



FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

Annual Report and Newsletter 2005



Doesn't time fly
when you're
having fun!

The Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches was formed six years ago to raise money from a wider community than that of the regular churchgoers. Our aim is to help keep the fabric of the churches in good repair. We have certainly had a lot of fun and met and made friends with people we perhaps would not have met had The Friends not been founded. To date, we have had many fundraising events including

Safari Suppers	3
Scarecrow Festivals	2
Silent Auctions	1
Wedding Extravaganzas	1
Barn Dances	4
Games Evenings	1
Leeds Castle Cameo Dinner	3
Race night	1
And what about this one in November	
A Beaujolais Nouveau Evening – C'est formidable!	



Dodgy Dave, Clerk of the Course, at our Race Night with winning owner Clare Ray

And this is how your money is being spent...

- We have provided funds to repair the clock on Leeds church tower.
- We have donated £500 towards the lawnmowers for both churches.
- We have donated £750 from the Wedding Belles Festival.
- We have pledged £6000 towards repairs which the two churches have to do as required by their quinquennial surveys.

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate

Beaujolais Nouveau Evening

Saturday 19th November 2005

at 7.30 pm

at

"CAFÉ D'ARNOLD"

Arnold Yoke,

Back Street,

Leeds, Maidstone.

Tel. No. 01622 861792

Limited Covers Tickets going fast!

£20 per head to include Reception,

Four course meal with wine and coffee



Keeping our churches beautiful inside and out



Chairman's Report

When writing the Chairman's Report, it is difficult not to write the Social Secretary's Report. To most observers, the activities and objectives of the Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches must be to provide social functions in order to raise money and that, by and large, is what we do.

To do this, year in – year out, there has to be a real commitment and belief in what we do and why we do it. It is all too easy to forget our real objectives and that is to provide income to help maintain the fabric of our two beautiful churches.

We are very privileged to live in the community of Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood. For this short period in the life of our churches, it must surely be the responsibility of all of us to help maintain them. After all it is we, who, for this short period, enjoy their very existence whether we are church goers or not. Most people do not use the church on a regular basis but we like them to be there when we need them at special occasions in our lives. What we enjoy today, we hand over to the next generation.

The support we get for our social functions has been fantastic but our membership is sadly very low and not on the increase. If we were to hear rumours that the two churches were to close for any reason, there would be a great hue and cry over it and I am sure we would get a 100% return on a petition to keep them open. If that is realistic, then it should be easy to increase our membership.

We need more members - the subscription is only £6.00 per annum, - and you can pay by Direct Debit to save you remembering to pay annually, so we think we have made it easy for everyone to support us without even trying! Please, please ask your neighbours and friends in the villages to join the Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches – we badly need yours and their support. Also please fill in the Gift Aid Form so that our treasurer can claim back tax paid on your subscription. This all makes good use of your money.

As this is the final report from me as chairman of the Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches, I pay tribute to and thank the committee for the friendship, fun, the energy, commitment and support they have given in the three years of my office.

Jonathan Harrison

Chairman of The Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches

Please come to our

*Annual General Meeting
at Broomfield & Kingswood Village Hall
on Monday 24th October at 8.00pm
We look forward to seeing you there*



Social Secretary's Report

We have so much talent, goodwill and energy in Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood that comes out of the woodwork when we need it. Some is volunteered, some is there for the asking, some has to be persuaded. But it is there!

At the beginning of this year's fun events we held the Flower and Wedding Dress Festival which was our major activity and a huge amount of effort by so many people made it – in our opinion – an enormous success. The Friends joined with the WIs of both Leeds and Kingswood to stage the event using Leeds Church and Village Hall to mark “marriage” throughout the centuries. The dresses, of course, looked magnificent – it gave so many people so much pleasure in seeing theirs and their family's wedding attire being given another “airing”- some after so many years and in two cases over 70 years! The church itself looked magnificent with flowers arranged beautifully by so many local and not so local people. The scent was intoxicating – in the most pleasurable way! The W.I.s provided a ‘wedding breakfast’, lunch and tea throughout the three days of the festival – a truly wonderful effort and the whole event was then brought to a close by a beautiful choral concert organised by Frances Hardy based on Wedding Music. This was a wonderful community effort with everyone pulling together.

Our next event was in November when we held our Dinner and Cameo Opera at Leeds Castle which has been very popular. Sadly this year, we didn't have quite so much demand for tickets so we have decided to give this a break this year. But once again, the Cameo Opera sang their hearts out and provided an evening of fun and music – a wonderful start to the build up to Christmas.

