



Friends of St. Mary's Church Chartham



FRIENDS IN FOCUS

SPRING 2019

In your "*Friends in Focus*".....

- Welcome to Issue 12
- Committee Updates
- September Barn Dance
- Genistas Three Fruit Marmalade
- OktoberFest Photos
- Janet on Raffles

Registered Charity 1168636



Friends of St. Mary's
Chartham

Registered Charity No. 1168636

WELCOME ALONG TO ISSUE 12.....

Welcome along to Issue 12 of the "Friends in Focus" Newsletter. It has already been a year since the last one.

As I write every year and I say once again, this is your newsletter and we'd love to hear from you. Your thoughts on the church building, your thoughts on the village, your thoughts on the Friends, your thoughts on the newsletter. You might even want to write us an article.

You can write to us c/o 54 Magnolia Drive, Chartham. You can e-mail us at mail@friendsofstmaryschartham.co.uk.

In this issue, we look at the

events that have taken place since the last newsletter, introduce you to the current committee, take a look at the finances, and we look forward to some of the things happening in the next few months.

We have promised that the newsletter would appear twice a year, and that is still our ambition but that depends on your contributions. We always hope that we would have enough content for an issue later this year.

Tony Frost

Newsletter & Website Editor-
tony.chartham@outlook.com

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK....

It has been another exciting year for the "Friends of St Marys " Chartham.

Writing as secretary to the friends I feel we continue to grow in numbers and in the choice of events on offer. This does enable us to contribute to the upkeep of our lovely church.

We have some new members, and two new recruits to the Executive Committee which plans and carries out the events not only as fund raisers, but also enjoyable gatherings for people in the Parish. For example we held our "Saturday Cafe " in tandem with the exciting Art Exhibition , thus able to offer refreshments whilst visitors enjoyed the "showcasing " of local art-

ists, so very much talent out there !

On June 1st we have our next Saturday Cafe when we will be advertising imminent events. A sponsored Swimathon will have taken place on May 25th... and there will be a Barn Dance in the village hall on Staurday September 28th.

We look forward to welcoming you .

Julia Power



OktoberFest Potato Salad

We are holding our 2nd Swimathon in aid of The Friends of St. Mary's Church and Pilgrims Hospices on Saturday 25th May.

If you would like to support us please contact Jill Hills, telephone 07845 942373.

Message from the Chair

As many of you will know after six years, from the initial setting up of The Friends of St. Mary's, I have decided to step down and let somebody else take the reins. It is time for new ideas and a new vision for the Charity, and if you think you are that person, please contact us and come and have a chat.

We have moved the organisation from small beginnings and absolutely no cash in the bank to where we are now, with nine committee members, a large sum of money in the bank and the respect of the community.

Each year we have organised a variety of events which have been greatly enjoyed by everyone, including us.

We have welcomed new committee members who have brought a wide variety of talents which have contributed to our success and we always welcome new ideas and new people.

Look forward to meeting you all at some of the events we have organised for 2019.

Sheila Finn

Meet The Committee

President

Rev. Phil Brown



Chair

Sheila Finn



Secretary

Julia Power



Treasurer, Website, Newsletter

Tony Frost



Advertising and Publicity

Tim Kidd



Committee Member

Jill Hills



Committee Member

Muriel Ritchie



Committee Member

Janet Onslow



Committee Member

Genny Spencer



Committee Member

Gay Griffiths





A Saturday Café in full swing at the Village Hall

Finance Report

After a busy year last year setting up the Gift Aid with the HMRC, it has been much quieter this year for the Friends finances. The big event of the year, the Oktoberfest added a £1000 to the Friends fund, but lets not forget our regular Saturday cafes which so far this year (with one left to go) have brought £350 to our funds. So far this year we also have around £750 from membership fees and £400 from voluntary donations; we have even sold a Septvans silk for £25.

However the big news for this year is that we have made our first grant to St Marys Church as our agreed contribution to their project for the sum of £5000. The project was large-scale roof and wall repairs much of which was funded from a Heritage Lottery Grant.

We currently have a fund standing at around £18500 all of which (apart from minor petty cash) is secured with our bankers, Lloyds Bank. I'd also like to express our thanks to Barry Snashall who continues to be our Independent Examiner /Auditor

Tony Frost, Treasurer

Genistas Three Fruit Marmalade

This is a recipe I have used for more years than I care to remember. It's really easy and can be used at any time of the year. It is a firm favourite with my family.

- 1 grapefruit
- 1 sweet orange (Total weight of the fruit 1½ lbs)
- 2 lemons
- 3pints of water
- 3 lbs. of sugar

Makes 5 lbs. of marmalade

Using a Liquidizer.....

Scrub fruit, cut into pieces and remove pips. Tie these in a muslin bag. Three quarters fill the liquidizer with the cut fruit, cover with water measured from the total amount called for in the recipe.

Switch to maximum speed for a few seconds, just enough to chop the fruit. Empty the goblet into preserving pan and continue in the same way until all the fruit has been prepared. Finally add any remaining water to the pan together with the pips in the muslin bag. Cook gently until the peel is soft and the water reduced by half. (About 2 hours.)

Remove bag of pips, after squeezing. Remove pan from the heat and add sugar and stir until dissolved. Return to the heat and boil rapidly until setting point is reached (10 to 15 minutes approximately). Remove the scum. Remove from the heat, and allow cooling a few minutes and stirring before pouring into warm sterilized jars. Cover with wax tissue and parchment or cellophane and fasten down. Store when cold in a cool, dry airy place.

To test for setting point (use either of the following methods):

Temperature Test. Use a sugar thermometer and boil marmalade until it reaches 220 degrees F.

Cold Plate Test. Cool a teaspoon of marmalade on a plate; the surface should wrinkle when pushed gently with a spoon.

When the leaves begin to fall—along with the temperatures—and the nights begin to draw in what does your mind turn to?

Here at The Friends our minds turned to a Barn Dance. Now I have never seen a building dance before, but if we can't make that happen then here's the next best thing:

We are holding a **Barn Dance at Chartham Village Hall on 28th September**. The band will be the Abbey Capers Barn Dance Band and a Ploughmans Supper will be available (if we can get it off him).

Ticket prices are £13 to Friends (and £15 to non-members); they go on sale on 1st June and are limited to 80 places. Contact us after then to secure your places.

A few years ago I was asked to sell raffle tickets at St Martins Hospital and now I hear myself agreeing to: "*and Janet will do the raffle*".

If I approach my 'customers' with a smile then the raffle can make quite a lot of money.

I usually get quite a lot of donated prizes for which I am grateful. Thank you!

I often think my customers buy a ticket to keep me quiet.....

Janet Onslow

Saturday Café

As you will be aware the Saturday Café coffee mornings now take place quarterly. The June and September ones take place in the Church whilst the ones in the colder months take place in the Village Hall. Tea and coffee available together with delicious cakes There is also a raffle with exciting prizes at each Café, plus sales of CDs, DVDs and Blu-Rays.

Friends of St Marys Contact Details

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The Chartham Oktoberfest took place on 12th October last year and raised over £1000 for Friends. Food, beer and the Bettesteiner Footstompers made for a wonderful evening enjoyed by all. ———>



The OktoberFest all set up and waiting to start