



**N**ewsletters are always written in advance and, while on one level it is odd to be writing this in September, it is rather appropriate that I write this on the eve of the Cathedral's dedication festival. On that day we celebrate the inheritance of this place and its community, and as an organisation the Friends have a unique place in that inheritance. This gives me the chance to thank you for your part - practical, social and spiritual - in sustaining Salisbury Cathedral.

Second, if at all possible I hope that you will be able to join us in keeping the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

Third, I wish you a happy 2018, which will be a year of some note for the Cathedral as we look forward to the appointment of our next Dean, who will probably be in post by the middle of the year.

Fourth, I've been mulling over that unique status of the Friends and how that relates to the festival of Christmas.

If the Friends were a person rather than a corporate body, at nearly 90 he or she would be truly venerable by now. And in some ways our organisation is a creature of its time between the wars, organised in ways then typical but not of our day.

Language, culture, ideas, unwritten assumptions - all these things are never quite the same as they were at any point in the past. And the Christian Church, now nearly two thousand years old, and our Cathedral, founded nearly half that long ago, are entirely familiar with the challenges of constantly adjusting to the changes of time. It is never a problem simply to be old, but only if one is incapable of adjusting as may be necessary.

A phrase I have heard all too many times over the years is 'Christmas is

for children'. I simply do not subscribe to this. Yes, it's for children. But it's also for youth, middle and old age - because it isn't about us, it's about God, and his transformation of humanity. God, who is beyond time and space, joins us in them and so invites us to burst their bonds with him. And so we can't confine the vast majesty of celebrating God's incarnation into children's fare alone.

Therefore I'm rather pleased to find myself writing to you, the Cathedral's

Friends and my friends too, venerable as we are, at this so called 'festival for children', which is always in danger of tipping over into a feast of nostalgia. Just as we Friends don't exist simply to celebrate the 1930s, our Christmas celebrations should invite us to look for the things of God all around us, and to marvel at his unimaginable presence now.

A happy and blessed Advent and Christmas to you!

**Edward Probert, Acting Dean**

---

### From the Chairman ...

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter and thank you so much for your continued support for the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral. We reported at our eighty-seventh Annual General Meeting, held in the North Transept of the Cathedral on Saturday 16th September 2017 that the Friends have enjoyed another successful year.

We are pleased to report that our membership continues to grow steadily (3,461 members at the time of our AGM), we have met all requests from Chapter for grants and our members continue to enjoy a variety of monthly events aimed at engaging with our members and encouraging new ones, as well as raising our public profile and adding to funds for grants to the Cathedral.

The Cathedral's Major Repair Programme is now within striking

distance of completion. In 1986 the Friends gave £35,000 towards the Spire Appeal and have added more than £1 million in grants to the Repair Programme since that time. We are so very pleased to see the final phase progressing well.

The Cathedral has been promoting a "Sponsor a Stone" scheme for some time and is currently extending this to the "Marking a Milestone" initiative to complete the work. The Friends Council are keen to support this and have pledged £10,000 for a pinnacle, this includes the 'finial' or crowning glory that sits on top of the pinnacle on the East end of the Cathedral.

On Thursday 21st September, the Development Department invited donors to climb the scaffolding that covers the east face to mark the

progress being made. The Friends Secretary, Kate Beckett and I were amazed at the amount of stone that is being replaced, as erosion of the medieval masonry is far worse at this, the oldest part of the Cathedral.

The Clerk of Works, Gary Price, was able to show sponsors some of their stones that have been fixed in place and made possible through their generosity, which is a wonderful way of expressing appreciation for this vital financial support. We were thrilled to see that the Friends latest donation will pay for six new columns of 'Purbeck marble' as well as a finial to go on top. This will be visible to all



*Kate Beckett & Gary Price with the Friends' new 'marble' columns*

as it stands at the North East corner of the East end of the Cathedral.

An added feature of our climb was the blessing of an intricately carved stone as it was set in place of a badly weathered one. Acting Dean, Canon Edward Probert, gave a highly appropriate blessing as Lee Andrews, Head Mason, inserted his carved piece into place where it will remain for hundreds of years to come.

Canon Treasurer, Robert Titley, kindly invited the sponsors to take tea at his lovely home once we had safely descended from the scaffolding. A truly memorable afternoon. Grateful thanks to those who made it possible.



*Natalie Downing and Jilly Wright, from the Cathedral's Development Dept, guiding sponsor Mr Trevelyan Thomas around the scaffolding at Roof level*



*The Acting Dean Blesses a stone that is to be fitted in place by Head Mason, Lee Andrews; Lee fits the stone*

It is now October and the Cathedral begins to have a special ‘buzz’ about it, as large concerts will lead into Advent and the glorious series of

services that are so popular, right through to Christmas. With the maximum number accommodated on many occasions it is the busiest and most exciting time of the year. The principle processions, concerts and carol services are listed on the back page of this Newsletter, as always. We look forward to seeing many of our Members throughout this special time. I know it’s early, but may I, on behalf of the Friends Council, send you our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you for your continued support.

