

# Friends of Bolton Priory

PRIORY CHURCH OF ST MARY AND ST CUTHBERT  
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## THE FRIENDS OF BOLTON PRIORY

It seems timely to open this 91<sup>st</sup> issue of the Friends Newsletter by focusing on the inception of "The Friends"; what are our objectives and how do we endeavour to achieve those aims.

The Friends of Bolton Priory was founded some twenty-nine years ago, the Constitution being signed on 9 March 1989 by Prof Geoff Roberts and Edmund Butler. Tom Last drafted the Constitution and since then our objectives have remained unchanged:

1. To advance the Christian religion by the support of Bolton Priory as a focal centre for common public worship for the extension of the Church of God, both at home and overseas.
2. To support the Parochial Church Council in preserving, maintaining and repairing the fabric of Bolton Priory, its fittings, furniture, ornaments and also its services and music".

We achieve the aim of supporting the ministry of the Priory Church by raising funds through members subscriptions, donations, legacies and social events.



Friends funds are used only for the benefit of the Priory Church. The PCC makes occasional calls on us for help with necessary items of expenditure outside the scope of normal church

finance and after due consideration by the Executive Committee we are usually able to respond positively. Recent examples of our funding are the provision of replacement pew bibles, new orders of service for Sung Eucharist and a donation of £3,000 towards the cost of the recent new lighting scheme in church.



Regular social events include a Spring Lecture on subjects both religious and secular, summer visits to places of historical or cultural interest plus the Annual General Meeting followed by lunch.

As a previous Chairman, Andrew Hartley said "We have fun raising funds for the Priory Church."

### The Friends Prayer

God of all grace and glory  
As Friends of Bolton Priory  
We praise your name for the continuing witness  
Of our beautiful and ancient church  
We thank you for the patience and skill for those  
who were inspired to build it  
And for those who, down the ages, have  
restored it.  
May the recollection of their work  
Kindle in our hearts  
A warm sense of gratitude  
And a strong resolve to pass on to others  
What we ourselves have so richly enjoyed.  
For the honour of our Lord and Saviour  
Jesus Christ.

Amen

## Theatre Visit to Ilkley Playhouse

Slightly earlier in the year than usual, our theatre visit to Ilkley Playhouse in November 2017 was to see a production of *Murder, Margaret and Me* by Philip Meeks.

A gentle mystery about detective work, clues and deeply hidden secrets, the play dealt with a fictionalised meeting between two real, famous women Agatha Christie and Margaret Rutherford. The pair were joined by a mysterious character called The Spinster, whose role extended to inquisitor, conscience and confidante. Although brilliantly acted, the performance received a mixed reception.

Thirty-three Friends met prior to the performance for pre-dinner drinks and what was described as a "hot supper". This was a most delicious repast followed by some magnificent puddings – many of us heading back for seconds.



Our theatre visits always prove to be a popular event in the calendar and the evening proved to be yet another enjoyable opportunity to socialise with friends.

Our grateful thanks to Barry and Margaret Cody for having organised such a delightful evening.

## ADVENT SUPPER 2017

As usual the Advent Supper followed the 4.30pm service of Readings & Carols. Attended by fifty-four Friends, the gathering had been a happy event with the table looking most attractive. The warmth of fellowship about the room overcame the chill outside.

Jill Riley and Amanda Wood were thanked for the excellent cuisine.

## THEO PEDLEY

Those of us who attend the Sunday 10.30am Eucharist Service will be sure to recognise Theo Pedley, the most recent member of the Bolton Priory Church music department under the directorship of Tim Raymond.



*Theo Pedley*

Formerly a student at Prince Henry's Grammar School in Otley, Theo is now a student at St Aiden's and Sir John Fisher Associated Sixth Form in Harrogate where he is studying Music, Maths, Chemistry and Biology at A level. In September, Theo will progress to Oxford University to study music.

Theo recalls that he first came to Bolton Priory last year as a member of St Aiden's Chamber Choir. Since joining the Priory Church, Theo's role each Sunday includes playing the organ and leading the singing of the choir. He also contributed to the music at the Christmas services.

A talented musician, as well as singing and playing the organ, Theo is a gifted violinist, pianist and percussionist.

Last March, Theo won the title of Young Musician of the Festival 2017 at the Harrogate Competitive Festival of Music, Speech and Drama. He impressed all present at the final event of the Festival by playing "Independence Day 85" by Brian Stone and "Meet Darth Ear" by Jason Bowld, on his drum kit, being only the second drummer to be awarded this accolade in the Festival's history.

Recreationally, Theo says that his interests include gymnastics and badminton.

