

Abbey Newsletter

It's been a while since our last newsletter and we wanted share with you all the things going on here at the Abbey. Below you will find an update on what's happening, dates for your diary and a few requests for help.

Summer Fair

The Abbey Summer fair is now just under 4 weeks away, Saturday 26th July. We need volunteers to staff the Abbey café and tombola stand, if you are able and willing to help please drop me an email, slots are usually 2hrs between 10-4pm.

We would also like to ask if you are able to help with donating items for the tombola or cakes for the cafe. We are very thankful for all the donations we receive every time we hold an Abbey Fair and we usually completely sell out both at the café and the tombola stall. All your donations go towards raising money for our wonderful Abbey. You can drop any donations into the Abbey at the welcome desk anytime.

Hilary would very much appreciate any second-hand books you or friends might like to donate for her book stall, these can also be dropped in and left at the shop anytime.

Up Coming Events

Summer fund-raising concerts and events at the Abbey

Many of you will have seen the posters around town and the Abbey for our 'Summer Season of Concerts' for July, August and September and other events. Do please support these and book in advance if you can, a great evening of high-quality entertainment and vital fund-raising for our Abbey. See below for full details.

Medieval Knight at the Abbey

Join us tomorrow 2nd July 5pm till 8pm for a 'Medieval Knight at the Abbey!' As part of the Living History event organised by Wymondham High Academy, we're holding a family Medieval event open to all. History will be coming alive at Wymondham Abbey. Experience family friendly demonstrations of music, falconry, jestering, sword fighting and storytelling. Have a go at jousting (children only!) and medieval dressing up. There'll also be food and drink. Don't miss out on the fun! Adults £5, Under 18s £1 - advance tickets available from the Abbey shop or on line - go to

<https://www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk/2025/05/20/medievalknight/> for info about how to get tickets. Tickets also available on the door.

The King's Men – Thursday 24th July, 7pm

The King's Men is the close-harmony group formed from the Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge. As Choral Scholars, they follow the daily routine of Chapel services throughout term, as well as undertaking a busy concert and recording schedule in the vacations.

The King's Men, however, functions separately from the main Choir, and is run by the current members of the group. It performs regularly around Britain, and has performed as far afield as North America, Australia and China.

Whether you're a close-harmony expert, or a general music enthusiast, The King's Men provides a wealth of music for all tastes!

Eleanor Grant and Gus McQuade – Thursday 7th August, 7pm

A multi-talented duo on a mission to break down musical barriers and holders of the Musicians' Company's prestigious New Elizabethan Award.

Eleanor Grant and Gus McQuade have been captivating audiences with their unique combination of voice, guitar and double bass since their stunning debut recital at London's Wigmore Hall in 2023.

From Dowland to Dankworth, Britten to Joni Mitchell and many lesser-known composers, Eleanor and Gus will draw you into their musical world with a sublime combination of words, melodies, rhythms and harmonies.

Wayne Marshall OBE – Saturday 6th September, 7pm

British conductor, organist and pianist, Wayne Marshall, is world-renowned for his musicianship and versatility on the podium and keyboard.

He is a celebrated interpreter of the music of George Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein as well as other 20th-Century American Composers.

As an organ recitalist, he has an exceptionally varied repertoire and performs across the globe and is proud to be an Ambassador of the London Music Fund, a Charity whose mission it is to support the children of underprivileged communities to have access to high-quality music education.



Get your tickets early!

Full details and booking at wymondhamabbey.org.uk/events

Follow the QR code or search under Events & Activities on the website. These concerts will be popular so get your tickets early and help our fund-raising with wonderful summer music at the Abbey.

Other news....**Soulspace**

A radical new service at Wyndham Abbey for young people (17-35). Warm your hearts and spark your minds in an atmospheric blend of candlelight, incense, and soul music. Drinks and cake will be served afterwards. Starts at 7pm on July 20th and August 17th.

Office Postbox

We have installed a new Abbey office post-box by the welcome desk. Please feel free to use this for any correspondence the needs to go to Fr Andrew, the wardens, the treasurer or myself.

Safeguarding

Fr Andrew, Diana and I would like to thank all of those who have helped us in our quest to make sure the Abbey is a shining example to other churches with regards to our safeguarding, we are passionate about doing all we can to make sure the Abbey is a safe place for all those that volunteer and visit. I'm know you will understand how vital it is to nurture and sustain a good safeguarding culture in the Abbey.

Summer Holidays Activities:

Can you come and help with our Summer holiday activities, this is for children aged 3 -11 coming with grandparents, parents or carers on Thursdays 10-12noon 31st July, 7, 14, 21, 28th August and 4th September.

Helpers are needed for any or all of these dates to supervise various activities both inside and outside (weather permitting) the Abbey.

For more details contact Margaret Hartley 01953 857839 -

margarethartley31@btinternet.com

Volunteers Needed

We are always looking for new volunteers and would welcome anyone who thinks they might like to give it a try. Its thanks to our wonderful volunteers that we are able to open the Abbey 7 days a week. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, drop me an email or pick up a volunteer pack at the welcome desk.

Support from you

We are aware that not everyone is able to help in daily life here at the Abbey for many reasons but there are other ways you can help and support. Help comes in many forms not just volunteering, you could donate items or cakes for our fairs, attend and support our many events, assist on cleaning days or simply share the news and events we post on social media.

Situations Vacant - Shop and Welcome rota admin

Could you help administer the Shop and Welcome desk rota online? Don't worry, this is NOT about finding volunteers to cover slots, it's about being able to update an online Microsoft Outlook Calendar based on the current paper rota and WhatsApp conversations where changes are discussed. If you run your own Google or Outlook diary and are on WhatsApp, we would love your help with this really important task to keep both rotas accurate and available to our 55+ volunteers. They will then be able to check from home at any time, their dates and times on the private volunteer area of the Abbey website.

The job can be done from anywhere online by following the WhatsApp chat, posted pics of the paper rota, dropping by at the Abbey and various messages from the team leaders. If you think you can help, please call Chris Grant for a chat on 07791 512 643 or

finance@wymondhamabbey.org.uk - we would love to hear from you.

The Children's Society Garden Party

This will be held on Thursday 17th July, 2.30-4.30pm in Wymondham.

Proceeds will go to the local Children's Society Committee, tickets are available in advance, please email office@wymondhamabbey.org.uk