

## THE FRIENDS OF ELY CATHEDRAL

*The Chapter House, The College, ELY, Cambridgeshire CB7 4DL*

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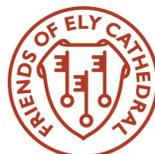
*e-mail: friends@elycathedral.org  
or: sue.hunting@elycathedral.org*

*www.elycathedral.org/friends*

## The Friends of Ely Cathedral



# Newsletter



## Summer 2025

## Ely Cathedral Shops

### 10% DISCOUNT

(except stamps & Ely Christmas Cards)

for FRIENDS OF ELY CATHEDRAL  
on Friends' Day - 20 September 2025

The Friends of Ely Cathedral CIO

Founded 1936

Reg Charity No: 1157705

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NB If you receive this Newsletter electronically and would prefer a hard copy there are some available to collect from the Friends' Office in the Chapter House.

If ordering tickets please remember the stamped addressed envelope or add £1 to your BACS payment (or arrange to collect them from The Chapter House).

### **Friends' Dates at a glance: ALL WELCOME**

Weds 10 & Thurs 11 Sept: Friends' Christmas Card Packing (see page 11)

Sat 20 Sept: Friends' Festival Day with His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft KC

Thurs 2 Oct, 7pm: Friends' Evening: Prior's Door & Cathedral Artefacts

Weds 15 Oct, 10am-12noon: Friends' Drop-in Coffee Morning

Weds 19 - Sat 22 Nov: Friends' Stall at Cathedral Christmas Fair

### **TOURS OF THE BISHOP'S HOUSE**

Sadly work on the roof of the Bishop's House is continuing but we still hope to be able to rearrange the Tours originally planned for Sept/Oct 2024 before the next Bishop moves in! Thank you for your patience and please watch this space.

# THE FRIENDS OF ELY CATHEDRAL

 01353 660348 e-mail: [sue.hunting@elycathedral.org](mailto:sue.hunting@elycathedral.org)

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our Summer 2025 Newsletter which has full details of our Autumn events. Thank you for your support. If you receive this as hard copy but have email please tell us as email greatly reduces our postage costs. Hard copies are always available on request.

**SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE:** Another reminder that all Friends should now have updated their Standing Orders— you need to do this as it is not Direct Debit and we cannot increase payments for you. Minimum Subscriptions are now £25 single, £40 joint and £30 Corporate. **PLEASE CHECK WHAT YOU HAVE PAID THIS YEAR AND SEND A ‘TOP UP’ PAYMENT IF NECESSARY.** Many thanks to those who have already done this and to the Life Friends who have sent extra donations. Much appreciated.

**FRIENDS’ DAY:** We are delighted that Mark Lucraft KC is to be Guest Speaker at our AGM this year and hope for a good attendance. Please see page 8.

**MEMBERSHIP GIFTS:** We are keen to continue recruiting more Friends and always happy to supply Gift Membership – or to convert annual membership to life. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange this. Forms are on our webpage and in the Cathedral on The Friends’ Noticeboard.

**CHRISTMAS CARD 2025:** There will be two new Christmas Cards this year— an oil painting of the Cathedral by John Sansom and a photograph of the Nave Nativity ceiling panel by John Hunting - see Page 14. The order form is on Page 15 and, as usual, they will also be available at Friends’ Events, our Christmas Fair stall and the Cathedral Shop.

**2025 YEARBOOK:** The next Yearbook will be published with the February 2026 Newsletter. We welcome relevant contributions so please send articles, poems, photographs etc to The Friends’ Office by 1 December. Accounts of any Friends’ events you have attended are especially welcome!

**FoEC VOLUNTEERS:** Once again we need Volunteers to pack Christmas Cards, sell them at the Christmas Fair and deliver 2025 Yearbooks. See Page 11.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** The Monastic Barn has been booked for The Friends’ 90th Birthday Dinner on 22 May 2026 — please put the date in your diaries.

**Finally** this wonderful job of Friends’ Officer is currently being advertised on the Cathedral website, please pass on the message. Further details are on Page 8, together with details of a ‘drop-in’ coffee morning. Hope to see you!

**Sue Hunting, Friends’ Officer**

## Paying The Friends by BACS

Many Friends are happy to complete the Booking Forms and return them to the office with a cheque/cash and an SAE. However BACS is an alternative and if you wish to pay this way please note the following:

1. Our bank account details are:  
The Friends of Ely Cathedral  
Sort Code: 30-93-05  
Account No: 00080253  
Reference: Your surname and event/subs as below
2. Please add the name of the event as your reference, namely  
FD Lunch  
Oct Talk  
C Cards (please add £3.50 postage)  
Subs or donations (with Friends Memb No, eg Smith F2248)

(NB membership nos are not the barcode found on some Friends' Passes)

3. Add £1 to ticket costs if you wish them to be posted to you.
4. Return a hard-copy or scanned Event Booking Form from this Newsletter and post or email it to [sue.hunting@elycathedral.org](mailto:sue.hunting@elycathedral.org) advising the Amount and Reference used in the BACS transfer.

