

Dear Reader

Lazy summer days are here, but at St Lawrence Church and The Church of the Ascension, with so much going on, there is no time for being lazy!

Head to the back page for information on the St Lawrence Day Patronal

Festival and BBQ. On page 12 read how Maxine got on as she was licensed as Interim Priest of Bushey, and find out how much money the Church fete raised for charity on page 13. Until next time ...

Amanda Hawkes
Assistant Editor of Outlook

How Wonderful ... when you're in the world

Breathing Space
St Lawrence Church
5.00pm Sunday 7th August



AUGUST CALENDAR

REGULAR SERVICE TIMETABLE

Sunday

8am Eucharist
at St. Lawrence

9.30am Parish Eucharist
at St. Lawrence

11.15am Eucharist at the Church of the
Ascension

5pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Wednesday

11.15am Quiet Prayer

12.00 noon Eucharist

Monday to Saturday

9.15am Morning Prayer

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday 10am

Parish Prayers with cup of
coffee

Breakspear Room

Monday 1.45 for 2pm

Tiny Tots

Breakspear Room

Friday 2pm

Craft and Chat

Breakspear Room

OTHER EVENTS

Wednesday 3rd 10.00am

Coffee morning

The Church of the Ascension

Friday 5th 10.00am

Bedmond Bells WI Craft and Chat

The Church of the Ascension

Sunday 7th 11.00am

St Lawrence Day, Patronal Feast and
Parish BBQ

St Lawrence Church

Sunday 7th 5.00pm

Breathing Space

In St Lawrence Church

Wednesday 10th 12.00pm

Messy Church

St Lawrence Church

Thursday 18th 10.00am

Bedmond Bells WI Coffee Morning

The Church of the Ascension

Friday 19th 10.00am

Bedmond Bells WI Craft and Chat

The Church of the Ascension

Sunday 21st 6.30pm

Nameless Youth Group

St Lawrence Church

Sunday 28th 6.30pm

Taizè Service

St Lawrence Church



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Abbots Langley—01923 271707 Mon 10am-4pm, Tues & Thurs 10am-3pm, Wed & Fri 10am-1pm
Rickmansworth—01923 293136 Mon, Tues, & Thurs 10am-3.30pm, Wed & Fri 10am-12.30pm
South Oxhey—0208 515 8321 Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am-4pm, Fri 10am-1pm

Telephone advice is available during opening times, please leave a message during busy periods. You can also call our County wide Adviceline Mon to Fri 10am-4pm on 0800 144 8848 or email via website www.threeriverscab.org.uk

Malawi

OUR NEXT EVENT:

**MEDITERRANEAN EVENING:
SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER
7PM**

**An evening of all things
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Come along and enjoy a wonderful
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ahead, put the date in your diaries and
contact Eileen and David Adams on:
David.Adams31@ntlworld.com
or Tel: 01923 265228

Potential Visit to Malawi

In last month's Outlook, I wrote about
our thoughts on a further visit to
Malawi to renew the friendships and
links that we have made with the people
of Malosa in the Hospital, the local
community and the local secondary
school. We would also be visiting the
projects that we have supported
financially since our last visit in 2018
and to see what new projects we might
consider supporting in the future. When
we visited in 2014 and in 2018, we
joined with the staff at the hospital to
assist them in carrying out essential
maintenance on the hospital building
that had been identified before we went.
This entailed raising money in advance
of the trip so that we could support the
project financially.

As mentioned in last month's Outlook,
a visit to Malawi entails a great deal of
preparation both in raising funds to take
with us and planning our time whilst

there. In the run up to the visit we fund-
raise, meet regularly and bond as a team.
Making a visit is a hugely rewarding
experience but is also an on-going
commitment. At the moment we are
considering two possible dates ... June/
July 2023 or June/July 2024.

**Would you be interested in joining us
on such a venture? If you are, please
talk to one of our Malawi Team who
can give you help and more details.**

People to ask!! Eileen and David
Adams: Norman and Wendy Meldrum:
Laura Furlong: Mags Curtis: Pam
Rastall: Claire Edgerton: Amaelia
Parmenter



Goodbye to Sarah Moreton - St Lawrence Youth Choir Leader

It is with much sadness that, after 7 years, we will be saying goodbye to Sarah Moreton, our St Lawrence Youth Choir Leader.

During Sarah's 7 years at St Lawrence, she has done a fantastic job of encouraging our young singers to grow in confidence and be there to support our worship on the second Sunday each month. Anyone who has heard the youth choir sing will agree that they are a delight, and this is all thanks to Sarah.

