

Friends of Leigh Church



The church of St Giles at Leigh on Mendip dates from around 1350, and was rebuilt around 1500. It is a Grade I listed building with a bell tower nearly 100 feet tall that has an unusual faceless clock and contains six bells, five of which date from around 1750. The tower was described in the 1930's as "The jewel of the Mendips" by Arthur Mee in his series 'The King's England' and in 1953 Sir Compton Mackenzie wrote in an article "I am tempted to proclaim the tower of Leigh-on-Mendip the most beautiful in England"; we have much to be proud of.

As with many rural churches funding the necessary work to maintain and preserve the building is an increasing challenge. As the church has been a focal point at the centre of the village for over 650 years a number of us are eager to ensure that the building is kept in a suitable condition to sustain its central position so that future generations can enjoy its presence just as we do.

Following the example of many rural communities, we have formed a Small Charity called the Friends of Leigh Church, abbreviated to FOLC and pronounced 'folk'. The aims are to broaden the pool of talented and skilled individuals available to help, to introduce alternative community uses for the building and to help maintain the church by fund raising, work and management of work - as well as ensuring that we have a lot of fun doing it.

We have adopted a Constitution and formed a management committee and are starting to have regular meetings and will soon be recruiting members. If you have an interest, talent or a skill you can offer to support our beautiful church building please express an interest to any of the Committee or one of those named below:

Secretary: Anthea Brooks, 01761 418737, antheabrooks@btinternet.com
Treasurer: Sarah Claxton, 01373 813301, sarah@pcf.cc
Chairman: Dave Mattick, 01373 812734, djmattick@btinternet.com