



THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

Easter Newsletter 2024

A Message from the Chair, Shirley Buxton CJN

Dear Friends & Companions,

After a spectacular year in 2023, celebrating 650 years since Julian received her 'Shewings', 2024 marks another anniversary year, 40 years since the Friends of Julian of Norwich was formed.

Many thanks are owed to the late Fr. Michael McLean and the group that started the Friends of Julian. Over the years it has developed into a world-wide organisation. We remember with gratitude all the Friends of Julian, both past and present who have, by their prayers, subscriptions and commitment, enabled Julian and her '*Revelations of Divine Love*' to be so widely known. I encourage any of you reading this newsletter, who do not yet subscribe as a Friend of Julian of Norwich, to do so. Active and paid membership will enable the work of the Friends to flourish and grow in future years.

2024 has started well with 40 Roman Catholic and Anglican Bishops spending an hour in the Julian Shrine as part of the Ecumenical Bishops' Conference, hosted in Norwich in late January. Amongst their number were the Archbishops of Canterbury, York and Westminster. Appreciation has been expressed for the talk that Fr. Richard gave about Julian and the importance of the Julian Shrine as an international place of pilgrimage.

This year's online Julian Lent Course, focusing on Emma Pennington's book *At the Foot of the Cross with Julian of Norwich* has attracted participants from near and far. It is good to see some new faces this year as well as meeting Friends returning for a second, third or even fourth time.



*Garden Festival at St Julian's
(continued overleaf)*

(continued from page 1)

Each session has started with an introductory talk on the text being discussed that week, before breaking out into discussion groups of 4 to 5 people. The session has concluded with a plenary session, reflection and prayer.

We are delighted to welcome back the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Rowan Williams to give this year's Julian Lecture. Watch out for details of a Julian Autumn Retreat planned for September. Please use this Friends' 40th Anniversary to organise a Julian event local to you. There were Julian events enjoyed in many parts of the world last year. These ranged from prayer and study groups to lectures and conferences. It would be good to build on this.

Sadly, this is my last letter as Chair. I have decided it is time to step down as a Trustee of the Friends of Julian of Norwich. In the last twenty years I have learnt so much about Julian and her writings. I look forward to continuing on my faith journey with Julian by my side. It is a privilege and a joy to be involved with the Friends of Julian. I have made so many wonderful friends and I look forward to further involvement as a Friend and Companion. I step back knowing that the Friends of Julian of Norwich is in safe hands. Experienced trustees are being joined by new members to the board who bring new energy and skills. I am sure they will continue our purpose by spreading Julian's message.

As we approach Easter, I leave you with Julian's words:

'For his goodness encompasses all his creatures and all his blessed works. He has made us for his love alone, and has restored us by his blessed Passion and keeps us in his blessed love. And he does this through his goodness.'

With my love and prayers,

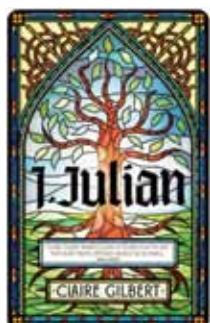
Shirley Buxton, CJN

BELOW LEFT: 'Face of Our Lord' from Son-et-Lumiere, Birmingham Cathedral. RIGHT: Shirley Buxton



JULIAN AND FRIENDS FEATURED IN THE 2024 ILLUMINATION BOOK AWARDS!

The Illumination Book Awards are an annual recognition and celebration of the best in recently published literature with a Christian theme or perspective. As the awards website declares, 'The Illumination Book Awards are designed to "shine a light" on the best . . . new titles written and published with a Christian worldview.' Based in the United States, the Awards panel considers entries from around the world. Read more about the Illumination Awards online here: <https://illuminationawards.com>



We're delighted to hear that Claire Gilbert's novel, *I, Julian*, has been awarded the silver medal in the general fiction category. Published in 2023 by Hodder and Stoughton, *I, Julian* is a wonderfully evocative account of the life and visions of the Lady Julian, whose voice is imaginatively inhabited by the author. We hope that this novel, already widely acclaimed, will now gain even more readers – and that those readers who haven't yet discovered Julian's Shewings and the work of the Friends of Julian will be inspired to do so.

