

## QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION REPORT

### PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

NAME OF CHURCH	ST MARY THE VIRGIN - COLTON
DIOCESE	LICHFIELD
ARCHDEACONRY	LICHFIELD
PRIEST IN CHARGE	REV SIMON DAVIES
CHURCH WARDENS	KATIE BROWN & JOANNA LOWE
PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR	RONNIE CRUWYS & STEPHEN HART
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DATE OF INSPECTION	10 <sup>th</sup> July 2007
DATE OF PREVIOUS INSPECTION	2002 carried out by Joe Huber
WEATHER CONDITIONS	Warm, cloudy, generally dry

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION

St Mary's Church is built of grey and buff sandstone, most of it built in the mid nineteenth century by G E Street, although the Vestry, (former Lady Chapel) and the tower are much earlier. The Vestry is of slightly softer sandstone and the tower, which is fairly short and squat, has a concealed tiled roof behind the castellated parapet with pinnacles. The whole building is stone and is protected by a plain clay tiled roof with cast iron gutters to the perimeters.

St Mary's Church is approached from the main road by a tarmac drive which leads up to the east end of the church, sweeps around in front of the north elevation and does a loop back onto the main road at the west end where there is a barrier, which is to restrict the general traffic from using this road.

On the east side, the drive is shared with the Rectory. The surface of the road changes to gravel at the east end of the church but as it sweeps in front of the south elevation of the church it has been surfaced with a limestone hardcore product. One must be careful not to tread it into the church, because it does spread quite easily.

## LIMITATIONS

This report is carried out in accordance with the Guide to Church Inspection and Repair published for the Council for the Care of Churches in 1995.

The inspection took the form of a visual inspection only, from ground level unless otherwise stated. As with all visual inspections certain parts of the building cannot be seen, especially where walls and ceilings are papered, panelled or painted and floors are covered with carpet or other coverings.

We have not inspected woodwork or other parts of the structure which are covered, unexposed or inaccessible and we are therefore unable to report that any such part of the property is free from defects.

It has not been possible for us to make a detailed examination of floor joists, wall plates, roofing timbers, undersides of floor boards or other timber in the premises. No guarantee or assurance can, therefore, be given that any timbers are free from rot or any other infestation.

This report is for the private and confidential use of the clients of the architect and should not be reproduced in whole or in part, or relied upon by third parties, for any use without the express, written authority of the architects.

Please note that this document is not a health and safety audit. The inspection covers the visible physical condition of the building. Where health and safety issues may arise and are identified, mention of them will be made in this report.

No guarantee can be given that materials containing asbestos fibre have all been identified.

### 1. SCHEDULE OF WORKS COMPLETED SINCE THE PREVIOUS QUINQUENNIAL

- 1.1 There is a list of works carried out since the last inspection attached to the back of this report.

### 2. GENERAL CONDITION

- 2.1 St Mary's is well cared for, both inside and out. The general condition of this church is very good indeed, being regularly maintained. Any defects are generally dealt with as they come to light.
- 2.2 The floor requires some work and is currently under review. This is addressed later.
- 2.3 There has been some repointing and renewal of defective masonry this year, attending to the most urgent work. There are still areas which require attention, but not in the immediate future, which can be planned to give the stone masons adequate notice.
- 2.4 A number of drains and hoppers were blocked, though these have since been cleared. A couple of lead deflectors placed in certain locations could improve rainwater collection.
- 2.5 There are some minor roof repairs – slipped tiles and lead cracks to attend to, but most of the exterior is in good order.
- 2.6 The external window ferramenta needs to be rubbed down and repainted as a priority.

- 2.7 Bats are a problem in St Mary's, mostly as a health and safety matter as they leave droppings/urine over areas where food is prepared/served. This should be taken up with Batline.

## EXTERNAL

### 3. ROOF COVERINGS

- 3.1 The roof coverings of the church are generally in very good condition. The whole building was re-roofed relatively recently and as you would expect is in good condition.
- 3.2 There are a few noticeable exceptions. The north side of the chancel roof, although generally good, does have one or two slipped and shaled tiles which should be replaced.



*3.2 Slipped tiles*

- 3.3 The ridge tiles on the church roof do appear slightly uneven but they have recently been re-bedded and are sound.
- 3.4 The tower roof is pitched and has a central ridge running on a north/south axis just below the high point of the parapet. The roof is in reasonable condition; many broken tiles have recently been replaced. Unfortunately access to the other side of the roof from the hatch is impossible without climbing on the roof and breaking tiles therefore access was not made to the other side of the roof.
- 3.5 The south parapet gutter has water lying in it, indicating that the falls are inadequate. Furthermore, the whole gutter appears to be one piece of lead. It is waterproof for the time being but should the lead start to crack it would be worth incorporating extra drips. At the same time, it would be advisable to make a form of access to the other side of the roof.
- 3.6 The roof of the tower is not under-drawn but is mortar torched, most of which has fallen off. If the wind blows strongly enough in winter, it may let snow in. Generally though, the roof is in sound condition for the time being.
- 3.7 On the valley gutter between the nave and the south aisle roof, the roof slopes here are in generally good condition with only the occasional slipped tile at the base of the roof. The lead valley gutter between the roofs has a central roll between and although the bays are oversized by modern standards, all appears to be in sound condition.

- 3.8 The valley gutter between the Vestry and the Chancel (which is slightly narrow with it being lower down the roof) is not sub-divided into bays with wooden rolls and unfortunately there is some cracking in the lead. I don't think it leaks yet but this needs to be a priority repair.



3.8 Signs of lead cracking

- 3.9 The south of the north aisle roof drains into a valley gutter which also abuts the nave roof. There are a few slipped tiles along the bottom edge; a lot of these have been put straight as a holding exercise but it might be worth considering removing these, renewing the tiling battens, possibly with spacers to kick them up slightly, and then replacing the roof tiles. There is no sign of water ingress at present, they just leave a slightly untidy appearance at the edge of the roof. This isn't essential work but it will need to be done in the future.



3.9 Slipped tiles on valley gutter



- 3.10 At the edge of the chancel roof, where it abuts the east wall of the north aisle, there is evidence that water runs down the very edge of the roof and then down the wall, missing the gutter. This could easily be remedied by inserting a small lead flashing to direct the water into the gutter and not down the stonework. This should be done as a priority.



*3.10 Water missing the gutter*

#### 4. RAINWATER GOODS AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS

- 4.1 To the North side of the chancel there are two rectangular section rainwater pipes. The gutters are clear and in good condition. However, both shoes of the down pipes are wet indicating that there is a blockage in the pipe. Both of these need to be unblocked. (this has since been done).
- 4.2 The outlet from the valley between the chancel and the Vestry appears to be clear.
- 4.3 The downpipe adjacent to the porch roof is also apparently blocked (this has since been unblocked).



*4.3 Blocked outlet*

- 4.4 The gutter outlet from the porch into the hopper head, on the west side of the porch, only just reaches the hopper head. It may be an idea to insert a piece of lead behind to ensure that all the water gets into the hopper.

- 4.5 The rainwater pipe that discharges from the central valley gutter between the north aisle and the nave is cast iron and has a rather convoluted swan neck arrangement at the top. This has recently been unblocked, but I can see that some of the collars on the top of the rainwater pipe and the first swan neck are cracked. I think it would be work replacing these with a simplified single swan neck arrangement to reduce the risk of blockage.



*4.5 Swan neck*

- 4.6 The two rainwater pipes on the south side of the church do not discharge immediately over the gully. This doesn't mean that the rainwater pipes need to be re-positioned, but it might be wise to make a lead deflector, or even one made of mortar and tiles, to direct the water into the gully rather than it spilling all over the place.

## 5. BELOW GROUND DRAINAGE

- 5.1 As far as can be ascertained, the below ground drainage appears to be working. Efforts have been made recently to clear the grids of leaves and debris. These all appear to be clear.

## 6. PARAPETS AND UPSTAND WALLS

- 6.1 The parapets on the south side of the tower roof are a robust section, at least 8" thick and are generally in good condition. They are surmounted by eight pinnacles, one at each corner, and one at the mid point of each side. The central one on the east side has recently been rebuilt using the same stone after it fell off in gales last year. The weather vane in the centre of the roof also appears to be in good condition.
- 6.2 Some of the joints in some of the parapets are open and there is an elderberry bush growing on the south east corner. This needs to be raked out properly to the full depth and re-pointed and the roots of the elderberry bush removed.





*6.2 Vegetation growing in mortar joints*

- 6.3 The two parapets at the east end of the church, i.e. the Chancel and the Vestry have recently had the parapet stones taken off and re-bedded and are in good condition. Likewise the parapet wall between the Vestry and the south aisle, which is obviously an upstand wall between the two sections of roofs, has been similarly treated and is now in good condition.
- 6.4 No work has recently been done to the parapet on the porch but it is generally in good condition. The joints don't appear to be excessively open and requires no attention for the time being.
- 6.5 The parapet at the west end of the south aisle adjacent to the tower shows a couple of open joints. These should be raked out and the stones on the return slope lifted and re-bedded properly. The cross at the top of this gable appears slightly off centre.
- 6.6 The parapet at the west end of the north aisle appears to be in good condition; this is a newer part of the GE Street building. The parapet to the east end of the north aisle has a couple of open joints. It is basically sound at the moment but consideration should be given to re-pointing it in future. The kneelers on the corner of this part of the building are slightly displaced and out of line, so this needs attention probably in the next five years or so.

## 7. WALLING

### Generally:

- 7.1 Starting on the north aisle: the stonework on this elevation is a fine jointed ashlar, in a grey sandstone and appears generally to be in very good condition. A small amount of pointing may be necessary on the north west buttress, but elsewhere the pointing appears to be good.
- 7.2 The kneeler on the north east corner of this part of the building appears to be misaligned slightly.



