

Remembrance Day

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The Parade is followed by the Remembrance Day Service in St Mary's Church. After the Service the Parade reforms outside the Church to dismiss outside the Wilberforce Hall for refreshments. This year we look forward to our usual great Brighstone turnout on Sunday 8th November.

Youthwork

For all the latest information about activities for young people please see the Youth pages on our website or on Facebook

AgeUk in Brighstone



Eighteen months ago, St Mary's Church contracted an AgeUKIW Community Development Officer, Judith Stratton, to work in the Five Parishes helping to set up activities and services to reduce isolation and loneliness in the older population.

One of the activities she facilitated was the Coffee Morning at the Methodist Chapel and in August they celebrated their first anniversary with a garden party. Over 80 visitors were served cream teas by Chapel and AgeUKIW volunteers and staff, including two rather eccentric chefs (Avice Mariner and Terry Hack). Local crooner, Alan Rodway, provided excellent entertainment by singing a set of Frank Sinatra songs and in spite of rather damp weather people were soon dancing in the car park as umbrellas and sun hats kept off the worst of the rain!

Many people took advantage of having their photos taken dressed in Hawaiian skirts and leis in front of a beach scene, go to the Five Parishes website to see the gallery. A raffle raised £73 for the Brighstone Newsletter. If you have not visited the coffee morning yet please do pop by, it's held every Tuesday 10 - 12noon in the Methodist Chapel.

St Mary's Church have funded this community project since March 2014 at a cost of £14,000.00 per annum. The Church committed funding for 2 years and this will come to an end next March unless further funds can be found.

The Occasional Choir

The occasional choir was formed several years ago to sing on the Third Sunday of the month for the Communion Service at St Mary's at 10.45 am. We sing an anthem during Communion and lead the singing of the responses and hymns.

A robed choir, we rehearse during the week before Third Sunday. Choir practice has just moved from Wednesday evening to Tuesday evening at 7.15. Sometimes other singers join us (unrobed) in an extended occasional choir for services during Church Festivals e.g. Christmas and Lent. Everyone is welcome to sing in either choir! Indeed, with more singers of all ages, especially men, we hope to be able to learn some beautiful new anthems by John Rutter, Carl Jenkins and others.

These are some of the activities and services which the church provides, if you are interested or wish to offer support please see our website: www.fivechurches.org.uk

General Enquiries

If you have a general enquiry about services, baptisms, weddings etc. the parish administrator Anna would be delighted to help you. Tel: **0747 4987683** email: bbmskparishes@gmail.com



Welcome to the second issue of St Mary's Brighstone Newsletter

This is produced to keep everyone up to date with the great things that the Church is developing in conjunction with the local community. Following on from our Summer issue, we are looking forward to the activities in the coming months. Designed to be a snapshot, more details can be found on the Five Churches website.

Open Morning at the Exchange

(the Old Library, New Road Brighstone)
Wednesday 14th October 10-12noon

In 2014 St Mary's acquired this facility on a long lease for the use and benefit of the community.

Did you know that the Exchange can be booked free of charge for non-profit making events? This includes fund raising events for charities of your choice or drop-in centres for organisations offering advice and support. This is a great opportunity for you to look round the building and meet some organisations who are hoping to use it as a venue in the future. Free Wi-Fi is now available.

We have a variety of different people coming who will be available for you to chat to. Come along have a coffee and see what we have to offer. For further details or to make a booking e-mail bbmskparishes@gmail.com or telephone **0747 4987683**

Will you be a friend of St Mary's Church?

St Mary's has stood in the heart of Brighstone for over 800 years. It provides a place of worship, prayer, christenings, confirmations, weddings and funerals.

The aims of the Friends are to raise funds for the preservation, repair and maintenance of this beautiful church building. This year there is an urgent need for repairs to the roof to be undertaken costing approximately £60,000.

As well as this, it costs approximately £260 per week just to keep the building running (this does not include ministry and pastoral care within the wider community).
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