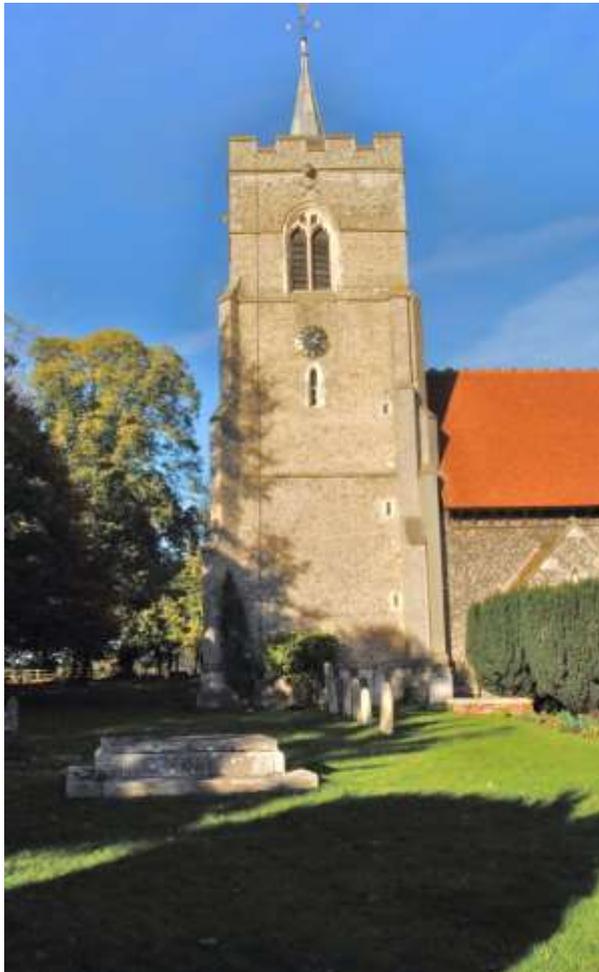


FRIENDS OF WESTMILL CHURCH

November 2013 Newsletter



Newsletter update:

As you will have noticed the outside works on the Church are completed, churchyard tidied, and everything is looking very smart. The interior repair and decorative works are to start in the very near future once the scaffolding has been erected within the church, (this should be completed by the third week of November) and therefore this is why the church is closed and will remain so until the work is finished. The Churchwardens have informed me that they are dearly hoping that the church will be ready at Christmas.

We have had a quieter year as far as fund raising is concerned hopefully giving you all a rest and helping to replenish your wallets and purses. However should anyone have any inspired ideas for future fund raising for 2014 please let anyone on the Committee know, as the church will always need a steady flow of revenue. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed one way or another in helping us to raise the money to complete the works on St. Mary's – and what a great job has been done.

VILLAGE LOTTERY



YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

The Christmas draw will take place on
Tuesday 3rd December:

In the Sword in Hand and it will be a **DOUBLE
PAYOUT**

If you would like to purchase a number
please ring either:

Liz Holland (272181) or Jan James (272217)

New Tiles on Church Roof

Friends of Westmill Church recently held a competition to guess the number of new tiles that were used to repair the Church roof. The actual number used was 20,097. The nearest guess to that number was 20,106 submitted by Paul Cousins from Hopfields House, Westmill. Paul wins the £50 prize which was kindly donated by John Waters (of Ware) our local bespoke cabinet maker. Thanks to all who supported this competition the funds raised (£220) will be going towards the cleaning and decorating charges for the entire interior of the Church.

Michael Thody

Westmill War Memorial

Westmill's war memorial is located within St. Mary's Church and it, along with most other memorials to the Great War, was paid for and erected by public subscription. As noted on the memorial itself, it



was dedicated in 1919 by friends and family of those who lost their lives.

The list of Westmill's war dead may seem quite short but in fact the tragic loss of 11 Westmill residents represents a considerable number when you think that the population recorded during the 1911 census only numbered 163 male inhabitants in total.

There has been some fascinating information uncovered during my research and I'm happy to say that I've put the details on the FOWC website www.friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk/remembrance.html.

Please take time to have a look and remember the people behind the names on the marble tablet.

If you can help fill in any additional details for the names listed on Westmill's roll of honour I'd really appreciate it if you could get in touch as it would provide a valuable resource for future generations.

As it stands there is one name that eludes me – E W Humphreys. As yet, I have not been able to find any trace of them as a Westmill resident in 1911 or having war service that in some way attributes them to Westmill so if there's anything you can do to put me on the right track, please let me know.

'We will remember them'

Nigel Leaney

webmaster@friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk

SINGING FOR ST MARY'S CHURCH

I am hoping to get enough people together to sing Carols and Christmas songs to raise money for St. Mary's. The venue will be the Car Park at Pearce's Farm Shop and suggested date are on either or both of the Saturdays 14th and 23rd December - timing depending upon who is available and when.

If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument to accompany us please will you let me know - it would be a lovely fund raiser.

The ever popular Carols on the Village Green is taking place on Monday 23rd December.

For those who'd like to wrap up warm we are meeting at 5.00 p.m.



on the Village Green and armed with torches and song sheets we'll sing our way round the village. You are very welcome to join us or If you'd like a carol sung outside your home please let me know. This is NOT A FUND RAISER so please don't offer money to send us away! Jan James 272217

Church New Memorial Garden

The FOWC have helped the Church Wardens with a cash contribution and labour to create a new Memorial Garden some 7sq. metres in area, at the East End of the Church.

The current area for the interment of ashes is almost full and a new area was required. The FOWC with the help of a number of villagers prepared the new area, relayed new turf and planted a surrounding box hedge

Church Flower Bed Maintenance

The FOWC have also undertaken to maintain the borders on either side of the Church path which had become overgrown with weeds. A monthly rota has been created and the results of the first month's efforts can now be seen after weeding and planting of new flowers & bulbs.

One or two more volunteers are still required to join the rota which consists of teams of 2 taking the responsibility for the maintenance of these borders on a monthly basis.

(If you are interested in helping please contact Winston Pickup)

Friends of Westmill Church (FOWC)

U.K. Registered Charity No. 1141322

The Trustees:

David Mills	Chairman
Rev. Ian Hill	
Sally Cousins	
Winston Pickup	
Michael Thody	

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Sue Phipps	Church Warden
Liz Holland	
David Mills	
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Ray Partridge	
Michael Thody	

Website: www.friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk