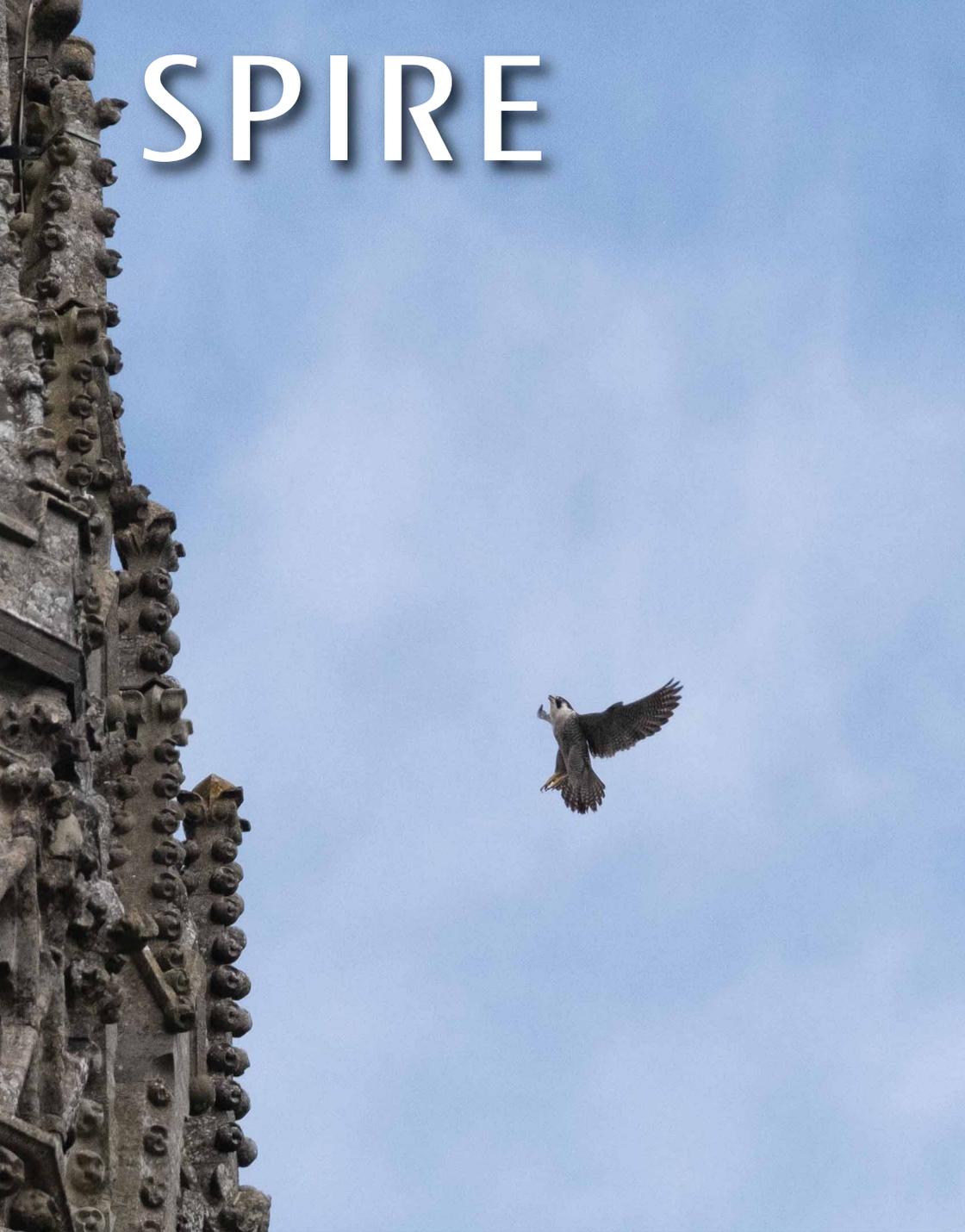


SPIRE



The ninety-first annual report
of the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral 2021

THANK YOU!

We have experienced some challenging and tragic times during the year on which this edition of *Spire* focuses.

We hope you are all continuing to keep well.

We want to thank you, our loyal members, for your steadfast friendship and support of our cathedral and Friends' charity.

The cathedral will continue to need the help of the Friends in the coming years and we will be here to offer vital grants, thanks to your support through your membership subscriptions and donations.

We look forward to meeting with you again soon.

Contents

4. Officers and Members of the Executive Council
5. The Bishop of Salisbury
7. The Dean
9. The Chairman
12. The Executive Secretary
15. The Friends' AGM
16. Report of the Executive Council
17. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2020
18. The Hon Treasurer's report
20. Summary statement of financial activities and summary balance sheet
22. Grants
26. Friends' events
34. The Cathedral Architect
39. The Archivist
45. The Clerk of the Works
51. The Director of Music
54. The Cathedral year in words and pictures
67. Feature: The Vicar of the Close
70. Feature: Salisbury Cathedral Tower Tour
78. Legacies

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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL as at 31st MARCH 2021

Patrons: The Rt Revd the Lord Bishop of Salisbury
HM Lord Lieutenant of Dorset
HM Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire

President: The Very Revd the Dean of Salisbury

Vice-Presidents: The Very Revd Hugh Dickinson
The Very Revd Derek Watson
The Rt Revd June Osborne
The Mayor of Salisbury
The Leader of Salisbury City Council
Lt Col Hugh Keatinge OBE

Members of the Executive Council:

Elected Members: Mr D Brown (appointed September 2020)
Mrs L Herklots
Ms J Higgs (appointed September 2020)
Mrs K Shearing
Dr V Shrubb
Mr P Williams
Mrs P Brown (retired September 2020)
Mr K Millman (retired September 2020)

Chapter's Representative: The Revd Canon R Tittley

Archdeaconry Representatives: Dorset: Mr M Joseph
Sarum: Capt D Glass OBE MNM
Sherborne: Dr Chris Hamon
Wilts: Mrs K Shearing

Honorary Chairman: Capt D Glass OBE MNM

Honorary Treasurer: Mr C Dragonetti

Membership Secretary: Mr D Heather

Principal Officer: Ms J Lever

Address & Contact: 33a The Close, Salisbury, SP1 1EJ tel: 01722 555190
email: friends@salcath.co.uk
website:www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 38 Blue Boar Row, Salisbury
CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling

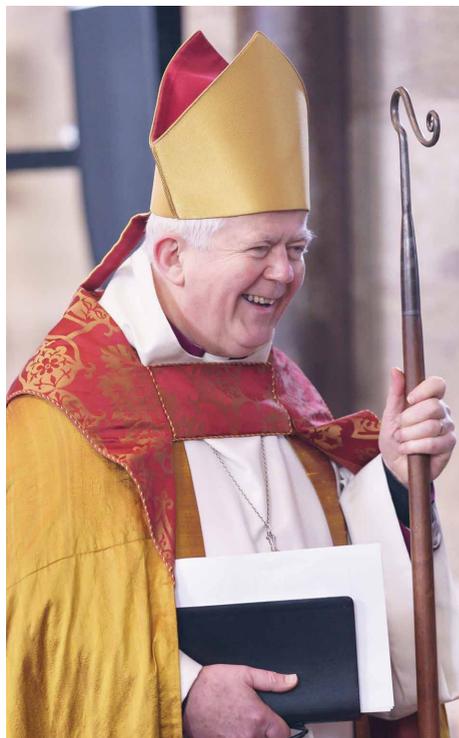
Solicitors: Parker Bullen, 45 Castle Street, Salisbury

Auditors: Fletcher & Partners, Crown Chambers, Bridge Street, Salisbury

Investment Managers: CCLA Investment Management, Senator House, 85 Queen
Victoria Street, London
M&G Charities, PO Box 9038, Chelmsford

Registered Charity Number: 243439

The Bishop of Salisbury



Many of the highlights of my ten years as Bishop of Salisbury are to do with the cathedral: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost.... of course, as well as special services and the good ordinary of everyday.

The bishop gets a privileged view standing central and seeing the length from both ends. I sometimes wish at a big service that I could share that. At the moment, I wonder when we will ever get back to it, but the pandemic is the context not the text.

It is an episcopal responsibility to encourage vocations, lay and ordained, and to discern and train candidates for ministry; to commission, authorise and

license ministers and to ordain deacons and priests. For the bishop these are big and usually cathedral occasions.

On the weekend before my retirement from office we will be ordaining nine new deacons and 14 priests. For me this will be a good ending, passing on the ministry of the Church to people of faith and a developed sense of vocation.

As last year, we will be limited in number, but I am confident that the services will be big occasions in the lives of those being ordained, their families and friends and the churches to which they will be sent.

They will be big occasions in the life of the Church. We will call down the Holy Spirit on the candidates and the Church will gather in person and online and pray for them. They will be sent out with authority in holy orders to minister by the grace of God.

That is the model of a bishop's ministry too, and it's the way the cathedral works as the mother church in the diocese from which the bishop goes out.

The bishop's care is the diocese, an area that stretches from north Wiltshire to the Dorset coast, between the borders of Hampshire and Devon and soon will include the Channel Islands. 1.15 million people live in the diocese.

The diocese is organised in two episcopal areas, four archdeaconries and 19 deaneries to which the rather different deaneries of Jersey and Guernsey will soon be added.

In this geographical area there are 458 parishes with more than 570 churches and 195 church schools and academies





with more than 43,000 students. For all of them, Salisbury Cathedral is their cathedral.

One of the odd things about Salisbury as a diocese is that there is no single urban centre to which we all look. At the edges of the diocese, I have often been told that we are closer to another cathedral than Salisbury. Yet it is the iconic nature of our cathedral building that has gravitational pull, so that even if it's a two-hour drive to get here, it is the natural place for the diocese to gather.

As well as sending people out, the cathedral is able to gather people in for big diocesan occasions, as it does in more normal times for the renewal of ministry on Maundy Thursday. It has a dynamic role in the life of the diocese.

Just over ten years ago, when it was announced I would be the 78th Bishop of Salisbury, I stood in the grounds of the cathedral school looking up at the great building. It is very clear that the cathedral points beyond itself to God.

In my experience of doing confirmations and ordinations at the spire crossing, it

also earths heaven. It is vastly bigger than any individual, yet it is the work of thousands of people through the ages and is a very human building in which people find their place with God and all creation.

I am grateful for the ways the cathedral takes its part in the life of the diocese and supports the bishop in ministry and mission. I am glad to have been a part of Salisbury Cathedral and diocese for these ten years.

The cathedral needs friends, especially now in this age of pandemic when so much is different and more difficult to sustain.

Thank you to the Friends for your support of the cathedral. It is the place from which past, present and future bishops minister.

Pray for us as we will pray for you and, "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace in all ways. The Lord be with all of you." (2 Thessalonians 3.16)

+Nicholas Holtam
Bishop of Salisbury

THE FRIENDS' PRAYER

God our Father, by whose inspiration our ancestors were given the faith and vision to build our Cathedral Church of Sarum and in succeeding ages to care for its maintenance and adornment, give us grace as Friends to serve you with the same faith and vision, so that our Cathedral may speak to every generation of beauty and holiness and be a witness to your abiding presence in our land and in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

The Dean



This year I have had the privilege of chairing the Salisbury Diocesan Vacancy in See committee, the statutory body charged with drawing up a statement of what the Church of England in Dorset and Wiltshire *needs* in its new Bishop. *Needs*. The verb is all-important: as a committee we have repeatedly had to remind ourselves that we are concerned with what we *need* in a Bishop. Not with the sort of Bishop we would *like* or the sort of Bishop we would *prefer*. What difference does that one word make? Quite a big one!

Over some months, I and my Chapter colleagues have asked ourselves a similar question about the cathedral. What are its future needs?

We have lived through a period of great uncertainty: the Novichok attack of 2018

and then the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020–21, with little time to recover in 2019.

In the wake of these seismic events and the changes that they have forced upon us, what does the cathedral need as we plan for the years ahead?

Our conclusion is that we need to *diversify*, and as we compile a new strategic plan for the cathedral, that is the task we will set ourselves. What do we mean by it?

Both the nerve-agent attack and the pandemic have underlined for us how heavily reliant we are upon the income that we generate from those who visit us.

Visitors will always remain key to our life. Making them welcome, and sharing with them the unique treasures with which we are entrusted, is an essential part of our vocation.

But when we were compelled to close our doors in March 2020, we knew that £2 million of visitor-related income had been put in jeopardy, with very serious repercussions for our ability to sustain our mission.

Thankfully we are weathering the storm, with the help of huge generosity from our friends and our Friends, and with the assistance of substantial grants from the Government and the national Church.

As we plan ahead though, we are acutely conscious of the risk to the cathedral of a further unanticipated downturn in visitor numbers.

