



St. Seraphim's News

Summer in the Garden



Once again we enjoyed a lovely day for our Annual garden party, the music was lovely, courtesy of Four in a Bar plus Phil Brooks. Despite the dry weather there were flowers and plants to enjoy, though no grass to sit on!

Thank you to all the helpers, both regular and new, the visitors, and the musicians, who made it a lovely afternoon.

The garden has seen plenty of visitors this year, as well as being used by groups, including the Quiet garden group. For the benefit of the children, we have a selection of toys and games for them to enjoy. £372.25 was raised for the upkeep of the garden, thank you, everyone!



St Seraphim's Trust would like to express grateful thanks to our funders, supporters and friends :



Introducing Elyshia (our volunteer co-ordinator)



I developed my passion for history from an early age visiting museums and heritage sites with my parents. This love of history led me to undertake an History with English BA at Chichester University. I graduated from this course in 2016 with a first-class honours degree. During this course my academic interest in heritages sites grew, I knew then that I wanted to pursue a career in heritage. With this aim I enrolled on a Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies MA at UEA and I graduated from this course in December 2017. This course deepened my understanding about the workings of a heritage site and a work placement with the Norfolk Museum Service provided me with museum collections skills.

I have also been volunteering to gain more skills, I volunteer at Strangers Hall cleaning their collections and I have just produced a chapter as part of a research project for The Forum Trust about postmistresses in World War One. In January I began working as a Visitor Services Assistant at Norwich Castle Museum, a job I really enjoy and intend to keep going with part time alongside St. Seraphim's. I hope you can see how all my experiences have led me here and how passionate I am about heritage. St. Seraphim's is a unique and wonderful heritage site. I can't wait to get started and to help the museum develop further!

Elyshia Brooks, saint.seraphims@googlemail.com

News and updates

The HLF Our Heritage grant, Foyle Foundation grant and Pilgrim Trust grant all have helped the trust with the refurbishment display costs and the replacement windows. We are very grateful to them for their support in the development work. The 'Our Heritage' grant has enabled the trust to engage a part time Volunteer Coordinator for a fixed term of 3 years, to enlarge the Volunteer workforce and work with the volunteers to set up the new display gallery.

Sincere apologies go to anyone who visited St Seraphim's on 19th July, expecting a liturgy

for St Seraphim's day. The long awaited windows to replace the worn out railway windows, was in progress. That work completed, the archives have been moved and work is well underway for the refurbishment of the platform space to a permanent display area. With windows that open and close, and a newly insulated area with heaters installed, we look forward to the prospect of a warmer winter at St Seraphim's.

Our kind neighbour has donated a sign for the Quiet Garden which is displayed on the posts of the old station sign and

shows people walking the Pilgrim way there is somewhere to rest!

Our sincere thanks to all who have helped in one way or another - your contribution is always much appreciated and always helps!



Pond life...



An attraction to the garden who is fast establishing his own fan club, is **Max**, the maned goose, a friendly and entertaining bird, who shares the pond and garden with **Wanda**, who our garden visitors of old already have met. Wanda and Max were finding the hot summer weather quite a challenge combined with the lack of grass which geese love to be nibbling all day. Now the rain has come and the grass is growing they are busy searching for grubs and weeds as well as the newly grown grass.



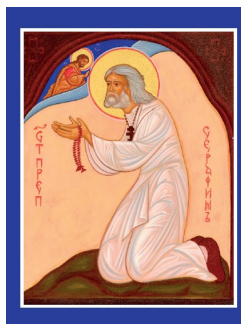
New Cards for St. Seraphim's



St Seraphim's stock of cards was running low so we looked at some new postcards, Christmas and Easter cards and

have re-introduced 4 different prayer cards to see how they would sell. The cards are of icons that were painted by Fr David or Leon, whether held at St Seraphim's or sold on commission.

The Christmas cards are of our icons of the Nativity, one in full detail with the wording 'Christ is Born' inside and the closer detail of Mary and Christ which is blank. For Easter we have the traditional icon of the Resurrection with the wording 'Christ is Risen'.



The new postcards are of our matching icons of Christ Pantocrator and the Mother

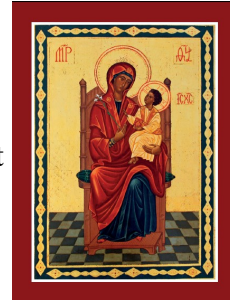
of God as these are images that many visitors like to take away as a pair and we thought the gold backgrounds set these two icons apart and are fine examples of Leon's work. The icon of St Seraphim with his hand raised in blessing is appropriate for our chapel and was painted by Leon and the fourth card is Archangel Michael, which is at St James Church Alderholt painted by Leon.

