



News from the pews October 2019

Yet another busy year in St Mary's church.

Sadly, we had many funerals this year. Special thoughts for all those who lost loved ones this year.

On the 27th and 28th of April Keith Turner ran an exhibition to raise much needed funds for the organ restoration. We are almost there, but if you do still wish to sponsor a pipe and have your name or your loved one's name added we would love to hear from you. Pipe sponsorship forms are available in church or contact me for more info. Special thanks to Keith.

Champing season has now ended but we welcomed lots of enthusiastic people all coming to enjoy the peace and beauty of our beloved St Mary's. We had people celebrating 21st birthdays, surprise evenings and visitors from far and wide, including St Kitts, New Zealand and the USA. And of course many from this country too. It's been a busy season of champing. The new season will start in March next year.

May 23rd and an invitation to attend the 50th year anniversary of the CCT at Lambeth Palace. How wonderful and what an amazing place!! A time to chat with other volunteers and to meet up with people I only see at CCT events.

June 20th was theatre day and this time Romeo and Juliet. It was performed so beautifully. The photos are available for you to see in our events book in church.

The Wind in the Willows and The Importance of Being Earnest followed in August and I was simply thrilled to see so many children in the audience for our matinee that day.

Theatre returns again on 6th December with The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Anderson and I'm sure we are in for a real treat. You can pre-book your tickets now by going to the website www.thisismytheatre.com or call 07732253311.

September 1st was our late summer tea party day. How wonderful to see so many of you on a Sunday afternoon. Lots of lovely home-made cakes and scones and of course lashings of tea too. My committee all worked so very hard to keep everyone fed and watered. Special thanks to each and everyone of them. What a wonderful sense of community and togetherness!! My thanks to you all for a truly splendid afternoon. A special mention to Tony Wellings with his display and competition of things from bygone days.....so very interesting and he had us all wondering just what the various items were used for. Thank you Tony.



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Special thanks also to Audrey who is always ready to help and does the church tours so very well. Her knowledge of St Mary's is faultless and I urge you to sign up for a tour if you have not yet done so. We have had visiting U3A groups come to have tours this year and she will always run a tour on Open Sundays if required. Thank you Audrey.

And what next?

6th December: The Snow Queen

7th December: Christmas Festival. Carols at 3pm

8th December: Christmas Festival Stansted Mountfitchet U3A Strummers

So, best singing voices and let's raise the rafters in St Mary's as we all sing along amongst the Christmas trees. Invitations to display trees will be with you very shortly and I know lots of organisations are already planning their trees. It is always so exciting to see the trees come in and the church transformed into a winter wonderland. I hope that as many of you that are able will join us as we celebrate Christmas 2019 in St Mary's.

It is always wonderful to see you all and to welcome you so please come and say hello to me.

For those of you wishing to renew membership but not knowing how, our bank details for church are:

- Account no. 73879410
- Sort code. 20-36-98

Membership was due in March. I hope we can rely on your continued support to help keep St Mary's open and welcoming for all. Every penny helps in our quest. Also please do remember to sign in whenever you visit as your signature is so very important. Our visitor numbers are counted quarterly.

And on a very personal note. For those of you at last year's Carol concert, the very pregnant lady who read as Mary gave birth in January to my beautiful grand-daughter, Jasmine. Jasmine has already accompanied me on church duties, my new little helper!!! And an absolute joy.

Best wishes to you all and I hope to see you very soon.

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