**FRIENDS OF ST JAMES’**

The church of St. James the Great is by far the oldest surviving building in Longdon and one of the oldest in Staffordshire. When Henry II came to the English throne in 1154, church and cathedral building was at its height and what we see today as the Nave at St. James’ would then have been standing and in use for worship for several years.

We are in the process of setting up a ‘friends’ group for those interested in learning more about the historical importance and in the preservation of the ancient building of St. James’ church and its surrounds.

If you have an interest in the historical aspect of village life and you might be interested in joining a friends group, please leave your contact details; an email address or phone number, and we will contact you when the group is properly up and running. There is no commitment at this stage; simply an expression of interest.

Of course there will be a financial commitment to the friends but it doesn’t have to be a big one. The money, alongside that already provided by the worshipping congregation of St. James’, will help to preserve and repair the building, and the more money which is available the more that can be done, so of course we would welcome large cheques and legacies, but a donation of just a few pounds a month from many people will make a difference. On the plus side, apart from enjoying the historical setting of the church building, we hope to run the occasional evening for friends to meet and exchange views, to allow a priority booking for certain events, and certainly an annual meeting over a meal.

We look forward to inviting you to be a friend of St. James’.

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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