



Friends of Launde

Charity No: 519042

Summer Newsletter 2024



Brian's Thank You as Chair

Our Friends of Launde trustees' meeting in April culminated with tea and cake with Launde staff and members of the clergy team. Brian was presented with a rose bush in acknowledgement of all he had done in support of Launde.



On the Saturday we then celebrated once again at Madeleine & Michael's with a thank you luncheon for Brian. What a joyous occasion this was.



Thank you to everyone who donated on the day or by online giving. In total we received donations including Gift Aid of £1053.75 and our expenses including Brian's gift were £378.59 with the balance of course going towards future grants to Launde Abbey.

How appropriate it is that Brian's gift from Friends of Launde is a chair where he can relax in his garden.

With all our thanks to you Brian.

Alison Collis



Bart Hellyer RIP

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of our former Friends' trustee Bart Hellyer. Bart had been a wheelchair user since an accident in his teens but put his disability aside to have a full life. He was a solicitor, had been High Sheriff of Rutland and a Deputy Lieutenant. He and Mary Rose de Lisle were instigators in raising funds for the lift down to the chapel at Launde Abbey.

A very kind man, and a 'character' who loved his steeplechase horse racing. In life he achieved so much and will be much missed.



Membership Secretary: j.zientek12@btinternet.com

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Introducing Beverley Lott: One of our Trustees

I first came to Launde on parish weekends with members of churches in Barrow on Soar and Walton le Wolds. Life with a young family and a full time teaching job was busy and the chance to come away to Launde and be guided through times of discussion, prayer, silence and conviviality was a tonic. Our stays predated the refurbishment of Launde and I can remember ice on the inside of windows, meals in the Oak Room and a cellar full of “Wardens’ Wares”. Walks beyond Launde were always in our programme and I recall that there was a pub on the Oakham Road towards Tilton to which we escaped on Saturday evenings.

My job as a teacher of French in Loughborough was demanding and fulfilling. I have always loved the way knowing other languages provides a gateway into other ways of living and thinking because the words we use belong to a culture and a history. That includes worship and I have attended services with Lutheran friends in Germany and Roman Catholic friends in France. There is more than one way of doing things and our faith and our seeking should, in my view, lead us to open new doors and discover new vistas.

After joining the Friends of Launde I got involved on retirement in working with a team who stuffed envelopes periodically with the latest edition of Launde Leaves and other communications to Friends. That led to being part of the team that produced Launde Leaves for a number of years. In 2016 I started working as a volunteer at Launde and you may have met me on Reception when checking in for a retreat or visiting the shop. It is marvellous to be part of the loyal and dedicated team who keep Launde going and make it a place of welcome. There are also the days when the internet goes down, or there are no taxis available to take a guest to Oakham Station, or a guest who must have a shower is booked into a room with a bath. Experiencing the “other side of the front desk” and learning all the practical as well as spiritual things that make Launde tick has been an eye-opener.

Beverley

SAVE THE DATE!

Friends Retreat

with Reverend Dr Rhona Knight

Wed 6th - Thu 7th November

More details to follow shortly

All donations are gratefully received:

The Friends of Launde

Sort code: 40 28 06 Account: 21302132



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Madeleine Wang: Chair of our Executive Committee



Madeleine has succeeded Brian as Chair and lives in Tugby which is just under four miles from Launde. Having recently completed two 3-year terms as a Trustee for Launde Abbey, Madeleine has during this time gained considerable knowledge of the Abbey which she will bring to bear in her new role.

Having held trustee roles for many charities over three decades, Madeleine brings a wealth of experience in business ethics, corporate governance and risk management to support and serve the work of the Friends going forward.

Shopping Online?

We're now registered with 'easyfundraising' which means you can help us and therefore the Abbey .

Over 7000 brands which include John Lewis, Argos, Boots, Amazon and Sainsbury's or Tesco Groceries among so many others will donate to us when you use 'easyfundraising' to shop with them. It's easy and completely free. These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-launde>

Social Event for the Friends and Companions of Launde Abbey

CREAM TEA AT LAUNDE ABBEY Sunday 25th August 2024

The Committee of Friends are hosting this event

Tickets £10 per person which includes a donation to Launde Abbey. Arrive from 3pm onwards to meet Friends and walk around the grounds. Cream Tea served from 4pm until 5.30pm.

Please notify Patrick Rendall that you wish to attend by Friday 9th August: patrickandfrances@btinternet.com or 016644 24240 (leave a message if necessary).

Pay Patrick on arrival by cash or cheque made out to The Friends of Launde.

50cc to Assisi *praying to God in the beautiful places*

Revd Chris Webb is taking a slow, quixotic pilgrimage to Assisi and back on an old 50cc moped named Rocinante.

Chris left Tugby on 24th June and so do please travel along with him online at www.50ccPilgrim.uk Fascinating reading as he describes each day so well with both his ups and his downs.

Ride well your dream Chris!