

UPPER SAPEY CHURCH RESCUE and



FRIENDSHIP ROOM

NEWSLETTER NO. 2

DECEMBER 2014

*Please help to circulate this as widely as possible.

* Please let me know of anybody else who would like to be added to my email list.

* Please think kindly of our efforts to save the church, and lastly,

*please do not expect a regular newsletter! I will do what I can.

COFFEE MORNINGS: OUR regular coffee mornings are a great success, and proving a good meeting point for discussions, not only about developments in our church. Do come and join us, Saturdays 11 am to noon. At present, we plan to hold them every Saturday, but churches in Winter do tend to be rather cold. Watch the website!



SONGS OF PRAISE: This service, on 30th November, was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Bishop Michael Hooper, dragged out of retirement, came and commended our efforts to revive the church. Maggie Everett from Bromyard delighted us with her organ skills. The hymns, chosen by the congregation, were all well-loved favourites. Regrettably, in the end, because we had too many suggestions, some had to be dropped.

WEBSITE: Do look at the website – www.whitbourne.org.uk and click on Upper Sapey. It is growing, thanks to John Bland, and has various documents and notices on it.

LAY TEAMS: Plans are going ahead in the Greater Parish (Whitbourne, Edvin Loach, Tedstone Delamere and Upper Sapey, not forgetting Tedstone Wafre and Wolferlow, all under one Rector) to introduce a Lay Ministry Team. Many other parishes throughout the country now have one. Lay Teams add another dimension to life. They work with the Rector and are answerable to the PCC. Sometimes they plan and run services, sometimes take on visiting duties, preparation for Baptism and Confirmation, look at holding special services and other parish events. What each member takes on depends on their own gifts and capabilities. Nominations are now complete and selection of the team is in its final stages.

MONEY

We are almost (but not quite) got the banking arrangements in place for the Appeal. John Bland, our appeal treasurer, is nobly battling with the bank to get an account open and operating. Banks are notorious these days for apparently not wanting to open new accounts. Well done John!

DAC

The DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee – the body which says what can and cannot be done in churches in the way of repair and development) met in the church on 19th November. There were eight DAC members present, and eight parishioners, so it was an evenly-balanced discussion. Agreement was reached on the general form of the screen and repositioning the font (which will, however, need a smaller base). There are various other items which will need discussing at our next meeting e.g. underfloor heating, type of ceiling for the Friendship Room (it really needs steel girders and an access hatch, for cleaning and maintenance), positioning of the Commandment Boards, final position of the pews – there is a long list of details; please see summary on last page.

HLF APPLICATION

This went off well before the November deadline for the December meeting. We have now heard that it has been shunted to the next meeting, in March, presumably because there were more applications than money available. But at least we should be towards the top of the next list!

LENT LUNCHESES

Every year the parish of Greater Whitbourne (Upper Sapey, Edvin Loach, Tedstone Delamere and Whitbourne churches) organises a series of Lent Lunches, in aid of a charity of the host's choice. The first is in Whitbourne Church, following on from the Ash Wednesday service. Who would like to do this for Upper Sapey (possibly in aid of the Friendship Room?)

Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas,

Brenda Allan, Secretary, Greater Whitbourne P.C.C.



Upper
Sapey

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<http://whitbourne.org.uk/files/USRescue.shtml>