**Duncan Glass** Chairman

### Greetings from the Friends’ Office ....

**A**s I am writing this, I can see from our windows out to the Close that it is a beautiful day, and the late autumn sunshine is warming and highlighting the carved stone of the Cathedral, which sits as ever as a haven of peace.

I am in my 10th year as Secretary, and as such I am delighted to report that our AGM and Friends’ Day on Saturday 16th September was a wonderful, happy occasion with around 100 Friends joining together for our special day in Salisbury Cathedral. Adrian Green, Director of Salisbury Museum who works across the Close from us, gave an engaging

and erudite pictorial lecture discussing how the Cathedral has inspired many artists including Constable and Turner. We arranged special tours in the afternoon, lunch and tea - the day was greatly enjoyed by all, with a beautiful evensong to finish off, which included boy chorister promotions - a really uplifting and joyous end to our day.

Canon Ed Probert gave the President’s address and paid tribute to the Friends’ long and honourable history, highlighting the fruits of that friendship which had touched many parts of Salisbury Cathedral, the building and its life - stonework, seating, lighting, Little Paradise - made possible by the commitment of

our members continuing to support the Friends.

Chris Dragonetti, our Treasurer, said that the membership continued to increase, and we were succeeding in our aims for grants and therefore achieving more for our charity.

Penny Brown and Keith Millman were the two members elected to join the Friends' Executive Council, our governing body.

We have now installed a new database system in the office, which Julia Lever works on as Membership Assistant; Sue Ash has stepped down as Honorary Membership Secretary on Council, but continues to volunteer in the office on a Friday morning - hooray! We are all part-

timers in the office; I work 4 whole days, Julia all day Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings, Veronica Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and Sue Friday mornings. We are ably led by Chairman Duncan Glass and Treasurer Chris Dragonetti - a great team effort! So just to remind you, we are open to members, and the public, to assist you in any way we can, 9.30 - 1.00 pm Tuesday to Friday, excepting Mondays when we are closed.

So we are getting to grips with a new database system; please bear with us as we get our heads around the workings of it! Could I therefore ask you all to check that you have paid your subscription when you usually do, either by Standing Order or cash/cheque, and if in any doubt, get in touch with us. We are continuing to send out cash/cheque annual reminders, and follow-up second reminders, but the system automatically lapses anyone who hasn't paid! So if you think you haven't received any mailings from us for some time, and you thought you had paid, or not sure, again please get in touch.

I will let Veronica tell you more about our social events, which only happen down to a great team effort, staff and volunteers alike - no event works without thorough preparation and help, so a great big thanks to all involved.

**Kate Beckett, Executive Secretary**



## From the Events Co-ordinator

This has been another busy and fruitful year, and as we draw towards its close with Advent in sight and Christmas not far away, I have been reflecting on the social threads that have drawn us together as a community of Friends. It seems that we continue to be uplifted by the cathedral building, its music and regular acts of worship, but as a body of supporters, we are also continually challenged by the rapid and multiple changes within our lives, both personal and corporate. Much of what the Friends organisation does is to bring people together for support, fun and mutual sharing, with love of the Cathedral and all it stands for as a common factor. To continue into the future as an organisation we need new members to join and we look to you for your continued interest and practical encouragement with our events; another full year lies ahead.

This autumn, our event inspired by Desert Island Discs was a lovely opportunity to welcome back our previous President and Dean of Salisbury, June Osborne, now Bishop of Llandaff, who so kindly found time in her busy and demanding schedule



to share with us something of her life's journey and her choice of music. It was an evening of delightful anecdotes, thoughtfulness and amusement with a great selection of music, nostalgic for many. Bishop June was relaxed and happy, having travelled down from Cardiff by train; she said being a Bishop was wonderful! Her new cope, lately on display in the cathedral, was then expertly packed up by Anthony Lewis, Dean's Verger, and put into her suitcase, and it went back to Cardiff with her on the train that evening. Our events in the refectory have a warm, 'at home' feel to them and it is always good to have your support on these occasions.

Our Events Sub-Committee planning for events in 2018 is going well and we have a very stimulating programme to look forward to. The Friends' 2017 holiday to Truro you can read about in the next issue of

Spire. Our holiday for 2018 to Chester in June became booked up as soon as it was advertised, which I know has left some people disappointed and I am very sorry about this. Unfortunately, due to pressure now on hotels and places of interest in this country, they become booked up well in advance so we have to organise and book at least 18 months ahead of time. I am already making provision for the holiday in 2019!

