



ALL SAINTS' ANGELS NEWSLETTER - May-June 2022

As I shared with you in the press release just after Easter – we have had some success in attracting **more grants** over the past few months:

- **Friends of Essex Churches** Trust have pledged two grants – for the Tower repairs £15,000 and the WC/kitchenette £15,000
- The National Churches Trust have pledged two grants as well: from **Cornerstone** £15,000 and from the **Wolfson Trust** £5,000
- **Fowler, Smith & Jones Trust** have agreed a grant of £3,000

And we have had some of the previous pledged grants paid into our bank account, now that work is about to begin:

- **Garfield Weston** £20,000
- **Beatrice Laing Family Trust** £5,000

And, we have not slackened in **our local fund-raising efforts**, with a successful Easter Egg Hunt around All Saints' Churchyard on Easter Day, a lovely walk through the bluebell woods courtesy of Dim Girling and sale of items. Between them over £1,000 was raised. This is all good news as we strive to ensure that total cost of the project is covered by grants, donations and fund-raising.

Meanwhile, we are waiting for tender offers to be received for the capital works, and we are waiting for replies to advertisements for the paid & unpaid roles, which are **Evaluation Consultant, Activity Co-ordinator and Heritage Assistant Internship**. Local websites, Colchester Institute and the University of Essex are all helping us to find the right people.

From **July 2022 the church will be closed**; as first of all, the PCC will carry out a thorough stock-take before the builders start urgent work on the repairs to the Tower and construction of a new kitchenette and equal-access toilet extension. This will take approximately until Spring 2023. While work is progressing, access to the church will be out of bounds to the public and no services will be taking place for insurance, public liability and health & safety reasons. The churchyard will be fully accessible although there will be temporary drainage works which will cause some periodic access restrictions, and there will be a ground level exclusion area near the Tower where the scaffolding is in place.

Just before the church closes there will be an **OPEN DAY on Sunday July 3rd** when everyone is welcome to come to find out more about the project – tea & cakes will be on sale!! Bring your friends and family for a chance to explore and help support our ambitions. Offers of baking will of course be welcomed – please phone (01206 305120) or email me.

With thanks again to you all for your untiring support and encouragement

- on behalf of the Project Team - Elizabeth Foss-Smith