

## Our Heritage...



*The Lady Chapel floor at Leeds church in need of repair*

*When you pass by the two Parish Churches you might well think that they are solid, durable, well preserved parts of our precious village landscapes. The appearance is deceptive.*

*Just as your house needs constant attention, so do they, even more so because of their great age. Work currently outstanding, together with indications of possible costs, includes :*

### Leeds

- Stonework
  - Replacement of decayed stone in porch (budget £2.5K)
  - Stonework in Norman arch (budget £1.5K)
- Ceilings & floors
  - Repair of ceilings (budget £5.5K)
  - Provision of floor to clock chamber (budget £2K)
- Plasterwork
  - Repair & decoration of areas in nave & chancel (budget £ 6K)
- Refurbishment of sundial on tower (budget £2.5K)

**TOTAL : £20,000**

### Broomfield

- Timbers and beams
  - Reinforcement of tower ridge beam (budget £2.5K)
  - Erection of scaffolding to inspect & treat roof timbers & beams (budget £2K)
- Stonework
  - Replacement of decaying stonework in tower (budget £3.5K)
- Safe access to belfry (budget £4K)
- Complying with Disability Act regarding lighting in tower & porch (budget £1K)

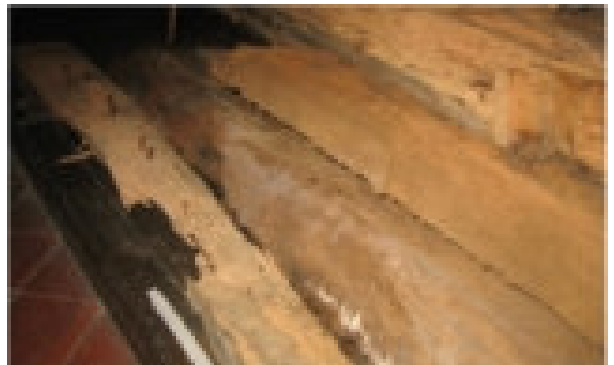
**TOTAL : £13,000**

*Not all the work has the same degree of priority, but the list gives an idea of the daunting size of the problem, and the forthcoming quinquennial inspection may well add to the list.*

*You may think that there is some centralised funding of such work, by the Church Commissioners, the Diocese or English Heritage. There is none. The costs fall entirely on the congregation and even with their modest reserves the task is clearly beyond them.*

*That is why we 'Friends' are needed – people who, though of varying religious beliefs, or perhaps none at all, would be saddened if the churches were allowed to slip into irreversible decay.*

*Now you know the size of the problem, what can you do to help? The Chairman's report on the next page gives guidance.*



*Rotten timbers at St Nicholas church, Leeds*



# Chairman's Report

It has been my pleasure to serve again as Chairman, if only for a year, and my report has two themes.

Firstly, to congratulate and thank all those who have worked so tirelessly to raise money for our Charity. Just how successful they have been can be seen on the other pages of this Newsletter.

Secondly, to emphasise that there is much work still to be done.

Seven years ago the Friends were founded in response to a feeling prevalent in our villages that the Parish Churches were buildings that formed an important part of our architectural landscape and should be preserved, but that the financial burden of doing so was quite beyond the resources of their small congregations.

They needed helpful friends. They still need help. The list of things that need to be done is impressively long, even before the inspection by architectural surveyors that is conducted every five years, and is now imminent. You will have read the details on page 1.

We need you to do three things.

1. Talk to your family, neighbours, friends about the work of the "Friends". Try to get them interested in the preservation of the buildings. Try to get at least one new member before the close of 2006. (Membership Secretary 01622 861792).

2. Come to our fund raising events. They are advertised in the Church and the Village Magazines and on our web site [www.friendslbc.org.uk](http://www.friendslbc.org.uk). This is how we raise the bulk of our money and we need every one to be "sold out".

3. Tell us if the events we hold do not appeal to you, and tell us what you would prefer. We would welcome your doing so. It has been noticeable that your support appears to have recently been dwindling away. What are we doing wrongly?

You are the "Friends", and we can be proud of our success so far, but this is no time for resting on our laurels. There is much to be done; just look again at page 1!

It will need an effort from us all.

Many thanks for yours.  
*Frank Harris*

*You are cordially invited to our*

## *SAFARI SUPPER*

*On Saturday 18 November 2006 at 7.00pm*

*Three courses with wine and coffee*

*Tickets £17.50 each available from Pauline and Jenny on 862577 and 861280*



# Social Secretary's Report

Here we are, another year gone by, and as usual we have had lots of enthusiasm from our committee and members supporting and organising our various social events, which of course form a major part of our fund raising activities.

July saw our 4<sup>th</sup> Safari Supper around Leeds, Broomfield and Kingswood. We were blessed with the weather and managed to have pre – dinner drinks in the garden at Westlea Barn. Once again superb food was enjoyed by all and a few tipples were also had by all! This seems to be a popular event enjoyed by our members and committee and a great way to meet new people.

