

**August Date for your diary:**

# Sunday 6th August—Barbecue

**at 12.30pm at the home of Julia and family.**

It takes place immediately after the church service. There will be a list in the church tower for you to sign if you are planning to attend. (Julia needs to know numbers if possible for catering purposes)

The cost will be £10 per head and you can eat as much as you can manage!

**Bring along friends and family.**



If you'd like to be included but can't get to church just give Julia or myself a ring and we'll put you on the list.

## **As a post script to the flower arranging demonstration, Ros adds...**

Four of us arrived from St Luke's for this event and we thoroughly enjoyed our evening. As an experienced florist Maggie clearly knew her stuff and the cakes and scones which followed were a real treat too.

Rarely winning anything in raffles I was astonished when my number (13!!) was called out. I was delighted to select the 'French' arrangement which I took up to St Luke's to be part of the decorations for our well dressing thank you service.

(No, I didn't pretend it was my work...credit went to Maggie of course.)

*Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

**Luke 12:27**

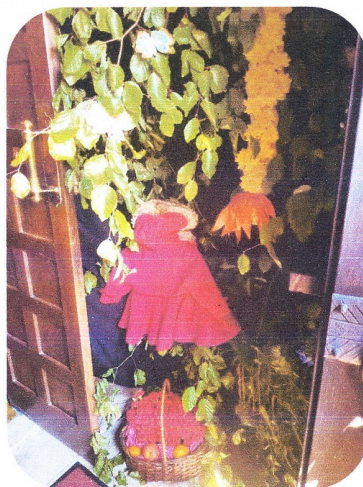
During last week's service, Muriel mentioned that the newsletter featured lots of floral items since we had just enjoyed Margaret's flower demonstration and I had received a floral "thank you" card from Buckingham Palace! Well, at the risk of perpetuating this trend, here is another "floral" offering in the shape of "Meerbrook Flower Festival"!



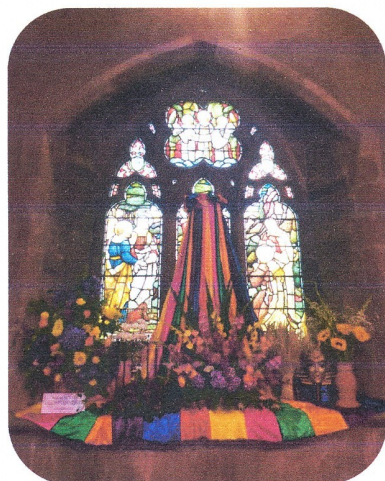
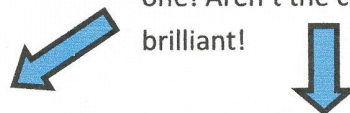
Mum and I have enjoyed visiting Meerbrook for their annual flower festival before and have always been so impressed with all the ingenuity and creativity that is clearly poured into this event. This year did not disappoint.... so many talented arrangers. The theme was "Let the Show Begin" and it showcased a variety of films and musicals—one of my absolute favourite subjects!

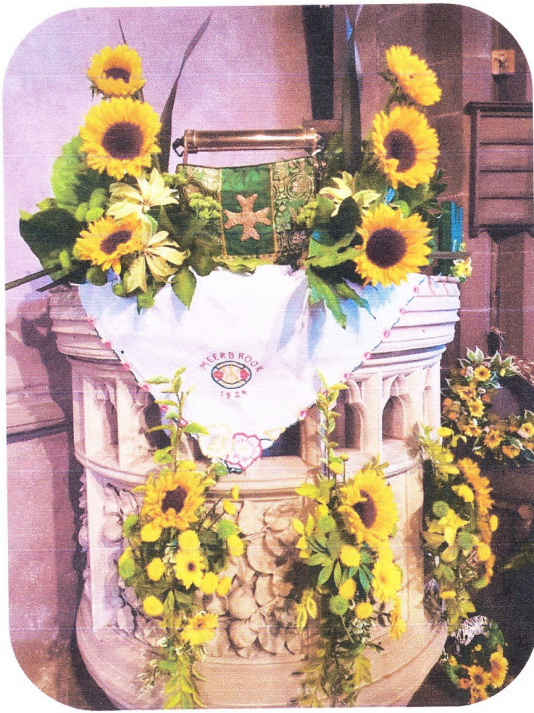
There was a wide variety of films and musicals featured and as usual, I took far too many photographs! No wonder my phone groans every time I turn it on! It is full to bursting!

