



Chairman's Report

At an earlier meeting this year our excellent treasurer, Jan Enever, produced figures showing how much The Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches had contributed towards various repairs, renewals and projects for the Churches since 2001. The figure amounted to a staggering £37,797.00. Whilst Leeds church received the lion's share of the money, Broomfield stands to benefit more in the coming period due to the building work needed for the tower repairs.

I was wondering what would have happened without this contribution. No doubt some of the work would have had to have been done, however, in the same way that properties suffer without money spent on new gutters, insulation, painting, new lighting etc churches also begin to look uncared for or dilapidated.

Keeping the churches looking cared for and in good repair are the reasons that the Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches charity exists. The church itself does not make enough money to pay for what is needed. It is therefore only with the generous help of our supporters and members that we are able to continue this valuable work.

The fund raising events are both enjoyable and profitable. This year we held a most successful Beer Festival with the kind help and support of Norman and Ruth Coles who generously allowed us to use their Round Oak Farm premises free of charge.

Last summer saw another successful Pick your Own Plums event with the generous donation of Simon and Cynthia Brice's plum harvest for which we are most grateful. This is an event so enjoyed by all the generations.

The Committee of the Friends, are a dedicated and hardworking team who never fail to get organised to make our events a success. As Chairman I have been indebted to them and the friends and partners who help. I particularly want to mention Judi Taylor for her administration and organisation, Jan Enever our excellent Treasurer, Pauline Royer who took over as Secretary, Jenny Hoy for her Social Events organisation also Mandy, Michelle and of course Martin who gives me valued support. We very sadly lost the expert help of Mike Evans this year who will be greatly missed for his most valued contribution.

Thank you all for your continued membership and generous support. Your donations are essential if we are to continue to maintain these two beautiful ancient churches. They have reportedly been in existence since 14th century and maybe before that. Hopefully they will still be around for the benefit of future generations for worship, services, baptisms, weddings, concerts, plays, flower festivals, harvest celebrations and so on.

Please encourage any friends or neighbours who may be interested in becoming a member. Details of membership application forms can be found at the back of this Report or visit our website at www.friendslbc.org.uk for further information.

Christine Sharp

Chairman

Please come along to our
Friends AGM 2017

Thursday 5 October at 7.30pm
At St Margaret's Church, Broomfield
Free tea and cake for those attending!