



Friends of Westmill Church

February

2011

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On the 19th January 2011 over 30 local people attended a public meeting in our Village Hall and unanimously agreed to form a new charity here in the Village to be known as "Friends of Westmill Church" (FOWC). The prime purpose of (FOWC) is to raise funds for the repair and maintenance of the fabric of our village Church. The following people were elected to form the first management and fund raising committee:- Michael Thody (Chairman) Diane Bowtell (Secretary) Winston Pickup (Treasurer) Committee members:-Sally Cousins, Hilary Harding (Churchwarden) Liz Holland, Jan James, Nigel Leaney, Raymond Partridge, Sue Phipps (Churchwarden)

Nigel is building a web site for us so that we can cast a net far and wide for interest and funds for our charity, the website address will be www.friendsofwestmillchurch.org.uk

The committee is already planning a number of fund raising events.

There will a flower/music festival in the Church and Church Yard on the 9th & 10th July. Sally Cousins would be pleased to hear from anybody who could help her with flower arrangements; Sarah Hill (Vicar's wife) will be putting a programme together for a music extravaganza and would like to hear from anybody who has musical talent. It is planned to have the concert on the evening of the 9th July in the Church.

Jan and Liz are running a small lottery known as the "Church Roof Club" and will be in touch with everybody in the Village with more details of how to join

John King will be arranging a photographic display of Westmill scenes during the July event. John hopes that many people will enter a photo they have taken; he will then have a panel of judges to select

12 of the photos so that we can produce a 2012 calendar for sale and distribution by late 2011.

On the 10th October the Hertfordshire Police Choir (30 singers) will be entertaining us in the Church with their very varied popular programme of music. They are a long established Choir which, because of their popularity, has future bookings up to two years ahead. We are very fortunate they will perform for us. This is an event you should not miss! Details of ticket sales later in the summer.

A number of other events are in the pipe line; Lord & Lady Carter of Coles Park have offered a Daffodil picking day from their estate garden. We are sure that there are many other fund raising events we could hold and hope you will come forward with your suggestions and offers of help.

Our Treasurer, Winston, will be please to hear from anybody who would be prepared to set up a standing order either monthly or annually in favour of our bank account.

We have to date received donations to our funds from The Parish Council, The Art Exhibition (Muriel Parsons & Mavis Backhouse) and the Greg Trust, together with generous sums from residents, and of course the many small change collection boxes which the Churchwardens arranged to distribute and collect. We are very grateful to you all for your generosity. It is really appreciated.

The final figures for the Church Roof Repair are not yet available, but we aim to raise at least 20k during this current year from donations and fund raising events. For those Villagers who have not yet had a opportunity to make a donation to the roof appeal and wish to do so, with this letter there is a donations form.