

The Friends of St Andrew's, Bedford

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

Tel: 01234 216881

Charity No. 1087979

Dear Member OR Non-Member of The Friends

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY 2nd MARCH 2025 AT 4.15 PM

January 2025

The Friends of St Andrew's was started in early 2001 by organising concerts and talks by local people. Over time, larger events were organised with day trips to places such as Toleshorpe Open Air Theatre, The Thursford Christmas Spectacular, to Christmas Markets and many more. The monthly Tea Dances, which were started by Beryl Tench, have been a big success over many years and these will continue in 2025 with Beryl taking a well-deserved break from most of the organisation. The timetable for The Tea Dances is provided along with the attached Sign-Up Sheet for Membership of The Friends.

This year's AGM is on Sunday 2nd March 2025 in the Church Centre, Main Hall at 4.15 pm and **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**. As usual, this will be followed by afternoon tea. The Special Friend's Evensong will follow at 6.00pm and we are delighted to welcome the **The Rev-d Dr Diana Stretton as Preacher for this event**.

Below is the list of some of the events that we have planned for 2025. This work is still in progress and other events will be added as the year progresses. **Both Members & Non-Members of The Friends are eligible to attend these events**, but Members qualify for discounted prices.

- Tues 25th Feb. Presentation by David Hargreaves on **"The Historic Country Garden.**
- Sun 2nd March **Friends Annual General Meeting.**
- Tues 4th March **Shrove Tuesday Beetle Drive with pancakes** in conjunction with The Events Committee.
- 6th May Presentation by Barry Tomlinson on **"Isambard Kingdom Brunel"**, one of the finest Civil and Construction Engineers this country has ever seen.
- Sat 28th June **"Fashion Show ,"** with a chance to order garments you like the look of.
- Sat 6th August Trip to Toleshorpe Open Air Theatre for a matinée performance of **"The Mirror Crack'd."** based on the story by Agatha Christie.
- Tues 4th Nov **Visit to W.H. Peacock's Sale Rooms.**
- TBC* **Boat Cruise on The River Ouse** with food included.
- TBC* **Possible trip to either a Christmas Market or to Thursford for the "Christmas Spectacular"**
- TBC* **Christmas Social Afternoon.**

(*TBC =Date to be confirmed)

Please help *The Friends* by signing up for Membership, OR by renewing your Membership, using the attached form. If you know of anyone, or have a friend that would like to join, they will be most welcome. After printing out and completing the form, please send it, together with your payment to either the Church Centre Office or to our Treasurer, John Thynne, 152, Tyne Crescent, Bedford MK41 7YB.

Many thanks for your loyalty to *The Friends* of St Andrew's and Blessings to you.

Janet Connelly, Secretary of The Friends

