

The Friends of Little Gidding
Ferrar House, Little Gidding, Huntingdon PE28 5RJ

From the Chairman

30 January 2009

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the latest newsletter of the Friends of Little Gidding, and I'd like to take the opportunity to say 'hello', having been elected Chair of the Friends in December. As I have written in the newsletter, I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming year, perhaps at the Eliot Festival in June, or the Pilgrimage in July. I welcome your thoughts on how the Friends can move forward, continuing and building upon the excellent work done over the last few years.

I should like to draw your attention to an event that has come up since the newsletter was written. We have been invited to Evensong at Westminster Abbey on Trinity Sunday, 7 June. You may recall that Nicholas Ferrar was ordained Deacon at the Abbey, on Trinity Sunday 1626. There is also the possibility of a tour of the Abbey. This should be a very special occasion and we are very grateful to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster for inviting us. It would be helpful for us to have an idea of numbers for this, so if you are interested in attending this service, or taking part in the tour, please can you let us know, either by writing to me c/o Ferrar House (address above) or by emailing chair@littlegidding.org.uk. Detailed arrangements for the day have not yet been made, but I imagine that you will be welcome to bring others with you if you wish.

In addition I'd like to thank those who have renewed their membership recently, and encourage those who have not to consider renewing. The Friends relies on the subscriptions and donations of people like you to enable us to support the place of Little Gidding in the life of our country. If you are able to pay by standing order, then that would make payment easier both for you and for us. I realize that in the rather different and difficult financial climate that we face this year that some of you will perhaps not find it easy, and I can assure you that we are very grateful for your support in the past and we look forward to it continuing into the future. Annual membership is unchanged this year at £15 for an individual, or £25 for more than one person at the same address; or £50 for 'patron' membership.

With thanks and best wishes

Simon Kershaw