

St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill

PCC NEWSLETTER, 24th FEBRUARY 2020



***ANNUAL PLANT FAYRE - SATURDAY 18th APRIL
(Your help is needed, please see the item below)***

Firstly, a round-up of recent events and activities,

SNOWDROP WALKS – SUNDAY 9th & 16th FEBRUARY:

It was a shame that the weather was against us for both weekends of this year's Snowdrop Walks. The strong winds and rain of Storm Ciara caused us to cancel the walk on 9th February, just when the snowdrops were at their very best. A few hardy souls ventured out to come and enjoy some tea and cake in the church. With thanks to them for the £57.50 that was collected.

As if one storm wasn't enough, another followed for the second weekend. Fortunately, the worst of Storm Dennis had passed through by 2 o'clock on 16th February and so the second walk went ahead. Around 70 people braved the elements and came along, most of whom did the walk, whilst some were content with enjoying the tea and cake.

A total of £511.70 was raised over the two weekends, well down understandably on previous years. A huge thank you to David and Sally Duncombe for again hosting the event and for welcoming the visitors. Thanks to all who helped with the teas, the setting up and clearing away, and especially those who baked the delicious cakes.

St MARY'S YEAR BOOK 2019:

The 2019 St Mary's Year Book showing events throughout the year is now available to view on the table just inside the church. Thanks to David Marlow for another wonderful photographic record of the year. Copies of the Year Book and back copies may be purchased – enquiries to Phillipa Cook (261521 pjcook6@gmail.com). The photos can be viewed on David's website where there is also a link to the publisher, Blurb's, website:- www.davidmarlowphotography.com

FOOD BOX:

A reminder that there is a Food Box in the church porch to help anyone who is in need of food, either in an emergency or longer term. Please spread the news of this initiative as widely as you can – there is a flier on blue sheets available on the bookcase just inside the church explaining how the scheme works (as per the file that was attached to the last PCC Newsletter).

And looking ahead to our future events

THE PLANT FAYRE – A PLEA FOR HELP PLEASE:

This annual event will take place at the Parish Hall / Cricket Field on **Saturday 18th April between 11.00am and 4.00pm**. It takes a huge amount of organising and John and Celia Hall are asking for help with the various tasks. As the Snowdrop Walk was so badly affected by the weather, we need to try and make the Plant Fayre as big a success as possible.

A Word file is attached giving details of all the tasks that need to be covered - please read the document and offer your services to assist with any job that you feel able to do. It really is a case of “many hands make light work.”

Please help John and Celia by responding to this request, don't wait until you are asked, that is not best use of their time!!

LENT COURSE & EASTER SERVICES (YELLOW FLIERS):

The **Lent Course** starts the week beginning 2nd March, Tuesday afternoons at Stoke Hammond and an evening course across the Benefice. A leaflet is attached giving all the details of the Lent Course. On the reverse of the leaflet is the information of all **the special Lent and Easter services** – please study this carefully as there are several special services, including a **Choral Holy Communion Service on 29th March** for which the choir are practising hard and a service on Palm Sunday, 5th April when we will welcome **Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham**.

The Lent Course / Easter Service details are also available on yellow fliers available for collection from the bookcase just inside the church, or via the “Lent Courses” section of the website – address below.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES:

There will be a **Confirmation Service on the afternoon of Sunday 7th June** at one of the churches in this Deanery, or a neighbouring Deanery – the venue is not yet known but it will be fairly local. There will be preparation classes for any candidates in our four parishes. Anyone who is interested, please contact the Rector for more details:- Revd John Waller 01525 261062 rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR:

Please note that **the e-mail address to be used to contact the Rector** should now be:- rector@brickhillschurches.org.uk

Could everyone please change their contact list to delete the Rector's old e-mail address and in future just use the one above. This will facilitate any messages being picked up and queries dealt with in a more timely fashion when the Rector is away from his office. This will be particularly important during the time of the Rector's forthcoming sabbatical (from 18th April to 13th July).

For further information about any of the above, 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.brickhillschurches.org.uk