

From the Chairman

Since the New Year our Friends Charity has embarked on a second year of monthly events aimed at engaging with members, encouraging new members and raising funds as well as our profile.

Alongside the wonderful events referred to by Veronica and Kate, on the 28th April we have our first 'Tea Dance'! A Friday afternoon of cool dance music, old tyme and jazz and lots of tea and cake. All taking place in the beautiful Guildhall Banqueting Room thanks to the generosity of the Mayor of Salisbury, as we are one of his chosen charities for the Mayoral year that comes to an end in May. Where did the year go!

This Chairman's message is shorter than usual, as I need to make space for the follow up from our Mayor, Councillor Derek Brown, describing the fundraising adventure that he, and his wife Penny, undertook when they climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in February. It's a wonderful story and we are so grateful for the great effort they have both made in raising funds for the Mayoral charities.

I am pleased to report that the Friends Council and our small office staff are working well to ensure we maximise the manner in which we meet our charitable objects. Our funds are sufficient to honour our grants to the Cathedral as we come to the end of a successful financial

year. It's nearly time to tackle the challenges of the next one!

We will soon see the Chapter's 'Five year plan' which will be launched in March / April and lots of Friends joined the Cathedral in launching 'Stepping Stones', the final stage of the Major Repair Programme that started more than thirty years ago, and is set to complete in three years' time. What a major milestone in the history of our wonderful Cathedral.

Welcome and thank you to all our new members. We continue to have a good, steady increase in membership, and grateful thanks to all our trustees and volunteers who give their time and commitment so generously. To all our existing members; thank you for your support and generosity that allows us to achieve all we do for Salisbury Cathedral.

I leave you with photographic evidence that we are very well supported by my wife, Tricia, who valiantly represented the Friends and Cathedral Volunteers in the High Street Pancake Day Race!

Duncan Glass Chairman

