

The Friends and our purpose

Founded in 1970–1, the Friends was registered as a charity in 1995–6. The constitution expresses our aim as 'the preservation, repair and restoration of St Helen's church building for the benefit of the public by provision of funds and equipment in co-operation with the Parochial Church Council'.

Trustees and Officers

President

Donald Wright

Vice Presidents

David Laing

Mary Laing

Chairman

Richard Debenham

17 Ridgmont Road

St Albans

Herts

AL1 3AG

Tel: 01727 857391

Hon. Secretary

Ruth Jeavons

44 Necton Road

Wheathampstead

St Albans

Herts

AL4 8AU

Tel: 01582 629516

Hon. Treasurer

Margaret Pearce

3 Old Rectory Gardens

Wheathampstead

St Albans

Herts

AL4 8AU

Tel: 01582 833581

Committee Members

John Cheate

Ruth Coles

Rev. Andrew Doye

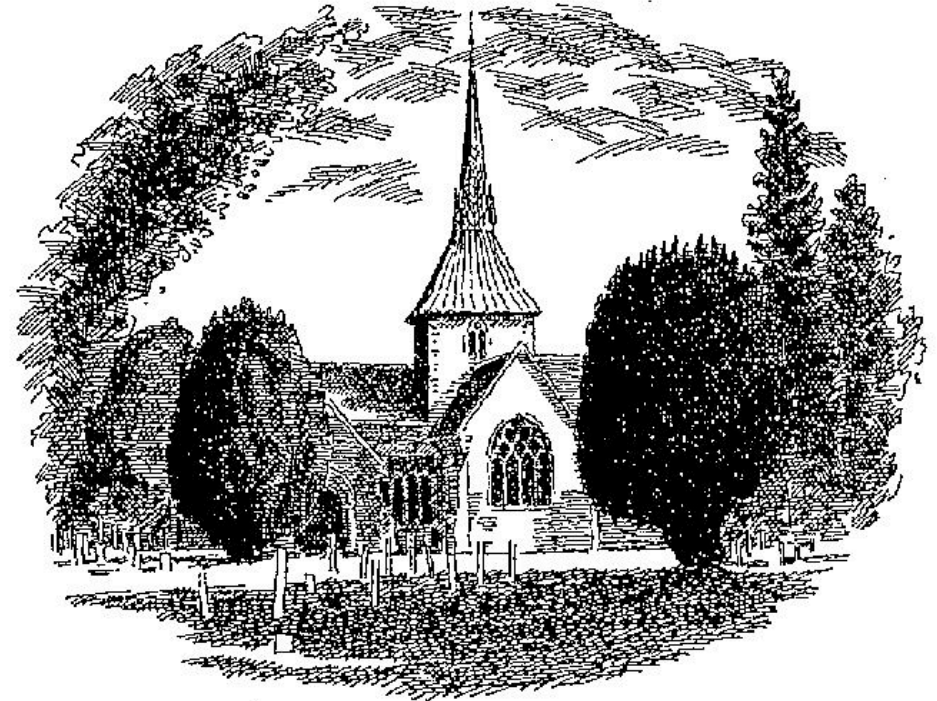
William Morris

Madeleine Salter

Anne Thompson

Pam Waller

The Friends of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead



Will you join the Friends?

Our aim is to preserve this beautiful
church building

Registered Charity No. 1048053

Will you join the Friends?

St Helen's church is Wheathampstead's most ancient and beautiful building. It stands not only as a striking landmark but as a symbol of faith and hope enduring down the ages. It has witnessed at least 800 years of baptisms, weddings and funerals. The history of the village is bound up within its walls. A sanctuary in the midst of turmoil, it gives us all pause for thought in troubled times.

However, walls don't stay standing without support – of the financial variety, as well as solid stone. Will you be a buttress? Do you value our shared village heritage? If so, do please consider joining the Friends. While we are privileged to have such a lovely focal point at the heart of our village, it does not come without great cost. The recent restoration of the chancel area of the church cost £50,000, half of which was funded by the Friends. We are now contributing towards the cost of restoring the south porch and tower.

Work on preserving the medieval building that is St Helen's church will never end. There will always be a need for funds. Those who have gone before us have left us a goodly heritage, and it is up to us to carry on the good work for future generations to enjoy.