Oh la la!! – November brought our first themed dinner with a Beaujolais Nouveau Evening held at Café D'Arnold in Leeds. What a fantastique evening with a Champagne reception, superb Cuisine Francaise and entertainment from LADS who brought us scenes from 'Allo Allo' which kept us all amused, whilst we tucked into our patisserie, fromage and of course Beaujolais. Our thanks go to Jonathan and June Harrison for the use of their barn, and all the hard work in decorating our café! See some of the photos below.

Shame if you missed our Barn Dance on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year, held at Leeds Village Hall. It was lovely to see lots of children dancing the night away (where do they get the energy!) to a very patient caller and her husband. See some photos below. A ploughman's supper was provided, along with yet again, some delicious desserts and coffee. This year, sadly there wasn't as great a demand for tickets – so we'll give it a break for a while.

Well there you have it – another year over, however, more to look forward to. In November we are having another Safari Supper, volunteers needed to host courses please, and sometime in Spring we will have another themed supper – possibly Pasta, Pollenta and Pastrami ?!

Thank you for your continued support of the Friends and we look forward to seeing you at our future events!

*Pauline Royer & Jenny Hoy*

*Social Secretaries*



## **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***

The Friends were first formed in 1999 and have thus been in existence for seven years. During this time we have made quite significant contributions towards the cost of maintaining our two churches. This year in line with pledges made over recent years, I am delighted to report that a cheque for £6,750 was presented to Leeds PCC in November to be divided equally between St Nicholas' at Leeds and St Margaret's at Broomfield, for necessary repairs.

Fund raising events this year raised £1,818.32 and members subscriptions and donations raised a further £1,099. Many of these subscriptions are now paid by Bankers Order and I hope others will choose this convenient method of payment.

Sadly though, our membership continues to slide downwards having dropped from last year's fully paid up membership of 127 to just 95 this year. Our membership secretary, June Harrison, I know is taking this challenge on and hopefully we will be able to encourage more members in the future.

We currently hold on deposit in our CBF fund, £14,150.28 which includes interest retained of £687.67. Gift Aid refunds for the years 2004/5 and 2005/6 totalled £590.34. Our NatWest Account holds £1,403.52 which together with petty cash, makes a total balance of £15,555.15. These funds have been boosted by individuals and societies, without naming them here, who have made generous donations during the year. We are very grateful for all these donations, great and small, and on behalf of the Friends, I thank those people for their generous support.

I should also like to mention that members consulted at our 2002 AGM indicated that they did not wish the Committee to spend more than 25% of total assets in any one year, thus currently favouring a long term aim of building a healthy capital sum to help towards any future expensive repairs.

In the short term, our policy of 'a stitch in time' remains a priority whereby early maintenance should help prevent the need for major work later. We await the forthcoming report of the Quinquennial inspection of both churches, which is designed to highlight any essential repair work that needs to be done.

Once again, I thank all the Friends for their membership and support during the past year, and hope you have also had fun along the way. I, for one, am looking forward to another successful and enjoyable year ahead.

*Jonathan Harrison – Treasurer*

**ACCOUNTS YEAR TO DATE 23 JUNE 2006**

<b><u>Receipts</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>Payments</u></b>	<b>£</b>
Subscriptions		Safari Supper	56.19
- Leeds	193.00	Fun Day	27.61
- Broomfield & Kingswood	260.00	Beaujolais Nouveau	671.40
- Other	121.00	Barn Dance	29.10
Donations	525.00	Postage	33.03
Events		Hall Hire	68.00
- Safari Supper	605.75	Stationery	207.77
- Fun Day	86.00	Other	
- Beaujolais Nouveau	1517.95	- Leeds & Broomfield PCC	6750.00
- Barn Dance	329.92	- Insurance	453.80
- Tea Towels	63.00	- Auditor	58.75
Interest	687.67	- Speaker Deposit AGM	15.00
Inland Rev Gift Aid Refund 04/05	298.70	- Tea Lights	4.07
Inland Rev Gift Aid Refund 05/06	291.64	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b><u>8166.95</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4979.63</b>		
Cash at Bank 24.06.05	18742.47		
<b>GrandTotal</b>	<b><u>23722.10</u></b>		

<b><u>Summary</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b><u>Members</u></b>	
Total Receipts	23722.10	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
Total Payments	8166.95	Leeds 32	61
<b>Balance</b>	<b><u>15555.15</u></b>	B & K 43	50
Petty Cash	1.35	Other 20	16
Current Account Nat West	1403.52	<b>Totals</b>	<b>95</b>
Deposit Account CBF	14150.28		<b>127</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>15555.15</u></b>		



# Membership Secretary's Report

At the last count, our paid-up membership stands at only 95. 26 of those have kindly paid by Banker's Order which helps the Membership Secretary in not having to chase up those members who haven't paid.

