

Beckingham cum Saundby

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All St Church

Open Weekend

2012...



Southwell and Nottingham Open Churches weekend is a time when Churches all over the area open their doors inviting everyone to see and enjoy the beauty and history of these amazing buildings with many holding various events and activities. With a choice of two weekends Beckingham All Saints Church chose 21st and 22nd of July to hold theirs, opening from 10am to around 4pm each day. The Church was decorated with bunting and flags and there were some beautiful floral arrangements around the building. The various vestments worn by members of the clergy were on display.



There was a display of some amazing works of art by the village schoolchildren. They had made some beautiful crowns to wear and paper ones. They had drawn shields and celebratory mugs, designed stamps and done rubbings of pre-decimal coins. There were some interesting portraits of the Queen in the Andy Warhol style and also using symmetry. The children had also created some unusual artwork relating to a book called "The Queens Knickers"!



The History Group created a display of mainly photographs of weddings held in the Church, pictures old and recent of the building plus some of the renovation of the Church bells. Copies of Baptism and Marriage Banns registers, Parish Church Magazines and files of old photos were available for people to browse through. There was also a rolling display of on the laptop.



On Saturday afternoon the event was formally opened by Mr Gerald Millard at 2pm. People were then invited to enjoy the wonderful spread of food which had been prepared to be eaten inside or outside along with tea, coffee and cold drinks. Various stalls outside included homemade cakes, tombola, bric-a-brac, books and a raffle plus a bran tub. On the Sunday there was a Songs of Praise in the afternoon followed by drinks and biscuits.



After all the rain experienced in the days beforehand there was much concern over the weather. Indeed only the day before people who were setting up in the church were wearing wellingtons, waterproofs and warm clothing! However, the weather was kind and it turned out sunny, very warm and dry for the whole weekend and after a slow start the event was well attended. Grateful thanks go to Steve and everyone who was involved in making it such a success.

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