

Annual Report on the life and work of St Peter's Church to Babraham Parish Council 2018-2019.

Our primary purpose remains the worship of God and all we do is purposed to help and support the growth of His kingdom; this is where He is loved, honored and obeyed in our homes, in our village and within its community. To further this we seek to be open, welcoming and understandable in our worship services. This is also our intent in our weekly bible studies on Wednesday evening at Chalk Farm House. We are seeking to live out the love God shows us, primarily we believe in the life, work, death and resurrection of His Son Jesus.

The church building is only a vehicle for some of these things to happen, but it's on going upkeep and the presentation of the church yard and picnic area next to it are part of our honoring God and enjoying his creation. As the major historical asset of the village, (not wishing to disparage any other building, I hope you understand, especially not the George,) we are grateful for and certainly need all the help and support the wider community can give. We are grateful to the Parish Council for the help it gives in maintaining the church yard, which is of course there for all who live in the parish.

We are very thankful to the Babraham Institute for rebuilding of the bridge that allows access to the church and for their kind offer of connection with their sewers as our North Porch toilet and kitchenette project moves closer to beginning. Our intent remains that this new facility will improve the security of the buildings stop some part of its gradual decay and make possible a much wider use for all the village. It will certainly enhance the buildings use for services, for funerals, weddings and baptisms and our school use for Annual festivals and concerts and prayer days. We are also very happy to host concerts and talks. We have raised £34,000 but need another £30,000 at least. Plans of the proposed work are on the table. Please have a look.

Beyond the building and its on going maintenance, as a small group we are glad to offer better brew a fair-trade coffee morning at Chalk Farm, film nights with refreshments and discussion, and our annual quiz at the George.

We also continue to offer Christmas events and carol singing around the village, this last year combining with the children of Sawston Youth Group, who enjoyed the night and the refreshments at the George at its close. Our Harvest festival worship and harvest lunch was much enjoyed, and our links with Babraham school allowed us to have a very special act of remembrance 1918-2018 service in the week that led up to Remembrance Sunday itself. A huge thank you to Babraham School and especially to Mrs. Hewitt for their help with this. The singing and the readings from letters and diaries was a huge tribute to the children from Yr5 and 6. The special candles we left burning in the windows to commemorate those who did not return will stay in my memory for a long time.

Alan Partridge vicar of St Peter's May 2019