# Join the



Are you interested in the history and architecture of our churches, their furnishings, stained glass and monuments? Why not become a member of the Friends and enjoy visiting and learning more about them in the company of people who share your interest?

Kent has a rich legacy of parish churches. They range from St Martin's, Canterbury, probably the oldest church in continuous use in England, to such splendid Norman buildings as Barfreston and St Margaret's at Cliffe; from sublimely beautiful 13<sup>th</sup> century churches at Westwell and Woodchurch to the fine late medieval churches of the Weald; from the 17<sup>th</sup> century King Charles church at Tunbridge Wells to Mereworth, a magnificent Georgian building which looks like a visitor from Italy in the Kent countryside.





And these buildings are full of works of art. Brook church is covered with 13<sup>th</sup> century wall paintings; Cobham has the finest series of brasses in Europe; St Augustine's, Ramsgate has a remarkable Pugin interior; many churches contain wonderful monuments and many more have fine stained glass, of which the most celebrated is Chagall's glorious windows at Tudeley.

There is so much to explore. Do join us and help to support this marvellous heritage.



## What we do

Since its foundation in 1949, the Friends of Kent Churches has been giving grants to buildings that have been at the centre of community life and worship for centuries.

Through membership, legacies and donations, together with sponsorship arising from the annual Ride and Stride event, we are generally able to give over £130,000 a year to help repair and maintain churches in Kent.

Friends of Kent Churches is a charity run entirely by volunteers.





St Peter, Whitfield roof repairs

### Members enjoy:

#### **Church visits**

In the course of a typical year we will have 3 summer afternoon visits, each time exploring 3 closely grouped churches. At each church we have short talks on its history, architecture, monuments, stained glass and whatever else might be of interest. The talks are given by one of our knowledgeable members or someone from the church. The afternoon finishes with tea in the last church visited and this is a good opportunity to mix with other members. Normal attendance is 30 to 60 members.

### Members' visit to the roof of Rochester Cathedral



#### Lectures

We normally have 2 lectures each year on subjects related to church history, architecture, art and related topics.

### **Newsletter, Annual Report and AGM**

The Autumn Newsletter and Annual Report provide news of forthcoming events, grants awarded and invariably some interesting articles. The AGM provides another opportunity to visit and hear about 2 more churches, followed by tea.





### **Sponsored Ride and Stride**

Many of our members take part in this annual cycling and walking event in September to raise money for their own church and for FKC to enable the Friends to give grants to churches.

# **Membership Application Form**



Name(s)	
Ema	il address
I/we	wish to join the Friends of Kent Churches and will pay an annual subscrip-
tion	of:
	£10 (individual/church/PCC/historical society)
	£15 (two people at the same address)
For	which
	I/we have set up a Standing Order directly with my/our bank. Standing Order should be made to: Friends of Kent Churches, Natwest Bank, 3 High Street, Maidstone,
	Kent, ME13 1HJ, sort code 60-60-08, account no. 00025607
This	method of payment is preferred since it reduces administration
Or	
	I/we enclose a cheque payable to Friends of Kent Churches
LIFE	MEMBERSHIP
Life	membership is also available at a cost of £200, by ticking the box below I wish to become an FKC Life Member and enclose a cheque for £200
abov orga	gning this form, I /we also give consent for Friends of Kent Churches to hold the re details and to contact me/us by email or post with communications about this nisation. I/we understand I /we can withdraw my/our consent at any time. The recy Policy, to be found on the website, gives more details about our use of data.
Sign	ature Date
2nd	signature (only if for joint membership)
Ple	ase help us by completing the Gift Aid Form overleaf
Dlaa	as not one this fame to the FICC resemble rishing as enotened of them by react on

Please return this form to the FKC membership secretary either by post, or scan and email

Liz Betts, 3 Estate Yard Cottage, Broomfield, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1PP lizbetts@btinternet.com



# **Gift Aid Declaration**

## Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

Signature Date
Postcode
Aduress
Address
Full name
My Details :
I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.
I want to Gift Aid my donation of ${\bf f}$ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to the Friends of Kent Churches.
Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax yea Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. In order to Gif Aid your donation you <i>must</i> tick the box below:

Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code