

**CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL,
PHIL COOPER, REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018**

some remedial work done to the stonework. It has it has been a hard year getting all the finance in place; the electrics had to be extended to power the roof alarm which grant providers insisted was installed; whilst doing this some lighting was also installed so that winter services are brighter and health and safety concerns addressed.

The roof was finally finished in April 2018. Grants were awarded by the Woolley Windfarm, Cambridgeshire Historic Church and the Arney Community Fund.

Fund raising has to be shared between the general fund and restoration fund as collections in Church no longer cover the on-going costs of having a vicar and paying insurance, not to mention electricity and general maintenance. If you would like to make a regular donation towards the upkeep of the Church please contact Treasurer Hazel Cooper

The PCC is grateful to have some volunteers for tasks about the churchyard and the Parish Council continues to include the churchyard in its grass cutting regime.

Fund raising this year came from the following:-
The 100 Club, supper evenings for Harvest, Thai Food and Takeaway, Burns Night.

The PCC is grateful to the Cricket Club and all who contributed to these events which not only provide much needed cash, but good entertainment
Once again, thanks to everyone, the flower arrangers, cleaners and many more.

Special thanks this year for all her work to Elaine Whittaker who retires after 15 years as Church Warden, she will remain on the PCC. Margaret Warren is now the only Church Warden. There are vacancies on the Parochial Church Council...if you would like to be a member or help in any way at all please contact the Church Warden or the Secretary Diane Simmonds.

Welcome Back to Buckworth Alistair, Anne & Alice Henderson-Begg after their absence of 14 years abroad.

BUCKWORTH CRICKET CLUB

The Club hosted two church events during the year: the Harvest Supper in September and the Burns Supper in January. A Macmillan Coffee Morning was held in September and, despite attendance being down on the previous year, £125 was raised for the charity. The Clubhouse was also used for several private events during the year and hosted soup and rolls after the May Day Parish Walk.

The main Club events were the Members' Christmas Dinner and Supper Clubs. Some of the latter were "special events", such as the St George's Day Dinner in April; the American BBQ in July (thanks and farewell to family Dietz); Trafalgar Supper in October. Attendance at Supper Clubs has remained buoyant, though additional help with the preparation of the food will always be welcomed.

Regular activities at the Club include Bingo (which attracts many members from neighbouring parishes), and Sowers & Growers (gardening club). A sewing group has occasionally met on Monday afternoons. Some strong fabric side "walls" have now been obtained for the covered area to the side of the Clubhouse to enable this to become an enclosed area when required by the weather conditions. These were funded by another grant from the Woolley Hill Wind Farm Community Fund, obtained with the help of the Parish Council. With additional members recently elected to the Club Committee, now at maximum size, it is anticipated that the Club will offer a greater range of events over the coming year and all members are encouraged to participate whenever they can to enable the survival, and further development, of the Club into the future.

Free CPR training has been offered at the Clubhouse to all households in the village, following the arrival last year of CPR training kits and the Public Access Defibrillator (courtesy of the British Heart Foundation and Department of Health). A good proportion of residents responded to the offer, though it was not as close to the ideal 100% as had been hoped. Further training sessions will be arranged at some time in the future, both for those who have not yet attended and also refresheres for those who have, to try and maintain a strong pool of villagers with this potentially life-saving skill.

Sowers and Growers

Met regularly in 2017 and welcomed some new members; more members are always needed. A visit to Elgood's Brewery and Garden in May 2017 was very enjoyable and a successful Gardener's Question Time with Dick Tuplin was held in March 2018. The village flower troughs continue to be tended and replanted and make a cheerful sight in the village. The Library Van comes once per month now on the FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, hopefully this will continue – use it or lose it!