

In Peace



24 th November	<i>Susan Pluck</i>
26 th November	<i>Anita Buxton</i>
15 th January	<i>Florence Meson</i>
20 th January	<i>Joyce Cook</i>
22 nd January	<i>Maud Whiting</i>
26 th January	<i>Kelly Hawkins</i>
1 st February	<i>Irene Mansfield</i>
16 th February	<i>Freda Perry</i>



Mothers' Union

At our February meeting, Dr John Earle gave a thought provoking talk, "Global warming - save carbon, save cash." Through slides & recently published research & comment he brought home the reality of Global Warming's effect on the natural world, particularly noting the dramatic retreat of glaciers.

His personal memories of changes in UK climate over his lifetime were particularly revealing & he left us to consider renewable energy & some possible changes we might make in our homes & daily lives to help arrest the otherwise inevitable destruction of the natural world.

Please speak to John if you would like further details and see the letter from Bishop Alan below.

Our March meeting will be a Meditation for Lent on Tuesday 2nd March at 8pm in the

Memorial Chapel, led by our vicar, Jo Loveridge.

Relationship Not Rules: Lent 2010

Mothers' Union's vision is to see a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. They have produced a chart with a suggestion or thought for each day from Shrove Tuesday (16th February) to Easter Day (4th April). Copies are available from the back of the church.

Ann Stephens-Jones

Mothering Sunday

This year's Mothering Sunday Service will be on Sunday 14th March at 10am. "Make a mother's day" – Mothers' Union ethical gift catalogues are available from the back of the church. Deadline for orders for Mothering Sunday is 9th March

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday 5th March. This year we at All Saints' are hosting this event. The service will start at 2.00pm with refreshments afterwards until 4.00pm.

Letter from Bishop Alan

***My Carbon, Their Lives, Our Future
– Action on Climate Change***

This letter, recently sent to all PCC's, will be discussed at our PCC Meeting on 22nd March. If you have thoughts, ideas or comments please make sure someone on the PCC knows them!

Dear Colleague,

At Diocesan Synod late last year a motion was passed in support of climate change across the Diocese. I am writing to ask that, at your next PCC meeting, you will take action and adopt the following Resolution:-

PCC Resolution on Climate Change

As part of our Christian commitment to care for God's creation the PCC will:

- assess the parish carbon footprint with the help of the St Albans Diocese Shrinking the Footprint and the main "shrinking the footprint materials" which can be accessed at <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/Mission/Environment/Shrinking-the-Footprint>
<http://www.shrinkingthefootprint.cofe.anglican.org/index.php>
- take necessary and possible steps to reduce the parish carbon footprint as part of the diocesan partnership in the national 20.12 campaign;
- recognise the Christian imperative to support those hardest hit by climate change, and seek where possible, to support adaptation projects (helping people adapt their lives to cope with the current and future impacts of climate change) in the developing world,
- encourage all members of the parish congregations to join the national 10:10 campaign and commit to cutting their emissions by 10% in 2010; and
- let the Diocesan Environment Officer know what steps have been taken and what progress has been achieved by the end of 2010.

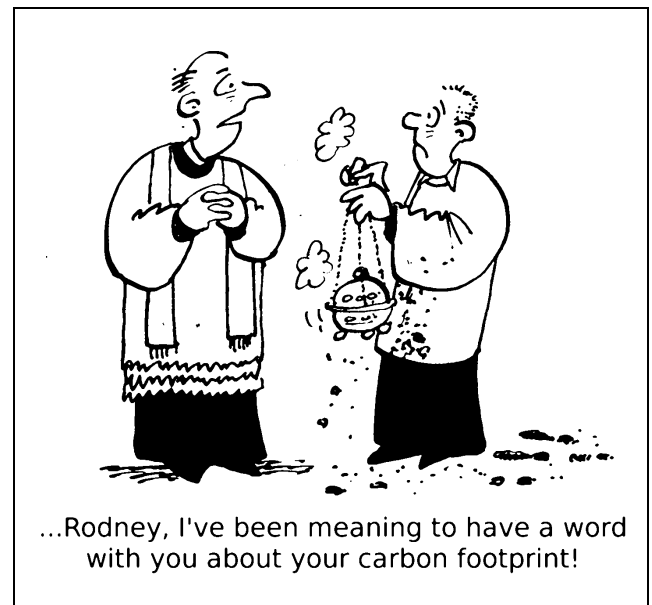
Caring for the planet is a Christian imperative for the sake of future generations. Sadly it is the world's poor that have the least ability to adapt to the changing climate, who are already suffering the most from its devastating impact; we must recognise our responsibility as Christians to care for those hardest hit.