Sarum Six will be entertaining us by candlelight in the refectory on Saturday January 27th with another delightful programme of music, first half Renaissance sacred music and African American spirituals, and second half music with a maritime flavour! The dismal days of February will be cheered by another of our Cosy Coffee Mornings in the Bell Tower Tearoom, both venues kindly opened for our use by Kevin Osborne the catering manager and his team. Your help on these occasions is invaluable, and please continue to support us and bring your friends and family.

2018 is the centenary of the first limited franchise for women, and a statue of Millicent Fawcett is to be put up in Parliament Square in memory of her outstanding contribution to women's suffrage. A statue of her husband, Henry Fawcett, stands in the Market Square in Salisbury. Millicent came from the redoubtable Garrett family, her eldest sister being Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, while she herself was a co-founder of Newnham College Cambridge. She was appointed to lead the British Government's commission to South Africa to investigate conditions in the concentration camps created in the wake of the second Boer War. Our illustrated talk on Tuesday 13th March, by Elizabeth Crawford, who has written extensively about this remarkable woman and her circle, will consider the part Millicent played in improving the lives of women in the 19th and early 20th century.

On Monday 9th April, when I hope the weather will be encouraging us into our gardens, we would like to visit the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens near Romsey to have a tour and talk from the head gardener and enjoy the magnolias, spring bulbs and blossoms. Self Service lunch available. We then travel to Romsey Abbey with a guided tour of this ancient Benedictine community founded in 907 by King Edward the Elder for his daughter, a nun in





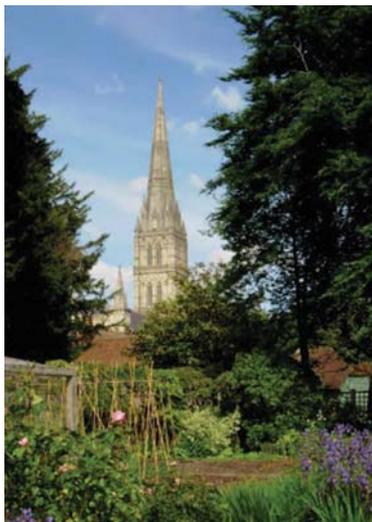
Wilton who became the first Abbess. Having gone through a history reflective of the changes of the Church in England, the Abbey continues to flourish as the largest parish church in Hampshire. Time to explore the town, maybe a cup of tea, before returning home.

The Secret Gardens of the Close has proved such a success in the past two years that we will be repeating this event on Sunday afternoon, 20th May 2018, with several new gardens open thereby allowing some previous owners time for a rest. We would like to have our own Bring & Buy plant stall, so if you are intending to visit the gardens, or just have plants to spare, we would ask you to bring them on the day or during that week! Refreshments at the South Canonry, Exhibition of the Salisbury Florilegium at the

Medieval Hall, plants stalls on Choristers Green.

In early September, the date has yet to be finalised, we plan to visit the home of the Earls of Radnor, Longford Castle. The Huguenot, Laurens Des Bouverie, having fled from religious persecution during the Reformation, settled in London and became a prosperous silk merchant. His enterprising descendants became wealthy landowners in England. The family was ennobled in 1747 with Sir Jacob Des Bouverie becoming First Viscount Folkestone, while his son William was created an Earl in 1765. Longford has continued to be the home of the Earls of Radnor ever since. Then its Friends' Day and another coffee morning! So you see there is a lot to look forward to and much to be grateful for.

We try our best to provide a rich and varied annual programme but I am



happy for your suggestions and of course always grateful for support in whatever capacity. Please order your tickets as necessary on the booking form enclosed separately with this newsletter. Later events will be advertised again in the next newsletter and Spire.

*May Kate and I, alongside everyone else in our office, take this opportunity to thank you again for your support for the Friends, and to wish you all a very joyful and peace-filled Christmas.*

**Veronica Armstrong**

## From the Canon Treasurer, Canon Robert Titley, & Chapter's Representative on Friends' Council

### Just between Friends

**H**ow often things come down to money, even between friends. At Friends' Council meetings I put forward suggestions for financial support. As I write this I am in the middle of topping and tailing letters to some of our regular worshippers, encouraging them to join our planned giving scheme or - if they are already in it - to review (perhaps increase) their giving. It is a way of being considered or, as the current buzzword has it, intentional in your giving.

Money talk is an express route to questions about what really matters. Where your treasure is, says Jesus, is the place where you will find your heart. So, when people ask, as they should, 'What does the Cathedral intend to do with our money?' they are really asking where the Cathedral's heart lies.

Our heart is an organ with several chambers, and it pumps our money in different directions. For instance,

we want to build up our work with schools and our partnership with Erlestoke Prison. Why? Because it's work that helps people make the most of their lives. That is its 'public benefit', as the Charity Commission put it. But we also spend money on daily Choral Evensong, which does not come cheap. Add it up: eight music professionals, sixteen or more highly trained boys or girls, several other cathedral staff, including at least one (modestly paid) clergyperson, all over in three quarters of an hour - the cost per minute is considerable.

