



# Friends of Westmill Church

August 2012

See back page for details of "FOWC"

Welcome to our August Newsletter.

We are told by the Churchwardens that they are now making good progress with all the form filling that is necessary for this huge roof repair project, and they wish to thank Gerald Barrett (Architect) and David McMullen for the tremendous support they have both given them. One of the tasks that has to be carried out with this type of project is a Bat Survey as Bats are a protected species and must not be disturbed during their breeding season. This survey has been carried out during the spring and early summer by Keith Seaman who is a registered inspector. Mr Seaman has given his services free which has saved the project several hundreds of pounds for which the Churchwardens are most grateful.

We had a most successful Tennis Tournament in May when 14 couples played doubles on a day when it didn't rain. Our thanks to Sue Wilson, Trina McMullen, Jenny Marsh and Amanda Robinson for the use of their tennis courts and also a big thank you to Sally Cousins who organized all the players and to Jan Pledger who is a professional tennis coach who supervised the whole day's play. Finally thanks to Amanda and all those ladies who provided delicious food so that the players and guests could enjoy a splendid lunch in the grounds of Watford House. The winner's trophy was presented to Juliet and Tamsin. This could become an annual event.

The Open Gardens afternoons were rather disappointing as the event was competing with bad weather, Wimbledon finals and the British Grand Prix, so there were fewer guests that we had hoped. Thanks to Di Bowtell and her helpers for preparing and service the afternoon teas. The grounds of the Pump House were immaculate. Our grateful thanks go to Lord and Lady Carter for providing the venue and their generous donation at the end of the weekend which boosted our weekend's takings to over £350.

Due to rather heavy commitments during the summer and early autumn, we have decided to postpone our Band Concert but intend to re-schedule it for the spring / summer of next year.

**September 7<sup>th</sup>** is the closing date for photos to be received in readiness for the exhibition on **22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> September** when all photos will be displayed in the Church. The public will then be asked to choose the 12 they like most for our 2013 calendar.

Please let Nigel Leaney or Michael Thody have your entries before **7<sup>th</sup> September**.

The exhibition will close with a Songs of Praise service in the Church on Sunday evening **23<sup>rd</sup> September**; everybody is invited to name a Hymn they would like to have sung at the service. (see enclosed leaflets regarding these matters and a Hymn request leaflet)

Tickets for our Choir Concert on the **13<sup>th</sup> October** are now available from Jan James. We will only have 100 tickets for sale and expect this concert will be a sellout long before the actual date. The Singing for Pleasure Community Choir is very popular and has helped many charities in Hertfordshire and beyond to raise thousands of pounds over a number of years.

Please see enclosed leaflet re "Sponsored Bike 'n' Hike"

Nigel Leaney, who many of you will know is a member of our committee, is riding 80 miles to support this event. We do hope that you will sponsor him. 50% of the money he raises will go directly to the Church; the other 50% will go to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust.

**Friends of Westmill Church. (FOWC)**

U.K. Registered Charity No 1141322

**The Five Trustees are:-**

Diane Bowtell  
Rev Ian Hill  
David Mills  
Winston Pickup  
Michael Thody

**Committee Members for 2011 are:-**

Michael Thody	Chairman
Diane Bowtell	Secretary
Winston Pickup	Treasurer
Sally Cousins	
Hilary Harding	Churchwarden
Liz Holland	
Jan James	
Nigel Leaney	Webmaster
Ray Partidge	Health & Safety Coordinator
Sue Phipps	Churchwarden

**Bank account:** - Barclays Bank Buntingford.

**Auditor:** - David Smyth, Senior Partner, WKH Accountants, Royston, Herts.

Website [www.friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk](http://www.friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk)