



### **The Friends of St Helen's Church**

Holy Trinity Church Parish Office, Old Town, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 6BG  
Email: friends@st-helenschurch.co.uk

### **Ring Out the News - The Friends of St. Helen's Summer Newsletter 2019**

Well what a busy couple of months it has been! In May, the community once again pulled together to help us host the Annual Plant Sale. In total, you helped to raise over £1000 and the Trustees are truly thankful for the support we received; without you we just couldn't do it! Thanks to pretty much everyone; sowing, growing, baking, helping & attending. The Plant Sale truly is an event that seems to be supported by all.

On Saturday 29th June we also hosted a concert at Holy Trinity. Local choir phenomenon Tarantara treated an audience of over 100 to a very broad repertoire of songs. We currently await the final figure for this event but believe it to be in excess of £1300. Thanks SO much to those of you who were able to attend and once again boost the coffers.

As you are aware, the aforementioned events were to raise money for the cleaning and possible re-cutting of the Village War Memorial; an integral part of our remit, and one which holds a personal connection for many in Clifford Chambers. We are pleased to report that the first phase, cleaning, has been approved by all necessary bodies and a very skilled monumental stone mason, Steve Allard & Son, will begin this in August. The Trustees would also like to thank the Parish Council and Clifford Chambers Charities as they have agreed to split the costs of the project equally with us. We are hoping that, if required, phase two (any re-cutting of names) will also take place. However, this will require a faculty to be applied for by the St. Helen's Team and a survey of the War Memorial post-clean. Thank you for your generosity and the good will you have expressed towards this.

Many of you will have seen the scaffolding come and go outside St. Helen's in recent months. We are pleased to report that the remedial work to the porch and the Victorian guttering has now been completed. This will ensure that the water ingress that has blighted the building is no more! Thanks to you, we were able to write a cheque for this work for circa £25,000, and we are also able to provide a cheque for around £2,300 for work to the wall near the pavement. Do go and have a look at what your money has helped achieve!

We have just received our last Easyfundraising payment, and we would urge you all to consider this scheme. It is online, safe, easy, and costs you nothing; all you do is create an account and log into it before you make online purchases. The retailers then donate a percentage of your money to the Charity via Easyfundraising. If any of you would like help with this, do get in touch and we would be more than willing to help set you up.

We have also continued to contact those of you on our Supporters Register to ask if you would be kind enough to consider renewing your membership for the coming year. Those of you who have signed up will know we really appreciate the commitment you have shown by becoming a Supporter; we do hope many more of you will consider signing up. Please also consider signing a Gift Aid form if you can and haven't already; it truly makes a massive difference to the amount the Charity receives.

Our Treasurer, Winston North, will be taking part in the National Churches Trust Ride+Stride again this year. The sponsored bike ride/walk takes place every year on the second Saturday in September, and this year the date is the 14th September. If you are a keen cyclist or walker and feel you would like to join Winston please do get in touch. For more information please see [www.nationalchurchestrust.org](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org).

This fundraising malarkey, whilst rewarding, is quite a challenge and we would be interested to hear of any fundraising ideas you might have. Maybe you would like to run an event on behalf of the Charity? Maybe you would like to join with one of the Trustees to hold an event? Or maybe you would like to literally join us and become a Trustee? If so, please do get in touch; we are an approachable bunch who are friendly and receptive.

Wishing you and yours a lovely summer.

**THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN FOR YOUR CONSTANT SUPPORT!**

## **Become a Supporter of The Friends of St Helen's Church:**

- **Platinum membership** (£100 per year) includes free entry to the chancel of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford upon Avon, (Shakespeare's Church) for you and 3 companions, and invitations to any Friends Events, to include priority booking.
- **Gold membership** (£50 per year) includes free entry to the chancel of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford upon Avon, (Shakespeare's Church) for you and 2 companions, and invitations to any Friends Events, to include priority booking.
- **Silver membership** (£25 per year) includes free entry to the chancel of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford upon Avon, (Shakespeare's Church) for you and 1 companion, and invitations to any Friends Events, to include priority booking.

### **HSBC Bank Account Details:**

Account name: **Friends of St Helens Church**

Sort Code: **40-43-19**

Account Number: **42245043**

### **Gift Aid Declaration**

Name of charity: **THE FRIENDS OF ST HELENS CHURCH**

Please treat as Gift Aid donations:

- The enclosed gift of £ \_\_\_\_\_ OR
- All gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations OR
- All gifts of money that I have made in the past four years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.
- Please tick the appropriate box*

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### **Donor's details**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs), that I donate to, will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

### **Please notify The Friends of St Helens Church if you:**

1. Want to cancel this declaration.
2. Change your name or home address.
3. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay income tax at the higher rate, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

*The Friends of St Helens Church, c/o Holy Trinity Parish Office Old Town Stratford upon Avon CV37 6BG  
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