

October Newsletter.

Dear friends of St Mary's Church,

As I write this newsletter the leaves are starting to fall and the nights are drawing in. I reflect back on all that we have been doing at St Mary's.

We do seem to have been very busy and this is clear when you see the number of visitors who have signed in. We restarted the Open Sundays which have proved popular and led to new friends being made for the church.

The bells continue to be rung on the last Friday of each month and what a lovely sound they make!

We had a simply spellbinding evening on 28th July when thisismytheatre (www.thisismytheatre.com), a travelling theatre group came to perform a one act play of Macbeth. The church looked amazing and I could not have wished for a better event to take place in such a beautiful building. They really are a truly talented group of people. Everyone who came was entranced and all went away happy.

On the 29th and 30th July we had the CCT Tea Party weekend which was such fun! The Stansted Strummers, our very own village Ukele band entertained us with a vast selection of songs. Our heads were bobbing and feet tapping as we sang along. 20cvox came to entertain us on the Sunday with a selection of swing music and again we had a jolly good singalong.

We had raffles, bric -a -brac, book stalls, fashions by Squires of Stansted, home made jams and preserves as well as handcrafted items for sale by Sandra Ayres, glorious cakes made by Kay, tombola, hook- a -duck and even a massage chair!! Over two days we took over £800. I was a happy lady!!!

September brought us Heritage weekend and we ran two fact -finding treasure hunts in and around the church for adults and a simple picture- finding one for children.

We were entertained on the Sunday by Blue Skies Big Band and they had some of us dancing in the aisles!! I do hope I can persuade them to come visit and play for us in the future.

Pew -top sales.... 'a car boot in church' are proving popular and our second one was held on 1st October. People have asked when the next one is!!

St Mary's school have had three class visits and I am thrilled that we are hosting their Harvest Festival this year. The whole school will be coming!!

So..... That is what we have been doing..... What next?

Christmas Festival events planned.

6th December. Forest Hall School Carol Concert at 7pm

8th December . thisismytheatre performing A Christmas Carol at 6.30 (for7pm)
I do urge you to get tickets early for this show.... Go to the
thisismytheatre.com website for details and tickets,available now.

9th December. Carols for all at 3pm. Again, come early to get your seat!!

10th December. Stansted Strummers at 3pm. Back by popular demand to entertain us and
get us in the festive spirit.

15th December. St Mary's School Carol Concert at 2pm

Of course, as always we will have a bedecked church full of beautiful displays and twinkling
lights and be transformed into a winter wonderland ! There will be mince pies and mulled
wine and a very warm welcome to each and everyone of you. I do hope that you will come
and share in our Christmas events.

If you would like to exhibit a 'family tree' please let me know and I will make a space
available to you.

Lastly I would like to thank my committee for all the time, energy and hard work. Things don't
just 'happen' it takes planning and hard work. So, Thank you team from us all !! Also to all
the people who had stalls and who came to perform.... Thank you.

I do hope to see you at our Christmas festival this year. Please do come and say hello !!

Kindest regards to you all, Lynda.

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All events on these websites:

 St Mary's Church Stansted
www.stmarysstansted.org.uk
www.visitchurches.org.uk