

Church Building up for sale!

You have probably noticed that a 'For Sale' sign has gone up on the church. This marks the beginning of the new building project which we seem to have been talking about forever. The current building needs some significant and expensive work on it to ensure it is fit for purpose for the long term and we just do not have the funds to undertake that work. Consequently we have to sell the current site and with the proceeds we plan to build a new building on the front of the Cricket Ground site. This has been a hard decision to take, but we believe it is the right one.

So we will need your prayers as we step out in faith!

Family Fun Day - 11th July 2009

Following on the success of last year's Fun Day, we held another this year. Once again the weather held out for us.

The boys had a sponsored walk round the Cricket Field in the morning and the Scouts provided burger and drinks. The funds raised were to enable them to purchase another container in which to keep their equipment.

Well done boys!

The afternoon saw families and friends come together for fun and games, home-baked stall, raffles and quizzes and a bouncy castle. The cricket club provided drinks - which were much appreciated.

£130 was raised for church funds - a good day's work!

Special thanks must go to Tracy for all her hard work organising and advertising the event. And also to her two 'stand-ins' Paul and Sharon who stepped up to the mark when Tracy was taken ill and continued (under her direction from a hospital bed) to keep the arrangements and publicity on the move. They all worked very hard to make the day a success and it is humbling when people who are not directly involved in the church take it upon themselves to work so hard for our benefit.

Thanks to everyone who supported us. We had a good day, and we hope you did too!

Scout Leader Award (April 2009)

Warmest congratulations to Keith Booth, our Scout/Cub/Beaver leader who is to receive the Bar to the Silver Acorn award at the St George's Day Awards presentation in Windsor later this month.

The Silver Acorn is an award in recognition of especially distinguished service (usually in excess of twenty years) and the Bar is awarded for further distinguished service, normally at least a further five years.

The Macedonia is very proud of its record in support of the scout groups (224th Manchester) and is especially delighted that the Keith's service, not only to his own group but also through the training of other leaders in the region, is being recognised by the wider scouting movement in this way.

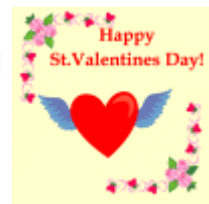
We offer Keith and his wife Vera our congratulations as they travel to London to receive the award.

The District Commissioner will be visiting the camp at Southport in May to present the award to Keith in front of the group he has served so faithfully for so many years.

Well done Keith!

Open day - February 14th 2009

Friends from Briarfield were amongst the first to join us and enjoyed a cuppa and a cake while Ralph Green, a staunch supporter of 'the Mace' who had travelled over from Sheffield to play for us, entertained with a variety of war-time songs and songs from the shows. One or two of the ladies even had a Valentine heart painted on their faces.



Local MP David Heyes, Cllrs Paul Martin and Ian Barker, and John Crompton, chairman of Failsworth Historical Society were amongst our visitors and Cllr Martin ended up a 'bit of a clown' as he ventured too close to the face paints!

The home-bake stall did a roaring trade and very little was left by the end of the day. Local shops and organisations had donated a few raffle prizes. Face-painting was popular with the younger ones and the not-so-young (see if you can recognise our Church Secretary on the photo gallery). Some of the Silver Bells Dance Troup (and mums) gave up some of the Saturday afternoon to offer us a sneak preview of their new routine and very impressive they were, too.

We were very pleased at the end of the day to note that over £240 had been raised to kick off the fund for the War Memorial Restoration Fund, and are very grateful for the generous giving of the folk who joined us, especially as the current economic climate is as dismal as the weather! But we were also grateful to see so many of our friends from round and about come together to take advantage of the opportunity for fun and laughter.