Readers may also be interested to know that Sarah Law's new poetry collection, *This Transfigured Chapel of the Threads* (Resource Publication, 2023) was awarded the bronze medal in this year's single author poetry collection. Sarah writes: 'This collection is inspired by my longstanding devotion to St Thérèse of Lisieux, and in it I attempted to merge the borders of saint and self, faith and doubt, words and silence. I am honoured it has been acknowledged by the Illumination Awards!'



Last year, Sarah edited the anthology *All Shall Be Well: Poems for Julian of Norwich* (Amethyst Press, 2023), a joyful poetic appreciation of Julian by over 50 contemporary poets to celebrate the 650th anniversary of the Shewings.

***I, Julian* and *All Shall Be Well* are both available from the Julian Centre. *All Shall Be Well* can be ordered from the Friends. All three titles can be ordered from good bookshops.**



OVERVIEW OF THE 2023 JULIAN 650 CELEBRATIONS

The 650th anniversary of Julian’s shewings was a year packed full of events to celebrate Julian, her *Revelations of Divine Love*, and her spiritual legacy around the city of Norwich and throughout the world.

The Friends were privileged to hold a series of lectures during the year, delivered by six distinguished academics and authors - Professor Barry Windeatt, Veronica Mary Rolf, Professor Philip Sheldrake, Dr Juliana Dresvina, Mary Sharratt and Dr Sarah Salih. At the Julian Festival lecture in May, Barry Windeatt explored the culture of religious art and imagery from Julian’s time. The lecture has now been published, and by the time you read this, will be available to purchase from the Friends of Julian website shop, and the Julian Centre.

In May, *Julian of Norwich: her life and background*’ at the Norfolk Record Office, was hosted by former archivist Frank Meeres. Those who attended were fortunate to see original documents that mention Julian, and others relating to local churches.

In July, visitors to the Garden Festival at St Julian’s enjoyed the beautiful displays of flowers and words from

the *Revelations of Divine Love*. The commemorative seat in the garden, created by craftsman Martin Cook, was blessed by the Bishop of Norwich, the Right Reverend Graham Usher.

Love is the Meaning, an art exhibition curated by ceramicist Lucy Care, was held across three Norwich churches connected with Julian. Contemporary artists from near and far engaged with Julian’s words and produced a variety of wonderful works of art. One of many visitors commented they found it “engaging, inspiring and thought provoking”.





Acts of worship featured prominently during the year. There were regular services and silent prayer at St Julian's, and a diocesan thanksgiving service at Norwich Cathedral, which included the reading of a special letter from Pope Francis, who emphasised God's message of Love to Julian and its importance to the world today. The anniversary year on New Year's Eve ended with a reflective Morning Worship broadcast from Norwich Cathedral on BBC Radio 4.

There was plenty of media interest in Julian and her writings last year.

Articles appeared in local newspapers and The Church Times. Julian also featured in a special broadcast of Radio 4 *Woman's Hour* on 8th May (her feast day). FOJ trustee Sally-Anne Lomas held a lively discussion with literary historian Hetta Howes and author Claire Gilbert, who read from her fictional autobiography *I Julian*.

One of the objectives of the Friends of Julian of Norwich, is to raise public awareness about Julian's life and writings. I think we can all agree that this objective was achieved.

Lesley Mitchell, FOJ Trustee



Sally-Anne Lomas in the *Woman's Hour* studio



'All Shall be Well', stone carving by Teucer Wilson:

PAGE 4 TOP: Barry Windeatt delivering the 650 Julian Lecture BOTTOM: The string quartet playing in the Julian Garden.

