



FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

Annual Report and Newsletter



How's the money stacking up this year? Well you can see our Treasurer's report in full inside but here are the key facts:
Subscriptions & donations: £942
Events: £8088
Money carried over from last year : £7299
Interest : £328
Less

Event costs: £4841
Running costs: £752
Leaves us with £11064 in the bank.
In line with our policy of 'a stitch in time' we have pledged £1000 to each church towards specific repair work identified in the Quinquennial reports.



Showstoppers at Leeds Castle

An appreciative company of 180 'Friends' and their friends packed the centuries old Tithe Barn at Leeds Castle on the evening of Friday 15 November, for a dinner entwined with entertainment by five members of the Cameo Opera and their accomplished pianist. The 'fanned' melon followed by excerpts from as varied a range as La Traviata, Phantom of the Opera and Showboat to name but a few, served as starters.

The main course of pan fried chicken breast was garnished with helpings from the Mikado, West Side Story and Rigoletto and finally after the apple pie and cream, coffee and mints a further selection from Carmen, the Pearl Fishers, Lakme, Noel Coward, Gershwin, the Magic Flute, Pirates of Penzance and Die Fledermaus to name the lot, brought the evening to a clamorous conclusion. Well apart from the encores....

The Chairman of the Friends summed up the performance so well saying they were an absolute delight, rather like 'nouvelle cuisine' – perfect balance but leaving him hungry for more! And to round it all off we raised a magnificent £3000 for our funds, our sincere thanks are due to all who supported the venture....please come again this year!



Please do try to come to the AGM at Kingswood and Broomfield Village Hall at 8.00pm on Monday 20 October.....we'd love to see you!

FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCHES OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD

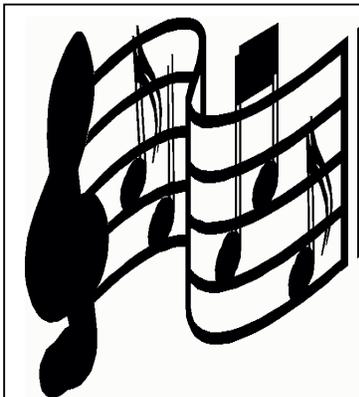
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2003 AT 8.00PM

IN KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

AGENDA

1. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd October 2002. (Copies of these minutes will be available for inspection immediately prior to the meeting).
2. To deal with matters arising from those minutes.
3. To receive the Annual Report.
4. To approve the certified accounts and to receive the Treasurer's Report
5. To elect new officers from those nominations received by the closing date. 30th September 2003. The existing officers, Chairman Jonathan Harrison, Vice-Chairman Judi Taylor, Secretary Patricia Harris, Treasurer Peter Coleman, are available for re-election. Do not forget to submit your nominations to the Chairman 01622 861792.
6. To elect committee members.
The current members are Brian Hardy, June Harrison, Jenny Hoy, Rowland Hull, Sue Wotton and Stanley Yeomans. During the year Janet Jackson and Tina Walters resigned from the committee and are thanked for the help they have given. Jenny Hoy, as the longest serving committee member since election, retires from the committee and offers herself for re-election. The committee has exercised its right to co-opt additional members and was pleased to welcome Pauline Royer.
7. To appoint the Auditor and determine his remuneration, if any.
8. To fix the annual membership subscription.
9. To consider any other business appropriate for an Annual General Meeting.
10. To confirm that the AGM in 2004 will be held in Leeds.



GRAND DINNER
AND CAMEO OPERA
At Leeds Castle

Friday 14 November 2003

Book your tickets now to avoid
disappointment - ring 862316 or
863460

Chairman's Report.

It seems impossible that the Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches has been in existence for four years.

At the end of the third year, the then Chairman, Frank Harris, along with Treasurer, Judi Taylor, retired from office as demanded by our constitution. It wasn't perhaps until the new Chairman and Treasurer took office that they realised the full extent of the work that Frank and Judi had put into the formative years – they are unsung heroes! They left the Friends in fine fettle and this year the committee have, as always, worked to maintain their high standard.

The social team has been responsible this year in organising a Scarecrow Festival, a hugely successful Gala evening at Leeds Castle with light opera for entertainment and another ever popular Safari Supper. The committee has to be congratulated in providing such a varied programme of events and for raising a substantial contribution to our funds.

Peter Coleman, our new treasurer, with furrowed brow and calculator, has maintained Judi's high standards. Peter, along with other members of the committee, helped unravel the added complexity of Insurance cover for the trustees.

We have been very grateful to Brian Hardy, representing the Parochial Church Council, for his help and ideas. Brian has been able to give us guidance and useful advice from information that he has gleaned from other meetings and seminars that he has attended "wearing another hat".

Jenny Hoy, our membership secretary, has updated our brochure in an attempt to attract more members. Membership subscriptions, producing close to £1,000 p.a., is an important part of our income. Jenny is always beavering away trying to get new members but the help of all of us is urgently required to find and recruit more members.

To sum up, all the committees have worked tirelessly to provide a fund raising programme of fun and entertainment which has been most generously supported by the Friends and their families and friends.

After just four years, the Friends have given or pledged to the Churches approximately £3,000- a lively start - but with a healthy bank balance, and such a wonderful committee, and such excellent support, we can look forward to fulfilling the words of "Chairman Frank" in his last newsletter - "to establish a realistic reserve that enables the Friends to intervene if and when the fabric of either of our churches needs attention that is beyond the ability of the churches themselves to pay.

Jonathan Harrison

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

This report on the accounts of the charity 'The Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches' is in respect of an examination carried out under section 43(7)(b) of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Arthur Graham Baker CMA

TREASURER'S REPORT 2002-2003

This is my first report as Treasurer of the Friends, having taken over from Judi Taylor in December. I should like to thank Judi for leaving her records in such good order, with clear instructions and advice, which made the hand-over so much easier for me. Judi, you will be a hard act to follow!

We have had another busy year with three key fund raising events, namely the Fun, Figure, Fantasy in July, the Leeds Castle with Cameo Opera dinner at Leeds Castle in November and a superb Safari Supper in May this year. Collectively these three events raised £3,693.63 and just as importantly, a happy and enjoyable time was had by those attending, with new friendships being formed.

Members' subscriptions and donations have also helped boost funds. This year, up to the end of July (when this report was written) fully paid-up members total 133, which combined with their subscriptions and donations, has generated £942.50.

There are a number of members who have still to pay their subscriptions for this year. To those I can only say that the Committee are working very hard behind the scenes and we very much value your membership. Please keep in touch and help the Friends in this important fund raising quest for the benefit of present as well as future generations. We still have a long way to go to reach our target membership of 500!

We have made our second claim to the Inland Revenue in respect of Gift Aid repayment for the year 6th April 2001 to 5th April 2002, and expect a tax refund of £145.53.

Collectively our bank balances are beginning to show a healthy balance of £11,064.79 at the end of this financial year (June '03). This has resulted in the Friends making another important contribution, in line with our policy of "a stitch in time", towards the upkeep of our two beautiful Churches, St. Nicholas at Leeds and St. Margaret's at Broomfield. To this end we have pledged £2,000, i.e. £1,000 to each Church for specific repair work as identified in the Quinquennial Reports.

I should like to thank all the Friends for their help and support during this past year and hope you will all continue to support the Friends and make the year ahead as successful and enjoyable.

Peter Coleman
Treasurer

ACCOUNTS YEAR TO DATE 23 JUNE 2003

Receipts	£
Subscriptions	
- Leeds	185.00
- Broomfield & Kingswood	335.00
- Other	145.00
Donations	277.50
Events	
- Fun Figure Fantasy	950.14
- Leeds Castle Dinner	6247.98
- Tennis Court	5.00
- Safari Supper	745.00
- Leeds Castle Dinner (2003)	140.00
Interest	328.83
	Total 9359.45
Cash at Bank 24.06.02	7298.85
GrandTotal	<u>16658.30</u>

Payments	£
Fun Figure Fantasy	216.82
Leeds Castle Dinner (2002)	3901.77
Safari Supper	130.90
Barn Dance	91.81
Leeds Castle Dinner (2003)	500.00
Postage	20.47
Hall Hire	17.00
Stationery	98.30
Other	
- Gift (plant)	11.95
- Insurance	492.14
- Photocopying	32.11
- Auditor	58.75
- Gift (speaker)	9.49
- Bank referral charge	12.00
Grand Total	<u>5593.51</u>

Summary	£	
Total Receipts	16658.30	
Total Payments	5593.51	
BALANCE		<u>11064.79</u>
Petty Cash	12.30	
Current Account NatWest	118.09	
(Less six cheques uncleared)	212.23)	
Deposit Account CBF	11146.63	
Total	11064.79	

Don't forget to book your tickets for our Barn Dance on Saturday 20 September at Kingswood Village Hall – Ring 843256 or 863541





Social Secretary's Report

The Friends year beginning in July 2002 started off with – once again – a plethora of weird and wonderful characters lurking around the garden and outbuildings of Arnold Yoke. They arrived in dribs and drabs over the previous few days from Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood and further afield from Maidstone and were all ready in time for the party on the 13th and 14th of July. Fortunately the weather was very kind to us and we had a busy time producing Ploughman's Lunches and Afternoon Teas with home-made scones, cakes and biscuits. Many people decided to stay for both meals so we think they must have enjoyed them. There was again much laughter – with all sorts of garden games, poetry competitions, raffles, quizzes and again children's colouring pictures of Scarecrows. There were Craft Stalls and Book Stalls, Art Gallery, etc and it went with a swing. The poetry competition was very well supported by both Leeds and Kingswood schools and the entries were extremely impressive both in word and artistic content. Thank you to all the children - and their teachers and parents – for your entries. The outcome of the whole event was that we were able to add a substantial amount to the bank balance of The Friends.

The highlight of the year, though, was a Dinner at Leeds Castle with entertainment by "The Cameo Opera". On a cold November evening, driving through the park, the Castle looked positively mystical surrounded by the moat and lit with the help of the moon. This was only the start of a lovely evening – with everyone decked out in their finery – the best was yet to come! After a reception, we all sat down to a delicious dinner – the courses interspersed with singing and music, fun and pathos. The end came all too soon but the interest in having another was so great that we are doing it again!

In May, a Safari Supper was organised to try and get new people to the villages to come along and meet older residents in a relaxed fashion – where people joined in willingly to entertain small groups of people – after a reception at the lovely new home of Steve and Hilary Russell at Arnold Oasthouse. Sixty people attended – not knowing where they were going for their next course – until they opened their envelopes at each hop! Anyway, we didn't lose anyone – they all turned up for puddings and coffee at the right time and everyone played their part in a very enthusiastic and friendly way. Very many thanks to all those who participated – hosts and guests – you were all marvellous.

Thank you to all the Friends, their friends and families who have so willingly supported these events. The Treasurer has been very well pleased with the results! Special thanks are due to all those who put in a lot of hard work behind the scenes to make all these events so successful and enjoyable.

June Harrison

Social Secretary

