

# Gettin' digi with it: our social media story

Clare Kirk & Rachel Morley

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**FRIENDS OF  
FRIENDLESS  
CHURCHES**



# Who are Friends of Friendless Churches?

## SAVING 'FRIENDLESS CHURCHES'

### AIM OF NEW BODY

The formation of an organization called "The Friends of Friendless Churches" was announced last night by Mr. Ivor Bulmer-Thomas, of Edwardes Square, Kensington, W., and Mr. Lawrence E. Jones, of Coleman Street, E.C. The aim is to secure the preservation of churches and chapels of architectural or historic interest which are outside the scope of existing organizations.

The organization has taken powers to help to preserve these buildings, whether belonging to the Church of England or any other religious body, "as places of worship or for other appropriate purposes or simply as buildings of architectural or historic interest."

It has as its first objective the saving of the church of St. Mary-at-Quay, Ipswich, which was bombed during the war, and for which demolition proposals have been made.

In their announcement Mr. Bulmer-Thomas, who is acting chairman and honorary director of the society, and Mr. Jones, honorary secretary, emphasize that the society "is in no sense a rival to any existing body."

Other officers of the society are named as: Lord Somervell of Harrow, Mr. T. S. Eliot, O.M., and Sir Albert Richardson, vice-presidents; Lord Winster, treasurer; Canon C. B. Mortlock, chaplain; and Mr. John Betjeman, editor.





## Activity on our social channels

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26 March 2020

← Thread

 **Friendless Churches** ✓ @friendschurches · Mar 26, 2020 ...  
THREAD

As we all get used to our new ways of working and living, we thought we'd share some stories from our churches. We'll travel across centuries to share short stories about the people to kept apart from the world, and those that stuck together in close community. (1/6)





3 34 113

 **Friendless Churches** ✓ @friendschurches · Mar 26, 2020 ...  
Today, we venture deep into the Black Mountains.  
To St Ellyw's church, Llanelieu.  
But who was St Ellyw, we hear you ask!  
Ellyw lived in the 5th century. She was the grand-daughter of Brychan, Prince of Brycheiniog...



... and beyond


← Thread

 Friendless Churches  @friendschurches

The Welsh have a word for the u  
you feel for a place that no long  
you can never return.





\*Hiraeth\* is a homesickness you  
years ago and far away, if it eve


#thread




6:29 AM · Jun 24, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone


1,868 Retweets 295 Quote Tweets 6,856 Likes


 Liked by h.a.spain and 1,815 others


**friendlesschurches** The old church at Llanfaglan was never big or rich. In its heyday, the parish had a population of less than 200, and when the church inventory was made in 1788 it listed, a silver chalice, a board of Ten Commandments that were almost invisible, and "one ladder, two spades, two shovels".

 **friendlesschurches**  
St Baglan's Church, Llanfaglan






[View Insights](#) [Boost Post](#)

 **friendlesschurches**  
Strict and Particular Baptist Chapel, W



[View Insights](#)

 Liked by emilyguerry and 832 others

**friendlesschurches** A tiny brown long-eared bat with the sweetest face in the hands of a

We're re-roofing the chapel at Waddes Buckinghamshire, and this little bat had carefully removed a few weeks ago who stripped the roof.

323 Retweets 1,686 Likes

← Thread

 Friendless Churches  @friendschurches

This is the most important #thread we've ever written.

The Church Commissioners are running a consultation that makes deeply worrying proposals that we believe would diminish the democracy of the church closure process, and reduce transparency and accountability of the Church.