Evensong in a cathedral brings public benefit too - in that apocalyptic year of 2008 the BBC website had it as the No. 1 therapy for coping with financial stress - but that is not its prime objective. David Halls, our Director of Music, asks new choristers, 'What would we do if we got into our stalls and found no congregation at all?' Answer: sing as planned.

Rowan Williams talks about the ‘useless, pointless beauty’ of our music and worship. It’s not for anything (though it may have public benefit spinoff), it’s just for God, and even God does not need it - but God does want ‘hearts that can rejoice, gratuitously, uselessly, pointlessly, and beautifully, in what he has done.’

If that sounds weird, contrary - and not very intentional - it is actually close to that most precious piece of human experience, known to atheist and believer alike, the thing that defines the organisation that you, Reader, belong to, which is friendship. True friendship brings you wonderful benefits, but the

benefits are not its prime intention. Treat your friends primarily as sources of benefit and you turn them into merely useful contacts. True friendship delights in the other. It is simply glad that the other person exists, and wants the best for them.

Thomas Aquinas, perhaps the greatest mind the church has ever produced, thought friendship was the word that best captured the character of the relation between God and humanity, the best way to describe how God feels about us and wants us to feel in return. How wonderful to be in an organisation that has such a generous word at its heart.

## A Guest Article

from Very Revd Canon Charles Taylor, who is currently assisting the Cathedral Clergy team until a new Dean is appointed, taken from his talk to the Community Forum at their AGM in October.

Last month I completed 41 years in Holy Orders, 28 of which have been spent ministering in cathedral and capitular foundations. So I thought I might just share with you a few thoughts on what a cathedral might be for and hence by implication what a cathedral community and its forum should be about.

Well, first and foremost, as you well know, a cathedral is a cathedral, not by virtue of its size, grandeur or architectural heritage, but because



it houses the Bishop’s *cathedra*. *cathedra* being Latin for a teacher’s chair or seat of authority, such as a throne. That is how a cathedral is

defined by statute, as the seat of the Bishop and a centre of worship and mission. It is a visible sign and symbol of the unity of all the parishes which make up a diocese through their communion and fellowship with their Bishop; and the cathedral, as his seat, is a focus for his mission and ministry in the whole diocese.

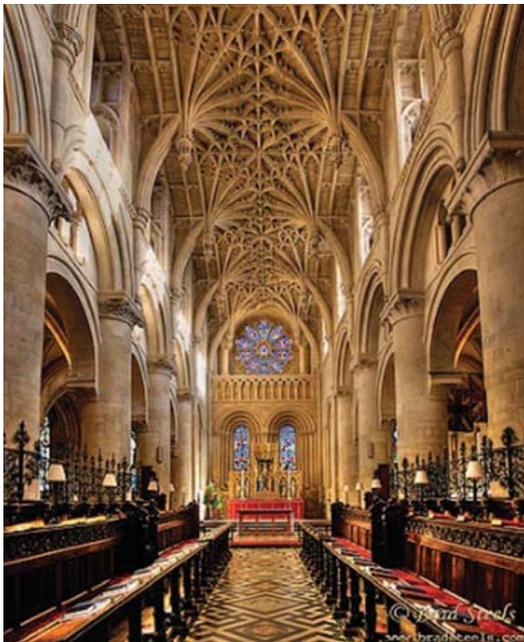
And the governing body of a cathedral, the Dean and the Chapter, constitutes the Bishop's *familia* or household. This is perhaps most obviously expressed when the Bishop presides in the Cathedral, surrounded by his *familia*, at such Episcopal services as baptism and confirmation, Ordination, and other diocesan occasions. When I went to Peterborough as Dean, I was somewhat horrified to discover that, on the annual ordination Sunday, the ordination mass at 11.00am was preceded at 9.30am by something called "The Cathedral Eucharist" presumably with the intention of catering for regular worshippers who wanted "their own" service. Yet surely, one can have no better example of a cathedral Eucharist than the Bishop functioning *ex cathedra*, ordaining clergy and presiding at the Eucharist in his own cathedral. So we soon changed that and encouraged those who saw the Cathedral as "their" church to support its role as *cathedra* by their presence as well as their prayers.

But the role of cathedral as *cathedra* is also expressed in a great variety of ways. It is expressed not least by the inclusion of the Dean on the Bishop's Staff. Indeed, according to Canon Law, the governance of a Church of England diocese is vested in the Archbishops, the Diocesan Bishop, the Dean and the Archdeacons, part of the system of checks and balances introduced at the Reformation; and I would estimate that as a Dean I spent at least a third of my time, possibly more, directly involved in that sort of work - Bishop's Staff meetings, Bishop's Council, DBF, conducting Ministry Reviews - appraisals for the clergy and, not least, as a semi-independent sounding board, critical friend and pastor for the Bishop himself.