*7.2 Kneeler misaligned*



*7.10 Hole in masonry near apex*

- 7.3 The buttress on the north east corner of the north aisle has open joints at the base of the buttress and from the first plinth downwards. It may be worth raking out and re-pointing these joints.
- 7.4 The north side of the chancel is of a similar type of stonework and is generally in good condition. Some of the mortar joints in the plinth are slightly open and could do with being raked out and re-pointed.
- 7.5 Ivy is growing out of the mortar joints in one of the buttresses adjacent to the rainwater pipe; this needs to be removed and the roots poisoned to prevent it re-growing before the re-pointing takes place.
- 7.6 East elevation – This has recently been re-pointed and appears in very good condition. This needs no attention for the time being.



*7.6 Recent repairs*

- 7.7 South elevation – at the east end is the Vestry. This is the ancient part of the building and consists of more uneven sized stone blocks with slightly wider mortar joints. This has been re-pointed in two phases recently and is in good condition.
- 7.8 South side of the south aisle – this is again part of the GE Street building and is in generally good condition. The pointing is reasonable, probably not requiring attention immediately. Perhaps in the next five years, a couple of the buttresses could do with being raked out and re-pointed.
- 7.9 The stonework to the porch is slightly weathered but is generally sound.
- 7.10 The stone work to the west gable of the south aisle is of ancient stone and there are a number of open joints in this area, particularly from the eaves upwards. There is a sizeable hole towards the apex. A couple of other stones have been badly damaged by weather and also by masonry bees. This elevation will need attention in the not too distant future.





*7.10 Damage by masonry bees*

- 7.11 The plinth has weathered badly; there are a number of open joints and moss growing on it.
- 7.12 The tower is also of ancient construction but is generally in reasonable condition. Some pointing has been done on this some years ago which has been almost applied to the surface. This is lifting and falling off but I don't see this as a particular cause for concern at present.
- 7.13 The base plinth on the south west buttress could do with being raked out and re-pointed.



*7.13 Open joints in plinth*



*7.8 Buttress showing open joints*

- 7.14 The west elevation of the tower is also in reasonable condition, but there is a silver birch growing out of the string course at high level. Access needs to be gained to remove this and fill the gap where it is growing from.
- 7.15 The south elevation of the tower appears to be in reasonable condition. The tower abuts the west elevation of the south aisle and there is the remains of a buttress here. A few weeds are growing out of this junction which need to be cleaned off, the moss removed and the joints raked out and re-pointed. This is probably exacerbated by a previously blocked rainwater pipe in this location.
- 7.16 The north elevation of the north aisle is generally in good condition with some attention needed to rake out and re-point the joints in the plinth. Otherwise, the rest appears to be sound. There is a slight hole where the mains water pipe enters the building and this should be covered up.

## **8. TIMBER PORCHES, DOORS AND CANOPIES**

- 8.1 Access onto the tower roof is through a small oak dormer window door. The oak is untreated but is dry and basically in sound condition. There are hook and band hinges which are quite corroded and ideally should be replaced with galvanized steel.
- 8.2 The porch to this church is on the south side and is protected under a clay tiled roof. There is no door to the outer edge of the porch which means that the inner door is well protected from the weather. Furthermore there is a pair of attractive oak gates with mesh on, dated 1883, which could be used to ventilate the church with the gate shut. The mesh may not be a small enough size but if a smaller mesh was applied, this may help.
- 8.3 The main door itself is oak and hinged on the left as you enter the building. It opens inwards and appears to be in good condition. The ironmongery all appears to be in working order.
- 8.4 Also on the south side of the church, there is a small, diagonally boarded oak door. There is no apparent way of opening this door from the outside. It appears to be in generally sound condition.
- 8.5 In the Vestry, there is a small oak door with a gothic arch, generally in sound condition. There is a gap at the bottom of the door which would allow driving rain in, but this isn't likely to cause a problem

## **9. WINDOWS**

- 9.1 Starting on the south side on the south aisle: these are attractive windows by G.E. Street. They are divided into two and three lights with a further light above and are generally in good condition. Of slight concern is the fact that the two windows to the right hand side of the porch both have spalled stonework caused by corrosion and expansion of the exposed feramenta. This is difficult to overcome. It is essential that the feramenta is painted right up to the stone work although this is difficult to achieve.
- 9.2 The windows to the Vestry appear to be in good condition and the feramenta on the east window in the Vestry is internal, which is always a better solution. There is no window protection to this window which may be worth considering.
- 9.3 The main east window to the Chancel is in good condition. This is a five lighter with further smaller lights above and is protected by a copper mesh which is also in good condition. The edges of these windows have been raked out and re-pointed in the recent past as have the hood moulding and all appears to be in good condition.
- 9.4 The south elevation of the Chancel: the eastern-most window on this elevation is again protected by a mesh protection which is generally in good condition. However, some of the stone has spalled slightly, both on the central 'Y' section of tracery and on the window cill of the left hand light. I wouldn't recommend any attention for the time being but the central 'Y' section will eventually need to be replaced.



*9.4 Eroded 'Y' section of tracery*



*9.6 Loose window protection*

- 9.5 The window on the south side of the Chancel adjacent to the north aisle is a three light window and is protected by mesh reinforcement. The feramenta is internal and the window appears to be in good condition apart from the window cill which has eroded significantly. This section of stone will need to be cut out and replaced at some stage in the future.
- 9.6 The east facing window on the north aisle is divided into three main lights and is generally in reasonable condition. There is copper wire protection in place, the central piece of which is loose and needs to be refitted using non ferrous fixings.
- 9.7 There is a couple of slightly open joints in this window tracery, but are not significant enough for concern at present.
- 9.8 North aisle – there are three windows on the north aisle; the left-hand one has stained glass and internal feramenta. It is in good condition and complete with metal window protection.
- 9.9 The other two windows have external feramenta which is corroding. These need to be rubbed down and repainted as a matter of some urgency. Nearly all the windows in this church have external feramenta. Even where there is internal feramenta, this is of iron and it really needs to be rubbed down and repainted.
- 9.10 There is no window protection on these two windows. Apart from the corroded ferramenta they appear to be in reasonable condition. There is a crack in the cill of the right hand window but this is very old and is not a cause for concern at present.
- 9.11 The west facing window of the north aisle has two lights and again external ferramenta. This is corroding and is leading to the stonework in the central mullion and to the right hand jamb cracking. The ferramenta needs to be rubbed down and repainted.
- 9.12 On the north facing bell lancet that has a central mullion, the lower section is quite eroded. It isn't essential at the moment but it should be replaced in the not too distant future.





*9.12 Eroded stone at bottom of mullion*



*9.11 external ferramenta to be painted*

- 9.13 The central mullion in the west elevation of the bell louver of the tower has been replaced already. The windows in the south elevation of the tower appear to be in good condition.
- 9.14 The west elevation of the south aisle has a single lancet window, which is of stained glass. It is dated 1961, and is in generally good condition.

## INTERNAL

### 10. TOWERS, SPIRES

- 10.1 The condition of the tower is generally good. The internal walling is of stone where there is slight surface perishing in the odd place, but generally the condition is sound. The top part of the tower is braced using four iron rods, one down each side.
- 10.2 There are six bells in the church tower which have been mounted on a steel and iron bell-frame by Taylor's of Loughborough. The bells, headstock etc, all appear to be in very good condition. I know that these bells are rung on a regular basis by visiting bell-ringers.
- 10.3 There are two layers of bird mesh to each of the windows, an outer non ferrous metal mesh and then a smaller grade plastic one that is held on by plastic ties. The condition is good, although the plastic one does need more ties in the odd location.
- 10.4 The floor of the bell-chamber is covered in flush doors, presumably to aid the sound deadening between the bell ringing chamber and the bell chamber itself. Weather can get in through the bell openings, there are no louvres to prevent it, so these doors have obviously got quite wet in the past. The bell frame itself has light surface rust and ideally should be rubbed down and repainted using a red oxide paint or similar, although it won't be a very easy job for access reasons.



- 10.5 Access to the tower is reasonable involving a steep staircase from the ground floor up to the bell chamber with a hatch. There is a handrail which is adequate. There is a further fixed wooden ladder to climb to the top of the bell frame and then from the top of the bell frame there is a further sloping staircase which goes to a platform enabling access onto the roof. The top section is a little bit awkward in that there is quite a bit drop between the cill of the access door onto the roof and the landing platform. Generally all is safe and reasonable and in good condition.
- 10.6 The main steps from the ground floor do seem to have a lot of woodworm in the treads, but the timber section is deep enough to take that. This may be dead, but it might be worth treating it just to be on the safe side.
11. **CLOCKS AND THEIR ENCLOSURES** N/A
12. **ROOF AND CEILING VOIDS** N/A
13. **ROOF STRUCTURES, CEILINGS, CEILURES**
- 13.1 All the roofs in this church appear to date (apart from the tower roof) from G.E. Street's makeover of the church and as such are sound structures in good condition. The roof to the chancel is particularly attractive being formed of curved timbers looking like the upturned hull of a ship.
- 13.2 The entire roof is boarded above the rafters in what appears to be oak, apart from those in the vestry. The whole is in extremely good condition and robustly built.
- 13.3 The tops of the trusses in the north aisle are very decorative, almost wooden tracery, in the apex. This is very attractive although hardly visible from the floor.
- 13.4 The roof in the Vestry, unlike the rest of the church, is made of softwood, although the detailing is similar. This is an attractive roof structure which appears to be in good condition.
- 13.5 There is evidence of water ingress at the far east end of the wall underneath the valley gutter but this appears old. There is evidence of patching externally so this should be monitored. You may recall that there was cracking in the lead flashing on the roof. I am a little bit concerned about this as even if it did leak, it may not be apparent internally, so this really does need to be watched and any sign of dampness needs to be noted as soon as possible.
14. **UPPER FLOORS, BALCONIES, ACCESS STAIRWAYS** N/A
15. **PARTITIONS, SCREENS, PANELLING, DOORS AND DOOR FURNITURE**
- 15.1 The archway to the tower has been filled with a timber door and panelling. The vertical softwood boards are heavily varnished on the nave side and left plain on the tower side. The door opens and closes freely and there is a latch and two deadlocks. There is some woodworm damage but this doesn't appear to be active at present.
- 15.2 There is a carved screen between the chancel and the vestry. This steps down from the high altar where it is quite shallow to stand approximately 1.82 m above the choir floor level.
- 15.3 The timber screen between the chancel and the south chapel/vestry is constructed from dark stained oak which generally is in good condition although some woodworm occurs along some of the softer parts of the grain. There is no sign of current beetle activity but it is worth keeping an eye on this. The bats may be helping towards keeping the woodworm under control.

