

A few words from the Vicarage ...



I hope that you are enjoying the summer – well, the summer months at least. The weather has so far left a lot to be desired yet again and it has certainly not been the best for farmers and gardeners alike. If you managed to get away, hopefully you fared better and are relaxed and ready for the work which lies ahead as the various organisations and groups prepare for the new season's meetings and activities.

An exciting development for us is the plans currently going ahead to form a new Beaver Colony as a forerunner to have Cubs and Scouts. Many of you will remember the days when there was a Scout group at St Paul's and, if all goes to plan, those days may well return. We are blessed with the various groups for girls so this would be the ideal counterbalance if we are able to get the green light for this to happen. Nothing has yet been finalised and there are a few matters to iron out – but we remain hopeful nevertheless.

By now doubtless you will be aware of the new Spitfire Memorial installed at Fairhaven Lake – even if you have not yet seen it. It was given a prominent slot on the local TV News and mentioned in the local newspapers. Due to various delays with its installation, the launch date has already been postponed twice – however, it is hoped that this may now take place in the afternoon of Remembrance Sunday when I hope to lead a short service at the site. If agreement can be reached on this, it would be a fitting date for the launch. It is hoped that as many local people as possible will make the short trip to the lakeside to take part in the inauguration of the memorial and to remember why it is necessary to have such a monument in the first place.

At the present time, I am looking around for people to approach for our MAP process – so, be prepared to be asked (if I haven't asked you already) and be prepared to take on this vital role as we look to the future development of the parish. Please pray for this work and for those who will undertake it.

A final plea from me – part of the process involves looking again at what we do and how we may do it better. I need the help of everyone to tell me if there are any parishioners who need to be visited or who require/desire Home Communion. This is not a new plea but it is one worth being renewed. It is vitally important that no one is overlooked or feels forgotten – but I need to be kept informed. So, please keep in touch with one another and keep me up to date.

God bless you all,

Your Vicar,

Fr D.