

Fishergate Postern Tower

Fishergate Postern Tower is where Piccadilly reaches the City Walls. It was built around 1505 at the end of the walls by the River Foss, where water lapped its foundations, creating a natural defence for the city.

It has four floors linked by a spiral staircase with several masons' marks visible. The roof was added in 1740; this turned the battlements at the top of the tower into a row of square windows.

Currently the tower is unused and in need of repair. FYW wants to work in cooperation with City of York Council to try and bring it into community use, possibly as an exhibition centre and as a base for The Friends of York Walls.

With this aim in view, we have a "sponsor a stone" scheme. For a £20 donation, sponsors are linked, by a certificate, an entry in a book of donors and on our website, to a stone of their choice on the external wall.



The Friends of York Walls

Formed in 2011, FYW has organised free open days for Fishergate Postern Tower (in co-operation with the City of York Council), an annual Lord Mayor's inspection of the Walls involving many school children, a revival of the St George's Day Commoners' Parade complete with dragon and St George, talks about the Walls to various groups and to public meetings, successful litter and graffiti removal, "Illuminating York" evening events on the Walls (in co-operation with CYC), mid-week winter opening of Clifford's Tower for tours (in co-operation with English Heritage), a family booklet - and much else.

Membership and Donations

To become a member of FYW, please use our website: <http://yorkwalls.org.uk> or email: info@yorkwalls.org.uk or write to the Membership Secretary at 45, Ullswater, York, YO24 2RY (please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope).

Membership is free, but donations are welcome and can be sent to the Membership Secretary (cheques made payable to Friends of York Walls) or direct to: **HSBC** Sort code 40 47 31 Account no. 84372549 Friends of York Walls.

Sponsoring a Stone

Stones can be sponsored on the website or by contacting the Membership Secretary.



Scan the QR code on your smart phone and go directly sponsor a stone.



The Friends of York Walls

The Friends of York Walls is a not-for-profit group of volunteers working together and with others to preserve and promote York's old defensive walls. It aims to help visitors and residents enjoy and appreciate the walls.

Membership is free. You can support FYW by becoming a member and/or by a donation, however small.

You can also "sponsor a stone" in your name or for someone else; in this scheme a particular stone on an external wall of Fishergate Postern Tower is linked to one donation to help FYW return the currently empty tower to community use.



York Walls

York's medieval City Walls (or "Bar Walls"), a scheduled ancient monument encircling the historic City of York, comprise 3.4km (2 miles) of surviving masonry and are the longest town walls in England. They were built in the 13th century of magnesian limestone and, uniquely in England, were set on earthen ramparts. They offer a spectacular high-level walk. The accompanying moats have largely disappeared but the slopes of the ramparts are well known for the display of daffodils in March and April. A walk round the walls takes about 2 hours and offers an opportunity to see the main features of the walls: the four main bars, or fortified gateways, two smaller gateways with more modern stonework and one postern (a very small gateway defended by a tower), frequent intermediate towers, and the detail of windows, arrow-slits and gun ports, sculptures, and masons' marks. In addition there are good views of numerous nearby buildings of great importance. One section of the medieval walls is in the Museum Gardens where you can see the best surviving stretch of the Roman fortress wall and the Roman Multangular Tower with medieval stonework above it. Also in the Museum Gardens are the ruins of St Mary's Abbey and the precinct walls around two sides of the Abbey. These walls were built at the same time as the City Walls and are the finest surviving example of Abbey walls in the country. FYW are concerned with both sets of walls and with Clifford's Tower and the old castle bailey wall nearby.

Further information is available at www.visit-york.org/explore/walls

Friends of York Walls 16.5.2012

