

View from the pew

Helen Harvey-Wright

It was great to have the choir back for our Family service at the beginning of September, and to welcome a good number of families with children and babies. The service was followed by our Parish Barbecue which at least 70 people attended, and was very successful thanks to the barbecue chefs and the pudding makers.

The coffee morning on Saturday 12th raised over £600 for church funds. Due to the tower opening, it went on through the afternoon, so as well as our usual stalls, lunches were served. We had extra visitors with the Bike and Hike check-in, making a greater footfall through the church. Many thanks to all involved, including the organists, and everyone who supported us.

FUTURE SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday 3 October, Harvest Supper and Quiz

Please sign up! You will enjoy friendship, food, laughter and a Toyn family quiz to get our brains into gear.

Harvest Family Service 10 a.m. on Sunday 4 October.

Thursday 8 October, 7.45 for 8 p.m. Welcome Course

We feel we give people a warm welcome at All Saints' and this is an opportunity to extend our welcoming skills. It is run by the Diocese in two separate sessions. The first one at All Saints' is: *First impressions – the place of welcome*.

The second session will be at St. Andrew's on 5 November, and is entitled: *Making contact – the people of welcome*. This course is suitable for everyone as we are all part of our welcoming church. If you are interested, let Andrew Povey-Richards, Janet Oldham or myself know.

Sunday 11 October, 3 p.m. Hertfordshire Regiment Service.

The service involves the laying up of regimental colours. A large attendance is expected as farewell tributes will be paid, and thanks given for all who served in the regiment.

Grand Prize Draw Tickets

The Bazaar will be held on Saturday 5 December. We expect to have Prize Draw tickets ready for Harvest Sunday. There are some very good prizes, so we hope you will be able to sell tickets to family and friends. They won't be disappointed if they win a prize!

Booking the church

The period between October and Christmas is a busy time when we are pleased to welcome schools and the wider community into our church building. If you need to book a time, do check the church website first, or if necessary contact Martin Penny.

Tidying the churchyard

We would like our churchyard to be a safer and tidier place. The council keeps the grass cut but Janet Oldham has permission for us to clear low-lying shrubs, brambles and weeds. She is heading up a weed clearance session on Saturday 10 October and would be grateful for help from as many volunteers as possible.

Improving the Memorial Garden

Janet is also taking steps to improve the appearance of the Memorial Garden where some of the plaques have loosened. She has an imaginative plan for this project and more information will be forthcoming at a later date.

We pray that all we do helps us to be a welcoming and inclusive community.

Love, Helen