More especially, a cathedral exercises its support of the Bishop's ministry by the offering of prayer for him or her and the diocese at the regular services, at least two services every weekday and four on Sundays. And there are lots of other ways in which such support is or could be given to the Bishop and his diocese, such as the hosting of parish pilgrimages, deploying the skills of the cathedral clergy, musicians and others to assist with the work of teaching and training clergy and laity in the diocese, and so on.

Secondly, a cathedral is a *custodian of the tradition*. This follows on

naturally from cathedral as *cathedra*, the seat of the Bishop; because, among other things, the Bishop is called to be a teacher and guardian of the faith. But by *tradition*, I don't mean a starchy refusal to change with the times, doing things as we always have done simply because we have always done it that way. You will be familiar with "the last seven words" of Christ dying on the cross. Well, the last seven words of a dying church may well turn out to be "We have always done it that way." No. By the *tradition* I mean the Christian story, a story which, while continuous and constant with the past, is still unfolding; a story which is still being retold and reshaped by the actual experience of the Church community of God alive and at work in the present.



Again this is rooted in the daily prayers and worship of the Church, and in the celebration of the Christian seasons such as Christmas and Easter. But we also tell that story through the building itself, a sermon in stone, and through the conservation, presentation and interpretation of the treasures entrusted to us in bricks and mortar, glass and silver, art, music and theology; through which we not only engage with visitors and tourists, but also with the world of education, working in partnership with schools, colleges, universities and adult education.

So the cathedral as *cathedra*, the seat of the Bishop; and the cathedral as *custodian of the tradition*, the teller of the Christian story. Then, thirdly, cathedral as icon - an icon principally in its city and the region embraced by the diocese, but also at national and sometimes international level. Following a fire inside Peterborough Cathedral in 2001, one of the first donations came from the Muslim community who said they regarded it as "their" Cathedral. Or, as another example, the annual High School Graduation Ceremony for the US airbase at Alconbury. One year they weren't going to have it in the Cathedral, the US defence budget had other priorities at the time, but the students themselves raised the finance so they could graduate from "their" Cathedral.

I think it was Christopher Lewis, Dean of Christchurch, Oxford, who observed that, quite often, cathedrals are more loved and valued by the world than by the Church! Other manifestations of the *icon* include, of course, big memorial services, county, civic and other community occasions; partnership with the local authority, for example, in plans for regeneration. Or again, just before Christmas one year, we were visited by BBC One's breakfast show in a week when they were doing features on "people who bring us Christmas." One morning the programme focussed on the postman; the next day was the Brussel Sprout farmer; then, after the sprouts came the wind in the form of the Dean!

Cathedral as *cathedra*; cathedral as *custodian of the tradition*; cathedral as *icon*; and, finally, cathedral as *community*. For it goes without saying that all of the above cannot be sustained, let alone developed, without the active support of a community committed to worship and prayer, mission and ministry, and not least to the exercise of financial generosity.

Such a community needs to be carefully nurtured, taught, trained and pastored. But who is the cathedral community? Staff? Volunteers? Clergy? The Cathedral School? The congregation? And which congregation, for it is the case that

cathedrals tend to have a multiplicity of different congregations, Sundays, weekdays, mornings, evenings, special services. And what about those who slip in to sit quietly and anonymously to reflect and pray? Cathedrals, partly because they tend to be open all day and every day, but also because of the eclectic nature of their congregations and the lack of pressure to stand up, say who you are and immediately join a church committee, cathedrals tend to be places which attract the troubled, the disturbed and the broken, and others who are just in need of some sacred space, physical and spiritual space.

We tried to remind ourselves that part of our Benedictine heritage at Peterborough was the ministry of hospitality. But what do we mean by that? Is it simply a matter of providing a welcome for visitors and somewhere to buy a cup of tea and a bun; or is it, should it be much more than that - an open door, a welcome, and spiritual and mental as well as physical refreshment, for those who need somewhere just to drop in off the streets? I seem to recall that somewhere in the Rule of Benedict it was stated that the monastic guestmaster should greet anyone who came off the streets by prostrating himself before the visitor. If our guides and welcomers tried that at the west end, they'd spend the whole day flat on their faces. But the point is that each and every person who enters the

