

# Clerk of Works

As always, it's an honour for me to be invited to write a little something for the Friends, they are always extremely generous to us in the Works Department and the Cathedral owes them a great deal, so I was delighted to be able to repay them a tiny amount by driving the Friends' float back in October for the 2016 Salisbury City Carnival; the Mayor chose three charities this year to support and one of his choices was the Friends. We used our flatbed truck, fully decorated with lights (powered by a generator the Friends kindly bought and donated to us) and carrying King John and Lady Isabella, with some "stained glass" panels artfully made out of timber, coloured sheets of acetate and lots of tape, all made by the Friends' volunteers and my wife Paula gave a hand, there was also a model of the Cathedral itself on the roof. It was a cold night, but there was a good turnout and



it was great fun to drive through the streets of the city, music playing,

I mentioned in my opening paragraph in last year's Spire that I was coming up to my 30th year of employment at the Cathedral. Little did I know there was a party in the pipeline that Lorraine, my PA, had planned and organised for me one Saturday in June 2016 with a falconry display followed by a barbecue. She and my wife, Paula, had been in cahoots since December of the previous year! A lot of my colleagues from the Cathedral were able to come along and some of my family too, it was a lovely surprise and I can honestly say that I did not have a clue. The picture is of me being given a Southern white faced owl to hold; not a sentence I get to say every day.

We have now just installed our new peregrine observation camera system,

