

View from the pew

Janet Bird

I would like to start this month by saying a very big thank you to everybody who supported the Coffee Morning on September 13th at which we raised a very useful £350 for church funds.

The following day we were privileged to host the Commemoration Service for World War One. Many thanks go to Jo and Martin for putting together such a moving service with just the right mix of words and music. I would also like to thank everybody who provided and helped serve the amazing Afternoon Tea which was most appreciated by all who attended and in particular by Hertford Town Council. Team All Saints came up trumps again! (Ed: See page 8)

As well as the special commemoration service we held our annual Pet Service which was taken by Ginni ably assisted by Toby, her black Labrador who, much to her surprise, behaved admirably as in fact did all the animals (including the humans!). (Ed: See page 9)

We have several forthcoming events to look forward to and I would urge you to put these dates in your diary:

5th October – Family Service at which we will be very pleased to receive donations of tinned and dry goods for Hertford Food bank. (See shopping list on page 2)

11th October - Harvest Festival Supper and Quiz night at 7pm in St John's Hall – please sign up on the board at back of Church (and feel free to invite your friends).

Also please let us know if you can provide some sort of apple dessert (Tart, Crumble etc.). Donations will be taken on the night and drinks will be provided.

12th October – Harvest Festival Service with harvest decorations of flowers and fresh fruit and vegetables.

15 November – Litter Pick
Offers of help to Janet O please.

6 December - Christmas Bazaar in St John's Hall

The usual donations of cakes, books, toiletries, and Tombola and Raffle prizes would be much appreciated together with offers of help to run stalls and provide refreshments.

This is a very important fund raising activity for All Saints as well as being an opportunity for outreach to the town. We are holding a Grand Prize Draw and would be pleased to receive offers of prizes which might encourage people to buy tickets.

In the past we have had such things as cash prizes, vouchers, and special event tickets, hampers of food or wine and would be very grateful for any other suggestions.

If you do feel able to offer to give a prize or contribute towards one please speak to me or to Colin as we would like to have tickets available for the beginning of November which would mean ordering them by the 17th of October – so please put your thinking caps on and help us to come up with some eye catching ideas!

We will be having our usual services during Advent and Christmas (of which more in a future magazine) but just so that you have something to look forward to after the festive season is over, we are planning to hold a February Frolic on Saturday 7th February 2015.

You may have noticed that the Memorial Chapel is looking darker than ever as one of the bulbs has now gone.

All Saints Alive

This has spurred us into action and, thanks to some money which has already been received and some more that has been offered, we are hoping to be able to go forward with some sort of improved lighting scheme which will make this Holy space more welcoming and easier to use both for worship and for group meetings.

Having had very large numbers of people in All Saints on a number of occasions over the last few months we have decided once again to pursue the subject of creating more room at the back of the church. Removing some pews will enable us to provide space in the church not only for worship but also for fellowship and hospitality.

We are planning to have further discussions with the Diocesan advisors about the best way forward. Again thanks to the generosity of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, we will not need to rely on using already stretched church funds to begin this project.

Once again, many thanks to you all for supporting all that we are doing, and will continue to do, at All Saints.

Special thanks to Jo, Ginni, Gerry and Doug for leading us in our worship and supporting Geoff and I in our Ministry. Thank you also to Martin and the choir for the wonderful music and not forgetting the flowers, church cleaning, work parties etc., etc.

My View from the Pew is of a loving, lively and spiritual Church and I am pleased to be a part of the family of All Saints.

With love
Janet B