THIS PAGE TOP LEFT: 'Falling into Light' by Julia van Griensven: TOP RIGHT: 'Julian of Norwich-Respiro' by Frances Martin



NEWS FROM FR RICHARD STANTON, PRIEST DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

‘Having in remembrance the precious Death and Passion, the mighty Resurrection and glorious Ascension’ of Jesus Christ, we keep holy the days of Lent as we prepare to celebrate the fullness of the Paschal Mystery in Holy Week, ‘caught up in a mystery of self-giving love’ (said Evelyn Underhill) ‘which yet remains far beyond our span.’ The Lady Julian is a good companion in these days as we contemplate the Cross of Christ and hear his voice: ‘Lo, how I loved thee.’

In his sermon at the High Mass in St Julian’s on the 650th anniversary of the Shewings last year, Fr Peter Doll, Canon Librarian of Norwich Cathedral, explored the significance of Christ’s wounds in Christian spirituality and theology. Not everyone who encounters Julian’s writing finds her intense focus on the wounded body of the Saviour easy to accept or to stomach. Some, perhaps, would prefer an abridged edition of the Revelations

with what they judge an obsessive mediaeval preoccupation with suffering removed and only the passages of consolation, encouragement and reassurance left behind.

Yet if we approach Julian objectively it isn’t easy to see how such a distinction can be made or imposed without impoverishing exactly the message which Julian most wants to communicate. The Passion of Christ, precisely in all its physicality, is the measure of God’s love for his people; by the dimensions of the Cross we measure that love’s breadth and length and height and depth, and that and only that love is our consolation and encouragement.

The Cross is not a defeat which the Resurrection hastily reverses; the Cross and the Resurrection stand together as one mystery which works our redemption and invites our free participation as we uncover its reality in our own lives. The love which Calvary proclaims is not an abstract,

TOP LEFT: The Crucifix and Bell Tower at St Julian’s. TOP RIGHT: Fr Richard at Joint Anglican-Roman Catholic bishops’ meeting at St Julian’s © Mazur cbcew.org.uk

disembodied, theoretical love: it is expressed in concrete terms in the suffering, dead, risen body of Jesus Christ, not merely as an example or illustration of love, but as love's ultimate manifestation.

'Within thy wounds, hide me,' we pray in the Anima Christi, that powerful prayer which emerges in the mediaeval world around the same time as Julian was writing. The wounds which she had desired for herself – of contrition, of compassion, of longing for God –

enabled her to find in the wounded Christ God's answer to our own vulnerabilities, smallness and pain, and to see not only his wounds but our own transfigured with Resurrection glory. May this be your experience as you accompany him along the Way of Sorrows, and proclaim with Thomas when you recognise the wounded Saviour risen from the dead: 'My Lord and my God!'

Faithfully yours in him,

Fr Richard

FORTY BISHOPS AT THE JULIAN SHRINE

At the end of January we were greatly honoured by the visit of 40 Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops to the Julian Shrine. Among the party were Their Graces the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. Fr Richard gave a talk to the bishops about the life and teaching of the Lady Julian and the witness and ministry of her Shrine today. A framed copy of the letter received from Pope Francis last May was displayed at the entrance to the cell. After time to pray in the church, to explore the grounds and to visit the Julian Centre and All Hallows Guesthouse, the bishops then shared a 'fraternal walk' along King Street to Norwich Cathedral. The visit was part of a 24 hour ecumenical gathering which also included worship, presentations and discussions, meals and plenty of opportunities for dialogue and friendship. We were so pleased that their programme was able to include time at St Julian's: it was a day of tremendous blessing and encouragement for us all.



