**ST CROSS CHURCH PLANNED WORKS APPEAL**

On Sunday 12th March we launched the above appeal with a target of raising £10,000 to help towards the cost of the following planned items of work

1. Upgrade of Sound System £2000
2. Handrails at the Chancel steps £1100
3. New Handrails and Steps at the West Door entrance £ 7400
4. Repointing defective brickwork £ 2000

Normally these works would be financed from the Centenary Fund, however if we did this there would be practically nothing left in the Fund to cover the costs of any further repairs. Whilst we still have some investments totalling approximately £24000 these are for an absolute emergency.

We have therefore decided to ask for donations to help cover the costs of the above work which total £12500. We are also applying for Grants and are awaiting the outcome of our applications.

All of these matters are essential, the Sound System has been failing us for some time, items 2 and 3 are needed to minimise the Health and Safety issues we have by there being no Handrails at these steps. Item 4 is from the periodic inspection of the church by the Architect and is only part of what he has recommended needs doing to keep the fabric of the church in good order.

These improvements will add to the growth we are seeing in our centre of worship and our role in the community. The new external appearance at the West Door will enhance the welcome to our church and give the impression that St Cross is flourishing.

Many visitors admire our church building which is much loved by all of us. We would encourage everyone in the St Cross family to carefully consider how they can help us to achieve this target. It is through our visible witness to the love of God in Christ that future generations can also benefit from our wonderful church.

 Further information can be obtained from Rev’d Paul Deakin, The Treasurer Gordon or the Churchwardens Grahame or Judith.