Who are our Friends?

Membership comes from the community at large as well as church members. Some of our Friends have remained Friends in spite of moving away from the area, and we greatly value their loyalty and contributions.

Were you baptised or married at St Helen's? Or have you attended the funeral of a member of your family or a friend? If so, you may like, in memory of that person or event, to sustain a link with the building where such a turning point in your life occurred. Joining the Friends could provide a wonderful opportunity for such an on-going link.

We are now especially seeking new members and hope that you will read about us on the following page and decide to complete and return the membership form enclosed with this leaflet.

By joining the Friends you can be confident that your contributions will help to ensure the future of a building that is the focal point in the Wheathampstead landscape, and so much more.

The Friends and our purpose

Founded in 1970–1, the Friends was registered as a charity in 1995–6. The constitution expresses our aim as 'the preservation, repair and restoration of St Helen's Church building for the benefit of the public by provision of funds and equipment in co-operation with the Parochial Church Council'.

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the years the Friends have contributed to the following projects:

- repair and support of the North Wall
- recovering of the South transept roof
- renovation and repair of the tower and spire
- external stonework repairs
- repair and renovation of the triple lancet windows
- stained glass window protection
- publication of *St Helen's Church: A Brief History and Guide*
- restoration of the west end wall
- restoration of the chancel ceiling

YOUR INVOLVEMENT

All subscribers are sent an Annual Report and new subscribers will be sent a complimentary copy of the *Brief History and Guide*.

Members have the opportunity to:

- attend the AGM
- join in social and fund-raising activities
- offer themselves for election to serve as a trustee, or help in organising activities

REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

The annual contribution is at your discretion, but we ask for a minimum of £5 (OAP £3) which relates to individual or family membership as you may choose. In most respects individual and family membership offer the same opportunities and rights, except that at meetings each family has only one vote. If full voting rights at meetings are required, then individual membership should be chosen. If you are a taxpayer, please indicate YES in the box for Gift Aid to enable us to enhance your contribution by claiming a refund from the Inland Revenue.

Friends of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead
(Registered charity no. 1048053)

Membership form

Please send to Mrs Margaret Pearce,
Hon.Treasurer, 3 Old Rectory Gardens, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AD

Name(s)
Address
.....
.....

I/We will join the Friends of St Helen's as individual/family members and send herewith completed Banker's order/cheque, etc. for £

Gift Aid

I declare that my regular contributions and any other donations that I may make to the Friends of St Helen's church be treated until further notice as Gift Aid for the purposes of tax relief.

Name of tax payer

(Please note that you must pay an amount of income/capital gains tax at least equal to the tax the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year.)

To make regular contributions from your bank account, please complete the form below. It will be forwarded to your bank by our Hon. Treasurer.

STANDING ORDER FORM

Please pay to Barclays Bank Plc. Harpenden Branch, St Albans Group, Herts (20-74-09) for the credit of the account of the Friends of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead, A/c no. 30391336 the sum of £.....(figures).

Amount in words

On the day of 20.....
And thereafter annually on the same day in each succeeding year until further notice.

To the ManagerBank

Address

A/c name Signed

Current A/c no. Date

Friends of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead
(Registered charity no. 1048053)

Membership form

Please send to Mrs Margaret Pearce,
Hon.Treasurer, 3 Old Rectory Gardens, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AD

Name(s)
Address
.....
.....

I/We will join the Friends of St Helen's as individual/family members and send herewith completed Banker's order/cheque, etc. for £

Gift Aid

I declare that my regular contributions and any other donations that I may make to the Friends of St Helen's church be treated until further notice as Gift Aid for the purposes of tax relief.

Name of tax payer

(Please note that you must pay an amount of income/capital gains tax at least equal to the tax the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year.)

To make regular contributions from your bank account, please complete the form below. It will be forwarded to your bank by our Hon. Treasurer.

STANDING ORDER FORM

Please pay to Barclays Bank Plc. Harpenden Branch, St Albans Group, Herts (20-74-09) for the credit of the account of the Friends of St Helen's Church, Wheathampstead, A/c no. 30391336 the sum of £.....(figures).

Amount in words

On the day of 20.....
And thereafter annually on the same day in each succeeding year until further notice.

To the ManagerBank

Address

A/c name Signed

Current A/c no. Date