

View from the Churchwardens Pew

As summer turns into autumn we hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. Life has continued to be busy at All Saints and hopefully you will soon notice the changes – the Hall has been decorated and now looks splendid, and the Choir Vestry has been given a makeover to make it brighter and better for the choir. We have also been doing “our bit for the Community of Hertford” when 10 of us took part in a “Litter Pick” on 22nd August along Cole Green Way and The Warren. Thank you to Denise for organising a fun morning.

We rely on the work of so many volunteers to keep All Saints looking spick and span. Some people put that little bit extra into what they do, making things go exceedingly well. Two such people are Rosemary and Don Graves who took on the running of St John's Hall after the sudden death of Peter Stubbs some years ago. They have done an amazing job between them but they have decided that it is time for them to step down and hand over to someone else. They will continue until the end of the year, and we would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication to make it all run so well and profitably.

At the recent Standing Committee in August we discussed how to move forward to replace Rosemary and Don, and ensure this important work continues efficiently. We have had some ideas but we would like to gather other people's thoughts and ideas. We are planning an open meeting on Monday 20th September in the Church Meeting Room at 8 pm to discuss the future. If you are interested in helping or have some ideas please come along then or speak to Jo or one of the Wardens.

September looks busy with the Coffee morning and “Bike and Hike” on Saturday 11th, the Quiz night on Saturday 18th – don't forget that we need lots of things for the coffee morning including helpers, people to take part in the sponsored “Bike & Hike”, and lots of people to come to the Quiz

Night! Dorothy & Andrew are both selling tickets!

On Sunday 26th the new Bishop of Hertford – Paul Bayes, will be coming to All Saints for his first service as Bishop of Hertford. He will be ordained bishop on 21st September in St Paul's Cathedral and be welcomed to the Diocese in a service at St Albans on Saturday 25th September. We are really please that he will be joining us at the beginning of his ministry and hope that you will be able to join us. There will also be lunch after the service – more info to follow.

We hope to get the “Welcome Teams” up and running in September and if you are interested in this important role for All Saints please come and talk to Jo or ourselves. Don't forget to look out for other events like the “Pet Service” on September 5th – always fun, and look out for the new “Messy Church” venture. The session in the summer was a great success and lots of people had great fun so do look out for the poster and pictures in Church. There are also some pictures of the very successful BBQ in July.

We hope to see you at the various events in September!

Love Dorothy & Andrew

Suggestions Box

At All Saints we are very happy to think about new ideas, suggestions and hymn choices and even hear about the things that we don't seem to get right. Why not put your ideas down and put them in the new suggestion box at the back of Church? We cannot promise to act upon every idea but we will do our best!

Home Visits and Home Communions

Please let Jo or Janet know if you or someone you know would like a visit at home or receive Holy Communion at home. Please also remember to let us know if anyone is in hospital and would like a visit.

Coffee Morning Saturday 11th September

We are holding another of our very popular coffee mornings in All Saints Church on Saturday, 11th September 10.00am – 12.00 noon. There will be lots of stalls, including cakes, books, treasure, jigsaws, greetings cards and raffle. Do come along and join us for a cup of coffee and a browse round our many bargains!

We shall be very pleased to receive offers of treasure, unwanted gifts, books, jigsaws and raffle prizes which may be left at the back of the Church suitably labelled at any time. Cakes should be brought along on the day please. Offers of help will also be much appreciated too. For further information please contact:

Denise Dillely – 01992 587113 or Renee Booker – 01992 303314

Quiz Evening/ Fish & Chip Supper

A Quiz Evening with fish and chip supper will be held in St John's Hall on Saturday 18th September – 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Fish and chips will be served at 7.30pm with the quiz starting at 8.00pm. Coffee will be served during the interval. Tickets, which must be booked in advance, are available from the Churchwardens at £10.00 per head for adults and £8.00 for under 16s. A licensed bar will be available.

