

# The Friends of Great Budworth Church

Issue 30

NEWSLETTER

August 2018

**From the Chairman** Thank you for your continuing membership of FOGBC, and also for completing consent form for us to comply with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). I hope you find the newsletter interesting.

As some of you maybe aware our vicar Alec has recently suffered a heart attack from which he is recovering. He is currently awaiting further tests and assessments for cardiac rehabilitation in the coming weeks; It was a shock to us all; please keep Alec and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

We welcome Sarah Rosevear to our committee, she has good connections with the church and school, and is up and coming in the bell ringing fraternity! Unless I am mistaken I think she will be the youngest person ever to be on our committee.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

### YEAR ENDED 31 December 2017

	<u>2017</u> £ 12 Mths	<u>2016</u> £ 12 Mths
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions	1,710	1,820
Donations	60	75
Gift Aid	334	249
Concert - Lydian singers	527	214
Summer outing	550	345
Heritage day	342	300
Concert - Condate singers	256	-
Quiz night	-	822
Christmas card sales	-	71
Prior years' Gift Aid	-	405
	<u>3,779</u>	<u>4,301</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Event costs - Lydian Concert	-195	-
Event costs - summer outing	-572	-330
Event costs - Condate Concert	-85	-
Event costs - quiz night	-	-25
Church sign	-132	-
Church Lighting	-713	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Net income for period	2,083	3,946
Surplus from prior years	9,166	5,220
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Surplus at period end	£11,249	£9,166
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<u>Surplus held as</u>	<u>31.12.17</u>	<u>31.12.16</u>
Barclays current account	10,871	8,459
Loan from main fund	-	-
Cash	44	53
Gift aid tax recoverable from main fund	334	654
	<u>£11,249</u>	<u>£9,166</u>

### Our Aims:

**To widen the circle of people who love and care for the Church**

**To consider the needs and help raise funds for the restoration and repair of the Church's fabric and furnishings**

**To enhance the Church's facilities, taking into account the needs of people in the 21st Century**

### This Issue:

<b>From the Chairman</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Financial Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>FOGBC Project Update</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Church Enhancement Proposals</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Review of FOGBC Concert and Outing</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Garden Party</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Church Notice Board</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Monuments Repaired</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Tower Handrail</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>FOGBC Events</b>	<b>4</b>

Editor: Geoff Ridgway  
Tel: 01565 733494

### Contact us:-

The Friends of Great Budworth Church  
The Vicarage  
Great Budworth  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 6HF

Visit our website —  
[www.greatbudworthchurch.co.uk](http://www.greatbudworthchurch.co.uk)

## FOGBC Project Update

It was apparent that the proposed positioning of spotlighting for the chancel steps would be detrimental overall to the appearance of the nave. When discussed further at the Parochial Church Council it was not approved, considering that if a faculty was raised it would be rejected.

We have now changed tack to focus on the overall brightness of lighting in the nave of the church, something that Alec the vicar has requested, Thanks to Roy Kirkpatrick, it has been brought to our attention that LED 'corn' lights could replace the existing light bulbs in the current lampshades (pictured left) With only light fittings requiring changing, i.e. involving minor wiring work, this would not require a faculty to be applied for.



The proposal is to have a trial with the two closest to the chancel steps. The corn type LED's (pictured right) are £175 each for the size required, indications are we can trial free of charge for a short while.



## Church Enhancements

As some of you are aware there are proposals for

1. **Either an outdoor porch or glass small/large indoor porch at the north entrance.**  
The background to this is from the fact that regardless of a fully efficient central heating system, opening the north door causes cold air to drastically displace the warmed air upwards into the vast spaces of the nave and chancel.
2. **Fixed ramp for disabled access at North door (currently we have portable ramp).**  
Details of 1. & 2. above are on view at the back of church with a comments book, so please give your views.  
The subject of porches is proving very controversial, as is the removal of some pews to accommodate. Additional proposals are,
3. **Installing a glass screen between Lady chapel and nave, also replacement curtains and track at outside door.** To help retain heat in Lady Chapel.
3. **Widening and extending the lower chancel step and the provision of handrails on each side.**  
This is to provide safer access for those who are not as confident walking up/down the steps.
4. **Removal of the two unused rows of pews on south wall behind the choir, and utilising the wood to construct bespoke storage unit for ladders and other items.**  
Currently these pews have ladders and other extraneous items placed on and under them.

Some interesting facts supplied with the help of our historian Robert Steele as follows,

Through the centuries the north side of churches were general subservient to the prestigious south side. At Great Budworth the impressive south porch was constructed in the 15th century (exact date unknown) the north door would have been fairly plain (construction date unknown).

It can't be proved however it is suspected that originally the main entrance to the church grounds were on the south side, somewhere along the line this ceased to be the case and subsequently parishioners preferred not to walk from the north side to enter the church.