Ten year old Abbie, a member of the youth choir, spoke of her time singing in the youth choir under Sarah's leadership; "I have been lucky to have Sarah as my singing teacher. For me, I have enjoyed

every moment of singing with her and she has greatly improved my confidence too. I am sad to see Sarah go, but I wish her lots of luck for the future".

Sarah's last performance with the youth Choir was on Friday 22nd July, when the youth choir put on a wonderful concert. What a way to end 7 years with the youth choir! Thank you Sarah for all of your hard work and dedication. We will miss you but wish you all the very best for the future.

St Lawrence Church

The youth choir is a non-audition choir, open to all young people aged 8-14 years. Rehearsing on Friday evenings during school term time from 6.15pm—7.00pm. There is no charge to members for taking part. For more information about the choir, including joining, contact the Church office on: 01923 261795 or email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangleigh.org.uk



Messy Church

We had a super afternoon at our July Messy Church. Our theme for the month was the unforgiving servant and our crafts included making word bead bracelets which highlighted the Christian message of love, giving and sharing. We iced biscuits ... a huge favourite with the children, of course! ... and cut out hearts to put on top of them along with sprinkles and iced gems. And then we lived up to our name with a very messy hand printing craft as well! As it was the last Messy Church of the school term we had a party tea to finish with.

This year we will be having a Summer Holiday Messy Church as we did last year. So please note the date, time and place.

**SUMMER HOLIDAY MESSY CHURCH: WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10TH
ST LAWRENCE CHURCH: 12.30 – 3PM**

All are welcome so do come along and bring your friends too!

We will start the afternoon with a picnic lunch (please bring your own picnic) and that will be followed by games, a treasure trail and, of course, Messy crafts! Our theme for the afternoon will be the story of Zacchaeus who climbed a tree to hear Jesus speak.

If you can't usually make Messy Church because of term time commitments, this is your opportunity to come along and share the afternoon with us; we'd love to see you. **Please let us know if you are coming.**

Contact: wendymeldrum@gmail.com or the parish office 01923 261795

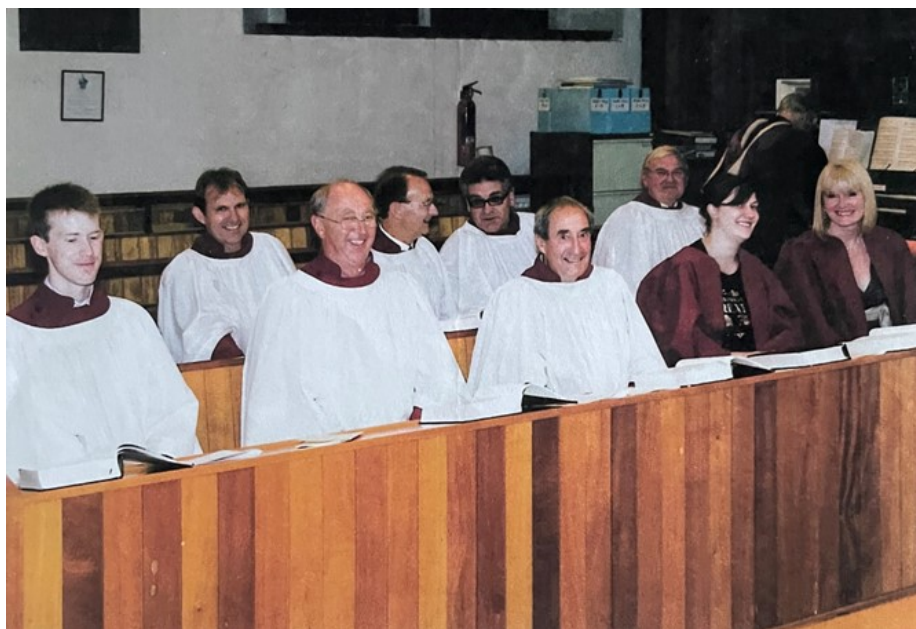


Peter Sanders Memorial

We would like to give our thanks to so many people who helped to honour Peter at his memorial service on Saturday July 2nd.

We were overwhelmed by how many folks filled the Church.

Peter and I have lived in Abbots Langley for 65 years and have enjoyed the friendship of so many men and women over the years—in the churches, the choir, the Players, the sports clubs, the G & S, the history society, the gardening society and all the festivals. What have I left out?



(Peter is pictured in the middle, front row).

We have both felt much love and respect. “We’re both in our 95th year.”

