

Ramsey Mortuary Chapels Heritage and Archive Centre

By Jane Yardley – Chair, Friends
of Ramsey Mortuary Chapels

I must start this month with a big thank you to all of you who came and supported our Giant Tombola Stall on the Great Whyte in September.

It was a bit of a gamble, no pun intended, but as usual when it comes to local people, we needn't have worried. It was so nice to see so many familiar faces, or at least what you could see of them over the masks! And many of you not only bought tombola tickets but gave us a donation as well. We thought that it would be great if we could make about £50, but thanks to your generosity, we ended up with an amazing £224.50.

My thanks to chapel members, Gillian Knox, Lewis and Jonathan Pope and Mick Napier for all their help and hard work. It was a great morning and we all enjoyed it, it almost felt that despite everything, we were getting back to some kind of normalcy at last.

My thanks also to Carol Aston, the Ramsey Market Manager who refused to take a fee for our stall and said to put it towards the chapels restoration fund and also to Fran Holland, one of the chapels "friends". She brought us some really beautiful, fully lined shopping bags that she had made. These will be for sale on our stalls in the Ramsey Indoor Market and Hope for the Nations,

Home and Vintage charity shop. We have also been asked when we would be selling the second-hand books, CD's and DVD's again that we usually have for sale at the chapels, well if you go into the Ramsey Indoor Market, we have put all the CD's and DVD's in there and are selling all our paperbacks at Hope for the Nations, Home and Vintage charity shop. Plus of course many other items, mostly donated by you, which is much appreciated by us all.

Since Lockdown, we have been given a lot more photographs and information for our archives, mostly about the people interred in the Wood Lane Cemetery. Sometime ago I came across this poem, written by Lorna Delany, which really puts into words what we are trying to do at the chapels far better than I could, so I thought that I would share it with you.

ARCHIVES

Their lives now gone, we all can share,
The future for the past should care.
Hard they toiled, little did they earn
But from their memories we can learn.
They knew both times of peace and strife,
And lived a very simple life
But they made the world that we now see,
Their memories left for you and me.

Take care, look after yourselves and stay safe and thank you for your support.