



NEW FLCC EVENTS

12th March 2016

AGM and Wine Talk

10th June 2016

Geology of the Churchyard

24th September 2016

Wine Bluff in the Village Hall

3rd December 2016

Brian Kay Chorale



Winter Newsletter 2015

Restoration, Renovation and Repairs

Ever wondered how the funds raised from FLCC events are used?

Chris Burras shares his report on repairs needed to the church (page 2)

Hot Fingers Jazz

Eclectic and electric jazz with style aplenty!

Geoff Dewhurst reports on this evening to remember (page 3)



Hot Fingers see page 3

Craig Ogden in Concert with Miloš Milivojević

An evening of sublime classical guitar and classical accordion (page 3)



*Craig Ogden and Milos Milivojevic
see page 3*



*Christmas Festive Fun as Brian
Kay and his Chorale return in 2016*

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Introduce a friend to the FLCC

Contact John Brown for subscription enquiries on 01608 684578. Tell your friends about our charity, subscriptions are £7 single and £12 joint. Help us to preserve our beautiful church for future generations to enjoy.

A New Year and The Friends of Long Compton Church have a refreshed programme of events for 2016 which provides a mix of concerts, education concerning our beautiful church, interesting talks and also involves a subject close to the heart of many Friends.....wine!

The new programme of events starts on 12th March with the historically short AGM followed by the chance to relax with friends and enjoy a meal of cottage pie. This year we are delighted to offer a talk on wines and grape growing in England by David Grey who ran a successful vineyard in Kent before moving to Long Compton last year. David's talk will be truly fascinating and deal with the successes as well as the pitfalls he encountered in his business to establish a prestige English sparkling wine. There will be a chance to sample the wines and also to purchase them to order.

Order your tickets soon: early bird tickets £10, full price tickets £12. The ticket price includes the AGM, the cottage pie supper and wine sampling. Tickets are available from Sue Klatt sueklatt@gmail.com or 01608 684813.

On 10th June, we are due to have a walk and a talk from Nina Morgan and Philip Powell who have written a book called *The Geology of Oxford Gravestones*. The wide

range of rock types used for gravestones provides a treasure trove of information about our church and local people.

On the 24th September we will be shifting venue to the village hall for a special wine bluff event with raffle prizes galore!

By popular demand, and to get us into the Christmas spirit, Brian Kay and the wonderful Brian Kay Chorale are returning to Long Compton on 3rd December 2016. If you missed this concert in 2014, then be sure to order a ticket for this event.

We hope that you enjoy our programme for 2016 and that you come to the AGM and tell us your thoughts for future events. We are particularly keen to hear your ideas for children's events, but all ideas will be very welcome.

AGM, WINE TASTING AND TALK

By David Grey

Saturday 12th March 2015, 7pm, Long Compton Church

Early bird tickets £10 each until end February then £12 per ticket

Ticket price includes a cottage pie supper

Order Now from Sue Klatt
sueklatt@gmail.com or 01608 684813

Restoration, Renovation and Repairs

The church of St. Peter and St. Paul is a delightful building enhanced by the unique lych-gate entrance, but you may not know that the church is grade one listed and, as such, has to be maintained and repaired according to strict criteria. Most repair and many maintenance works have to be sanctioned, and the methods used agreed, by the Diocese of Coventry through the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This means that specialist contractors have to be employed and the costs may be greater than those in non listed buildings, in addition it can take longer to complete the necessary work.

The FLCC and PCC felt it would be appropriate to share with our community some of the repair and maintenance demands currently being addressed, and why it is so important for the FLCC to continue to raise funds.

War memorial path: You may have noticed the deteriorating condition of the foot path that runs alongside the main road from the lych-gate to the far wooden gate. The path is used frequently by visitors and during the annual remembrance day service. We have looked in to replacing the existing concrete with Cotswold stone pathway complementing the church stone. If funds allow, this is expected to cost about £7000.

Heating: The current heating is powered by two old domestic oil fuel boilers, these have had a lot of repair and service work done to them over the years but are fast coming to the end of their lives. We have decided to replace them with similar dual boilers so there is a back-up if one needs repairing, but these will now have be condensing type boilers at a cost of roughly £7500.

The path needs replacing



Electrics: We have also experience a regular tripping of the electrics in the church. It was thought that this was due to either a faulty appliance in the kitchen or the alarm system, but we have since had it all tested and have not discovered any faults. However, during this testing it was discovered that some of the electrical wiring is old and potentially unreliable, and is unlikely to pass the five-yearly electrical circuit inspection and test. We are awaiting estimates for this work but it is likely to be in the region of £5000.

Fire protection system: Some of you will remember the break-in and resulting fire that the church suffered some years ago, as a consequence an intruder alarm and fire detection system was installed. This system now needs to be updated to comply with modern health and safety regulations for maintenance. We are awaiting quotes for this work and competitive tenders for servicing and maintenance contracts. The first quotation for the annual maintenance cost including extinguishers will be about £900.

Tomb refurbishment: Within the churchyard we have a historically important tomb that over the last 150 years has become unstable and a possible risk to anyone who may fall on it. The iron rails that are part of the tomb have become loose and could be a security/vandalism risk to the church. The PCC has contacted relatives of the family of the deceased and has secured an offer to contribute to its restoration. However, this will require specialist iron casting as well as an amount of building repair. A proportion of the cost of this restoration will fall to the church to find. We are waiting for a quote but it is likely to be a substantial sum.

Chancel ceiling repairs—high level works



Chancel ceiling repairs: Over the last few years a small amount of plaster has fallen from the chancel roof, we think this is due to high winds vibrating the roof tiles and working free the old lime plaster. This will need to be replaced like for like which needs the use of a high level work platform, the hire of which is where the majority of the expense will occur. Consequently, we are looking to combine other high level jobs such as the electrical testing and replacing the smoke detector batteries, high level cleaning etc, to make best use of the equipment whilst on site.

Repair of tower steps: Many of the stone steps leading up to the bell ringing area and beyond are crumbling or uneven and might be a slip, trip, fall hazard and need repairing. This is a classic job that requires guidance from the DAC and possibly an architect so that repairs comply with the church's listing status. It may well be that new stone will need to be inserted rather than using a cement repair.

Gates refurbishment: The gates along main street have now been replaced and this expense has been met by a private donor and therefore does not impact on FLCC fundraising.

We hope this information has given you an insight into the role of the Friends of Long Compton Church and where the funds raised through our events are used.

Chris Burras
Fabric Coordinator

New gates courtesy of a kind private donation



Hot Fingers *Eclectic jazz with style aplenty*

This was an evening to savour. The “eclectic” range of music promised on the ticket was duly delivered....and with style aplenty! We heard rhythms from South America, Gypsy guitar from France; big band swing; hits from the like of Porter and Gershwin; Delta blues and a lullaby....and more in between. As an audience we were “held” throughout.

Hot Fingers is a local group with a national reputation. It comprises Thomas “Spats” Langham (strings), Danny Blyth (strings and woodwind), Malcolm Sked (double bass and sousaphone) and Emily Campbell (vocalist).

It would be too simplistic to suggest that this varied reper-

toire was held together by the fact that the music was written in the 1920s to 1940s era. Similarly, Spats’s introduction to each piece, with a relaxed and humorous style, also added interest and continuity. The indubitable reason for the evening’s success was the sheer brilliance of the performers, as individuals and as an ensemble. I lost count of the number of instruments that Danny played, as soloist and accompanist. Malcolm was as steady as a rock in the base section. Emily sang wonderfully in tune, with her own interpretations of many classics. And the group was musically “tight”.

However, in the end, all eyes and ears came back to Spats.

Whether he was driving a rhythm on his guitar, with evocative use of “blues” notes, or picking out a fine melody with fingers flitting up and down the frets at the speed of light, or backing others with his banjo, or amusing us with his ukulele.....he shone. His virtuosity delivered what we’d come to hear.

We didn’t know what piece would come up next, whether a jazz classic, a blues or “The Harry Lime” theme. But it didn’t matter. We knew it would be good and we sat in anticipation. We weren’t disappointed.

Geoff Dewhirst and photos
by Mark Baczkiewicz



Craig Ogden in Concert with Miloš Milivojević *An evening of sublime classical guitar and classical accordion*

Craig Ogden returned to Long Compton for his third classical concert introducing us to Miloš Milivojević, the award-winning Serbian-born classical accordion musician. Both delighted and enthralled their audience in a sell-out performance at the end of November at Long Compton church.

