



## **St Mary's Church, Bacton.**

One of the oldest and certainly the largest building in the village.

Most of us pass it, if not every day then at least on a regular basis. But how many of us really notice it?

*It's always been there, right?*

*It will always be there, right?*

*Well, only half right!*

It will only continue to be there, as a focal point for village life for the future if we, like the generations of Bacton residents before us, make the effort to look after it.

**St Mary's** is your church, whether or not you go there every week. Maybe you were married there, had your children christened there or saw them married there. Or perhaps you have family or friends buried there. St Mary's is the heart of the village, commemorating Bacton's war dead and recording six centuries of Bacton life.

It is a building of great architectural and historic importance, having an unusual double hammer-beam roof and a very rare mediaeval Doom painting as well as some wonderful wood carvings.

Since the closure of the middle school, it is also the only building in the village big enough to stage major events such as concerts or plays. If we, the people living in Bacton today, don't find the money to keep the church in good repair for future generations, no-one else will and it will be lost forever.

**The Friends of St Mary's** was formed in 2004 with about 20 active members determined to respond to this challenge who set about raising funds for the upkeep of the fabric of the church. We're very proud of what we have achieved since then and very grateful to everyone who has helped us over the years but we need new ideas and we need new people to bring fresh energy and perspective to the group. This is where you come in.

**You can help.** If you can spare just a couple of hours every month or so to meet with other like-minded people to help conceive, plan or run our activities, you will find a very warm welcome. (We are not, we should make clear, a religious organisation. It is the church building only that we are concerned with).

We meet in the Church Community Room, usually on the second Thursday of the month, although not necessarily every month. The date is publicised on our website at [www.fosmbacton.org.uk](http://www.fosmbacton.org.uk). If you can't make it then, please contact one of the names below or complete the form opposite and we'll make sure you are kept informed.

**The Friends of St Mary's** have, over the years, raised over £125,000 from a wide variety of fundraising activities from concerts, fashion shows and wine tasting evenings, metal detecting rallies, garage sales and fêtes. Together, these have facilitated a string of projects for which grants would not have been available and which would not otherwise have been possible. Take a look at our website to see some of our activities and the projects we've been able to support.

We've had a lot of fun along the way and there is a lot of satisfaction in seeing the benefit realised in the church.

For more information, call:  
Andy on 01449 781002,  
Paul on 01449 781886 or  
visit our website at:  
[www.fosmbacton.org.uk](http://www.fosmbacton.org.uk)

Some of the work wholly or partly supported by The Friends.

- Repairs to tower, new door locks and repairs to door frame.
- Under-pew heating
- Making pews removable.
- Investigation of north wall and tower subsidence.
- Repairs to chancel wall and restoration of Doom painting.
- Repairs and re-location of the Parclose Screen.
- Fitting-out of the Church Community Room.
- Talks to village schoolchildren.
- Installation of CCTV.
- Permanent mounting for RBL Women's Section banner.
- Treatment of dry rot.
- Flint work
- Pointing of south wall.
- Pew cushions.
- New stone mullions and refurbished leaded lights on South West nave window.
- Clerestory windows re-leaded and some stonework repaired.
- Boiler replaced.

If you can't spare us any of your time, you may nevertheless feel able to contribute money. Some two dozen of you already do and we remain very grateful to you. Such contributions, along with fund-raising activities like fêtes, garage sales, metal detecting rallies, raffles and concerts like the Farewell to Arms concert presented by The Friends, and the That's Entertainment concert by the Ipswich Community Wind Band amongst others have, over the years, helped The Friends to raise nearly £125,000.

If you are able to help with a standing order, and typical contributions start at around a pound a week or £5 a month, our bank details are as below. Feel free to come to a meeting first to find out more about us.

Bank Sort Code: 30-94-55

Account number: 04620233 - "Friends of St Mary's Bacton"

Please complete and return the section below so that we have your details.

If you prefer, complete the Direct Debit Mandate form overleaf, sign and return it to the Membership Secretary at the address shown in the section below and we'll set it up according to your instructions.

### **The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton**

I am interested in being involved with **The Friends of St Mary's** and hope to come to the next meeting. I consent to The Friends of St Mary's retaining these details in order to keep me informed of the activities of The Friends. (Please tick the box to grant us that consent)

I intend to make a Standing Order. (Please delete if not applicable)

Please return this form to:       The Membership Secretary, FOSMB  
  August House, Church Road  
  Bacton, Stowmarket, IP14 4LN

Or e-mail your details to: *membership@fosmbacton.org.uk*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Direct Debit Mandate**  
**In Favour of The Friends of St Mary's Bacton**

**1. Your details**

Your full name  
and address

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....

**2. Your bank details**

Name and address of  
your bank

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....

Account Name

.....

Account Number

.....

Sort Code

.....

**3. Payment details**

Frequency of payment (please indicate ✓)

Monthly

Quarterly

Annually

Date of first payment

.....

(Please allow at least 10 working days for  
this mandate to arrive at your bank)

Please pay the sum of

.....

(In figures)

.....

(In words)

To: Friends of St Mary's Bacton

At: Lloyds Bank (Cornhill North Ipswich Branch)

13, Cornhill, Ipswich. IP1 1DG

Account number 04620233

Sort Code 30 94 55

Payment Reference

.....

(Optional. This reference will  
appear on your statement)

**4. Your Authorisation**

I authorise you to debit my / our account in accordance with the details  
in section 3 of this mandate. This request is addressed to the bank which  
holds my / our account as detailed in section 2 of this mandate.

Your Signature

Date