

St Peter & St Paul Upper Hardres

Tarn Hows
Stelling Minnis
Canterbury
Kent CT4 6AD

ann@youngmeadow.co.uk or phone 01227 709880

Dear Friend

Please take a moment of your time to read this letter.

I am a Parochial Church Councillor for St Peter & St Paul's Church Upper Hardres, a small rural church 4.5 miles south of Canterbury set in the heart of the beautiful Kent Downs. The Church is a Grade One listed building dating from 1160, having been built on the site of a former Saxon Church.

Earlier this year we lost, through no fault of our own, the use of a small adjacent building which we used for our Sunday School and general purpose meeting room. This building also housed the Church's toilet and wash basin and drinking water.

To ensure the provision of both basic facilities and a meeting room, we have applied for, and been granted, planning permission for a disabled toilet to be built outside the church; and inside the Church for a new servery with running water, and a soundproofed Sunday School/meeting room. Such additions will greatly enhance the facilities available in the church, which in turn will enable us to develop an extensive programme of activities and events for local people and visitors. The projected cost of this work is £80,000. To fund this work we are making applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the National Churches Trust but will need additional funding to complete the project.

We are in the process of approaching local groups and societies to develop a Community Engagement Programme drawing on their talents and donations in kind, but we realise that we need to reach further afield to individuals, groups and local companies who might be willing to help fund this important project which will directly benefit of local people.

Through this letter we are asking if you would be able to make a donation, large or small to help with the building work and related items at the Church. It is our intention to recognise our donors through a "Donations Board" in the church showing your generosity in support of our cause. There will also be opportunities to recognise donations in terms of naming the meeting room and inscribing books, chairs and other items with the names of their donors. Where possible we would also like to claim Gift Aid on any donation made by a UK tax payer which increased the value of the gift by 25%. We can provide a gift claim form on request.

I would be grateful for an opportunity to come and speak to you and show you our ambitious plans for the Church, please let me know if this would be convenient for you. Alternatively, if you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards

Ann M Day (Mrs)
St Peter & St Paul Parochial Church Council