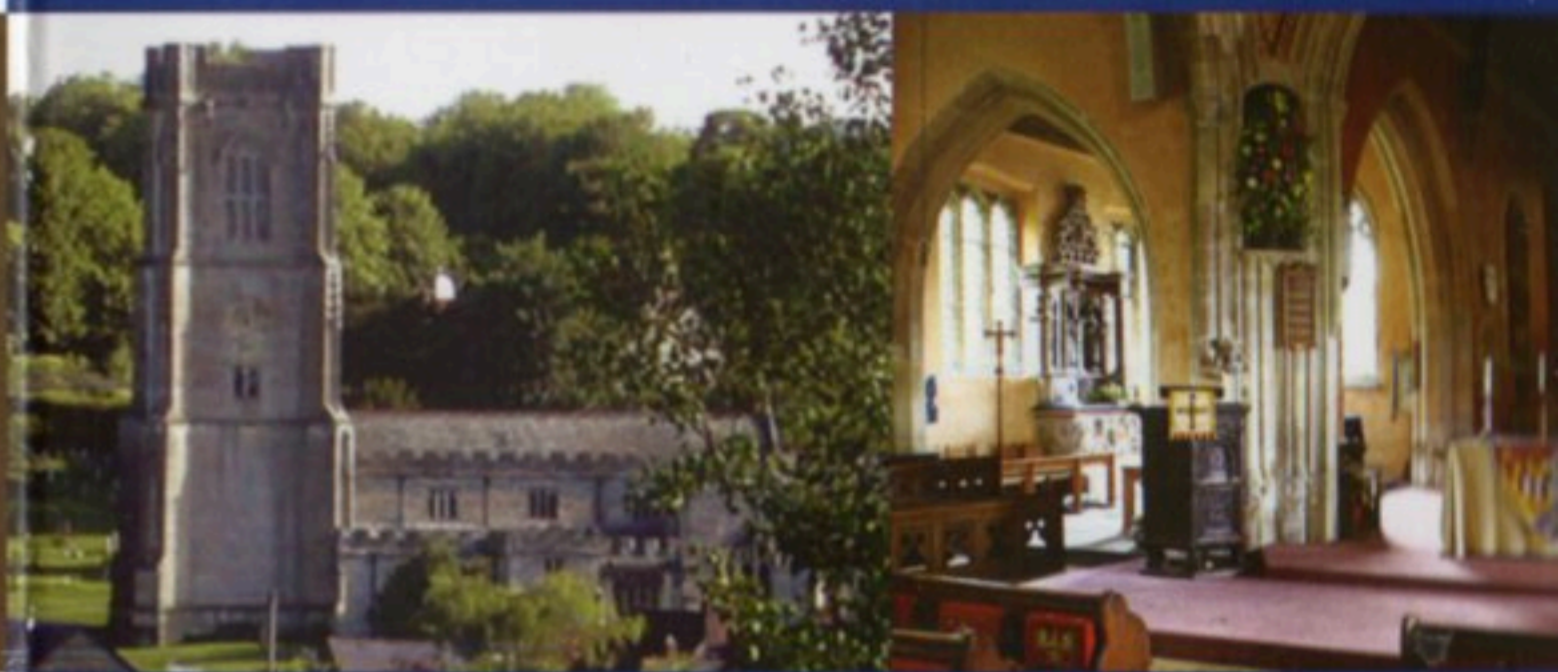


Our church in Aldbourne was there at the time of Alfred the Great, and was recorded in the Domesday Book in 1069. In 1150 the first Norman church was built on the current site, but this was burnt down in the early C13th, being replaced with the present church – originally dedicated to St Mary Magdalene.

## Aims & Objectives of the Friends



In the 15th century the church was substantially modified and the church rededicated to St Michael.

From the earliest times the church has played a significant role in the lives of the villagers, not only for worship but as a 'community centre' where people gathered to exchange news and support one another.

Today, while the primary function of Christian worship and celebration continues, the church building is well used for other community

activities and celebrations. There are well over 100 people who play their part in the ongoing care of the building and the churchyard so that they remain at the service of the community.

For the future we hope that the church will remain as an integral and active centre of the village with the intention to make the church more accessible to everyone, featuring as much in community life as it does physically in the centre of the village.

Churchgoers and non-churchgoers and people of all denominations have expressed an interest in being able to help in the maintenance of St Michael's Church. With this in mind, a charitable body has been formed and registered, called The Friends of St Michael's Church.

In the hope that a great many will wish to become a friend, it has been decided to keep the annual minimum subscription to a sum that all can afford, namely £5, or £8 per couple, although it is hoped that most will feel able to give more.

It is the Trustees' intention to organise various events for the benefit of the Charity from time to time.

The role of 'The Friends' is to help the Parochial Church Council with the cost of maintaining and improving the church.

The objects, as stated in the constitution of this charity are: *"to support the maintenance, repair, restoration, enhancement, beautification and reconstruction of the fabric of St Michael's Church, Aldbourne, its monuments, fixtures, fittings, stained glass, ornaments and other chattels, and its churchyard for the benefit of the public."*

In such a venerable building, there is an ongoing programme of maintenance, but we are also working to improve the facilities available and enhance access.

An example is the current project to provide a toilet and better kitchen facilities, but they are eager to consider anything which makes the building of greater service to the village.

Please complete and return to:

Mrs Julie McGowan  
Windy Ridge,  
8 Marlborough Road  
Aldbourne, Wilts SN8 2DD

I/We wish to join the Friends of St Michael's and

- Enclose the sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_
- Wish to pay by Standing Order and enclose the attached form.
- Request that all donations I make to Friends of St Michael's are treated as Gift Aid, and confirm that I pay an amount of tax that at least equals the tax you reclaim on my donation/s in the tax year.

Please tick as appropriate *(for tax claim)*

Mr                       Mrs                       Miss

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Forenames \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## STANDING ORDER INSTRUCTION

To the Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Bank

At \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please pay to the account of:

The Friends of St Michael's Church,  
A/c No.65125425, Sort Code 08-92-99  
The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250,  
Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT.

The sum of £ \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day

of \_\_\_\_\_ 200 \_\_\_\_\_

and the same sum on the same day every successive

month                       quarter                       year

until further notice. *(Tick as appropriate)*

Debiting my A/c No. \_\_\_\_\_


Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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



# The Friends of St Michael's Church Aldbourne

