

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

Easter Newsletter 2018



Message from the Chair, Shirley Buxton

Dear Friends & Companions,

As I write this letter, Lent has just started and we are on the path to Easter.

Sister Pamela continues on her life's journey as she moves from All Hallows, next door to St Julian's Church and the Julian Centre, to Mull. We thank her for all the wonderful support she has given us over many years and send her our love and prayers. She presented a wonderful day of reflection for us last month, using the journey of the labyrinth.

With a school confirmation group requesting a day in the Julian Shrine that includes walking the labyrinth, labyrinths have become a main focus for my reading. Each time I trace the labyrinth path, I find myself on a different journey. The path is always the same. There is only one

way leading to the centre and the return takes the same path. Each person embarking on this path is at a different place in their own journey, carrying different thoughts, different burdens, and different joys. Lent is rather like a labyrinth, an opportunity to make anew the journey with Christ through the days of Lent to Holy Week and Easter.

During this season I am particularly grateful for Julian's Revelations of Divine Love. Her account brings alive Christ's Passion, for in her 'showings' she was transported to the foot of the Cross. Julian was not a distant spectator, but there with Jesus. Reading her words we can be there too. After years of searching for the meaning of her 'showings,' Julian tells us: "And so I was taught that LOVE was our Lord's meaning," words to carry with us to Easter Day.

You will see later in this newsletter that the Julian Festival takes a different form this year with events covering a few days. This is because we wish to join with the Sisters of All Hallows Community as they leave the mother house in Ditchingham to continue their vocation in different places. We hope many of you will

(continued overleaf)



www.juliancentre.org

Reg Charity 289918



Sally-Anne Lomas



Sister Pamela & Shirley Buxton

Message from the Chair, Shirley Buxton

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be able to join us for the AGM, the Julian Lecture by Sally-Anne Lomas and Sister Pamela's talk on Sunday afternoon. Please note that if you intend attending the service at Ditchingham on Saturday 12th May, you need to contact the Sisters at Ditchingham as there is limited seating in the Chapel and they have a large number of people who have been associated and supported them over the years. We hope that the events on Thursday and Friday will attract a greater number of people to discover more about Julian (see programme summary on the back page).

We are still unsure about the future of All Hallows House, but we continue to pray that whoever comes will further God's purpose and be strengthened by the amazing legacy that Julian has given us.

During this year we have welcomed many new Friends of Julian. Many

people have discovered Julian and her writings for the first time. Some, coming to Norwich, have experienced the spiritual and prayerful atmosphere of Julian's Cell, a welcome in the Julian Centre and a chance to share their journeys. With Sister Pamela's departure it is not possible to stay at All Hallows House, but fortunately Norwich is blessed with a wide range of places where people can stay. Please contact the Julian Centre for a list of hotels. Some are so drawn by Julian that they are moving here! We warmly welcome Rev Paul Rider as Priest in Charge of a benefice nearby. He has been a Friend of Julian for some time and is delighted to move here. One of the values of being a Friend of Julian of Norwich is that wherever you live, you can enjoy the powerful message that Julian delivers and share it with others. You can be assured that you are linked and supported in prayer with Friends all over the world.



COMPANIONS

by Father Bruce Batstone

One of the reasons I enjoy speaking with fellow Companions is to hear their joy as their experience of God deepens. God typically rewards the costliness of prayer with joy in the lives of the patient faithful. And as we all know patience and faithfulness can often feel costly!

At the beginning of *The Form of Living* Richard Rolle writes of this same costliness, although bathing it in the negativity one must expect from the hermit of Hampole. He tells the reader that the one “who does not possess Jesus Christ loses everything he owns, and everything he is, and everything he might acquire”. Chilling words.

That anchoress of St Julian’s, the friend in Christ whom we companion, would have been familiar with the *Acreene Wisse*, written about 150 years before Rolle. The writer



describes the anchoress as “a deep anchor for the church in Christ” and this is the vocation of many Companions in their communities: faithful and patient to their prayers, to intercession, and to the accompaniment of others. Deepening in the joy that comes from living the prayer of Julian, “Only in You do I have everything”.

Please pray for the Companions, all 25 on four continents, and especially for the three to be received as Companions of Julian later this year.