Our conclusion? We need to diversify, to look afresh at the whole range of our assets (our property and our skilled





trades, for example), to determine whether we are making the best use of them possible, and to determine whether there are potential sources of revenue that we have not yet explored. Good stewardship of what we have received is a vital part of our trusteeship, and to *resource our life* we need to diversify our income base.

A highlight of 2021 has undoubtedly been our hosting of a vaccination centre in the cathedral. In the first quarter of the year, nearly 35,000 jabs were administered in the south transept.

It was a privilege to watch the NHS team at work and to see so many of our neighbours visiting their cathedral. The sobering part of this was the realisation that for many this was their first visit, or their first visit in many years. This has prompted us to identify another area where we need to diversify: the people and communities with which we engage.

Historically, approximately half of our visitors have come from overseas. The travel restrictions of the last 18 months have put a stop to this. But at the same time, we have been livestreaming our worship (thanks to a wonderful grant from the Friends) and webcasting all sorts of content, from Daily Reflections to news about the peregrine falcons. This development has enabled us to make new contacts all over the world.

If we are to maintain income from visitors, we need to attract more of them, from the city, the region and the UK; at the same time, as a foundation which believes it has good news to tell, we need to reach out, speak to communities with whom we have hitherto had little contact, and draw them into our life as worshippers, volunteers, friends...and Friends. You and I believe that Salisbury

Cathedral has much to offer. Our need is to *share our life* with an ever-greater number and diversity of people.

The Chapter's chief responsibility is the governance of the cathedral, and changes are about to be made to the ways in which this responsibility is discharged. A new Cathedrals Measure has received Royal Assent and will be implemented in the course of the next two years.

Clearly, a key need for the immediate future is to ensure that this implementation happens smoothly and to Salisbury's advantage. Governance is rarely a subject that sets the pulse racing, but I hope that the measure will give us an opportunity to think hard about how we *order our life*.

We will be required to set up new statutory bodies and adjust the functions of existing ones: our ambition is that the outcome of this should be a cathedral whose ordered institutional life is accountable, transparent, and comprehensible to all – in other words, a cathedral whose ordered institutional life has increased diversity embedded within it, enabling our better service of those around us.

I have already said that we believe we have good news to share. We do: we are a Christian community and our key purpose is the offering of prayer and worship to Almighty God. We have a proud tradition of excellence in this regard, and we have (if anything) become even more creative in doing it in response to the successive lockdowns.

I am writing, though, shortly after Pentecost, when Jews from all over the known world gathered in Jerusalem and heard the apostles speaking God's praises in their own languages. God has

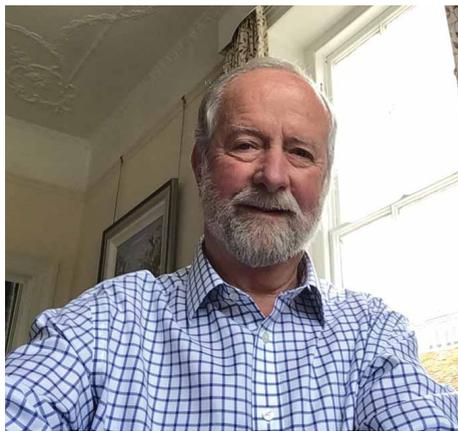
no received pronunciation – God speaks only in regional accents and local dialects! So, I believe, lastly, that we need to learn some of these. We need to find ways of speaking attractively of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in ways that are heard by more people and by more diverse people, whether it's in our worship, on our website, or in the welcome we offer.

Our mission is first *to discover our own life in Christ* – and then to enable those who encounter us, however fleetingly, *to discover theirs*.

Resourcing our life; sharing our life; ordering our life; discovering our life in Christ and enabling others to discover theirs: these, I believe, are the headings that will shape the cathedral's mission in the next few years, as we serve an increasingly diverse world and see that diversity increasingly reflected among ourselves. I look forward to working with our Friends as the plans emerge.

Nicholas Papadopoulos
Dean of Salisbury

The Chairman



Welcome to *Spire*, our annual report and accounts for the year April 2020 to March 2021: A year that will long be remembered for the dreadful coronavirus pandemic that has affected all our lives, causing so much illness and so many tragic deaths. Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have lost loved ones and those suffering lasting serious medical conditions.

The impact of the pandemic has touched everyone, with charities suffering similar

setbacks as commercial businesses, and so many aspects of life adversely affected, which hitherto we considered unshakable.

Despite all that has transpired, the trustees and staff of your Friends' charity have continued to function throughout the year by combining home working by our staff, when necessary, with keeping our office open and active whenever the Covid-19 restrictions permitted. We succeeded in keeping the Friends alive for our members, although all our events were cancelled or postponed, which was a great disappointment.

You may have seen reports in the media under headlines such as *Charity Chiefs earn more than Prime Minister*, giving details of the salaries paid to senior officers of some 278 UK charities (there are nearly 170,000 charities in England and Wales) that fall into this bracket. It is quite alarming to read and clearly newsworthy, reporting that 2,500 staff members of charities earn six-figure salaries.



The cathedral welcomed 35,000 people to receive their Covid-19 injections.

Helen Stephenson, the chief executive of the Charity Commission, says that organisations need to justify their pay to the public, as she is “not shy” of making further requirements on transparency. Writing in *The Daily Telegraph* she says: “All charities should be able to look donors and volunteers in the eye and say how their decisions about pay impact on the cause they pursue or the people they help. Being a charity is a privilege, and all charities need to know that they ultimately answer to the public - as donors, volunteers and taxpayers - for that privilege.”

The newspaper goes on to say that, using data from thousands of registered charities, it has analysed the latest accounts of those paying their highest

earner more than the Prime Minister’s salary of £157,372.

I will stop short of listing the highest paid executives and their charities; suffice to say that the figures are alarming and certainly need to be justified. I am confident that this edition of *Spire* and its report and annual accounts will give members comfort that we administer our charity with a very small number of excellent staff on wages that satisfy the principles described by the Charity Commission.

As ever, our aim is to ensure that our income from your subscriptions, donations and legacies is given in grants to the cathedral in accordance with the objects set down in the Friends’ constitution:

“To support the Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral in maintaining, preserving, improving and enhancing the fabric, fittings, ornaments and monuments of the Cathedral; and supporting the life, worship and ministry of the Cathedral”.

Members will be aware that we increased our subscription rates for the first time in many years, on the 1st January 2021.



The new entrance to the cloister, made possible by a grant from the Friends.

Thank you to all who pay by direct debit and everyone who has increased their subscription. I am sorry we had to leave it so long, but circumstances beyond our control prevented an earlier, smaller increase.

During the year April 2020 to March 2021, we have given grants totalling £164,786 to the cathedral for specific projects, including the penultimate £74,000 for Little Paradise, video equipment to enable live-streaming to take place, the Recovery Appeal fund and the replacement of the cloister entrance ramp. Thank you for your continued generous support in making all this possible.

Your trustees are pleased to record that our investments in managed funds have grown steadily, despite the uncertainty in the markets during the coronavirus pandemic and stand ready for major grants for projects in the future, as well as producing a satisfactory income.

Bishop Nicholas, our patron for the past ten years, has retired, and we sent him and Helen a gift and our grateful thanks for their steadfast support, together with our very best wishes for a long and happy retirement. Sadly, we were unable, due to coronavirus restrictions, to hold an in-person farewell.

We are resuming our events for the second half of 2021, but sadly, our 90th anniversary dinner, postponed from August 2020 to August 2021, has had to be postponed again until 2022. We look forward to next year!

The use of the cathedral as a Covid-19 vaccination centre was highly successful and a great opportunity to welcome 35,000 members of the public into this

medieval masterpiece. It would have been inappropriate to advertise for new members of the Friends' charity, but we hope some will join, having been so well cared-for when receiving their jabs and soothed by beautiful music played on our Father Willis organ.

As reported in our Easter newsletter, we have had few new members join in the past year, due to the cathedral being closed to visitors for many months and with the losses suffered, our membership is at a low level. Please help by introducing a new member or giving membership as a gift to a friend or loved one.

At our AGM in September, we will bid farewell to Lucinda Herklots, who steps down having served three years as a trustee. We are grateful for the wise experience she has brought to our council. Katharine Shearing also completes her term of office as an elected trustee, but remains an archdeaconry representative.

I am pleased to propose that Liisa Wallace and John Kelly, whose biographies are contained in this report and who have been unanimously approved by our council, go forward for election by the members present at the AGM. We thank them for volunteering to join us as trustees.

In conclusion, I am sorry we have been unable to hold our 90th anniversary dinner. We will do all we can to make up for this disappointment. In the meantime, we wish you good health, and send our grateful thanks for your continued support in preserving and enhancing our wonderful Salisbury Cathedral, its life and ministry.

Duncan Glass



The Executive Secretary



months, but as we adapted to the new restrictions in life, we were able to offer Friends a number of on-line events, including quizzes, talks and videos to while away those long winter months. We continued to administer the charity using on-line meetings in place of face-to-face meetings, as we all learned new skills and incorporated more technology into our lives.

With the support of our loyal members, we were able to offer substantial financial assistance to the cathedral at this difficult time. Our grants to the cathedral during the financial year 2020/21 totalled £164,786. This included funding the all-important live-

What a strange year this has been, covering as it does the three lockdowns of the pandemic and all the changes and restrictions to which we have had to become accustomed. As I write this report (in mid-June), we have just made the difficult decision to postpone our anniversary dinner until 2022, but are looking forward to our *Secret Gardens of the Close* event and Friends' Day in September. In spite of the many changes to life, however, I'm pleased to report that the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral continues to thrive. This is due to the wonderful support of you, our loyal members. When we asked you for help for the cathedral's Recovery Appeal last year, we had an amazing response and collected more than £36,000 from our generous membership. Thank you!

Sadly, of course, many of our events had to be cancelled last year and the cathedral remained closed for many



What a wonderful setting for a vaccination clinic!



Ecclesiastical carpenter Richard Pike crafted a wonderful new door from the original.

streaming equipment, which enabled the cathedral to continue to hold services throughout the lockdowns that were accessible to people not just in Salisbury, but all over the world. This new format has been so successful and popular that some services will continue to be live-streamed even though in-person attendance is now possible for all services – the silver lining of the Covid cloud.

One of the major success stories of the year was when the cathedral was transformed for many weeks into a vaccination centre for the NHS. More than 35,000 people were welcomed through the doors to receive their Covid-19 jabs - what a wonderful setting.

The lockdown also offered an unforeseen opportunity, while there were no visitors, for work to be carried out on the vertiginous visitors' entrance ramp into the cloisters. The Friends were happy to fund this work: the team from the works department removed the steep ramp, replacing it with a gentle incline of Purbeck limestone and externally, Forest of Dean sandstone paving. Victorian drainage channels were discovered, new stones were inserted and cathedral carpenter Richard Pike crafted a wonderful new door from the original. A much-improved visitor entrance was thus created just in time for the cathedral to re-open in May and welcome worshipers and visitors back inside the building.

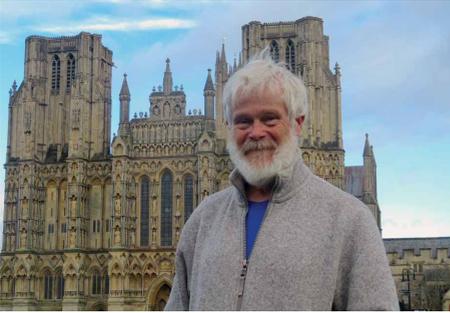
As we move through 2021, we hope to be able to welcome back Friends to our events and look forward to seeing you again soon. In the meantime, thank you for all your support.

Julia Lever



Work in progress on the new cloister entrance shows the beautiful Forest of Dean sandstone paving.

Friends' Day 2021



Christopher Somerville will be giving the Friends' Day lecture.

Following a difficult and challenging 2020, during which we were unable to hold our AGM in person, we are delighted to invite you all to our 2021 Friends' Day.

This will be held on **Saturday 25th September** in the north transept of the cathedral.

Journalist and author Christopher Somerville, who was to have given the 2020 lecture, will be with us to talk about his book *Ships of Heaven – The Private Life of Britain's Cathedrals*.

Christopher, who is the walking correspondent of *The Times* and the author of more than 40 books, will give an account of his walks across Britain to tell the story of his favourite cathedrals, including Salisbury's.

The book focuses on the people involved with the buildings, rather than their architecture or history.

When Christopher visited Salisbury Cathedral to gather material for the book, he met all sorts of people, including Canon Treasurer Robert Titley (the Friends' representative on Chapter) and Friends' membership secretary Dudley Heather, who was his tower guide.

"My book is about trying to look at cathedrals with a travel writer's eye and the eye of an ordinary punter – the way the ordinary person looks at a cathedral, rather than the way an expert on cathedrals does," he explains.

