

View from the pew

Helen Harvey-Wright

I would like to say thank you for the many kind words of support during my first few weeks as churchwarden, in particular from those who have undertaken this role in the past. I am beginning to enjoy working alongside our Vicar Jo and fellow churchwarden Janet Oldham. They have real vision for All Saints' and I feel privileged to bring my own contribution to this positive outlook on the life and future of our church.

The Family Service on 7th June was enlivened by the presence of the many pets who were brought in to be blessed. The star of the service was Ginni's dog Toby. He was on show all the time and behaved perfectly, a real tribute to Ginni's training.

Future Events

We are looking forward to **Saturday July 18th** for two reasons. Derek's Work Party takes place in the morning with the bonus of a large skip where it is hoped to dispose of a number of old, broken or unwanted items. Mysteriously as soon as some things are removed, very often others appear to take their place, so we would be grateful if cleared spaces could be left clear!

In the afternoon between 3 and 5pm we are invited to **Afternoon Tea** in the Bird family's garden at 140 North Road. (You can park in Bramfield Road which is opposite the house.) Janet is hoping to raise funds for two good causes, namely All Saints' and The Ancient Charities of Hertford of which Janet is a trustee. Please sign up for the tea, which I am sure will be delicious, and pray for fine weather.

You are all welcome to **Garden Evensong on Sunday 26th July** when we worship together in the Vicarage garden - a very special informal service and time of fellowship. Come and join us.

On **Wednesday 9th September at 10.00 a.m.** be ready to listen for the special Peal of Bells for Her Majesty the Queen to mark the day

on which she becomes our longest-reigning monarch.

On **Saturday 12th September** there will be the Annual Herts and Beds Bike 'n Hike supporting the Hert and Beds Historic Churches Trust and we will be holding another of our regular Coffee Mornings.

Help Needed.

We need your help please to augment our team of vergers. Don and Rosemary Graves and team do a sterling work in attendance at weddings, baptisms, funerals and various events. If enough people volunteer, you would not be called on very often, so please give it some thought. The team is smaller than it used to be and help would be greatly appreciated. Don would be delighted to hear from you.

If anyone has a small oak table in good condition that is no longer needed, we can make good use of it at the back of the church. It would be used for placing the Elements ready for taking up to the altar during the Eucharist. Please let Janet or myself know.

Holiday Time.

The end of July signals the start of the holiday period. The choir will be taking a well-earned break, and this is a good opportunity to thank Martin Penny and all members of the choir for leading us in our worship. I know how much time, effort and sheer hard work goes into helping to make each service an uplifting and worshipful experience.

Janet and I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday time. We still function in August, so please come when you can, but we hope you will be refreshed and ready to be up and running again in September.

Love,
Helen