Bruce CJN



JULIAN CENTRE REPORT

The wonderful company of volunteers continue to offer a warm welcome to our visitors. Not only are people coming from around the world to visit Julian's Cell and find out more about her writings, but some return to join in Julian events or use the Julian Centre Library.

Among our newest volunteers are a couple of recently retired librarians. In the last month, with expert knowledge, they have started the huge task of continuing the reorganization of the books and cataloguing them. This is not only making the library more user friendly, but also enables a library catalogue to be posted on our website.

Part of the process will be to create more space for publications about Julian and her writing as well as devotional books drawing on her Revelations. We are most grateful to Nicky and Joe for their help and their enthusiasm.

Also the reference section has increased significantly in the last couple of years and needs more space. Our thanks also to Fr. Luke, who has re-catalogued the many articles, booklets and theses that have accumulated over the years. He has

spent many hours in the Julian Centre and at home doing this. It will increase their accessibility, availability and use for a wider audience. Thank you to all who have generously given money for Julian books. There are a lot more that we wish to acquire if you would like to make a donation.

Another of our volunteers saw an opportunity to sell some of our more valuable second hand books through setting up a Julian eBay Shop. This has been most successful and now Stephanie has included new books and other items sold in the Julian Centre. In these first months she has already had a turnover of more than £650 but the real gain has been in Julian reaching such a wide audience. The reports posted by users are extremely positive and complimentary. We send Stephanie our grateful thanks. It has involved a lot of skill, work and dedication on her part.

Following a succession of problems, it was reluctantly decided to discontinue the Julian On-Line Shop and redirect customers to the new Julian eBay Shop. We are still happy to receive orders by phone, letter or e-mail in the Julian Centre. Volunteers are getting used to taking payments by card over the phone from abroad! Hopefully, soon there will once again be a list of some of the books and items currently stocked in the Julian Centre Shop on the Friends of Julian website.

Throughout the year, in addition to the fortnightly group that meets to discuss and contemplate Julian's 'Revelations of Divine Love', a Circle Dance group has met weekly on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30pm in the Julian Centre. This is an uplifting and joyful experience and Liz is always happy to welcome new members and visitors.

The Volunteers working in the Julian Centre were kept busy last year, particularly during the summer period when we had so many pilgrims and visitors wanting to find out more about Julian of Norwich. The shop has had good sales, tea and coffee pots have been well used and there have been many wonderful conversations. Special events have also brought in visitors old and new. It is always a pleasure to welcome groups here. Two of the most memorable have been walking pilgrimages involving children. This year the Julian Festival starts with a Prayer Walk on Thursday 10th May from St Julian's to Norwich Cathedral. Would you like to plan a Pilgrimage to Mother Julian's Cell this year? Here at the Julian Centre, we would love to make this a year of Pilgrimage.

THE HISTORY OF ST JULIAN'S CHURCH

The history of St Julian's church spans a thousand years, and its untold stories are explored in a new book by Sheila Upjohn and Nicholas Groves.

There's the 50-year incumbency of father and son rectors who spent so little on the church that the chancel collapsed. And the rector who spent so much that he decamped, leaving unpaid bills. It tells the hidden history of items in the church, some commissioned, some salvaged from rubble, even one retrieved via eBay.

Maps and pictures show how church and parish have changed over the years. And it traces the ways by which Julian's writing, kept hidden for centuries, has emerged to become one of the most influential spiritual books of the twenty-first century.

ST JULIAN'S CHURCH is being published by The Friends of Julian of Norwich in May.





THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

Report May 2017 – May 2018

1. The Objects of the Friends of Julian of Norwich

The Charity's objects are to advance the education of the public in the Shrine of the Lady Julian of Norwich and to advance religion by promoting and furthering the work of the Shrine of the Lady Julian of Norwich.

