

Friends of the Norwich Museums

To the Norwich Area Museums Committee

Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 2.30

City Hall, Norwich

With Spring being just around the corner, the Friends of the Norwich Museums look forward to the summer when the Castle Museum will open its door to the public after the period of development and restoration. Around the time of the opening, the FNM are planning a Tea Party in the Keep for its members and the many people who have been involved, to celebrate the completion of this major project. The FNM have been proud to have been able to support the Museum in their funding of the Friends Tapestry, which has been made by a dedicated group of volunteers. The Tapestry will be on display in the Bedchamber of King Henry I. There are also a number of colourful banners which have also been made by the same team of volunteers. We will be collaborating with Esther Morgan, Communications Manager, NMS, who will be liaising with the Press. We hope to attract some of the visitors to the Castle Keep to become members of the FNM.

There have been many improvements at Strangers' Hall, during its Centenary Year, and the Friends have been pleased to support the Museum in a number of ways including the conservation and updating of some of the display cabinets, which contain some fascinating archive material of photos and documents. Also the Toy Room is full of beautiful toys and games, which have been conserved and refreshed.

The FNM have also confirmed that they would like to support the cleaning and conservation of the 16th Century tufted carpet, which has hung in Strangers' Hall for many years on the Minstrels' Gallery. Cathy Terry will be organising this with the help of a Bequest from a long-standing Friend.

The beautiful Hubner still life paintings have been acquired by the Museum and the Friends of the Norwich Museums are pleased to be giving financial support to help with their purchase.

Felicity Devonshire, Vice Chair, Friends of the Norwich Museums.