

ST PETER'S CHURCH - HENLEY SUFFOLK

Report to Parish Council 2015

For St. Peter's Church, 2014 was a similar year to the last few.

Numbers at each service continue to decrease slightly. During the year there were 1 Wedding, 4 Baptisms, 2 Funerals and 1 Interments of Ashes. There were no burials in the churchyard. School and W.I. held their usual services in church. Perhaps our most outstanding service in 2014 was the Remembrance Day service to commemorate 100 years since the start of The Great War, which was very well attended and supported by many village organisations.

Our Sunday School, "Seekers", continue to enjoy the new format, that concentrates their time into 3 or 4 sessions a year, this year during the summer they held a sleepover in church, although I don't believe a great deal of sleep was involved..

Apart from the work mentioned last year, finishing the work in the vestry and safety work to the churchyard trees, little other building work has been done. We are, however waiting for the stonemason to come to do a few minor masonry repairs and we await our Quinquennial inspection in November.

Inevitably costs continue to rise and fundraising is very important to help us to meet our increasing Parish Share, running costs and maintenance of the Church. The Puzzle Evening in February was as successful as ever and enjoyed by all. In September we had a Jazz evening with a barbecue, which was well supported and enjoyed by all, in spite of the evening turning rather cool. The monthly "Vestry Café" continues to build on it's success. These take place all year on the third Saturday of the month and are very well supported The lunches are very popular.. We would again like to thank all those who have supported these mornings and those that supply the cakes, soup, baked potatoes and many other lunch items, as well as items of food to sell.

To finish I must thank all of those who have helped us throughout the year. We thank all of those who have supported our efforts and all of those who have given their time to help make things work. The gang that keep the churchyard tidy, and those that keep the church clean. All of those who contribute to the Vestry Café by supplying home-made or home grown food and especially those that work so hard waitressing and washing up, making it successful. I would also like to thank our priests Peter and Cathy for all that they do for us and to wish Rev. Peter happiness in his new job in Manchester, and to hope that it is not too long before we get a replacement.

Thank You