Greeting us as we walked through the door was a two-sided display depicting the 2014 film, "Into the Woods". Mum hadn't seen the film so for those other readers who are unfamiliar, it is a musical fantasy centred around fairy tale characters: Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Jack, his mother, the cow and the beanstalk, a giant, Cinderella, a wolf, a baker and his wife and of course..... a wicked witch!



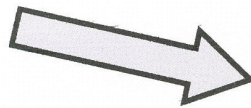
No prizes for guessing this one! Aren't the colours brilliant!



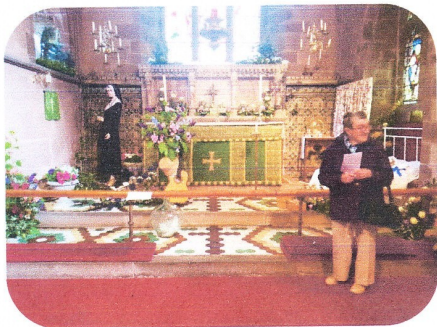
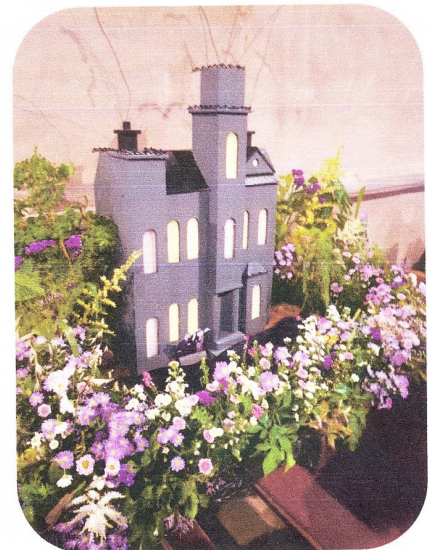


When I first saw the next display, I immediately thought that it was "Rebecca", since the lights looked a little like there was a fire inside.

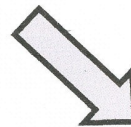
However, on looking closer, you could make out a little "strange-looking" group of people standing outside, together with a flock of eerie crows (or should I say "murder"!), perched on the roof! This wasn't Rebecca, it was The Addams Family! What a contrast, the sombre looking house compared to the beautiful floral surround!



The thought of this film always raises an instant smile! Yes, you guessed it—Calendar Girls! Meerbrook WI created this beautifully eye catching display centred around the pulpit, and also included a very pretty and delicate "afternoon tea". I can think of more than one or two of our congregation that also love sunflowers - don't they look a picture!



I am sure you will guess the next theme as soon as you see the nun!

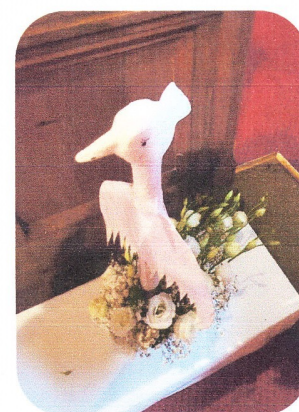
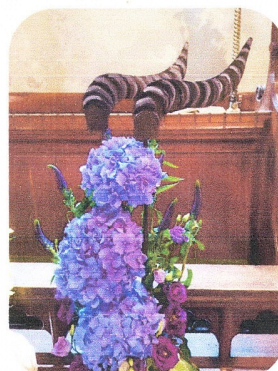
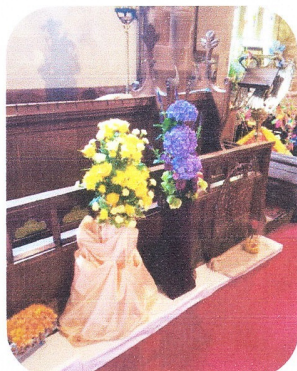


What delighted me was the ingenious way of portraying one of the famous songs, "My Favourite Things".