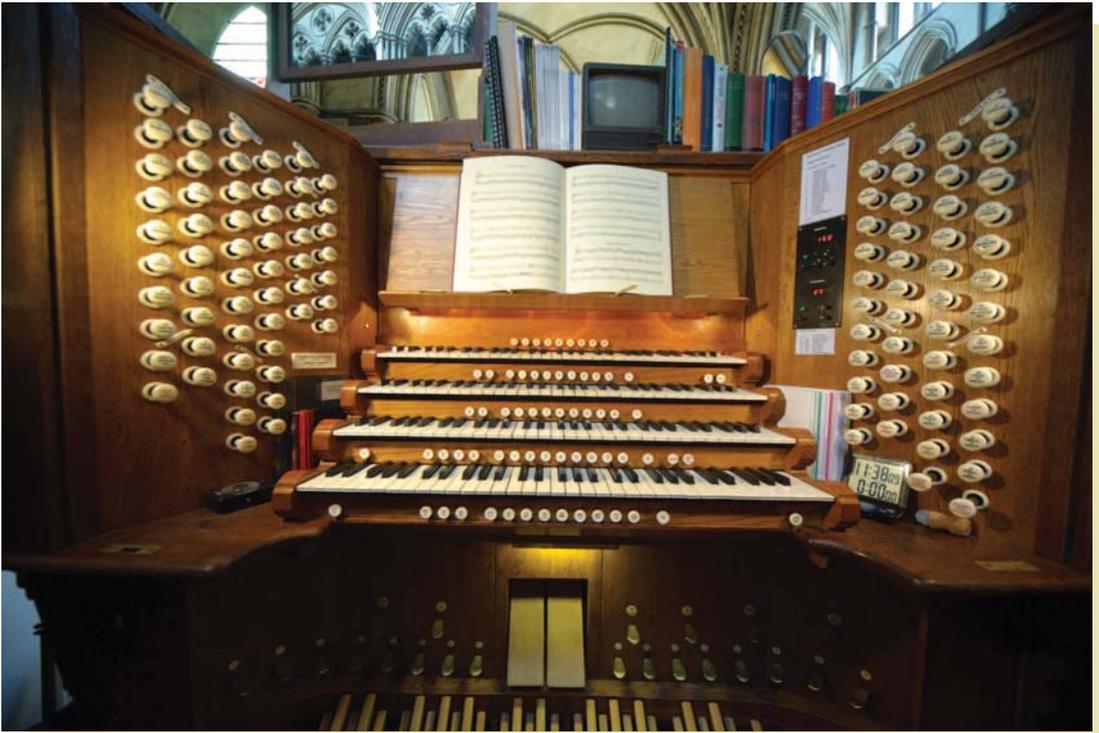


Cathedral, known or unknown, of high or low estate, should be received as though he or she were Christ himself.

Well, I've gone on long enough; but I hope I've managed to convey just a little of the life and purpose of a cathedral today; enough at any rate to suggest that a cathedral is not quite the same thing as a glorified parish church, but has a distinct and, I trust, complementary role; one that is primarily neither congregational nor parochial, but perching, sometimes precariously, on the edge between the Church and the world. I've quoted Christopher Lewis, the former Dean of Oxford already. Permit me to do so just

once more: "What cathedrals provide is the opportunity for people to explore and perhaps to cross the awkward boundary between the secular and the sacred .... Cathedrals are (or should be) places for the best kind of Christian risk. The ecumenical experiment, the interfaith event, the exploration of the boundaries of religious art or music: all these have their place within its generous walls." And, as a consequence, says Lewis, "No cathedral filing system is complete without a good collection of letters of comment and complaint as well as congratulation after events which test the religious or artistic perimeters...A domesticated cathedral is a sorry thing."

A final word from my favourite characters from the Black Country of the West Midlands - Aynuk and Ayli. I don't know whether any of you have come across the stories of Aynuk & Ayli, caricature Black Country characters, daft as brushes, notoriously work-shy. Indeed the only job Ayli ever held down was wringing out the chamois leather for a one-armed window-cleaner. Anyway, one Palm Sunday morning, Aynuk met Ayli leading a donkey up the path of Birmingham Cathedral to take part in the Palm Sunday procession. Aynuk said to Ayli, "What am yow doin'?" Ayli explained, "Oi got this donkey for the Dean." "Cor", said Aynuk, "that were a good swap!"



## The Father Willis Organ, Salisbury Cathedral

Our wonderful organ is appreciated by everyone, and it is vital to cathedral life. As such this venerable friend has to be maintained, and the time has now come for it to have a rest whilst important work is done in order to keep it working in tip-top condition in the years ahead.

....in the words of David Halls, *Director of Music* “The Salisbury Cathedral organ is a supreme example of the work of Henry Willis, who built it in 1876/77. The Willis firm made some changes to the organ in 1934 when the console was relocated, the mechanism revised and the Solo became enclosed, but

the tonal scheme remains broadly unaltered. It is irreplaceable and a vital part of the country’s musical heritage. The organ is used every day to accompany the liturgy as well as for recordings, weddings, funerals, recitals, demonstrations to

other organists and concerts. The instrument has been in the care of Harrison & Harrison Ltd of Durham since 1978 and they will carry out the restoration.