ABOVE: Joint Anglican-Roman Catholic bishops meeting at St Julian's © Mazur cbcew.org.uk



ALL HALLOWS GUEST HOUSE AND THE JULIAN CENTRE

From the resident steward, Josiah English

The rhythm and running of a retreat house - like farming, tending a garden, and for that matter much of life - is rooted in the seasons. As winter approaches and the weather turns colder, visitor numbers dwindle and the guests we welcome begin to come for different reasons. In January at All Hallows we welcomed a wide range of people looking to detox from the busyness of Christmas and start the new year afresh, those wanting to visit the Shrine and the city of Norwich slowly and methodically, with plenty of time for resting and being still. In many ways, it is in the winter that a retreat house is fully embraced. Often the warmer weather and long evenings inspire visitors to go out to the city or countryside, to busy themselves with activities and days out, things which bring their own joys and comforts, but which are often a distraction from the rest of which so many of us live in constant need. But for visitors joining us in the depth of winter, there are

steaming cups of herbal tea, a roaring fire, and a greater sense of quiet both within and without the house.

The renewed Julian Shrine, including All Hallows and the Julian Centre, continue to grow from strength to strength.

As well as all the events and festivals celebrating the 650th anniversary of Julian's revelations, we had an exciting mention of All Hallows in *The Guardian* newspaper last autumn, which recommended us highly for anyone staying in Norwich. We continue to garner rave reviews from the many guests who stay with us, and I am pleased to say that since we opened just over 18 months ago, we have already hosted well over 500 visitors, including a growing number of regular guests who are beginning to form part of a peripheral community around the Julian Shrine.

We continue to make improvements to the site, inside and out, with our latest addition being a much wider (and

TOP LEFT: Josiah in the Julian Centre. TOP RIGHT: The new steps at All Hallows



safer) set of stone steps, leading from the patio outside the Julian Centre and All Hallows down into the Julian Garden, soon to be completed with the installation of a pair of oak gates. This is one step further in our plans to link all parts of the Julian Shrine together, and we look forward to the gates being flung open in clement weather, with greater access between the buildings. The main path, including step-free access between the Julian Centre and

the Church, remains the route along St Julian's Alley.

With an increase in volunteers, the Julian Centre is now able to open three days a week. We hope to expand our opening hours throughout the year, so that this important part of our work can grow and thrive. If you live locally, and would like to join us, please get in touch: josiah.english@julianofnorwich.org

Josiah English

THE JULIAN CENTRE

If you are visiting Norwich, there is an excellent selection of books and gifts available from the Julian Centre, currently open from 10am to 3.30pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.





JULIAN FESTIVAL WEEK PROGRAMME

Wednesday 8th – Friday 10th May 2024

Wednesday 8th May: Feast of Julian of Norwich

10am Mass at St Julian's Church

10.30am-7pm Silent Prayer at St Julian's: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Cell open)

7.30pm Sung Mass at St Julian's Church

Thursday 9th May: Ascension Day

4pm Workshop at the Julian Centre with sculptor Caroline McKenzie

An interactive engagement with Caroline's Holy Mother Wisdom sculpture ** Includes a contemplative liturgy.

Friday 10th May

10.30am Julian Meeting at St Julian's Church.

11am Julian Centre open for coffee & refreshments before the book launch.

12noon-1pm Launch of the paperback edition of *Julian of Norwich & the Problem of Evil* by Richard Norton CJN. Dialogue between Richard and Fr Bruce Batstone, followed by discussion. Copies will be available for purchase. **

5pm Mass at St Julian's Church

7.30pm Performance of 'CELL' at the National Centre for Writing, King Street, Norwich - a play written and performed by Cindy Oswin ** Co-sponsored by the NCW

** Information available at the time of writing. Please refer to Friends' website for more details about these events, and/or to book tickets. Thank you.

IMAGES: LEFT: Julian icon, RIGHT: 'Holy Mother Wisdom' by Caroline Mackenzie

THE JULIAN PARTNERSHIP

From the Secretary, Howard Green

The Friends collaborate actively with the Julian of Norwich Partnership, which is a group of all the organisations with a close interest in the 'Julian Campus', i.e. the Church and Church Garden, the Julian Centre and the All Hallows Guesthouse.

