

Friends of St Mary's Church Goudhurst

Gift Aid

Thank you to all who Gift Aid your donations including membership. This significantly increases the amount we receive. We will continue to claim Gift Aid on your donations unless you let us know otherwise.

Autumn Newsletter 2017

Diary Dates

Tea with Victoria Hislop – Thurs, 12th October 2.30 pm

Autumn Tidy up - Sat, 14th October, 10–12
in the Churchyard

Village Christmas Fair - Friday, 24th November, 4-9

Christmas Carol Parties - Dates TBC

AGM - Sat, 3rd March 2018

Quiz Night – Sat, 3rd March 2018

Village Christmas Fair Friday, 24th November 4-9 pm

Please can you help us with our key fundraising event?

Contact Andrea Kirkby on 211037 to:

**Help on the night - it's fun!
Donate a cake or biscuits**

Contact Pam Stubbs on 211013 to:

Donate raffle prizes, new unwanted gifts, bottles of wine or soft toys in good condition

The Annual General Meeting

The AGM, held on Saturday 25th March 2017, was attended by about 20 members. Chris Williams was co-opted during the year and took over as Treasurer with John McCaig dealing with Gift Aid. Bryan Mason resigned from the Committee and the Chair thanked him for his many years of service to the Friends, both as Treasurer and a Committee member.

Contact us:

Post: The Secretary, Friends of St Mary's Church, 2 Grand View, Goudhurst, TN17 1AS.
Email: admin@fsmg.org.uk
Phone: The Secretary, Friends of St Mary's Church: 01580 211037

Feverpitch concert



Last summer, a visitor sang in the Church on an open Tower day. He loved the acoustics and promptly offered his London based choir, Feverpitch, for a fundraising concert in aid of Friends of St. Mary's. The concert took place during the Autumn Flower Festival. What an evening it was.....the wonderful a cappella singing, themed as "Fear no more the heat of the sun", was set against the backdrop of beautiful flower arrangements in our Church. The event, attended by over a 100 people, made just over £2000 through ticket sales, the bar and tower opening during the Festival. Our grateful thanks to Feverpitch for giving of their time so generously, to those who attended and to those who provided canapés and their time to make the evening so successful.

How are you helping?

Your subscriptions and support at events mean that we can help fund repairs and maintenance to the fabric of the Church, such as contributing to the planned new flood lighting and new noticeboards.

THANK YOU

Goudhurst Village Fête

This year we made £255 through several activities including: opening the Church Tower, hosting a paper aeroplane competition in the Church, selling bags and tea towels, and raising £62.50 with the help of Caroline Turvey and Church Explorers who ran the Human Fruit Machine on our behalf.

Our thanks to all who helped.

Church Tower

This year we have raised:

£1850

towards future expenditure for the fabric and maintenance of the Church, and we met some lovely visitors in the process!

Despite this success,

WE DESPARATELY NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

to help with Tower sitting next year. We aim to open on most weekends during the late Spring and Summer, subject to weddings, christenings and of course the vagaries of the British weather.

PLEASE HELP US

Contact Andrea on 211037

From the Chair

This year has flown by, probably because we have been incredibly busy. It seems that barely a month passes without our planning or executing a fund raising event. You may feel that your support has been called upon a little too often but we act in anticipation of the quinquennial inspection due this year. The fabric of the church will be subjected to intense scrutiny by specialist church architects who subsequently draw up a list of failings. We cannot know what they will be but experience tells us that rectification may well require the expenditure of several thousands of pounds and we need to be prepared. Courage mon braves.... You were never more needed!

Friends Committee

Carol Buckland
Andy Freeman
Andrea Kirkby (Secretary)
John McCaig (Gift Aid)
David Nichol
Donald Sargeant
Pam Stubbs (Chair)
Gill Wallis-Hosken
Chris Williams (Treasurer)

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Friends of
St Mary's Church
Goudhurst

Invite you to Tea with

Victoria Hislop

Best Selling Author

to hear her talk about

Cartes Postales

from Greece

Book signing

Tickets £12

**St. Mary's Church, Goudhurst
Thursday, 12th October 2.30 pm**

To reserve or buy tickets contact:

Andrea Kirkby 01580 211037

andrea@tapoff.co.uk

pamrog60@hotmail.com

Helping us preserve the fabric of the Church



Award for Churchyard work

Goudhurst Parish Council



A COMMUNITY AWARD

Mrs Pam Stubbs and The Friends of St Mary's, Goudhurst

WITH THANKS AND IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR DEVOTION TO MAINTAINING THE PRESENTATION OF ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD TO A HIGH STANDARD THROUGHOUT 2017

Goudhurst Parish Council

Our thanks to the Parish Council for recognising our work and also to all those who have helped us achieve this award! Our next session on the flower beds will be on Saturday, 14th October from 10-12. Please help us maintain this high standard. Refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Andrea on 01580 211037 if you can help and come armed with your favourite gardening tools and wellies.

Quiz Night

We held our first full Quiz night on Saturday, 25th March, which proved to be a popular event making a profit of £740. Our thanks to Phil Kirkby for planning the rounds and setting the questions, not to mention keeping us all on track as Quizmaster. There were approximately 60 "quizzers" in teams of 6-8 and John McCaig's table were the winners. Our thanks go to all those helpers who provided a two course supper and helped with the bar. We plan to repeat the event next year.