Postponed by the snow in March, on 8th May, another get-together brought people from Leeds and Kingswood to a family “race night” This was organised by committee members Sue Wotton and Dave Law and provided much laughter and banter. We had children participating as jockeys and committee members and others as “tipsters” and “bookies”. Dave acted as Master of Ceremonies – or should I say – Chief Steward of the Course - and kept the evening running smoothly.

These three events were our social programme for the year.

By the time you read this, we shall have had a Safari Supper and will have flown the flag at the Kingswood Village Fayre on August 27th 2005, and we are currently planning a Beaujolais Nouveau evening on November 19th – please enquire about this event as soon as possible as numbers are very restricted – hope to see you there.

Another very busy year by your committee draws to an end, well supported by the Friends and their friends and families. Thank you to you all who have helped us all to have fun and raise money for the fabric of our ancient and lovely churches.

June Harrison

Social Secretary

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 Acthave 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

Yet another year has gently slipped by during which time 'The Friends' held three fund raising events, namely Wedding Belles and Summer Concert in July 2004, the Leeds Castle Dinner and Cameo Opera in November 2004 and a Race Night in May of this year.

All, in their different ways, were very successful and were certainly enjoyed by those attending. Collectively our fund raising events raised £2,407.17, including the sale of Friends tea towels amounting to £42.00 - we still have to sell tea towels to the value of £55.50 before we break even!

Members' subscriptions and donations have also boosted our funds by a further £951.00, with our current membership standing at 127, including six new members. A total of 24 of our members now pay by way of Bankers Order.

We currently hold on deposit in our CBF Fund, £18,212.61, which includes interest retained of £757.91 and our Gift Aid Scheme refund from the Inland Revenue for years 2002/3 and 2003/4, of £318.85. There is also a further £518.18 in the NatWest Account and £11.68 in petty cash, together making a total figure of £18,742.47.

The Friends' Insurance Premium this year for Public & Employer Liability and Special Events Policy totalled £435.36, which is the same cost as last year.

In line with The Friends' policy of 'a stitch in time', this year we are delighted to be able to pledge a further £2,000, in addition to £750 from the Friends' 'Wedding Belles' event, towards much needed repairs to both Churches. These sums, together with other pledges made during financial years 2003 and 2004, total £6,750.00 which equally divided between the two Churches, will go towards repair costs, including St. Margaret's tower parapet gutter at a cost of £4,400 and St. Nicholas's tower parapet, including dormer repainting, at £3,200.

Our long term aim is to build up a healthy capital sum which will generate a good annual interest, which could be pledged each year, leaving the capital intact for any future, expensive repairs, as they arise.

Once again, I would like to thank all The Friends for all their help during the year and hope you will continue to support The Friends and make the year ahead another successful and enjoyable one.

Peter Coleman

Treasurer

ACCOUNTS YEAR TO DATE 23 JUNE 2005

Receipts	£	Payments	£
Subscriptions		Wedding Belles & Concert	1950.81
- Leeds	367.00	Leeds Castle Dinner	3577.28
- Broomfield & Kingswood	304.00	Race Night	247.92
- Other	100.00	Postage	14.31
Donations	165.00	Hall Hire	13.00
Events		Stationery	116.67
- Wedding Belles	2271.46	Other	
- Concert	757.50	- Insurance	435.36
- Leeds Castle Dinner 04	4574.50	- Trusteeship Course	25.00
- Race Night	626.62	- Auditor	58.75
- Tea Towels	42.00	- Printing annual Newsletter	45.12
Interest	757.91	- Bank error refund DD	50.00
Inland Revenue Gift Aid Refund	318.85	- Bank error charges	60.00
Uncashed cheques 062 & 065	15.00	Grand Total	<u>6594.22</u>
Total	10299.84		
Cash at Bank 24.06.05	15036.85		
GrandTotal	<u>25336.69</u>		

Summary	£
Total Receipts	25336.69
Total Payments	6594.22
Balance	<u>18742.47</u>
Petty Cash	11.68
Current Account NatWest	518.18
Deposit Account CBF	18212.61
Total	<u>18742.47</u>

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**MONDAY, 24th OCTOBER 2005 AT 8.00 PM
KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL**

AGENDA

1. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 18th October 2004 (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 – 3rd October 2005. The existing officers, Chairman J. Harrison, Vice Chairman J. Taylor, Secretary P. Harris, Treasurer P. Coleman, relinquish their office and offer themselves for re-election to the committee. Nominations for these posts are invited.
6. To elect committee members. The current members are Brian Hardy (ex-officio), June Harrison, Paddy Hood-Williams, Jenny Hoy, Dave Law, Pauline Royer, Sue Wotton, and Stanley Yeomans. Dave Law, Pauline Royer and Sue Wotton – as the longest serving members since election retire from the committee and offer themselves for re-election.
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 2006 will be held in Leeds.

