



## Visit to St Bartholomew's church, Churchdown, GL3 2LG

**Tuesday 21st August, 6pm onwards**

St Bartholomew's church stands at the highest point of Chosen or Churchdown Hill, in one corner of a probable Iron Age hill-fort. It commands an extensive view over Cheltenham, the Cotswolds and the Malvern Hills.

A Grade 1 listed building, parts of the church date back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, with some good examples of Norman carving, much of it re-used during later rebuilding work. Also notable are the 13<sup>th</sup> century north porch with a priest's chamber (accessed by a narrow staircase) above, a 14<sup>th</sup> century font, a 17<sup>th</sup> century pulpit and some of the county's best examples of pre- and post-Reformation graffiti.

As well as considering the church's history and architecture, we shall learn about recent work to ensure the church's long-term structural stability.

**Meet** in the car park by the Severn-Trent Reservoir on the south side of the church at 6pm, for a 6.15pm start. Access to the church is by a narrow road (with passing places) from Green Lane.

Refreshments, courtesy of the Friends of St Bartholomew's Church, will be available in the adjoining Sexton's Cottage at the end of the visit to the church, which will last around 45 minutes. There is no charge for the visit, but donations for refreshments and towards the work of the Friends will be welcome.

Numbers are limited, so please book a place by contacting Vicki Walker (email: [walkeravsj@aol.com](mailto:walkeravsj@aol.com)). If you need to get in touch on the evening itself, please telephone Steve Blake on 07790378148.