



The Friends Office, St Anne's Church, Kew, TW9 3AA

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CONTRIBUTION – RESTORATION – CONSERVATION

14 May 2018

Dear Friends,

In my second year as Chairman of The Friends of St Anne's Church, Kew, I am delighted to be writing to you about our activities over this past year and our plans going forward.

Firstly, on behalf of the Executive Committee, we would like to thank you so much for your support and generous contributions over the past year.

At the start of this financial year, we are pleased with our current financial position as funds are once again building up. Thanks to The Friends Treasurer Anne Barker for the clarity and collation of all our financial reports.

Continuing our purpose to maintain the fabric of the Church, our next objective is to contribute to one of the projects that St Anne's Church 2020 Vision – A Mission Worth Living – is undertaking. This project will be to raise funds towards the full repair of the crumbling Church Wall quoted at £80,000. The Church PCC has £37,000 remaining from the Tercentenary appeal (which covered the churchyard wall, among other items on the master plan). We decided The Friends should dedicate themselves to raising the remaining amount as repair of the decaying churchyard wall is very much within the purposes of The Friends. We do hope you will agree that this is a worthwhile cause and we look forward to your continued support to raise the funds required.

We are pleased to report that The Friends completed their financing of the floodlighting of the Church Building and of the pathway leading to the Parish Hall. The total cost for this project to The Friends was approximately £60,000.

During this past year, we have again organised and hosted a very full programme of successful fundraising events bringing Friends together as well as non - Friends both locally and further afield. Our goal of ensuring we had a programme planned and confirmed well in advance for Autumn 2017 and Spring 2018 proved to be very successful as well as profitable as demonstrated in our end of year financial report and in this analysis below. The *asterisk highlights sponsored events which gave us the opportunity to achieve an excellent profit as a high percentage of our expenses were covered by the sponsors.

Event	Cash Sales	Online Sales	Expenses	Profit	%
Beer Tasting & Raffle	Raffle inc	£690	£164	£705	9% *
Fullers Brewery Tour		£320	£32	£287	3% *
Maids Dinner & Jazz Night. Auction & Raffle	£545	£1090	£269	£3821	47% *
B. Franklin in London	£340	£260	£261	£370	5%
J. Korner Conservation	£210	£235	£139	£305	4%
Candlelit Cello Recital	£245	£1235	£70	£1409	17% *
Jerusalem to Clerkenwell	£520	£870	£249	£1210	15%
TOTAL	£1860	£4700	£1184	£8107	

The Programme started in May with a Beer Tasting hosted by Paul Davies with beer provided by Fullers and a free meal which we raffled. This was followed with a Fullers Brewery tour in August, a Fundraising Dinner and Jazz Night with auction and raffle at Maids of Honour in September, a talk by George Goodwin on Benjamin Franklin in London in October, a talk by Julia Korner on Conservation and Restoration in St Anne's Church in November, a Candlelit Cello recital by Jonathan Rees kindly sponsored and hosted by Linda Pethick in her Kew Green home also in November. Moving onto the New Year in February a talk by Sir David Durie from Jerusalem to Clerkenwell about the Knights of St John.

To attract a wider Audience to our Fundraising Events we now promote to the following organisations with web links and presence on their websites: *Richmond Arts Society; Kew Society; Kew Volunteers (800 members); Richmond Local History Society; Richmond Journal of local History; Kew WI; KEW TW9 neighbourhood; Local neighbourhood roads newsletter; Kew Studio.*

This has proved to be very effective as demonstrated in our analysis on the attendance of the last two events attracting a wider audience of Non – Friends and Increased online sales as follows:

- FRIENDS: 38% - NON- FRIENDS: 62%
- ONLINE SALES: 63% - IN CHURCH: 17% - ON DOOR: 20%

We will continue to analyse the forthcoming events to aid our event planning whilst also looking at alternative days to Saturday Morning to attract a wider audience.

Looking forward into our next financial year regarding fundraising events – we have already started off very successfully in mid-April with a talk by Caroline Corbeau – Parsons, the Curator from Tate Britain in April on their current exhibition- 'Impressionists in London; French Artist's in exile 1870 – 1904'. This was very successful attracting an audience of 100. The last event in Spring was on Saturday May 12 'The Importance of the Kew Collections – Kill or Cure' a talk by the Deputy Director of Science Prof. Monique Simmonds OBE from RBG Kew. This was a 'sell out' attracting over 80 people. Further reports on these two events in next year's letter.

The Autumn 2018 & Spring 2019 Programme is now in planning with one event tentatively reserved a Piano Recital 'Viv McLean Works by Chopin and Gershwin' which was postponed and likely to be rescheduled in September or October 2018.

Our dedicated website has made an enormous difference to the day-to-day operation of The Friends and as you may know all new and renewals of Membership as well as purchasing of event tickets, as demonstrated so successfully in the above analysis can be activated via the Website. We are very indebted to Paul Booth our Webmaster who has been unfailing in his dedication for us to achieve this goal. Gemma Roundell, one of our new committee members, is assisting me on the event

planning and updating and posting all photographs and news on our events as well as planning to run and operate a blog that will update all members on all our activities and news.

To move The Friends further into the 21st Century we now have a lovely logo and an apt strapline 'Contribution – Restoration - Conservation' which really does encapsulate our mission, I am sure you will agree. For all our events and activities, we now promote The Friends with our logo and mission on Promotional Event flyers and a Pull-up- Promotional Banner.

At the time of last year's annual report, we had 120 members, although we were still collecting subscriptions. At the end of the 2017/18 subscription year we reached a maximum of 148 members. We currently have 139 members, although we are still confirming renewals for 2018/19. We have had 19 new members since last year's AGM, and four came off the membership list (deceased or moved away). Our dedicated Membership Secretary, Wendy Booth, has again done a sterling job over the past year endeavouring to ensure all membership payments were updated.

In addition, with the facility of our website we have continued to communicate via email with Friends as this is more time effective as well as reducing our mail costs considerably as mentioned last year.

As in the previous years we initiated not one but two new Christmas cards last Christmas. The first was a beautiful photograph of St Anne's in the Snow. That proved so successful that we did a repeat order. The other card was a stunning photograph of another stained-glass window at St Anne's. Even with the repeat order of the Snow card we only have 28 Packs x 10 left (we bought 300 packs & sold 272 packs) and the stained-glass card 112 Packs x 10 left (we bought 200 Packs & sold 88 Packs). We will sell these again next Christmas and look at another new card as well as exploring a possible new supplier to get the best deal.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to all those that have served relentlessly on The Friends Executive Committee over the past year. These are Anne Barker, Paul Booth, Wendy Booth, Phyllis Cunningham, Ben Jones, Linda Pethick, Tina Ruygrok as well our new members Bill Cottle and Gemma Roundell and our President Fr Nigel Worn. We still have a vacancy on our committee and are looking to fill that position very soon.

We are looking forward to a successful year ahead and on behalf of The Friends of St Anne's Executive Committee, may we thank you all so much for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming you at our AGM on Saturday 9th June 2018 and seeing you all at our events in the coming year.

Yours Sincerely

Lorraine Neale
Chairman The Friends of St Anne's Church, Kew

Registered charity No. 1085389

President: The Reverend Nigel J Worn