



# The Friends of St Lawrence Church Bradfield

Registered Charity No. 1138268

President: Simon Bullimore 01255 870346

Chairman: Norma Barrow 01255 870681

## News Letter January 2016

Belated Happy New Year!

We are issuing the first newsletter of 2016 as a hard copy, but will return to email updates for the rest of the year. If you have changed your email address or telephone number during 2015 could you please make sure you have informed me? Thank you.

### Membership Subs

**The membership subs for 2016 are now due** and for those of you paying by cash/cheque there is a renewal request attached to this newsletter. **Please return the form with your payment.** Thank you to all the people who now use standing orders. If anyone else would like to convert to this form of payment please ask Elizabeth Norton for a form.tel: 01255 870050.

### Membership drive

As time passes, we are aware of people leaving the village for various reasons, resulting in loss of Friends members. We are therefore asking our existing members if they would be kind enough to use the attached Friends brochure to try and recruit new people. Should you be successful in your persuasions, the membership form can either be passed to the church office or maybe sent straight to Elizabeth Norton or Norma Barrow.

### 2015 update

Once again we had a very successful year with many enjoyable and profitable events. Thank you all for your continued support.

### Stained Glass Window Project Update

We are delighted to report that the repairs and cleaning of the stained glass windows have now been completed. If you are out walking on a sunny day do pop into the church to see how fantastic they look with years of dirt removed!

### Christmas craft market results

Once again, Kathy Wilkinson had gathered a wide range of good quality crafts and food stalls for this event. The event was well supported with over 263 adults, plus many children attending. Father Christmas was very busy telling stories and giving out presents. The kitchen staffs were kept on their toes serving a range of refreshments, whilst the tombola, raffles and cake stalls did very well. Thank you to everyone who supported this event, which together with some generous donations raised a magnificent £1,979.



## Future projects

### **North Transept**

Following a Trustees meeting and consultation with the PCC, it has been agreed that the Friends will fund the new storage cupboards in this transept, together with the staining of all new wood.

### **South Transept**

The PCC are trying to move the work forward and once decisions have been made the Friends will consider making grants towards the work.

### **Tower**

Once the transept work has been completed the PCC will need to look at essential repairs to ensure the continued integrity of the tower walls, a major project which the Friends will consider funding.

### **Small Maintenance Jobs.**

The PCC has accepted an offer from Bob Coe and Norma Barrow to oversee small maintenance jobs. (This is outside of their Friends work). An initial budget of £500 (£200 from the Friends and £300 from the PCC) has been put aside for this work. The jobs will be identified by a quarterly church inspection. Where possible it will be DIY, otherwise suitable people will be employed. Several small jobs have already been completed.

## Events for 2016

### **Poems and Pints evening – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 7pm**

Christopher and Fontaine Woods are holding this event at Blue Bonnet, Mill Lane. Just bring along a poem and a drink and Fontaine will provide a supper. The charge for the event is £10 per person with all profits going to the Friends. Please telephone Fontaine on 01255 870411 to book for this event. Parking is limited, so please would you park somewhere other than Mill Lane

**Meal in May** - date and details to be confirmed

**Concert** - We are hoping that Susie Hyman and her friends who make up Con Spirito will be returning for another concert/buffet sometime in June

**Curry Night.** Last year's event was very popular and we hope to repeat the evening sometime in September. Date to be confirmed.

### **Murder Mystery Evening - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October Bradfield Community Centre**

Returning by popular demand. More details to come. Anyone up for being an actor?

### **Christmas Craft Market - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November Bradfield Community Centre**

**History Books** - Both books produced so far are still on sale and continue to add to the Friend's funds. Another book is in preparation. There will be an article in the February Garpevine about this new book and the research needed.

Sorry if some of this information is a bit vague, but after achieving the very large sum required for the windows, we had a rest from thinking about fund raising ideas over Christmas! However it is now the New Year and we will be back in full swing soon, as old churches wait for no one. I have recently read through one of the church minute books going back to the 1920s and noted that as regards repairs and maintenance, nothing changes!

Our website [www.foslbradfield.org](http://www.foslbradfield.org) is updated on a regular basis and is the 'go to' source for information, pictures and updates.

Best wishes  
Norma Barrow

