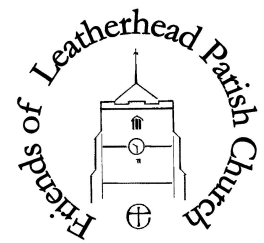


Friends of Leatherhead Parish Church Chairman's Report 2014



Once again I am pleased to report that thanks to the continued support of our membership and those attending our events we have raised a substantial sum for repairs and maintenance of the Parish Church. At the financial year end and including a small amount of deposit interest this amounted to over £4,850.

Income from Members' Subscriptions was slightly down on 2012/13 in part due to a drop in Membership Numbers. However many members responded generously to our request to maintain or increase their subscription for which we are very grateful.

Our Bridge Tea in November, now an established part of the calendar for dedicated players in the area, filled the Parish Hall and raised just over £1,000. Our thanks as usual to Fran Fleming and to the dedicated team of helpers who worked so hard to produce another delicious tea.

In early March we raised £400 thanks to the efforts of June Robinson and the generosity of Bob Porter and the Brandenburg Sinfonia who offered to share half of their ticket receipts from members and their friends attending a Sunday afternoon "Choral Festival" in the Church of St Clement Danes in the Strand. A week later our Annual Quiz Night under the expert direction of Quiz Master Frank Haslam, ably supported by wife Jane and committee member John Hampton, rounded off the financial year by raising just over £1,000..

In this Centenary Year of the outbreak of the First World War I would also like to thank Richard Hughes for agreeing to give a talk on the Battlefields of Northern France at the conclusion of our Annual General Meeting which we hope as many members as possible will be able to attend.

Discussions have continued throughout the year with the PCC over its priorities for maintaining the fabric of the Parish Church. A sum of £2,000 has been contributed towards the upkeep of the Graveyard which continues to be a substantial commitment for the Church maintenance budget. In addition a sum of £850 has been reserved to enable the PCC to meet in full the cost of repairs to a window in the roof of the Church which has allowed the ingress not only of rainwater but also pigeons.

Meanwhile the PCC is continuing its review, together with the Diocese and the assistance of a new Church Architect, of the capital sums required to complete all of the work recommended in the 2013 Quinquennial Review and how this might be phased. For this reason your Committee again deemed it prudent to retain any surplus of income over expenditure and to add this to our retained funds which now amount to £10,120.

We look forward now to our next Fund Raising event which will be "Leatherhead Open Gardens" on Sunday 8th June to be run in conjunction with the LRA and at which the Parish Church will be the focal point.

Meanwhile my thanks as usual go to Frank Haslam our Treasurer, Fran Fleming, Membership Secretary and Jenny McFarlane, Honorary Secretary; to June Robinson for her management of Marketing and Publicity and to John Hampton, who also serves as our Churchwarden Representative, to Sonya Grove and Peter Ford. I will end, as usual, with an invitation to any member, friend or associate who would like to assist us at any fundraising event during the year or who might be willing to join the Committee!

Chris Evans
Chairman