Thank you so much.

Joan (and Michael and Gill)

John Noonan Sings Through the Alphabet

Well done to John Noonan from the Church of the Ascension who, as part of the Abbots Langley Festival, sang his way through the alphabet on Friday 1st July.

The event was at the Church of the Ascension and raised £444.

The money raised was split equally between two very worthy causes - the DEC fund for Ukraine and the Hospice of St Francis.



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

16th August evening meeting to be arranged.

At the end of June we held our Wave of Prayer service when we pray for our link Dioceses of Tabora, (Tanzania) Kabba (Nigeria); Bukuru (Nigeria); Rumonge (Burundi); Nagpur (Northern India) and our own Diocese of St Albans.

For further information about Mothers' Union please contact Branch Leader Jill Matthews, email matthewsjill2410@gmail.com or 07966887380

Our August meeting will be 10th August, 11am coffee and chat followed by 12 midday Corporate Communion.

Churchwardens

Carol Higgs
(churchwarden1@abbotslangley.org.uk)

Tom Betteridge
(churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

StLawrenceChurchAbbotsLangley and
TheTinChurchBedmond

To submit an article for Outlook, please contact the Church office.



CONTACTS

Vicar: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell and Editor of Outlook,
26 Greenways, Abbots Langley
Tel: 01923 263013
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

THE CHURCH OFFICE:

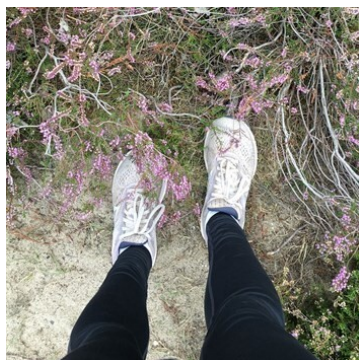
Hight Street
Abbots Langley
WD5
Tel: 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk
Website: www.abbotslangley.org.uk

Hollie runs every day

Hollie is a member of Tiny Tots, a toddler group held weekly in St Lawrence Church.

Here is her Story . . .

In 2022 I will aim to run every day for a year!



After the birth of my son, running became my way of coping with the overwhelming sensation of being a new parent. It offered me a chance to get out, be active and reset my head. Sometimes it would give me a chance to think about things and sometimes I wouldn't think about anything at all, just run.

Perinatal depression (during pregnancy and the first year of being a parent) affects 1 in 10 new parents, mums and dads alike. It can be totally debilitating and leave you feeling like you are suffering alone.

However, wonderful charities and foundations like Pandas UK offer support, guidance and care to those who need it most.



I was lucky; I found my way of coping, alongside amazingly supportive friends and family. Not everyone is fortunate enough to be in this position.

By taking on this challenge, I hope to raise awareness and vital funds for this amazing cause. It may be 1km or 10km, but the main thing will be that I am out there every day.



If anyone fancies joining me for a run, in person or virtually, then I would welcome the support.

Here goes nothing...

To donate to Holly's fundraising page visit:

[Pandasfoundation.enthuse.com](https://pandasfoundation.enthuse.com) and search for Hollie runs every day.

To date, Hollie has raised almost £1,500 but would like to reach her target of £2000.

You can also visit Hollie's Instagram account: [@hollierunseveryday](https://www.instagram.com/hollierunseveryday) to keep up to date on her progress.

Some information on PANDAS Foundation . . .

PANDAS is a charity with a mission: 'To be the UK's most recognised and trusted support service for families and their networks who may be suffering with perinatal mental illness, including prenatal (antenatal) and postnatal depression.'

Our aim is to make sure no parent, family or carer feels alone. We have a variety of support services available to ensure help is delivered in a way that is right for you. No one suffering any form of mental illness should feel they're on their own.

And we only offer motivational and positive content through our social media channels, which adds to our value for the parents who need our help the most.

Free Helpline 0808 196 1776

www.pandasfoundation.org.uk



We are here, whatever the weather, to offer hope, empathy and support for every parent affected by perinatal mental illness.



FREE Helpline 0808 196 1776

www.pandasfoundation.org.uk

Interim Priest of Bushey

On Wednesday 6th July a good crowd made the short journey from our Parish to the Parish of Bushey.

We were there to support Rev. Maxine Howarth as she was licenced as Interim Priest.

The service was held at St James' Bushey and was taken by The Ven. Dr. Jane Mainwaring, Archdeacon of St Albans.



Maxine's friends and family were also at the service as well as members of the congregation that regularly worship at St James.