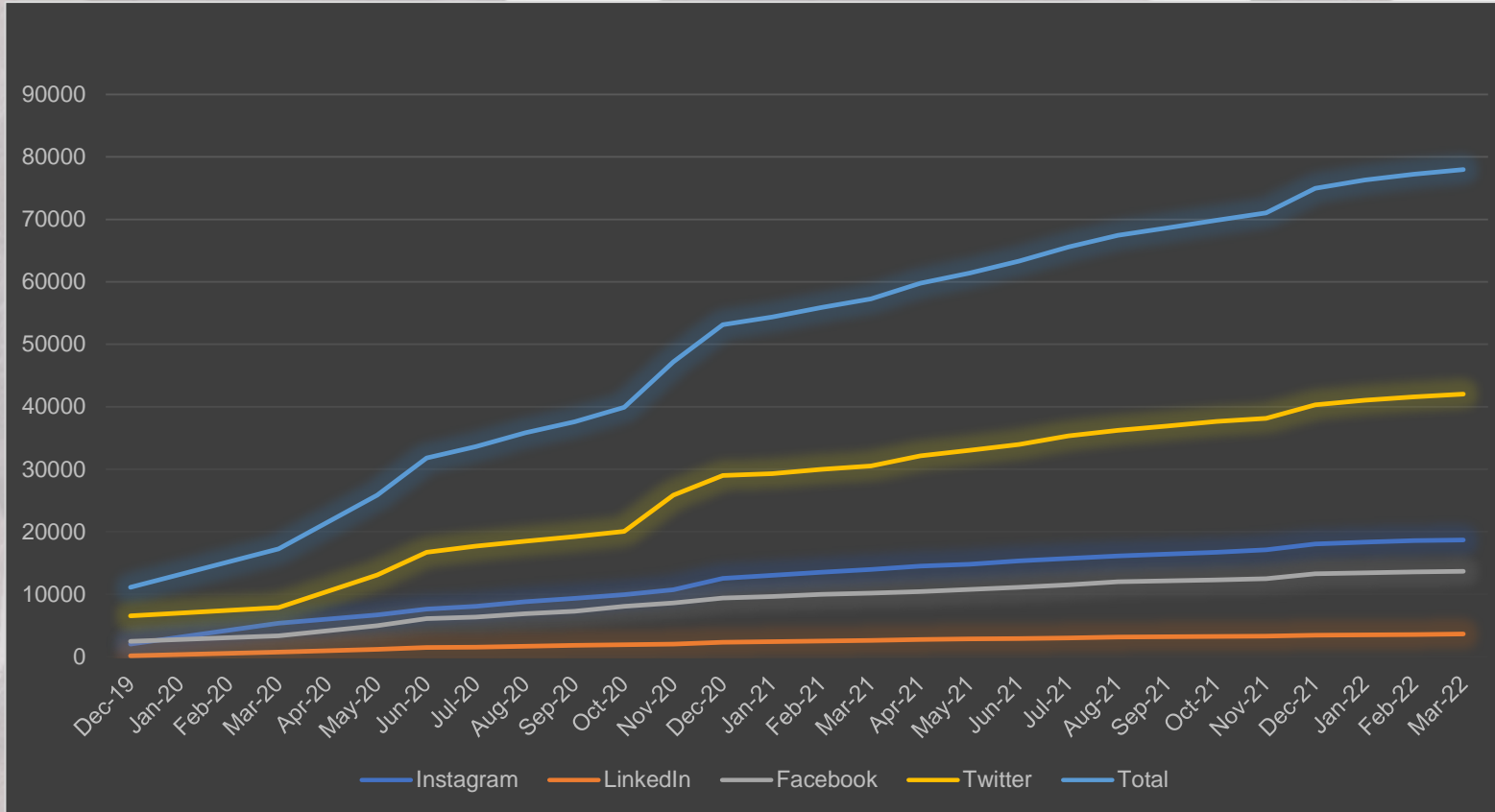


6:57 PM · Oct 11, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

241 Retweets 50 Quote Tweets 441 Likes



## Followers



Channel	Followers Dec 2019	Followers Mar 2022
Twitter	6,536	42,024
Instagram	1,920	18,653
Facebook	2,422	13,669
LinkedIn	150	3,602
Total	11,108	77,948

## Turning likes to pounds

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Year	Total new members
2017-18	188
2018-19	287
2019-20	524
2020-21	624
2021-22	671

Year	Total donations
2017-18	£82,638
2018-19	£27,030
2019-20	£122,787
2020-21	£115,992
2021-22	£337,199



# Turning likes to action

← Thread




Friendless Churches

@friendlesschurches

Last night we had a call, our church at Caldecote, Hertfordshire had been vandalised. Windows smashed, powder fire extinguishers let off all over the interior, decorations smashed, bleach thrown over floor and altar.

The church only reopened 10 days ago after 9mos of repair.

1/



1:16

220K views

3:49 PM · Jul 30, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1,042 Retweets

