

The church is part of a benefice and we share our Rector, Marion, with 3 other churches. We have one service per month, generally on the second Sunday. As well, the school use the church for various services. These attract many parents and family and the church is often full on these occasions. During the year there has also been a service for internment of ashes, and a baptism, which was a joyful family affair.

The church participates in an event called "Ride and Stride". This is organised by Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust. Numerous churches in the County open on a Saturday in September and fundraisers cycle or walk to as many as they want and are sponsored. Funds raised are available for churches carrying out repairs or improvements. We benefitted from a generous grant when we carried out our roofing works 4 years ago.

The village "Open Gardens" event was again a major source of funds to support the church. Our grateful thanks go to, "H" who is the main organiser, and to the people who opened their gardens. We would also like to thank everyone who helped with refreshments, provided minibus services, etc and to Barry who raises large amounts each year through his plant sales.

Every 5 years all churches have to carry out an inspection of the entire church and churchyard. This is known as a "Quinquennial" inspection. This has to be carried out by an architect approved by the Diocese. The inspection was carried out early last year and the report was received in the summer. As expected, it highlighted that repairs are required to the tower roof and gutters and that the North aisle roof is at the end of its life. We are looking to try and address these issues and have commissioned the architect to produce a specification so we can obtain quotations. This will give us a target for our fundraising effort.

The Parish Council provided grass cutting for the churchyard and our grateful thanks are recorded. The churchyard is a very attractive part of the village which is appreciated by the many users of the public footpath that runs through it. We would also like to thank Mike Williams who has wound the clock through out the year.

Although only a few villagers attend services, it is important that we get support and financial assistance so that we can maintain this important historic building for future generations. Our thanks go to all those who do support the church, which is open every weekend.

**Mike Dean**

**Rachel Holloway**

**Churchwardens**