

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

PCC NEWSLETTER, 17th SEPTEMBER 2019



The Altar Flowers for a Memorial Service

Firstly,

We were sad to hear of the death last month of Marion Ralph. The altar flowers in the photograph above were one of the arrangements for the memorial service for Marion on 5th September. Marion will be sadly missed by all her friends here in the village.

A Review of Recent Services and Events,

HIGH ASH SCHOOL LEAVERS' SERVICE:

On Wednesday, 17th July we welcomed Year 6 pupils from **High Ash School** for their annual end of year Leavers' Service.

CHARITY SONGS OF PRAISE:

Thanks go to Revd. Robert Wright for leading the service on 21st July and his wife Vicky who gave a talk about her work with **our chosen charity, the RNLI**. There was a good variety of hymns and, having each of them introduced by those who had chosen them, made it very special. Thanks to our organist Jerry for providing the background information for all the hymns. It was wonderful that in the absence of the Benefice choir, the Willen choir came to accompany our hymns and sing an anthem. The total of the **donations came to £406**, mainly given under the gift aid scheme.

FAMILY SERVICE AND BAPTISM:

At our Family Service in July we were delighted to welcome friends and family of Jon and Claire Pincott to celebrate the baptism of their younger son, Herbie.

ULTRA MARATHON MAN:

Roger Blofeld attempted to run 105 miles in the Lakeland 100 Ultra Marathon at the end of July within the cut off time of 40 hours. Roger would like to thank all those who so generously supported him on this run, which will raise **£1,200 for the toilet extension**. Unfortunately, a simple navigational error whilst running alone in the dark caused him to lose a lot of time, which meant he was timed out at the next checkpoint. Roger would like to thank all who have encouraged him with such kind words and shared his disappointment. Well done Roger on taking on such a huge challenge.

And now for news of activities in the coming weeks,

REGULAR EVENTS:

Now the holidays are over **the Happy Cup Coffee Club** has resumed. The child-friendly drop-in coffee morning for parents and carers is held every Monday morning in the church from 10.00am to 11.15am during term time.

The **Village Drop-In** is held on Monday afternoons at the Parish Hall, from 1.30 - 3.30pm, so please call in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a chat. The Post Office in the Parish Hall is open on Mondays, from 1pm to 3pm in the small meeting room.

The Prayer Group has re-started after the summer break. It is held at 11 o'clock in church on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Do come early around 10.45am to enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat with one another and with the young families gathering in the Chapel area. The next meetings of the Prayer Group will be held on **Mondays 23rd September and 14th & 28th October**.

There is an **e-mail Prayer Chain** for those who meet together. Anyone who wishes a prayer to be included at any time should contact:-

Valerie Kerr (valeriejkerr@hotmail.com) or Mary Maley (mary@maley.org.uk).

LINK TO HOPE CHARITY SHOEBOX APPEAL:

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. Its work really does make a difference to the lives of extremely poor people in eastern Europe. Receiving a shoebox full of useful items brings joy to thousands of families at Christmas time. **At the Drop-In on Monday 7th October there will be an opportunity to swap items for the shoeboxes.**

HARVEST CELEBRATION:

Next Sunday, 22nd September there will be a **Harvest Family Service at 11.00am with a Bring & Share Lunch in church after the service**. We are asking for any Harvest gifts to be suitable contributions that we can take to a **local FOOD BANK**.

High Ash School will have their Harvest service in the church the following day, Monday, 23rd September at 1.45pm.

ABILITY SUNDAY:

On the following **Sunday, 29th September** at 11.00am there will be a United Benefice Service at **Little Brickhill** celebrating Ability Sunday. To allow access for all it will be held in the Community Centre.

THE MUSIC IN THE BRICKHILLS MESSIAH:

This year's performance in aid of Willen Hospice is being held on **Sunday, 29th September**, 7.00pm at All Saints Church, Leighton Buzzard. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Jerry Breslin:- 07977 292602 jerrybreslin@hotmail.com

"SWEET MUSIC" CONCERT:

The concert, which is being organised by Butch Baker and featuring local talent, is being held in the Parish Hall on **Saturday 12th October**, from 7.00pm – 10.30pm. All tickets have now been sold. **If there is anyone who has a ticket and they cannot now attend**, could they please contact Phillipa as there is a waiting list for returned tickets:- 01525 261521 pjcook6@gmail.com

And a little further ahead,

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.

ADVENT FAIR, SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER:

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.

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For further information please contact:-

Phillipa Cook TEL: 01525 261521 07788 740969 pjcook6@gmail.com

Do please remember that all the information about Church events or services can be found on the Benefice website:- www.brickhillchurches.org.uk



The altar decorated with the RNLIn banner for the Charity Songs of Praise, with Revd Robert Wright and his wife Vicky