There is a noticeable improvement on close inspection but not unfortunately at the distance they are viewed during a service. This is why we are not pursuing the cleaning of the rest of the stained glass.

The Archdeacon's visitation occurred this year. Apart from exhorting us to start dealing with the Quinquennial report he also suggested that there should be a digital record of the churches valuables. Alan Seymour is kindly doing this.

We remain very grateful to the Friends of St Martin's, members of the congregation and the general public for their continued generosity.

Many people put in a lot of time and effort into making St Martin's such a beautiful and welcoming place. That the church is open for so long and remains an "oasis of calm serenity", as reported by the architect in the 2010 Quinquennial Inspection, is down to so many members of the congregation and we all owe them a huge debt of thanks, in particular:

- Malcolm Roberts, who is responsible for much of the first line maintenance of the church, hall and grounds
- the Sacristy team
- the church cleaning team, including those who care for all the church linen
- the flower arranging team
- the bell-ringers
- the church watch team
- the gardening team and other volunteers
- all those who freely give of their time and talents to make St Martin's the place it is today.

It is a privilege to worship here and to be able to make a contribution to maintaining this building as a place of worship for future generations.

Fergus McCloghry & Judith Roberts
April 2016

Churchwardens