The Resolution also proposes that churches should consider supporting adaptation funds such as the Climate Justice Fund. I would also draw your attention, in the proposed PCC Resolution, to the 10:10 campaign, of which I am a member, which

encourages people to reduce their own emissions by 10% by 2010. I strongly recommend that members of your parish consider joining this campaign at www.1010uk.org to take serious and thoughtful action in reducing their footprint.

A paper version of this letter accompanied by our Shrinking the Footprint pack has been sent to your PCC secretary. The pack can be downloaded, for free, from <http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/Mission/Environment/Shrinking-the-Footprint>. Later this year, my Harvest Appeal will be supporting one of the Climate Justice Fund's projects, in Teso Diocese in Uganda. We will hear stories and learn much more about how people are adapting to changes in their climate. I do hope you will be able to support the Appeal and the Fund in the next few crucial years. I trust that in God we can make progress in facing the challenges of caring for our world together.

Yours truly,
Bishop Alan of St Albans

**Grand Spring Clean**

Yes, it is that time of year already, and we need to start getting the church in fine fettle for Easter and the months ahead.

So we have our annual Spring Clean on March 6th 9 am – 12noon. All welcome

(please!) and jobs for all, many hands make light work, & "elevenes" provided. There is a list to sign in Church.

View from the Churchwardens Pew!

As this is written in mid February it seems the last ten days have been nothing but meetings. However, that having been said there are a lot of good things happening which you will see by the end of this article.

Lent is now virtually upon us and by the time you read this all the courses will be under way. Please join one of the groups if you can, but if not then log onto www.challenge2010.org and read through the Bishop's material at home. If, of course you would like an alternative, then Brian Draper who came to the Diocesan 'Exploring Spirituality' day at All Saints in October last year has a website at www.spiritualintelligence.co.uk. On Saturday 27 March there will be a market stall in Hertford publicising the Easter services for all the team ministry churches. If you can help by manning it for an hour or so that would be very much appreciated - please talk to us.

Encouraged by the success of the 'January Jolly' attended by about 75 people the Events and Outreach committee have all the events for the year planned, so watch out for those in future editions.

The Worship, Mission and Outreach Committee have been encouraged by the results of moving Prayer and Bears to the morning (10.30am) which seems more popular. After Easter Janet Bird is running a 'Welcome' course designed for everyone so they can convey to new members of the congregation our friendliness and warmth of our welcome. Please look for more about this in the next edition.

The weekly newsheet which has Sunday's readings is quite expensive so the committee is wondering if we are getting good value for money from them, so please speak up if you find them helpful, otherwise

they may be discontinued and we will just have a sheet with our own information on.

The Fabric Committee has been very pleased that the car park has been re-surfaced and it is hoped there will be spaces marked out in the near future. Also under consideration is getting a new notice board (or even two) and where the best places are to locate them - watch this space on that one (no pun intended).

The Choir and Jo will be pleased to hear that a make-over is planned for their vestries during August and your help would be appreciated on that to give them a much improved appearance.

Derek Westwood has asked, for all those of you who are able bodied, if you could give a hand for a few hours once a month (normally the third Saturday) to help with maintenance jobs around the church and hall - this saves us a tremendous amount of money. In a similar vein, more helpers to keep the church clean are always needed - please speak to us if you can help with this.

Love,
Dorothy and Andrew

Christian Aid Walk 2010

There is a brand new website with details of the walk to be found at christianaidwalk.org.uk. Please take a look. If anyone is interested in doing the walk (all or part of it) walkers cards, sponsor forms and maps are now available from Martin Bird and me.

