

READY, STEADY, GO.....

As I'm sure you all know, prior to the devastating fire in the church in 2018 a highlight of the season was the beautiful Christmas Tree that stood each year by the Grundy Window.

This proved very popular with the congregation and townsfolk as it enabled people to hang baubles containing messages remembering loved ones who were absent at Christmas.

Being an optimist I'm sure that the refurbishment of the church will be completed soon and I have it from very high authority that a Christmas Tree of suitable proportions will be required for next year's festive season!

What many of you may not know is that whilst the tree of 2018 was undamaged by the fire it was impossible to retrieve any of the decorations as they were considered to be contaminated by toxic dust. In all we probably lost over 4000 lights and nearly 3000 Baubles/decorations. I have photos of that tree in a skip, still dressed in its Christmas finery! The lights are easily replaced however it took me nearly 10 years to accumulate the collection of baubles/decorations most of which I bought myself in the Christmas sales or begged from local retailers such as Tesco, Wyevale (now Dobbies) and Scotsdales. I am now launching a campaign to completely replace the tree decorations ready for Christmas 2022.

I have made a good start with generous donations from Dobbies and Bury Lane Farm however I need a lot more if we are going to be able to replicate past glories! So can you help please?

As you dismantle your Christmas Tree this year, if you have any redundant baubles or other tree decorations in good condition will you please kindly consider donating them to the church?

Collection can be organized through Joanne. Thank you.

Chris Wallis