The best news from the Partnership is that of the increasing popularity of the All Hallows guesthouse, and the growth in bookings. We have just increased staffing levels to enable us to honour all those who wish to book. Do look at the amazing reviews on the website: www.allhallowsnorwich.co.uk/rooms

Well, well done to Josiah for the creation of such a special environment there.

Each of us plays a different part: the Diocese of Norwich provides housing for the Priest Director, the Parish sustains the life of the Church and Cell, the Community of All Hallows provides generously for the upgrading and upkeep of the Julian Centre and Guesthouse, and Norwich Cathedral provides management expertise and experience to the whole. We, the Friends, draw in the support of individuals who, by their membership subscriptions and physical presence, assist in furthering Julian's message from Norwich. We thank Angela Robson, the founding Chair of the organisation for four years of hard work and look forward to the Bishop of Norwich appointing a replacement Chair shortly.



FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH IN AUSTRALIA

The Friends of Julian of Norwich in Australia have produced a new look newsletter, The Hazelnut.

They thank Barbara Lumley for her commitment and wonderful work in leading the group for the last four years. A steering group will now share responsibilities.

Do you have recommendations of items to include in their future newsletters? Please contact: ausfriends.julianofnorwich@gmail.com



WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER
The Hazelnut



THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

Report May 2023 – May 2024

1. The Objects of the Friends of Julian of Norwich

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

In furtherance of the above the Friends shall:

- (a) increase public awareness and knowledge of the life and writings of Julian of Norwich;
- (b) increase public awareness of the Julian Cell and encourage visits;
- (c) foster spirituality:
 - (i) engage in regular prayer
 - (ii) provide financial support for the upkeep and maintenance of the Julian Cell or such other religious or secular organisations promoting Julian of Norwich or spirituality in general
 - (iii) provide facilities for pilgrims and other visitors
 - (iv) provide and maintain a reference library of books on Julian and on spirituality in general
 - (v) make available for purchase books on Julian and on spirituality
 - (vi) produce or assist in the production of literature on Julian
 - (vii) publish a newsletter for members
 - (viii) promote scholarship, preaching, study and research on Julian
 - (ix) give or arrange for talks and lectures to be given on Julian
 - (x) assist in maintaining and improving the Julian Cell.



2. Membership, 31 December 2023

At the end of last year there were 2,089 members worldwide. If Friends from any country or region want us to arrange contact with each other, please let our Secretary know: howard.green@julianofnorwich.org

Argentina	1	Greece	1	Phillipines	1
Australia	35	Hong Kong	1	Poland	1
Brazil	1	Ireland	6	Portugal	1
Canada	26	Italy	1	Singapore	1
China	1	Japan	1	South Africa	3
Czech Republic	1	Malaysia	1	Sweden	3
Denmark	1	Mexico	1	Taiwan	1
Finland	1	Netherlands	4	Togo	1
France	6	New Zealand	6	UK	546
Germany	2	Norway	1	US	144
				Unknown (email only)	1,283

3. Trustees & Executive Committee

The trustees of the registered charity and the charity's Executive Committee are one and the same. The trustees that were agreed at the 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) (see minutes in this newsletter) were in place all year and in October 2023 a further trustee, Andrea Cornes, was co-opted, and now seeks election to the Board by the members at the 2024 AGM. After very many years' service, two trustees, namely Shirley Buxton and Felicity Maton, are not seeking election for the coming year. Any Friend of Julian wishing to nominate any trustee to stand for election for the coming year should inform the secretary@julianofnorwich.org by 1st May 2024.

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting



SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

1. APOLOGIES Apologies were received from Ron Ingamells, Angela Robson, Jennifer Salisbury, Chris and Sandy Swift, Andrew Thomson, Anne Welsh, Jackie Whal.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM on Saturday 7th 2022

There were no comments. The minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate record of the AGM. Fred Thompson proposed Richard Norton seconded.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST AGM

There were no matters arising.

4. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS TO YEAR END 31 DECEMBER 2022

Pre-examination accounts present in the Annual Report. Copies of the post-examination accounts are available now. They will be sent to the Charity Commission shortly. There has been expenditure supporting the beginning of the Partnership and in preparation for the Julian650 celebrations. Jenni Hancock, Treasurer, wrote:

“My pre-examination figures and report were published in the Easter newsletter and the full examined accounts will be submitted to the Charity Commission as usual. My thanks to Nicholas Fudge our independent examiner.

“The full accounts include the Friends’ contribution of stock to the Partnership’s shop in The Julian Centre. Although this was mentioned in my report, it did not form part of the income & expenditure published in the newsletter.

“This has increased the deficit in the examined accounts to £15,803. However, this is not a cash expense and is offset by a reduction in the value of stock assets.

“We ended the year with cash assets of £89,895, and total assets & reserves of £101,000 comprised of: £47k General Funds; £54k Designated & Restricted Funds.

“I am delighted to report that the Friends were able to cover all general fund outgoings with voluntary and sales income – a huge thanks to everyone who has supported us with subscriptions, donations, purchases or attending events.

“Our overall financial position is very healthy. The trustees have been able to commit a considered amount to this year’s anniversary projects maintaining sufficient reserves for future expenses.”

Stephanie has been instrumental in maintaining our eBay shop which has been important in keeping income going even though the Julian Centre Shop has been closed during the period of the accounts. Sally-Anne Lomas proposed, and Patricia Menaul seconded that the annual accounts were accepted. The annual accounts were unanimously accepted by the meeting.

5. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2021 TO MAY 2022

This had been circulated prior to the AGM which is included in the Easter Newsletter, copies of which were available to attendees of the AGM.

6. ELECTION OF NEW TRUSTEES TO FRIENDS OF JULIAN

Robert Fruehwirth has stood down as a Trustee and is not offering to stand again. Shirley Buxton has stood down as a Trustee and offered to stand again. A vote of thanks was offered to Shirley for her service to us as our Chair. A vote of thanks was offered to Howard for his service to us as our Secretary.

Professor Catherine Rowett has attended a Trustees' meeting by invitation and has indicated that she would be interested in being a Trustee. It was proposed by Shirley Buxton and seconded by Felicity Maton that we formally invite her to join us.

The next meeting of Trustees will elect new officers.

Sally-Anne proposed, and Fred Thompson seconded Shirley's re-election to the Trustees.

Following this meeting the position of the Trustees is now as follows:

NAME	TYPE	YRS SERVED
1. Revd Richard Stanton	Priest for St John's Timberhill with St Julian's	Ex Officio
2. Unfilled :	A member of the Community of All Hallows	Ex Officio
3. Shirley Buxton	Elected 1 of between 5 and 9	0
4. Howard Green	Elected 2 of between 5 and 9	1
5. Margaret-Mary McFadyen	Elected 3 of between 5 and 9	2
6. Sally-Anne Lomas	Elected 4 of between 5 and 9	2
7. Felicity Maton	Elected 5 of between 5 and 9	2
8. Fred Thompson, CJN	Elected 6 of between 5 and 9	2
9. Lesley Mitchell	Elected 7 of between 5 and 9	3

7. APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Patricia Menaul and Lesley Mitchell seconded that Nicholas Fudge be appointed for the following year. This was unanimously approved by the meeting.

8. AOB

Shirley thanked all the trustees and particularly Father Richard for all the work that has characterised an extremely busy year in and around the Julian Campus. Gill Butterworth, CJN, thanked everyone involved in the Julian650 Programme of Events, particularly Lesley Mitchell for all her work on keeping the website up to date. Shirley spoke about the Julian of Norwich Partnership. The Chair of the Partnership is Angela Robson. In her absence, Sue Snasdell, Trustee, thanked the Friends for their generosity and willingness to make the Partnership work and thanked Richard for his work and good spirit, and Howard Green for his work behind the scenes.

