

METHOD OF PAYMENT

By standing order (to ease our administrative tasks)

To (name of bank) _____

Bank Address _____

Postcode _____

Account name _____

Account number _____

Sort code _____

Please pay to: The account of Friends of Midhurst Church at NatWest Bank, Rumbold's Hill, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DB

Account number 55011403 Sort Code 60-14-22

The sum of £35.00 on the following date* / / and annually thereafter on the same day until further notice.

Signature _____ Date _____

Full name of account holder(s) _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

*NB this date should be at least four weeks after the date of signing to allow time for the form to be processed

Please return this form to:

Midhurst Parish Church, St. Ann's Hall, St. Ann's Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9NN

The Parish Church and the Midhurst Community

Midhurst Parish Church has played a central role in the life of Midhurst for over 800 years bringing church and community together.

As a Listed Building it has a dominant presence in the Market Square Conservation Area that is so attractive to tourists and residents alike.



It plays a key role in the life of the town through regular worship and in marking stages of life's journey through baptisms, weddings and funerals.

The church's civic role continues to be increasingly important through the Remembrance Sunday service and other events like carols for Midhurst's Street Party and our Easter and Christmas services. The Madhurst summer festival was founded by our previous vicar and we continue our active support and participation in many of the events.

Church members are also involved in community life as pioneers of the Midhurst Foodbank Centre and as school governors, as well as being active in many clubs and societies.

Our Parish Magazine "Envoy" has become much more community focussed and, with a circulation of over 300, can reach many potential personal and business to business customers.

What if the Church wasn't there?

The running cost of the building and supporting a parish priest is around £70,000 p.a. and these costs are funded entirely by our small, but growing, congregation, without any outside support.

But in addition to these costs, there are also significant building maintenance and improvements to fund. Over the years, we have absorbed major costs: the retiling of the church spire, new central heating, and changes at the front entrance including a glass door and accessible toilet. As you will know, it costs a lot to keep an old building maintained, watertight and operationally efficient and these items have fully absorbed our reserves.

This puts at risk our ability, on our own, to continue to maintain our building let alone to implement ideas about making our church more flexible for worship, social and community use. It is for this reason that we seek the support of Friends, who we hope will wish to see our church retain and further develop its role at the heart of our community life.

Becoming a Friend of Midhurst Church

The proposal

- We want to invite some 200 businesses and individuals in the town to become a Friend of Midhurst Parish Church, so that you can help to sustain the fabric of the building for this and future generations.
- Becoming a Friend is open to shops, professional services, small businesses, and individual supporters.
- The cost would be a contribution of only **£35 per annum**. We would retain monies raised by the Friends in a dedicated (Restricted) fund solely to maintain and improve the fabric of the building.

The Chairman of the Friends is Clive Rowntree of Anderson Rowntree, who said: "I am delighted to support this worthwhile initiative helping to secure the future of our lovely Parish Church"

ANDERSON & ROWNTREE
SOLICITORS



Picture by courtesy of
Michael Chevis

The benefits to you?

1. The satisfaction of knowing that you are helping maintain a key part of Midhurst's history and heritage both for this and future generations.
2. A free copy of the monthly magazine Envoy including updates on Friends activities and on how the funding has been used for maintenance and improvement works (undertaken wherever possible by local trades).



"Picture with kind permission of Midhurst and Petworth Observer"

3. Invitation to two specific Friends network/social meetings a year
4. Invitations to our lively programme of social events, concerts and talks.

To learn more contact: the Parish
Office at:
office@midhurstparishchurch.net

**TO BECOME A FRIEND PLEASE COMPLETE THE ACCOMPANYING
FORM, and THANK YOU!**

Dave Willis, Vicar

FRIENDS OF MIDHURST CHURCH

**MAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP OF THE FRIENDS GO FURTHER
WITH GIFT AID**

I/we wish to join the Friends of Midhurst Church. The subscription cost is £35 p.a. per household or business.

Title _____ Full Name(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

Email address _____

A Friend who is a UK taxpayer is invited to complete the section below.

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £35 and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Midhurst Parish Church. 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.

Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you very much for your generous support

Please note that although we are unable to reclaim tax on the donations of businesses who become Friends of Midhurst, such donations will be tax deductible for the business concerned.

If you wish to be advised of forthcoming events by email, please supply your email address above.