15.4 One section of the timber gothic tracery has pulled back from the side, probably where it has shrunk due to the change in the heating. I understand the PCC is looking into providing a humidifier in this area for the organ which may also help counteract any further shrinkage of the timber. That said, the shrinkage is not significant and on the whole the screen looks to be in good condition.

15.5 There are some signs of salt efflorescing into the timber where it abuts the steps of the sanctuary, this feels quite dry at present. The chest that contains the church archives is placed directly in front of this; it might be a good idea to pull it forward just another few inches to make sure that the air circulates behind.

## 16. GROUND FLOOR STRUCTURE, TIMBER PLATFORMS

16.1 The floor in the nave, north and south aisles, the porch and to the outside is all on one level. This is excellent for wheelchair access. The floor is completely solid and tiled throughout and is broken up into areas by floor grilles to the heating ducts. There is no timber pew staging.

16.2 The floor is laid in a dark red and black chequerboard pattern quarry tiles. Much of the tile surface has worn away and they have lost the original glaze. A considerable number are broken or loose adjacent to the floor grilles and their bedding is missing. The tiles appear to be at their worst where they are adjacent to the floor ducts. The floor dates from 1851 but was considerably disturbed when the heating grills were added in circa 1890. In its present condition it is vulnerable to further damage. The cut tiles next to the grills will always be a weakness, and considerable work is required to either replace or rebed all the broken tiles. The uneven grills and the adjacent tiles create a considerable trip hazard. And the central grill in particular has holes large enough for ladies' heels to get caught in.

16.3 The floor in the south aisle – the radiator which is nearest the door has got a leak at the valve which drops on to the floor tiles. This should be fixed by a plumber.

16.4 Elsewhere in the church, the floor tiles are sound although rather worn, with only the occasional tile which is broken and which needs to be replaced.

16.5 The grille ducts are also quite loose in places and do not lie level with the floor, some are raised. These do need to be made secure so that they sit firmly and don't present a trip hazard.



*16.5 Loose grille ducts*

- 16.6 There is a single stone step which leads up to the chancel, approximately a foot deep which leads onto a decorative floor laid with encaustic tiles. To the north and south of the chancel are raised choir stalls where the tiled floor is plain and then disappears under the pew staging. The tiles in the chancel are all in excellent condition in spite of being heavily stained with bat urine. Otherwise I can see no defects.



*16.10 Vulnerable tile*



*16.11 Loose tile slips by step down to vestry*

- 16.7 The choir staging either side also feels sturdy underfoot and no deflection noted.
- 16.8 There are vents which are made in the upstands to the choir pew staging which appear to be blocked. These should be cleared to allow the air to circulate below. Some of these vents are already free and clear but they need to be cleaned routinely.
- 16.9 The floor at the northwest corner is concealed underneath the kitchenette. Some of the floor tiles are visible in the cupboard in the corner and just outside of these doors the floor duct is also broken in one place and doesn't conceal the open pipe just here.
- 16.10 Moving from the choir into the sanctuary, there are three steps up to the altar and then a further step behind. The floor has been inlaid with encaustic and quarry tiles and boarded with a narrow stone step. The tiles all appear to be in very good condition with only one or two which are cracked but none which are loose. There is just one corner of a tile which is rather vulnerable on the step up to the altar where the stone has eroded away and this could be filled with some epoxy mortar to level it off with the tile. This isn't an urgent job as I don't see that this is in the path of main circulation.
- 16.11 A step leads from the choir down to the vestry. At the threshold of this step there are narrow strip tiles, one of which is quite loose and needs to be re-bedded. In fact the steps which lead up to the sanctuary are rather worn in places and this is not a priority, it should be addressed in order to protect the decorative tiled border. The south chapel is fully carpeted throughout; the only tiles being visible are those in the entrance by the priest's door on the south side.
- 16.12 In the Vestry upon lifting the carpet to the sides of the heating ducts the tiles are quite loose adjacent, which is the same as elsewhere in the church. The carpet underlay is starting to become friable and perish. The floor tiles under here being much older than elsewhere in the church and are of a larger red quarry type tile. The floor is quite dry underneath the carpet although there is a lot of breakdown of the underlay into dust.

- 16.13 Elsewhere the carpet was not lifted so I cannot fully check the condition of the floor in here. However, be careful around the edges of the ducts as the carpet is quite loose and it presents a trip hazard. The carpet is foam backed and it is perishing underneath.



*Carpet backing starting to perish*



*16.14 Floor springy – check here*

- 16.14 There is a single step up to a timber platform below the organ. There is one area in the corner quite close to the column which feels very springy underfoot. I think the joist underneath has gone. This needs a joiner to lift the carpet and the boards and have a look underneath and build up the level to make it secure just here.

- 16.15 Elsewhere on the organ platform the timber is quite sound wherever it is available to be checked.

## 17. INTERNAL FINISHES

- 17.1 On the south wall of the vestry, directly above the single lancet window closest to the east wall, there is a crack to the side of the lintel, going up two stone courses. The crack has gone through one of the key stones and opened the mortar at the head of the window. The stones have been pushed proud of the adjacent wall by about 1cm. I would recommend putting some 'tell-tales' up here and monitoring the movement.



*Crack above window in vestry*



- 17.2 There is a hairline crack in the masonry down on the side of the internal window cill. At present there are some games tables placed in front and it is difficult to see it all from the bottom. However, from what I can see, there is no further sign of any cracks much below cill level.



- 17.3 However, on the eastern reveal of the window a crack is meandering its way from top to bottom and there has been some damage to the arched stone at the top. I suggest that some further 'tell-tales' are placed on these cracks and during the next quinquennial these are monitored for movement.
- 17.4 Externally there has been some masonry repair work which could have also contributed to the cracks here. Either way it is a vulnerable corner as vehicles can drive very close to the church. Otherwise, everything else seems to be in good order and there are no further open joints here.
- 17.5 There is another old crack which occurs in the door reveal adjacent to the tower doors. This seems to be an old crack and there is no sign of movement at present.
- 17.6 The inside of the church is plastered throughout with the exception of the Chancel and the Vestry which are of stone. Elsewhere only the arises of the windows, columns and arches are in exposed stonework. The overall effect is very pleasing.
- 17.7 The plaster is generally in good condition, with only a few exceptions. There is slight blistering of paint around most of the windows in the north aisle. Next time the church is decorated these should be rubbed down.
- 17.8 The east gable of the north aisle has an area where the plaster is a bit rough behind the end truss. simply because it was difficult to reach when it was first plastered
- 17.9 The nave of the church is also plastered and painted. There are a couple of cases where the paint is flaking slightly, particularly on the south side. There is a reasonably large size flake over the font. When the church is next decorated, this should be taken off and the plaster repaired.
- 17.10 The plaster and paint work on the south aisle is generally in reasonable condition, the only exception being the arch over the organ. The plaster here is in poor condition partly because again it is difficult to plaster behind the truss, but also because there was water ingress through the copings on the gable which has since been removed, replaced, properly bedded and flashed. Hopefully this problem should now be solved. Decoration of the Church is generally considered to be reasonable.

## 18. FITTINGS, FIXTURES, FURNITURE AND MOVABLE ARTICLES

- 18.1 The choir stalls in the Chancel are in oak and are quite attractive though not particularly comfortable. They are shaped to face the altar just by the Chancel arch. One of these has a loose piece of wood which represents a mullion below tracery and needs to be refastened using a non-ferrous fixing such as brass, which won't react with the tannin in the oak. The oak choir stalls appear to be in good condition.



- 18.2 By the altar there are some misericords where a part of one is falling to pieces where the glue has dried on an exposed dowel. This needs to be repaired before it falls apart and the pieces are lost.
- 18.3 Also up by the altar are some small oak pews, almost like children's pews, which are in good condition. There is no evidence of woodworm.
- 18.4 In the main nave of the church there are two president's chairs and a very nice double sided lectern in oak, in good condition, fitted with brass candle holders .
- 18.5 There is a piano which has a lot of staining on it caused by bats.
- 18.6 The south aisle of the church is fitted with pews that face into the Chancel. These are in oak and are easily moveable and appear to be in reasonable condition as are the ones in the main nave. I couldn't see any evidence of woodworm.
- 18.7 Nearly all the furniture in this church is badly stained by bat urine. If you can increase the application of furniture polish, it will become more resistant to it.
- 18.8 The north aisle contains some fold up tables and table-tennis tables; this is a really flexible area for the parishioners to use. At the west end of the church is a mahogany chiffonier which is in generally good condition.
- 18.9 The font is of Caen stone, with an attractive wooden cover and is opposite the main south entrance to the church. This is in good condition. There is a step used for standing on when presiding over the font which is a trip hazard, and I know that someone has had an injury from this so this is an item that should be addressed immediately.

