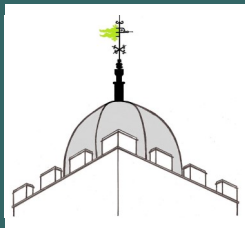




www.alburyoldsaxonchurch.com



The Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church

Newsletter

Registered Charity Number: 1168550

Fifteenth Edition, Spring/Summer 2019





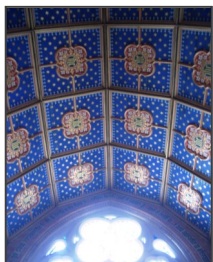
Chairman's Comment

Welcome to this latest edition of the Friends Newsletter, and Happy Easter.

As many of you know, March began sadly as we lost our much-loved former Chairman, **John Foulsham**. John was Chairman of the 'Friends' Committee in its various guises for twenty-five years until he retired in 2016, and quite apart from the practical work he did, always presided over meetings with good humour and wise experience. John's packed funeral bore testament to the enormous range of his community involvement in Albury, and the high regard in which he was held. We will miss him greatly, and I know all your sympathies are extended to Daphne, along with Timothy, Victoria, and their families.



The work continues, and as you will see from Roy Hogben's article on page 4, we have a lot to do to raise money for the Second Phase of the Drummond Chapel conservation. This is the bit that will really help the interior of the chapel itself, at the very least halting the deterioration in its magnificent decoration. Our new agreement with the CCT (Churches Conservation Trust) now allows us to organise raising funds autonomously, and, through their approved consultant, to oversee the skilled work to complete Phase Two.



Fund raising can have its compensations! If you look at the advert for '**One Enchanted Evening**' and its accompanying charity auction on the inside back cover, you will see that not only is a very special evening planned but 100% of the profit will go to the Drummond Chapel project. There are some amazing breaks to bid for – you can get an impression of **Small Luxury Hotels of the World** at their web-site: www.slh.com

At the last Trustees' meeting, after careful discussion we decided to put the annual subscription, unchanged for many years, up from £10 to £15. It is still small, but every little helps, and as we approach a period when we will need to ramp up our activity, the increase makes sense. The Trustees hope that you'll be happy with this modest rise in partnering the Friends' heritage work. Or instead of annual support you might like to consider Life Membership, unchanged excellent value at £100.



Don't forget our **Annual Meeting on 17 June** and continue to experience our unique building right here in Albury.

[Andrew Pearson, Chairman of the Trustees](#)

In the mid of the Surrey Hills - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Albury Old Saxon Church

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The parish of Albury, only thirty miles south west of London, sits along the Tillingbourne Valley in the middle of the Surrey Hills AONB. The Church and the village were recorded in the Domesday Book of 1085 where the village was referred to as *Eklebere*.

The Old Parish Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul used to be the central focus of the dispersed village of Albury before it was moved half a mile to its present site. Its history and present situation are closely linked to the owners of the Albury Park Mansion.

The stone building, set in a Saxon times with many changes and alterations throughout the centuries.

The graveyard is also a very interesting wildlife area and abounds in a profusion of rare wild flowers.

This ancient church stands in a quiet, rural and peaceful location, set amongst trees and parkland, some's distance from other buildings and the nearest road.

The church, now vested in The Churches Conservation Trust, is always open to welcome visitors. Free lectures and the day-to-day management are organised by The Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church.

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Responsible Charity Number: 1165559

www.alburychurchsociety.org


It is now possible to renew your Membership on-line using **PayPal** and their credit/debit card partners. Also, one can now book tickets for the range of theatrical and musical events that are being hosted by the Friends Group.

The web-site is straight forward and easy to use and our thanks go out to Peter & Denise Chamberlain for their splendid work on making your web-site much more user friendly.

It moves our charity into the 21st century and will save an enormous amount of administrative time and trouble. Regular use of the web-site will make contact with all of the Friends much easier.

Do not concern yourself if you don't have a *PayPal* account; payment can also be made with any of the debit or credit cards that are supported by *PayPal*. Annual repeat payments can also be easily organised and any payments made on-line can also be **Gift-Aided**, which means that through the Friends Charity status an additional 25% can be earned from HMRC.

Editorial



In the midst of the Surrey Hills - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Albury Old Saxon Church


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Historic Background

Up until 1989 the Albury church was the largest of the village churches, and was the only one to have remained in the original Saxon style. It was built in the 10th century, and was known locally as 'the church of the stone'. The church was built of stone, and was known locally as 'the church of the stone'. The church was built of stone, and was known locally as 'the church of the stone'. The church was built of stone, and was known locally as 'the church of the stone'.