Christopher began to write about walking in the late 1980s/early 1990s.

He has written extensively about walks in Britain and Ireland, clocking up hundreds of walks for *The Times*.

In June, he was at Old Sarum talking about walking and Salisbury Cathedral to people from the BBC's *Countryfile* programme.

Christopher's lecture, at 3pm will follow the AGM at 2pm.

After the lecture, there will be afternoon tea in the cloisters, which will include a big cake to celebrate, albeit belatedly, the Friends' 90th birthday.

Friends' Day will end with a short organ recital and evensong.

A booking form for the lecture and tea is included in your copy of *Spire*.

Friends' Christmas cards

It's not too early to think about ordering your Christmas cards!
You will find an order form for Christmas cards enclosed with your copy of *Spire*.
You can also order via the website www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk or by contacting the office on 01722 555190.

The two candidates standing for election to the Friends' executive council, nominated by trustees and approved by the Friends' council, are:



Liisa Wallace

After working in a blue-chip company as a warehousing analyst, economics analyst, financial controller, and senior buyer, Liisa founded and operated several businesses involved in scuba diving, leisure, and retail.

Having spent seven years in south-western Virginia raising water buffalo, she returned to the UK where she continues to manage her scuba retail business. She lists her skills as business planning, costing projects, communications and organisation.

Liisa lives in Salisbury and is a magistrate and a governor of Salisbury Cathedral School.

Her twin boys started at the school in 2017.



John Kelly

John has had a long career in the financial services industry, holding senior management, executive and non-executive

directorship positions in financial services companies in Europe, the Far East, Middle East and North America.

His experience includes roles in the hedge fund industry, private equity, venture capital, insurance and credit fund management.

He has served on audit and risk committees and compensation committees.

He is chairman and co-founder of the Kilimanjaro Children's Foundation, a Chicago-based not-for-profit corporation established to run a school in Moshi, Tanzania, and serves as trustee and director of other not-for-profit organisations. He sits on the advisory board of a credit fund in New York.

FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Agenda

1. Opening prayer
2. President's address
3. Chairman's welcome
4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 5th September 2020
5. Matters arising
6. Election of members to council
(Short biographies of the two candidates are included prior to this agenda. They have been nominated by and have the full support of the trustees)
7. Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021
(please see pages 18–21)
8. Appointment of honorary auditors
9. Secretary's report
10. Any other business

THE FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

The summarised accounts set out on the following pages have been extracted from the full audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021 and are a summary of the information relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the affairs of the Association. To view the full annual accounts and the unqualified report on those accounts by the Association's auditors please see the website: www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk. Copies are also available on request from the Friends' office, 33a The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EJ, and the accounts are also filed with the Charity Commission.

Objectives and Organisation

The Objectives of the Association are to support the Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral in maintaining, preserving, improving and enhancing the fabric, fittings, ornaments, furniture, music and monuments of Salisbury Cathedral and to support the life, worship and ministry of the cathedral. There has been no change in the objects over the last year.

Objectives and grant making policies

The main objective of the Association continued to be the making of grants to Salisbury Cathedral to fund particular projects and purchases. Grant applications are assessed by the Executive Council with reference to the Friends' objects and the available funds.

The income of the Friends is principally derived from subscriptions, donations and legacies from its members and fundraising events.

Review of Activities and Achievements

The Friends' total income in 2020/21

was £182,900 compared with £163,451 the previous year. The ordinary income, excluding legacies, was £125,996 compared with £131,303 in 2019/20. The Friends received legacies of £56,904 this year compared with £32,148 in the previous year.

During the year, the Friends made grants to the cathedral totalling £164,786, including the seventh and penultimate payment of £74,000 towards the Little Paradise project, £36,786 towards the Cathedral Recovery Appeal, £22,000 to cover the cost of live streaming equipment, £20,000 towards the cost of the new visitor entrance and a number of smaller grants towards a variety of projects in the cathedral. Grants made in 2019/20 totalled £115,100.

With 2020 being dominated by the Coronavirus pandemic, the cathedral remained closed to visitors for much of the year during the lockdown. The Association was unable to hold the usual fundraising events and the Annual General Meeting was conducted online with members registering their votes by a postal ballot. At the end of the year, active membership of the Friends stood at 2,633 members.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Council



Ms Julia Lever (Secretary)



Capt D Glass OBE MNM (Chairman)

Approved by the Executive Council

1st July 2021

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL

Held on 5th September 2020 with a postal vote from members

Present: The Dean, the Very Reverend
Nicholas Papadopoulos
(*President*)
Duncan Glass (Chairman)
Julia Lever
(*Executive Secretary*)
Robert Titley
(*Chapter Representative*)

Postal votes received from 181 members

The Friends' Annual General Meeting in September 2020 was unusual in that members were unable to gather in the cathedral as usual because of restrictions on gatherings required due to the Coronavirus pandemic. All relevant papers therefore – agenda, minutes of the last meeting, financial summary and reports from the Dean (president), Duncan Glass (chairman), Chris Dragonetti (Honorary Treasurer) and Julia Lever (Executive Secretary) and biographies of the two proposed new trustees – were printed in the Annual Report (*Spire*) and sent to all members in July together with a voting form for members to complete and return (see attached). Members were asked to vote on:

- **Approval of the minutes of the last year's AGM**
- **Approval of the Annual Report and Accounts for year ending 31st March 2020**
- **Re-appointment of Fletcher & Partners as auditors**
- **Election of 2 new trustees to the Friends Council – Jo Higgs and Derek Brown.**

Members could also add comments or questions for Council on the form.

A short video with addresses from Nicholas Papadopoulos, Duncan Glass

and Robert Titley was made after 5th September to summarise the results of the voting and conclude the AGM. The video, containing also the new Salisbury Anthem for the 800th anniversary of the foundation of the cathedral, was added to the Friends' website and all those members on email were contacted to inform them of this with a link to the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nY7K-ohM1XY&feature=youtu.be>

In summary:

President's Address

The Dean expressed his regret that Friends could not gather this year for the AGM and Friends' Day. He outlined the new ways in which the cathedral had adjusted to allow both worshipers and visitors to return to the cathedral after the lockdown. He explained the dire financial position that the cathedral was now in as a result of the lockdown and continuing restrictions due to the pandemic and thanked all those who had generously contributed to the Cathedral Recovery Appeal.

Chairman's Address

Duncan Glass reported on the events and activities and the financial position of the Friends for the year 2019/20, commenting that the year had been a busy and successful one for the charity. He noted that the event programme had had to be cancelled from March for the foreseeable future, but thanked members for their continuing loyal and generous support. The chairman drew attention to the reports in *Spire* and reported that the postal votes received had resulted in all four items being approved by a large majority. He



thanked the two outgoing trustees, Keith Millman and Penny Brown for their work during their term of office and welcomed the two new trustees, Jo Higgs and Derek Brown to the Friends' Council.

Chapter Representative's Address

Robert Titley spoke about the importance of friends in everyone's life, especially during difficult times such as these and in particular of the importance of the Friends to the cathedral, thanking members for their continuing support.

Results of the postal voting:

1. Approval of the minutes of the last year's AGM

Approved by a large majority

2. Approval of the Annual report and Accounts for year ending 31st March 2020

Approved by a large majority

3. Re-appointment of Fletcher & Partners as auditors

Approved by a large majority

4. Election of 2 new trustees to the Friends' Council – Jo Higgs and Derek Brown.

Approved by a large majority

There were very few comments or questions, but Julia Lever replied to all these and the correspondents were satisfied.

The Hon Treasurer's Report



It is pleasing to be able to report that though the year to 31st March 2021 was significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of planned activities, financially the impact has not been too serious.

None of the planned fundraising events could take place and the cathedral itself was closed for much of the year.

As a result, income from fundraising was very substantially reduced and our share of the cathedral shop's profit disappeared altogether.

Offsetting these reductions though, the appeal for Recovery Fund raised nearly £37k and legacy income was higher than the previous year, so overall our income for the year was nearly £183k compared with £163k in the previous year.

During the year, we received legacies and donations in memory of those recently deceased of nearly £57k compared with £32k in the previous year.

Such legacies are always most welcome as it makes it possible for the Friends to support the cathedral's grant requests to an extent which would not always be possible did we not receive them.

On the expenditure side, while administration costs were reduced, grants to the cathedral totalled nearly £165k.

This compares with grants of £115k in 2019/20 and £189k in 2018/19 when we gave more than £100k towards the restoration of the Willis organ.

Grants in 2020/21 included the whole of the response to the Recovery Fund appeal of nearly £37k.

The other main grants paid were the penultimate instalment towards the Little Paradise redevelopment (£74k), video equipment for live streaming services (£22k), fabric repairs to the stone work on the east gable (£8k) and a first instalment towards the new entrance ramp to the cloisters (£20k).

A summary statement of our finances can be found on pages 20–21, but the full accounts are available upon request and, in due course, will be accessible via the Charity Commission’s website.

At the 2019 AGM a question was asked about the extent of the Friends’ reserves, which at 31st March 2019 stood at £851k. Two years later that figure is £907k.

The use of the term “reserves” might suggest that this is a sum which the council (the trustees) has set aside and is retaining for some future planned purpose.

But this is not the case. It is simply the value of the Friends’ financial resources at the year-end cut-off date.

It is significantly influenced by two factors: the extent of the grants which the council has paid during the year and the scale and timing of legacies received.

The cathedral is aware of and sensitive to the extent of the Friends’ financial resources and is able to pitch its grant requests in the light of that knowledge.

The Friends of Salisbury Cathedral will continue to be a safe haven for those who wish to make donations or legacies and you can be sure that any contribution will be used wisely for the benefit of Salisbury Cathedral, the life of which we are all so privileged to be a part.

Chris Dragonetti

Direct Debit

Thank you to all those who have signed up to pay their annual subscription by direct debit.

Subscriptions went up in January and are now £25 for a single membership and £40 for joint membership.

We launched the direct debit system early in 2019 and since then nearly 600 of you have completed a direct debit instruction (DDI).

Switching to this form of payment simply involves the completion of a DDI, which is available from the Friends’ office.

We will send you email confirmation before any payment is taken and you can cancel your instruction at any time.

Once you have completed and returned the DDI to the Friends’ office, please remember to cancel your standing order mandate if you are currently paying by this method.

We look forward to hearing from you..



THE FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

	2020/21	2019/20
INCOMING		
Subscriptions	51,836	51,417
Share of Cathedral Shop profit	-	15,000
Donations to the Recovery Fund Appeal	36,786	-
Other Donations	8,737	15,898
Activities for generating funds	2,827	18,595
Legacies	56,904	32,148
Investment income	25,810	30,393
Total	<u>182,900</u>	<u>163,451</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:		
Raising funds	1,555	7,476
Grants to Salisbury Cathedral:		
Little Paradise redevelopment	74,000	74,000
Video equipment	22,000	-
Flower arrangements	3,000	5,000
Recovery Fund Appeal	36,786	-
Cloisters entrance new ramp	20,000	-
Nave window S26 restoration	-	20,000
Other	9,000	16,100
Total grants to the Cathedral	<u>164,786</u>	<u>115,100</u>
Spire magazine and newsletters	10,459	10,269
Support costs	38,877	44,893
Total expenditure	<u>215,677</u>	<u>177,738</u>
NET INCOME	(32,777)	(14,287)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		
Gains and (losses) on investments	161,358	(58,249)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	128,581	(72,536)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	<u>778,776</u>	<u>851,312</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>907,357</u></u>	<u><u>778,776</u></u>

**AUDITORS' STATEMENT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
THE FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL**

Respective responsibilities of members of the executive council and auditors

We have examined the summarised accounts, consisting of the summarised Statement of Financial Activities, which are the responsibility of the members of the Executive Council. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised accounts within *Spire* with the full annual Accounts and Trustees Report. We also read the financial information within '*Spire*' and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised accounts.

Basis of opinion

We have examined the summarised accounts to agree that they are consistent with the full accounts. Our report on the Association's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our audit opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised accounts are consistent with the full annual Report and Accounts of the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Salisbury 16th June 2021

Fletcher & Partners Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

THE FRIENDS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL
SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2021

	2021	2020
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	-	1,500
Investments	753,221	591,863
	753,221	593,363
 CURRENT ASSETS		
Stock	2,540	3,600
Debtors	14,792	53,338
Cash at bank and in hand	152,366	147,361
	169,698	204,299
 CREDITORS:		
Amounts falling due within one year	4,884	5,389
 NET CURRENT ASSETS	164,814	198,910
 TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	918,035	792,273
 CREDITORS:		
Amounts falling due after more than one year	10,678	13,497
	£907,357	£778,776
	£907,357	£778,776
Representing:		
 FUNDS		
Restricted Funds	-	-
Unrestricted Funds	907,357	778,776
	£907,357	£778,776
	£907,357	£778,776

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- (i) Life membership subscriptions: These are taken to income over 12.5 years.
- (ii) Investments: These are shown at market value and gains or losses on revaluation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.
- (iii) Grants payable: These are accounted for when a legal or constructive obligation to pay the grant has come into existence.