I am still looking for volunteers to help man the starting checkpoint at Wodson Park - please contact me on 01992 589535 if you can help - thank you !

Rosemary Bolton

Parents and Toddlers

Every Friday afternoon this group meets in St. John's Hall. The car park is overflowing.

There are countless baby buggies and the noise is considerable!

The children, ranging in age from babes of a few months to four years, have fun playing alongside each other. They have the opportunity to experience a range of toys including some quite large ones that would never fit into a present day home. The most gratifying thing though is to see the young Mums (and some Dads and Grans) all chatting to each other. So it is not only the children that have had an outing.

At present the leader of the group is Laura Hows, mum to Sam and also to Caitlin who is nine. To quote Laura..... *"Sam and I have been coming along to All Saints Toddlers for the past year and have thoroughly enjoyed our Friday afternoons spent here !"*

As Sam will be starting school in January 2011, Laura is already having to look for a replacement for herself. She hopes to recruit a group of mums and carers. In the meantime she provides some craft activity each week. Icing fairy cakes and then eating them was particularly popular! They also have a `singing` time with musical accompaniment but I don't think I can spot any possible recruits for the choir yet.

My descriptions really don't do justice to the splendid group and to Laura, not forgetting Liz before her and Maribelle before that; the list goes way back to Diane Coyne and Dorothy who were two of the first organisers. How I wish there had been such a group when I moved to Hertford and had little children.

Each week I have tried to draft in a church helper who can pour out drinks, collect up beakers and wash up. It takes barely an hour of one's time. There is a small group of us that take turns, for which Laura is very grateful. If there is anyone who could spare an hour on Friday once a month between two and three pm, that would be great. Please let me know. Thank you

Rosemary Graves.

Easter Egg Competition

It's time to put on your thinking caps, get creative and come up with an eggstraordinary entry to our Easter Egg Competition, which is open to all ages!

Please hard-boil or blow any eggs that you will be using. Then design the most amazingly eggstravagant egg person or egg event or egg-themed scene for an eggciting entry!

You should then write the title of your entry on an accompanying card (by all means incorporating eggcruciatingly egggy puns!) together with your name, age (if appropriate) and whether you are KS1, KS2, Secondary or Adult. Please bring your entries to the back of the church before 12.00 noon on Saturday 3rd April.

All the entries will be on display from Easter Sunday, when the winners will be announced during the 10.00 service. There are super prizes to be won – but taking part is the really fun bit, so we look forward to seeing lots of ingenious entries!

Kath Oates

Natural History Group (or Nature Club!)

We are starting up a group (for all ages) as part of the church's desire to encourage wildlife in the churchyard through the Anglican Church's "Living Churchyard" scheme. The idea of this scheme is to set aside parts of the churchyard to support and encourage animals, birds, insects and so on.

One of our first jobs will be to survey the churchyard (a little like the RSPB bird watch) to see what is there and then work on how to maintain the churchyard so as to encourage them. As well as doing our own "spotting ", we also plan to bring in local experts to help us look for bats and moths etc.

We are planning to have talks by visiting speakers who can help us learn more about our environment and also the world beyond our churchyard! And, last but not least, we hope to be able to visit places of interest such as local RSPB reserves together.

Are you interested in joining us? If so, please contact one of us by phone or email.

Fiona Earle: 01992 462467
Kath Oates: 01992 535805:
oates@globalnet.co.uk

Haiti Appeal

Our thanks to everyone who supported the Haiti Appeal through our Produce Stall. This enabled us to send £200 (Gift-Aided) to Médecins Sans Frontières. At the time MSF had two tented hospitals in Haiti and two London trauma surgeons were working with them.

John and Fiona Earle

All Saints Flower Club – AGM & Easter Flowers

The AGM & planning of Easter Flowers will be on Saturday 13th March at 10am in the Church Meeting Room. All members are asked to please make every effort to attend and if unable to please let me know if you can help at Easter.

