

## View from the Pew

*Janet Bird*

The clocks have just gone back so I think we have to accept that winter is coming (even though many of us aren't sure that we had very much summer this year!). The next few months will be very busy for us all at All Saints, but hopefully very enjoyable as we make our way towards Christmas.

We have just had a wonderful Harvest-didn't the Church look amazing thanks to Dorothy and all the members of the highly talented flower group? We held another successful Harvest Supper with lovely food, a fun quiz and managed to raise £380 for church funds as well!

The most amazing news, as many of you will know, is that we were able, from our Gift Day to raise all the money needed to pay for the Kemp window repair, in full. I think that says so much about the wonderful community that is All Saints, Hertford. Next we are hoping to improve some of the lighting in the church and also hope very soon to be able to erect new notice boards in the Churchyard.

I'm looking forward to our Patronal Festival (our church's "birthday") on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Our morning service will be a Family Eucharist, suitable for everyone. There will a shorter Messy Church at 4:00 pm followed by Fireworks at 5:30 pm.

The next big event will be our Christmas Fayre in St John's Hall on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 10am until 2pm. Last year's result was spectacular and it would be wonderful if this year could be even better. We need offers of help to organise stalls, make cakes and serve refreshments. If you have any suggestions for new and exciting stalls or sideshows that you would be happy to organise please talk to me or to Andrew.

We are hoping to have entertainment again as this was very successful last year and are currently organising a Grand Draw and hope to have tickets available in early

November ( offers of prizes would be much appreciated).

Finally the most important thing that we can all do is to make sure that the Fayre is advertised as fully as possible – so please make sure to tell all your friends about it!

Sorry if I seem to be concentrating on fund raising but the winter months bring high heating bills and I have to try to keep our Treasurer happy!

There seems to be a very good atmosphere at All Saints at the moment and a real feeling that we are working together for the Glory of God.

I would like to thank everybody for all that is being done to welcome visitors and newcomers to our church, not only at our regular Sunday services but also Soundbites, Messy Church, Prayers and Bears and the Thursday morning communion.

So many people give so much of their time to ensure that the church is clean, warm and beautifully decorated and that the music at services is of the highest quality to complement the worship.

Thanks especially to Jo not only for her leadership of our worship but also for her infectious enthusiasm.

I feel privileged to serve as Churchwarden and Reader at All Saints and am particularly grateful to Jo and Andrew for enabling me to spend the occasional Sundays taking services at other local churches during clergy vacancies or clergy holidays.

Finally thanks to you all for your encouragement and support for all that we are trying to achieve.

Love in Christ

Janet