

The Friends of York Minster
Newsletter October 2020

Dear Friends,

It does seem strange not to have had any outings, holidays or coffee mornings for seven months. I am missing seeing you and trust that you are coping in this difficult period. I hope 2021 will be a better year for all of us.

Unfortunately, our office in Church House is still closed but we are continuing to work on behalf of The Friends. Jayne, our secretary, is working from home, Council meetings are e-mail based and the officers are meeting regularly via WhatsApp.

The Minster is now open for sightseeing and worship but tickets must be booked in advance because of the restricted numbers allowed in the building. Check the Minster website for details. The Minster's revenue for this year is well down and many difficult decisions have had to be taken by Chapter. Sadly, the Minster School was closed at the end of the summer term and choristers will now be educated at St Peter's School. Also, the number of Minster staff has been reduced. The Friends support in funding Minster projects will be vital in the coming months and years.

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their subscription and to members who have made donations to the Friends. We do appreciate your support.

We know from your feedback that you appreciated receiving the excellent 2020 Annual Report and felt that it kept you in touch with us. Editor, Trevor Julian, has already started planning next year's report which will be very different as there will be no AGM, outings or holidays to report on. If you have any ideas for the 2021 Annual Report do let us know.

We decided to print a Christmas card for 2020 and hope that many of you will order them to send to friends you may not have seen for many months. There are no diaries this year. Unfortunately, as the office is still closed and there will be no coffee mornings, you will not be able to personally collect your cards. All Christmas cards will have to be posted out. We do hope that you will order cards and help raise money for the charity.

Thank you to everyone who responded to our request for your e-mail addresses and change of contact details. If you haven't already replied, please do, as our data is still not complete.

Look after yourselves,

Meg Shorland-Ball