

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF KNOWSTONE 20.5.2019

### REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church of Saint Peter, Knowstone was built during the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is interesting to note that our church has one of the oldest bells in Devon; it is marked Exeter Bell Foundry 1400. St. Peter's is one of eleven Parish churches in the Edgemoor Benefice. We hold two services each month; 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday for Holy Communion 2<sup>nd</sup> for Family Worship. Don't forget, it is YOUR church and there's tea, coffee and biscuits after the Family Service

The following people serve on the PCC:

Chairman

Rev David Baker

Vice Chairman & Church Warden

Reg Howe

Secretary

Cath Morgans

Treasurer

Wendy Sweet

In Touch Correspondent

Michele Browse

Members

Timothy Browse

Phil Dey

Barbara Osborne

**The Fabric:** The Rood Loft Steps project is nearing completion. To restore a piece of our church which has been boarded up since 1560 has taken a great deal of time, effort and money. Some of the country's greatest experts in church buildings, conservation, woodwork, texts etc. have supported us. The scaffold tower has now been taken down and the church is, once more, open 24/7.

Many parishioners have made financial contributions towards all the work. If you have not yet made a donation and wish to do so please complete a form. We have some here tonight.

The roof has been repaired and the problem with the leak has been attended to. Plasterwork repairs are also close to completion. A french drain is to be established on the North side of the church.

Thelma Willmetts and her team do an excellent job ensuring that the church is bright and welcoming with their flower arrangements, and a big 'thank you' to the team who keep the church clean and highly polished too.

**Bells:** Once the bell chamber and the room below it have been cleared of rubble (and sticks, thank you rooks and starlings) the windows and other apertures will be wired over. We can then proceed with the overhaul of the bell area. When the bells are passed 'fit for service' we can commence bell ringing training.

**Organ:** Our organ was installed in 1905 and is still going strong. We thank Mary Snell for playing for us at our Family Services.

**Quinquennial Inspection:** The Diocesan approved architect who will be carrying out the inspection is Alison Bunning who has also overseen the Rood Loft Steps project. . It will take place later this year.

**Churchyard:** Week by week the churchyard is looking smarter. The 18 lime trees lining the avenue have been pollarded and a great deal of ivy has been removed. The black and green bins have been clearly marked and the green one has a copy of the North Devon licence attached. People tending their relatives' graves are encouraged to use the bins properly – greenery in the green bin, rubbish in the black one – not rocket science. The grass is now mown regularly and the grave areas kept tidy with strimming. All the paths are either clear of weeds and moss or in progress. Many thanks to Tim & Michele Browse, Richard Reed, Cath Morgans and Steve Vincent for all their work in the churchyard

**Safeguarding:** Almost all members of the PCC have attended a safeguarding course

**R.G. Howe Church Warden**