

The Friends of Bath Abbey were formed in 1948 to provide funds to help with the conservation of the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Abbey. Although routine maintenance of the church is the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council, the tremendous cost of caring for the building cannot be borne entirely by them, and there is little or no State aid for supporting the historic churches of our country.

Churches are often criticised for asking for money, but it has always been so. When the present Abbey was in a state of ruin following the Dissolution of the Cathedral Priory in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a nationwide appeal under the patronage of Queen Elizabeth I raised money for the repairs. The response helped to save the building in which we worship today. Such efforts have continued over the centuries. During the last decade funds have been raised under the patronage of HRH The Prince of Wales for a massive programme of renovation in the course of which the Friends have paid for the restoration of the West and East fronts and the refurbishment of the Sanctuary and side chapels.

Since its formation the Friends have contributed close to £1,000,000 towards projects to conserve and beautify the Abbey. Much of this money has come from gifts, sometimes to record a family event, and from generous bequests. Recent donations and legacies have enabled us to provide a chair and prie dieu in the Sanctuary, a pricket stand for prayer candles, to donate a silver ciborium, two silver tapers, and a silver medallion for a Senior boy Chorister, to commission a History of Bath Abbey which is available in the Abbey Shop, to reconstruct the choir stalls and to create the screens behind them on which carved Angels playing instruments will be mounted in the course of the next 2 years.

The Friends organise a variety of fund raising social events, talks and outings. Members receive the Annual Report and two programmes of events during each year. Membership helps create friendships between those who love Bath Abbey. Each year at Choral Evensong on the Feast Day of our patron St Peter, the Abbey community gives thanks for their founders and benefactors. If you have found your spirituality has been enriched by your time with us in this beautiful building, why not join the long line of benefactors and so help to pass on this beautiful building in good repair for future generations by joining The Friends or giving a donation?

## APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

- Either** I/We wish to become member/s of The Friends of Bath Abbey as:
- Individual Member @ £10
  - Joint Members @ £15
  - Senior Member (over 60) @ £5
  - Joint Senior Members @ £8
  - Life Member @ £100 or 4 annual payments of £25
  - Joint Life Members @ £150 or 4 annual payments of £37.50
- Or / And** I/We wish to make a donation towards the work of The Friends of Bath Abbey

(BLOCK LETTERS)

**Title** ..... **Full Name** .....  
**Address** .....  
.....  
..... **Post code** .....  
**Telephone** ..... **Email** .....

**EITHER** I would like to subscribe by Bankers Order   
A form will be sent to you by the Secretary on receipt of this form.

**OR** I enclose a cheque (payable to The Friends of Bath Abbey) of £.....

**Signature** ..... **Date** .....

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### Gift Aid Declaration

**Either** I am not a UK tax payer   
**Or** I wish the Friends of Bath Abbey (Charity Number 205082) to reclaim tax on any donation/subscription I have made from 6 April 2000 and to continue to do so until I notify you otherwise. I confirm that I am a UK taxpayer and that I will be paying income or capital gains tax in excess of the tax reclaimed by The Friends on my gifts.

**Signature of donor** ..... **Date** .....

### Please send to:

The Honorary Secretary, The Friends of Bath Abbey  
13 Kingston Buildings, Bath BA1 1LT.

**BANKERS ORDER**

To: ..... Bank plc

Address:-

.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Please pay Nat West Bank plc, Bath, Old Bank Branch **56 00 34** for the credit of The Friends of Bath Abbey **00235253**

the sum of £..... annually

commencing on **1<sup>st</sup> February 20** .... ..

for a period of 4 years/ until further notice. **(Delete as appropriate)**

This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of The Friends of Bath Abbey.

**Ref: (LEAVE BLANK)**

**Signed:** ..... **Date** .....

**Name (BLOCK LETTERS)** .....

**My Account Number:** .... ..

**Bank sort code:** ..... / ..... / .....

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