

Great Yarmouth Minster Preservation Trust

Chairman's Report 2012/2013

No new trustees were appointed during the year. Susan Boone resigned on 7th January 2013.

Our president, Michael Falcon, died during the year. He had given valuable service to the Minster and the Trust over the last 18 years. He was a founder member of the Trust. His support and energy will be greatly missed.

The Trust has continued to hold regular bi-monthly meetings. Pressure has been applied to the Member of Parliament for Great Yarmouth to reverse the Treasury's edict that VAT on organ restoration is no longer re-claimable. Work has been carried out to change the wording of the constitution to make it clear that the Trust is a secular body and stands outside the workings of the Minster.

Restoration work to the four pinnacles on the tower was completed. The Trust donated £20,000 towards this project. The trust also paid £8,220 for the restoration of the choir engine. Ten display boards were purchased by the Trust. The Trust became an associate member of the Gt. Yarmouth Tourist Authority (£30).

Major donations have been received from Great Yarmouth Rotary Club (£2,516), in memory of Michael Falcon (£1,567), June Fuller (£500), Rose Croix East Anglian Triennial Service (£984) and Paul Davies' Birthday gifts (£1,300).

The Trust has had an active fund-raising year. Brahams in Market Row and Digital Photography in Gorleston have been helping to sell tickets. However, it remains difficult to sell tickets for events and I would urge all trustees to help in this and also to support the events.

For the first time the Trust has organised, in conjunction with the Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society, two exhibitions (60th anniversary of the East Coast Floods and a Herring Fishery display), both of which were well received, raised funds and increased footfall in the Minster.

The following events were organised:

Dixiemix Jazz Band

Gorleston Community Choir Concert

Great Yarmouth Brass

Yarmouth Yarns with fish and chips (Ernie Childs)

Blessing of the Nets with a herring supper

Christmas Tree and Crib Festival

Madrigals in the Minster

Herring Exhibition in association with Heritage Open Days

Teddy bear zip wire

Afternoon tea with music by John Farmer and Hannah Long

Beer Tasting at the Apollo PH

An Exhibition to commemorate the 1953 Floods (60th anniversary)

Morley Consort

Hosted an afternoon tea, a tour of the Minster and choral evensong for Rose Croix

A licensed bar has been run at many minster secular events

The Trust has received good publicity with the help of the Yarmouth Mercury, Radio Norfolk, the Norwich Diocesan Magazine, Norfolk Magazine and the Advertiser. It also has a website (www.sncpt.co.uk) and a Facebook page (Great Yarmouth Minster Preservation Trust). The web-site continues and is updated regularly.

The chairman has performed numerous church and graveyard tours for various groups with the fees being donated to the Trust (£175). Colin Smith has also donated his many lecture fees to the Trust (£290) as has Hugh Sturzaker (£50). Two remembrance bird boxes in the cemetery have been sponsored (£30).

The web-site: www.easyfundraising.org.uk has produced some finance. This site gives a percentage of the cost of purchases made through the

site. Most of the major firms (eg John Lewis, ebay, Amazon etc) contribute. It is a painless way of raising finance.

The Trust acknowledges the excellent secretarial support of Robin Hodds and Karline and their colleagues and the work of Michael Muskett (treasurer) and his colleagues at BDO.

The chairman thanks the members and trustees for their support over the year.

Paul Davies – November 2013

Nov 2012/ Nov 2013	Profit	Audience
Haven Rotary Carols	£173	
Xmas Tree Festival 50%	£883	
Floods Exhibition : free	£505	c1,000
Herring Exhibition : free	£137	c400
Zip Wire Teddies £1	£52	c50
Beer tasting £20	£250	c20
Tea Long/Farmer £7.50	£747	c100
Dixiemix Jazz £10	£1,235	119
Ernie Childs Yarns £10	£1,250	147
Cantus Orientissimus £5	£490	78
GY Brass £7.50	£335	66
Gorl Comunity Choir £5	£757	140
Morley Consort	£145	c50
Blessing of the Nets £6	c£1,000	94