

## **All Saints Church – article in November 2016 Village Views**

Those of you who have attended one of our church services recently will have noticed that we have a new Notice Board at the entrance to the churchyard. This replaces the old board which had become rotten. We are very grateful to East Garston Parish Council who awarded us £500 towards the cost from the “Grants for the Community” fund. The balance of almost £600 was paid approximately 50% each by a donation and from the churchyard bank account.

On the morning of Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September a small group met at the church and walked to a point above Westfield Farm from which we could clearly see Lambourn church, Eastbury village and All Saints Church. Here we joined in prayers for the three parishes of the benefice before walking back to the church for coffee and biscuits.

There was another happy occasion when Arthur Clark Butcher was welcomed as a member of the church by family and friends at his baptism on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

We held our annual Churchyard Maintenance Day on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Thanks to the team of volunteers who turned out to help with some of the jobs that there is insufficient time and labour to tackle at other times during the year.

Over 80 people of all ages attended our Harvest Festival on 9<sup>th</sup> October. The church had been beautifully decorated the previous day by children and some of our team of flower arrangers. There was also a display which told the story of grain production and the uses to which it is put. Children assisted in the service by “meeting and greeting” and reading some of the prayers. The West Berkshire Strings played the introduction to the first hymn and later performed Rigaudon by Henry Purcell. After the service, approximately 60 adults and children shared a Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall. Thanks to all who helped to make both occasions so successful. Part of the offertory of over £400 will be donated to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

**Bob Briant**  
**Churchwarden**