It was a journey around the world through music to remember, taking us from the sunshine and upbeat sounds of Seville through to the gulags of Siberia.

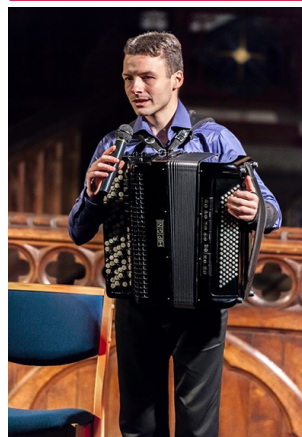
Craig mentioned the guitar and accordion are not often natural partners in classical music but they are in folk music. He was about to show us that they can be ideal classical partners too. They both played classical pieces

separately and together, and the effect was incredible. They chatted easily to the audience, Miloš mentioning that the accordion weighed an amazing 15kg and how the instrument worked. By switching a lever it can be turned from a folk instrument into a classical instrument. He mentioned how he had first met Craig and how they had explored original pieces of music together. Miloš then showed us what the accordion could sound like in a haunting piece that stretched us to the limit in *Five Views on Country Gulag* by Viktor Vlasov. It was a disturbing but enthralling piece of music—low, dark, yet compulsive listening and all the time there was a sound like a train in the background as we were transported to the wilds of Siberia. The audience

was blown away by his skill. After the interval of customary Friends’ hospitality, everyone was treated to Craig’s faultless and inspiring performance *Lute Suite No 2 Prelude* which was a beautiful flowing piece adapted for the classical guitar together with two lovely arrangements of Beatles classics *Here Comes the Sun* and *Yesterday* which were just as technically challenging as any classical piece, yet executed to perfection. Then it was back to Miloš for *Kontroversie* which sounded like an excellent track for a Hitchcock horror film but showed off both guitar and accordion to optimum effect. This concert was a rare treat to see two talented and innovative musicians at the top of their profession.

Caroline Makepeace

Craig Ogden and Friends is a
number 1 best seller see
www.craigogden.com





VOLUNTEERS?

We are looking for volunteers to support us by becoming "street wardens" to help collect subscriptions and donations. This is a vital part raising funds and an activity where "many hands make light work". Anyone can volunteer and a typical patch involves only a few hours each year. It's a fun activity which gets you out meeting people and every penny helps maintain and improve our lovely Church and its village setting. Please join us and call John Brown on 01608 684578.

THE FRIENDS OF LONG COMPTON CHURCH WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL A



AND A BIG



FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT ALL OUR FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES BY ATTENDING OUR EVENTS

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WHO IS ON THE FLCC COMMITTEE?

Here is an introduction left to right:

Eileen Shearer (secretary), Richard Kirby (treasurer), Sue Klatt (marketing), John Brown (chairman), Caroline Makepeace (trustee), Charlotte Field (trustee), Chris Burras (fabric and building), Dick Shacklock (operations)



A Joyous Christmas Carol Service A time to celebrate!

Long Compton celebrated one of its best Christmas Carol Services ever with a record attendance and time to socialise afterwards with Friends over some excellent mulled wine and mince pies.

With the chance to sing along to lots of family-favourite Christmas carols, everyone was in fine voice.

Readings started with Isaiah Announces the Coming King beautifully read by Nick Jackson, and then proceeded to include key community groups. Our very own FLCC was represented by Eileen Shearer and there were further readings by representatives of The British Legion, Long Compton Village Hall, The Benefice Youth Group "God's Minions", our First Responders and The Comptonians. The service was lead by Anthony Wells and Stuart Allen gave the address.

There was a terrific Christmas spirit and a lot of time to socialise afterwards with some great refreshments prepared and served by Jill Kirby and her team of helpers.

Why not come and join us in 2016?!



Key FLCC Facts Year 2014

Membership over 300

Grants given to the church
£10,134



Come to the AGM to see how we did in 2015!

For all FLCC Events

Contact Sue Klatt for tickets on 01608 684813

Sue.klatt@gmail.com