The Friends of Ely Cathedral



Newsletter February 2023



Greetings from Ely!

We hope you enjoy reading the 2022 Yearbook and that this accompanying Newsletter finds you keeping well. 2023 is a very special year for the Cathedral since it is 1,350 years since the founding of the Monastery. Many special things are happening and there is a brief outline of Cathedral plans on the back page of this Newsletter.

The Friends also have a busy year and we hope to see you at one of our events soon. If you have not yet renewed your subs please do so asap, thank you (see Page 2).

Forthcoming Friends' Events

Fri 21 April: 'Isle 'ave a Shanty'

Weds 17 May: Friends' Quiz

Tues 20 June: New Friends' Evening (invites to follow)

Fri 30 June: Strawberries & Fizz Social

Advance Notice:

Fri 29 Sept: Friends' Day & AGM Speaker Dr Victoria Avery Weds 15 - Sat 18 Nov: Friends' Stall at Christmas Fair Sun 19 Nov: Friends' Preview of Cathedral Lighting

www.elycathedral.org/friends

SUBSCRIPTIONS Minimum subscriptions stay unchanged for 2023. However Subscription rates have not increased since **2011** (whilst project costs have) and we are always happy to receive additional payments and donations. Please ask for details for BACS payments or send a cheque.

If you pay by Standing Order please consider increasing it or making an extra payment. **If you are a Life Friend** who joined a while ago please consider sending an extra donation.

Annual Friend minimum subscriptions for 2023

£15 single, £25 joint, £20 corporate, all due on 1st January.

Life Friend minimum subscriptions: £200 single, £350 joint

Friends' Membership (Annual or Life) makes an unusual present. Friends are also welcome to change from Annual to Life Membership. There is a £5 fee for replacement Passes.

For more information, or to check whether you have paid this year's subs, please contact Sue Hunting *sue.hunting@elycathedral.org*The Friends' Council will meet in April, June and October.

FRIENDS' EVENT

Isle 'ave a Shanty



Friday, 21 April 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel

This is a first! We are delighted that local shanty group 'Isle 'ave a Shanty' are performing for us. It should be a good evening and if you have not experienced shanty music before then you are in for a treat! See the website: *isleaveashanty.com*

Isle 'ave a Shanty is a six piece A Capella male harmony group, which specialises in traditional songs from the sea and the country and also puts a folk twist on some modern classics! Their live show is all about fun, camaraderie and interaction. Be ready to sing along heartily and join in with the actions on a journey across oceans and through countryside with maybe a few songs about grog, noggins and even a drop of Nelson's blood.

Priority Friends' Bookings are available from the Friends' Office from February, with public tickets available from the Cathedral Box Office from 1 March (see opposite). Prices (£10 Friends /£12 Guests) to include a glass of wine or soft drinks.

Isle 'ave a Shanty

Friday, 21 April 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel, Ely Cathedral

I wish to order	Friend tickets at £10 each
and	Guest tickets at £12 each
I enclose a cheque for of Ely Cathedral' and an SAE	payable to 'The Friends
Names of attendees:	
Signed	Date
NAME (please print)	
E-mail:	☎ Tel no:
Please return this form & SAE to:	Mrs S. M. Hunting, Friends' Officer, The Chapter House, The College, ELY, Cambs CB7 4DL
	by card in The Friends' Office or se email for further details.

NB Guest Tickets will also be available from the Cathedral Box Office (online, 01353 660349 and in person) from 1 March.

FRIENDS' QUIZ & SOCIAL

Wednesday, 17 May 7.00 for 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel, Ely Cathedral

Back by popular demand! This will be our 7th Quiz Evening & once again organised by John Webster and Ed Gifford.

Everyone is welcome! It should be a fun evening as the Quiz is 'not too serious'. **Please buy tickets in advance.** There will be tables of six and you can either come as a team (NB tell us your team members) or come as individuals and be allocated to a team.

If you are a new Friend why not come along and see just how friendly we are? A glass of wine and soft drinks will be provided.