2. RESTRICTED FUNDS

These comprise donations received and raised funds for specific purposes.



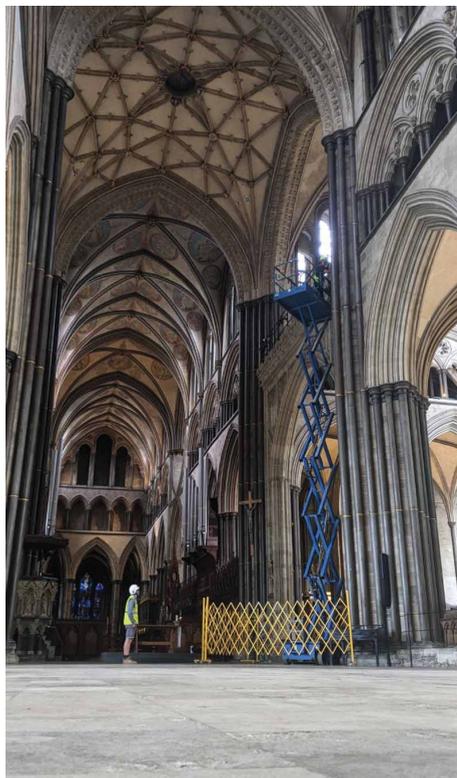
Grants

In the financial year April 2020 to March 2021, the Friends made grants to the cathedral of £164,786, thanks to you, our generous and loyal members.

The most recent of these was £20,000 towards the £62,000 cost of the construction of the new entrance into the cloister (*see separate article*). A further £20,000 has been agreed for payment in the 2021/22 financial year and council members have agreed in principle to fund the remaining £22,000.

The final decision will be made later this year.

As well as the seventh instalment (of eight) of £74,000 for the Little Paradise project and £3,000 for Cathedral Flowers, a number of other schemes have been funded.



Live streaming equipment was installed in the cathedral in September, enabling services to be viewed as they happen by people worshipping at home.

Last September, the live streaming project saw the Friends pay £22,000 for three cameras and cabling to be installed, enabling services to be broadcast live onto the cathedral's YouTube channel.

This means services can be viewed as they happen by those unable to attend in person and was particularly welcomed during the national lockdowns when staying at home was mandatory.

Other grants included £1,000 for the cathedral's three Christmas trees – a



Bespoke expanding brackets, fashioned by ecclesiastical carpenter Richard Pike, ensured the cameras could be fitted onto the pillars without drilling any holes.

Norway spruce at the west end and Nordmann firs in the north porch and outside the Friends' office.

And an £8,000 legacy from the estate of a generous Friend was allocated towards the repairs to the lower part of the east end of the cathedral, known as Major Repair Area 6 (MRA6).

The cathedral had to close its doors to visitors during the two national



Caroline Probert with one of the hymn book rack covers.



The towering Norway spruce Christmas tree and the festive displays on the font created by Cathedral Flowers were made possible thanks to grants from the Friends.

lockdowns of 2020 and the third earlier this year, resulting in a catastrophic loss of income.

It launched a recovery appeal last summer and in response, a magnificent £36,786 was donated by generous Friends.

Also, last summer, three new hymn book rack covers commissioned by the Friends were unveiled, thanks to the generosity and expertise of Caroline Probert.

Each took her three weeks to make, as they are of different sizes and shapes.

Friends' chairman Duncan Glass presented Caroline with a thank you card and gift voucher.

Finally, as part of the Friends' giving to the cathedral, Vicar of The Close, the Revd Canon Nigel Davies is using the upper floor of the Friends' office as his base.

Anniversary dinner postponed

It is with regret, that due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to postpone the Friends' anniversary dinner.

This event will now take place next summer when we will welcome back to Salisbury the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally as our guest speaker.

More details will follow in the Easter 2022 newsletter..

Cloister ramp replacement

The Friends are delighted to be contributing to the £62,000 cost of the replacement of the steep ramp into the cathedral cloister.

Council members have already agreed £40,000 (£20,000 in the 2020/21 financial year and £20,000 in the 2021/22 year), and they have agreed in principle to fund the remaining £22,000.

The final decision will be made later this year.

The third national lockdown, which began in January, meant that the cathedral had to close its doors to the public once again.

The following month, a government announcement made it clear that the



A Victorian culvert is discovered.

cathedral could not re-open until at least 17th May.

This provided the ideal opportunity to replace the ramp and work began in March.

The Friends had agreed in principle towards the end of 2019 to fund the work, but it was delayed first by the imminent 800th anniversary celebrations and then by the national lockdowns due to the pandemic.

The aim of the project was to replace the dangerously steep concrete ramp with a



March arrives and a digger is on site to begin the work on replacing the ramp.



A sign affixed to the fencing during construction records the contribution of the Friends to the project.



Bishop Nicholas blesses the new entrance watched by the works department staff who worked on the project.

much gentler approach that would not protrude into the cloister.

This would be safer for those unsteady on foot or in a wheelchair, and for everyone in icy weather (when the ramp needed to be gritted).

The scheme also removed the sharp turn into the consistory court and would enable trolleys for the shop and refectory to be brought in by this route, rather than through the works yard.

It had been hoped to start work in January or February, but this was ruled out as the masons had to complete

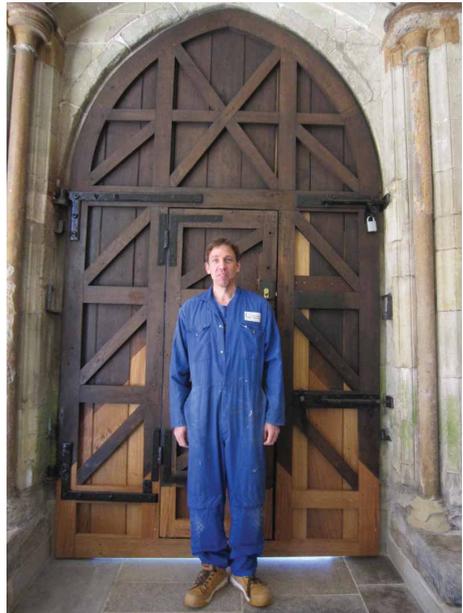


Dean Nicholas performs the opening ceremony, watched by Friends' chairman Duncan Glass and Canon Treasurer Robert Titley.

repair work linked to a major public grant.

Work began in March and was completed in May. It was able to continue during the vaccination sessions, as visitors were re-routed into the cloister via the works yard.

The new access has a much lower threshold, thanks to the skill of ecclesiastical carpenter Richard Pike.



The door viewed from inside the cloister shows the work done by ecclesiastical carpenter Richard Pike.

On 19th May when the cathedral re-opened, Bishop Nicholas blessed the new entrance in the presence of the members of the works department who had worked on its construction.

A week later a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held, with Dean Nicholas doing the honours, watched by Friends' chairman Duncan Glass and Canon Treasurer Robert Titley.



Online events

With no live events during the year covered by *Spire*, the Friends switched to online platforms to provide members with some light relief.

Members who had given the office their email address, received emails containing links to a variety of entertainment.

Items included two 'Name that Cathedral' quizzes, a virtual tour by clerk of the works Gary Price of the continuing repair work to the east end of the cathedral, and a virtual tour by assistant librarian Anne Dutton of the cathedral's 15th century library, featuring some of the medieval manuscripts and early printed books.

Members could also tune in to the Easter Monday organ concert by

assistant director of music John Challenger, played on the Father Willis organ.

And a few weeks later, director of music David Halls gave a lunchtime organ recital, including one of his own compositions, which could be accessed online.

With restrictions being eased, the Friends have been able to plan live events again. See the article on forthcoming events for details.

And if you haven't yet given the office your email address, please email it to friends@salcath.co.uk. You will then be able to receive emails about forthcoming events and other items of interest.

Forthcoming events

With Government restrictions having been gradually eased over the spring and summer, we are delighted to be offering members live events once again.

We have missed seeing you all!

We hope you will come along to the events we have planned – and why not encourage your friends to become members and join us too?

The more members we have, the more we can give in additional grants to the cathedral – especially important following the pandemic and the devastating effect it has had on the cathedral's income.

As you read this, the **Friends' holiday to Derbyshire** has taken place, with 20

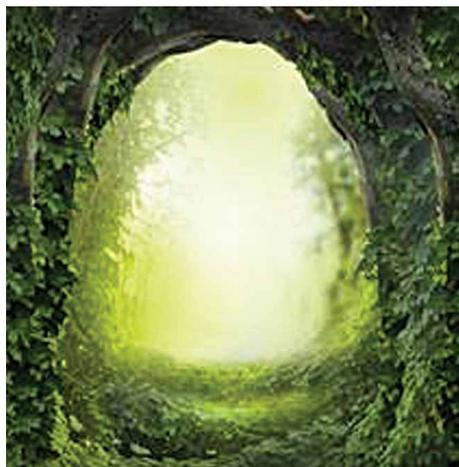
members enjoying visits to attractions including Chatsworth House and Lichfield Cathedral.

Sadly our 91st anniversary evening on Friday 6th August, with guest speaker the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally has had to be postponed.

This event will take place next summer.

On **Thursday 26th August**, we will be welcoming back **This is my Theatre** to perform *The Secret Garden* in the Medieval Hall.

Many members enjoyed the group's performance of *A Christmas Carol* and this time it has chosen to adapt Frances Hodgson Burnett's enchanting children's



This Is My Theatre will be performing **The Secret Garden** at the Medieval Hall in August.

story, which will be interwoven with folk music.

There will be two performances, at **5pm and 7.30pm**.

The title of the play fits in well with our **Sunday 12th September** event – the return of *Secret Gardens of the Close*. **Please see separate article on this event, which follows.**

On **Saturday 25th September** we are looking forward to welcoming you all to **Friends' Day** in the north transept of the cathedral, starting at 2pm with the AGM and continuing at 3pm with the lecture.

Afternoon tea will be served in the south cloister at 4pm and this will be followed by an organ recital and evensong. (See *separate story with the Friends' Day agenda*.)

On **Thursday 30th September** there will be a joint Salisbury Cathedral/Friends' **legacy event** in the north transept.

Samantha O'Sullivan of Parker Bullen solicitors will talk about making or updating a will, including leaving a legacy.

If you are interested in attending this event, please phone the office on 01722 555190.

Once we are sure of the impact of any continuing social distancing measures, we hope to offer more events in the autumn such as day trips, talks and coffee mornings. Please check the website regularly for details and we will notify members by email of any extra events.

Subscriptions

In January this year subscription rates went up for the first time in ten years.

They are now £25 for a single membership and £40 for joint membership.

Members who pay by direct debit will receive notification of the increase and email confirmation before any payment is taken.

Those paying by cheque should simply increase the amount and those paying by standing order should contact their bank to make the necessary adjustment.

Alternatively, these two groups can switch to direct debit – please phone the office on 01722 555190 and request a direct debit instruction (DDI).

Secret Gardens of the Close is back!

Our flagship event, *Secret Gardens of the Close* is back!

It takes place on **Sunday 12th September** from 1pm to 5pm.

The event will enable visitors to tour a number of the larger gardens in the Close and De Vaux Place and enjoy tea on the lawn of South Canonry.

There will be a Green Fair on Choristers' Green, with stalls including Harnham Water Meadows Trust, Plantlife, RSPB and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

Representatives from these organisations will be on hand to tell visitors what they do and how the public can get involved.

And Daniel Kronenberg, who specialises in swifts, will be talking about his work with these fascinating birds.

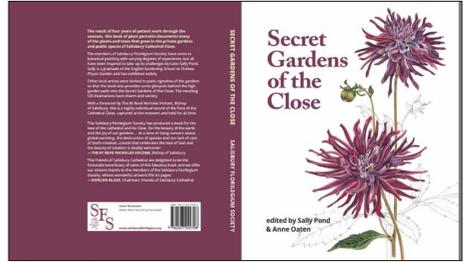
Salisbury Florilegium Society will host an exhibition of its members' botanical paintings in the Medieval Hall.

These will be available for sale, along with the society's book *Secret Gardens of the Close*.

Musical entertainment will be provided by recorder group Close Consort, whose members will be playing in a number of the gardens.



This way to the Secret Gardens of the Close event!



Salisbury Florilegium Society's Secret Gardens of the Close book will be on sale at the Medieval Hall, along with its members' paintings.

