

Report for 2018 Annual Parish Meeting

Launton Fete

The 2017 Fete was held on 10 June, the Queen's official birthday. The theme this year was Teddy Bears.

The fete was held on the Playing Field and in the LPFA Hall and the Harrison bar. The weather was not as bad as it has been in previous years (we are sure we are due a fine, sunny and warm day in 2018 but we don't want to tempt fate by saying this too loud). It was so windy and with low cloud cover that the planned fly past by a Spitfire from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight had to be cancelled. But at least it didn't rain too much.

The Fete was raising money for St Mary's Church (66.6%) and the Friends of Launton School (33.3%). The Fete raised £3,300 shared between the two organisations. The School spent its money on portable staging that can be used at many events. We may even feature it at the Fete in 2018.

As in previous years we had a lot of help and support from the cadets and officers of **2507 (Bicester) Squadron of the Air Training Corps** who were on site from 9 in the morning to gone 5 in the evening. We could not run the fete without them.

We welcomed back the pony rides in 2017 - much appreciated by all who took part. The musical entertainment from The Village Players chorus and the dancers from Elite Dance and Theatre Tuition who performed on the grass was enjoyed by the large crowd. The Launton detachment of the Home Guard Living History Project provided a display and a drill demonstration as well.

And the fete provided a start and finish for the first Launton Lollop - a 10Km multi-terrain run around the paths and pavements of Launton. The winner finished in 38 minutes and 19 seconds. It is being run again in 2018, also starting and finishing at the Fete, this year for the benefit of the Friends of Island Pond Wood..

We are in the middle of planning the 2018 Fete, on 9 June. This year the money will be divided between St Mary's Church (66.6%) and the Launton Boys' and Girls' Football Clubs (33.3%). We hope that we will have increased support from the village for 2018.

Robert Cornford | Coordinator Launton Fete Group