9. NEXT YEAR'S AGM DATE

Saturday 11th May 2024. Agenda is available on page 18.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Jenni Hancock

At first glance, the 2023 finances of the Friends show a significant deficit. However, this does not reflect the full picture, which is much more positive.

The Friends oversaw many of the celebratory events and activities held to mark the 650th anniversary of Julian's 'showings'. A commemorative bench was commissioned, 'Love is the Meaning' art exhibition was staged, and a series of lectures was held along with various events online and across Norwich. The net cost to the charity was £13,400 of which £1,955 had already been designated from a legacy in 2022, and £11,445 was a planned withdrawal from reserves.

We are always greatly appreciative of the support given by Friends and Companions but were particularly encouraged by the response to the Bench Appeal, and the anniversary events.

The Trustees aim to operate within a balanced budget, with general expenses being covered by subscriptions, donations, and sales. If we disregard the anniversary finances, this was achieved with a surplus of £2,700.

We did not make additional contributions to the Julian Partnership, other than the agreed £5,000 from the designated Vision Fund towards the Priest Director.

The charity's free reserves at the end of 2023 were £24,300, approximately 14 month's expenses. The trustees continue to look for innovative ways of meeting the charity's objectives while ensuring that sufficient funds remain to cover essential expenses.

*TOP LEFT: Martin Cook, Lesley Mitchell and Bishop Graham Usher with the hand carved anniversary seat
TOP RIGHT: The Julian Garden festival*

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN INCOME & EXPENDITURE

INCOME	2023 General	2023 Designated	2022 Total
Friends' subscriptions, donations, Companions' gifts	£13,570.95	£4,426.50	£14,216.20
Legacy gift	£0.00	£0.00	£1,954.59
Festival & Events (includes bench appeal)	£1,852.33	£5,004.10	£3,147.06
Bank Interest	£289.88	£804.41	£190.55
Sales	£6,347.57	£0.00	£7,348.17
Purchase of stock by partners	£1,577.90	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£23,638.63	£10,235.01	£26,856.57
EXPENDITURE	2023 General	2023 Designated	2022 Total
Purchase of Stock	£4,533.98	£0.00	£3,358.03
Bank and online partner charges	£1,875.81	£56.76	£1,646.23
Other expenses (eg promotion, postage)	£1,362.26	£0.00	£1,311.29
Charitable activities (eg newsletter, events)	£3,976.63	£22,774.01	£6,637.08
Depreciation of fixed assets (fixtures & pc)	£288.00	£0.00	£288.00
Contribution to Julian of Norwich Partnership	£0.00	£5,000.00	£25,000.00
Running Expenses (utilities, website, admin)	£7,318.02	£0.00	£8,068.20
Purchase of stock for partners	£1,577.90	£0.00	£0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	£20,632.62	£27,830.77	£46,308.83
Transfer between funds	(£11,446.50)	£11,446.50	£0.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) for the year	(£8,740.47)	(£6,149.26)	(£19,452.26)

FRIENDS OF JULIAN AGM AGENDA

AGENDA of AGM of the Friends of Julian of Norwich

Saturday 11th May 2024 at 2.15pm

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of last AGM on 13th May 2023
3. Matters arising
4. To receive and consider the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, together with the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ending May 2024
5. To elect members of the Board of Trustees
6. Appointment of Financial Examiner
7. Any other business

Please notify the Secretary by 7 May 2024 of any items to be discussed or proposals regarding trustee membership: howard.green@julianofnorwich.org

AUTUMN RETREAT: REVELATIONS OF DIVINE LOVE

Led by Gail Adams and Ian Adams



Friday 27 and Saturday 28 September at St Julian's Church and St John the Baptist, Timberhill, Norwich

We're greatly looking forward to welcoming Gail Adams and Ian Adams, chaplains at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, to lead this year's in-person Autumn Retreat.

Gail is a spiritual director and life coach. Ian is a spiritual director, poet and photographer, and writes about the spiritual life.