## **19. TOILETS, KITCHES, VESTRIES ETC.**

- 19.1 There is a kitchenette at the west end of the north aisle, made of oak to look like a large vestment cupboard. This is very nicely detailed and finished and it conceals a sink unit, a water heater and two broom cupboards, one either side. The right hand door to this cupboard unit has warped and sticks on the floor and should be adjusted (by taking approx 5mm off the bottom of the door) and eased to operate more easily. Generally, this is an attractive and useful addition to the church.
- 19.2 The cold tap to the sink has a very tight washer making it difficult to turn off and I suggest that you call a plumber to put on new washers. In the cupboard below the sink there is an aqua point water heater. These should be serviced regularly mostly to make sure that they do not fur up with lime scale.
- 19.3 The vestry is located to the south of the chancel. There is a free standing wardrobe for vestments; loose chairs, a step ladder and various other items such as the Easter processional cross and candle holders and so on are stored here behind the wardrobe. There is also a free standing desk for registry purposes and other loose items are kept here such as vases and jugs. Much of the ancient and interesting stonework in this location is concealed. This is an area that if furnished with good quality purpose made fittings could be a much more attractive and useable asset in the church

## **20. ORGANS AND OTHER MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**

- 20.1 The organ was tuned and regulated in May 2007 and I note that the organ tuner is pleased with progress since his last visit. However he has commented that the timber is shrinking and drying out due to the new heating installation. I am aware that a quote has been received for a re-

humidifier, but this is rather higher than anticipated. It would be worth exploring, perhaps with other churches, alternative means of humidifying. (The organist at Colton advised a couple of buckets of water and monitor humidity to start with) Ultimately, it requires more moisture in the air, which may be accommodated by a bowl of water placed near a radiator in this part of the church, at least as an interim measure until something more lasting can be resolved. Humidity reading devices are inexpensive and available from garden centres; one of these placed next to the organ would let you monitor the humidity change between the heating being on and off.

- 20.2 The timber work to the organ is heavily stained by bat urine which appears to be quite old; bats have been present at this church for a number of years.
- 20.3 There is an upright piano located close to the organ, there are one or two notes missing from either end of the scale but otherwise it plays well and I would recommend that it is tuned regularly to keep it in working order.

## **21. MONUMENTS, TOMBS, PLAQUES, ETC**

- 21.1 Within the tower there are several quite old plaques, one dated 1762 dedicated to the memory of William Taylor, Middletemple, London. Below this is a wall plaque of the Table of the Charities left to the Parish, dated around 1731. The top and bottom bead is missing from this plaque, and the bead to the side is loose. Just keep an eye on this so that this doesn't fall off and get swept away. The wood feels a little damp and there is a rusting old iron pipe to the side.
- 21.2 There is a coat of arms and a wall plaque on the western tower wall and a further one to John Pegg , both quite old but seem to be reasonably secure at present.
- 21.3 There is a further timber plaque dedicated to Mrs Mary Taylor. The bead is missing from two sides of the frame, due to old age and its location on a slightly damp wall. It is a little bit loose but it does not appear to be about to fall off.
- 21.4 The west wall of the nave contains a memorial to the men of Colton who fought in the Great War. This is brass on polished slate and is securely fixed. There is an illumination of all the Rectors and Patrons of the church which is protected in glass and is in good order and a further dedication to the Priests of more recent years. The paper in one of them has started to buckle due to the moisture in the wall seeping through, otherwise it is in good condition.
- 21.5 On the south wall there is a memorial to the Oldham Oldham family who are evident throughout the church in the stained glass and the tombstone adjacent to the door. This family lived in the mid 1800's. This is a slate plaque with a plain marble front. The plaque appears to be intact and it seems to be securely fixed to the wall. There is another brass plaque adjacent, again in good order.
- 21.6 There is a plaque dedicated to the Oldhams on the north east wall and a free standing roll of honour which is perched on the window ledge adjacent.
- 21.7 There is a single wall plaque in the chancel in the north wall dedicated to Charles Savage Landor a Rector of the Parish, (d. 1849); this is firmly fixed and in good order.
- 21.8 The east window of the Ascension into Heaven was dedicated in 1852 to the memory of Rev Abdiel Seaton who paid for the restoration of the church, or certainly laboured on the restoration.

## **22. SERVICE INSTALLATIONS GENERALLY**

### **23. HEATING INSTALLATION**

- 23.1 The heating is powered by a gas fired hot water system with panel radiators around the perimeter of the church and appears to be effective. This is also supplemented by the previous heating system of Quartz Ray electric filament lamps. These are useful in spring and autumn when these can be put on for a short amount of time to save firing up the main boiler.
- 23.2 Copper pipework extends around the perimeter of the church though there are places where the pipework is taken through the former heating ducts.
- 23.3 The boilers are located in the boiler room which is adjacent to the church and adjoins the neighbouring property. There are two outlets from these boilers which have plastic grilles to keep out the birds, these have gone brittle and broken and need to be replaced.



### **24. ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION**

- 24.1 The church is lit by a variety of electrical appliances including some sodium discharge lights located high in the apex of the roof. There is also the original, elaborate light fittings which presumably were designed by GE Street, some are of brass and some are of cast iron or a mixture of the two. These light fittings all appear to be working correctly. Where the original candle bulbs are wearing out, these are being replaced by the low energy type, which is commendable.
- 24.2 The main electrical cables come in at the west end of the church, through the bell chamber. The main electrical distribution board and the meters etc are in the base of the tower. There is a smaller electrical circuit breaker in the kitchenette cupboard of the west end of the north aisle.

### **25. SOUND SYSTEM**

- 25.1 There is a sound system which should be checked routinely with the electrical testing.

### **26. LIGHTNING CONDUCTOR**

- 26.1 There is no evidence of a lightning conductor.



## **27. FIRE PRECAUTIONS**

- 27.1 There is a water based fire extinguisher located next to the main entrance on the south side and a carbon dioxide fire extinguisher located just within the entrance to the tower. There is also a water and carbon dioxide fire extinguisher located close to the organ and the priest's door on the south chapel side. There is a further carbon dioxide fire extinguisher immediately adjacent to the organ console. These have been serviced in February 2007 and meet the guidelines laid down by the Council of Care for Churches.

## **28. DISABLED PROVISION AND ACCESS**

*Please note that disability includes the old and infirm, people with hearing as well as sight impairment, and people with arthritis which we understand make up 14% of the population. Everyone with physical impairment should be able to fully participate in the life of the church.*

- 28.1 The church is very accessible to wheelchair users. Parking is available close to the church, there is a good level driveway right up to the south door and wheelchairs can enter the building right the way up to the chancel steps. I understand that every third Sunday there is a service which involves bringing the Communion Table close to the chancel step which makes it fully accessible for people in wheelchairs.
- 28.2 The aisles are wide throughout and to the north side the pews have been removed and placed north wall providing a nice open usable, flexible space here. There is a hearing loop fitted to the church which should be tested routinely within the electrical testing procedure and a sign for the loop is displayed on the notice board within the porch.
- 28.3 The speakers for the sound system are located up above the wall plate level, set within the sprockets and these blend in with the roof and are not immediately visible. The controls for the sound system and the induction loop are located within the kitchen units. All are neatly tucked away from view.
- 28.4 Large scale print text for the services are regularly available just by the entrance, and although the levels of natural light in the church are quite low because of the stained glass windows, the supplementary lighting would be more than adequate for reading prayer books.
- 28.5 The main south door into the church consists of a large single leaf door. Although this isn't ideal for somebody getting in and out in a wheelchair, it does open quite freely and offers a very wide access.
- 28.6 In summing up disabled provision, it is evident that a great deal of thought and consideration has gone into making this a welcoming and accessible place of worship.

## **29. SAFETY**

- 29.1 There are one or two areas on the flooring ducts which could be a trip hazard together with the carpet where it meets the flooring ducts in the vestry. There are plans in place to carry out remedial work on the floor, and this is advisable, in particular at the junction with floor ducts as these are the main problem areas.
- 29.2 There are two main doors into the church, one which has the disabled access and the other which is a priest's door in the vestry which is curtained over at present and doesn't appear to be in use. I understand that there has been a visit from a Fire Officer to the church and I would just like to draw your attention to the fact that now churches form part of 'Small Places of Assembly' and must meet fire guidelines. However, there are measures in place to accommodate listed buildings. The

fact that you have a large entrance door should provide adequate means of escape in spite of the fact that it opens to the inside instead of out in the direction of travel. It is important though, to keep this door functioning well (opening and closing freely) and the priest's door available as a means of secondary escape, for occasions when the church is being used for a large function.

### **30. BATS**

- 30.1 There are clearly signs throughout the church of bats being present. There are droppings on the altar and around the high altar step. Bat urine stains are evident on a lot of the furniture, in particular the upright piano. There is also evidence in the chancel, on the Communion rails, on all the choir stalls and the timber partitions between the choir and the vestry. There is also evidence of wood dust; this could possibly be active wood worm.
- 30.2 There are quite a number of bat droppings by the outer threshold of the tower doors and there is a hole at the top of the tower doors. This could be a route that the bats take between the tower and the main body of the church. It may be worth having a look at dusk one evening and observing their flight paths. It is possible that they are roosting up in the tower as there are a number of droppings here.
- 30.3 The bats present a problem with urine staining on the oak furniture and the brass plaques. An application of furniture wax, such as a clear bri-wax, to the woodwork and furniture, will offer some protection against damage by the acid in the urine.
- 30.4 Provision could be made to cover the wall mounted brass plaques using roller blinds or something of that nature which is quite effective. Perhaps you could protect the altar and floor tiles with protective sheets during the peak summer season (in between services).
- 30.5 The bats can also be a health hazard in this situation as they fly over areas where food is prepared and served. The question of maintaining food hygiene is a problem. I suggest you contact Natural England or Batline to offer you some advice here as to ways that you can encourage them out into the churchyard. Please bear in mind that bats are a protected species and their natural habitat is also protected.

