

NEWSLETTER

Here comes the Sheriff

Fishergate Postern Tower surrounded by men with pikes



April 11th saw the Sheriff of York, John Kenny, visit the tower during his annual wall walk. A group of around 30 visitors listened to John Oxley (pictured on far right) talk about the history of the tower.

The group was welcomed by our Membership Secretary, Paul Sanderson (centre, wearing black). The Sheriff is on Paul's right.

Volunteers kept the tower open until 5pm, and this rounded off a successful Easter period (see over).



Annual General Meeting - 28 March

FoYW's 4th AGM was held at Clements Hall in York.

Highlights of the meeting were:

- Approval of the transfer of assets from the Friends group to the new charity (CIO)
- Approval of the annual accounts for 2014/15. Again the balance has increased, thanks to book sales and donations
- A talk by David Fraser on all aspects of heritage. David will chair York Civic Trust from July 2015, and will offer guidance when needed.



YORK FESTIVAL OF IDEAS



This June Fishergate Postern Tower will be open as part of the annual festival of ideas. Details of the wider festival, including events featuring author Michael Morpurgo and journalist Zoe Williams, are at www.yorkfestivalofideas.com

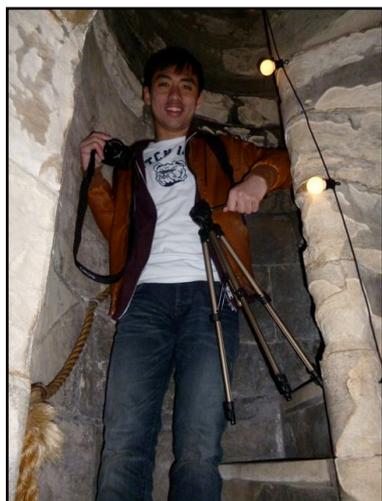
On the afternoon of Sat June 13, there will be an opportunity for visitors to handle the Fishergate Ring, an amazing pre-Norman gold ring. A curator from the Yorkshire Museum will be on hand, as they will on Saturday, June 20 (again pm), when coins dating to the Anglian period will be on display.

2015 SO FAR - A BUSY YEAR
AT THE TOWER



Pictured above are Robert Reed and Sam McDermott, two of FoYW's committee members and regular volunteers. Almost 20 volunteers turned out during Residents' Weekend, and helped welcome over 540 visitors.

A further 340 came in mid-February for the opening during Viking weekend, and well over 750 at Easter. During the dark winter months the installation of lights in the tower has helped tremendously. Pictured below is a student enjoying his January visit; you can see how much lighter the spiral staircase is since Chris Rainger installed the new bulbs.



MAPS ON SALE

Visitors can now buy copies of the York Archaeological Trust map of York for £8. It is very detailed, with a gazetteer and an introduction by Peter Addyman. If any Friends would like to buy a copy, please send us an email



CONTACT US /
WEBSITE UPDATES

Our email address is:
friendsofyorkwalls@gmail.com

Do get in touch if you would like to volunteer or help out. We are always keen to hear from would-be tower guides or committee members.

Our website is at www.yorkwalls.org.uk. Alan Fleming, FoYW committee member, has now put on-line all sections of the City Walls Trail as described in Simon Mattam's book, including maps and many extra colour images.

QR codes have been allocated to the new web pages. QR postcards have also been placed on the existing large information signs located around the walls access points. These QR Cards can be scanned using a phone or tablet app whilst out and about on the Walls. The QR codes then take you direct to the web pages of the City Walls Trail for the location you are at. This has already boosted visitor numbers to our website.

Calendar

2, 3 & 4 May 2015

May Day bank holiday opening of Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT). On Saturday 2nd the Tour de Yorkshire passes the tower

23, 24 & 25 May 2015

FPT open for Spring Bank Holiday

30 May 2015

Trip to Howsham Mill (as mentioned in the last newsletter). Email for more details; Paul Sanderson is organising

13 & 14, 20 & 21 June 2015

FPT open for York Festival of Ideas

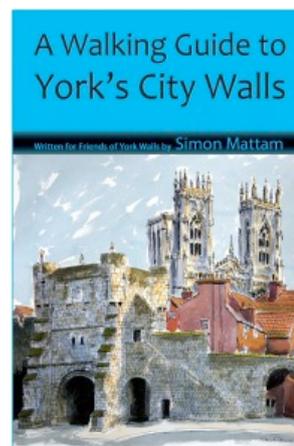
18 & 19 July 2015

Summer opening of FPT to coincide with start of school holidays

29, 30 & 31 August 2015

August bank holiday opening of FPT. This year there is no clash with the Ebor at York Races.

Have you got Simon's
book yet?



£ 5.99 – available from Amazon, Oxfam shops in York, Visit York and Waterstones

ISBN: 9780992900205

A great gift for any friends and family visiting York.