

## St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

PCC NEWSLETTER, 22nd OCTOBER 2019



**The Ability Sunday Service in Little Brickhill Community Centre**

### **Firstly, some sad news .....**

We heard the sad news yesterday that Frank Kinsey passed away on Monday night. Frank had been unwell for some time but he will always be remembered as a kind and thoughtful man, cheerful to the end. Our thoughts and prayers are with Betty and all the Kinsey family at his sad time.

### **A Review of Recent Services and Events, .....**

#### **THE HARVEST CELEBRATIONS:**

Thank you to those who decorated the church for the Harvest celebrations and to those who contributed to the service and helped with the Bring and Share Lunch – it was wonderful that the choir were able to attend and sing a couple of anthems. The Harvest gifts were taken to a local Food Bank. Those of you who were present will know that Revd Norman Thorp was able to join us. He had recently advised us that he was retiring from taking services and we took the opportunity to give him a thank you gift for his help over many years. He has sent the following message:-

*“Thank you for the generous hamper containing many local as well as other delicious items presented to me at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at Great Brickhill last Sunday. It was a lovely thought and graciously appreciated”.*

High Ash School held their Harvest Service in the church the following day on Monday, 23rd September.

#### **THE MUSIC IN THE BRICKHILLS MESSIAH:**

We were again pleased to host the weekly practices and the rehearsal for the Messiah. The performance was held at All Saints Church, Leighton Buzzard on Sunday, 29th September. Well done to the Musical Director, Jerry Breslin – the amazing total of **£8000** was raised for Willen Hospice.

## "SWEET MUSIC" CONCERT, 12th OCTOBER:

What a marvellous occasion this was – a PDF file is attached, with photos giving a record of all the performances. How fortunate we are to live in a village/locality with so much musical talent. It is no wonder that the event was a sell-out - the evening was enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to secure a ticket.

Whilst the main aim of the Concert was to raise funds for our much-needed facilities, it was a real bonus to hold an event where the fellowship was there for all to see, a wonderful atmosphere apparent from the start. And the fantastic news is that the evening raised **£1477**.

We would like to thank:

- all the performers who, it was quite clear to see/hear, had spent many hours practicing their performance
- Mike for all the time spent arranging the sound system etc.
- Mark for his assistance with setting up the room and the staging
- Martin for his help with the electrics
- those who stoked and manned the all-important bar!
- the ladies who produced and served the delicious spread of desserts
- Gill, Julia and Val for their meticulous detail to ensure that all ran smoothly
- all who kindly came along to enjoy the evening with us

**BUT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL**, huge thanks to Butch Baker for his professional expertise in getting the concert up and running - without his help we would not have been treated to a wonderful evening's entertainment.

A big "thank you" to everyone who contributed to making this such a memorable occasion. An additional £165 was raised from the sale of tickets for the Christmas Cake - the raffle will be drawn at our next fundraising event, the Advent Fair.

**And now for news of forthcoming activities, .....**

## **LINK TO HOPE CHARITY SHOEBOX APPEAL - DEADLINE:**

Forms for the 2019 "Link to Hope" charity shoebox appeal may be obtained from a clip board on the bookcase by the porch door for those who would like to support this charity. **The shoeboxes should be returned to Rosie by the end of October** - please contact her **BEFORE** delivering the boxes:- 261425 [Robin.Rosie@zen.co.uk](mailto:Robin.Rosie@zen.co.uk)

## **ALL SOULS' SERVICE:**

This annual service will be at **Little Brickhill, at 6.00pm on Sunday 3rd November**. It is a United Benefice service in which we remember with thanksgiving our loved ones who have died, those who lived here local to us or who lived further away.

## **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE, 10th NOVEMBER:**

The Remembrance Service in Great Brickhill will be held on Sunday 10th November at 10.50am.

## **CELEBRATION OF 150 YEARS of Sister Fanny and the work of St. Etheldreda's.**

Sister Hazel has extended an invitation to anyone who would like to attend this celebration on Saturday 16th November at St Paul's Church in the centre of Bedford:- 1pm Gathering; 2pm Eucharist with the Bishop of St. Albans and Bedford; 3.30pm Tea and cake. Opportunity to buy The Annals of St. Etheldreda.

## **LITTLE ASHES PRE-SCHOOL QUIZ, SATURDAY 26th OCTOBER:**

Many of you will know that earlier in the year Little Ashes was in danger of closing. If anyone would like to support the Pre-School's Quiz in the Parish Hall this coming Saturday 26th October, the details are included in the poster attached.

**And further ahead in December, .....**

## **ADVENT SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER:-**

### **HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE:**

This will be held at the earlier time off 9.30am and not the usual 11.00am. This is in order to allow for sufficient time for the preparations for the .....

### **ADVENT FAIR:**

An Advent Fair will be held in the church on Sunday afternoon, 1st December 2.00 - 5.00pm. Donations are requested of unwanted scarves and jewellery, to be given please to Julia or Phillipa, or left in the vestry for a church stall.

A poster giving all the details is attached in a PDF file – please pass this on to your friends and family.

### **ADVENT CAROL SERVICE, BOW BRICKHILL:**

The annual Advent Carol Service will be at 5.00pm in All Saints' Church, Bow Brickhill. Remember to take a torch with you!

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**For further information please contact:-**

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 [pjcook6@gmail.com](mailto:pjcook6@gmail.com)

Do please remember that all the information about Church events or services can be found on the Benefice website:- [www.brickhillschurches.org.uk](http://www.brickhillschurches.org.uk)



**The Christmas cake beautifully decorated – raffle tickets are being sold at various events around the village. The draw will take place at the Advent Fair.**