### **31. CURTILAGE**

- 31.1 St Mary's is set in open countryside, surrounded by mature trees which are set back well from the church building and it is in immaculately maintained grounds. The site is generally quite level around the church and there is a lawn which frames the north and the west side. On the south and the east side it is bordered by bedding plants and small shrubs.
- 31.2 Starting on the south side: the original boundary of the church is formed by a low level wall at the top of the lawn. This forms the boundary with the Glebelands where there is a garden laid out with raised beds, specimen plants, small shrubs and a seat. It is a beautiful and tranquil place and has been laid out in a manner which is very much in keeping with its rural setting.



31.3 Immediately south of this garden is grassland and further mature trees: this leads into open countryside.

31.4 Between the garden and the lawn, just to the side of the sundial stone, I have repositioned a stone which covers a hole which leads down to a well. You may be better with a slightly larger, heavier stone which isn't dislodged so easily.



*Font as planter*



*Loose stone*

31.2 There is another loose stone which forms a boundary to the bedding just to the side of the bench dedicated to George Upton. This has fallen over. I have just put it back in place, but it is a little bit loose and you may need to just re-secure it.

31.3 The perimeter of the church on the north side consists of tombstones, all the way around. The whole of this area is extremely well maintained with great care and moss is consistently removed to keep tombstones free for inspection by visitors to the churchyard.

## 31. CHURCHYARD

31.1 The church is laid to a lawn to the north and this conceals a former graveyard, the gravestones which have been gathered together and are now assembled to the west end. There is an area set aside which is dedicated to burials on the far north of the church which is now under the care of the Parish Council.

## 32. RUINS

32.1 Outside, adjacent to the south wall of the tower can be found the remains of an old font base.

### 33 MONUMENTS, TOMBS AND VAULTS

33.1 The collection of tombstones to the west of the church all appear to be in good order. All are securely fixed and there are no loose stones. There is one which has been placed safely to the ground.

33.2 There are two box tombs on the south side of the church, both of which are in good order. There is a further tombstone close to the porch again this needs no attention.

### 34. BOUNDARY WALLS, LYCHGATES AND FENCING

34.1 The boundary fence consists of timber posts and barbed wire; these are all well secured and in good order. To the eastern boundary, a wooden flat boarded fence, approximately two metres high, borders the adjacent rectory, also in good condition. The fence meets a brick wall –still the boundary with the neighbouring property. There is some wear and tear to the top of the wall where the bricks have started to spall and the copings are a little loose. This will need some repair within the next 5 years.



*Wall where copings are loose*

### 35. TREES AND SHRUBS

35.1 Further beyond the northern driveway, the land rises by approximately 1.5m and is a former burial ground. This area is grassed and planted with trees: rowan, sycamore, beech, cherry and a Christmas tree. The sycamore tree directly to the north of the church is planted quite close to the overhead cables, which is the incoming electrical supply to the church. I suggest that you have this tree crown pruned to prevent it from impinging on the wiring and cause damage in future.



35.2 The same comment applies to cherry tree at the end of the road where the telephone cable is just a little too close to the tree. Although not a problem at present, it may well be in future.



- 35.3 The sycamore close to the barrier gate has a branch leaning on the cables, this needs attention immediately. (*These items have been attended to since carrying out the QI.*)
- 35.4 To the west of the area laid to lawn, there is a small, low level boundary wall which leads onto the conservation area which has been left for wild flowers to develop. There is an avenue of silver birch trees here which are now quite mature and three yew trees within the grounds. This is an ideal place to encourage wildlife, bats in particular, as an alternative roosting place for them. I suggest you get in touch with your local bat worker for advice as where best to locate some bat boxes as they need to be placed in particular areas which suit the bats at different times of the year and for different weather conditions.

## 36. HARDSTANDING AREAS

- 36.1 There is a path which runs around the perimeter of the church. It is approximately 3m wide, laid to gravel, adjacent to the meeting room. It has been surfaced with a type of finish which I understand is called 'chatter'. Although this looks very smart, the material is difficult to wipe from shoes, and so is brought into the church under foot. I don't know if there is any surface treatment which can be applied to bind this, but it would help in keeping the floor clean.
- 36.2 There is further space for car parking just to the bottom of the conservation area.
- 36.3 To the north side of the Meeting Room there is an area set aside for parking, it's a gravelled area which will accommodate up to a dozen cars parked quite closely together.

## 37. MISCELLANEOUS

- 37.1 The Meeting Room is a small outbuilding which lies close to the east side of the church approximately 3m away. It houses the boiler room for the church and incorporates a disabled toilet.
- 37.2 This building has a hipped roof with lead hip rolls. The lead on the roof is in one length from the eaves to the ridge and this appears longer than the current recommendations. At present there is no evidence of cracking and I would not worry about it until it does start cracking and replace it at that stage.



St Mary the Virgin – Colton  
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- 37.3 The roof is finished using plain clay tiles with a bull nose ridge at the top.
- 37.4 The rainwater goods are of UPVC with UPVC 75mm diameter rainwater pipes that discharge into gullies. Both the rainwater goods and the below ground drainage appears to be in good condition.
- 37.5 The walling of the building is of a red/orange brick and the mortar joints appear to have been recently re-pointed, all appears to be in good condition.
- 37.6 I could see no evidence of air bricks despite the fact that there is a suspended timber floor inside.
- 37.7 The fascias of the building are of black painted softwood, and the soffits are of white painted plywood. Around the back, the soffit appears to have dropped and needs to be re-fixed before it falls off.



Dropping soffit.

- 37.8 There are two main entrance doors into the building, one being into the disabled toilet and one into the meeting room itself. Both are protected by a covered lobby and thus in good condition. The flush door into the disabled toilet is painted and appears sound. The door into the meeting room is hardwood with glazed upper panels and side lights. These are safety marked and all appears to be correct. The doors both work well. The door into the toilet is operated only by a key and cannot be opened from the outside without the key. It is protected by the RADAR key scheme. Around the back of the building are two false doors which are now not in use but finished to look like doors. These are black painted with white frames and need to be rubbed down and repainted as they get the full mid-day sun.
- 37.9 The windows to the building are four lights each with two opening lights and are double glazed with a cill. Underneath the window cill is a projecting brick cill. The windows appear to be in reasonable condition and the double glazed units are held in place by external putty.
- 37.10 The state of the decoration is reasonable but some of the paint is beginning to look a bit powdery and has lost its shine, so these windows really need to be re-painted. Furthermore the putty is starting to crack and should be attended to as a priority.

- 37.11 From the outside, the right hand window is slightly difficult to open and close and easement should be made to this otherwise the frame will become damaged through pressure.
- 37.12 The main east window has a gap at the bottom of the glazing which needs to be re-pointed to prevent insects etc entering.
- 37.13 The ceiling void in this room is accessible by a hatch which has a loft ladder. This appears to be in good condition. The roof is underdrawn using a breathable roofing felt and the floor is boarded out using chipboard. The insulation is at ceiling level with some just showing beyond the chipboard. This area is a useful area used for storage of church equipment.
- 37.14 Both internal and external doors in this building appear to work well. The door into the boiler room is a tight fit and needs to be pushed quite hard to shut it. This should be eased because this is a fire door and needs to be kept properly closed at all times.
- 37.15 The right hand jamb to the boiler room door shows signs of coming away from the wall slightly. It has probably warped because of the drying out process. It may help the door if this was screwed back securely to the wall using wall plugs of something similar.
- 37.16 The doors into the two store rooms either side of the main cooking and washing up area have automatic light switches which come on when the doors open. These storerooms are in good condition.
- 37.17 The ceiling in this room is painted white with recessed light fittings and there is evidence of two beams which are boxed in. One of the beams, the boxing has come adrift and needs to be re-fixed and the crack made good prior to decorating.
- 37.18 The walls are plastered and painted and are in good condition. The only thing which is difficult to prevent is scuffing of the walls caused by chair backs rubbing against them. It may be advisable to install a wide timber dado rail in which would prevent this damage occurring.
- 37.19 The floor in the boiler room is tiled as it is in the disabled toilet and is in good condition. The floor in the remainder of the building is carpeted on what I suspect is a wood laminate or maybe a chipboard panel floor on a solid floor finish. There is no evidence of ventilation outside so I don't think this is a suspended timber floor. However, there is definitely some timber under the carpet because it creaks when you walk on it. As far as I can tell the floor is in good condition.
- 37.20 The toilet is in good condition and also incorporates a 'baby change unit' which is useful.
- 37.21 The disabled access to this building is good; there being a level threshold both from the outside into the meeting room and into the toilet. The main entrance doors are protected under a covered storm porch which is useful during wet weather when trying to unlock the doors.

## Work to be considered by the PCC

We list below the recommended work which should be carried out during the next quinquennial period. We have given each item a priority rating; A, B or C. A is top priority for work which should be done within the next 12 months, B is for work which should be carried out within the next two years and C is for work which should be done during the next five years. We have also indicated very rough guideline estimates of cost. These figures will assist the PCC to prioritise the work but should not be relied upon as a detailed estimate of cost at this stage. We recommend that quotations should be obtained for more accurate budgeting purposes.

