



Friends of St Peter & All Hallows Church West Huntspill

Newsletter Issue 3 - Spring 2020

Welcome to the Spring edition of our quarterly Newsletter, we hope it finds you well in these strange times.

We have exciting news regarding how we will be supporting the preservation of the Church, but first of all, here is a letter from our Chairman, David Hill regarding the current situation.

Dear Friends

I am writing in this Spring Newsletter to all Members and Supporters to give an update on the effect the Coronavirus has and will undoubtedly make on our activities over the coming months. It was with great regret that we had to postpone the arranged talk by Christopher Somerville on his book 'Ships of Heaven' which was due to take place on the 28th March and which would have been our first main event since the formation of Friends. The good news however is that Christopher has agreed to come to us at a later date once the Government decides that it is safe to do so.

It has also been decided to postpone the concert of music arranged with Richard Lennox due to take place on 27th June until a later date as it seems very unlikely that restrictions due to the Coronavirus will have changed by then. In any event there remains very little time left to administer this event for that date.

The arranged talk on 'Lost treasures of the Knights of Templar' due to take place on 3rd October will be reviewed nearer the time as to whether it can go ahead as planned. Similarly, the Friends AGM planned for 11th August.

I should like to extend our very best wishes to you all at this difficult and unprecedented time and hope that you are all coping well with your respective situations. Thank you for your continued support.

Keep well and we look forward to seeing you when the time allows at our future events.

David Hill, Chairman.

Report on Coffee Morning, 15th February

Sadly, the atrocious weather on this day kept most people at home, so attendance was disappointing. Nevertheless, we managed to raise the grand total of **£167.87** which of course will all go towards our project to maintain the Church building – of which more below.

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes, bottles, raffle prizes and items for the Bring and Buy stall, to all the volunteers and to those brave souls who made it to the Balliol Hall.

FRIENDS PROJECT TO FUND REPAIRS TO CHURCH WINDOWS



Although as a group we formed with the objective of supporting the Parochial Church Council in maintaining, conserving and enhancing the fabric of the church building – and have been raising funds for that purpose - it has been unclear up to now exactly how the funds could be used. Although there is obviously major repairs of the roof to be undertaken, for which Lottery funding is being sought, it was felt that the rest of the building must not be allowed to degrade and that the Friends could contribute in specific areas to this conservation.

Recently, members of the Friends' Council have been in discussion with the Churchwarden, David Lemon, who has identified a discrete project that we think is ideal for the Friends to adopt.

As part of the inspection of the church for his 5-yearly report, the Architect has identified some windows that need repair as soon as possible. One of them, the "Reginald Wade" window on the south wall, is in a more perilous state and requires urgent attention to stop further degradation. A budget costing had been given of £1,500 to repair or replace the stonework surround and replace the existing bar structure of this window with stainless steel.

Thanks to your generosity we already have sufficient funds to provide this amount as an initial payment to carry out the work, when the current restrictions are eased. It may be that the budget cost will rise and if so, we will direct our efforts to raise funds to complete the work.

There are a further three windows where only the steel bars need replacement and we hope to be able to fund this work in the future, with your continued support.

We hope you agree that this is an appropriate use of the funds raised by the Friends of St Peter and All Hallows Church and will give benefit to all who use or visit the church.

WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO, HOWEVER LONG THAT TAKES, WE WILL ANNOUNCE NEW DATES FOR OUR EVENTS. ANY NEWS WILL BE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE OR INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED QUARTERLY.


If you have missed our earlier newsletters, you can find them on our website at <https://friendsofspaahc.org>

People can now join the Friends via our website or by contacting the Membership Secretary, Janet Hill.

If you have an e-mail account but have received a paper copy of this Newsletter, please help us keep costs down and let us know your e-mail address so that we can contact you by e-mail in future.

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