You can find them on X (formerly Twitter): [@urbelov_ed](https://twitter.com/urbelov_ed) and [@pacebene](https://twitter.com/pacebene)

They have a deep heart for Julian and will bring a creative spirit in reflecting on what she has to say to us. They write: 'Over 650 years after Julian's Shewings, we continue to find ourselves nourished, moved and challenged by Julian's prayerful reflections on her experience. We sense that Julian is a gift for our times, and invite you to join us as we explore excerpts from Revelations of Divine Love. This retreat will offer a spacious mix of teaching, stillness and contemplative prayer, with space and time to enjoy and pray in the Julian cell, church and garden.'

Space will be limited, so keep an eye out for booking details coming soon.

If you'd like overnight accommodation at All Hallows Guesthouse, you can book direct at www.allhallowsnorwich.co.uk

COMPANIONS' REPORT

from Fr Bruce Batstone CJN ObOJN



***'Therefore I pray you all, for God's sake, and tell you for your own good, that you do not let your eye dwell on the humble woman this was shown to, but let your sight go beyond and wisely, humbly and mightily behold God who, by his courteous love and endless goodness, wishes it to be widely known to comfort us all.'* RDL 8**

These words from the Lady Julian resonated with an online talk I recently attended about the theological discipline of Christology, defined as a lively enterprise engaging with people and how they encounter Christ in their own lives. For Companions of Julian, our intention is to dwell before God, as Julian did herself, keeping her company, offering our own experiences of joy and sorrow in intercession for the world in which we live today. This question "Who is Jesus to me?" is one that is answered in Julian's Revelations, a Christological enterprise par excellence, and invites us to seek God in the texture of our lives.

This theme was the subject of an online conference, hosted by the Companions of Julian just over a year ago, when a series of speakers considered what Julian presence may mean in the twenty first century. Some of these talks have subsequently been published by SLG Press, and Julian of Norwich: Four Essays Commemorating 650 Years of The Revelations of Divine Love is available to purchase from the Julian Centre, and the FOJ website.

At this time, we have 40 Companions. Of these, 26 live in the UK; 1 in Scandinavia; 6 in Australia/New Zealand and 7 in North America. There are also 6 aspirants and 2 enquirers.

For more information about the Companions of Julian please see the website.

CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted that *For Thy Great Pain Have Mercy On My Little Pain* by Victoria MacKenzie, about the meeting of Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe, is the Winner of the Saltire First Book Award and is Scottish First Book of the Year 2023

We'd like to warmly congratulate Victoria on her win. The book is available from the Julian Centre.





JULIAN FESTIVAL DAY & Friends of Julian of Norwich AGM

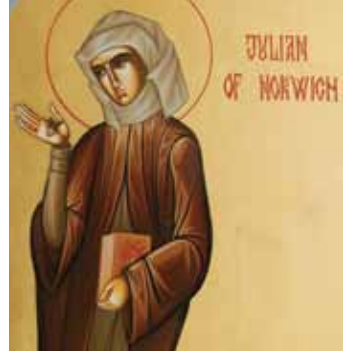
Saturday 11th May 2024

The Julian Festival Day is organised by the Friends of Julian of Norwich.

This year is the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Friends.

You are welcome to join us in person for any part of the day.

Visit julianofnorwich.org nearer the date for more details and information.



10.30am	The Friends' 40th anniversary Julian Lecture at Norwich Cathedral by the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams (Lord Williams of Oystermouth), hosted by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter
11.30am-12noon	Q&A with Rowan Williams at the Cathedral
12.15pm	Drinks available at the Julian Centre
12.45pm	Mass at St Julian's Church with renewal of vows by the Companions of Julian
1.30pm	Lunch: Bring your own; drinks available in the Julian Centre
2.15pm	Friends of Julian: AGM at St Julian's Church (all welcome to attend - Agenda on page 18)
3.30pm	Finish

THE FRIENDS OF JULIAN OF NORWICH

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

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