

## **FABRIC REPORT – The Parish of Bush Hill Park St Marks and St Stephens–April 2024**

The churchwardens have continued to work closely together over the last year. This has been a very fruitful collaboration as we have been working with our strengths and using opportunities as they arose.

All items of plate, silver and fabric in the parish are maintained and kept in good order by volunteers.

We have continued to use the electronic collection system as well as the standing orders and plate collection.

The gardens are kept in a good state by gardeners and the gardening club for one side of the garden at St Mark's site.

All leaks have now been repaired at both sites and hopefully we will be leak free for the rest of the year.

Church cleaning is done by volunteers; however, we hope to set up a Rota soon. A flyer requesting volunteers for both cleaning and refreshments is on the noticeboard.

The regular clearing of the gutters by Fullers was done on both sites during the year.

The main highlights of our year were

- The chairs were changed from being in a circle to face the altar at the St Marks site
- St Marks chapel has been reinstated at the St Marks site

### **St Marks site**

The gardening club led by Jackie, Janice and Brian is still going. They met several times during the year. Work is ongoing to keep the garden in a good state.

February - The initial problem with the boiler finally got repaired. However, after the annual service, several other problems arose during the year. We are currently waiting for another part which should finally solve the problem.

April - Remedial electrical works were done.

The candle holder by Mary at the side of the main Altar was repaired by a volunteer.

The six candle holders on the high altar were repaired by a volunteer at no cost to the church

May – There were leaks in the tower and the righthand side of the church door.  
Repair completed

July – A hedge trimmer was purchased for the gardening club to use on the hedge at the side of the church

August – the side of the church hall facing the old scouts hut had to be repaired.

October – Cushions for the pews at lefthand side aisle were made and some altar covers were also made by a parishioner

The pathway in front of Church door was repaired

The grates on the right-hand side of the church were repaired, however those on the left-hand side could not be done. We are trying to keep the pathway safe until we can find a better solution.

November – the annual fire extinguisher check was done. The next one will be due in 2025. No replacements were required but quite a few are due to be replaced next year.

The electrical checks will be due in 2025.

A new smart meter was installed.

Several lights near the ceiling around the church were replaced

December – There were leaks on the right-hand side of church near the door.  
Temporary repair done but a permanent repair to be done later in the year.

The toilet and Sacristy will be refurbished during the year.

### **St Stephens site**

Jan - New gas burner fitted to heater in large hall

Feb - Replacement of fusible link to heater in large hall

March - Gas inspections for heaters and water heaters in halls took place.

April - New mains door was fitted to the halls entrance

Gutters and gulleys were cleared at the vicarage, church, and halls

June. - 5-year electrical checks took place in both the church and halls

Refurbishment of the small office in the halls took place

Fire extinguishers in church and halls were serviced

July - New fuse box fitted in vestry

Various minor electrical works took place to ensure compliance.

Pathway repairs took place in the memorial garden

New glass was fitted in the hall replacing many cracked panes of glass.

Touch up painting took place in the large hall.

Sept. New fascia boards, soffits and new guttering and downs pipes fitted.

Replaced missing and broken tiles to main roof and porch at Uvedale Rd.

Nov. Gutters and gulley were cleared in the vicarage, church and halls

Dec. Unblocked drain in car park, secured drain cover with new cement.

The Churchwardens

March 2025