

# FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, POLSTEAD

## NEWSLETTER - MAY 2010

### **2009 AGM AND SUPPER AND ILLUSTRATED TALK – Friday 14 May 2010**

As discussed at the last AGM in November 2008, the Committee decided to defer the 2009 AGM into the spring of this year to make it easier and pleasanter for members to attend.

Accordingly, the Friends 2009 Annual General meeting will take place at **7.30pm on Friday 14 May 2010 at Polstead Village Hall**. The formal business will be followed by a scrumptious supper after which there will be an illustrated talk by Roy Tricker on the importance of caring for our heritage of ancient churches.

Many members will remember Roy from four years ago when he took us round St Mary's Church in his inimitable informed and entertaining manner and then entertainingly enthused us after dinner. He tells me that he is delighted to do an encore for us, drawing on his unrivalled knowledge of the churches of East Anglia.

All members of the Friends and well wishers are welcome to attend the AGM and supper (only members are entitled to vote at the AGM). **Tickets for the supper are £12.00** (including a glass of wine) and are available at Polstead Community Shop or from Bill Wigglesworth (01787 210590/210029) or on application to any member of the Committee.

Copies of the Friends 2009 Annual Report, AGM agenda and minutes of the 2008 AGM accompany this newsletter.

### **CONSERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ST MARY'S CHURCH AND ITS SURROUNDINGS**

As you will see from the Annual Report, an enormous amount of work was done during 2009, and carried on into 2010, to complete the extension of the churchyard and its fencing and the repair of fences and walls around the rest of the churchyard. Aided by some exceptionally generous donations, the Friends have provided funding of almost £24,000 for this work. This major effort means that the future use of the churchyard has been safeguarded for the foreseeable future. The PCC and the community are extremely grateful. The work would not have been possible but for the support of the Friends.

During 2010 attention will again concentrate on some important conservation projects within the church about which we will be keeping members informed.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

We are hoping to organise some other activities with a conservation theme during the year, including a trip to Ely Cathedral. Details will be circulated to members shortly.