

Sponsored Walk in Support of St John's Church

Hello Everyone,

The past few months have been challenging for us all in a variety of different ways. From the point of view of St. John's Church, in order to help maintain a sense of community between us, we started sending out the Pew Sheet every week. This was then followed up by running services using Zoom, and it was great to be able to join in worship with you, albeit electronically. As well as being spiritually challenging over the past 5 months, the impact on finances has been huge, with no collections from services, and the cancellation of all our fundraising initiatives.

However, the one thing that we have been allowed to do during the lockdown period and beyond is walk, and we are fortunate in Lacey Green and the surrounding area to have a myriad of footpaths, and some stunning scenery. You will recall that we had a successful sponsored walk last year, and so we thought we would build on that initiative and organise another one this year.

Circumstances are clearly very different in 2020, so it will not be appropriate to have a group of people from different households all walking in close proximity. Therefore this year there will be considerable flexibility in what you can all do to join in and help, whilst remaining comfortable about your personal safety.

- The date chosen for the event is notionally Saturday 26th September. However, if you want to participate but this day is not practical, then feel free to do your walk whenever it suits you!
- There will be an organised walk that people can follow if you wish commencing at 11-00 am. This will be led by Vince, and will start at the Church. The idea would be that different households allow something like a 5 to 10 metre gap between them and the people in front and behind them. The route will be via Kiln Lane, towards Hampden Woods, before circling back to Kiln Lane and Lacey Green. This will involve some slopes, but no stiles. The distance is approximately 3.5 miles. If the weather is suitable, and if the rules in place at the time allow it, the walk may conclude with a socially distanced self-catered picnic in the vicarage garden.
- If you don't fancy this walk, feel free to do one of your own choosing at a time and place convenient to you and anyone you are bubbled with who is joining in.

Church funds have been seriously affected since March, so we hope that you will all be able to offer significant support to this event. You can get involved in one of 2 ways.

- Join in the collective walk, or do one of your own choosing, and get sponsorship from family and friends
- Don't bother doing the walk, but still get lots of sponsorship from family and friends!

Please get in touch if you are interested in taking part or simply raising funds. The event is being organised by Vince who will be happy to answer any questions, pass on sponsorship forms etc. He can be contacted via the St. John's Gmail account (stjohnschurchlaceygreen@gmail.com) or if you prefer, phone him on 07702 574513.

Kind Regards,

Canon Tony