2. Membership, March 2018 (Total 664)

Argentina	1	Germany	2	Phillipines	1
Australia	32	Hong Kong	1	Poland	1
Brazil	1	Indonesia	1	Portugal	1
Canada	16	Ireland	7	Rep China	1
Czech Republic	1	Japan	2	South Africa	2
Denmark	4	Mexico	1	Sweden	2
Finland	1	Netherlands	1	UK	484
France	3	New Zealand	7	US	89
Greece	1	Norway	1		

3. Trustees & Executive Committee

Rev Christopher Wood – Parish Priest in charge of St Julian's Church

Rev Bruce Batstone CJN

Rev Nina Johnson CJN

Sister Pamela CAH

Shirley Buxton (Chair)

Rev Canon Peter Doll

Felicity Maton (co-opted)

Howard Green (Secretary)

Peter Colback

In accordance with our constitution two members of the Board of Trustees retire each year, but can be willing to stand again for election. Anyone wishing to stand for election as a Trustee, please notify the Secretary by 21 April.

The Julian Centre, St Julian's Alley, Rouen Road, Norwich, NR1 1QT

Tel: 01603 767380 Email: admin@juliancentre.org

www.juliancentre.org ebay.co.uk/usr/friendsofjulianofnorwich Reg Charity 289918

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

SATURDAY 13 MAY 2017

St Julian's Church

Present: 23 Members.

1. Greeting and Apologies

Revd. Nina Johnson, Chair of the Trustees, opened the AGM with a prayer and thanked everyone for coming.

Apologies were received from Sarah Bean, Fr Geoffrey Bottoms, Maurice deSilva, Rev Peter Doll, Ali Dunne, Ron Ingamels, Dr Jennifer Salisbury, Liz Thomas, Professor Brian Thorn, Sheila Upjohn and Alan Watson.

2. Minutes

2.1 Minutes of last AGM (07.05.16)

Gill Butterworth proposed and Fred Thompson seconded that the Minutes be approved. This was unanimously supported.

2.2 Minutes of the EGM (04.02.17)

Angela Reynolds proposed and Shirley Buxton seconded that the Minutes be approved. This was unanimously supported. The view was expressed that this was a positive meeting.

3. Matters Arising The following are planned for the coming year:

- Quiet Day in Bournemouth in June
- Quiet Day in Norwich
- Family activities and short workshops during Open Churches week in August
- The Julian Meeting based in St Julian's Church is offering a quiet day inviting other Julian Meetings around the country

4. To Receive and Consider the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2016:

Claire Woodmansee, our new Treasurer, introduced herself, her background in banking and book-keeping, and supporting a number of Christian Norwich-based charities alongside the Friends of Julian.

Finance is key to everything we do within the Friends. Work as part of a team.

Warm invitation to contact treasurer@juliancentre.org with any questions.

Claire made a priority of looking closely at reducing our running expenses, e.g. British Telecom off standard tariff, and paperless bills. Energy the same. We are moving to using a bespoke Financial Accounting package to replace the current spreadsheet system.

We need to have a small reserve. 2018 will be a more difficult year. We therefore need to be good shepherds of the resources we have.

Questions were invited within or after the meeting.

The accounts were unanimously approved by the meeting.

5. The Auditor

The proposal to re-appoint the Finance Department at All Hallows Healthcare Trust to externally examine our accounts was unanimously approved.

6. The Julian Fund

The meeting noted that the Trustees have not yet put in a proposal to the Julian Fund. However, it was reported that they did meet the Custodian Trustees of the Fund, and decided unanimously that they wanted a period of not being an employer before putting in another bid to the fund for a sustainable future.

7. Election of Trustees:

Bruce Batstone, CJN, and Shirley Buxton both offered themselves for re-election after their three-year term of office had lapsed. They were unanimously re-elected by the meeting. This position of the Trustees is now as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>SENIORITY IN YRS</u>
Rev Christopher Wood	Priest in Charge of St Julian's Church	Ex Officio
Sister Pamela	Community of All Hallows	Ex Officio
Rev Bruce Batstone	1. Elected	0
Mrs Shirley Buxton	2 Elected	0
Peter Colback	3 Elected	1
Rev Peter Doll	4 Elected	2
Mr Howard Green	5 Elected	3
Rev Nina Johnson	6 Elected	3
Felicity Maton	Co-opted	Co-opted

MAKE YOUR GIFT WORTH MORE...

