

Friends of St Britius Newsletter No 30 January 2026



Dear Friend(s)

***A very Happy New Year
to all Friends of St Britius***

On Wednesday 9th April 2025 Rev Barry Hansen was licensed as our Team Rector by the Bishop of Dorchester. Barry has now been with us for just over two years and is making a considerable impact on worship in the Benefice including St Britius. He is very friendly and approachable and a hit with the schoolchildren and has certainly invigorated our church community.



Our fund raising began with the Pancake Supper which as usual was well supported and raised £372. Easter was celebrated with the Tenebrae Service and on Easter Sunday the children helped with the Easter Garden.



A service was held on the evening of May 8th at the War Memorial with lanterns to commemorate VE Day whilst in November we had our normal Remembrance service.



We made a fantastic £729 serving teas and refreshments at the NGS Gardens Open Day in June when those opening their gardens decorated the church for the Flower Festival.

At the Village Bash in July we sold cakes, books and bric-a-brac and raised over £100.

Once again we had a stall selling hot dogs, home made soup and brownies at the Bonfire Night on the recreation ground, making £510.



At the Christmas Craft Fair we sold Christmas decorations, cakes and Christmas Quizes and raised £200.



New publicity banners helped us to have a full church of over 120 people for the Candlelit Carol service. Saxophony played the music, children processed with lanterns and took part in the nativity tableau.



Other fund raising activities included raffles at our Epiphany and Lent Lunches at the Mason's Arms and Harvest Afternoon Tea at the Humble Bumble, and a sale of jam and marmalade raising over £277, making a grand total for the year of £2,238.

You can keep up-to-date with all our church activities by following us through our website and also on our Facebook page also entitled "Friends of St Britius".

Friends Subscriptions

Subscriptions from Friends last year raised £255. As you can see your subscription is important to us to keep our church maintained, warm and welcoming to the community. We do hope you will feel able to continue to help by renewing your Friends of St Britius Subscription for this year. Given the recent Quinquennial Inspection and the need for significant electrical works your subscription will be even more welcome!

Please use the enclosed form to return your subscription to Dr Phil Holmes at Church Farm House, Carterton Road, Brize Norton, OX18 3LY. Cheques should be made payable to Brize Norton PCC. Monies can also be paid through online banking to Brize Norton PCC, Bank Sort Code 20-97-48, Acct. No. 20205559. Please use the Gift Aid Declaration on the form if possible as this adds 25% to your donation courtesy of HMRC. You must sign and date the form to qualify.

Also please consider setting up an annual standing order or direct debit from your bank using the above information, so we won't have to approach you every year.

Thank you

Once again your continued support is very much appreciated to keep St Britius a visible permanent sign of the Christian community in the village. It hopefully continues to speak, without words, of values and purposes that are important for us as human beings.

We hope this will encourage you to remain a Friend of St Britius. Thank you in anticipation.