Proceeds from the teas will go to the Sudan Medical Link.

We will need a band of volunteers to help with our Secret Gardens event to act as stewards, welcoming visitors to the gardens.

We are grateful to those who volunteer regularly, but we're always keen to welcome more. It's a great way to get to know fellow Friends and help our charity at the same time.

If you can help, please call the office on 01722 555190.



Visitors to the gardens will be able to see a variety of flowers and plants, as well as interesting features, like this water spout.

Eco Church – we’ve struck gold!

Salisbury Cathedral has become the first cathedral in the country to receive an Eco Church gold award.

The award comes from A Rocha UK, a Christian nature conservation charity and it confirms the cathedral’s status as a beacon of good environmental practice for all churches.

Helen Stephens, head of A Rocha UK’s Eco Church initiative, presented the award – a wooden plaque - to Canon Treasurer Robert Titley following her tour of the cathedral and surrounding land to discover what the cathedral and its community had been doing towards achieving the award.



Canon Treasurer Robert Titley with the Eco Church gold award.



*The cathedral took part in **No Mow May**, an initiative to encourage pollinators to our lawns.*

She said: “This is an exciting milestone for one of the most important cathedrals in the UK.

“Without the team’s determination during the last three challenging years this wouldn’t have been possible.

“This shows that even large cathedrals can help restore the environment, but also how caring for the environment has enhanced cathedral life in so many ways: from how the cathedral worships and what food it serves, to the energy it uses, the wildlife that lives in and around the Close, and even the water that flushes the loos.”

Robert said: “The Eco Church award scheme channels concern for our planet into positive action rooted in joy at God’s creation.

“Going for Gold has mobilised the cathedral’s worshippers, volunteers, staff, and local residents, and it has drawn in the energies of many partners, like Salisbury Cathedral School, our Friends’ organisation, and the Harnham



A rare fiddle dock was discovered in the Close last year.

Water Meadows Trust. They all have a stake in this award.”

The award ceremony was attended by Bishop of Salisbury the Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, until recently the Church of England’s lead bishop on the environment.

The gold award is the culmination of a programme of initiatives, including a rainwater capture system, the switch to green tariff energy and the installation of LED lighting and draught-proofing.

Around the Close, residents have put up bird boxes and put hedgehog houses in their gardens, and swift boxes have been installed with recordings of the swift call to encourage swifts to nest in the area.

Last summer, 93 solar panels were installed on the cathedral’s south cloister roof, which are estimated to produce more than 30,000kw hours of electricity each year, the equivalent of eight British households.

This year the cathedral took part in *No Mow May*, which involved the Close being left unmown during the month of May.

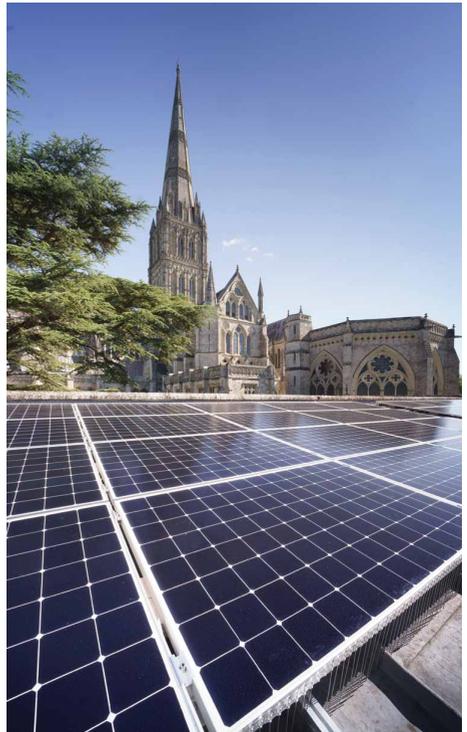
This initiative is championed by Plantlife, the charity with its base in Salisbury and which works to save threatened wild flowers, plants and fungi.

Robert said the aim was to boost bee visits to our lawns.

He said: “Plantlife calculates that one square metre of lawn left to flower supplies enough nectar to sustain an average 3.8 bees a day.

“It hopes that the initiative might lead us to think about a greater variety of mowing regimes to benefit our wildlife.”

A rare fiddle dock was discovered last year, the existence of which is believed to date from the time when grazing of cattle took place in the Close.



Solar panels were installed on the south cloister roof in July last year.

Let's Go Green!

We are grateful to Julian Hepplewhite, chairman of Salisbury Cathedral Eco Church Steering Group, for the following contributions to Spire.

The threat climate change poses to our precious and fragile planet is widely recognised.

What is key is how the individual can play a part in responding to this challenge. We hope the following aide memoire produced by Salisbury Cathedral Eco Church Steering Group will provide some useful reminders of what questions need to be asked to address the climate emergency.

The cathedral is committed to caring for God's earth and has made significant strides in the last five years since it

signed up to the A Rocha Eco Church initiative.

We are delighted to report that having achieved the bronze and silver awards in 2018 and 2019, the cathedral has now been awarded the prestigious gold award. This is a very significant achievement, made possible by the combined efforts of the Dean and Chapter, cathedral staff, congregation and volunteers, and the wider community of those who live and work in the Cathedral Close.

We would love to hear from you about the steps you have taken to tackle climate change.

Please send your comments to Julia Lever, Friends' secretary at friends@salcath.co.uk.

A few reminders to help you on your way...

One of the great attractions of Salisbury Cathedral Close is that it is a haven for birds and wildlife. It is a green oasis within the city of Salisbury.

However, when concern for the safety of the planet is a global priority, the protection of the environment takes on a new significance and has led the cathedral to be part of the Eco Church initiative.

It is with this in mind that this eco questionnaire has been prepared.

It is not intended in any way to be prescriptive, rather it seeks to help those wanting to do more and we hope it will be viewed in this light.

This document has been produced by Salisbury Cathedral Eco Church Steering Group and has the support of the Cathedral Community Forum.

Rosemary Spencer

Chairman, Cathedral Community Forum

How Close to Nature am I?

My cathedral

- Do I support the ethical investment of cathedral funds?
- Do I support the cathedral's eco initiatives and caring for God's earth?
- Do I support initiatives by the cathedral to promote Fairtrade goods?

My green space

- Have I installed bird tables or bird boxes to encourage birdlife in my garden or communal green space?



- Do my trees, hedges and plants encourage birds, butterflies, bees and other insects to thrive?
- Do I avoid human made hazards to wildlife?
- Do I play my part in encouraging wildlife within the area in which I live?
- Do I compost my garden and household waste?
- Do I use a rainwater tub in the garden?

My transport

- Have I thought about investing in a bicycle?
- Do I need a car?
- Do I make too many car journeys when I could walk?
- Could I join a car sharing scheme?
- Could I walk or cycle to the cathedral?
- Have I considered an electric car?
- Do I use public transport enough?
- If my mode of transport is by mobility scooter/wheelchair, have I identified those areas where the local environment needs improvement to cater for the needs of those with mobility issues?

My home

- When I renew my heating boiler do I make a choice based on the environmental impact of the boiler?
- Am I on a green tariff for my heating and hot water?
- Do I regularly switch off my lights?
- Do I use energy saving lights?
- Do I have loft/cavity wall insulation?
- Do I have double-glazing?
- Have I considered installing solar panels?
- Do I recycle all that I can?
- Do I use environmentally-friendly cleaning products?
- Do I reduce water consumption through conservation?

My lifestyle (health and well-being)

- Do I purchase enough healthy locally-produced products?
- Do I purchase from grocery stores which sell their produce loose and free of packaging?
- Do I choose food produced with minimal chemicals?
- Do I refuse single-use plastic and take my own re-usable shopping bag to the shops?
- Do I purchase Fairtrade-labelled items wherever possible?
- Do I do enough to avoid food waste?
- Am I observant enough of the environment in which I live and its importance to my wellbeing?
- Could I reduce the number of flights I take?

My community

- Do I support measures for the safety and security of those living in and visiting the area in which I live?
- Do I value my local community enough or do I need to do more to help my neighbours or to be involved in community activities?
- Do I support environmentally-friendly projects in my community?
- Am I a responsible citizen concerned for the well-being of the vulnerable in society?
- Have I considered being a keyholder/contact for key safe codes for the elderly in my community?
- Have I reported damage to trees shrubs and wildlife habitats in the area in which I live so that remedial/preventative action can be taken?

My personal finances

- Have I considered ethical investments when considering my personal savings?

And one last word!

- Do I know my own carbon footprint so that I can take steps to reduce it year

on year? Help with this can be found at the following link
<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk>.

Volunteers

Thank you to members who continue to offer their services as volunteers at our events.

While only a few are needed to help with our musical evenings, talks, new members' afternoons and coffee mornings, a large band is required for our annual *Secret Gardens of the Close* event, which this year is being held on 12th September.

For this, our flagship event, we need people to act as stewards, welcoming visitors to the gardens, and staffing the pay tent and Friends' gazebo.

Volunteering is a great way to get to know fellow Friends and help our charity at the same time.

If you can help, please get in touch with the office on 01722 555190.

Thank you.

Email addresses

We do not hold an email address for more than half of our members.

We would be grateful if you would provide your email address so that we can contact you more quickly and easily regarding events and other matters, if necessary.

Please email it to friends@salcath.co.uk or phone 01722 555190.

Salisbury Meditation

Cathedral assistant director of music John Challenger and a group of musical specialists have recorded Salisbury Meditation – Music for the NHS, a digital album of classics played during the vaccination sessions at the cathedral.

It celebrates this unique musical marathon – between them John and director of music David Halls clocked up more than 300 hours at the organ.

You can access the album via the link here:

<https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/news/salisbury-cathedral-releases-digital-'vax'-album-raise-funds-nhs>



The Cathedral Architect



MRA 4 (The High Chancel Gable)

Things are slowly returning to normality at the cathedral and in the works department after a strange year of pandemic restriction and intense work to meet many grant deadlines in early 2021. In the autumn, the government announced a series of Covid-19 recovery funds and the cathedral was fortunate to receive a grant of £250,000 from the Cultural Recovery Grant Scheme for Programmes of Major Works towards the completion of repairs to the chancel

gable (Major Repair Area 4). The work had to be complete by March 2021, which required an intense period of work from the cathedral masons and glaziers at a time of year not always suited to external work at such a height.

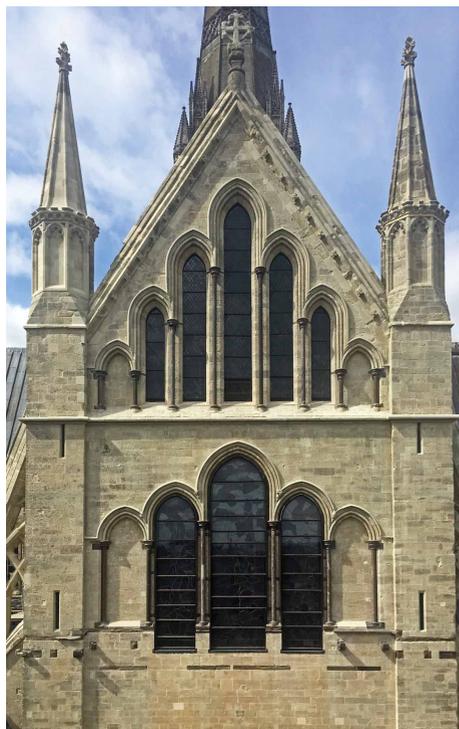
The works department did a sterling job to get MRA 4 finished in time and the scaffold was stuck exactly to schedule to reveal superbly repaired stonework and the newly-protected Moses Window. This important 18th century enamel-painted crown glass window is too fragile to take down for repairs, and this has presented some challenges over the last few years to ensure deterioration is addressed without further damage. This has been achieved by the installation of an external glazing system of toughened drawn sheet glass, supplied by Lamberts of Germany, set into a new Iroko frame meticulously made by the cathedral carpenter, Richard Pike. The cathedral glazing team led by Sam Kelly carefully lifted the fragile glass to the window as one of the last tasks before the team from Penmill Scaffolding struck the huge scaffold, to reveal the gable for the first time in more than five years.



Cathedral stonemasons muffled against the cold in January 2021.



The completed Moses window.



The completed chancel gable (MRA 4).

The south pinnacle of the chancel gable was one of the more challenging aspects of the work, and required several huge stones weighing nearly 400kgs to be hoisted into position.



Stonemason Alan Spittle rebuilding the south pinnacle of MRA 4.

A particularly intricate repair was the conservation and replacement arm to the high-level gable cross – it is always good to retain original carved fabric, and being able to give this important Christian symbol a healthy lease of life for possibly the next 800 years was very pleasing.



The repaired gable cross to MRA 4.

