



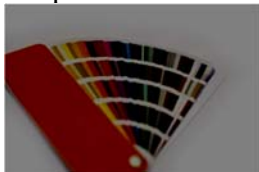
## FOSJ Summer News- Chairman's report

Registered Charity No. 1074454

Since my last report, a lot has happened!

So let's start with the good news.

On the completion of the re-roofing of the Chancel, it is good to report that the repairs to the ceiling of the Chancel started. This was a specialist job requiring a tradesman experienced in lime plastering. The work included removing loose areas, repairing these and making good the patches and cracks, using lime plaster.



The decorator then provided us with a colour chart and we selected the colour for the walls and a slight variance in the colour for the ceiling. The material for the decorating of the walls and ceiling were to be lime based allowing the walls to continue to breath, reducing any chance of encouraging dampness to the walls. Meanwhile the ceiling was rubbed down. The lime based material which I will call 'paint' arrived!



At the request of the decorator we had a quick meeting to look at the colours – WOW - the ceiling paint was nearly terracotta, nothing like the chart given us, and the walls, a light fawn colour. Following a discussion it was agreed the wall paint should go on the ceiling and the ceiling paint would be remixed with very large quantities of brilliant white resulting in a very pleasant subtle colour.

The ceiling had two coats of paint applied and when they had dried the ceiling was very patchy giving the appearance of an unpleasant marble effect. We called in the 'paint' supplier and applied their suggested sealing material followed by further coats of our finish colour but to no avail. Two further sealing materials have been recommended and applied and it appears the last batch of material may have overcome the problems. Up to now, seven coats of 'paint' have been applied.

When this last coat has dried out, we hope further coats of the finished coloured paint will result in the quality finish we have been working towards.



The decorator and the various 'paint' suppliers, some with a considerable number of years of experience, do not know the reason why the finishes have reacted in such away. The consensus of opinion is that over the years different materials have been used to repair and cover up unsightly areas of the ceiling resulting in the new product being rejected by some of them.

Whilst the ceiling had been the main focus, a specialist contractor had been engaged to remove numerous coats of 'paint' from the stonework around the two windows set in the

south wall of the Chancel. Although the stonework is not perfect it is good to see it back to its original form.

I am really sure that when the scaffolding is removed, the Church cleaned, and the furniture returned to its positions, we will be pleased and acknowledge that all of the effort was worth the final result.

We now need to raise the funds and strengthen our nerves to take on the remainder of the interior!



The bad news:

Regretfully this year's Strawberry Tea Afternoon had to be cancelled. It was not an easy decision to make but when we realised that most of the Trustees, many of our sandwich & cake makers, on the day helpers and even the entertainer were not available, we decided to cancel. Our 'Tea Afternoons' are acknowledged to be a quality and good value for money event and we could not guarantee that same standard with such a reduced number of helpers. Let's hope with more help we can arrange one for next summer.



### **A Plea from the committee.**

To ensure that we can continue to raise funds for the care of St. James, the existing small organising team need new members and fresh ideas. The meetings are not too frequent, serious, nor last long.

If you are not a 'committee' person, your offer of help at our events would be appreciated and if none of these options appeal, support us by keeping up your membership.



When the interior decoration is all completed, we will post photos of the work on our web site.

Peter Watson  
Summer 2015