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“1,000 Years of History”

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In the midst of the Surrey Hills... **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

Albury Old Saxon Church

Home	1000 Years of History	Reformed Church	Events	Newsletters	Photo/Recreation	Contact Us
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Our Memorial Book in the Church is now a permanent feature but not all of our members have been able to visit the church recently. We have therefore created an online Memorial Book that should for those from 1700 and onwards and anyone who has a memorial programme to help. We have also created a new online memorial programme to help. We have also created a new online memorial programme to help.

Albury Church has been listed for more than 1,000 years and was one of the earliest of the many churches in the area. It is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century and is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century.

Friends of Albury Old Saxon Church

Albury Old Saxon Church is a small, simple, and unassuming church. It is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century and is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century.

Support the Friends:

Albury Old Saxon Church is a small, simple, and unassuming church. It is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century and is a fine example of the work of the monks of the 10th century.

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Drummond Chapel Phase Two

Now that Spring is sprung the Friends Trustees are gearing up for a fund raising drive to initiate **Phase Two** (and hopefully the final phase!) of the restoration/conservation programme for the Drummond Memorial Chapel.

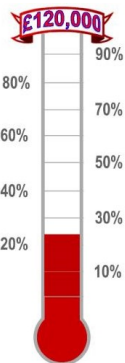
With the very kind generosity of the Friends, local supporters and a good number of benefactors, the Friends Group was able to completely organise the funding for the First Phase of the programme to make the old church as watertight and climatically stable as possible.

The major difference between the two phases is that the Friends Group will take control of both the fund raising and the actual management of the project. This second phase is a much more specialist endeavour and the need for highly skilled professional conservators to carry out the sensitive restoration/conservation of the painted surfaces of the Drummond Chapel is, of course, of paramount importance.

The Churches Conservation Trust, as the owners of the church, are obliged to be involved with all procedural matters and best practices, therefore, we have appointed **Tobit Curteis Associates**, a national practice specialising in the conservation/restoration of wall paintings in historic buildings, to be our guide and mentor for this second phase of work.

Once again, with the fantastic generosity of all our supporters, the Friends Group has already garnished together nearly £30,000 (25%) towards the goal of £120,000. With this in mind, it is hoped that our application to the **Heritage Lottery Fund** for *Match-Funding* will be granted. If this would be the case, over the course of the time period normally attached to the Match-Funding exercise, the Friends Group would need to raise a further £30,000 to finally achieve success with saving this unique piece of our heritage for generations to come.

Certainly, with the continued resourcing of various fund givers, the popularity of the *Life Members* and *Benefactor* programme together with a full line-up of interesting theatrical performances, in particular, the *'One Enchanted Evening'* Concert, the Friends group may well be in a position for the programme of work for Phase Two to start around this time next year?!



Help us to restore/conservise this unique piece of our National heritage

Drummond's Memorial Chapel has survived for more than 165 years, but now needs some extreme remedial works to restore and conserve the interior for future generations.

Phase One has now been completed with a budget of £90,000 that has been raised by the Friends Group from various sources, ensuring that the outside fabric of the church is watertight, the land drainage is fit for purpose and the micro-climate within the church is stabilised.

Phase Two to carry out the highly skilled and specialist work to stabilise the plasterwork and all of the delaminated surfaces, specialist cleaning of the encaustic tiles and the hand carved screens, restoration and conservation of all of the painted and gilded surfaces of the interior of the Drummond Chapel.

Based on the latest tenders received, the cost for this Second Phase will be approximately £120,000

We are appealing for financial assistance to help pay for this essential work to be carried out.

Roy Hogben, Fund Raising



On musing in the Saxon churchyard....

These people lying here below
In their time did duly go
On Obligation days to Mass
In Saxon times - alack-alas
Till Reformation changed the style
Still they continued all the while.
Local swains at maidens glanced
And on the village green here danced
At festivals and special days
Relief from agricultural ways.
They married here - walked through that door
Knelt upon cold straw-strewn floor
Everyone - both rich and poor.
Children came and were baptised -
Were their dreams all realised?
Most lives were shorter than today
They never ever had their say
But lived in hope and trust and fear
And all this time since lying here
Mostly now without a stone
To say where marked their earthly home.
This church, the centre of their days
Dictated strongly all their ways.
They lie here still all undetected
Till trumpets sound and resurrected!



Life Members and Benefactors

The Memorial Board that is held within the Saxon Church records for posterity the names of **Life Members** and **Benefactors**. It has recently been up-dated and we are delighted to announce that at present we have 80 Life Members, of whom 26 are Joint-Life, and in addition there are 20 Benefactors.

The annual subscription for family members is now a very modest £15. For this members receive two Newsletters each year to keep them up-dated with what is happening at the church, discounted event tickets and an invitation to the annual *Strawberry Tea-Party* in Vale End's garden.