There will also be a raffle and donations of prizes are much appreciated.

Tickets: £8 Friends, £10 Guests are available via the priority form on the facing page.

MERCHANDISE At the Christmas Fair we sold out of Friends' Bags and Notecards so are now busy sourcing new Friends' merchandise to sell at events. Watch this space.

FRIENDS' RAFFLES The Social Committee feels that Raffles provide another way for people to show support and we shall be having Raffles at our fundraising events in 2023. Any suitable prizes will be gratefully received. We are also thinking of including prize hampers and any contributions can be left at the Chapter House. Thank you.

NEW HON TREASURER — we are delighted to report that Deborah Man has volunteered to be our new Treasurer and will take over from Richard Setchell at the AGM in September. This is really good news and we are most grateful to Debbie for her interest and support.

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Signed	Date
NAME (please print)	
E-mail:	≊ Tel no:
NB If you are part of a Team of your Team Members!	Six please provide the names of
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'Strawberries & Fizz'

in the Bishop's Marquee Friday 30 June, 7.00 - 9.30pm

We are delighted to have the use of the Bishop's Marquee on 30 June for another very special Friends' Summer Social.

There will be 'Strawberries & Fizz' (& soft drinks) with a chance to enjoy the Bishop's Garden and Rose Garden as well as time to chat and a Raffle.

This event was very popular last year — an enjoyable summer evening in a beautiful setting. We suggest you buy your tickets early since numbers are limited!

Tickets: £12 Friends, £15 Guests

Tickets only available from the Friends' Office (see facing Page).







NB Evensong will be sung, as usual, at 5.30pm. All are welcome.

NEW MEMBERS? CAN YOU HELP?

We had a large number of new Friends last year and very much hope that this trend continues. There must be many more people who would welcome the chance to support our amazing Cathedral and join 'The Friends', perhaps you can help us to find them? Could you invite a friend, relative or neighbour to join us or perhaps bring them along to one of our events?

'Hard' Membership Forms are available in the Cathedral (Friends' Noticeboard & Shop) & from the Friends' Office whilst electronic versions can be downloaded from our webpage or emailed on request.

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2023 marks 1350 years since St Etheldreda first established a monastery in Ely. To mark the occasion, Ely Cathedral is celebrating the life and legacy of this remarkable Saxon queen with a year-long programme of events, exhibitions, concerts and services. Full details are on the Cathedral website but highlights include:



- February December A mini Exhibition in St Etheldreda's Chapel A visual interpretation depicting the key stages in Etheldreda's life
- Saturday 3 June Etheldreda Craft & Food Fair
 A Craft & Food Fair in aid of the Ely Cathedral Choristers' Choir Tour Fund
- Weds 14 June Weds 26 July Threads Through Creation Exhibition
 Twelve enormous, embroidered silk panels that explore the story of Creation
- Wednesday 21 June at 4pm BBC Choral Evensong
 Festal Evensong in celebration of the 1350 anniversary, live on Radio 3
- Friday 23 Monday 26 June St Etheldreda in Flowers
 Celebrating St Etheldreda with floral displays by the Cathedral Flower Guild
- Saturday 24 June at 12noon Diocesan Festal Eucharist
 with The Most Rev and Right Hon Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York
- Sunday 25 June Festal Eucharist (10.30am) & Festal Evensong (4.00pm) Liturgical worship & choral music to mark the feast of St. Etheldreda
- Saturday 29 July The Life of St Etheldreda

 Time Will Tell Theatre perform a newly commissioned play
- Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 July Saxon Fair on Cross Green
 Join Ely Cathedral and Ealdfaeder for a truly Saxon experience
- Saturday 7 October at 7pm Messiah
 Ely Cathedral Choir & the Britten Sinfonia perform Handel's masterpiece
- Tuesday 17 October at 5.30pm Festal Evensong
 With The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster
- Monday 20 & Tuesday 21 November Son et Lumière

 Music sung by the Choir, the Cathedral story & atmospheric light effects

Please note that some of these events are ticketed.

For full details see the website — www.elycathedral.org