

THE FRIENDS OF DORCHESTER ABBEY

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2018



from: Ingrid Lunt
c/o The Rectory
10 Manor Farm Road
Dorchester-on-Thames OX10 7HZ

Registered Charity No. 275819

President: The Bishop of Dorchester

Vice-President: Mr Christopher Gibbs

Abbey Website: www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Email for list of concerts and events:
events@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Membership enquiries:
Honor Juniper 01865 343228
friends@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Meeting of the Trustees of the Friends of Dorchester Abbey

The Trustees met on Tuesday February 13.

The following items were discussed:

- meeting with Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (bringing together Friends groups from other historic churches in Oxfordshire); the Abbey has agreed to host a day conference early in 2019
- The Friends agreed to pay for the Abbey lighting upgrade

Current Trustees

Richard Dick (Chairman)
John Taylor (Vice Chairman)
Hugo Brunner
Christine Dawson
Stephanie Forman
Tanya Hawley
Christian Hoyer Millar
Nick Jenkins (Treasurer)
Honor Juniper (Membership secretary)
Ingrid Lunt
David Parker
Mary Saunders
Hilary Warburton (Secretary)

Ex officio

The Revd Canon Sue Booy (Rector)
Gerry Wells (Church Warden)

- Update on proposals for the Guesthouse. Various options were discussed for discussion between the Friends and the PCC.

- the finances are in good order; it was agreed that an anonymous donation of £10,000 would be used to pay for gardening as requested by the donor.

Judy Macfadyen has resigned from the Trustees of the Friends after many years. The Chairman thanked her for all her service and efforts over the years, especially in setting up the Herb Garden. She will be missed. Date for the diary: this year's spring tidy up of the Herb Garden takes place on **April 7 from 9.30 a.m.** All welcome.

The General Data Protection Regulation.

The current Data Protection Act of 1998 will be replaced by the new General Data Protection Regulation on May 25th 2018. As with all charities, organisations and parishes we are required to make some changes to the way we (the Friends of Dorchester Abbey or FDA) hold and use personal data, in order to comply with this new law.

We need to have a greater openness, transparency and a more rigorous way of dealing with documents than currently. This will not affect the FDA to any great extent, but we have to prove that we are complying with the Act.

We will need to ask people's consent to enable us to send them communications of any kind, which are not directly related to the reason for providing their personal data.

We will be starting a process of defining what data we keep, who keeps it and why. We will be allocating a Data Controller. When appointed you will be able to contact her to find out what data she holds, asking her to correct errors or make amendments.

In practice members will need to give their consent before the FDA can send marketing and communications. If the FDA does not already hold these details (primarily, names, addresses, emails) then we will need to be in touch with you to ask for your consent.

I expect that the FDA has all the information that is required. However, if not we will be in touch with you. The process will develop gradually, and there is no cause for concern by the Members.

Christine Dawson.

Annual Outing of Friends of Dorchester Abbey to Wells Cathedral

Date: Monday 14 May 2018

This year's outing will be to Wells Cathedral. This cathedral is one of the 'three graces' of Simon Jenkins which 'embody the qualities which make the English cathedral unique in Europe'. Jenkins goes further: 'I have to conclude that, most often, my favourite has been Wells'. Praise indeed. There is an excellent description of the cathedral in his book, *England's cathedrals*.



Set in the medieval heart of England's smallest city, Wells Cathedral is widely regarded as one of the finest in the country. As well as its iconic, breathtaking West Front, it has an unusual octagonal Chapter House, a Jesse Window (considered to be one of the most splendid examples of 14th century stained glass in Europe) one of only four chained libraries in the UK, the Wells Clock and the medieval Vicars' Close, believed to be the only complete medieval street left in England.

There is a cafe, with views of the West Front over the moat of the nearby Bishop's Palace.

Cost

£30.00 per person for Friends of the Abbey, which includes the coach travel and guided tour of Wells Cathedral (£32.00 per person for non-Friends of the Abbey).

The coach will leave from the Bridge End car park in Dorchester at 9.00am. We should arrive in Wells about 11.45am. (We will have a short comfort break).

Free time to explore the centre of England's smallest city.

Guided tour of Wells Cathedral at 3.00pm.



The coach will leave Wells at 5.00pm. Traffic permitting, we should arrive back in Dorchester by 7.45pm.

Please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter and send a cheque for £30 (£32) per person, payable to 'The Friends of Dorchester Abbey' with your name, address and phone number to:

Mrs Yvonne Lawden, 9 Queens Close, Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford, OX10 7LR by Friday 13th April.

[Please note: you will not be sent tickets or a receipt, if you have any queries please phone Yvonne Lawden on 01865 340465 or email: y.m.lawden@gmail.com]

Further information will be sent to participants before the visit.

Annual General Meeting, June 4, 2018

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Monday June 4. Members are invited to stay for supper afterwards. To book supper, please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter.

The Annual Dorchester Lecture

This will be given by Professor Louise Richardson, Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford who will address the title: *Universities in Turbulent Times* on Tuesday September 18. Save the date!

Beauforest Society

We are all aware that Dorchester Abbey is an ageing building, built for the most part in the 14th century and is therefore continually in need of maintenance and repair. A central role for the Friends is to support the PCC with funds (and on occasion expertise and effort) for restoration and maintenance projects. The Beauforest Society was established to provide additional support to initiatives to preserve the fabric of this wonderful building.

The subscription for membership of the Beauforest Society is £100 a year for four years. Beauforest members receive the Friends of Dorchester Abbey Newsletter.

This year's annual Beauforest tea and evensong is planned for Sunday November 18, 4.00 p.m. tea, followed by Evensong at 5.00 p.m. The aim is to ensure that members have the opportunity to be fully involved in activities in the Abbey.

Many thanks to all those who signed up for Beauforest membership, and who have enabled the Friends to support the PCC in important projects. This is a great way to support Dorchester Abbey. Additional Beauforest members are always welcome: please contact the Chairman Richard Dick or the Membership Secretary Honor Juniper for further details. Or download an application form from the Dorchester Abbey website (search Beauforest).

**Booking form for the trip to Wells
Monday 14th May 2018 leaving at 9.00am**

I would like to book places for the visit to Wells

£30.00 for Friends £32.00 for non Friends for coach travel and Cathedral guided tour.

I enclose a cheque made out to 'The Friends of Dorchester Abbey' for £.....

Your name

Your address

Your phone number Email address:

Please return this booking form with your cheque to:

Mrs Yvonne Lawden, 9 Queens Close, Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford, OX10 7LR

by Friday 13th April. [Please note: you will not be sent tickets or a receipt, if you have any queries please phone Yvonne Lawden on 01865 340465 or email: y.m.lawden@gmail.com]

**Booking form for the AGM of the Friends of Dorchester Abbey supper and a glass of wine on
Monday 4th June 2018.**

I would like to book places for the AGM supper and enclose a cheque made out to 'The Friends of Dorchester Abbey' for £..... (£26.00pp)

Your name

Your phone number Email address:

Please return this booking form with your cheque to:

Mrs Yvonne Lawden, 9 Queens Close, Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford, OX10 7LR

by Friday 25th May. [Please note: you will not be sent tickets or a receipt, if you have any queries please phone Yvonne Lawden on 01865 340465 or email: y.m.lawden@gmail.com]