

## **The Friends of York Minster**

### **September 2023**

Dear Friends,

Our AGM in July was well attended by members and it was good to mix and chat over refreshments after Evensong. Helen Gregory and Trevor Julian retired as Trustees, and I would like to thank them for being very active members of Council. Despite leaving Council, Helen will continue to arrange Friends' outings, holidays and to bake delicious cakes for our fund-raising coffee mornings. Trevor will continue to edit our excellent Annual Report. Cate Champness, Mary Nolan, and Patricia Williams were elected as Trustees. Cate and Patricia have been involved with the Friends for many years and Mary is our new assistant editor. The Dean, who spoke at the end of the AGM, thanked the Friends for all the support they had given the Minster.

Sadly, John Morley, who served on the Friends' Council until last year and was Head Steward of the Minster for many years, died in July.

The order form for our Christmas card is on the reverse of this Newsletter and we hope many of you will support us by ordering some. We know that members like a card of the Minster in the snow, so we have used a picture, taken by Duncan Lomax, showing the Chapter House taken from the garden of Treasurer's House. I hope you like it and that it will sell well. It would be very helpful if you would order your cards early. As Jayne is away most of December.

We have held five very successful coffee mornings so far this year. Friends come regularly to meet each other and to welcome and chat to visitors to the Minster. Coffee morning have so far raised £2,678 for our

funds. Thank you to all who regularly come and a special thanks to the volunteers who bake and serve.

The booking form for activities this Autumn is on the reverse of this Newsletter, and we hope to see you at some of the events.

Our Christmas Coffee and Mince Pies' morning will this year be held in St Michael le Belfry's Hall off Stonegate as it was becoming too expensive to hold it at our regular venue. We are also having a Christmas lunch in Bedern Hall.

Part of the Minster School is now a restaurant, The Refectory, and our Chairman Julia, has arranged a discount of 7.5% for our members if they show their Friends' Membership card.

Thank you to all members who have sent us donations or remembered us in your wills. We rely on the legacies you leave – and on your many donations in addition to your subscriptions – to fund grants to the Minster.

Please would you make sure that we have your up-to-date contact details, your home address, phone number and e-mail. Every time we try to contact members some post and e-mails are returned. We are trying to use e-mail addresses where possible as this cuts down our costs.

Many thanks for your support,

Meg Shorland-Ball.