The Greeting cards cost £3.10 for a pack of 4 cards; the postcards are 60p each and the prayer cards are 30p each.

We do hope you like the new additions to our stock. They can be purchased from St Seraphim's or by telephone / postal order but we will have to add postage and packaging for any that are sent out.

If you have any suggestions for future cards or stock then please do let us know by emailing us. Although we cannot guarantee that they will be produced any popular ones can be noted and added to re-ordering when stocks are low.

On sale at St Seraphim's, as well as the cards, is the book of the last 15 talks given by Metropolitan Anthony, 'A Light that Shineth in the Darkness', priced £10 and supplied by the Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh Foundation. It is a good read.



STOP PRESS!: In May, July and August 2019 there will be a **two-day icon painting taster sessions at St Seraphim's** led by the iconographer **Helen McIlldowie-Jenkins**. For information and to register interest email saint.seraphims@googlemail.com or write or telephone the details on the back page of the newsletter.



Special thanks and memories

December 8th 2018 is the 25th anniversary of the death of **Archimandrite David**, founder of St Seraphim's and the church of the Holy Transfiguration, Gt Walsingham. The refurbishment work at St Seraphim's is to the memory of this much loved and greatly missed priest, and there will be a liturgy on 8th December at 10am in Thanksgiving for his life. The celebrant will be Father Chris-

topher Knight, of the parish of the Holy Transfiguration Great Walsingham. There will be refreshments following the Liturgy.

Ten icons from the **Peter Sibley** collection are being loaned to the new display, and we thank the Sibley family for their kindness and support. There is a museum housing some of the Peter Sibley collection recently

opened in the High Street, next to the Youth 2000 offices. Well worth a visit.

Father Kosmas Wittwer, his wife Beverley and faithful flock visited St Seraphim's in June and served Vespers on the Friday evening and the Liturgy on Saturday 2nd June.

Lovely as always to see them and to share in their worship.



The Pilgrim Chapel of St. Seraphim is a place of Orthodox Christian worship. The Faith to which it bears witness is that of the Undivided Christian Church before West and East became separated in the Eleventh Century. Its ancient tradition of worship and prayer is rooted in its biblical and apostolic inheritance, and is expressed in living symbolic form.

In 1966 the Anglican Shrine authorities asked that someone be sent to take care of the Orthodox chapel there, and Father Mark Meyrick (who subsequently became a monk, with the name David) came to undertake that task. It was soon apparent that the open plan construction of the chapel was unsuited to a pattern of regular services and in 1967 Father David and three companions, with £25 between them, settled in this building which, until the closure of the railway in the early 60s, had been Walsingham's station on the line between Wells and Fakenham. They converted the booking hall and ticket office into the nave and altar of their new chapel, and crowned it with bell tower, onion dome and cross. The painting and selling of icons was, from the outset, an important part of the Orthodox witness here. Following Father David's death in 1993, his colleague Leon Liddament continued and developed that tradition until his own death in 2010.

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THANK YOU to all who have given a donation to the work of St Seraphim's Trust . As a charitable trust, if you are able to gift aid your donation this will increase the value. Our museum is run by unpaid volunteers and funded by public donations. We will spend your gift wisely to help expand our site, make the collections available to the public and tell the stories of the railway, chapel and iconographers and the story of pilgrimage by train.

Whether through volunteering or donating, your efforts will help us preserve this unique site, long established and in need of TLC to the building, which is damp and cold for much of the year, through want of sustainable heating. We welcome donations that can be used towards the general funds to enable us to meet our most urgent needs, however we are also happy to accept gifts for a particular use.

Friends of St. Seraphims

We apologise for the delay in producing the newsletter. With the building work in preparation then in progress, there was a great deal of moving of materials and archives and somehow the newsletter did not get written. For those of you who have renewed your subscription, thank you! Renewal is due to those who kindly wish to con-



tinue to support the work and development of the trust, and remains at £10 per year, plus gift aid where it applies.

This year the new display area is being refurbished (see photo to the left!) and a permanent display of icons and associated materials set up, using the materials of the iconographers who dedicated their

working lives to the painting of traditional icons.

Please do keep in touch, we love to hear from you!

Christ is Born!
Wishing all our friends
and supporters a happy
Christmas and peaceful
New Year!

