

Friends of St Britius Newsletter No 10 April 2012



"Stop the drips at St Brits"

Dear Friend(s)

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be Friends for another year. Your subscriptions of £645 plus gift aid of £162.18 make a total of **£807.18**, a very worthwhile contribution to the funds.

The year has started very well with a total of **£1,826.74** already raised in just 3 months! For details of how this was raised please see below. Two complimentary emails confirm our belief that the ideas and hard work of the fund raising committee and Friends are appreciated:

(a) an email received after the Safari Supper - "Just to say what a good evening I had last night. I realise just how much work and effort you had all put into organising and hosting the event. It is amazing just how well the quest to raise funds has gone, and furthermore, the positive effect it has had on the village. It is good to see just how many of the villagers support all your ideas."

(b) an email from Jane Wilkinson, Grants Casework Officer, English Heritage - "While reading about your planned events I started to contemplate moving to Brize Norton, the events you are holding sound such fun and geared to the community. Would you mind if I use some of your ideas to help inspire other PCCs?"

The support of the Friends and of the village is very much appreciated and we hope will continue to foster community spirit in the village as a consequence of the fund raising activities.

STOP PRESS

We now have a Justgiving Account - please go to our website (below) and click on the Justgiving logo. Individuals can create a fund raising page for an event, for example, see www.justgiving.com/Philip-Holmes2. This way we get the UK tax back automatically.

For online donations and all news and updates see our special website at www.brizenorton.org.uk/stbritiusroof

Grants

An application has been made to WREN for a grant to re-roof the porch as part of Phase 2.

We are very concerned about the implications of changes to VAT refunds for restoration of listed buildings and Jacque Griffin has written to David Cameron voicing our concerns on the effect of the latest Budget. We may find we cannot start Phase 2 (the worst part of the roof for leaks) because we cannot afford the VAT! It would be very helpful if everyone could sign the petition at <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/32056>.

Carolyn Peach was interviewed on Radio Oxford about our award of an English Heritage grant for the roof. All good publicity!

Successful Fund Raising Events

Safari Supper, Friday 3rd February

It might have been the coldest night of the year but there was plenty of warmth and cordiality in all the varied venues for the Safari Supper. It was a truly excellent evening thanks to the hosts, the Finlaysons, Artus's, Humphris, Taylors, Holmes and all who also cooked to make a truly delicious meal (Jackie B, Tammy H, Mary H and Ann H.). Thanks to all the committee members for donating the food and wine so that the price of the tickets was complete profit and with gift aid added made a total of **£448.72** raised.



It was a great way to socialise and meet new people as well as old friends and the different venues for each course made for variety and atmosphere. Thanks to the Chequers for providing a fitting gathering place at the end of the evening and for the coffee and mints. We hope (committee members willing) that we can add the Safari Supper to our list of "worth doing again" fund raising events.

Pancake Supper, Tuesday 21st February

This was another chance for villagers to enjoy each other's company while partaking of delicious pancakes with various sweet and savoury fillings, glasses of wine, etc. Thanks again to the fund raising committee members for making and cooking the pancakes, providing the refreshments, setting up the hall and washing up afterwards! 63 people came and the supper made **£364.18**.

For online donations and all news and updates see our special website at www.brizenorton.org.uk/stbritiusroof



Chocoholics Party, Monday 12th March

Thanks to everyone who placed orders for Easter chocolates we raised **£49.00**. Many thanks to Jackie Bellenger for hosting this event.

Ongoing

The collection tin on the counter at the Chequers has another **£27.96** to add to its total of **£156.77**. Many thanks for their continuing support.

Other Income

The dog bone collecting box at Foxbury Farm has added **£30.90** to the final total of **£580.27**. Our thanks to the Dawes family for their support. Donations of **£120**, smartie collection **£34.60** and sale of Christmas Cards **£3.20** complete the grand total of fund raising this year so far.

