

View from the pew

Janet Oldham

It is hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the end of the year, even though the temperature belies the month.

Looking back briefly, it was so good to see the Church beautifully decorated for Harvest, including a great harvest loaf in the shape of a wheat sheaf. Many of us also enjoyed another fantastic Toyn Quiz and delicious meal at the Harvest Supper, so a big thank you again to all concerned in making all the Harvest celebrations so successful.

SPIRITUAL CHURCH

Bishop Alan will be preaching at our Remembrance Service this year, following on from the service at the War Memorial and no doubt many of those attending this year's service will be pleasantly surprised to see how well the Memorial Tablet has come up after its clean earlier in the Summer.

Jo will again be leading our Commemoration Service on 23 November at 10am to remember loved ones now on another shore and whilst in practice we usually read out the names of people who have died in the last 2 years, if you would like a loved one remembered, would you please let Martin Penny know so their name/s can be added to the list.

CREATIVE CHURCH

Looking ahead to our annual Winter Bazaar on 6 December it promises to be especially good with singing contributions from St Joseph in the Park and Abel Smith's school choirs and a selection of stalls including Aschiana.

Janet B will also be producing her famous hotpot lunches and this year's raffle has some fantastic prizes, so be sure to buy your tickets early and perhaps persuade your family and friends to buy a ticket or two also.

ACTIVE CHURCH

The suggestion has been made that perhaps some people would prefer to "adopt" a flower bed and look after it all year around. If you would prefer to do this, could you please let me know?

In the meantime the weeds are growing rapidly with all this rain, so even if you do not want to be responsible for a particular bed, we would be most grateful for your help in tidying up the beds and removing the weeds. Sign up on the list at the back of Church.

The Messy Church children will have planted up their flowerbed (under the Vestry windows) by the time you read this and fingers crossed the squirrels will leave the bulbs alone this time.

LITTER PICK

We will meet in the Churchyard on Saturday, 15 November at 9.15am for a 9.30am – 11.30am litter picking session. This is a very worthwhile cause and has the added bonus of a friendly group to chat with as you help tidy up our lovely County Town. Volunteers please sign up on notice sheet at the back of the Church. High Viz vests, gloves and litter picks are provided by the Council.

PEWS AND LIGHTING

The Fabric Committee, Vicar and Church Wardens recently met with the DAC and I am very pleased to say they were positive about our lighting project for the Memorial Chapel and removal of pews, actually encouraging us to think outside the box on the latter project. You can read more about the re-lighting of the Memorial Chapel on page 5.

Love Janet O