



Is this what Hints wants?

Dear friends

I am very aware of how much our lovely church of St Bart's is valued by so many of you within the village. However, I'm afraid that once again I am charged with the task of asking for your help and support in order to keep it open.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of a few volunteers, the financial support of a number of you and ongoing fundraisers such as the Football Pontoon and Art at St Bart's within the village all of which I am very grateful for, we have just about managed to keep our financial head above water. However, sadly, a number of changes to our fortunes which mainly revolve around the loss of some very generous supporters from the village and also the fact that the Open Gardens is no longer taking place, has meant that once again our finances are on a knife edge.

However, what is more worrying is that, with the obvious exception of special one-off's like Christmas, the services themselves are now very poorly attended. As I know I have said in the past - we need to remember that a church is not just a building, instead it's a body of people who come together on a regular basis. Which means that if St Bart's is to stay viable we not only need financial support but also your personal support at services. I am quite happy to organise any number of one off specials at any time or any day of the week. We are also more than happy to run special events for children and young people if that is what they want. All you need do is let me or a member of our PCC know what you would like us to do and we will do it. We cannot take the future survival of St Bartholomew's for granted - so, if you value it, please support it, in any way that you feel able, after all, as the saying goes, "once it's gone, it's gone".

Many thanks

Fiona Haskett