385 Quote Tweets

2,213 Likes

BBC

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Climate

UK

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England


Local News


Regions


Beds, Herts & Bucks


## Hertfordshire church vandalised 10 days after reopening

01 August 2021







FRIENDS OF  
FRIENDLESS  
CHURCHES



## Getting the biggest bang for your buck

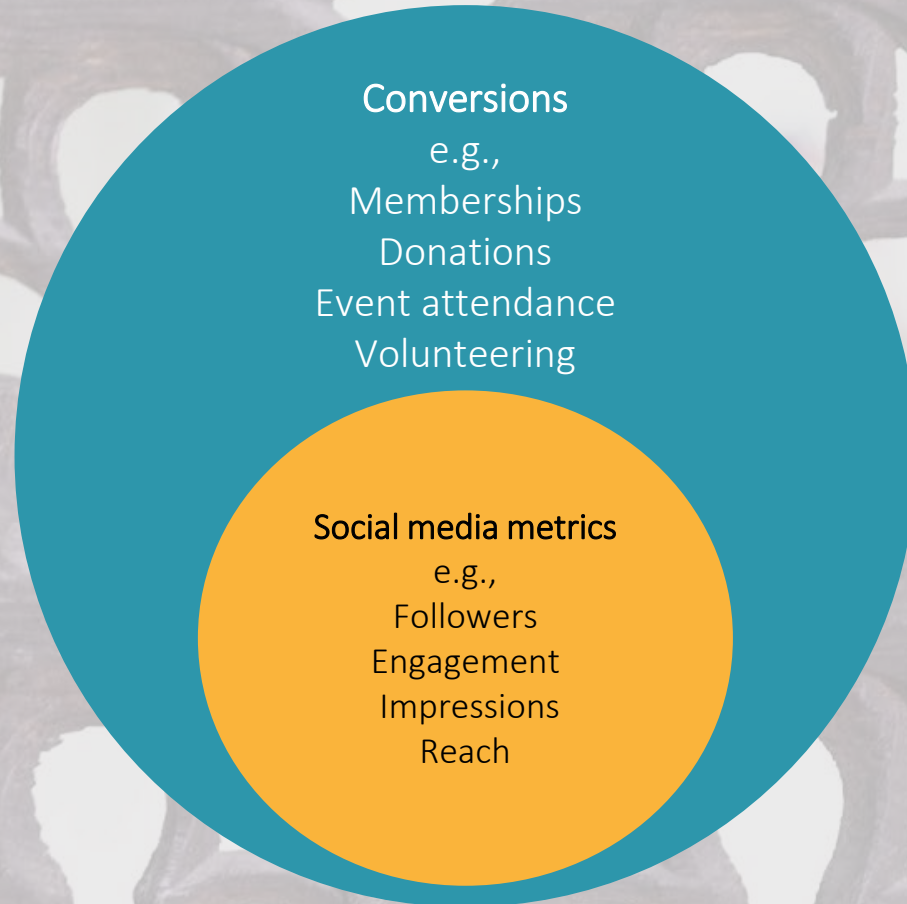
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1. Measure ... and do more of what works
2. Test new ideas
3. Make it easy for people to take action



## Measuring your social media

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“Thank you for your support! Why did you decide to join us?”

...



## Our content mix

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Behind the scenes  
Mythology & Folklore  
Art  
Nature  
Forgotten folk  
Greatest makeovers  
Architecture  
Curiosities and curious facts  
Poetry  
History




## Try something new

POSTS


REELS

VIDEOS


TAGGED




▶ 18.8k




▶ 13.5k




▶ 11k



▶ 16.2k






friendlesschurches • Following




friendlesschurches Here's a time-lapse of the banker mason cutting a new crenellation for St Mary's, Hardmead. It's hours of sawing and chiseling condensed into a couple of minutes, but it's fun to see the carving emerge from the block of stone.

The repairs at this Grade-I listed Buckinghamshire church are being undertaken by Warren & Neale



2,777 views

FEBRUARY 16

 Add a comment...

Post



# Support your social media



## "A Female Parish Clerk?"

Before the early 1900s, a handful of women dared to fill the traditionally male positions of Parish Clerk and churchwarden. Their rarity made them newsworthy, and the public reacted with amazement, admiration, amusement, or dismay. We take a journey through historical newspapers to find out more.

[Read more](#)



## Celebrating Women in Our History

Stories of amazing women who inspired, founded, beautified, protected and enhanced historic churches in England and Wales.

[Read more](#)



## The Sedgwick Club Visits Penmorfa Church, 1885



## A Millennium of Music for Christmas

What music did church-goers in the past hear at Christmas? Composer, choirmaster and church musician Andrew Gant takes inspiration from his closest 'friendless churches' to tell the story of 1000 years of Christmas music.

[Read more](#)



## The Thin Place

What makes this place special? Is it a sentient landscape? The ancient, steep mountains that watched humans amass a clump of gnarled trees stretching the branches protectively around the church.

[Read more](#)

## Become a Friend

# Join the Friends of Friendless Churches

One of the best ways to support the FoFC is by becoming a member.

Membership benefits include:

- Making a tangible difference to historic buildings
- Membership pack with a printed guide to FoFC churches
- The substantial and highly regarded FoFC magazine
- Invitations to AGMs and associated events

Please click the link below to find out more about our membership options, or to renew your existing membership.

[Join or renew now](#)



 **FRIENDS OF FRIENDLESS CHURCHES** 

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[Find churches](#)

## Our first SAVE of 2022: St Andrew's, South Runcton

We're excited to uncover more details of this rebuild of a ruined Norman church — one of the first Victorian churches in Norfolk.

[Learn more](#)

## Become a Friend to friendless churches

Help us save more endangered historic churches when you buy a membership to Friends of Friendless Churches...

[Learn more](#)





## Our manifesto

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- Put the social back in social media
- Build a community
- Find your organisation's personality
- Use beautiful, interesting images and words
- Give information at the source



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# Thank you!

And if you'd like to follow us on social media, you'll find us at:



@friendschurches



@friendlesschurches



Friends of Friendless Churches



Friends of Friendless Churches

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