### AND/OR

Send an email confirming your BACS payment and what it is for. Include your address if you have added £1 for ticket postage.

5. We are happy to receive one cheque or BACS payment for multiple events - so long as you clearly indicate what it is for.

Thank you for your help - please follow the steps above to avoid confusion.

**Unexpected BACS payments upset the system so please don't forget to send us an email to tell us what any transaction is for and include your address if you have added £1 for tickets!**

# THE FRIENDS OF ELY CATHEDRAL ANNUAL FESTIVAL

## 'Friends' Day'

**Saturday, 20 September 2025**

**12.00 for 12.30 Lunch** in the Lady Chapel (sherry from 12.00)  
(to be booked in advance, see Page 9)

**2.30 Annual General Meeting** in the South Transept (see Page 6)

**Guest Speaker: His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft KC**  
**Recorder of London** (see Page 8)

'The role of the Recorder of London'

**4.15 Tea/Coffee & Biscuits** in the Lady Chapel

**5.00 Friends' Choral Evensong**

During Evensong there will be presentations of  
The Dean Hankey Memorial Prize, The Friends of Ely Cathedral Medallion  
and The Friends of Ely Cathedral Girl Chorister Prize.

### **FRIENDS' DAY — LUNCH**

We are delighted that the Almonry Kitchen will be preparing lunch for us and look forward to seeing Friends old and new.

The cost for two courses, with sherry and wine, will remain the same as for the last two years at £25 (£30 for Guests). Tickets should be ordered from the Friends' Office **by Weds 10 September at the latest** (see Page 9). Please be sure to give full details of any food allergies or intolerances.

### **FRIENDS' DAY — DONATIONS TOWARDS COSTS**

As usual we ask everyone attending Friends' Day to make a small donation (suggested £5) towards the costs of putting on the event and the afternoon tea & biscuits. Donation baskets will be available throughout the day. Thank you very much for your support.

**THE FRIENDS OF ELY CATHEDRAL**  
**82nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday, 20 September 2025 at 2.30pm**

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

**1. a) Prayers                      b) Welcome and Apologies**

**2. To confirm the Minutes** of the 81st Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 14 September 2024 (circulated to all Friends in the 2024 Yearbook)

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

**4. Chairman's Report: The Dean**

**5. Hon. Treasurer's Report: Miss Deborah Man**

To include the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 Dec 2024 (see the Statutory Accounts on The Friends' website)

**6. Report from Chair of Council: Mr Peter Back**

**7. Friends' Officer's Report: Mrs Suella Hunting**

**8. Election of Council Members**

Many thanks are due to those Council members who are retiring this year, at the end of their term of office, Sylvia Farmer and Joyce Fenton.

Thanks too to Claire Stonehouse whose 6 month co-option to Council ends at the AGM but who has now been elected for a three year term by the Dean and Chapter.

Nominations for Council should be given to the Friends' Officer in writing by no later than Wednesday, 4 September. The Nomination Form is on Page 14 and if necessary there will be an election. There are up to three places for election at the AGM.

**9. Requests for Grants:**

Council has recommended two grant proposals for consideration. They are both for amounts greater than £50,000 and so need AGM confirmation and agreement.

- a) Council proposes that a grant of up to £100,000 should be made to Ely Cathedral to pay the final part of the Lighting Project costs.

It is hoped that the exact amount needed can be confirmed at the AGM, it will depend on invoices.

- b) Council proposes that a grant of up to £400,000 be offered to Ely Cathedral towards the Organ Project.

NB The time scale for the Organ Project is quite long and the money needed to fulfil this pledge is likely to come from legacies to The Friends that are still in administration (ie not yet distributed).

## 10. Any Other Business

Any motion to be proposed at the AGM must be given to the Friends' Officer in writing by Wednesday, 10 September 2025.

**Registered Charity No. 1157705**

### **FRIENDS' COUNCIL VACANCIES**

There will be two or three vacancies (out of 12 places) on the Friends' Council at this year's AGM and we welcome anyone who is interested in further supporting The Friends, and the Cathedral, by becoming a Council member (Trustee).