This is my first year as Membership Secretary and I am not doing very well! Help me please! I am approaching members who have lapsed over the years to encourage their continued support. If you are one of those, please do not wait to be approached – please fill in the Membership Form below. If you feel you can pay by Banker's Order, please complete the form. If you fill in the Gift Aid form, the treasurer can reclaim any tax you have paid which makes your subscription even more valuable.

If some neighbours have moved house and new people have moved in, can you let me know so that I can approach them and see if they would be willing to become a Friend and so help us to keep the Churches in our villages in good repair. If YOU can do that for me, their name will go into a hat and **they** may well win a bottle of champagne – to be drawn at our AGM in October. If you can get 10 people to join, **you** have an opportunity to win vouchers from Marks & Spencer.

I look forward to hearing from you – re new members, old members or new neighbours!  
June Harrison Tel. No. 01622 861792 or e-mail [june@mlharrison.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:june@mlharrison.fsnet.co.uk)

## 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: .....

TelephoneNo+AreaCode: .....

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 or 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: .....

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: .....

Date: .....

FRIENDS OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD CHURCHES

REGISTERED CHARITY 1080363

THE FRIENDS HAVE PLEASURE IN INVITING YOU TO A TALK ENTITLED:

**'THE ROMANCE OF PUBS AND INN SIGNS'**

**BY KENT AUTHOR - DAVID HARPER**

AT THE LEEDS MEMORIAL HALL  
ON FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2006, AT 7.30PM

**FOLLOWED BY CHEESE AND WINE**

ADMISSION FREE TO MEMBERS  
AND NON-MEMBERS OF 'THE FRIENDS'

*About the Speaker -*

David retired from Lloyds TSB in 1995 after 40 years service. Born in Maidstone, he was evacuated to a public house, The Pelican, Strensham, Worcestershire for a period during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. These were desperate days but David retains strong memories of this experience, which kindled a life-long interest in the brewery trade and as a boy, he was an avid collector of Whitbread Inn Signs. Having met many interesting characters, he decided to write a history of each Inn. Expanding his theme, David now gives lectures

on:

*'The Romance of Pubs and Inn Signs'*

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN US FOR WHAT  
PROMISES TO BE AN ENJOYABLE AND INFORMATIVE  
EVENING - BRING YOUR FRIENDS  
AND IN SO DOING, HELP SUPPORT 'THE FRIENDS' -  
THANK YOU!**

(AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TALK AND REFRESHMENTS  
'THE FRIENDS'  
WILL BE HOLDING THEIR AGM, TO WHICH YOU ARE ALL  
CORDIALLY INVITED)

# AGM 2006

The Friends have not met together for a social gathering at the AGM since their foundation and the opportunity is being taken this year to remedy that omission.

You are invited to come to a party, to share some wine and cheese and the opportunity to listen to an interesting short talk on 'The Romance of Pub and Inn Signs', to be held at 7.30pm on Friday 20 October at Leeds Memorial Hall.

Admission is free and we hope that members will take the opportunity to come along and meet one another, but bring non-members too. With any luck, they might join.

At the end of the party the formal AGM will be held. The Agenda is printed below. You will see that it contains a very important item (number 9) which will decide how the capital reserves are spent.

There are three schools of thought.

- Use it for what the churches need, as and when it is needed
- Keep a substantial reserve in case some disaster happens
- Keep a substantial reserve so that this generates sufficient interest to make a worthwhile annual donation to the churches

To which school do you belong?

In 2002 the AGM put a limit on how much the Committee could spend in any one year. Item 9 on the agenda re-examines whether this limit should be altered.

It is your money and we need to know how you wish it to be spent.  
Please stay for the AGM and tell us.

**FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCHES OF LEEDS AND BROOMFIELD  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
FRIDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2006 AT 9.00 PM  
LEEDS MEMORIAL HALL  
AGENDA**

1. To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2005 (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 – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2006. The existing officers, Chairman F.Harris, Vice Chairman S.Yeomans, Secretary S.Wotton, Treasurer J.Harrison, relinquish their office. Nominations for these posts are invited.
6. To elect committee members. The current members are Peter Coleman, Brian Hardy (ex-officio), Pat Harris, June Harrison, Paddy Hood-Williams, Jenny Hoy, Dave Law, Pauline Royer, Judi Taylor. Peter Coleman, June Harrison and Judi Taylor – 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. Future financial policy
10. Report on recognition of exceptional service to the Friends.
11. To consider any other business appropriate for an Annual General Meeting.
12. To confirm that the AGM in 2007 will be held in Kingswood.

**Honorary Officers 2005 - 2006**

Chairman – *Frank Harris*

Vice-Chairman – *Stanley Yeomans*

Treasurer – *Jonathan Harrison*

Secretary – *Sue Wotton*

**Committee Members**

*Peter Coleman, Brian Hardy (Ex-Officio), Pat Harris, June Harrison, Paddy Hood-Williams,  
Jenny Hoy, Dave Law, Pauline Royer, Judi Taylor.*