

# WHAT BEING A FRIEND OF THE COLLEGE MEANS TO YOU

By subscribing as a Friend of Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges you will be contributing directly to the upkeep of the accommodation and buildings and helping assure our future.

You will receive a regular newsletter to keep you in touch and will be invited to attend an annual service and tea. Part of the work of the Friends is in organising social and fundraising events to which, of course, you will be invited. The facilities of the Colleges are used from time to time by churches. It is hoped to make more use of these without disturbing the Collegian residents who have their home there.

Those who would like to contribute time, ideas and generally play an active role in supporting the Colleges are enthusiastically welcomed. Friends has its own committee. You will be able to attend the AGM and take part in voting for committee members or, indeed, stand for the committee.

Above all, you will be part of a truly unique and historic community of which the local area - and the wider Church - can take justifiable pride.

## Subscriptions

Subscriptions are set at a modest level to suit every income. If you feel able to pay at a higher level, you are of course, more than welcome. You have the choice of taking out annual membership with a standing order or life membership. Current subscriptions are listed on the enclosed application form. Or contact us for more information.



Deo et Ecclesiae

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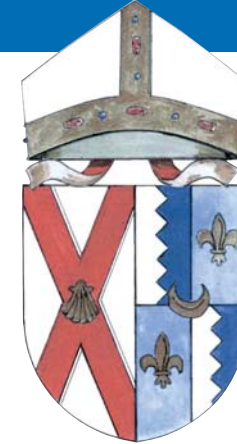
## BROMLEY & SHEPPARD'S

COLLEGES

FOUNDED 1666

Registered Charity No. 210337

# BECOME A FRIEND OF BROMLEY & SHEPPARD'S COLLEGES



Deo et Ecclesiae

Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges are unique not only in their age, but also in their purpose. They are founded on an independent charitable trust which exists solely to provide affordable, independent living accommodation for retired Church of England clergy from around the world, their spouses, widows and widowers, and their caring children. It is the only institution of its specific type, and is open to all Anglican clergy and their immediate family who qualify.



# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COLLEGES

# WHAT BEING A FRIEND MEANS TO US



Hidden away behind old red-brick walls and an elegant wrought iron gateway at the north end of the High Street are Bromley's most beautiful buildings with gracious, cloistered quadrangles and lovely grounds. Although few know of their existence, the oldest part of Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges has been there since the 17th century.

Bishop John Warner of Rochester who died in his palace in Bromley in 1666, left £8,500 to build a 'Hospitall or Almshouse for twentie poore widowes of orthodox and loyall clergiemen'. In 1674 the 'widowes' were installed in what is now the front quadrangle of Bromley College. The elegant building was designed by Captain Richard Ryder - one of Sir Christopher Wren's surveyors. A second quadrangle was added in mid 18th century to match the original. In 1840 Sheppard's College was built to care for the daughters of deceased widows who had resided at Bromley College. Finally, in 1863, the present Chapel was built.

## WHERE WE ARE TODAY



The function of Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges remains unchanged to this day. There are now 42 self-contained apartments forming a sheltered community for residents who have spent their lifetime serving others.

The Colleges have very little in the way of endowment beyond the minimum required to maintain the current accommodation. The Friends of Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges has been formed to arrange both fundraising and social events to help enhance the lifestyle of the Residents

and maintain the integrity of these historic buildings.

By becoming a Friend of Bromley & Sheppard's Colleges you will be providing much needed support which will help contribute to the wellbeing of our Residents today and for the generations to come. You will be also helping us maintain our treasured buildings. Bromley College is a Grade 1 listed building, Sheppard's College a Grade 2 listed building.



The very special value of the Colleges, however, goes far beyond their aesthetic and historic qualities. It lies in their glorious fitness for purpose, undimmed since 1666. Bromley & Sheppard's is a true community built around shared beliefs and values. Its strength is tangible, its function inseparable from its fabric.

In 2005 we launched an Appeal to raise £1 million to carry out urgently required renovation and upgrading of the living accommodation, as well as make repairs to the fabric of the buildings in accordance with advice from English Heritage. Whilst we are well on the way to raise the necessary funding, we still need help to achieve our immediate needs. And we will continue to do so over the years to allow us to continue to fulfil our charitable purpose and protect the heritage of our buildings.

So, our Friends are very important to us. We value their support highly and enjoy meeting them at organised annual events. Bromley & Sheppard's may be a community in its own right, but it is also very much part of the broader community. Those who share our purpose and goals we regard as friends in every sense.

