**Report from Shelford Church November 2016: Addendum**

1. We have known for some time that the Saxon Cross fragment presently on view in a window in the Stanhope Chapel is an important marker in English history. There have been any number of studies of the Cross fragment since its reappearance in 1878 (it was found embedded in a buttress that was being reconstructed), but the most definitive of these only appeared this year. Volume XII on *Nottinghamshire* (published 2015 by Oxford UP) in the series of the *Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture*, written by Paul Everson and David Stocker, has the side of the fragment showing a bearded angel on its front cover. As to its significance, to quote the authors: `The Shelford shaft (is) amongst the most interesting and best-preserved figure sculpture of its date in England.’ The authors, who date the Cross fragment to 900AD, have constructed a fascinating history relating to its original location and then its disappearance. They have also approved the treatment of their story that can be found in the new `Guide to Shelford Church and its History.’
2. It is with a sense of relief that we can also report that the long saga of repairs to the church tower roof is now at an end. Preparation for the repairs, and for their financing, was underway in 2015, but the main part of the work was undertaken by Norman & Underwood in winter and spring of this year. It was soon discovered that the roof of the belfry also required replacement – at additional cost. On the advice of Bruce Bradley, our architect, we hired the stonemasons, Gardhams, to undertake some repairs to the tower’s stonework (while the scaffolding for the tower roof was available), and they also repaired a part of the churchyard wall which had become unstable.

Paying for all this was a major problem for our treasurer as most of the money we had been promised in assistance was conditional on completion of the repairs. However, all has ended happily and the Fabric Committee of the Parochial Church Council would like to express their gratitude to all who have contributed financially towards the successful completion of these repairs. This includes individuals, the village community and the several charities listed in the main part of this Report.