MRA 6 (The Trinity Chapel)

Work to the Trinity Chapel (MRA 6) resumed in April and is progressing well. Stonemason Sarah Klopper's carved nesting bird is hidden high-up on an east gable shaft capital; at present this intricate carving can be admired from the scaffold but eventually this will only be visible to, well, nesting birds!



Stonemason Sarah Klopper's carved nesting bird.

Cloisters Solar Panels

The solar panels on the cloisters roof were installed in 2020 and are now contributing to the electricity supply in the cathedral. The panels were installed in partnership with Salisbury Community Energy and save the cathedral the equivalent annual electricity consumption of eight average houses. Salisbury is now one of the three English cathedrals which are part-powered by the sun!

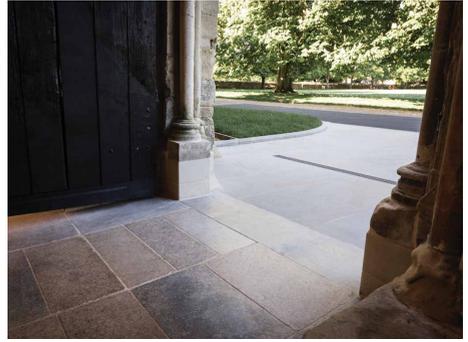


The completed solar panels on the cloisters.

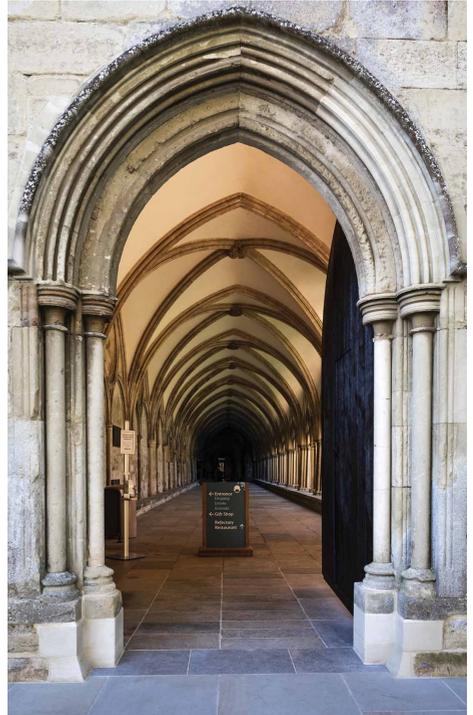
The Cloisters Entrance Ramp

The pandemic closure of the cathedral to visitors offered a fortuitous opportunity to embark on the work to remove and re-landscape the cloisters entrance ramp. The urgent need for this was highlighted when the cathedral was first used for vaccinations.

This work was very kindly funded by the Friends, and a small team of masons led by Luke Kingston and assisted by Ella-Louise Baldwin have done a super job in removing all trace of the fearful concrete ramp, lowering the threshold, and laying beautiful Purbeck and Forest of Dean stone paving – some of the finest quality stone landscaping I have seen.



The new lowered cloisters threshold.



A new welcome to the cathedral.

The cloisters door had to be lengthened by the cathedral carpenter to close the gap where the threshold was lowered; it is particularly interesting to see the extent of scarfing-in from the inside when the door is closed, as the door has been expertly re-coated externally to weather in the new and old oak.



The lengthened cloisters door.

Work also uncovered a forgotten Victorian drain, which was recorded by the cathedral archaeologist and cleaned out to be re-used to drain the new channel drains.

I'm not sure that the visitors to the cathedral who now seamlessly drift into the cloisters would even notice the missing concrete ski-ramp!

The Consistory Court Entrance Desk

While the cathedral was closed to visitors this spring, the opportunity was taken to replace the small entrance desk with a new, albeit temporary, visitor welcome desk. The old desk was too small and cramped for adequate social distancing, and did not have enough space for storage or staff expansion to cope with ticketed events. The need for a protective glazed screen due to Covid-19 may remain for a while yet, and the cathedral visitor welcome team were determined to deliver a new desk which incorporated a screen in a stylish way, but that could be removed in future. The design of the desk was a challenge; it had to incorporate all the lighting for the Consistory Court, as well as a lower desk for wheelchair users, and be constructed from a kit of parts in a very swift process on site to be ready for visitors in May.

The design was inspired by the curved forms of the vaulting ribs in the Consistory Court, as well as an opening shell, but is also curved to respond to the tapering proportions of the floor plan of the Consistory Court, and to try and orientate staff more towards the entrance door without being as much of a barrier as the old desk. The desk is made by laser-cut layers of plywood stacked on top of each other – it was even possible to cut interlocking tabs into the plywood sections so that they could be fitted together on site like a gigantic jigsaw puzzle.



The new cathedral visitor welcome desk.

The bulk of the construction work in the Consistory Court was undertaken by joiners from Wiltshire Creative in Salisbury. I delegated the stressful job of drawing, checking and double-checking all the plywood templates for the laser cutter to Laura Rogers in my office. The procedure was a bit like drawing and sequentially numbering every piece of a jigsaw puzzle separately and being certain someone else can fit them all together without a mistake; and every piece did fit together perfectly!



Detail of the interlocking plywood desk.

In time, and subject to funding, the idea is to replace the desk with a similar shaped permanent desk, perhaps made from stone floating on a sea of light!

Rope Access Maintenance

A programme of rope access maintenance will be undertaken this summer to the south aisle stonework (MRA 17); workers will be visible through the glass roof of the plumbery restaurant. This work will be funded by an emergency Covid-19 recovery grant from Historic England.

Quinquennial Inspection

The five-yearly quinquennial inspection of the cathedral is due this year, and I have already commenced this with the inspection of the spire and tower with the cathedral structural engineer, Andrew Waring. This is an important survey of the condition of the entire cathedral, that will inform future repair work and monitor any ongoing repair issues.

Looking back at what has been achieved this year, it is evident how much work at the cathedral is paid for by public funding, private donations, charitable trusts, and fundraising by organisations like the Friends. Without all of this generous help very little repair and regeneration work would be achievable on the cathedral. This work not only benefits the cathedral as a building, but also provides work and support to many workers and their families, as well as providing invaluable training and continuity to the craft tradition for which Salisbury Cathedral plays a vitally important national role.

Izaak Hudson

The 2022 Flower Festival

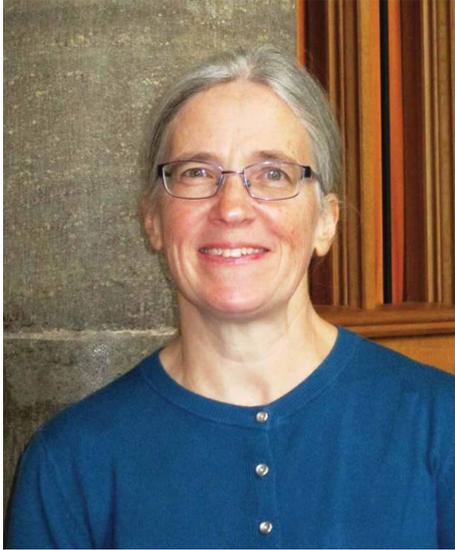
Members will remember that the much-anticipated flower festival entitled Confluence due to take place in September 2020 had to be postponed because of the pandemic.

The festival will now begin on Tuesday 10th May 2022 and run until Sunday 15th May.

Designers Michael Bowyer, Pam Lewis and Angela Turner will be joined by 300 flower arrangers from across the Diocese of Salisbury.

Visitors will be able to see some of the original designs and many new ones.

The Archivist - Archive and Library report



There has been one positive benefit for my library and archive colleagues and me during this last year of lockdowns: we found we had more time than usual to spend on cataloguing the cathedral's collections. Cataloguing is essential if we are to have a full and accurate knowledge of the books and documents that our predecessors have left in our care for our enjoyment and enlightenment. Cataloguing can also be deeply satisfying if one has a propensity for classification and orderliness – qualities essential for an archivist and a librarian.

Cataloguing is also at the heart of our *Beyond the Library Door* project, a project generously funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund as well as by many others, including the Friends. This three-year project started in October 2017, was due to finish in October 2020, and will now officially come to an end in October 2021. Our primary aims for the project are 'to open up access to the library (and

the archive) collections through an online searchable catalogue and to record additional copy-specific information so we are better informed about the collection and can plan for its future conservation needs'. The project has also included numerous opportunities for people to visit the library and engage with the collection to try to dispel the preconceptions of some people that old books are 'dusty, dull, and hard to read'. Luckily, we had already organised most of the project's public outreach activities before lockdown started, but we still have one further public discovery day planned for Saturday 30th October 2021 - to celebrate the end of the project – do please come if you can, more details in due course.

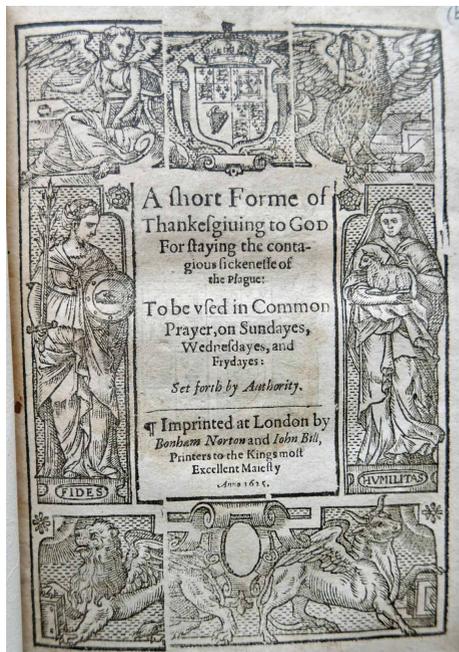
You can access the library and archive catalogues either directly via this link <https://collections.salisburycathedral.org.uk/home> or through the information about the library and archive on the cathedral's own website. The *Beyond the Library Door* project was focused on cataloguing the library books and the online catalogue now contains a catalogue record for more than 4,500 books and is growing every week. Not only are these books catalogued, but the vast majority of them have been catalogued to an exceptional level of detail to include information on bindings, previous owners, and annotations. To have catalogued such a number in less than three years is an outstanding achievement and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleague, Dr Anne Dutton and her team of five cataloguing volunteers, all of whom work part-time, for their dedication to this task.



I'd now like to share with you a few of the items that Anne and I have recently catalogued from both the library and the archive. Firstly, from the library: Some rather topical items are six pamphlets giving special forms of prayer to be used in churches and by individuals during and after outbreaks of plague. These six are from an extensive collection of English pamphlets, mostly political and religious, dating from the 16th and 17th centuries. Already Anne has catalogued 400 of these, but that is probably only about a quarter of the whole collection. We won't know how many there are in total until they have all been catalogued. The earliest of the 'plague' pamphlets was issued by the Church of England in July 1563, when London was experiencing the worst outbreak of the plague in the sixteenth century. The title (in its original

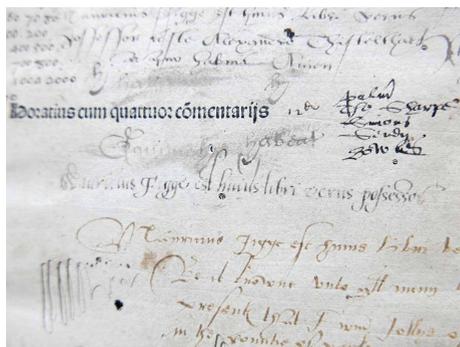
spelling) is: *A fourme to be vsed in common prayer, twyse a weke, and also an order of publike fast, to be vsed euery Wednesday in the weeke, duryng this tyme of mortalitie, and other afflictions, wherwith the realme at this present is visited.* Other 'plague' pamphlets are forms of prayer thanking God that the outbreak is over, such as one from 1604, *A short forme of thankesgiuing to God, for staying the contagious sickenes of the plague to be vsed in common prayer, on Sundayes, Wednesdayes, and Fridayes.* It's good to remember that the country – and the cathedral – has experienced epidemics in the past and has survived.

One of the treasures of the library are 41 volumes known as incunabula. Incunabula are books printed before 1501, in the first 50 years after Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press. The word Incunabula comes from the Latin word for cradle (cunae), and has evolved to mean books from the beginning of printing. Alongside the work of cataloguing the incunabula for our own catalogue, Anne is also creating catalogue records for our incunabula on the Material Evidence in Incunabula database on CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries), which is linked to the ISTC (Incunabula Short Title Catalogue), and part of the University of Oxford's 15th Century Book Trade Project. The aim of this project is to enable patterns to be identified in the distribution and use of printed books in the 15th century. Salisbury is the only English cathedral contributing to the project and to date 32 of our 41 incunabula have been catalogued. One of these is a copy of the works of the Roman poet Horace, printed in Venice in 1496. It is very heavily annotated, and



The title page of one of the library's 'plague' pamphlets. This one is dated 1625.

one of its previous owners was Maurice Figge, headmaster of the Salisbury Grammar School in 1581. We know this because one of inscriptions in the front of the book reads: *Maurice Figge is the real holder of the book according to Alexander Thistellhart* - which rather mysteriously seems to suggest that there must have been some disagreement over who did own it! Unfortunately, we don't know any further details.