What is involved? Attendance at four Council meetings a year, usually held on weekday afternoons, as well as attendance at Friends' Events and activities, especially the New Friends' Evening and Friends' Day.

We are looking for volunteers who have already been Friends for several years and who would like to support our decision making.

You should be willing to be 'hands on' but living in Ely is not essential. You need to be in sympathy with both the Cathedral and The Friends but of course The Friends is an independent charity and we welcome people of all faiths or none.

For further information please contact Peter Back, Sue Hunting or any Council member. Nomination forms are on Page 10 and should be returned to the Friends' Office by 10 September. The Friends' Constitution can be seen on the Documents page of the Friends' section of the Cathedral website.

*[www.elycathedral.org/friends](http://www.elycathedral.org/friends)*

## Annual General Meeting Guest Speaker

### His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft KC Recorder of London

We are very grateful that Mark Lucraft KC has accepted our invitation to be our Guest Speaker at this year's AGM. After reading law at university, Mark qualified as a barrister and was appointed a full-time judge in 2012. He is a well-known figure in the Cathedral, but his working life is spent in London where he is the Recorder of London, the most senior of the permanent judges at the Old Bailey. He was appointed to this role in April 2020. Between October 2016 and December 2020, he was the Chief Coroner of England & Wales. Mark has kindly offered to talk about 'The role of the Recorder of London' and this is bound to be both fascinating and informative. All Friends are very welcome.

### Friends' Officer Position & 'Drop-in' Coffee Morning

Those of you with email will have heard in May that I planned to retire in October. It was a hard decision and I have very mixed feelings about it.

This, of course, means that there will be a new Friends' Officer but recruitment is still ongoing and the timetable may have to change as the advert for my replacement will be on the Ely Cathedral website (and other places) until 26 August. It is an exciting opportunity - - so if you, or any of your friends, neighbours or family might be interested then please tell them about it. The role is wonderful, it deserves a special person and of course it would be good to find someone who is already a Friend!

I hope to see many of you before I retire but uncertainty about the recruitment makes it difficult to plan. However the Lady Chapel has been booked for a **'drop-in' coffee morning on Wednesday, 15 October between 10am and 12noon**. The idea is for Friends to be able to say Hello to the new Friends' Officer and see me too - but if this is impossible then we'll just have a coffee morning anyway! All Friends most welcome.

**Sue Hunting**

# FRIENDS' FESTIVAL DAY LUNCH 2025

Sat 20 Sept, 12.00 for 12.30pm in the Lady Chapel

## FRIENDS' BUFFET MENU

Homemade Quiche (including vegetarian)  
or Coronation Chicken

Rice Salad, Coleslaw, Leaf Salad,

Fresh Breads

Chocolate Cheesecake  
or Lemon Tart & Coulis

Sherry at 12.00

Wine & Soft Drinks with Lunch

## FRIENDS' DAY LUNCH 20/9/25

I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ Friends at **£25** \_\_\_\_\_ Guests at **£30**

**DETAILS of any food allergies or special diets, incl. vegetarian:**

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I enclose **SAE** & cheque for \_\_\_\_\_ to 'The Friends of Ely Cathedral'

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF GUEST (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Return this **form, cheque & SAE**, asap before Weds 10 Sept to:  
Mrs S. M. Hunting, The Chapter House, The College, ELY, Cambs CB7 4DL

**BACS payment** can also be made, **see Page 4, & add £1 postage if you wish your tickets to be posted to you.**

## Friends' Council Nomination Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

am a Friend and wish to stand for election as a member of  
The Council of The Friends of Ely Cathedral. I am proposed  
and seconded by the following Friends:

Proposer \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Secunder \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signed (*nominee*) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the Friends' Office  
by Wednesday, 10 September 2025

### **AUGUST in the Friends' Office**

The Friends' Office will be open less than usual during August.

Please send an email or leave an answerphone message and it will be dealt with as soon as possible.

Tickets for events will be dealt with in order of receipt and will be sent out in mid-August or early September. This includes tickets for the Friends' Day Lunch.

**FRIENDS' ACCOUNTS 2024** We no longer send out paper copies of the full accounts with the Summer Newsletters but electronic copies can be downloaded from our webpage (by mid-August) and hard copies are available on request:  
[www.elycathedral.org/friends](http://www.elycathedral.org/friends)

# CALLING FOR FRIEND VOLUNTEERS!

We are always grateful for offers of help with:

- ◆ packing Christmas Cards
- ◆ helping on the Friends' Stall at the Christmas Fair
- ◆ delivering the Friends' Mailing in February 2026

We try to hand deliver in Ely, nearby villages and other towns and welcome more offers of help — it is good exercise (!) and each envelope saves well over £1 in postage.