Coming Events

THE LEW VIEW SPONSORED WALK
in aid of Stop the Drips at St Brits
SUNDAY 29TH APRIL

WALKERS START OFF FROM THE PAVILION FROM BETWEEN 10.30 AND 11.30 AM

Walk up to Lew Hill and return to the Pavilion
 A distance of about 3.5 miles taking about two hours

IF YOU WISH TO TAKE PART PLEASE CONTACT BOB WATTS (842120), TAMMY HOWARD IN SCHOOL, OR JACKIE BELLENGER AT A K TIMMS (842172)

Children & dogs welcome. There will be a small treasure hunt for children. A cup of tea and cake will be provided in the Pavilion on your return.

STOP THE DRIPS + **BNS&SC**
THE ST. BRITUIS CHURCH ROOF APPEAL Brize Norton Sports & Social Club

present
The BRIZE NORTON BEER FESTIVAL
SAVE THE DATE
Saturday 26th May 2012
 2.00pm until late ... including...
VARIETY OF LOCAL BEERS!
RANGE OF CIDERS • PIMMS
Live Music • Pig Roast • BBQ
THE GREAT BRIZE 'BAKE' OFF COMPETITION!

Call for the adults and decorated biscuits for the children

WATCH OUT FOR FULL DETAILS - COMING SOON
The RECREATION GROUND, BRIZE NORTON CX18 2PU

Ale has a magic in it, a charm, a spell especially for all true Englishmen, so now, up tankards all, and let us in this noble ale, drink to ale, the wine of England

Opera in the Garden
Saturday June 23rd at 6 pm
 At Grange Farm, Brize Norton
 In aid of "Stop the Drips at St Brits"

Bring a picnic and listen to 'Charity Opera' sing well known pieces from popular operas and musicals

Advance Tickets **£12.50**
 £15 after June 11th or on the night
 10% discount for groups of 6 or more
 available from Lucy Artus 01993 843713
 artusgrange@talktalk.net or Jackie Bellenger at A K Timms

Pimms, wine and a selection of desserts available
 Black tie optional
 Raffle: first prize - luxury picnic hamper
 Not suitable for children under 8

Lew View Sponsored Walk, Sunday 29th April from 10.30 am

This is for all ages, being a gentle walk of three and a half miles up to Lew Hill and back, a chance to exercise the dog and for children to do the treasure hunt. Please contact Bob Watts (841210), Tammy at School or Jackie B at Timms (842172) if you wish to take part and to get sponsor forms (which are also available in church).

Beer Festival, Saturday 26th May from 2 pm until late

This should be a great event with a pig roast, BBQ, beer and cider (obviously) and live bands, possibly including the 99 Sqdn band from RAF Brize Norton. Full details will be published soon.

Opera in the Garden, 23rd June from 6 pm

Fill the picnic hamper, chill the wine, collect rugs or picnic chairs and a table and get to Grange Farm, Burford Road, Brize Norton in good time to get the best spot in the garden to hear Charity Opera singing. There will be parking on the hard standing by the barns next door with kind permission of the Barnett family. There will be a raffle with a hamper as the main prize and Pimms, wine and a selection of deserts will be available. Children over 8 are welcome and the tickets are £12.50 (£15 after June 11th) with a 10% group discount on 6 or more, from Lucy Artus (843713) or Jackie Bellenger at A K Timms (842172).

See poster and below.

Please look out for and support the following as well as the above events

July 7th/8th	Cream Teas at Painswick House	date to be confirmed
July 21st	Welsh 3000'ers sponsored mountain trek - 14 hills over 3,000 ft	details from Revd James Maddern
Saturday June 23rd	"Opera in the Garden" at Grange Farm from 6 pm	Tickets £12.50 in advance. 10% group discount for 6 or more Contact: Lucy Artus 843713
Saturday September 21st	St Brits Ball at Witney Lakes	Contact Tammy Howard 846123

More details will be available on posters and in leaflets as appropriate.

More help required

The fund raising committee would welcome anyone who would like to help them with either ideas and/or "manpower". Do please contact Jackie Bellenger at A K Timms on 842172 or come to the next Fund Raising Meeting as advertised on our website (see below)

Thank you.