

Community Life Hope Street

Hope Street is a once a month gathering for families hosted by the



people who brought you Monster's Stink and the Good Friday Café.

Those of us at the Baptist Church and the Church of England churches in the Wychwood Benefice are keen to create a space where whole families are welcome and encouraged.

Monster's Stink, which was our family activity week in the February half-term, was just that. Unlike previous half-term weeks, we encouraged whole families to come and during that week we had over 80 people. The Good Friday Café saw about 100 people and during the two hours we were open there was something for everyone to engage with as we remembered the terrible Friday that we call 'Good'. These two events demonstrated that there is a gap in our provision for children and families and

Hope Street is our response. Hope Street will run at the Wychwood

Primary School on **the first Sunday of every month** between 4 and 6pm, except for August, September and January when there will not be a Hope Street.

The event is for families and children need to bring a parent or grandparent with them. There will be all kinds of things to do and join in with; storytelling, drama, craft and singing. We will finish by 6pm with a light family tea.

The **first Sunday in October is the 6th** and we will be considering a promise that was made a long time ago.

If you have any questions please speak to John Witts on: 07973 473605, Graham Stacey on: 07753 687389 or Kate Stacey on: 01993 832514 or send an email to help@hopestreet.ws

The Hope Street website:

www.hopestreet.ws is coming soon

Harvest Festival

On the first Sunday in August in our churches, we celebrated Lammas which is the offering of the first grain of the harvest in the form of a loaf.

This year we had a problem as most farmers had not begun harvesting and many had no winter barley and so no ripe grain. In the Wychwoods we found that Chris Badger of Crown Farm, Ascott had just finished cutting his barley and he kindly gave us some to make bread. At Manor Farm, Upper Milton, we began the

harvest on 3rd August, very late for us, with oil seed rape and then had several days to wait for the barley and wheat to be ready. Amazingly we finished before the month was out, on 30th August.

All is safely gathered with no bulging barns this year! Now we are ready to celebrate Harvest Festival and we look forward to seeing you then. Do not forget to bring some of your own produce to share with others.

Anne Hartley