

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

Cygnets Naming Competition at The Bishop's Palace

The Bishop's Palace in Wells has announced the results of their extremely popular annual cygnet-naming competition, following the hatching of four beautiful cygnets in early May.

There were many hundreds of entries this year, both on social media, via email and in person, and some names were suggested multiple times.

Moirá Anderson, who takes care of the swans at the Palace said "It was fantastic to see so many people entering the competition and really interesting to see all of the suggestions. At least we only had one suggestion for 'Swanny McSwan Face' this year!"

The names picked were:

Peter - for Bishop Peter who is retiring this week

Angel – after Sergeant Angel in Hot Fuzz and also for the spiritual connection

Liberty – after the release back to freedom post lockdown, and The Liberty street in Wells

Hitch – because one always wants a lift on Mum's back!

ENDS

THE PALACE SWANS General Information

The tradition of Swans on the Moat at The Bishop's Palace in Wells is thought to go back to the 1850's when Bishop Eden's daughter first taught the swans to ring a bell at the Gatehouse for food. There are now two swan bells - one just beneath the window on the left of the Gatehouse, the other to the right - both with a rope hanging down for the swans to pull.

The Palace welcomed a new swan pair to the Palace moat in Spring 2019, thanks to Swan Rescue South Wales. The former swan pair, named Bryn and Wynn, were long-standing

and much-loved, and sadly left in 2018. Bryn, the cob, passed away in April 2018, and Wynn, the pen, departed from the Moat, along with her four remaining cygnets, in October 2018.