

The Friends of St Andrew's, Bedford

St Andrew's Church Centre Office, Kimbolton Road, Bedford MK40 2PF

Tel: 01234 216881

Charity No. 1087979

September 2022

From: Jenny Pegg
c/o St Andrew's Church Office

To: All Members of The Friends of St Andrew's

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SUNDAY 2 OCTOBER 2022

Tel: 01234 344363

Dear Friends,

Unbelievably it is time for our AGM again and this year it will be held on **Sunday 2 October 2022 in the church hall at 4.30pm.** This will be followed by tea at approximately 5.00p which will, once again, be provided by the Guides for a suggested donation of £4 per head towards their funds. The Special Friends Evensong will follow at 6.00pm, at which we are delighted to welcome back Atalie Gaines as our guest preacher. The proceeds from the collection taken at this Evensong will be donated to *The Friends of St Andrew's*. Copies of the Reports and Minutes from the AGM 2021 will be available in the rack outside the Church Office a week before the AGM. Further copies will of course also be available at the AGM itself.

During 2021 The Friends paid for the defibrillator to be serviced and made a £2000 donation towards the new AV equipment. Events were very slow to get started again but there was a full programme of Tea Dances once again starting in September 2021. This should have been followed by a talk about a Regency Christmas but unfortunately this had to be postponed in 24 November 2022.

Sadly we said goodbye to Karen Parrott and Beryl Tench on the committee. However we were fortunate to welcome Valerie Littleford and Ralph Hall (to act as co-chairman alongside Robin Farman). This year there will be more committee changes as we are losing several committee members, but there will be more news on this at the AGM. Please contact a member of the committee if you would like to join us as we currently have vacancies for a Vice Chairman, a new Secretary (any volunteers ?) and one committee member.

This year the regular Tea Dances have continued and our programme of events is more or less back to normal. Please see our Notice Board in the corridor by the main hall for details. Next year there are already plans for a talk by Revd. Kelvin Woolmer 'Nicker to Vicar', a trip to Peacocks Sales Rooms, and a talk by Bedford Borough Council about recycling plastics plus some of the old favourites.

Please help *The Friends* by renewing your membership, if you haven't already done so (forms again available in the rack outside the Church Office or at the AGM). If you have a friend who would like to join, they will also be most welcome. We are especially grateful to those who are able to gift aid their subscriptions. To renew your membership, please complete the membership form and send it, together with your payment, to either the Church Centre Office or hand it to any committee member.

We hope we can count on your continued support now that we are all venturing out a little more and look forward to organising more events for you all next year.

Meanwhile, stay safe.

Jenny Pegg

Secretary