



Friends of
St Martin's

Spring 2016

Social Events.

A very successful event, Songs From The Shows, was held in April 2015, a first for Friends. We were entertained by our exceptional in house (St Martin's) musical talent, who provided us with songs from Les Miserables, the Sound of Music, Sondheim and many many more. Whether listening rapturously or whole heartedly joining in with the chorus the audience were bubbling by the finale, bolstered by some rather nice canapes at the interval. The event was so successful that a second event is planned for 9th April 2016. Again in excess of £800 was raised for Friends funds.

In November we held our second Race Night, again well attended by over 100 people, young and old and many in between. Many entered into the spirit of the evening sporting hats binoculars and even the odd riding crop. This year we had best costume prizes which went to Kim McCloughry, sporting a rather snazzy fascinator and Fr Jack in a very 'spivvy' trilby and suit. Support for each race was extremely voluble and in addition to raising funds for Friends, many seemed to sport winning tickets.

We have had another very successful quiz night which was well attended with over 115 people vying to win. The church hall was filled to capacity in January as teams struggled to decipher anagrams and photos plus a further eight rounds challenging our knowledge –accompanied by some very corny but hilarious jokes from our resident quiz master, Glenn. The evening was complete with, everyone agreed, the best Fish and chip supper. Prizes were enjoyed by the first two winning teams and the event raised in excess of £840.

Future Events

Our next event will be 'Picnic With Pimms' to be held in the churchyard (Hall if raining) on Sunday 5th June from 3pm to 5pm. As the title suggests a yummy picnic will be provided along with a glass of Pimms, all accompanied by live music with a jazz feel from our very own James Kellas.

A Barn Dance is to be held in the hall on Saturday 29th October, don't throw away that checkered shirt, you always knew it would come in handy for something!

All are welcome to these events, which are advertised in, 'Outlook' and the weekly bulletin, on church noticeboards and St Martins website.

Fund Raising Merchandise

We now have a small but classy range of goods to supplement our fundraising activities, including, the very popular Christmas cards featuring photos by Brian Tinsey, the flower festival notecards and the St Martins candle's. These items are on sale at all our events and at St Martin's Fair.

Funding Plans



It is lovely to see the old red kneelers being



During the last 12 months there has been a drive by 'Friends' to replace the red kneelers in church. Initially 25 were purchased by individual Friends and members of the congregation and are in the process of being completed. A further 25 have now been purchased. It is lovely to see the old red kneelers being replaced by the more beautiful and (let's be honest) more comfortable hand worked tapestries.



We would ask that all who use these kneelers bear in mind the amount of work involved in creating them and treat them with respect.

- if you would like to purchase one and complete it or commission somebody else to complete it on your behalf, please give your name to Jacqueline or Maureen. We have included some photos of a few of those which have been installed recently.

Plans for the funds which have been raised to date (in excess of £17,000) have been discussed at length with Fr Simon and the PCC. As we are all aware from the recently launched New Life Project there are several projects in the pipeline and Friends will be contributing to the replacement of the sound system in church. This will be of benefit to everyone. This project is planned for the near future by the PCC, and Friends hope to contribute a significant amount of funds to the project.

Jacqueline Alderton

Friends of St Martin's