The Friends of St Marys Church, Sundridge are delighted to invite you to

## A guided tour of Rochester Cathedral

Wednesday 15th May 2019 from 2 - 4pm led by John Bailey BA, B.Arch, RIBA, AABC









The Friends are very fortunate that John Bailey has offered to lead a tour of Rochester Cathedral for us. John is an Accredited Architect in historic Building Conservation, a speaker and former Chairman of Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings and Surveyor of the Fabric for Rochester, Guildford and Wakefield Cathedrals. His knowledge of Rochester Cathedral is immense and he has the great gift of being able to explain both the obvious and the obscure with the clarity which only comes when you know and love the subject very well. His passion for the building is obvious and his talks are always both wonderfully engaging and humorous.

Rochester Cathedral is the second oldest foundation in England (604) and stands within the Roman city that dominates the lowest crossing point of the river Medway. The present building contains outstanding fabric from the 11th and 12th centuries but the building was substantially rebuilt after a major fire in 1179. Come and learn about this outstanding building from the surveyor to the fabric who is responsible for its care, hear about the falling out with Canterbury Cathedral in 1240 that stopped the rebuilding works and learn about the major repairs in the 19th century which saved the east end of the church from collapse. The tour takes around an hour and a half and finishes with tea and cake (included in the cost of the tour) in the 12th century crypt.

This is a great opportunity to tour the Cathedral with someone who really knows and understands the building.