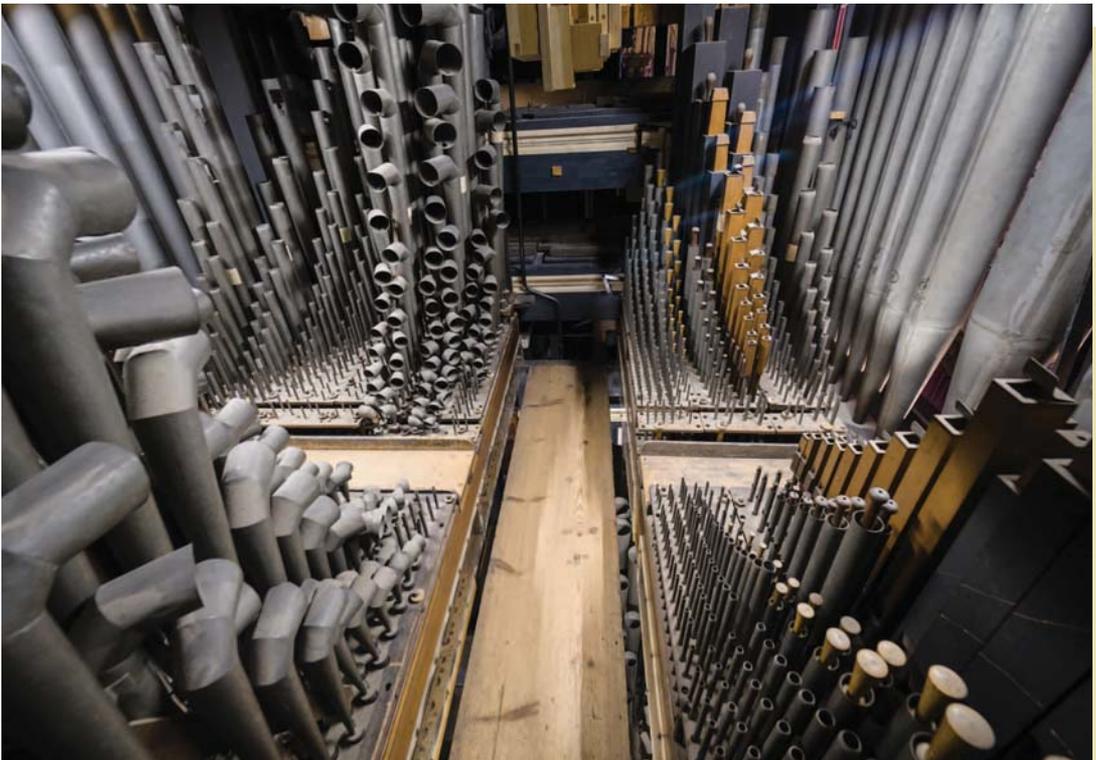




Because of its age, it is tuned and maintained approximately 12 times per year and other remedial work has been carried out over the years. In order to ensure that this exceptional instrument is maintained for future generations, an extensive programme of restoration is required and the organ

will be out of action for the whole of 2019 while this work is carried out.”

The Cathedral will need help to fund this vital work. We hope that fans of this marvellous organ would like to support us in securing its future. Many of you will remember that in the past the Friends have been pleased to have contributed to its upkeep, and whilst you have not been formally requested to give a grant towards this work, any personal contributions are welcomed and would be gratefully received. For more information or to help, please contact Jilly Wright, Cathedral Development Manager, on (01722) 555122 or email Jilly at [j.wright@salcath.co.uk](mailto:j.wright@salcath.co.uk)



## The Sudan Link

by Revd Ian Woodward,  
Vicar of the Close

I'm often asked why Salisbury and Sudan or rather 'The Sudans' - what's it all about and why are we so involved?

Here's a little background.

Each diocese in the Church of England has a partnership link usually with another diocese somewhere else in the world-wide Anglican Communion. In Salisbury's case today we have a partnership with two Provinces and some 45 dioceses and more than 55 Bishops, founded in 1973 by Bishop George Reindorp. Next year we celebrate our 45th anniversary. Since independence from the British-Egyptian Condominium 1956, Sudan was plunged into two long civil wars which nominally ended after many years of protracted negotiations, many ceasefires and agreement on self-determination for the south. Independence was granted to South Sudan in 2011 with great hope and expectation given the potential mineral wealth and the desire for what has become an elusive peace. The ceasefire between Sudan and South Sudan particularly in the Nuba Mountains appears to be holding. Very sadly within just 17 months of peace in South Sudan ethnic violence broke out within the country and continues today. Thousands of

people have died in the conflict and many more in the resultant man-made famine and more than two million have fled to Kenya, Uganda and neighbouring countries.

