 **Friends of St Lawrence Trust**

 Registered Charity No. 1112950

Dear Friends

Winter 2019 – Newsletter

2018 was a difficult year for the Trust.

In the Spring Carl Perkins told me that he was terminally ill. He had been a trustee for about five years and was our go to person for he was skilled at many things from design and printing through to restoration. Sadly he passed away later in the summer and we will miss him dearly. However, we welcomed Tom Morkill and Caroline Walker to be Trustees.

It is wonderful to be able to report that we have completed the churchyard project financed by the bequest from the late Donald Moore. The final piece was the granite sculpture by Matthew Maddocks which is situated in the South East corner of the churchyard. The completed project was blessed by the Bishop of St Albans on 4th March. It is our hope and objective that churchyard will be a welcoming amenity to be enjoyed by all the people of Bovingdon, young and old. Please take the time to visit it if you have not already done so.

The “Beast from the East” hit the churchyard very hard and there was a great deal of damage. With the support of a donation from Branwen Cooke and the hard work by the churchyard team we were able to help St Lawrence to repair the damage.

Most churchyards have a yew tree somewhere but at St Lawrence there are over fifty. Why? – nobody knows – it may have been a fashion statement at one time but being in a conservation area they must be cared for. Most of them are trimmed and had become quite bedraggled. During the autumn we financed a professional haircut for them which will leave them looking a little bare for a while but they will soon pick up.

The main event last year was the second Music Festival organised by Charles Burch and his team. This was a success and raised £4,200.

Our work goes on and we have some dates for your diaries:

9th March – Vamp til Ready in the Memorial Hall;

27th April – Safari Supper;

8th May – Coffee Morning at West Winds, Bovingdon Green;

29th June – Camerata Concert in St Lawrence Church; and

30th June – Open Garden at Long Meadow followed by a performance by Sounds Easy in the marquee.

Our Trustees are:

John Walker – Chairman and Treasurer;

Jane Cayley – Secretary;

Charles Burch - PCC Representative.

Pauline Wright;

Tom Morkill; and

Caroline Walker

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us either as a Trustee or as a volunteer at one or more of our events.

We look forward to seeing you all at our events this year.

With best wishes

John Walker

Chairman & Treasurer

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