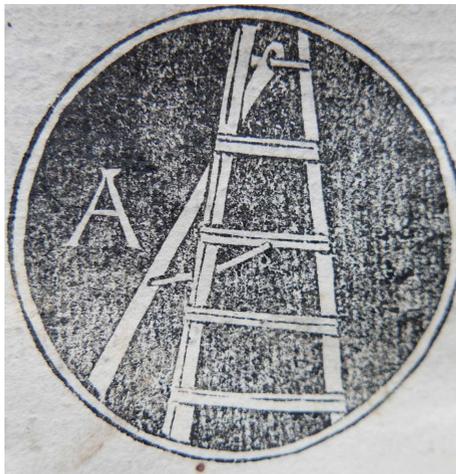


The first page of the 1496 works of Horace is heavily annotated with the names and notes of previous owners including Maurice Figge.

Another inscription notes that William Jollie of Downham, York a yeoman owes £10 of 'good lawful English money' to Lawrence Fuller of Hereford, Lancaster. This note has nothing to do with the book itself, rather the book just provided a handy place to record an IOU!

Another recently catalogued incunable is a copy of Giacomo Publicio's *Artes orandi, epistolandi, memoranda* (The Arts of Speaking, Letter-writing, and Remembering), printed in Venice in 1485. The volume contains many woodcut illustrations, including a picture of a chess board set up in an opening position (chess is described as being good for the memory), and seven pages

of a mnemonic alphabet, where each letter is illustrated by an object whose shape resembles the letter itself. For some, the shape of the objects clearly



A mnemonic alphabet: A is represented by a folding ladder.



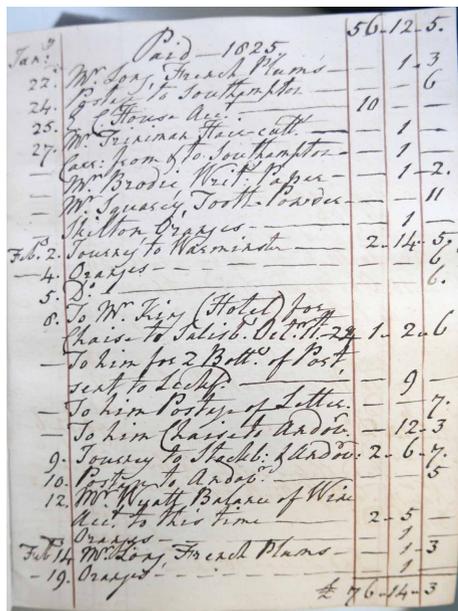
A mnemonic alphabet: memory aids for the letters I, L, M and N.

matches the shape of the letter (such as a folding ladder illustrating a capital A) but others need a little more imagination. A gallows and noose to represent a capital N is a particularly macabre connection - a far cry from a child's alphabet book of today.

Cataloguing of the archive collection is being tackled in three ways: detailed cataloguing of items previously listed in the old paper catalogues, items which have been stored in the archive for many years and haven't been catalogued at all, and recent accessions. My colleague, Hannah Whittingham, assistant archivist, has contributed greatly to making progress on the archive cataloguing during 2020-2021. We are also supported by the very welcome assistance of a small group of volunteers. There is a lot to catalogue, so I was particularly sorry to say goodbye to Hannah in December 2020 when she left to take up a full-time position at Bath Record Office.

The key objectives of cataloguing are to record the main characteristics of an item in order to enable someone else to find it easily, and to give a flavour of what the item is all about. Occasionally I find myself cataloguing something and thinking 'I wish I could spend more time researching this further'! One such recent item is the account book of an unknown 19th century gentleman living in Salisbury. This book records all his financial outgoings during the years 1821-1840, giving an insight into his life and times. Further research may help to identify him as there are several references to rent payments for property around the city, including Crane Street, Endless Street, and Rolleston Street. Purchases of personal items are also listed for items such as gloves, tooth powder and 'nail nippers', as well as

charitable donations, wages to domestic servants and various taxes. He seems to have been fond of fruit - particularly strawberries and oranges. How this volume ended up in the cathedral archive is a complete mystery. As the number 22 is written on the front cover there must at one time have been at least 21 others.

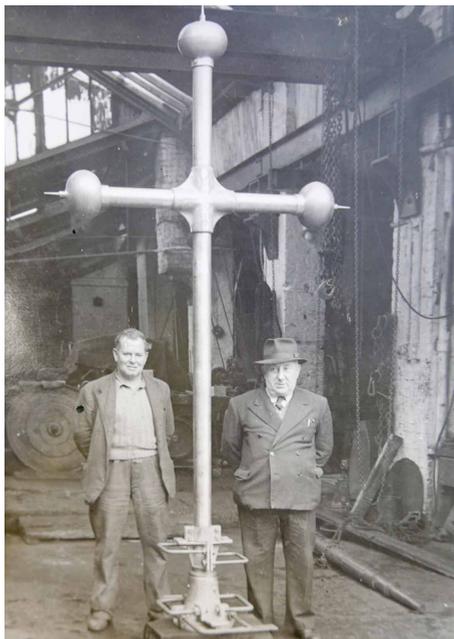


A page from an unknown 19th century gentleman's account book.

One recently catalogued collection, which does have a clear connection with the cathedral, was donated to the archive this year. It is a group of letters written by Canon James Fletcher from 1911 to 1940. Canon Fletcher was attached to the cathedral prebend of Stratford from 1912 to 1940. During that time, he also worked in the cathedral library, first as assistant librarian and then as librarian from 1936 until his death in 1940. Before moving to Salisbury, Canon Fletcher was the vicar of Tideswell in Derbyshire, and these letters are ones he wrote to his Tideswell colleague and

friend Fred Chapman. Although the letters primarily concern matters relating to Tideswell, of particular interest to us are his occasional descriptions of life at the cathedral. One letter dated 1st October 1939 gives an insight into the lives of refugee children in the Close. Canon Fletcher writes: *They allotted us nine boys from a secondary school at Portsmouth and one of their masters. They can eat – often three good heaps of meat and vegetables and three of pudding and tart!!! The bishop has 12 at the palace, we had the next largest number. The Dean has 7. We have a special service for them all at 9.30 on Sundays, which I believe all in the Close or near neighbourhood attend, which means some hundreds.*

Old photographs are always fascinating. Two which recently came to light are of the new cross on the top of the spire. The photos were taken in 1950 in the workshop of Mr Charles Lisney, master blacksmith who rented premises in Limehouse, London. The photo reproduced here shows Mr Lisney on the left and on the right possibly Mr McWilliams (wearing a hat) who was an employee of Messrs J W Gray, Lightening Contractors.



The new spire cross 1950.

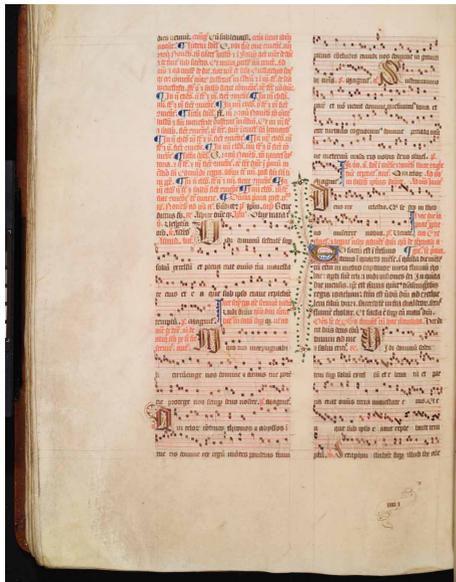
Finally, another item of interest is a group of informal sketches by Alison Jensen made during a service led by Dean Sydney Evans, possibly in the early 1980s. They include two pencil sketches of poet laureate William Golding reading an extract from his essay 'A moving target.'



A sketch of William Golding by Alison Jensen.

Anne and I have not spent quite all our time cataloguing during the last year. In December, we worked with experts from DIAMM (Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music) to enable the digitisation of two of the library's medieval manuscripts: two breviaries of the use of Sarum, one dated circa 1460, the other dating to the late 1300s. These images are now freely available to anyone to view on DIAMM's website.

One of the display cases funded by the Friends last year is now a permanent feature on the cathedral floor, enabling us to share items from the library and archive with visitors. Rather fittingly, we have positioned it near the old muniment chests in the north quire aisle. A new visitor interpretation sign also gives more information about the chest and includes, via a QR code, a 60-second visit to the library. Do look out for the case when you are next in the cathedral.



Folio 144v from a recently digitised manuscript.



The larger of the two new display cases, funded by the Friends, is now permanently located in the north quire aisle.

As I write, we are looking forward to welcoming our book cleaning volunteers back to the library to complete this vital work. We also hope to resume our usual library tours and collection talks before too long, so there should be lots to share with you in next year's *Spire* about life and work in the library and archive.

Emily Naish



Lynda Sayce, DIAMM photographer, at work in a blacked-out library.

Membership cards

Your 2021/22 membership cards are on the back cover of *Spire*.

Please pop them out and remember to take them with you when you visit the cathedral.

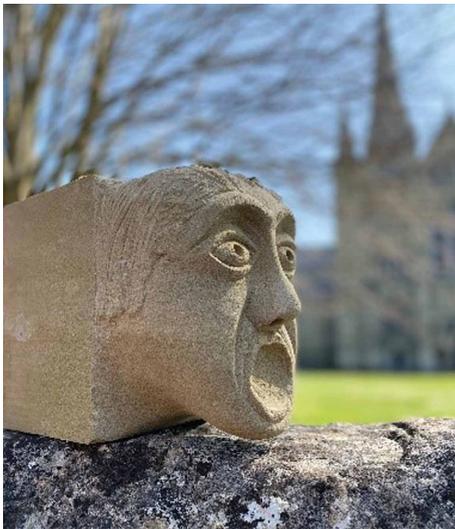
Booking instructions are on the inside back cover.

The Clerk of the Works



As ever, it's a privilege to give an update to our valued Friends, who do so much for my department and the cathedral as a whole.

I left you in March 2020 with news of a budding stone mason in my family, namely my son Archie, who carved a grotesque for his end of year art exam. I am pleased to say he was graded an 8.



Gary's son Archie's stone grotesque.

Well, 2020 was quite the year, wasn't it?! I do hope you and yours have all emerged as unscathed as possible and I offer my deepest condolences if that hasn't been the case.

My thoughts were also with Her Majesty the Queen on the sad loss of Prince Philip in April. He was such a remarkable man with so many incredible achievements.

You will all have guessed or been aware that the cathedral, like every individual and organisation, felt the effects of the pandemic: my team were all furloughed twice and of course, there were concerns regarding being able to carry on the repair work.

I think the whole country became even more aware of the marvellous work our NHS staff do. We wanted to pay tribute to all the key workers, so I fixed some lighting gels over our 16 tower spotlights and our magnificent spire turned blue.



Turning the spire blue in tribute to all key workers.

We were so fortunate to be one of the recipients of a number of grants and my team worked very hard, even through sub-zero temperatures at times, to have the high east gable Major Repair Area 4 (MRA4) completed to the funding deadline.

In fact, they completed before the deadline and those of you who live locally

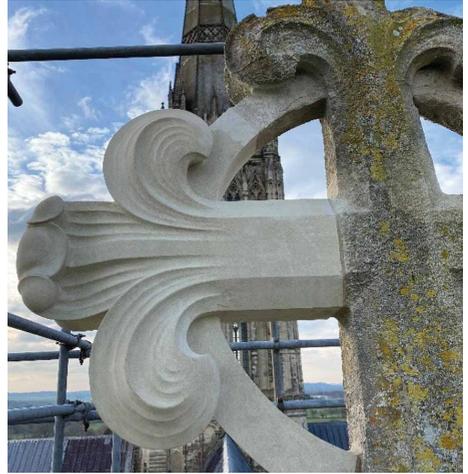


may well have seen our work gradually being unveiled lift by lift, as the scaffolding was removed, also bringing the Moses window back into view. I took this picture (3) from the roof below showing the repaired stonework, the newly timber-framed and isothermally-glazed window.



The repaired stonework and newly timber-framed and isothermally-glazed window on the high east gable.

Four hundred and twenty-two stones were replaced and the majority of these were to both pinnacles either side of the gable, along with weatherings, a replacement cross piece and a new finial on each pinnacle.



The cross piece, worked and fixed in place by mason Andrew Kirby.