In the midst of all this the Churches have been in a unique position to reach out to all the 30 or so tribes and clans and plead the cause of peace. This is a very tough challenge where ancient resentments and insatiable inter-tribal revenge continues. Our advocacy efforts support peace initiatives working with the Sudans Unit in our Foreign Office, Parliamentary groups and academia and Chatham House the international affairs think tank, and with our partners in the Episcopal Church in the United States.

Our partnership with the Churches of the Episcopal Church of Sudan (the North) and the Episcopal Church of South Sudan is founded on prayer and fellowship and plays a central role not only in the life of our diocese but in our Cathedral too. The chapel next to the Morning Chapel is dedicated to our partnership and the people and Episcopal Churches of both countries. A candle burns there every day of the year and prayers are said for peace and prosperity, forgiveness and reconciliation. It is a haven for prayer and reflection. We focus our efforts on education in training clergy and supporting Church schools, through our Medical



Link in the provision of supplying basic drugs to diocesan clinics and developing maternity skills, and our own deanery to diocesan links. These latter links are not prescriptive but are based on mutual prayer and fellowship and developing local initiatives in many ways from providing bicycles or lap tops or school books or grinding mills etc. We have been hugely encouraged by the amazing response to our 2017 Lent appeal which raised £110,000 for the famine in the opposition areas in Unity State in South Sudan. Working with Christian

Aid we are supporting a whole community there providing essential food for people who have nothing.

2018 will be a year of opportunity and challenge as we continue to pursue peace; the newly independent Province of Sudan under the leadership of Archbishop Ezekiel Kondo takes shape, and in South Sudan Archbishop Daniel Deng, the present Primate retires and elections are held. We pray that his successor will overcome tribal conflicts and, with all the partners, bring not only peace but prosperity too.

## Other Events in the Close ...

### **SALISBURY CATHEDRAL**

The cathedral regularly produces an Events leaflet - if you would like more information about their events or a copy of the leaflet, please contact Amber Rawlings direct on (01722) 555118 or contact the Friends' office.

Please always check the Cathedral's own website for Events details

[www.salisburycathedral.org.uk](http://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk)

For the Advent and Christmas services, please see back page.

### **SARUM COLLEGE**

All events listings at [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk) or contact (01722) 424800

### **SALISBURY MUSEUM**

All events listings at [www.salisburymuseum.org.uk](http://www.salisburymuseum.org.uk)

## **The Friends of Salisbury Cathedral**

Registered Office: 33a The Close, Salisbury SP1 2EJ

Open Tues-Fri 9.30am - 1.00 pm

Telephone: (01722) 335161 or 555190 Email: [friends@salcath.co.uk](mailto:friends@salcath.co.uk)  
[www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk](http://www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk)

The Association is registered with the Charity Commission No. 243439

Photos by permission of: Salisbury Cathedral (Ash Mills copyright), Kate Beckett, Katharine Shearing, Tricia Glass, Revd Ian Woodward

Copyright The Friends of Salisbury Cathedral 2017

Printed by Sarum Colourview Ltd

Tel: 01722 343600 Fax: 01722 343614 e-mail: [sales@colourview.co.uk](mailto:sales@colourview.co.uk)

Artwork by Firefly Graphics Tel: 01980 863315 e-mail: [fireflygraphics@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fireflygraphics@yahoo.co.uk)



Salisbury  
Cathedral

# Christmas Highlights 2017

For further details visit  
[salisburycathedral.org.uk/events](http://salisburycathedral.org.uk/events)



20 November 2017 – 6 January 2018  
**TWILIGHT TOWER TOURS**

Friday 1 and Saturday 2 December, 19:00  
Sunday 3 December, 17:00  
**THE ADVENT PROCESSION:  
FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT**

Friday 8 December, 9:45 and 11:00  
**UNDER FIVES CHRISTMAS SPECIAL**

9 December 2017 – 2 January 2018  
**A TOKEN OF LOVE**  
An opportunity to remember and reflect on loved ones amongst lights and decorations of Christmas and winter.

Saturday 9 December, 19:30 – 21:45  
**A CHORAL FOUNDATION CONCERT:  
HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH'**

20 December 2017 – 3 January 2018  
**FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRAIL:  
THE LITTLE LOST ANGEL**

Friday 22 – Saturday 23 December,  
10:00 – 12:00 or 13:00 – 15:00

**CHRISTMAS CREATIVITY  
AND STORY TIME**

Friday 22 – Saturday 23 December, 19:00  
**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Sunday 24 December  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
10:30 The Eucharist  
15:30 Family Service  
23:00 Midnight Mass

Monday 25 December  
**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
10:30 The Eucharist  
15:00 Festal Evensong

Sunday 14 January 2018, 17:00  
**THE EPIPHANY PROCESSION**

**12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS**

See how we make Christmas happen!  
For sneak peaks follow us:    