New helpers are always welcome. We are always looking for new people to join our flower teams. If you are interested in joining in helping with weekly flowers in church or just at festivals please do join us at this meeting. If you would like to know more do ring or email me.

Donations for Flowers on the Memorial Book and Altar

This is to remind you that you can donate money for flowers on the Altar or in the memorial chapel in memory of a friend or relative. The calendar to enter your chosen date is on the noticeboard at the back of

church. Please contact the team leader on duty for the month you have chosen. A list of Team Leaders is in the Rota file at the back of church. The team leader will organize the flowers using your money donation. If you are unsure who to contact please get in touch with me see below.

EASTER FLOWERS

Flowers in church at Easter in memory of loved ones have always been special. Your donations are always appreciated and are a great help in making our church look its very best on Easter morning.

If you would like to make a donation this year Gillian Harman, Sue Gilford or the Churchwardens would be pleased to receive your gift by Sunday 21st March 2010.

The XMAS TREE CROSS will be decorated on Easter Day. Please remember to bring a flower on Easter Day Sunday 4th April 2010.

Gillian Harman
Secretary All Saints Flower Club
01992 422042
gillian.harman@ntlworld.com

Coffee Morning and Plant Sale



There will be a coffee morning with the usual stalls combined with a Plant Sale in the Church on **Saturday, 22nd May** from 10.00am until

12.00 noon. We shall need lots of bedding plants, cuttings, vegetable plants, produce etc. on the day, so if you are thinking of planting your seeds in the next week or two please plant a few extra, grow them on and pot them up for us to sell. We shall also need the usual books, jigsaws, bric-a-brac cakes and raffle prizes, so if you are Spring cleaning please don't throw away anything in good condition that we might be able to use on our stalls.

Proceeds from this sale will go to the Junior Church Send a Cow project.

For further information please contact:
Denise Dilley – 01992 587113 or
Renee Booker – 01992 303314

Electoral Roll

We are currently revising our Electoral Roll. If you would like to be able to vote at our annual meetings you need to be on this.

If you are interested in joining the Roll or have changes to make to your entry, please see Gillian Harman (Electoral Roll Officer) or one of the Churchwardens.

Quiz night

There will be a QUIZ NIGHT in the Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 20th March, 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets £10, including supper and soft drinks, are now on sale from Martin and Angela Hillary (01992 586206). Tables of eight - perhaps we could field a whole team or two! This is likely to be very popular so please book your tickets soon

Outing

Waddesdon Manor Saturday 5th June 2010.

Price: £26 (National Trust Members £13) to include: coach, entrance to Buckingham Railway Centre and ride on miniature railway; and Waddesdon Manor house and Gardens.

Coach pickup details:

Hagsdell Road, Hertford:	8.15 am
The Goat, H Heath:	8.25 am
The Church, St Margarets	8.35 am
John Warner School,	8.40 am

On arrival at the Railway Centre there is a coffee shop and toilets and very interesting museums as well as a ride on the railway.

We then leave for Waddesdon for lunch and the afternoon browsing. A tour of the house is booked for 2.00 PM. We leave at 5.00 PM.

To book, Phone Val Worboys: 01992 582487

Hope for Springtime

The trees remain naked and bare
But the coverlet of snowdrops makes one stare
At the promise these delicate flowers show
There is an awakening from the earth and soon much will grow
Into a most colourful and fragrant sight.
When the varied flowers emerge giving much delight
People too emerge from the winter gloom
And are uplifted when they see blossom in bloom
The cares of winter will soon be overcome
And we no longer feel unhappy and glum
Instead we feel uplifted by the promise spring brings.
And we look forward to doing our favourite things
Like walking and talking with friends each day.
Maybe a picnic in a park and have a long stay
Enjoying the wild life by our rivers too
Seeing birds in courting mood away from the once gloom
Our spirits are raised high by a future that looks bright
We may soon forget any problems and not be in a fright.
It is important to respect and enjoy what we still own.
And put on a brave face and not bemoan
All things and people we have lost on the way
But still be so grateful for love and concern given to us
each and every day.

Mollie Day