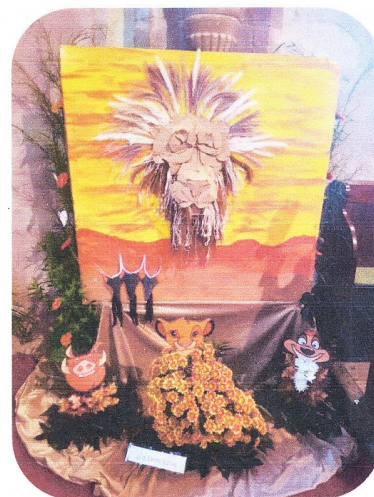
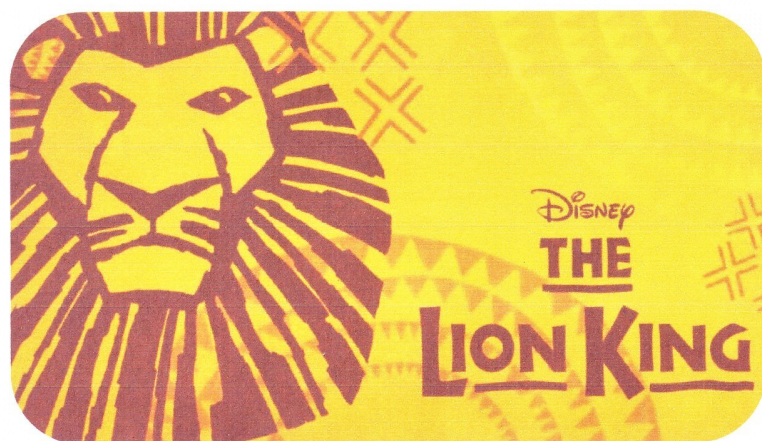
I have to admit to singing out loud as soon as I saw it, pointing out every single element that I spotted!



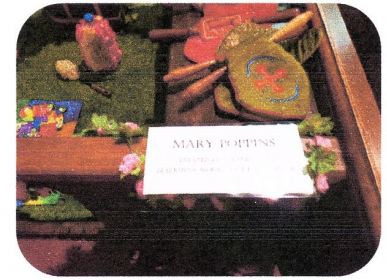
Now, I freely admit to LOVING Disney and so you can imagine how delighted I was to see this display! I took great delight in enlightening Mum and explaining who was who! Can you recognise them from the film?



A little more Disney animation next with the Lion King!



Continuing the animated Disney theme, here we have Cinderella—another wonderful film! Notice the centre piece is made using the “well dressing” technique, by pressing petals and pebbles into a board of clay. Having created a well dressing board myself, I can verify how time consuming this is and how precise you need to be in order to produce a clear image— isn't it gorgeous!



How lovely to see a beautiful display created by the children of Blackshaw Moor C of E First School.... I imagine they have all had great fun in creating this and no doubt, will have visited the church to proudly show off their work to their friends and family!

There were many other photos (as I said, I was snapping away with abandon!). However, because it was actually quite sunny when we visited (I know, we were lucky—we just about managed to dodge the heavy showers!), the light through the windows caused a few problems with the photos since the sun was BEHIND the focus, causing the picture to be hazy and washed out. Rather a shame as all the arrangements were marvellous!

The other floral displays:

- ◆ The Secret Garden
- ◆ Les Miserable
- ◆ Grease
- ◆ The War of the Worlds
- ◆ Peter Rabbit
- ◆ The Wizard of Oz
- ◆ Phantom of the Opera
- ◆ Jurassic Park
- ◆ The Magnificent Seven
- ◆ Theatre snacks at the ends of the pews

What a wonderful event this was—**PLEASE** keep a look out for it next year—it is a really glorious festival... good for the soul!

*Esther x*

There was so much to look at! I absolutely adored the huge shelf of penguins, together with the carousel, the chimney and the sweep's brush, the iconic blue dress and the famous "spoonful of medicine!"

(I have a great fondness for Mary Poppins and have been likened to her on more than one occasion since I used to carry a **HUGE** handbag containing everything apart from the kitchen sink!)