Item	Work	Priority	Approx Cost
3.2, 3.7, 3.9	Re-instate slipped tiles	A	£250 - £300
3.5	Keep weather eye on gutters. Work maybe required here 3 - 5 years	-	
3.8	Repair crack in lead valley	A	£100
3.10	Flashing at edge of chancel roof	A	£100
4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6	Unblock pipes and drains, fit deflectors	A	
4.5	Modify swan neck	C	£400 - £500
6.2, 6.5, 7.5	Rake out and repoint after removing vegetation	A	Quote
6.6	Re-bed kneelers - 5 - 7 years	C	Quote
7.1, 7.3, 7.4, 7.8	Rake out and re-point	C	Quote
7.10, 7.11, 7.12			
7.13, 14, 15, 16			
8.1	Maintenance to tower door ironmongery	B	Parish
9.6	Refit window protection	B	£50
9.9, 9.11	Rub down and repaint ferramenta	A	£2000
10.4	Rub down and repaint bell frame	B	£2000
10.6	Treat woodworm with Rentokil product	A	Parish
15.5	Move chest	B	Parish
16.2, 16.9, 16.10	Repair/renew floor tiles	A	Ongoing
16.14	Pack up floor under board	B	£150
17.1, 17.3	Tell tales on cracks	B	£150
18.2	Re-glue wood on misericord	B	£25 /parish
18.9	Step is trip hazard - Look at ways to prevent accidents	A	-
19.2	Fix tap washers	A	£50
20.1	Set up monitoring humidity by organ	A	parish
23.3	Replace plastic grilles	B	£50
30.5	Contact batline	A	-
34.1	Re-bed copings	C	£350
35.1, 35.2	Prune trees	A	-
37,8, 37.10	Redecoration to doors and windows	A	£750



## APPENDIX I

*(From the Council for the Care of Churches Guide to Church Inspection and Repair)*

### **A guide to the Routine Maintenance and Inspection of Church Property**

The following list gives an indication of the time of year when certain jobs should be done. It is not exhaustive.

Spring/Early Summer	<p>Whenever necessary inspect gutters and roofs from ground level and inside, especially when raining.</p> <p>Clear concealed valley gutters.</p> <p>Make full inspection of the church for annual meeting.</p> <p>Check church inventory and update log book.</p> <p>Check bird-proofing to meshed openings.</p> <p>Sweep out any high level spaces. Check for bats and report any finds to English Nature.</p> <p>Cut any ivy starting to grow up walls and poison.</p> <p>Spray around the base of the walls to discourage weed growth.</p> <p>Check heating apparatus and clean flues.</p> <p>Arrange for routine servicing of heating equipment.</p> <p>Check interior between second week of April and second week of June for active beetle infestation and report findings to professional advisor.</p> <p>Check all ventilators in floor and elsewhere and clean out as necessary.</p>
Summer	<p>Spring clean the church.</p> <p>Cut any church grass.</p> <p>Cut ivy growth and spray (again).</p> <p>Recheck heating installation before autumn and test run.</p> <p>Arrange for any external painting required.</p>
Autumn	<p>Check gutters, downpipes, gullies, roofs etc. after leaf fall.</p> <p>Rod drains runs to ensure water clears easily, especially under pavements.</p> <p>Inspect roofs with binoculars from ground level, counting number of slipped slates, etc. for repair.</p> <p>Clean rubbish from ventilation holes inside and out.</p> <p>Check heating installation, lagging to pipes, etc. Repair as necessary.</p>
Winter	<p>Check roof space and under floors for vermin and poison.</p> <p>Clear snow from vulnerable areas.</p> <p>Check under valley gutters after cod spells for leaking roofs.</p> <p>Bleed radiators and undertake routine maintenance to heating systems.</p>

Check temperature in different areas of the building to ensure even temperature throughout and note any discrepancies.

Annually

Arrange for servicing of fire extinguishers.

Inspect abutting buildings to ensure there is no build up of leaves or other debris against the walls.

Check condition of outside walls, windows, sash cords, steps and other areas likely to be a hazard to people entering building..

Check the extent of insurance cover and update at need.

Every five years

Arrange for testing of the electrical systems..

Arrange for the testing of any lightning protection.

**It is vital, especially with older buildings, to keep them warm and well ventilated at all times. Ensure that such ventilation is taking place, especially after services .**

## APPENDIX II

*(From the Council for the Care of Churches Guide to Church Inspection and Repair)*

### Explanatory Notes

- a) Any electrical installation should be tested at least every quinquennium by a registered NICEIC electrician, and a resistance and earth continuity test should be obtained on all circuits. The engineer's test report should be kept with the church log book.
- b) Any lightning conductor should be tested every quinquennium in accordance with the current British Standard by a competent engineer and the record of the test results and conditions should be kept with the church log book.
- c) A proper examination and test should be made of the heating apparatus by a qualified engineer, each summer before the heating season begins.
- d) A minimum of two water type fire extinguishers (sited adjacent to each exit) should be provided plus additional special extinguishers for the organ and boiler house, as detailed below.

Large churches will require more extinguishers. As a general rule of thumb, one water extinguisher should be provided for every 250 square metres of floor area.

Summary:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Appliance</i>	<i>Type of Extinguisher</i>
General Area		Water
Organ		CO <sup>2</sup>
Boiler House	Solid fuel boiler	Water
	Gas fired boiler	Dry powder
	Oil fired boiler	Foam (or dry powder if electricity supply cannot easily be isolated)

All extinguishers should be inspected annually by a competent engineer to ensure they are in good working order. Further advice can be obtained from the fire prevention officer of the local fire brigade and from your insurers.

- e) This is a summary report only, as it is required by the Inspection of Churches Measure; it is not a specification for the execution of the work and must not be used as such. The professional advisor is willing to advise the PCC on implementing the recommendations and will, if so requested, prepare a specification, seek tenders and oversee the repairs.
- f) Although the Measure requires the church to be inspected every five years, it should be realised that serious trouble may develop in between these surveys if minor defects are left unattended. Churchwardens are required by the Care of churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 to make an annual inspection of the fabric and furnishings of the church and to prepare a report for consideration by the meeting of the PCC before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This then must be

presented with any amendments made by the PCC to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The PCC are strongly advised to enter into contract with a local builder for the cleaning out of gutters and downpipes twice a year .

Further guidance on inspection and the statutory responsibilities are contained in *How to Look After Your Church*. *The Churchwarden's Year* gives general guidance on routine inspections and house keeping, and general guidance on cleaning is given in *Handle with Prayer*, both published for the CC by Church House Publishing.

- g) The PCC are reminded that insurance cover should be index linked so that adequate cover is maintained against inflation of the building costs. Contact should be made with the insurance company to ensure that insurance cover is adequate.
- h) The repairs recommended in the report will (with the exception of some minor maintenance items) be subject to the faculty jurisdiction.
- i) Woodwork or other parts of the building that are covered, unexposed or inaccessible have not been inspected. The advisor cannot therefore report that any such part of the building is free from defect.



# Terrier and Inventory

## **Terrier and Inventory**

**Church of Colton St Mary the Virgin**

**Benefice of Colton Colwich and Great Haywood  
Informal cluster with Abbots Bromley and  
Blithfield**

**Deanery of Rugeley**

**Archdeaconry of Lichfield**

**Diocese of Lichfield**

## PERTAINING TO THE CHURCH IN THE PARISH

### 1. Structure of the church

- a. Plan : list the component parts of the church (eg chancel, chapels, nave, aisles, transepts, tower, porch, vestry, parish room).

***St Mary's has a low squat tower at the west end, nave with two aisles, chancel, sanctuary and vestry. The medieval part is the tower and the vestry east and west walls with ciborium etc.***

A ground plan accompanies this Inventory.

- b. Describe any extension built under faculty.

***In 2003 the PCC gained planning permission and converted the boiler house into a small meeting room with a disabled toilet.***

- c. Building materials (including roof coverings).

***The roof is clay tiles, the walls are stone. The church room is brick as the Old Rectory.***

- d. Give position of lightning conductor

***There is no lightning conductor***

- e. Give date and grade of listing if the church is listed under the *Town and country Planning Acts*.

***Grade 11\****

List any part scheduled under the *ancient Monuments Acts*.

- f. State who is liable for the repair of the nave, chancel or any other parts of the church and specify any private chapels.

If applicable, give the name and address of the Lay Rector responsible for the repair of the chancel.

***There is no lay Rector and the PCC is responsible for the fabric.***

- g. Give date of any grants which have been received from the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission ( or its predecessors). List conditions accepted by the parish at the time. (All grants for the repair of the church or its furnishings, from charitable trusts or other bodies, should be recorded in *The Church Log Book*.)

- h. List any deeds or acts of Parliament relating to the church and state where they are deposited.

## 2. Other Buildings in the Parish

List here any other buildings within the parish licensed for worship not described in separate inventories. **None**

List any church day school buildings (aided or controlled).

***St Mary's C E (A) Primary School: Built in 1862 and modernised 1967 and since. Extensions added in 200 and 2002.***

List any separate church halls.

***Church Room attached to Old Rectory created from old boiler house. Also disabled toilet.***

List any other buildings owned or leased by the parish eg Sundays schools, curate's house, vergers' house.

## 3. The Churchyard

Describe this stating the area and boundary walls or fences, and who is responsible for their repair; describe also the rights of access to the church (eg footpath or vehicular access).