The Rural Dean who is of course our very own Rev. Dr. Peter Waddell gave the welcome to the service. He commented that the occasion for him was bittersweet. He was pleased for

Maxine and for Bushey as she was to be licensed in her new role but sad for Abbots Langley as we were losing a great curate who had been with us through very challenging times and who really rose to the challenge and served the congregation and communities of Abbots Langley and Bedmond well.

Peter and the Churchwarden Mrs Salome Jayaratnam presented Maxine to the Archdeacon to be licensed as Interim Priest.

The Parish of Bushey has two churches - St James' and St Paul's. The latter was built in 1904, the former in the 14th Century. The first Rector at St James' was William, son of Robert de Saxby in 1334. Also on the list of Rectors is Guy Buckler who was instituted there in 2005. We of course were lucky to have Guy worshipping with us and presiding regularly at Sunday services when he retired.

We wish Maxine all the very best in her new role.

Christenings taken in July

Arthur James Murdock
Mason Raymond Driscoll
Henry Johnson



Weddings taken in July

Hannah Mudd and Alex
Outridge



Funerals taken in July

Kenneth Stronach
Gaynor May
Jane Fisher



St Lawrence Church Fete



At the end of June we held our annual fete. The fete did not happen in 2020 or 2021, so it was a great joy to be able to hold the event once again. It brought the community together and there was fun for all the family with games, raffle, tombola and refreshments.

It was a windy day with the winds gusting up to 30 mph, which meant that unfortunately, we were unable to have the bouncy castle that we had booked. We also had to make sure that the tent pegs were in place to stop the gazebos from flying down the High Street.

The fete was busy from 2pm onwards and raised a grand total of £2000. Our PCC decided that, in line with tradition, the money from the fete should be donated to local charities.

This year the money has been split between Peace Hospice Care and the Hospice of St Francis

Recently I went along to the Hospice Shop in Abbots Langley to hand over the cheque to Trevor South, Shop Manager.

I know the great work that hospices do and how much they are valued. St Francis has helped 2,000 local people and their families, in Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, to live their precious lives well through improving symptoms, achieving personal goals and helping them to feel safe.

*Carol Higgs
Churchwarden*



From the Vicar



Earlier this year there was a meeting in the Church to discuss the future of music at St. Lawrence.

The context was that a combination of circumstances – not least Covid – had put under threat something which most people thought was of very great value indeed: the musical tradition of choir and organist, leading our community in singing together, and performing a wide range of the classic music from the Church's great tradition. There was a clear sense that we wanted that tradition to flourish – and what we'll have to think about now is what that will cost. (The answer, unsurprisingly, involves money – more of which another time).

Not all Christians have been convinced we should bother. In his *Confessions*, written in the fourth century, St. Augustine writes about how he finds music in church deeply troubling: it is so beautiful, he fears, that it will distract his mind from God. Maybe people will come for the music, and not for God – and perhaps that temptation should be removed. According to the historian Diarmaid MacCulloch, the sixteenth century Protestant Reformers shared Augustine's anxiety:

'Reformed churches frowned on the Catholic or Lutheran frivolity of singing

non-biblical texts in Church, and their singing was confined to the psalms of David in metrical form. In most Reformed territories, they also insisted that this singing be done without the benefit of the pipe-organ, which they regarded as part of past superstition and generally destroyed: this was just as much the case in English parish churches, where nationwide from around 1570 organs were nearly all removed or terminally neglected. Only in the Netherlands did Reformed parish churches continue to boast increasingly elaborate and splendid organs, and that is an illustration of the peculiar balance between church and civil authority there.

Ministers might disapprove, but the urban Regents liked the splendid sound, and insisted on maintaining organs for recitals for public enjoyment, even if the festively decorated organs were not used in worship. They were deliberately overriding the clergy's objections to show who was boss.'

Now there is a striking phrase: to show who was boss. Issues of power and control are indeed close to the heart of the sometimes tempestuous relations between clergy and musicians. At a superficial level this is obviously true: even when the two get on, their different vocations tend to bring with them at least differing emphases in approach to public worship. But perhaps it is true at a more fundamental level too. Clergy, you see, are very keen on words. Preaching and teaching is what we do, because (for us) the most important thing is that people hear and understand God's Word. Putting it crudely, for clergy sometimes it seems like the readings from Scripture and the sermon are the essential

business, whilst what the choir does is wrapping paper. Beautiful wrapping perhaps, but wrapping nonetheless. Indeed, perhaps the music is even dangerous – people might prefer it over our sermons! Perhaps they will find beauty and meaning in it which hasn't come from us, and which is out of our control.