However, becoming a Life or Joint-Life Member saves a huge amount of administrative time, and if the payment is 'Gift-Aided' the Friends Charity can get a 25% up-lift in their funding!

See our Web-site: www.alburyoldsaxonchurch.org for further details.



Diary Dates...

 **Investec** 
International Music Festival
In the Surrey Hills

 **Surrey Hills Society**

Friday 10 May

11:30am. At the Saxon Church

Investec International Music Festival & Surrey Hills Society have organised a walk from Shere Car Park to the Saxon Church where a '**Musical Interlude**', will be performed featuring soprano **Kim Collins**.

Come along and support this free event!

www.alburyoldsaxonchurch.org

**THIS my
THEATRE**

William Shakespeare



**Sunday 2 June
7:30pm**

Romeo & Juliet

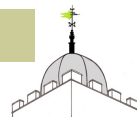
The streets of Verona are fraught with ceaseless fighting between the Montagues and Capulets

Consequence though, hangs in the stars and when the children of these two great households meet, there is hope that their love will conquer all....

We invite you to experience Shakespeare's most famous love story with modern characterisation, choral song and physical acting techniques to engage both young and old.

You know their story, but not like this....

www.thisismytheatre.com



A Very Important Diary Date!!

One Enchanted Evening

Registered Charity Number: 1168550

**A black tie event with a concert of songs and arias by Ivor Novello,
Andrew Lloyd-Webber, Puccini and others**

*After concert reception at the Albury Park Mansion
including a fantastic Charity Auction*



Albury Old Saxon Church
Saturday 29 June 2019

SMALL
LUXURY
HOTELS
OF THE WORLD

Independently minded

For more information go to: www.alburyoldsaxonchurch.org

The Friends of the Albury Old Saxon Church are presenting this memorable gala evening as part of their major fundraising programme for the restoration/conservation of the Drummond Memorial Chapel.

The Musical Director for the concert, soprano Kim Collins, is putting together a fantastic selection of local talent for this evening-to-remember. To complete the event there will be an after concert reception in one of the principal apartments in the Mansion, where fizz and canapés will be served.

A fabulous Charity Auction of holiday breaks sponsored by 'Small Luxury Hotels of the World' will certainly be an exciting aspect of the evening, along with a raffle of very desirable gifts!

100% of the profit from this event will go towards restoring the beautiful and unique Drummond Memorial Chapel. It is hoped that all of the funding for this final phase will be coupled with *Match-Funding* from the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, which means that for every pound raised the Friends Group will receive a matched amount!

Tickets for this unforgettable evening are now on sale at £45 each with a concession of £40 for Friends of the Old Saxon Church.

**For further information and to book tickets go to: www.alburyoldsaxonchurch.org
or contact Roy Hogben on 01483 202636**



Diary of Services and Events

Friday, 19 April: Good Friday **‘Quiet Reflection’** 2:00pm.

Friday, 10 May: Investec International Music Festival & Surrey Hills Society present a **‘Musical Interlude’**, featuring Kim Collins, 11:30am. at the Church

Sunday, 2 June: **‘Romeo & Juliet’** by William Shakespeare. Performed by **This is My Theatre Group** 7:30 pm. in the Saxon Church.

Monday, 17 June: **Friends Annual Meeting.** 6:30 pm. in the Saxon Church. Everyone is cordially invited.

Sunday, 23 June: **Midsummer Service** at 11:00 am. followed by wine and light refreshments.

Saturday, 29 June: **‘One Enchanted Evening’** The Friends Gala Evening of songs and arias featuring the very best of local talent from 6:30 - 10:30 pm. Concert in the Church and after show reception in the Albury Park Mansion.

Saturday, 20 July: **Albury Produce Show** Information Tent: 2:00-5:00 pm.

Sunday, 28 July: **Strawberry Tea Party** Always the highlight of the summer - enjoy traditional cream tea with strawberries in an English country garden for The Friends and their guests - 3:00 p.m. Vale End Garden.

Saturday, 17 August: **‘Wind in the Willows’ & ‘The Importance of Being Ernest’** performed by **This is My Theatre Group** 2:30 & 5:30 pm. Come along with the family for an afternoon Picnic, Fun and a **Double Bill!**

Saturday & Sunday, 14/15 September: **Heritage Weekend.** Drummond Chapel open for an up-date on Phase Two of the restoration programme.

Saturday 7 December: **‘The Snow Queen’** 7:00pm. Wrap up warm for this performance by **This is My Theatre Group** in the Saxon Church.

Members of the Friends Committee

(Registered Charity Number: 1168550)

The Duke of Northumberland, Patron of the Friends Charity

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