



## FRIENDS OF WESTONBIRT SUMMER 2011 NEWSLETTER

**Welcome to the Summer edition of the Friends of Westonbirt Newsletter.**

This Newsletter takes a different format as we thought it would be a good idea to highlight various matters that have arisen since the Spring edition.

### *Summer Event*

Following a committee meeting last term it was decided that due to the current economic climate and a busy autumn programme, the only summer event would be the post-lecture supper. On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May Charles Blackmore gave a fascinating talk entitled "*In the footsteps of Lawrence of Arabia*". Following his lecture to a full Orangery, over sixty guests stayed for a very enjoyable post-lecture supper.

### *What do the Friends do?*

It has been brought to our attention from the Working with Parents Committee that some of the parents are not sure what the Friends actually do. In answer to this query we try and ensure that, at the beginning of every academic year, a letter is sent explaining this but we are very pleased to confirm our role again.

The committee (made up of members of staff, parents, ex-parents and 6<sup>th</sup> form girls) organises various social events throughout the year and any resulting profit goes towards funding an item/s that the school may not otherwise be able to afford. These items are generally requested from the heads of the various school departments in the form of a "bid".

As a result of this fundraising, the Friends are fortunate enough to be in a position to purchase an item or items with almost immediate effect meaning the girls benefit during their time at the school, and this is certainly deemed to be one of our greatest strengths. An example of this is when the "Friends came to the rescue" at the end of last term when we were able to agree a considerable contribution towards the refurbishment of the tennis courts opposite the Frances Rawes Building. This meant the work could be carried out during the Easter holiday enabling the courts to be ready for use by the girls on their return to school in May.

In addition we are pleased to confirm the purchase of three new saxophones for the music department, for the first time the FOW will be sponsoring part of the St John's Memorial Essay for "*The best student writing in a second language*" and continue to provide annual sponsorship for the English Prize.

Parents, friends and family are welcome at all our events and we are delighted when members of the Sixth Form and their guests join in. Details of all FOW events are available on the school's website, through the FOW Newsletter which is produced every term, as well as via emails and relevant flyers. In addition we have produced an "at a glance" events card which is enclosed in the end of term envelope.

Cont/...

*We need your help*

If any parent/s, particularly from Years 7,8 and 9 would be interested in joining the committee and helping with the organisation of our various events we would very much like to hear from you. Please contact either Sally Moreland ([sally@ladyclare2.demon.co.uk](mailto:sally@ladyclare2.demon.co.uk)) or Sally Gould ([sgould@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:sgould@westonbirt.gloucs.sch.uk)) for more details.

Following our annual Quiz Night Joy Bell and Philip Dixon sadly retired as quizmasters after many years of collating excellent questions and keeping us so well entertained. We are now looking for some new recruits. Ideally we would like two quizmasters, possibly a member of staff and a parent, who would be happy to put together and ask a selection of questions at next year's Quiz Night on Friday 3rd February. If you would like to help then please contact Sally Moreland or Sally Gould (details above). Any assistance you can give us would be greatly appreciated and members of the committee will be very happy to provide any additional help that may be required.

*A new event for the autumn term*

"A Tasting Menu with Wines" – on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October, top chef Andrew Walker and his chefs will be providing us with gourmet food and delicious wines.

We very much look forward to continuing to welcome you, your friends and family to future events. As mentioned above, monies raised goes towards funding particular items within the various school departments and your continued support is therefore not only welcomed, but also greatly appreciated by us all.

***The Friends of Westonbirt School Committee wish you  
all a restful summer holiday***

***Friends of Westonbirt School Committee Members***

Mary Henderson  
Stephanie Bryan  
Sarah Nutter  
Nigel Savage  
Carol Nicholls

Jake Olver  
Sally Moreland  
Jane Tuckwell  
Julie McTear  
Natalie Hunt

Sally Gould  
Mark Clare  
Sara Falkenburg  
Jackie Cook

6<sup>th</sup> form members:

Merii Kishi

Natasha Coakley

Remi Greene

Issy Holley