

# Friends of St Britius Newsletter No 13 January 2013



## ***"Stop the drips at St Brits"***

Dear Friend(s)

***A very Happy New Year  
to all Friends of St Britius***

Apologies for the lateness of the New Year greetings, our computers have been causing problems and hospital stays over Christmas didn't help. It does mean that we can now report that the chancel roof is finished!

Having taken all the slates off the north aisle the tilers are now doing the same to the nave. This is in order to find out how many existing slates are re-usable (not many) and to order new ones. The roof of the north aisle has been felted and work continues inside on the plasterwork to the ceiling.



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We were very fortunate that the work did not stop us from having large congregations over Christmas, particularly for the Candlelit Carol Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas morning. Nor did it impede an early December wedding and two funerals. We were able to decorate the church with flowers, greenery, candles, the children's craft activities and a beautiful Christmas tree, kindly donated as usual by A K Timms & Sons.



### ***Successful Fund Raising Events at the end of 2012***

#### **Bingo, Tuesday 23rd October at Elderbank Hall**

This was a good social event for the village and raised £170. Many thanks to all who helped, donated prizes and came.

#### **Accessories Swap Party, Tuesday 13th November at the Chequers**

This again was very successful, raising £214. Thanks to the Chequers for hosting this, to all who donated items to swap, helped on the night and those who purchased items, hope you were pleased with them.

This brings the total fund raising over the past three years to £27,000, a magnificent achievement and one to be very proud of.

## ***Friends of St Britius Subscription Renewal***

As mentioned in the last newsletter we are not stopping here! We wish to keep the Friends actively involved with newsletters to keep you up to date with progress and to keep the ball rolling towards our next project of heating the church comfortably under our new roof. With this in mind, the time has come, Friends, to renew your £10 annual subscription. We value your interest and support and although there will not be any fund raising events immediately, your subscription will continue to make a considerable contribution to our church since, after funding better heating, there's the bell cage to restore so that we can ring the bells once more.

Please use the enclosed form to return your subscription to the Treasurer, Dr Phil Holmes at Church Farm House, Carterton Road, Brize Norton, OX18 3LY. Cheques should be made payable to Brize Norton PCC. Monies can also be paid through online banking to Brize Norton PCC, Bank Sort Code 20-97-48, Acct. No. 20205559. Please use the Gift Aid Declaration on the form if possible as this adds 22% to your donation courtesy of HMRC. You must sign and date the form to qualify.

Also please consider setting up an annual standing order or direct debit from your bank using the above information, so we won't have to approach you every year.

### ***Postscript***

It was great to see so many of our Friends and supporters at our Thanksgiving Patronal Festival on Sunday 4th November. The readings at the service were about the importance of our church to our community. One reading included the following passage:

"Why do we have a church building and why are we bothering to maintain and restore it? Simply because a church building is the place of Assembling, the place of Meeting and a visible, permanent sign of the christian community in the village. It speaks, without words, of values and purposes that are important for us as human beings."

We hope this will encourage you to remain a Friend of St Britius.

Thank you.



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