Fabric Works 2021

St Mary's Church

The overall stewardship of the 'Fabric, Goods and Ornaments 'is an ongoing task undertaken by the Churchwardens year by year.

The Fabric Committee has formal oversight of fabric issues and reports to the PCC.

Much of the maintenance work is done by Duncan our Verger, thus saving the church a considerable amount of money. He routinely checks all aspects of the church fabric.

Key tasks in 2021 included:

The Madonna and Child painting was hung in the Chancel after being cleaned and restored.

The major item of work done was related to the Tower Roof. This was work originally planned to be done when the Nave roof was done. This included strengthening the tower roof, replacing rotten boarding, installing proper gulley's and drains on the tower roof, increasing the incline on the roof, moving the tower access hatch, replacing the leaking tower roof with new copper, and installing a new handrail.

Whilst the bells were out of action for the Tower Roof repairs the Repainting of the Bell Frame took place together with general repair work for the Tower/Bells.

When the access scaffold had been placed in the bell chamber for the tower roof work it became apparent that one of the tower windows block infill was loose and may have fallen out and caused damage later. The fixings of all the tower windows were similar so a decision was made to secure all eight of the tower windows whilst the scaffold was still in place.

Sealant repairs were carried out to the Chancel lead roof. Ongoing repairs to the church's lead roof to fix leaks were necessary. Waterproofing to the flat roof in various locations also took place. We also carried out mortar repairs to stop leaks. Nets were also added to the drainpipe hoppers as pigeons became a problem.

The Digital Organ amplifiers needed replacing.

Openreach broadband network equipment was replaced.

A new gate was fixed at the top of the boiler steps for safety and security

The brick wall in SE corner of churchyard was repaired after a car crash.