If you've supported us now, or in the past, and you're a UK Tax Payer, you can increase the value of your donations by 25% – just complete this form and return to: The Friends of Julian, The Julian Centre, St Julian's Alley, Rouen Road, Norwich, NR1 1QT

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Title	Name	Surname
Mailing Address		
Town/City		Country
Postcode	Email	

GIFT AID DECLARATION – for past, present and future donations

I would like *The Friends of Julian of Norwich* (Reg Charity No 289918) to treat all donations I have made since 1 January 2012, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify otherwise in writing, as Gift Aid Donations. By signing I certify that I am a UK Tax Payer paying at least the amount that will be reclaimed from my donation in the appropriate tax year.

Signed	Date
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8. To Receive and Consider the Trustees' Report:

The Report was sent out within the Easter Newsletter.

Julian Centre takings continue to rise. We have to be very grateful to the Dr. Janina Ramirez BBC documentary on Julian which has been screened a number of times for the increase in the footfall of visitors to the Centre, and the liveliness of Julian-themed social media.

It has been all the more important, therefore, to provide a really sensitive welcome to visitors including real coffee, tea, and biscuits being offered to everyone. Daily 'Prayer at the Centre' has been a particularly welcome development.

Bruce Batstone, CJN, proposed that the Trustees' Report be approved by the meeting. Angela Reynolds seconded. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

9. Companions

It was reported that we have two new Companions since last year, and interest from others.

10. Other Business

10.1 Thanks to volunteers

Gill Butterworth, CJN, expressed the view that it is heartening to learn how well the Friends are now being run by volunteers, and she proffered a vote of thanks for all the volunteers - both in the Julian Centre and the Trustees. This was endorsed warmly by the meeting.

10.2 Car parking on the day of the Julian Festival

It was suggested that we ask the Norwich Council whether we could have a one-day dispensation to change car parking. It was felt however that, because unfortunately the service is outsourced to a private organization

outside Norwich, the request was so unlikely to work that we would not put effort into trying.

10.3 Australia

Felicity Maton reported that it is wonderful to see what's happening in Australia and how Chris Styles and Sheila Upjohn both sources of interest, information, enabling events on Julian.

10.4 Facebook

Howard passed on a recent message from our Facebook (custodian, Joss Meli) that her latest post had attracted 286 likes and, alongside a lively Twitter presence, indicates lively interest in Julian beyond the Friends.

10.5 'One-person Julian Centres'

As we thought further about Julian away from Norwich, we considered the idea that we are all one-person Julian Centres in our own circumstances.

10.6 Concluding thanks

Nina Johnson, CJN, thanked the Trustees on behalf of the Friends for all their time and input and the Friends on behalf of the Trustees for all their support and prayer. There are exciting times ahead for the Friends.

10.7 Chair

Nina informed the meeting that she will be stepping down as Chair of the Trustees because of a new post at work.

Bruce speaking on behalf of all the Trustees spoke about how well Nina has led us through an important time of change in the last two years, and how generously she had done so because it was costly at times. Bruce reiterated the theme of taking Julian to where we are in our home patch. The meeting gave Nina a small gift of thanks for her leadership, inspiration, and prayer.

The meeting closed with prayer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jenni Hancock

I am delighted to report that the Friends of Julian of Norwich continues to be financially self-sustaining, with 2017 showing a healthy surplus (figures below).

Surplus of income from sales was greater than the costs associated with running the Julian Centre, and voluntary income from Friends, Companions and other contributors increased, without the need to increase subscription rates.

We continue to welcome visitors to the Julian Centre where a range of books, postcards and other items are available to purchase from our shop. We recently sought to widen our virtual audience by moving our online shop to eBay. This is proving to be very successful, both financially and increased our profile.

The Trustees were pleased to make a contribution to the upkeep of the Shrine of St Julian towards the end of last year, in line with one of our charitable objectives. With income continuing to exceed expenditure, they are able to give consideration to other ways to use some of our reserves to increase the profile of Julian.

