

HINTON ST MARY THE MOSAIC.

October 2013

HINTON ST MARY CHRISTMAS PARTY - DATES TO REMEMBER

Christmas Party: 7.00 p.m. on Friday 20th December, in the Tithe Barn

Coffee Morning in aid of the Christmas Party: Sunday 1^{st} December, 10.30 - 12.30 in the Village hall

It is such a fun occasion, so hopefully you will all be able to come



VILLAGE GARDEN.

A suggestion has been made for the maintenance of the Village Garden.

One person to be responsible for one small part of the Garden.

Dick Pemberton has volunteered to maintain the sundial, Jill Debretton Gordon the willow hedge and arch and Janet Bolton the large bed to the right of the sundial.

I will be delighted if you can offer to help. It can be done at any time to suit you and can be a very small area.

Possibilities are the entrance area, the 'woodland' walk, the path with the two mosaic benches and the other small beds.

Please give me a ring if you think you can help in any way.

Janet Bolton 472300



Hinton St Mary's Service of Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 13th of October in St Peter's Church at 11:00, followed at 12:00 by the village "Harvest Lunch" in the Tithe Barn; all are welcome.

Traditional preparation within the Church will be done on Saturday the 12^{th,} from 10:00, all those wishing to help will be most welcome.

Curates Corner

Harvest Festival, as we know it today, dates from 1843 and was initiated by a Cornish vicar called the Revd Robert Hawker.

However, during the Middle Ages the Church had a harvest festival of its own. It was called Lammas and was held on 1st August, before the harvest had properly started. Each farmer cut one sheaf of corn, and the flour from those sheaves was made into one huge loaf. Everyone went in procession to their village church and the loaf was offered to God as the first results of the coming harvest.

This festival gradually lost favour but Robert Hawker was acutely aware of the life-and-death importance of the harvest to his parishioners and, despite criticism from neighbouring clergy he held a service to which everyone was invited to bring their produce as a way of saying thank you to God.

Even today, in many people's eyes harvest festival ranks as one of the church's important annual feasts. But how relevant is this historic festival in the 21st century? You only have to go into a Tesco or Sainsbury supermarket to see a wide variety of foods on display – food from every corner of the world. But today few people actually work or live on a farm.

The whole point of Harvest Festival is not so much that we reflect on our agricultural harvest, but that we re-affirm and re-cultivate that Christian virtue of thankfulness. Through the symbolism of Harvest, we remember to give thanks. The purpose of the celebration is to pause and say, "Thank you! Thank you for all those good things that have come our way this year." To pause and think; to pause and thank.

Lydia Cook

St Peter's Church Harvest Festival is celebrated with a Family Service on Sunday October 13th at 11am followed by lunch in the Tithe Barn



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Thursday 3rd October – 12.30 until 5.00pm and Friday 4th October – 11.00 until 5.00pm

ALL WELCOME – ENTRY FREE

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