

## View from the Pew

*Janet Bird*

It has been a very busy time lately at All Saints with Christian Aid week, the Plant sale and Coffee morning, the Civic service and the Team Pentecost service to name but a few of the ongoing list of events and activities.

Much work goes on behind the scenes in organising such things as the weekly Soundbites Concerts and Messy Church as well as the regular and occasional services. Any fundraising event or service where there is a collection will mean that somebody has to count and bank the money. Where food is being served people have to buy and prepare it and when services are being organised music has to be chosen and practiced, sermons and intercessions have to be written and people have to be in church to welcome, give out books and guide people who may be unfamiliar with our services.

None of this would be possible without the hard work of so many members of the congregation and clergy, and I would like to echo the thanks given by Jo at the APCM and thank everybody who willingly gives up so much of their time to support the life of our church.

I can't believe that I have now been a churchwarden at All Saints for almost a year and it seems to me that the church is in very good shape. Sadly during the last year we have lost a larger than usual number of dear friends who have gone to be with the Lord and we mourn their passing. They have left us with cherished memories and fine examples of many years of service to the people of this church and the town of Hertford and we give thanks that we were privileged to know and work with them all.

There are lots of good things happening at the moment and with the busy and very special events around the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics and Paralympics coming up in the next few months there is much to look forward to.

We are planning several events over the next few months including something rather different to our usual events - a Musical Evening with Supper, which will hopefully (weather permitting) be held in the garden of the Bird family on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June and also the Church barbecue which occurs the same weekend as the Olympic Torch passes through Hertford (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> July).

We are hoping that we will be able to encourage some Olympic spirit at the Barbecue with a number of games or sports on an Olympic theme, but this is still at the planning stage and any suggestions will be gladly received.

We have all been enjoying the good weather at the end of May following the (much needed) weeks of rain and I hope that whatever your plans are for the summer months you will be able to enjoy at least some time at leisure enjoying the beauty of the world and the company of friends and family.

### Pet Service 6<sup>th</sup> May



Thanks to Rosie Dean for taking these pictures during our annual Pet Service.