



Sunday Snippets

Harvest Thanksgiving at St Edward's

Just how many Harvest Festivals have been celebrated in our church is anybody's guess but the figure is known to be well over 100. Well before there were Christian thanksgivings, the Saxons offered their first cut sheaf of corn to the gods of fertility. It was as comparatively recently as 1843 that Harvest Festivals in churches began. The first is believed to have been in Cornwall at Morwenstow Church when the Rev Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service. For many years the Festival was celebrated on 1st August at Lammas (or Lammas Day) when farmers made loaves and gave them to the church. Today we are inclined to take



a more global view in giving thanks for crops world wide. However, until the early 1960's and before Eggbuckland lost its rural identity, there was a large farming community here and the celebrations were for the success of the crops in the fields, the grain harvest and the milk yield. Many a record reports the packed out church, the need for additional seats to be borrowed from neighbouring cottages and how hundreds of eggs were donated and taken to the local hospitals. There are still some of our church members who can recall (when they were very young) just how significant the Harvest Festival was for country folk. We still realise how important bread and grain are and once again are grateful to Morrison's of Outland Road for donating the beautiful Harvest loaf. Unfortunately we have not been able to obtain a sheaf of corn which shows just how much the parish has changed in 50 years. Thanks are due to all who have given garden produce and other fruit and vegetables and a special thanks to those of our members through whose efforts the church has been so attractively transformed for our latest Harvest Thanksgiving and celebration.



Auction of Produce & Draw for the Hamper

Everyone is invited to remain after this morning's service to enjoy some refreshments and participate in the auction of the perishable fruit and veg. The draw for the wicker picnic hamper and contents will also be made. The announcement in Snippets that this would take place last week was premature so there is still time today to buy a ticket for anyone wishing to be in with a chance. Pam would be delighted to see you.



Path Improvements

The hard working quartet of Jon Lake, Peter Anderson, Terry Arnold and David Sinclair expended much perspiration and exercised many a muscle this week when working to improve the surface of the main churchyard path. The area immediately past the church porch now has a soakaway, been levelled and with improved drainage rain should no longer pond there to create the boggy spot that on many occasions it became. A little further on, the stretch of the path leading down from the west door of the tower has also been resurfaced and is safer and more pleasant to walk on. This project, having been carried out by the volunteer workforce,



has been completed with a saving of something like four fifths of the anticipated cost, so a big "well done and thank you."

Sunday Snippets

Shoebboxes

Glenda Davies says she is aware that there are some of us who are not able or do not wish to fill a shoe box for the Samaritans Purse Christmas Child appeal but who nevertheless like to provide some items to help fill boxes of others. There is a container at the back of the church for items such as knitted hats, scarves, gloves, new toys, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, etc, which can be used for this very purpose. Please add to it when able and take from it to top up boxes that need filling.



Only Joking

Just before Harvest Festival a keen gardening church member was boasting about the size of his tomatoes and told the churchwarden he would bring some along on the Sunday. "That's great," said the churchwarden. "A couple of pounds would be most acceptable." The gardener replied, "If you think I'm going to cut one in half, think again!"



Then there was the bonsai tree grower who was so successful he ended up looking for a house with a smaller garden.

Wanted for Christmas Fair Stalls

Helen Soole is planning a repeat of last year's popular Christmas Paraphernalia Stall at the Christmas Fair on 26th November so is appealing for any suitable donations over the next few weeks. Unwanted presents from last year will do nicely as well as wrapping paper, cards, bags or anything with a Christmas theme.

Linda Hodgson will be running her lucky number competition with all things chocolate as prizes. There must be those among us who are trying to cut down on their chocolate intake and keep getting tempted by what's in the cupboard. Why not rid yourself of that temptation. Let Linda do you a favour by taking it from you for a good cause.

Still hopeful that somewhere tucked away are some cosmetics, toiletries or jewellery that can be spared is Vicki Hocking whose stall remains as popular as ever and is a great fund raiser. Please help if you can and contribute to the success of our Fair once again.



CHRISTMAS
— FAIR —

Visiting Ringers

If you hear the bells of St Edward's ringing out next Saturday evening at six o'clock, don't think you've got your times mixed up. The peals will be rung by bellringers from St John's, Clevedon who are visiting churches in this area.



Community Lunch

The monthly Community Lunch is this coming Wednesday, 12th October from 12 noon in the church hall. Immediately beforehand, in church, there is a Communion Service at 11.30am to which all are invited.

