St Andrews Church News



I am writing this on a very cold and dark November evening and like many, am not looking forward to the even colder times ahead.

*Firstly, I have to tell you that John who has been our Church Warden for many years, is in hospital. Our prayers and thoughts are with Jean, Kathryn and all who know him.

The Pet Blessing service went ahead on 18th October and there were a number of four-legged friends attending. Mia, [I hope that is the correct spelling], and her owner, were in the pew in front of us. Photographs were taken at the end of the service and Mia posed as if to the manor born. A lovely occasion and we thank Julie for presiding. Some owners brought photographs of their pets which were also blessed.

The Remembrance Day service took place on the 8th November on a cold and misty morning. The Rev Jan conducted the service at the war memorial which was followed by hymns and a service in church.

A reminder of a date for your diary. The church will be open on 10th December between 3pm and 6pm. You can just 'drop in' for a few moments of quiet reflection or prayer, you will be able to light a candle in memory of loved ones or add names to the tree of remembrance.

The Rev Ailsa will conduct the service on Christmas morning at 10.30 and this will probably be the last time she will officiate before leaving the Benefice.

At this time I have no further information about the date of the Rev Christine's leaving but there is a Church Council meeting at the end of November so there may be news then.

It just remains for me to wish all of you a happy and joyful Christmas and a New Year which will bring us peace in a much troubled world.

God bless you all and please watch for those for whom this is not a joyful time, support them in any way you can.

Richard Hancock

*Since publication of this newsletter, with great sadness we have heard that John has passed away. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.