

# Church News - August 2018

## Review:

**Community Breakfast:** Community breakfast was again a great success in spite of the glorious weather (which meant some people sat outside). Just goes to show – people will eat a cooked breakfast in any weather! (other non-cooked breakfast items are also available!)

**Open gardens:** Thank you to everyone who opened their garden, gave help on either, or both days, or came along to visit. I said I'd let you know the final total – it was an amazing **£1272!** Well done to all concerned.

**Church fete:** What a fantastic day we had for the church fete! Delicious burgers and



hot dogs from the barbecue were enjoyed by hungry folk, followed by a turn on the tombola to win a tin of beans, tuna, or if you were lucky, a bottle of wine. A browse through the bric-a-brac turned up a few bargains then a few purchases from the stalls and a couple of tickets on the raffle. The sun shone for us all day although there was

some respite in the church (which always seems to stay cooler than outside) for the best value cream teas in Buckinghamshire to round off the afternoon! Many thanks to all those who helped man the stalls and the unsung heroes who set up and cleared away – we couldn't do it without you! We raised **over £1300** from the event.

**Café church:** We (all 15 of us) enjoyed our breakfasts before this delightful service was led by Valerie Kerr who used yarn and pipe cleaners as props to make us think about Jesus' role as the good shepherd. How blessed we are to have a saviour who loves and cares for us as a shepherd cares for his sheep!

**Afternoon teas:** As we go to press, the July afternoon teas have not yet taken place. Let's hope they went well – I'll let you know next month!

## Forthcoming events:

**Community Breakfast:** We will be holding our Community Breakfast again on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August** and serving breakfast from **8.30am**, but you can still join us until **10.30am**. See you there!

**Prayer meetings:** Our prayer meetings will take place this month at **8pm on Wed 8<sup>th</sup>**



& **22<sup>nd</sup> August at The Birches, Church Rd.** If you have anything you'd like prayers for, please let us know and if you'd like to join us, please be sure to call John, as we often change times and dates last minute.

**Afternoon teas:** We like to keep busy at church, so our next afternoon teas are on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August at St Luke's** between **3 and 5pm!** You're welcome to drop in and join us for a homemade cream tea or cake. There's no charge, we just love to have a chat, welcome newcomers, meet your children and enjoy offering hospitality, so why not put the date in your diary! If you can't make the date our last teas for this summer are on **23<sup>rd</sup> September.**



**Ride and Stride - More riders and striders needed!** : Our Churchwarden Harry Davies religiously(!) takes part in the **Bucks Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride** event every year. This year's event will be held on **8<sup>th</sup> September**. This sponsored event raises money which is divided 50/50 between the Bucks Historic Churches Trust and a church of your choosing (St Luke's of course!) We could raise even more money if more people took part. You'd need to get sponsors and either walk or ride your bike between various churches on the day. Churches stamp your form and offer you light refreshments before you move on to the next one. I'm sure there are many walkers and cyclists in Stoke Hammond. Are you one of them? Would you consider doing a sponsored ride or walk for the church? If you're interested, more info is available on: <http://www.rideandstrideuk.org/counties/buckinghamshire/> or <https://bucks-historic-churches.org/ride-stride/> or contact Harry below for details.

**Church Quinquennial inspection:** Way back in May, I said we'd be having our inspection this year and we now have a date scheduled for the architect's visit. He'll give us a verbal summary, but the full report won't be available till a couple of months after that. We'll keep you posted.

**Bible course:** As also mentioned in May's SH news, we are planning to run the Bible study course in Stoke Hammond starting in late Sept or early Oct. This course (by Dr Andrew Ollerton) gives an overview of the Bible focusing on the development and meaning of Christianity rather than the detail of Bible stories. (Although obviously you will be reading the Bible!)



Find out more on: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course/>

## Special services:

**Harvest festival & lunch:** We have yet to finalise dates for our harvest festival and harvest lunch this year, but we would like to invite as many as possible to join us. We will confirm dates next month.



**As schools break up for the summer, we'd like to wish you all happy holidays!**

**Church Benefice Website:** [www.brickhillchurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillchurches.org.uk). If you want to come to a service, all church services are open to everyone, and times are listed on the website, along with contact details for the Rector. His phone goes straight to an answer phone but he will reply as soon as he's able. The Rector's day off is Monday.

Church news articles are now available to read on the benefice website (click on Stoke Hammond in the list and scroll down to Stoke Hammond Newsletters) - handy for when you want to click on a web address instead of typing it out!

If you would like to come to church but have mobility problems please ring John (see below) regarding transport. If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Harry: Churchwarden, on 07773065271, Diane: Churchwarden, on 270409 or John: Treasurer, on 270202.**