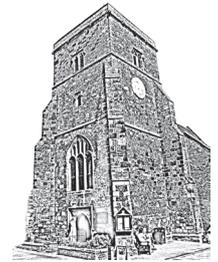
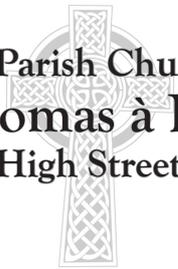


The Parish Church of  
**St Thomas à Becket**  
Cliffe High Street, Lewes



**CHURCHWARDEN'S ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE APCC MEETING, APRIL 2019**

**CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT**

One of the main responsibilities of the Churchwarden is to report on the status of the church buildings and fittings. I am happy to confirm that as in prior years, the building and fittings are in good order and the silver is all present. We await an Archdeacon's inspection which will, hopefully, confirm this. The outer vestry was tidied and a reminder to all that this is a fire escape route and must be kept clear of rubbish. It is not a dumping ground for anything unwanted.

I should like to thank the many people who are involved in ensuring that the fabric of our church is cared for and particularly Keith and the Friday Cleaning Team.

As a parish, we continue to be grateful to the many people who give so generously of their time to assist on Sundays and throughout the week. Much of what is done is unseen but you are a real blessing to the church and to those you serve. Without your commitment St. Thomas' would not be able offer all that it does to the congregation and local community.

We give thanks for your gifts and talents and pray God blesses and affirms you as you use them in His service. We continue to encourage more people to become involved in one of the many areas of ministry both as a way to serve but also as a way of become more integrated into our church family.

We are also enormously grateful, of course, to our clergy - Canon Richard and Brother George who ensure that we maintain our daily services and that the church remains open from sunrise to sunset.

In the role of Churchwarden, I am privileged to be part of the PCC, and would like to thank all PCC members for their commitment throughout the year and for the unique contribution that each individual makes to discussion and decision making.

As in previous years, I am humbled and encouraged by the generosity shown towards St Thomas' - from our loyal congregation, from occasional visitors and from the wider community in the Cliffe and beyond. Without the financial support so generously offered by you all, our church would simply not be able function in the way that it does.

The organ has been serviced and repaired in accordance with the maintenance schedule. Ditto our fine clock which is in the day-to-day care of Brother George and expert hands of Thwaites and Reed. Our portable appliances have been tested, ditto our fire-fighting equipment.

We have had automatic nave lighting installed to give some background light for visitors on dark afternoons - and this has improved both safely and security. We await our architect's quotations for remedial work to the weather vane, roof repairs and internal decorations as identified in his Quinquennial Report.

We suffered criminal damage to the Communion Rail with attempted theft. Replacement brass screws are being manufactured and will be installed.

**FABRIC OF THE CHURCH**

Works carried out during the year include:

Churchwarden's routine visual inspection of the church and grounds, and essential maintenance thereof.

Maintenance of the church log book and inventory. Maintenance of the church lighting system and electrics.

Annual inspection of the tower clock. Inspection, maintenance and repairs to the fire equipment.

Annual resistivity test of the lightning conductor was postponed in anticipation of the weather vane renovation as this forms an integral part of the system. Maintenance of the organ.