

A Christmas Celebration

It's a cold, damp miserable night and I am on my way to the annual Christmas Celebration in aid of the Brain Tumour Research Campaign at the 900 year old All Saints in Fulham. When I see the beautifully lit church and tower, I get a sense of how medieval travellers must have felt when they reached a sanctuary at the end of a long and arduous journey. ...not that mine was either long or arduous!

Inside the church was warm and welcoming and I can honestly say that, in all the not inconsiderable years of my life, I have never seen a church so full.

The Brain Tumour Research Campaign was established by Wendy Fulcher following the loss of her beloved John – her soulmate, business partner and husband – from a



R to L: Julian Glover and Lorraine Chase enjoying the carols.

malignant brain tumour. So far over £3,200,000 has been raised to fund desperately needed research into a condition that affects children and adults alike.

The vision of the campaign is to raise public awareness of the urgent need for brain tumour research; to lead a fundraising campaign to support research into, and treatment of, brain tumours and to assist the emergence of a multi-disciplinary Brain Tumour Research Centre of Excellence, based at Charing Cross Hospital in London.

One amazing fundraiser is the Christmas Celebration, a joyous mixture of readings, carols and anthems followed by bubbles and canapés. The readers were Jill Baker, Isla Blair, Lorraine Chase, Julian Glover, Eric

After the service everyone stayed on to catch up with old friends and enjoy the plentiful food and bubbles. The hospitality really was generous. But what else would you expect from Wendy Fulcher.



All Saints lit up at night.



The church was full, standing room only!

Knowles, Lesley Marville, and Patrick Melville. They read a variety of pieces – none too long or too short but just right.

I shall certainly go to this glorious occasion next year.

LIN KENNEDY

The choir of All Saints, accompanied by the organ, a harpist and a brass band, helped the enthusiastic congregation through hymns and sang the anthems in a way which made the hairs on the back of my neck stand on end. I was also fortunate to sit next to a chap with a lovely tenor voice.



The choir processing.



Isla Blair gives a reading.