

## Haughley Church during 2022

**The building:** Our building was well-used this during 2022 for a great variety of church, fundraising and school events.

Re-painting and re-gilding the church clock took place during the spring, thanks to the efforts and funds from the Parish Council, who were original donors towards the clock in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century . The winding mechanism was also automated, and we are currently learning how to deal with occasional glitches with the mechanism.

After a hot sunny summer, the church was pleased to announce that the church building itself was actually carbon negative during 2022. This was due to the electricity generated by the solar panels on the South Aisle roof. Unfortunately, this didn't actually translate to a negative electricity bill, but was nevertheless an environmental milestone. This shouldn't be interpreted as the whole body of church being carbon negative, because we took on activities such as having the Parish News printed, and we distributed food to needy families, provided more than 30 free meals each month at our children's service, PIZZA, ran the Post Office building, etc. etc., all of which would offset this negative score.

**The churchyard:** Many churchyard areas were left uncut during May and parts of June, though access to tended graves was again a priority. Haughley Church is striving for "Gold status" in the UK section of the international A Rocha scheme "Caring for God's Earth", and biodiversity in the churchyard is an important goal in a location where the needs of agriculture can make biodiversity challenging.

Margaret and Roy Buttle's plan to flatten the area surrounding the war memorial, and include inscribed paving stones, was underway by the end of 2022 despite the sad death of Roy Buttle and churchwarden Pip Jackson during the year. We are grateful to Margaret's team and Yvonne Hannan from the Parish Council for progressing this project.

Our cremation area was full by the end of 2022, and we had identified a further area for ashes by the end of 2022.

**Health and Safety:** Our vicar retired in October; and in view of this 4 members of the PCC trained at the top level in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults; since safeguarding is a priority in the Church of England at present.

**Post Office:** There were two major repairs to the Post Office roof during 2022, and a window was also repaired. The Maxwell Charnley room began to gain more use, but not yet to pre-covid levels. The first floor flat was occupied.

**Foundation governors of Crawford's school (Pip Jackson, Maria Walker & Revd. Brin Singleton):**

The Christian ethos of the school has been maintained through the leadership of Jo Ling and Rob Francksen at the school, and Revd. Brin Singleton, churchwarden Pip Jackson, and later PCC member Maria Walker. Pip Jackson's governorship expired in September so Maria Walker had been elected to replace him, but Pip himself died in an accident on a stairway in September. He is much missed.

The school attended a 20-minute collective worship service on Monday mornings at St Mary's through the early part of the year.

**Statement of Mission:** We believe that the Church should be accessible and open when possible, and a safe place to be. We continue to make every effort to involve the whole community.

**Financial Statement:** During 2022, the church ran a deficit of £2577