To which concerns the best answer is: thanks be to God. Thanks be, that there is something more in our worship than words and doctrines and ideas. Thanks be, that in music we have been given a powerful gift: something which has the power to penetrate body and soul so radically, which can move us most at our depths. 'He spoke with authority, and not as one of their scribes', the Gospel says at one point of Jesus. Well, Music often speaks with something like that authority, whilst preachers so frequently do not – the music reaches into the hearer's heart and wakes the knowledge of God within. It shares the mystery of which it speaks, and gives it to the listener.

Someone who knew this was Karl Barth, the great 20th century Reformed theologian – and never one, incidentally, to underestimate the importance of preaching. Every day, after silent prayer – he might say, I think, as part of prayer – he would sit and listen to Mozart. And in his great *Church Dogmatics* he wrote this: '...(Mozart) has created a music for which 'beautiful' is not a fitting epithet: music which for the Christian is not mere entertainment, enjoyment or edification, but food and drink: music full of comfort and counsel for his needs; music which is never a slave to its technique nor sentimental, but always 'moving', free and liberating because

wise, strong and sovereign.' God's Word, it seems, isn't restricted to using words: the Word which was made flesh speaks through music, and shares itself with our whole being.

There seems something paradoxical about using a lot of words to say how God is not restricted to words, so I bring this article to an end. All that is left to say is: we have had a superb tradition of music at St. Lawrence, which has fed so many people's spiritual hungers as mere words could never have done. Thank you to everyone who has made that possible, to musicians and singers and to those who have footed the bill and given all kinds of practical support. It has been wonderful. May it continue to flourish long into the future – and may we make the decisions and do the work that makes that possible.

The parish is currently seeking to appoint a new Director of Music. We anticipate paying the successful candidate a stipend in the region of £8,000 p.a. If this is a project you would like to support, please contact giving@abbotslangley.org.uk.

Peter

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Abbeyfield (West Herts) Society	Marcus Coultrup (334387)
Abbots Langley Pre School	(St Lawrence Church Hall) Lisa (07467 101306)
Bedmond Village Carpet Bowls	Margaret Forrest (670989)
Bedmond Village Hall	Simon Smith (07401 331302)
Bedmond Village Taskforce	bedmondvillagetaskforce@gmail.com
Bell Ringing	Phil Higgs (440676)
Bowling Club	off Langley Road (alongside the Scout HQ)
Breakspeare Community Pre-School	(by Tannerswood School) (274483)
Brownies, Rainbows and Guides	www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested
Carers Network (Abbots Langley)	Joan Gentry (443563)
Churches Together	Brenda Southorn 677139
Citizens Advice Bureau	(08444 111444) - see advertisement on page 4
Community Centre	(to hire 07530 266293)
Cricket Club	www.abbotscc.hitssports.com
Evergreen Youth FC	Ian Turner (266640)
Family Planning	Garston Clinic (234525) Mon & Wed 6.00 – 8.00 pm
Flower Arrangement Society	Patricia Hill (262174)
Friends of St Lawrence	Bill Sanderson (265963) / Wendy Meldrum (07710688633)
Gardening Society	Jane Lay (447281)
Gilbert & Sullivan Society	Brenda Southorn (677139)
Good Neighbours Association	Helpline for Transport (466667)
Hillside Residents Association	School Mead (261734)
Home Start (Helping Families Under Stress)	(248010)
Infant Welfare Clinic	St Saviour's Hall - Monday 1.30 to 3.00 pm (264639)
Jo Jingles	Mags Bilson (222529)
Karate Club (Junior)	(Scout HQ, Langley Road) Andrew Lewry (07774 161685)
Library	Open: Mon & Thu 2.00-6.00; Tue & Fri 9.00-6.00 Sat 9.00-1.00;
	Wed & Sun closed all day
Local History Society	Delva O'Reagan (267585)
Mothers' Union	Jill Matthews (262046)
Orchestra (ALO)	Penny Abbot (01442 873205)
Parent & Toddler Group	Community Centre; Tue, Wed & Friday 9.15-11.15 am
Parish Council and Halls	Council Office, Langley Road (265139)
Players (ALP)	Jean James (461549)
Red Cross	Jeanne Johnson (263598)
Royal Air Forces Association	Mr R Sheminant (263141; rsheminant@gmail.com)
Royal British Legion	Secretary: Chris Driscoll (01923 675563)
St Lawrence Church Hall	Church Office (261765)
St Lawrence Church Flower Arrangers	Church Office (261795)
Scouts: Abbots Langley Scout Group	Alison Redmond gsi@abbotslangleyscouts.org.uk
Langleybury Scout Group	5thnwscouts@gmail.com
Bedmond Bells WI	Janette Noonan 01923 266921 or Moira Bunting 01923 262242
Youth FC	Tim Denyer (270563)

