

Church News - September 2018

Review:

Afternoon teas: The teas last month were a little subdued, but we were pleased to welcome all those who attended and had a convivial chat with them!

Community Breakfast: Community breakfast was also a little quiet – not surprisingly since there are lots of people on holiday, but we still welcomed over 40 people! Hope you enjoyed your breakfasts!

Forthcoming events:

Ride and Stride volunteers needed: The annual Ride and Stride will be taking place again on **Saturday 8th September**. As usual, our intrepid Churchwarden, Harry will be cycling round as many churches as possible on the day. If you'd like to sponsor Harry, his sponsor form will be available at church, on our stall at the village show or you can call him with your details. What we'd really appreciate though is if you felt you could join in and get sponsored yourself. Funds raised are divided between the Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust and a church of your choice. Hopefully that would be St Luke's Church in our own village! More details can be found on the websites: <http://www.rideandstrideuk.org/counties/buckinghamshire/> or <https://bucks-historic-churches.org/ride-stride/> or call Harry for more information.



Village Show: The village show is also taking place on **Saturday 8th September** and the church will be holding a stall there, so please do look out for us.



Prayer meetings: Our prayer meetings will take place this month at **8pm** on **Wed 12th and 26th September** at **The Birches, Church Rd.** If you have anything you'd like prayers for, please let us know and if you'd like to join us, please be sure to call John, as we sometimes change times and dates last minute.

Community Breakfast: We will be holding our Community Breakfast again on **Saturday 22nd September** and serving breakfast from **8.30am**. You may have noticed that this is considerably later than usual, being the 4th Sunday of the month.



The reason for the later date is that the Village show is being held on the 2nd Sunday of the month (8th September) so the community centre will be in use and Dave Webber (our chief chef for the breakfasts) will be taking part in a sponsored abseil (in aid of Cystic Fibrosis) on the 15th September and therefore unavailable. We look forward to seeing you on our later date!

Afternoon teas: Our last afternoon teas of the summer will be taking place on **Sunday 23rd September** at **St Luke's** between **3 and 5pm**. We'll be welcoming you with a choice of a cream tea, or home made cake, or both if you're feeling really hungry! Don't forget that if it's warm outside, it's always lovely and cool in the church! Hope to see you there.



Special services:

Harvest festival & lunch: Harvest is always a special time in the church and this year will be particularly significant. We all take for granted that when we pop out to the supermarket there will always be whatever we want to buy. This hasn't always been the case, and those brought up during the war will remember rationing. The fact



is, that supermarkets are experts in logistics and know what we'll want and when, and can order to meet demand. Occasionally it goes wrong - like when you can't get a packet of sage for your Christmas stuffing or the supermarkets are selling lettuces for 10p because the weather's suddenly turned cold. At the end of the day, they buy from global markets so if something's in short supply, we have to pay a bit more for it. This year, we've had unusual weather conditions again. Last year, broccoli fields were flooded. This year cattle are already being fed silage (fermented grass – usually a winter feed) instead of feeding on fresh grass because there just isn't any. On a more positive note, I've heard that there's set to be a bumper British grape harvest with the highest wine output for decades! Our harvest festival gives us a chance to thank God for providing for us even in difficult times.



Uncertain weather conditions caused by climate change may be responsible, but we'll still eat (probably too much) and have plenty leftover like those who feasted at miracle of the feeding of the five thousand. Come and join us to thank God for his bounty.

Our **Harvest festival** will be at **11am** on **Sunday 7th October**. If you have any



produce you'd like to offer - either from your own garden or something you've bought, fresh or packaged, feel free to bring it to the service and there will be an opportunity to lay it at the altar. All donations are given to a local food bank after the service. We'll be having our **Harvest Lunch** (with pudding!) at **1 for 1.30pm**. Please contact **Harry, John or Diane** by **1st October** if you'd like a ticket. Tickets are **£6 for adults (£3.00 for children)** and include a free glass of wine (not for the children!)

Church Benefice Website: www.brickhillschurches.org.uk. If you want to come to a service, all church service times are listed on the website, along with contact details for the Rector. His phone goes straight to an answerphone but he will reply as soon as he's able. The Rector's day off is Monday.

Church news articles are now available to read on the benefice website (click on Stoke Hammond in the list and scroll down to Stoke Hammond Newsletters) - handy for when you want to click on a web address instead of typing it out!

If you would like to come to church but have mobility problems please ring John (see below) regarding transport. If you would like to volunteer to help, have a prayer request or enquiry, please ring **Churchwardens: Harry, on 07773065271; Diane, on 270409 or Treasurer: John, on 270202.**