

## **Chairman's Annual Report on 2019 and 2020**

### **THE FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, CUCKFIELD**

It was in mid March last year that, as a Committee, we were faced with the decision of whether or not to proceed with a sell-out supper talk arranged with Neil Sadler. Those of you who bought tickets will know the outcome - a last minute cancellation. That then extended to our AGM, Summer performance, October concert and finally our annual preview of the Christmas Tree Festival – also cancelled. And I regret, dear Friends, that the appetite for organising anything which we can reliably count on be able to deliver profitably before this year's Christmas Tree Festival is minimal.

I am so grateful therefore that members have continued to pay their membership fees because on the face of it, you are not getting much for your money at the present time bearing in mind that our primary role continues to be to bring together people who value our Church.

On Monday, I am hopeful that the PCC will approve the work on the stonework of the Church. You will recall, I hope, that The Friends paid for an initial survey of the weather damage mainly to the tower and our later pledge of £40k towards the total cost of repairs. With this approval and the cooperation of contractors and other donors this work could be completed this summer.

Membership has been static apart from the sad passing of several of our valued and long standing members and a few who have relocated outside Cuckfield. As soon as conditions permit, and this is likely to be next year now, we will embark on another recruitment campaign. Meantime, if you are able, and have the opportunity, please do not hesitate to persuade your neighbours and friends to help in our cause by joining – there will eventually be events to support and enjoy.

Finally, I must express my grateful and continuing thanks to your hard working Committee who have faced some difficult decisions as well as the current frustrations. We have started the process of formulating a full programme of events for 2022 and details will be published before long.. Many of the Committee have been in post a long time and, as mentioned earlier, we have lost in Guy Berkeley a stalwart contributor so we are always on the look out for able and energetic people willing enough to join us and to carry on our purpose.

I would also like to record my personal thanks to our President, Bryan Mayou who not only provides continuity for me but has the brilliant and constant knack of asking the right questions at the right time. The Officers and Committee are grateful to all FoHTCC members for their continuing loyalty and generosity.

Paul Goldfinch  
Chairman  
17<sup>th</sup> April 2021