

## St John the Baptist Annual Report

We have applied for a faculty from the DAC Planning Committee for the installation of three radiant heaters in the nave and one behind the arch in the chancel. The aim to reduce the carbon footprint of the church. It has been estimated that these will cost £3289. As part of the same faculty we have applied for the missing window in the porch to be restored and secured a grant for £2,200 from the Historic Churches Trust for a memorial window.

The architect, Matthew Thomas visited the church at the end of the year to assess the structure for the quinquennial report. This took some time and we held ladders while he inspected the top of the walls both outside and in. He has concluded that there are no urgent repairs which is great news.

The death of the Queen was announced on Thursday 8th September. A memorial table was set up under the west window with a book of condolence and candles which could be lit in front of the font.

We had several fund-raising events during the year.

At the end of May we held another plant sale and cream tea which was well supported with donations of plants and made £420. The riders and sponsors of Suffolk Churches bike ride raised £660 which was very useful as half of this goes directly to the church. It is a very sociable day for whoever is in the church, especially this year as people were also coming in to contribute to the book of condolence. The Christmas Quiz in December was very successful and great fun even though there was competition on the day as England was playing in the World Cup. It raised £350.

It was good to have organists for both the Carol Service and also the Benefice Service on New Years Day - both lovely, festive, sociable occasions.

From February this year we are holding our monthly Communion Service on the third Sunday every month.

The PCC would like to express their thanks to all those in the village for their support, to the Chenery family for their continued work in maintaining the Churchyard and to Ford Farms for the loan of the machinery.

Kind regards,  
Helen Lambert  
PCC Secretary