

Friends of St Britius Newsletter No 24 January 2020



Dear Friend(s)

A very Happy New Year to all Friends of St Britius

We welcomed Rev Drew Tweedy and his wife Billie to the two parishes at their induction as Team Rector and Lay Minister on 5th August at St John's in the presence of Bishop Colin. Rev Ian Howard, who has been curate to both parishes for the last three years, has been made team vicar designate and will be inducted on 27th April at St Britius. All are welcome, do come.

We are pleased to have a full complement of clergy again and especially pleased that the Rev Ian will be team vicar. He has been very supportive and been very visible at all village events: Gardens Open, Village Bash, Bonfire Night, Christmas Bazaar, is taking assemblies in school and was involved in all the school services in church at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. He went to both school Christmas performances and the Christmas lunch. He is very keen to be involved in village life.



Rev Tweedy's Induction



Some of the congregation enjoying the harvest lunch laid on by the Humble Bumble Cafe with all the clergy present

Highlights last year

Pancake Supper

Many people came to our pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday in school (thanks to Mrs Anna Fairhurst, the Headteacher). The pancakes were delicious as usual thanks to Carolyn Peach, Jacquie Griffin and Shirley Sanderson. This made a profit of £286 and we launched our Smartie Tube Appeal at the same time which eventually raised £330. Many thanks to everyone for their contributions.



Flower Festival at Gardens Open

A fine Sunday in June brought over two hundred visitors to the NGS Gardens Open in the village and to the Flower Festival in Church. Thanks are due to Dawn Humphris, Kath Bellenger, Jean Butcher, Brian Trott, Betty Holmes, Jacquie Griffin & Mary Holmes for the beautiful flower arrangements. The church received £188.29 as one of the nominated local organisations to benefit, for which we thank the Gardens Open Team.

Village Bash/School Fete

Thanks to Carolyn Peach once more for organising the teas at the Village Bash in July. Another sunny day brought many thirsty people into the hall for tea and cakes. This made £257 for the church.

Bonfire Night

This year we sold over 100 hot dogs, sold out of soup and thanks to the Humble Bumble cafe sold lots of brownies to the villagers watching the fireworks and the village bonfire, and we made of profit of £160.



Remembrance Sunday

RAF 99 Squadron were represented by their commanding officer and his family and the 99 Squadron Standard Party at the Remembrance Service. This was the first time we have been honoured to have an RAF Standard Party at one of our Remembrance Services.



Carol Singing

We sang carols in Chestnut Close before the rain forced us to shelter in the Chequers for indoor carol singing. This raised £60.

Carol Service

There was a good atmosphere at the Candlelit Carol Service. Our thanks to all the readers, to Saxophony for the accompanying music, and to Timms & Sons for donating the beautiful Christmas Tree.



Pancake Supper 2020

The Pancake Supper will be on Shrove Tuesday 25th February in the Village School. Please look out for posters with the details nearer the time and do come! The "Fill a Smarties Tube with 20 pence pieces for Lent" will be launched at the supper.

Friends Subscriptions

Subscriptions from Friends last year raised £250. As you can see your subscription is important to us to keep our church maintained, warm and welcoming to the community. We do hope you will feel able to continue to help by renewing your Friends of St Britius Subscription for this year.

Please use the enclosed form to return your subscription to 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 25% 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.

Thank you

Once again your continued support is very much appreciated to keep St Britius a visible permanent sign of the Christian community in the village. It hopefully continues to speak, 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 in anticipation.