ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 25.06.23

Next week is the pet service. This will be our third one. From the archives......



July 2016

I chickened out of the pet service. I'm not going to give you any cock and bull story about my reasons and I hope we can let sleeping dogs lie. I won't let the cat out of the bag about how it went, just read below. A little bird told me that the only fly in the ointment was quickly put to rights by not letting the reptiles make a beeline for the bride to be. With all the animals and humans in Church there was no room to swing a cat and I had it from the horses mouth that Kath and the team went the whole hog to make the service the bees knees. The lions share of the credit must go to the animals and their owners who were grinning like a Cheshire cat at their pet's antics. There was no black sheep of the family and no crocodile tears were shed. Not for donkeys years has the Church had such a time and this pet service is a dark horse in the running and is certainly not a pig in a poke. And so as I cry wolf yet again and refuse to enter the lions den, I feel I missed a real treat. This was no white elephant or a lame duck, just a great service and the team should be cock a hoop!





September 2019



Blessing of the Pets:

Ian and I took the service and it was really enjoyable. We had lots of dogs, a cat, a tortoise and two chickens.

It was a celebratory service where the very well behaved animals were individually blessed (not sure the owners were as well behaved!!)

The worship was wonderful and God was definitely present in St Chad's.



Kathryn



I hate to say it but I'm not a very pet person, so I didn't actually go to either service, as you can tell from the first article!

Maybe I'll make this years.....



Stepping Back in Time!

The Brampton Museum in Newcastle was the venue for our little trip a fortnight ago...

I spotted the reminiscence group on Facebook and it looked too good to miss! "Remembering the 1950s and 1960s!"

Mum thought she wouldn't remember any of the 60s hits as she was so busy with a young family and a business. However, once Holly started singing, it turned out that she knew every single one! The whole audience was joining in—it was truly joyful!

Mum and I have been to the reminiscence groups before—they were previously held at the Spode works in Stoke. However, it is a few years since we last went and when I saw that Kath was holding the group at the Brampton, together with her daughter Holly, I thought we really should go once again!

Kath began the session by introducing the decade (50s in the first half, followed by the 60s after a coffee break) and then Holly took to the floor and sang **SO MANY** hits from the two decades. She looked absolutely beautiful in a pink polka-dot dress for her 50s tribute, changing into a Mary Quant inspired mini dress for the 60s. As you can see from the quotes overleaf, Mum loved her clothes! In her youth, she always wore the latest fashions, aided by her talented aunt (a gifted seamstress), who was able to magically create anything that Mum desired!







Holly was dressed in a similar dress to the ones I used to wear, with a pinched in waist, elasticated belt and flouncy petticoats underneath!

I was transported back to the 1950s!

It was great!

Her hair was in a pony tail so the overall effect was how I remember myself dressing at the time.







All in all, we had a FABULOUS couple of hours. Relaxed, friendly, joyful!

If you fancy giving the reminiscence groups a go, search online for "Kath Reynolds Reminiscence" and you will find out when the next group is being held. Alternatively, feel free to pull me or Mum to one side and have a chat about it. They really are enjoyable sessions, with a different focus each time, and Kath herself is very friendly and has lots of amusing stories to tell.

I also have to sing the praises of the Brampton museum—it really is a little gem with lots of local history to absorb and an upper floor set out like an old street full of shop fronts, fully stocked with all the items from bygone years. There is disabled access and a lift to the upper floor, in addition to a fabulous little café where you can enjoy a light lunch and a delicious cake (always a bonus!). There is also a sensory garden outside and FREE PARKING!

Why don't you give it a go! I am sure you will be pleased that you did!

Esther x

Prayer Corner:

The Cost of Discipleship

Lord Jesus,

You teach us that discipleship isn't cheap.

It has a cost.

 May we never feel the cost is too high when we decide to follow you.

 teach us to generously, gratefully and joyfully follow you.

• Amen.

Muriel

July Dates for your diary:

Saturday 1st July-Village Summer Fete and dog show.

St Chad's to have a cake stall and refreshments so please get baking.

Sunday 2nd July Outdoor pet service

Outdoors if it's fine and indoors if not. All pets encouraged to bring owners.

Wednesday 19th July-Flower Demonstration

7pm in church. Kath's sister Margaret to do the demonstrating. I've seen her before and she's excellent, especially if you want to know the dirt on Kath!!!!

£5 entry, refreshments (tea/coffee and scones) included. Plus a chance to win an arrangement.

**** ☆ July Services: $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$ ★ 2nd - Pet service Julia/Claire $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$ 16th - Holy Communion Rev Barry $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$ $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$ 30th - Morning Worship KH $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

Leek Food Bank: Urgently needed:

Sponge puddings;

Tinned vegetables

Tinned meat;

Tinned fruit;

Tinned soup

Longlife semi-skimmed milk

Fruit squash

Cleaning cloths/sponges

Smiles:

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-yearold daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$

A mother took her three-year-old daughter to church for the first time. The church lights were lowered, and then the choir came down the aisle, carrying lighted candles. All was quiet until the little one started to sing in a loud voice, "Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you...."

A little boy was afraid of the dark. One night his mother told him to go out to the back porch and bring her the broom. The little boy turned to his mother and said, "Mama, I don't want to go out there. It's dark."

The mother smiled reassuringly at her son. "You don't have to be afraid of the dark," she explained. "Jesus is out there. He'll look after you and protect you."

The little boy looked at his mother real hard and asked, "Are you sure he's out there?" "Yes, I 'm sure. He is everywhere, and he is always ready to help you when you need him," she said. The little boy thought about that for a minute and then went to the back door and cracked it a little. Peering out into the darkness, he called, "Jesus? If you're out there, would you please hand me the broom?