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN INCOME & EXPENDITURE

INCOME	2017	2016
Friends subscriptions, donations, Companions' gifts	£13,030.34	£9,018.29
Donations for work of Learning Project Officer	£0.00	£884.73
Diocesan Grant for Work of Learning Project Officer	£0.00	£8,000.00
Book Royalties	*£0.00	£581.74
Conference, Courses & Festival	£830.49	£60.05
Bank Interest	£2.79	£12.00
Sales	£29,210.97	£28,663.00
Bookstall	£1,515.56	£2,278.37
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£44,590.15	£49,498.18
EXPENDITURE		
Staff Wages and Redundancy Payments	£0.00	£20,792.11
Purchase of Stock	£15,104.17	£12,429.00
Credit Card, ebay & Paypal charges	£839.91	£587.00
Other expenses (eg promotion, postage)	£798.02	**£0.00
Charitable activities (eg newsletter, festival)	£2,727.38	***£0.00
Running Expenses (eg utilities, website, Centre, maintenance)	£10,067.73	£9,270.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£29,537.21	£43,078.11
SURPLUS for the year	£15,052.94	£6,420.07

* included in donations in 2017 **included in running expenses in 2016 *** included in running expenses in 2016

OCTOBER WEEKEND RETREAT

Following the extremely well-received weekend retreat in October 2017 led by Father Brendan Pelphrey, who not only brought fascinating Greek Orthodox perspectives to Julian's writing, but also opened up for us links between Julian and Norfolk's 7th century Saint Furse, the Trustees have decided to have a weekend conference every October.

Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe of Lynn: Solitude and Pilgrimage - Differing paths in the Christian Journey

We're very pleased indeed that the weekend on 12th and 13th October will be led by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephen Platten, known to many of us as the Dean of Norwich from 1995 - 2003. After that he was the last diocesan Bishop of Wakefield, and now is Chaplain to St Martin-within-Ludgate in London. Stephen will focus on Julian and Norfolk's Margery Kempe whose dates are almost coterminous. He will contrast solitude, pilgrimage and differing rhythms in the Christian life.

Stephen has recently edited a book, *Oneness*, which considers the role monastic life plays within the life of the contemporary church, exploring how 'the theology of mystery and the Great Tradition can still be the foundation of the Christian life'.

Fr. Brendan's address, *Cosmic Fire*, is available as a booklet for £2.50 and Bishop Stephen's book *Oneness* for £19.99 from the Julian Centre.



The Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephen Platten

HELP US SAVE VALUABLE FUNDS!

If you've received this newsletter by post but you would be happy to have an email copy in future please send us your email address:
admin@juliancentre.org

The more people that we can contact by email the more funds we can save.

Thank you.



THE JULIAN WEEKEND

MAY 2018. PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Full details are available in the Julian Weekend leaflet, enclosed with printed copies of this newsletter and also on our website: www.juliancentre.org

THURSDAY 10 MAY, ASCENSION DAY

From 11am Joining Norwich East Deanery at St Julian's Church for:
1pm Prayer Pilgrimage led by Bishop Alan, the Bishop of Thetford,
to Norwich Cathedral

From 2pm Meditation followed by Tea
5.30pm Choral Evensong

FRIDAY 11 MAY

From 10.30am Celebrating the Julian Meetings network with quiet
contemplation and talks

12.45pm Book Launch: *St Julian's Church* by Sheila Upjohn
and Nicholas Groves

5pm Mass at St Julian's Church
7.30pm Screening of Julian documentaries

SATURDAY 12 MAY: JULIAN FESTIVAL DAY 1, DITCHINGHAM, SUFFOLK

From 11am Celebrating the Life of the Community of All Hallows

SUNDAY 13 MAY: JULIAN FESTIVAL DAY 2, CENTRAL NORWICH

From 9am St Julian's Church and Centre open

12.45pm AGM of the Friends of Julian of Norwich (see below)

1.45pm Annual Lecture: Sally-Anne Lomas

3.30pm Address and Goodbye to Sr. Pamela CAH

4pm Reflective Evening Prayer

AGENDA: AGM of the Friends of Julian, Sunday 13 May 2018, 12.45pm

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising
4. To receive and consider the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017, together with the Trustees' Annual Report
5. To elect members of the Board of Trustees
6. AOB.

Notification of any further topics to the Secretary by 29 April, please.

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

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www.juliancentre.org **ebay.co.uk/usr/friendsofjulianofnorwich**

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