Honorary Officers 2004 - 2005

Chairman – *Jonathan Harrison*

Vice-Chairman – *Judi Taylor*

Treasurer – *Peter Coleman*

Secretary – *Patricia Harris*

Committee Members

Brian Hardy (Ex-Officio), June Harrison, Paddy Hood-Williams, Jenny Hoy, Dave Law, Pauline Royer, Sue Wotton, Stanley Yeomans



Race Night preparations – going good to firm!



Race Night preparations – scrumptious food....



Membership Secretary's Report

We have 127 paid up members at the moment, but we would love to have more!
If you, or someone you know would like to join us – please do complete and return the Application and Banker's Order Forms below and we will get in touch.

You can keep up to date with news from the Friends by looking at our new website : www.friendslbc.org.uk and our real thanks must go to Joe Hoy who so kindly keeps the website up to date for us – great job!

Jenny Hoy, Membership Secretary

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I / We wish to become a member / members of the 'Friends of Leeds & Broomfield Churches'.

(Please print)

Full Name(s):

Address:

.....

..... Post Code:

E-mail address:

Telephone No:
(Please include Area Code)

I enclose a cheque for £..... (or complete the attached Banker's Order).

GIFT AID DECLARATION

I / We want the 'Friends' to be able to reclaim Tax on my / our subscription / donation.

Give more at no extra cost to yourself! The Gift Aid scheme means that the 'Friends' can reclaim tax on any subscription / donation you make to us. This will increase each amount you give by 28p in the £1, provided you have paid sufficient UK Income Tax Capital Gains Tax to cover this amount. To enable the 'Friends' to reclaim the tax on any subscription / donation you make or have made since 6 April 2000, please sign and date below:

Signed: Date:

BANKER'S ORDER

Please complete this form and send it to the Treasurer of the 'Friends' at Gravelly Bottom, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood, Maidstone, and we will forward it to your bank.

To the Manager:

Name of Bank:

Sort Code: - -

Address of Bank:

.....

..... Post Code:

Please pay the sum of £..... per month* / quarter* / year* from my account.

Account Name:

Account No:

To NatWest Bank, 130 Ashford Road, Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 4AF, Sort Code 51-70-55, for the account of the 'Friends of Leeds and Broomfield Churches', Account No: 81990588.

Commencing on until further notice.

Name:

Address:

.....

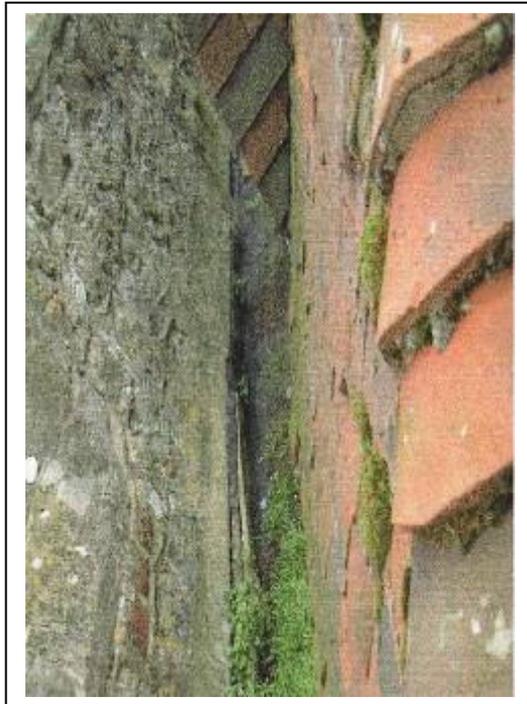
..... Post Code:

Signed:

More Race Night Fun!



A view of work
needed at
Leeds church



*Edge of gutter falling away meaning
water can get in*



Winning owner Mike Evans and Dave Law



Leeds church clock
now repaired with
your funds!