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Bedmond Bells WI News

Bedmond Bells have been busy over the last month. We had a very pleasant coffee get-together in Chris's lovely garden on a warm and sunny morning and were able to give our Helping Hands Fund a boost, as well as enjoying a good chat and sharing ideas for future events.



At our July meeting, members really enjoyed hearing from guest speaker, Bill Hamilton (former BBC Journalist) whose tales were interesting, amusing and at times, sad. It was lovely to welcome again 6 visitors, who are now members, as well as 3 more visitors who we hope will come again. Members voted to fund-raise in support of Sunnyside Farm Rural Trust. More about this next time!

Open Craft and Chat Sessions (1st and 3rd Fridays), 10.00am -12.00pm at the Tin Church have been well attended and all are welcome, whether to craft or just enjoy some company in pleasant surroundings. The next ones will be held on 5th August and 19th August.

A further open coffee morning will have been held on Friday 22nd July (same location and time), with cakes and produce, sales tables as well as tea and coffee. Recent events raised funds for "Toilet Twinning" and we have now funded 2 loos for poor

parts of Africa, as well as a large Twin Bin which we hope will help to encourage recycling in the local area. We now have framed certificates which we hope to mount at loos at the Tin Church and Village Hall.

The Book Group continues to flourish and meets monthly.



Coming up! As above and also:

Saturday 13th August, Garden Party Meeting with Platinum Jubilee theme in Chris's Garden, for members and invited guests.

Thursday 18th August, Open coffee morning Tin Church 10.00am
12.00pm .Cakes, produce and a Bric a Brac / sales table.

We continue to collect toiletries, clothes and washing products for our local refuge (SAHWR).

Lunching out-- the Royal Oak at Kitters Green has been suggested and we hope to go there soon.

If you would like more information about Bedmond Bells WI, do contact President, Christine:
christinehunt@gmail.com
Moira Bunting on 262242 or
Janette Noonan on 266921.

We welcome women of all ages and you do not have to make jam or sew to get lots out of membership!

Friends of St Lawrence

Guided Tours and Exhibition Weekend

We had a fabulous weekend in July giving guided tours of our beautiful and ancient church. As well as the tours we had on display registers of baptisms, marriages and funerals on loan from the archives at County Hall which caused a great deal of interest as people were able to see some really interesting entries from past years. Along side these we displayed past editions of the parish magazine Outlook dating back to the 19th century and we also had an exhibition on the fire of 1969.

We were also pleased to show an early ordnance survey map of Abbots Langley which had previously hung in the old

Village School and dates back to the 1880s ... but perhaps some of the most stunning displays of the weekend were the clerical robes that we exhibited, especially as people could get close to them and see the remarkable detail of embroidery work.

Many thanks to all who made the weekend such a success by volunteering to guide, serve teas, make cakes and help with the setting up and clearing away. And of course, huge thanks to all who attended and continue to support the Friends in maintaining this ancient church at the heart of our village community.

PLEASE COME ALONG TO OUR NEXT EVENT

SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
2 – 5PM, OPEN GARDEN
PIE CORNER, MILLHOUSE
LANE, BEDMOND WD5 0SG

There will be plenty to see and do including a sunken garden, children's trail, wooded areas, vegetable garden and lots more! We will be serving tea/coffee and homemade cakes.



The Friends of St Lawrence

OPEN GARDEN

Pie Corner

Millhouse Lane

Bedmond WD5 0SG

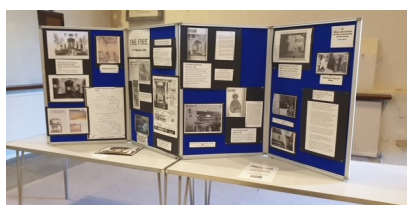
sunken garden, children's trail
wooded areas, vegetable garden
plenty to walk around, see and smell

Sunday 11th September 2022
2.00-5.00pm

entry £5.00; children free

tea/coffee and
homemade cakes

parking available





St Lawrence Day 7th August

Join us for a special service at
11.00am followed by BBQ



Deadline for all content for September Outlook is Friday 19th August