Theo is clearly a dedicated and talented musician with a promising career ahead. We wish him well for the future.

## **SPRING LECTURE 2018**

**Friday 16 March 2018 @ 7.30pm**

This year our speaker will be David Pearson JP, DL, Deputy Lieutenant of West Yorkshire. His presentation will focus on the West Yorkshire Lieutenancy: its role and responsibilities. David is an active public speaker and the evening promises to be informative and entertaining.

Born in Keighley in 1955, David was educated at St. Anne's Primary and St. Bede's Grammar schools before entering Yorkshire Bank in 1973. After qualifying he held several managerial appointments in Training and Career Development before establishing in 1996 his own company specialising in Banking and Financial Training which he ran with his wife before retiring in 2015.

Besides taking him all over the World, this allowed David time to give to voluntary and public service work which continues to dominate his life. He is a Chairman on the Bradford Bench where he has served since 1997, has been a mentor with the Prince's Trust and sat on and worked for numerous charitable bodies.

**As usual the Spring Lecture will take place at Bolton Abbey Village Hall**

**Please arrive at 7pm for a 7.30pm start**

Before the start of the lecture you will be invited to join us for a glass of wine or soft drink.

Our Spring Lectures are always popular so please be sure to purchase your ticket early.

**Tickets are available at £5.00 per person**  
Please see Events Sheet attached

***Our Grateful thanks to Keith Simpson for arranging the distribution of the newsletters, Emma Padgett at Hartleys Auctioneers for maintaining the Friends' website and to Margaret Cody for co-ordinating the ticket sales for FoBP events.***



*David Pearson JP, DL*

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

Our AGM will be held in Bolton Abbey Village Hall on Sunday 13 May immediately following the 10.30am Eucharist Service.

As usual the meeting will be followed by a cold buffet with hot potatoes and a choice of desserts.

The AGM is not only an important event in the Friends' calendar but is also a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal in the company of friends.

All members are entitled to attend the AGM whether or not they are able to join us for lunch afterwards.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

**Tickets for lunch are excellent value at £15.00 per person.**

**Please complete the Events Form attached.**

# FRIENDS' SUMMER VISIT

## TO SCAMPSTON HALL & GARDENS

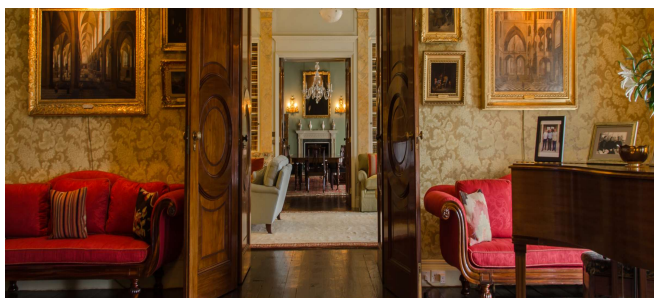
Thursday 7 June



*Scampston Hall*

Scampston Hall, home to Christopher & Miranda Legard and their family, is one of the finest examples of a regency country house stately home in North Yorkshire. Inside the property there are original wallpapers and exquisite furniture that reflects the family's French heritage.

There is also a notable collection of porcelain and 5,000 rare books that are removed from the shelves every ten years to be waxed and dusted.



The award winning Walled Garden will be open to the public at the time of our visit. We will also have the opportunity to see the William Richardson conservatory which was built in 1894, and the adjacent bothies behind the range of glasshouses. Weather permitting, the Cascade Circuit Walk will enable us to view to the traditional gardens around the house including the Rock Garden, the Woodland Garden and the Lancelot 'Capability' Brown Parkland.

There will also be an afternoon visit to a church in the local area but arrangements for that have not yet been finalised.

This promises to be an excellent day out. The coach will depart from Bolton Abbey car park at 9am, returning at 6.30pm.

A full itinerary and the cost of tickets will be included in the April issue of the Newsletter.

### FRIENDS OF BOLTON PRIORY

#### 2018 Dates For Your Diary

Friday 16 March:

**Spring Lecture by David Pearson JP, DL**

Sunday 13 May:

**Friends' Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 7 June:

**Summer visit to Scampston Hall & Gardens**

Wednesday 12 or Thursday 13

September:

**Hoghton Tower and Browsholme Hall**

Wed 28 or Thur 29 November:

**Christmas Fair visit to Castle Howard**

Sunday 2 December:

**Friends' Supper following the 4.30pm Advent Sunday Service**

*The Executive Committee strives to arrange a variety of events throughout the year in order to increase funds for the benefit of the Priory Church.*

*We value your continued support in attending these events.*

***Please could we put in a plea to all Friends to notify us of any changes of address or circumstances? Thank you***