Harvest Happening



A Harvest Happening will take place in St John's Hall on Sat 2nd October - 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

There will be a sausage and mash supper followed by entertainment by All Saints Youth Group. Wine will be provided for each table. Do come along for what promises to be a fun evening. For catering purposes we do need to know numbers so please let the Churchwardens know if you are going to attend. Tickets are free but donations on the night will be appreciated.

Music at St Andrew's Crib Festival

A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA is planned for St Andrew's Church, Hertford, when it participates in the Christian Aid Big Christmas Sing on the weekend of 11th and 12th December 2010.

Musical groups and singers from across North and East Hertfordshire will be playing at the church as part of its Crib Festival. Along with renditions of some classic Christmas carols from church and school choirs, visitors will also hear the delights of piano and organ recitals as well as the East Herts Concert Band and much more.

The Crib Festival is planned to re-invigorate the "true meaning of Christmas" and provide an alternative to the over-commercialisation of the Christian Festival. So far more than 30 cribs have been offered for display and it is also hoped to bring to life a full-sized version, including a donkey, in the church's main entrance (facing out to St Andrew's Street) during part of the weekend's festivities.

The performance programme for the event is presently being finalised. Any group interested in taking part can still book a spot by contacting Peter Risby on 01438 747754.

HERTFORD AND DISTRICT CHURCHES TOGETHER

Open Meeting

in the Friends' (Quakers) Meeting House
Railway Street, Hertford
on **Thursday 23rd September 2010**

Janet Scott
(moderator of Churches Together in England)

will speak on

**'Churches Together: is there a new way
forward?'**

Everyone welcome
7.00 refreshments with a prompt 7.30 start

Rick Wakeman at AS.

It was great to see the church attracting so many people for the "big gig" in July. Rick Wakeman may be best known now for being a Grumpy Rock Star on television, but there was nothing grumpy about this performance. Solo piano music was interspersed with comical recollections on his life in rock music.

Rick was the pianist on Cat Stevens' hit version of Morning Has Broken. The piano parts which he contributed lifted the hymn into a major hit. He mentioned (OK, slightly grumpily, perhaps) that he hadn't been paid for the session (£9 still owed, Yusef) or been credited with having composed the piano parts. But he played the whole hymn in his own style, and it was lovely.

We also heard a number of his own compositions, including a track from The Six Wives of Henry the Eighth – ideal in a Church of England building!. A selection of songs from his time with Yes, including the brilliant "Wondrous Stories" was also included, all beautifully scaled down from the Seventies when he took about two dozen keyboards on stage every night.

Jo and I entered through the vestry on the evening of the concert, and we found ourselves welcoming Rick and talking about – well, all sorts. He was interested in Hertford and the music here, and we enjoyed talking about life in general. I remember Rick from long ago, when a folk group called the Strawbs brought their new pianist and organist into the band, his first real exposure to even minimal fame. So I asked "Will you be doing any Strawbs, Rick?" Well, he said he thought he might – and he did. He chose a track called "A Glimpse of Heaven", a song about the beauties of nature, and what a wonderful moment to hear the solo piano version here in All Saints some forty years after first appreciating it. I do hope that many of the people present felt something of that glimpse as we shared the concert together.

Doug Loveridge

Rubbish!

Bright and early on Saturday, 21st August, a group of about a dozen people from All Saints, armed with black sacks, gloves, high viz jackets and sticks supplied by EHDC met to tackle some of the litter lying around in Hertford. During a two hour stint several of us managed to clear the area around the town Football Club in West Street, as well as the allotments and the path and hedgerows at the start of Cole Green Way, while the rest of the group tackled the Warren from St Leonard's Church to Port Hill.



By the end of the session we had collected a total of 22 sacks of beer cans, drinks bottles, food wrappers and numerous unidentifiable objects together with a shopping trolley, two footballs, a beer crate, a hub cap and a long curtain track complete with hooks!



It was a really good morning's work and very many thanks to all who took part. We hope to hold another litter picking session later in the year so do please speak to Denise Dilley if you would like to join us.