***There are three areas. The area around the church building was levelled under faculty in 1958-1961 and all the tombstones collected in an area to the west of the tower on the edge of the grass area. The surroundings of the building are now level lawn with a garden on the south side. Between the church drive and the road is a raised mound known as Pedley's Croft. This was created by using spare earth from a new driveway access to the Old Rectory. Before this time there were hedges and gates along the front of the building. Secondly there is the Old Burial Ground on the far side of the road which is closed and maintained by the parish council. This is well fenced with metal railings. Thirdly, there is the new burial ground created from land given to the Parish by the PCC. This is situated in the north east corner on the east of the Old Rectory access and is administered by the Parish Council***

- a) State where a plan of burials is located. Give the date of the plan.

***Sketch plan of Old Burial ground kept in Burial register.***

- b) describe any specific area set aside within the churchyard by faculty (eg garden of rest, area for cremated remains).

***None known***

- c) If the churchyard is closed by Order in Council under the *Burial Acts*, give the date of the Order.

***12 February 1986***

- d) If it is closed, and the PCC has transferred its maintenance obligation to the local authority, give the name of the local authority by which it is maintained.

***Old Burial Ground maintained by Colton Parish Council***

- e) If the churchyard is still in use, give the name of any local authority which assists with its maintenance.

***New Burial Ground maintained by Colton Parish Council***

- f) If there are any separate deeds relating to the churchyard, state where they are deposited. This should include any deeds which involve the surrender of rights (eg under the *Open Spaces Act*). ***Church Safe***

- g) Describe the lych gate, giving its date.



#### 4. Churchyard Monuments

- a) State where any record or inventory of the monuments and memorials is kept. Give the date of the record.
- b) Enumerate any monuments listed under *Town and Country Planning Acts* or scheduled under the *Ancient Monuments Acts*.
- c) Give details of any assistance received for their maintenance from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Historic Buildings and Monuments commission (or its predecessors)
- d) List any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders, served by the local planning authority.

*Churchyard Trees have TPOs and the whole area is a conservation area. T85 Yew: T84 Cypress: T8s Yew: T83 Blue Cedar replacing Yew felled by gale in early 1980s.*

### 5. Additional churchyard or Burial Ground

- a) Describe any churchyard or church burial ground other than that adjacent to the church.

*See above*

- b) describe any other land acquired for the above purpose but not yet consecrated.

***Pedley's Croft - invested in Diocesan Trust for PCC.***

## 6. Schedule of Benefactions connected with the Church

[illegible]

## 7. Schedule of registers and Record Books

The *Parochial Registers and Records Measure 1978* stipulates that records more than 100 years old shall either be deposited in the diocesan record office or (with the consent of the bishop) stored in the parish church under the conditions specified in Schedule 2 of the measure. The *Measure* requires that a person carrying out an inspection of the records on behalf of the bishop shall compile a list of the registers and records, a copy of which shall be issued to the minister and PCC. **Where such a list is available, it should be regarded as superseding this section of the *Terrier and Inventory* but should be kept with the *Terrier and Inventory*.** Records listed here may exclude those on the separate list.

Registers of Baptisms (C)	<b>1844</b> <b>1889</b> <b><i>In use</i></b>	<b>1813</b> <b>1845</b> <b>1600</b>	<b><i>Nearly all deposited</i></b>
Marriages (M)	<b>1812</b> <b>1837</b> <b>1956</b> <b>1972</b> <b>1987</b>	<b>1754</b> <b>1813</b> <b>1837</b> <b>1956</b> <b>1973</b> <b>1987</b>	
and Burials (B)	<b><i>In use</i></b>	<b>1874</b>	<b><i>In use – vicar’s chest</i></b> <b><i>Ditto</i></b> <b><i>Deposited</i></b> <b><i>Safe</i></b> <b><i>Safe or deposited</i></b> <b><i>Ditto</i></b> <b><i>Deposited</i></b>
b) Confirmation Registers			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
c) Banns Books			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
d) Registers of Services			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
e) PCC minute books			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
f) PCC records, other than minutes (eg accounts, files, electoral rolls)			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
g) Vestry minutes			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
h) Churchwardens’ accounts			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
i) Terriers and inventories			<b><i>Ditto</i></b>
k) Faculties and Archdeacon’s Certificates			<b><i>Treasurer</i></b>
l) Orders in Council			<b><i>Churchwarden</i></b>
m) Insurance policies and papers			<b><i>Deposited</i></b>
n) Quinquennial Inspection reports			
o) Plans (eg church, churchyard, burials)			<b><i>History Society</i></b>
p) Tithe records (eg maps, schedules, accounts, redemption papers)			<b><i>Deposited</i></b>
q) Parish magazines			<b><i>Deposited</i></b>
r) Sundry legal documents (leases, conveyances, easements, licences)			
j) Church log books			
s) Rate books			
t) Charity records (minutes, accounts, papers)			
u) School records (eg log books, plans, inspection reports)			
v) Overseer of the poor’s records (eg accounts, poor law papers)			
w) Highway papers (surveyors’ accounts)			

## 8. Schedule of Church Plate

Please include all communion vessels of whatever material. First, list any complete sets, and then individual items in the following categories:-

Chalices, patens, flagons, alms dishes or basins and other plate, including ciboria, pyxes, wafer boxes, cruets.

Please mark clearly items deposited in a Cathedral treasure, museum or art gallery, or in a bank.

Article, Hall Marks, Maker's, Where kept and Mark and Inscription whether in movable safe or a safe attached or fixed to the church fabric.

***Chalice Silver gilt with 6 pearls, 3 garnets, 3 turquoises: 14 ozs : Calicem Solutari Accipian et in Nomen Domini Invicibo***

***Flagon : 12 1/2 high: 21 ozs : convex fluting: :***

***Paten : 6 ozs: Agnus Dei in centre: Benedicamus patreus et filium cum Spiritu Sancto***

***All three items have a special carrying box and are at present on long term loan with the V and A. Displayed in Sacred Silver exhibition. They are designed by GE Street in 1857***

***Wafer Box and Cruet***

***Brass Alms dish - in Sanctuary : Brass with blue enamel HIS in centre***

***Paten on foot for the use of Colton church 1734 AD' T London 1734 George III 10 ozs silver***

***Sick communion set in box: Chalice, paten, pyx in silver, flagon glass and silver top. Given in memory of Edith Alice Cooper 29.5.1972 RIP Kept by clergy or pastoral leader.***

***Chalice and Pattern in silver plate lent then given by Lichfield St Chad***

## 9. Schedule of Furnishings and fittings (excluding registers, records and plate)

In every case the following information should be given if known: -

Material (including the type of stone, wood metal), the date and the designer, maker/craftsman, donor (where known), position.

1. Altar(s) or Holy Table(s)

***Oak 1852***

2. Altar ornaments, eg crosses, candlesticks, book stands

***Brass cross, two candlesticks, two vases, and wooden bookstand all reputed to be designed by GE Street***

3. Pulpit

***Sandstone with brass candle holder and book rest all reputed to be designed by GE Street***

4. Lectern

***Oak with two attached candle holders reputed to be designed by G E Street***

## 5. Font

*Sandstone and wooden top reputed to be designed by GE Street. Brass plate dedication ' This font is dedicated to Almighty God as a thank offering for the merciful continuance during forty three years of the late Revd Charles Savage Landor as Rector of this church by his youngest daughter Ellen Savage Duke AD MDCCCLI : Moved to south aisle in 2008*

## 6. Screens

*Two low walls of sandstone at the chancel arch designed by G E Street*

10. Stained glass (starting with the east window, proceed southwards around the church: give subject, inscription)

*East Window: 5 lancets central one crucifixion and 3 Mary's, 2 angels, sun and moon: 3 angels above Panels: left to right:*

*St Philip and St Bartholomew in upper portion Augustine and Ambrose in lower Thomas and Matthias - upper Peter and Andrew - lower*

*James the less and Simon - upper:*

*James the greater and John - lower*

*Thaddeus and Matthew - upper*

*Jerome and Gregory the great - lower*

*Jacob Oldham Oldham of Bellamore Hall given by his daughter Ellen 1858*

*East Window - Vestry ~ panels lancet - Pre-Raphaelite window featuring the Ascension. This window is dedicated to the memory of Revd Abdiel Seaton by the greater number of his parishioners in grateful acknowledgement of many years of Kindness and labour of his restoration of the church AD 1852*

*2 vestry windows - 1 lancet Victorian painted glass and trefoil patterns and leaf border and another double lancet similar*

*3 windows in south aisle are patterned in style of Wm Morris and typical of mid 19th century*

*Window in west wall by door is given in memory of Frank William Cooper died 25 May 1961 aged 60 Parable of the Sower; Colton church, fields and brook; baptism of Christ by St John; dove; beehive etc*

*Belfry has 3 lancet windows one with some mediaeval glass*

*North aisles windows as south except for most eastern window which has lancets with parable of the Sower; to Peter and the Good shepherd*

*dedicated to Charles Savage Landor and Catherine his wife by daughters ES S Landor and Catherine Landor*

*East window of North aisle - triple lancet Visit to Elizabeth; presentation of Jesus; angel Gabriel: people of Colton in memory to James Oldham Oldham 1858*

*Chancel triple lancet - three Kings; Baptism of our Lord; Water into wine; 'Harriet Seaton died October 8 1857*



***Double Lancet Jesus the Good Shepherd Road to Emmaus:  
Elizabeth Jean Oldham 1849***

11. Wall paintings (starting from the east end, proceed southwards around the church)

***None***

12 Monuments, starting from the east end, proceed southwards around the church: give position and state the name and date of death of the person earliest commemorated. Then refer to floor slabs, proceeding from east to west; include coffin lids, slabs, ledger slabs, wall monuments, brasses and effigies. Good photographs showing the monument and the inscription should be provided, or a typescript copy of the entire wording.