Please think about whether **you** can help by delivering in your local area. Most bundles are 12—20 envelopes but special thanks to one Friend, David, who regularly delivers over 100!

Please return the slip below or send an email. Many thanks.

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to help with: *please circle days & times*

## **Card Packing** — in Powcher's Hall

Weds 10 Sept 10 - 12.30 or 1.30 - 4 pm

Thurs 11 Sept 10 - 12.30 or 1.30 - 4 pm

Please indicate your availability – timings are flexible.

## **Stall at Christmas Fair:** Weds 19 — Sat 22 Nov

Weds eve, Thurs am, Thurs pm,

Fri am, Fri pm, Fri eve, Sat am, Sat pm

Please indicate your availability

## **Delivering Yearbooks** in (area) \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this slip to Sue Hunting or email  
friends@elycathedral.org if you prefer.

Card Packing and Friends' Stall Rotas will be circulated.

## **SPECIAL FRIENDS' EVENT**

Presentations on

### ***'The Prior's Door'***

**Dr Shirley Hall, Cathedral Guide**

and

### ***'Ely Cathedral Artefacts'***

**Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker, Cathedral Archivist**

**Thursday, 2 October**

7.00pm in the South Transept

*Tickets (£10/£12) drinks available*

Dr Shirley Hall and Mrs Elizabeth Stazicker are both renowned experts in their fields and we are most fortunate that they have agreed to talk to The Friends and show us some of the Cathedral Treasures. We are combining a talk about the Prior's Door with another chance to hear about, and see, some Cathedral silver.

**Please arrive in good time - the evening will start promptly at 7pm and late arrival will be difficult.**

Shirley will talk about the history of the famous and unique Prior's Door, explaining its details and how to interpret its messages.

Elizabeth will talk about Cathedral Artefacts (silver) and there will be a chance to see some pieces. Once again we are most grateful to the Cathedral for allowing us to show items that are not usually on display. What a treat!

Please buy your tickets in good time — see next Page — they will not be available on the door.

# FRIENDS' EVENT—TICKETS

Thursday, 2 October 7pm in the South Transept

***'The Prior's Door'***  
*and*  
***'Ely Cathedral Artefacts'***

I wish to order \_\_\_\_\_ Friend tickets at **£10**  
and \_\_\_\_\_ Guest tickets at **£12**

I enclose a total cheque / cash for \_\_\_\_\_  
payable to 'The Friends of Ely Cathedral' **and an SAE**

Names of attendees:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return with SAE** to Sue Hunting (FoEC address on cover).

Payment can also be via BACS — see Page 4

*Tickets in advance only from The Friends' Office.*

**ALL WELCOME**



NEW Christmas Cards for 2025



# FRIENDS' ORDER FORM 2025 [www.elycathedral.org/friends](http://www.elycathedral.org/friends)

**Please note:** All Christmas Cards are in Packs of 10 with the greeting  
'With Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year'

	Price	Quantity	Total £
NEW Christmas Card (painting) 'Ely Cathedral from Stuntney' by John Sansom	£7/pack 10	-----	-----
NEW Christmas Card (photograph) 'Ely Cathedral, Nave Ceiling Nativity' by John Hunting	£7/pack 10	-----	-----
Christmas Card (design) 'Ely Cathedral in the snow' by Debbie Bellaby	£7/pack 10	-----	-----
NEW Blank Cards (pack of 5) 'Christ in Glory', East Window photo	£5/pack 5	-----	-----
Blank Cards (pack of 6) Photos of Octagon Angels & Aerial View of EC	£6/pack 6	-----	-----
Friends' Bags, heavy canvas Octagon Design (cream & navy) by Lisa Gifford	£8 each	-----	-----
	Post & Packing		£3.50
	Donation to The Friends (appreciated)	-----	-----
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	-----	-----

I enclose a cheque for the Total Amount (payable to The Friends of Ely Cathedral)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ ☎ Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form with your cheque (or BACS payment) to:**

Mrs S. M. Hunting, The Chapter House, The College, ELY, Cambs CB7 4DL

Orders will usually be despatched from late Sept, please allow 2 weeks for delivery. They can also be collected from the Office **OR AT FRIENDS' DAY.**

You can also order C Cards online from <https://www.elycathedral.org/shop>

The Friends of Ely Cathedral



# Newsletter



Summer 2025

This leaflet contains details of our Events for Autumn 2025 and Order Forms for Events and Christmas Cards etc.

NEW FRIENDS are always welcome and we are happy to arrange Gift Membership.

Thank you for your support.