



SEPTEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEIGH AND BRANSFORD MEMORIAL HALL

Remembering Our Past and Building for our Future

Those of you who regularly read this monthly update will remember that towards the end of last year Barrie Thornley cheerfully volunteered his time, design skills, gardening expertise and list of trade contacts to undertake the complete restoration of our Memorial Hall Planters.

Thanks to his considerable horticultural and project management skills, work has continued apace over the past two months to complete the restoration and replanting in good time for the annual Remembrance Day Gathering on Sunday, 9 November.

To date the work has involved removing more than a skip-full of overgrown and ageing plants, shrubs and other vegetation, followed by the excavation of tons of very solid, root-bound earth, stone and rubble; sourcing dozens of plants that will provide year-round colour and interest; arranging for the planters themselves to be restored by an experienced bricklayer, Robin Hudson – that's him, by the way in the photo at the top of page hard at work – and then getting and shovelling in a staggering 4,000 litres of fresh topsoil.



Formal planting began in mid-August, comprising beautiful dark foliage (Mystic Red) dahlias, striking red and white (Hot Lips) salvias and eye-catching

Japanese (Honorine Jobert) anemones for later in the season. And then to provide continuity throughout autumn and winter, hellebores will be added later.

Following an earlier '*Sphere*' update about the Planters, I was contacted by Gill Gale, a local resident and former member of our Hall Management Committee, who has kindly offered to replace some of the daffodil bulbs she had put into the Planters some years ago in memory of her father Thomas Albert (known as 'Jack'), who was also a member of the local volunteer militia force during the second world war. "Our family roots are deep in the village" she told me. In keeping with the red and white colour theme, Gill will provide some miniature white narcissus bulbs that Barrie will incorporate into the overall planting design. As you may recall, many of the plants have been donated by Bransford Webbs, courtesy of David Chilvers their Sales and Marketing Director. Our grateful thanks once again go to everyone involved in this important project.



But, as important as it is to remember and honour our ancestor parishioners, the Hall is also about the here and now, celebrating life, life events and looking to the future. Which brings me to our latest venture:

From October 7th, we will be hosting weekly **Baby Sensory Classes**. If you would like to take your baby on a new, exciting adventure every week and enjoy conversation with other parents experiencing the same parenting highs and lows as you, then **Baby Sensory**, a multi-award winning and research backed programme, specifically designed for babies

from birth to 13 months old may be just what you need. Activities with your infant include baby music; movement; baby signing; massage; light shows; themed sessions; water and messy play; puppet shows and all with hundreds of props! Every activity is backed by over 40 years of scientific research, proven to aid your baby's learning and development enormously. Plus, with over 40 different sessions, you'll never experience the same class twice.

Run by Josie Ann Johnson classes take place on Thursdays, with three, timed classes to choose from. To find out more and to book your space, visit www.babysensory.co.uk/malvern or email Josie at malvern@babysensory.co.uk

Jon Gamble, Chair of Trustees