

Sunday Snippets

Our Harvest Thanksgiving

For anyone entering the church today it should be apparent that this is our Harvest Festival. The beautifully decorated church is the work of a small group of just five arrangers. There were a number of absentees due to ill health which, although most unfortunate, highlights the need for more helpers to come forward. Very many thanks to those whose efforts are clear to see and the generosity of some others who brought gifts of fruit and vegetables. We are also grateful to Morrison's of Outland Road for donating the impressive harvest loaf that is displayed in the Memorial Chapel (and to Brian Bassett for organising this and collecting it). Have you spotted the rabbit making off with a supply of carrots? The grapes which arrived a week early from Huxham Close seem to have survived despite some sample tasting in the interim. There would have been more passion fruit on display but for the naughty Community College children who, on their way home, picked them from where they were growing only to throw them around the street. Just another hazard with which the gardener has to contend in addition to dodgy weather, slugs and snails.



A Successful Launch

The weather could not have been more favourable for the official launch of the Living Churchyard last Saturday morning overseen by the Bishop of Plymouth. There was a most encouraging attendance to witness the occasion including friends old and new as well as our present church members. The guided walk around the churchyard was most popular and provided a very good picture of what had already been achieved and future aspirations. There is a surprising number of plants still flowering in the insect loving border, including coreopsis, gaillardia and yellow daisies as well as some very healthy foxglove plants that promise to provide a good show next spring. The elderflower wine made from blossoms picked in the churchyard was very much appreciated and those preferring a beverage were well catered for. There were some healthy appetites by the time Barbecue Bob swung into action and it is now to be hoped that there may be a few new members of the 'Greenfingers' Club when next it meets.



For your Comfort

This may be the first time you have enjoyed the comfort of the new cushioning in the central aisle pews. No-one appeared to drop off to sleep last week when they were first experienced but it probably won't be too long! We are most grateful to the church member who wishes to remain anonymous for organising and financing this welcome improvement.



Information Board

By a perverse quirk of timing, the display board designed to contain information about the churchyard, did not arrive until two days after the launch event. However, this does not detract from our appreciation to Plymouth Community Homes for their generosity in constructing, fixing and donating this welcome addition within the churchyard. It will be well used to convey all sorts of interesting information and should prove a popular resource.



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Prayers for Healing

In addition to those on the prayer list, please also remember Linda Hodgson who has had a hip replacement, Val Francksen who has been in hospital with suspected pneumonia and Bobby Bidgood who is incapacitated with excruciating pain in her hip and leg. We are delighted that Christina Hocking (Vicki's sister-in-law) is now home after three months in hospital with septicaemia and a very serious heart condition. She is most grateful to all who have prayed for her and is convinced that it was through prayer that her recovery was achieved.



Shoe Boxes

There are plenty of empty shoe boxes now in the Children's Corner together with the explanatory leaflets. Details are also available on line. Postage can be paid on line but for those without an account, it is still possible to place the money in the box with the completed leaflet. If anyone wants further information, Margaret Hall will be pleased to help. The very last day for the filled boxes to be returned to church is Sunday, 15th November. Also alongside the boxes you will find a supply of hats and scarves which a friend of Vicki Hocking has knitted. Please help yourself to these if wishing to include them with your gifts.



A Christmas Mission in November

Only Joking!

One Sunday morning a lady worshipper has a violent coughing fit during the service. Afterwards, a friend of the lady's husband said, "I felt awfully sorry for Jane when she was coughing so loudly. Everyone was staring at her" "You don't need to worry about that" said the husband. "She had a hair do yesterday and is wearing a new outfit."

A new receptionist started work in a psychiatrist's office. At the end of the first day she asked the psychiatrist how she had done. "Not too bad," he replied. "But it would be much better in future if you would just say to callers, 'We're really busy,' rather than, 'It's a madhouse here.'"



Morning Prayer

The weekly Morning Prayer session in St Edward's has been changed from a Tuesday to a Monday at 8.30am. This is because of the 'Open the Book' Assembly at St Matthews CofE Primary & Nursery Academy on Tuesdays.



Messy Church Planning

For all those involved in the Messy Church planning (and anyone else who can help), please note the meeting has been arranged for this Wednesday, 7th October at the Vicarage at 7.30pm. Please let Rev Chris know if you will be attending or just turn up on the day.