In 1806 the churchwardens decided to build a porch at the north door but most probably due to lack of finance it was never started. In the 1850's Rowland Eyles Egerton Warburton employed a very famous architect William Butterfield (both were high church Anglicans and supporters of the Oxford Movement) to carry out extensive work both inside and outside. Interestingly a grander West Entrance Door was created and in 1868 the North Door was removed and opening blocked up.

In 1879 it was decided most probably under the influence of the extreme Calvinist vicar William Robert Lyon Bennett to make a larger opening and fit the north door which is still in place today.

If today in an attempt to retain heat in the church we asked all to use the south door; I guess it would not go down too well, even if the pathway was improved.

## Review of “Friends” Events

### Spring Concert

The concert by the Daleian Singers on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 was most enjoyable and very well attended. The organisation of the singers in assisting in the promotion and organisation, notably by Gus Harper, was paramount to its success. The installation of the stage was testament to their teamwork. The help the committee received from our churchgoers regarding the refreshments was very gratefully received.

The concert itself commenced with Gwahoddiaid, a Welsh hymn of American Origin and finished with Thine be the Glory. Their musical director Glynn Edwards conducted the choir, with solo vocals by Tony O'Rourke and solo saxophone from Oliver Pritchard Jones.

After expenses, including performance fee, £645 was raised for our funds.



### Chester Mystery Plays

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June, twenty five of us went to a matinee performance of the Chester Mystery Plays at the Cathedral; it was most enjoyable and to some very spiritual.

There are 24 plays, the earliest written evidence of any is from 1422; they were funded and produced by the crafts and guilds and performed by townspeople, on waggons in streets and market places. Similar plays were performed in other towns e.g. York, Coventry, Wakefield.

The 24 plays of Chester origin were completed between 1520 and 1550; After the religious upheaval of Henry VIII, they progressively were suppressed by the protestant hierarchy, who thought the religious plays were inappropriate and heretical. They met a powerful adversary in Edmund Grindal, Archbishop of York, who in 1572 issued an injunction to stop them. They managed to ignore at first however the Mayor of Chester John Savage had to explain his defiance to the privy council of Elizabeth I.

The performances in 1575 would be the last until 1951 when they were performed as part of the festival of Britain.

Chester Mystery Plays Ltd is a registered charity who rely on the talents and goodwill of hundreds of people from all corners of the community. Of the 24 plays 18 were performed this year.

The next performance of plays will be in 2023.



## Garden Party at Belmont Hall

In bygone years the Great Budworth Church Garden Party had a period when it was held at Belmont Hall. This year Shirley Humphreys thought it would be nice to hold it there again, seventy years since the last time.



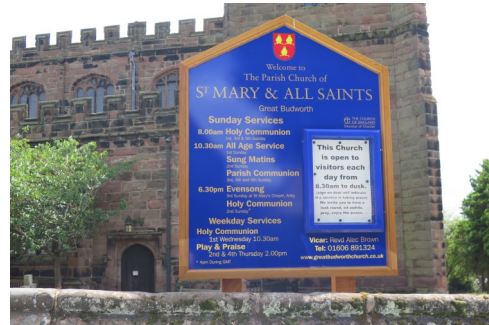
above picture believed to be an arrival at Fete of 1935. On carriage are Fred Adair (in black top hat) The Eaton twins and Rose Walker.

Thanks to Richard Leigh of Belmont Hall, it was agreed to have a joint event with Cransley School. Shirley and her team together with Tracey Totterdell and Clare Holt of Cransley school and their team arranged the activities, various stalls and for steam train, and various bouncy castles. The garden party was opened by Richard Leigh and his daughter Mary Leigh-Potts (pictured below with Alec our vicar). Although there was a sharp shower later in the afternoon most of the planned activities, such as maypole dancing, singers and brass band went ahead. It was well worth the wait!



## Church Notice Board

With many thanks to a parishioner who funded it, a new notice board is now in position outside the Church; It looks very grand!



## Monuments Repaired

After much ingenuity and many hours of patient work by Peter and Andrew Buckley the two table top monuments, damaged in Storm Doris have been repaired, one of them having to be totally re-built.



## Tower Handrail

Thanks to the Restoration Fund a proper handrail has now been installed up the tower steps. This is much safer than the rope which had been utilised for many years.

## FOGBC EVENTS

**Heritage Day**  
 Saturday 8th September 1:30pm to 5pm  
 Trips Up The Tower  
 Talk by our historian Robert Steele  
 Organ Recital  
 Guided walk  
 Plenty of Tea and Cakes

**Quiz Night**  
 Date in November to be finalised  
 Tickets £8 to include refreshments

Further information please contact  
 Geoff Ridgway Tel 01565733494