

# CHURCH MATTERS: 2



Music has always played an important role in the life of the church. There have been some noteworthy musicians (Nicholas Cleobury, above). On a couple of occasions there has been no power supply to the organ, but the hand pump is still in working order - a tiring job for a volunteer.

The many annual events, such as Christmas, Easter, Whitsun, the Church Fete, Harvest Festival and Remembrance Sunday, which mark the progress through the calendar, have changed little over the years.

In 1995 Margaret Clifford wrote a song for May Day and led the choir up onto the roof of the tower.



Autumn 1978. The church roof facing South was in trouble as the nail holes were expanding allowing the lead to shift. The Church Council together with their architect decided that it could be repaired with aluminium rather than lead. The Church roof appeal was launched and after some months of fund raising the roof was repaired in summer 1979.



During the 42 years of Steeple Aston Life the church clock has had to be regilded twice. In February 1978 we read: *The Parish Council has allocated £100 towards the regilding of the Church clock face and the council agreed that this was a village amenity and felt that parishioners appreciated the excellent time keeping of our Parish Clock.* (Excellent time keeping purely because it was kept so by one of the bellringers).

This photo was taken in April 2009 when the clock face was lowered again. This prompted a debate in SAL about the possibility of preventing the clock from striking during the night but it was decided it should continue, to please the majority of residents.

