



The Friends of  
St Ruan and St Grade  
Historic Church Buildings



# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2016 No. 1

---

**Welcome to our First Newsletter. We hope to make this a regular feature to update Members and Supporters with our news, activities and progress.**

Just over a year ago we held the first meeting with a handful of people who were anxious to do what they could to support our two churches of St Ruan and St Grade which are both fine examples of church architecture.

In Ruan Minor the church of St Ruan, dedicated to its patron saint Rumon, dates back to the 13th century. It was enlarged by the addition of the tower some 300 years later and restored in the 19th century.

Grade church, originally dedicated to Saint Grada but also known historically as 'Church of the Holy Cross', also dates back to the 13th century, the tower being added at the beginning of the 15th century and much of the old church being demolished in the 1860s

when a new nave and chancel were constructed.

The Friends have held two successful fund raising events. Our first was a Murder Mystery Evening on 14th May where guests enjoyed a three course meal and the opportunity to play detective . Great fun was had by all.

Our second event was "Midsummer Music" held on the 25th June . Duchy Opera gave a splendid performance of opera highlights and songs from the shows. The weather was kind to us. Although not quite Ruan Minor's answer to Glyndebourne there were definitely some posh picnics and even a candelabra or two.

We will be making this an annual event, next year featuring the Gweek Silver Band for a 'Prom in the Park'. We hope everyone will enter into the spirit of it.

**All Members can enjoy discounted tickets to Friends' events**

Our fund raising events, membership subscriptions and generous donations mean that our funds are approaching £3,000. We are very grateful to the Parish Council who donated £500 as well as all our members, both local and further afield, whose generous donations and continued support have made this first year such a success.

Membership for our first year will be extended for more than 12 months. Our first renewal date will be April 2017 and annually thereafter. Anyone joining now will not have to renew until April 2018. Your subscription renewals will form the core of our fund raising every year and we cannot thank you enough for your continued support.

Whilst this year's fundraising is a great achievement it will only go so far and both churches are in urgent need of repair.

Our role as 'Friends' is to support the Parochial Church Council and they have identified how we might contribute to their planned repairs for the near future. This will include redecorating the interior of St Ruan Church following successful roof repairs and the making safe of the floor to the north west corner of the church which is currently a hazard and limits the use of the space.

*Below is a picture showing an example of damage to the internal decoration of the church extending elsewhere .*





These enchanting tea towels have been designed by André Ellis. They are made of 100% cotton and the dimensions are 78cm x 50 cm (30½ x 19.5 inches). They are blue on white and would make a perfect gift.

They are available for the sum of £7 from The Store in Ruan Minor or via our Chairman Pat Palmer at Maen Veor Cottage (Tel: 01326 20150).

Otherwise you can complete the coupon below and post it to Pat Palmer, Maen Veor Cottage, Ruan Minor, Helston TR12 7JN.

The tea towel will also shortly be available for sale through our website:

[www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk](http://www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk)

***A5 cards and postcards with this design are also available in blue and white at £1 per card and 60p per postcard.***



**25th MARCH 2017**  
**10 am to 12 pm**  
**£5 a Boot/Table**

**Sort out your cupboards, have a spring clean and make some cash !**

Venue to be confirmed in Ruan Minor - see Grade Ruan Gazette or our website for details [www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk](http://www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk)

**SUBSCRIPTION FORM**  
Registered Charity No. 1164632

Name.....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Tel ..... Email.....

**Please mark appropriate membership.**

Single Membership (£10) ..... Joint Membership (£15) .....

Family Membership (£25) ..... Life Membership (£250) ).....

If you would like to make a Donation £.....

● **Gift Aid - for UK tax payers only**

I wish the friends to reclaim the tax on my donations until further notice. I note that I should tell the Friends if I do not pay a total amount of UK tax that at least equals the tax deducted from the donation.

Please make cheques to The Friends of St Ruan and St Grade Historic Church Buildings.

Payment can be made to Account No: 8432222 Sort Code: 09-01-28 Santander, 11 Meneage Street, Helston TR13 8AA

**Standing Order form available on request.**

Our website will shortly be accepting membership payments by Paypal:  
[www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk](http://www.friendsofstruanandstgrade.co.uk)

Signed..... Dated .....

Please send to The Membership Secretary, The Friends of St Ruan and St Grade Historic Church Buildings, Glenhurst, Ruan Minor, Helston, TR12 7JN.

Email: [marykeeley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marykeeley@hotmail.co.uk)

**MIDSUMMER MUSIC**  
**FEATURING THE *GWEEK SILVER BAND***  
**1ST JULY 2017**  
**Ruan Recreation Ground**  
**BYO Food and Refreshments**  
**DOORS OPEN 4PM SHOW STARTS 5PM WITH A PICNIC INTERVAL**  
**Price £8/£5 OAPs and Members/Children FREE**

