

Friends of the Parish of Birchington



Birchington has three churches that are part of the Church of England. Maybe you visit one or more of them regularly, or you simply attend at Christmas and for weddings and funerals, or maybe you are just interested in their history and heritage.



Either way, the Friends of the Parish of Birchington aims to give you the opportunity to maintain the buildings and secure our heritage for future generations to use and enjoy.



The churches of All Saints, St Thomas and St Mildred have been and are, a well-loved part of the community activities in Birchington and are still used for regular worship. Never before have

these churches been under greater threat. COVID-19 has resulted in a massive reduction in contributions to the finances of these churches, which are already in a parlous state.



The 'Friends' has been set up to help raise funds and contribute to the future improvements of the churches by appealing to members of the wider community in Birchington. People from all denominations and faiths or none are welcome and the 'Friends' aims to provide a wide range of events that will appeal to a diverse range of people.



All Saints Church has been part of life in Birchington since Saxon times and has close associations with the Quex Park Estate plus the artist Dante Gabriel Rossetti. All Saints is the original church in Birchington and parts of the building date back to the 13th century. The Friends committee intends to make the building available to the wider community as a venue for concerts and other performances.



St Mildred in Acol was opened in 1876 as both a place of worship and a school. St Mildred was the Abbess at Minster in Thanet in the 7th and 8th century.

Minnis Bay got its own church in 1932 as the result of a gift from Mrs Haidee Ida Kearns and is dedicated to St Thomas at the request of Mrs Kearns.

Both St Mildred and St Thomas are referred to as the daughter churches of the main church of All Saints.

By joining the 'Friends', members will not only be contributing to the churches upkeep and enhancement, but also have access to regular updates, a members newsletter, advanced information and discounts on any events organised by the committee and other future benefits.

Those of you who read this leaflet and wish to express an interest in joining the Friends or maybe feel they can offer talents that would be of use, please contact us, using one of the means given at the bottom of the page.

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