***On north side of sanctuary, in metal, gold coloured base, red and black lettering. 'Near this place are interred the remains of Revd Charles Savage Landor Rector of this parish for forty three year during which he preached that pure Gospel which gave him cheerfulness and serenity in life and confidence in death. He died July the VIIth MDCCCXLIX aged LXXII.. Also of Catherine his wife who died December the Vth MDCCLIV aged LXIV. A black marble tablet Johannes Taylor AM huper hujus ecclesie rector filius Johnannes Taylor rector of Rosley Com Linchh vir fide orthadoxa,, moribus et doctrina admodum insigius. In uroxem duxit Eliz filium riccardi Pensal de Ruggeley Gent equa 7 suscepit liberos, Johern Gulielmum, eliz marium et annan supertffites reliquit 90 dic Nov AP 1700 aet 55 Perpetue charissimi memorie uxor maertissima hoc. poecitt monumentum.***

***In memory of the Revd John Taylor AM late rector of this parish. He died June 1st 1767 Aged 53 years***

***To the memory of Mr Wm Taylor late of the Middle Temple London Gent who died Janry 28th 17s2 aged 43***

***On the organ blower - metal plaque on wooden base by vestry door this electric organ blower was given in memory of William Ezra Cooper, who passed on, September 9th 1944 aged 72 years Parish Clerk 1930 to 1944 He loved this house of God. May others as he did find joy in the service of this house. South wall memorial Royal Irish Dragoon Guards Crest***

***In gratitude to God and in the dear memory of my husband Captain CSED Oldham JP who died Jan 9 1930 aged 73. The electric lights installed in this church "they need no candle neither light of the sun"***

***On the south wall - grey marble base and white marble inscription plate 'Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Jean Oldham the beloved wife of James Oldham Oldham Esq Bellamour Hall in this parish who departed this life March 27th 1849 at the age of Sixty three. Her body is interred in the family vault in this church.***

***"And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord". Rev XIV Chapter 13 verse 13***

***In the Mme vault resteth the body of the said James Oldham Oldham Esq who departed this life February 14" 1857 in his 78th year in the blessed hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ. Also of Riland Wolseley Oldham Esq. their grandson who departed this life February 14th 1866 aged 28***

13. Sculpture and statuary, other than funeral sculpture

***A Celtic head of stone kept in church dug from ground at Bellamour Lodge in 1885s (an ancient burial ground) and came into the church's keeping during the 1890s.***

14. Bells (give diameter, inscription, weight and maker of each bell. Add any information about the bell frame, eg of wood or metal, date, etc)

***Six bells on metal frame. 3 bells rehung on metal frame in 1953.***

***Treble 'John Woollums, Nicholas Balmforte, W Burden C.W 1704 7.1.16 Bb***

***2. Ghedderly Fecit 1791 God save his church weighing about 4.2.16 C***

***3. C and G Mears, founders, London 1872. Laus Deo' weighing 8 .3.19 Ab***

***4. Added 1985 paid for by Vernon family in thanksgiving of youngest birth 4.0.2.7 Db***

***TWO further treble bells added in 2001 Hayleys bell weight 3.1.4 tuned at F# inscribed 'Out of the mouths of babes and suckling's' and Bullys Bell 3.1.2 tuned to E; inscribed thou hast perfected praise:***

Organ (give name of original builder and date, builder and date of any rebuilds, type of action and specification; organ case.) Give details of other musical instruments eg harmonium

***TWO manual organ by Holdich of London, built 1879 dedicated 23 March***

***1879 in memory of Lieutenant Parker and incorporated the organ of 1852.***

***Electrical blower added in 1950. Wooden case, painted pipes in blue and gold by Miss Harriet Parker***

***Victorian Harmonium:***

15. Metal work (eg processional crosses, standard candlesticks, tapers, thuribles, grilles, sanctuary lamps, chandeliers, candle branches, communion rails, vases, font ewer, iron chest)

***2 standard brass candlesticks converted to hold large candle 1958***

***2 brass tapers***

***2 brass coronas (large chandeliers) - one in vestry made of brass with coloured borders Second at west end brass chandelier (Hardman) dedicated to the memory of Jane Lowry Parker - details at CRO***

***Brass and metal small Chandeliers in nave formerly candle holders***

***Brass Pascal candle given by Miss Trump in memory of Lieutenant Parker***

***Communion rails designed by GE Street (match large corona) drawings and designs for these held at V and A Museum***

17. Woodwork eg processional crosses, standard candlesticks, tapers, sanctuary chairs, stalls, Communion Rails, nave seating (pews or benches), table(s), litany desk, alms box, chest(s), wardens' and vergers' staves, stools, hymn boards.

Include here items predominantly of wood, eg with metal mounts, but give details of the additional materials

***2 Sanctuary chairs, 1 ornate, 1 plain - normally placed by stone screen***

***Chancel arch***

***2 churchwardens staves given 1958 (standard design wood with brass tops)***

***Brass processional cross with Agnus Dei in coloured metal with wooden shaft and brass mount***

***3 Misericords, Mediaeval depicting Wyvern Janus Head and another dragon type creature purchased in 1852 by A Seaton from a summer house in Tenby Pews - Oak and plain but attractive design***

***Alms box in pillar on wall by main door***

***Hymn boards given 1930s by Mr B Betts in memory of his parents. Wooden altar frontal cupboard purpose built for Colton***

***Altar board (no longer in place) Oak carved and painted by Miss Harriet Parker inscribed Holy Holy Holy Lord God Almighty***

***Chest used for music storage, Chiffonier used at back of church, bookcase and cupboard for hymn books etc***

#### 16 Architectural features

*External*- eg weathervane, carvings, inscriptions, consecration crosses, scratch dials, sundial, doors, door furniture (including door knockers, hinges and locks)

*Internal*: eg sedilia, piscina, aumbries and tabernacles, Easter Sepulchre, statues, niches, decorative corbels, historic graffiti

***Base of old preaching cross. A squint,***

***3 sedilia; 2 piscinas (all but one in vestry in old part of church) Small rose corbels along roof/wall lines in chancel and Sanctuary***

***Weathervane restored in 2000***

#### 17 Textiles in the following order;

- a. Vestments: copes, chasubles, dalmatics, tunics, stoles, maniples; burses and veils
- b. Linen vestments: surplices, albs, amices, girdles
- c. Cassocks, gowns, scarves, headgear
- d. Frontals, dorsals, riddel curtains
- e. Fair linen, corporals and palls; purificators and towels
- f. Pulpit falls, funeral palls, hangings, banners
- g. Carpets, tapestries

***Cope 1977 white wool and gold brocade with decoration in rose design taken from old silk (1852) altar frontal***

***Purple, red, green and white burses and veils 1958***

***Frontals: White all in one with gold material cross donated 1977 by Mrs E Bettson in memory of her husband Bernard, Churchwarden 1936/61***

***Rose patterned brocade plain gold silk cross super gold brocade***

***Green all in one given 1958 - cross was taken from old white frontal and stitched onto green by Mrs A Sapsford 1977 brocade frontal and super Purple super and frontal possibly purchased late 19 century. Frontal velvet and trefoil in silks, super and wool velvet and fleur de Iys in silks Restored 2008***

***Red restored in 1996 by Jane Dew to commemorate 90 years of worship and service by Bradburys/Cooper family. New Velvet was used for frontal and super but the base cloths and all the embroideries and fringes were cleaned and replaced from the original 1852. The buttoned on panels and Wm Morris silk showing bird/acanthus patterns, Woven into the unseen side are the***

*initials WEC, LC, FWC, EAC and MAC (These panels ere probably purchased from the Leek school who sold ready drawn designs on brocade for the locals to embroider themselves)*

*Fair Linen: 4 cloths for altar; 1 credence cloth with border; 8 purificators; Mothers Union banner given by Mrs Julia L Mellor in 1947 in memory of he husband George Mellor dedicated 25/3/47 Pre-Raphaelite design of Virgin and child inscribed St Mary's Colton with brass inscription on pole.*

*3 funeral palls in box by organ - 2 large purple and one white child's pall*

19 Paintings, on wood and canvas, watercolours; include commandment boards, benefactions boards, hatchments, ringing records, list of incumbents

*Benefactions board in belfry - these were restored in 2009 and re-hung in nave on west wall.*

*List of incumbents and priest in charge by tower entrance and List of war dead in frame - all held at present by Bradbury's pending redecoration*

*Brass on marble war dead*

20 Miscellanea) ie objects which may not have fallen into any of the foregoing categories: eg photographs of the church and of past incumbents, other photographs, prints, turret clocks and other clocks, royal arms, armour, significant keys, hour glass, kneelers, safes, model of the church). The contents of the tower and vestry in particular should not be overlooked.

*2 sets of Altar rail Kneelers*

*I set red velvet Fleur de lys pattern*

*I set blue woven wool Fleur de lys pattern Door Keys*

*Old safe*

*Strong Chest*

The lists of church properties, goods and ornaments scheduled in the foregoing pages of this Terrier and Inventory have been duly checked and additions or corrections noted and initialled and are certified as correct

( Rector, Vicar or Priest in Charge)

*The Reverend Simon Davis*

Churchwardens

*Mrs Katie Brown and Mrs Joanna Low*

Examined \*:

Date **30 May 2009**

*By the Archdeacon of Lichfield the Venerable Chris Liley*

\*By the Bishop, Archdeacon or Rural Dean

The lists of church properties, goods and ornaments scheduled in the foregoing pages of this Terrier and Inventory have been duly checked and additions or corrections noted and initialled and are certified as correct