



St. Mary's Church
Woughton

STRAWBERRY FAYRE

Saturday 1st July

12 noon-4 pm

50p entry, children **FREE**

Strawberry Teas Barbecue Tombola
Plant and Craft Stalls Homemade Cakes &
Preserves Bric a Brac, Face Painting
Raffle with **TOP PRIZES** plus much more!

1 FREE ENTRY with this voucher

If you would like information on up and coming events please
fill in your details below

Email: or

Address.....

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St. Mary's Church Keeping in Touch

Newport Road, Woughton on the Green MK6 3BS

Serving the areas of Woughton on the
Green, Woughton Park, Passmore,
Peartree Bridge and Eaglestone.

Part of the Woughton Ecumenical Partnership.

The spring flowers are almost over and the trees are greening up nicely, the wild flower area is looking good, all giving a feeling of the joy of God's creation. The winter months have passed and we look forward to the summer with new growth happening around us. There is lots happening in St. Mary's as well.

Matthew 16: 18 says

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

St. Mary's may not be built on rock but it has been standing for over 700 years, and we have a responsibility to maintain it for the generations to come. You will have noticed that the clock is now working after a long time being re-furbished. This is just one of a number of projects being undertaken. New lighting has just been installed in the Church, we are about to re-build the north wall, re-install a weather vane, and raise money for a new audio/visual system.

To achieve all this we need **your** help. Please come along and have a look at what we are doing. We are a busy church and growing community, spiritually alive and constantly seeking God's help to achieve our visions. So next time you are passing on a Saturday morning, drop in for a coffee and see for yourself, you will be very welcome.

Rev Paul Norris
Associate Priest





Strawberry Fayre Sat. 1st July

As we prepare for this annual event in the Church calendar, we invite you to come along and give your support. Details are on reverse.

Christian Aid Thank you for the generous support given to the recent appeal, the House to House collection together with Church donations have been sent to Christian Aid. We are indebted to those who collect and those who donate.

Church and Churchyard Last summer the lights in the nave of the church began to fail. You may have noticed how dark and dismal it was in the church if you came to the Woughton Heritage Exhibition last September or were in church at any time during the winter months. The lights have now been replaced, this time with LED bulbs, which have transformed the church interior and we are assured are more efficient and ecofriendly. Many people kindly donated money towards their replacement for which the church is most grateful. Do come and see for yourself! The church is 'Open for you' each Saturday morning from 10.00 until 12.00.

A Place of Remembrance There are very few spaces left in the churchyard for burial. We have continued to offer space for the interment of cremated remains (ashes) marked with a memorial stone. The capacity of this area is also very limited. We are now offering a space for ashes to be 'strewed' in the consecrated area inside the lych gate. The area is marked with a dedication stone .



Churchyard Trees The Woodland Trust are setting up a database of ancient trees and St Mary's has two potential entries.

The picture shows our Lebanese Cedar reputed to be 250-300 years old and hidden in a corner of the churchyard are the remains of a 500 year old Oak, or is it an Elm?



Church Bells

The 4 bells in the Tower were upgraded to a ring of six in 1926, when two new bells were added in memory of Bertha Whittaker. These were cast by the Whitechapel Foundry who have been making and hanging bells since the 17th century. The picture shows the last bell cast this year as this famous foundry has closed its doors, leaving just one foundry in the UK at Loughborough.



In addition to ringing for services and weddings special occasions are marked by ringing a Quarter Peals (QP), with 1260 changes taking about 40 minutes. Recently the 100th anniversary of the death of Ernest Purcell, a village lad, was marked with a QP of "Reverse Canterbury Group Doubles". His name is recorded on the war memorial. A QP of "Woughton on the Green Doubles" was rung as part of a recent national BBC Music Day.

Church Hall

Our plans to seek permission for a change of use remain in suspense, however the hall continues to be used as a Polling Station, which you may feel is too frequent these days!

Land Registry

We have commenced the process of registering the site with the Land Registry which will result in determining, with our neighbours, our boundaries and their maintenance.

Weather Vane and North Wall

Whilst we have approval for these works, finding the right contractor is proving difficult, hence the delay.

TO CONTACT US:

Parish Office 01908 392583 email: office@woughton.org

The parish welcomes enquiries from couples wanting to get married and families who would like their children Baptised.

If you would like more information about our news, you are invited to contact the Chairman of the Church Council, Jean Mattinsley

01908 670415 email: jmattinsley@btinternet.com