



# FRIENDS OF READING ABBEY

# NEWSLETTER Summer 2022

## Patrons:

*The Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire*

*The MP for Reading East*

*The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Reading*

*The MP for Reading West*

*The Right Reverend the Bishop of Reading*

*The Vice Chancellor, Reading University*

*The Abbot of Douai*

**President:** Janet Bond

**Vice President:** Vacant



**WATER FEST, SATURDAY 4 JUNE 2022 from 11am to 5pm**



**READING'S WATER FEST WILL TAKE PLACE EARLIER THIS YEAR, TO COINCIDE  
WITH THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND.**

Held within the Forbury Gardens, the historic Abbey Ruins and along the River Kennet, this royal-themed event will feature an exciting mix of arts, culture and heritage. Also on offer on 4 June, will be lots of live entertainment, children's activities and refreshments, water activities, narrow boats, craft and charity stalls.

The Friends of Reading Abbey will have a stall inside the south transept, flying the flag for the Abbey. Do come along and say hello.

There is no pre-booking this year and entry is free.

[www.readingabbey.org.uk](http://www.readingabbey.org.uk)

## Reading Borough Council have announced various Jubilee celebration events, including:



- A beacon-lighting ceremony in the Abbey Ruins on the evening of 2 June 2022
- A specially created, augmented reality trail across Reading to link with the Mayor's charity sponsored walk across Reading over the Jubilee weekend
- Trinity Concert Band children's concert at the Forbury Bandstand on Sunday 5 June
- Jubilee exhibition at Berkshire Record Office - May 26 to August 26
- A range of Jubilee related activities at Reading Museum, including a Platinum Pudding Trail and Jubilee Dress-Up
- Reading Libraries Jubilee Rhymetime in the Forbury Gardens – Wednesday 3 August
- Jubilee Street Parties - 2 to 5 June

<https://whatsonreading.com/jubilee> is a good website to visit, for more information.

### FRIENDS OF READING ABBEY SUMMER OUTING WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST 2022

We are delighted to announce the return of our annual summer outing and this year's destination is ABINGDON, Oxon.



Abingdon Abbey: Image—WIKIPEDIA

Here is the outline schedule for the day and proposed costs:

10.00 DEPARTURE – READING STATION NORTH SIDE (BUS STAND FC)  
11.15 COFFEE WITH ABINGDON ABBEY BUILDINGS TRUST  
12.00 TOUR OF ABINGDON ABBEY. To include: Abbey Precinct and Remains Guildhall St Nicolas Church  
13.15 LUNCH (own arrangements)  
14.15 ST HELEN'S CHURCH. To include buildings in churchyard: Almshouses Christ's Hospital  
15.00 COUNTY HALL. In centre of Abingdon Market Place. English Heritage. Home to Abingdon Town Museum.  
15.45 COFFEE at Abbey Buildings  
16.30 RETURN TO COACH  
17.45 Approximate time of arrival at Reading Station  
Cost: **£35** per person if travelling by coach **£20** per person if travelling separately

To book your place on this trip (hosted by the Friends of Abingdon Abbey Buildings Trust), please contact John Painter, Secretary, on **0118 9267893**.

### MORE EVENTS FOR 2022

**Saturday 18 June : Professor James Clark** (Exeter) will give a talk on the *Dissolution of the Monasteries*, at St James's RC Church at 2.30pm. This is a new feature of our programme, which celebrates the 901<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Abbey's foundation, on 18 June 1121.

**Sunday 24 July: Fun Dog Show, organised by the Ways and Means Trust.** Held in the lovely surroundings of **Caversham Court Gardens**, times are to be confirmed, but FORA will have a stand there along with Friends of Reading Museum and more details will be posted on our Website and Facebook pages.