The same view in the context of the whole building.



The hole through the scaffolding shows the place where the south pinnacle used to be before it was dismantled for repair.



Alan Spittle and Dave Vanstone hoisting a 375kg castellation stone up to the south pinnacle.



Mason Carol Pike with her replacement finial.



Looking down through the middle of the south pinnacle.

There were a couple of items we also put in place while we had the chance: a time capsule inserted into an original put log hole inside the south pinnacle, and mason Alan Spittle carved a lion's head into one of the large castellation stones. Neither of these will be seen for many hundreds of years until repairs are next

needed in this area and hopefully the masons at that time will find these as interesting as we find the little human additions we find around the building. The time capsule contains all the stonemasons' banker marks, some photos of the pinnacle being dismantled, a group photo of the current team, some text about the project and a bit about the 2020 Covid year, and a 50 pence and one pound coin from 2020.



The time capsule.



The lion's head carving by Alan Spittle.



The lion's head in the castellation stone.

Our next project was to improve the main visitor entrance into the cloisters.

At the time of writing, this project is ongoing, but some of you may see this completed by the time this edition of *Spire* reaches you.

Although the ramp meant that our visitors who use wheelchairs could access the building, it was very steep and its shortcomings were brought into sharp relief when the cathedral was used as a vaccination centre and more older city residents needed to use it.

The cathedral's architect drew up plans and a version approved by the cathedral's fabric advisory committee.

This project was given to stone mason Luke Kingston to oversee.

Luke co-ordinated his team of colleagues, Christian Sullivan, Ella-Louise Baldwin and Andrew Kirby to remove the tarmac ramp, lower the threshold and introduce new Purbeck paving inside and Forest of Dean paving for the outside, and to bring back into use the Victorian drainage system underneath.

Our archaeologist, Graham Keevill kept a watching brief during his site visits, but sadly there were no finds.

The cathedral's ecclesiastical joiner, Richard Pike will also alter the door to accommodate the new level.

I have to say the whole thing really will be an enormous improvement both practically and visually.



Christian Sullivan and Andrew Kirby breaking out the old ramp.



The newly levelled area with the gap at the bottom of the door showing where the ground used to be.



Luke Kingston gently persuading a flagstone into place.

In last year's update, I mentioned the *Spirit and Endeavour* art exhibition, which saw 20 different artists displaying their work inside and outside the cathedral to mark our 800th anniversary. The exhibition was extended by six months due to Covid restrictions. It stayed with us until 21st April so more local visitors could see it during their daily walks. There was also a virtual online tour.

Although we couldn't have all of our intended 800th anniversary celebrations, we still had a visit on the 7th of December from Prince Charles and Camilla when the stone we carved was blessed and Lee Andrews our head mason did a reading right in front of the royal couple. You may have seen the photos of the block being chosen at the quarry in last year's *Spire*.



Lee Andrews, Gary Price and Sarah Klopfer with the dedicated stone.

The stone will be fixed later this year. Its inscription reads: "In the presence of HRH The Prince of Wales and HRH The Duchess of Cornwall this stone was dedicated by the Bishop of Salisbury to mark the 800th anniversary of the cathedral's re-foundation 07.XII.AD.2020"



Head mason Lee Andrews reading during the foundation service.



Clerk of the works Gary Price is introduced to the Prince of Wales.



In an end-of-an-era moment, it was with slightly mixed feelings that I accepted Christian's resignation, as he has been a much-appreciated member of our team and the first apprentice that I took on in my clerk of the works role, but experiencing the great wide world is always very exciting. Christian always displayed his passion for the work, attending a carving experience day here long before we knew who he was and going to great lengths to ensure his apprentice application reached us in person.

He has brought dedication, an excellent sense of humour and amazing gaming skills!

He leaves us, hopefully with some good memories and definitely with excellent masonry skills, and I know he will succeed in all of his future endeavours.

Assuming the government's road map goes according to plan, we will be running a few carving courses this year.

We will be holding three workshops of six people instead of the usual ten; this way we can observe the recommended distancing, plus the courses are, as usual, held in our open-sided tent so they are under cover, but extremely well ventilated.

Our peregrines rewarded us again this year by laying eggs in our bespoke, hand-made nesting box.

We have four eggs this year and I had a competition with my wife and my PA about the date of the first egg being laid. I'm not one to crow, but I was right! If only we had all put money on it, something to keep in mind perhaps for next year...

Our *Sponsor a Stone* scheme is ongoing. I would like to say a very big thank you to our past and present sponsorship donors for their valuable gifts that have helped towards the vital repair of the cathedral. The scheme continues to be extremely



One of the cathedral's peregrines.

popular and I would dearly love to see more stones being sponsored.

To take advantage of the scheme there are only 250 stones remaining before all the stones are fixed in the next few years. We are very happy to accept pledges and payments in instalments over one to four years, which helps with our planning to know that this vital repair work will be able to continue.

The sponsor's initials are carved into the joint or bed of his or her chosen stone and the names are handwritten in a special ledger, which will be kept in the fabric archives to remember your gift.

For more information you can pick up a leaflet in the cathedral or contact Jilly Wright in the development office on 01722 555122 or j.wright@salcath.co.uk I hope I have given you a small insight into our year and I look forward to writing again next year.

This just leaves me to say a huge thank you for reading and please stay safe.

Gary Price



A sponsor's initials carved into the bottom bed of the stone.

The Director of Music



Since spring 2020 and with the steady onset of Covid-19, the year has felt very unusual and unfamiliar for the cathedral choir.

Advent in particular was something of a non-event as our spectacular *From Darkness to Light* services were cancelled and it was only with some good fortune that we were able to sing at Christmas at all, under strict Government and Church of England guidelines.

The cathedral's 800th anniversary celebrations and an organ festival were both prevented by these measures, although the cathedral choir took part in the online *Salisbury Anthem*, a commission which celebrated both cathedral and the city community.

So, what has it been like under the restrictions for the cathedral choir?

As it gradually became clear that the pandemic situation was not going to be resolved quickly, I like many of my colleagues in other cathedrals sought different and imaginative ways to keep our choristers singing while also trying to provide music in the new world of streamed services.

We established with the help of various communications platforms (of which

Zoom is one) a way of rehearsing the choristers.

Picture the scene: me and a camera in the cathedral school with the faces of my choristers on a laptop, each child taking part on their own in my rehearsals.

We rehearsed music as best as we could and then the children were tasked, with their parents' help, to record themselves and send the recording in for editing and then using as part of a streamed Sunday service.

This was a lengthy process, although I felt it importantly allowed the choristers to still feel part of a team.

Meanwhile, the lay vicars were themselves making recordings of various pieces which were also used in streamed services.

The situation continued like this for months and I felt particularly sorry for my oldest choristers who did not experience the climax to their chorister careers, as the Winchester Southern Cathedrals' Festival was cancelled and their last singing day here in July was a low-key affair.

In the Autumn of 2020, the social distancing rules started to relax, and we were permitted professional singing in the cathedral with strict observance of 'bubbles' becoming the guiding principle. Practically speaking, this meant that I could have my choristers singing and grouped in their two school bubbles: broadly, the seniors and the juniors as opposed to being all mixed up together.

I was nervous about how the junior group would manage, being separated by at least two metres from the experienced senior group and was delighted by the way in which they took up the challenge.





Its artful care
shines for posterity.
Since bishop, king and
mason worked as one.

Salisbury Cathedral Choir took part in **the Salisbury Anthem**, commissioned to celebrate the cathedral and city.

One had also to remember that the choir, as always, felt like a new choir in September, our having said farewell to ten fully trained choristers in July.

We even had to process in and out of services in a strange format and the lay vicars had to be at least two metres from each other and from the choristers.

As the song room was considered too small for safety, we rehearsed either in the quire or in the Chapter House. It was hardly an ideal way to make music together.

December 2020 came and went under these circumstances, but I am proud that we were able to host a royal visit, delivered the boy bishop ceremony and live streamed countless sung services with great success.

One item of news which seems to have caught the imagination is our provision of organ music during the cathedral's vaccination days.

My colleague, John Challenger and I have been playing for these important days from 8.30am until about 4pm.

People have been so appreciative of our performances of soothing classics (with a few numbers from the musicals too) and have even sent us requests which we have done our best to play.

To be able to make a small contribution to the positive news of the vaccinations has been a pleasure and a privilege.

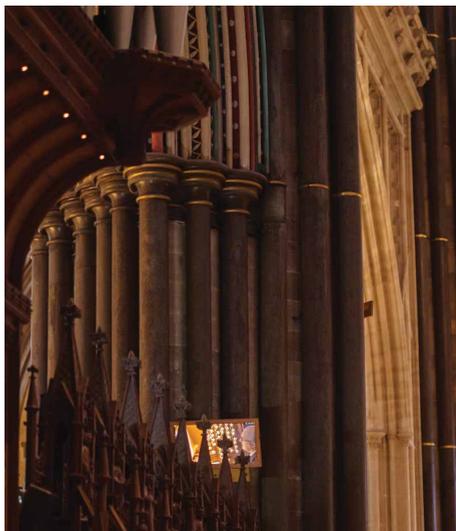
You will understand, I hope that we have done our very best to take positives from this year.

Apart from keeping the cathedral choir singing more or less all the time in some form, we have learned how to use technology to widen our mission, we have promoted a number of probationers into the choir, and speaking personally, I was honoured to receive a Pride of Wiltshire award from *Wiltshire Life* and also to come runner-up in a national composition competition.

Although this continues to be a difficult time for all musicians, I feel optimistic that with the current vaccination programme gathering momentum, the tide has finally turned.

I am enormously grateful to my musical colleagues, both young and old, for their patience and fortitude during these unusual times and I know that I shall have my full choir singing once again very soon.

David Halls



The organ playing during the vaccination clinics was much appreciated.

David Halls honoured

Despite 2020 being a year most people would like to forget, cathedral director of music David Halls ended it on a high note by being honoured with two awards.



During an online awards evening, Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire Sarah Troughton presented him with the Pride of Wiltshire award for his services to music in the county.

In the same week he was runner up in the Royal College of Organists or RCO Composition Competition 2020 (25 years or above category).

The competition is open to organists and composers across the country and was launched last year as part of a series of opportunities for organists, choral directors and composers.

It was judged by RCO president Gerard Brooks, Master of the Queen's Music Judith Weir, and Thomas Trotter, international concert organist and organist of Birmingham Town Hall.

Speaking about David's composition, *Passacaglia*, Mr Brooks said: "The work has a good sense of forward movement, and the musical ideas are effectively and interestingly developed as the music progresses."

The Pride of Wiltshire award is given to those who have made a significant contribution to the county and is one of a series of *Wiltshire Life* awards that aim to raise the profile of businesses, charities and community groups.

David said: "I was delighted to receive both awards.

"I am fortunate to be able to work with exceptionally talented professionals and brilliant amateurs, and to have made so many friends as a result of my music making."

Make me a Light

During the third national lockdown, which began in January, musicians from Salisbury Cathedral and Salisbury Cathedral School joined forces in an online voice workshop for younger children that ended in a virtual performance of Philip Wilby's *Make me a Light* in the cathedral on Easter day.

Children could take part in the workshop at home with the family or as part of school lessons.

Sessions began with vocal exercises led by Susie Lamb, director of music at the cathedral school, followed by sessions with cathedral director of music David Halls.

Once they had done the workshop, the children were asked to make their own recording of the song and send it in.



The Cathedral's Year in Words and Pictures

The dawning of 2020 had brought with it the promise of a packed programme of celebrations to mark the 800th anniversary of the laying of the cathedral's foundation stones.



But as the coronavirus pandemic, which began in China in the latter months of 2019, swept across the world, it soon became clear that most of those events could not take place.



The cathedral's main entrance remained closed during lockdowns.



A lone mother pushes her pram down a deserted nave just before the cathedral closed for the first national lockdown.

Among the musical casualties were the Choral Foundation concert, St John Passion and the organ festival, the latter intended to show off the newly-restored Father Willis organ.

On 23rd March 2020 Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the country would go into lockdown, all public buildings, including churches and cathedrals must close and everyone had to 'stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives'.

Just a month earlier, half-term had seen 10,000 people flock to the cathedral for *Sarum Lights*, a spectacular sound and light show.

And the eighth annual Salisbury Pancake Race on Shrove Tuesday went ahead in the cathedral cloisters, due to heavy rain making the High Street too slippery.



In the early weeks of the first lockdown, daily walks for Close residents were enlivened by the ***Spirit and Endeavour*** exhibits including Danny Lane's ***Stairway*** and Henry Moore's ***Large Reclining Figure***.

But during March, visitor numbers plummeted as countries grounded flights and stopped ferry crossings, and UK citizens put spring breaks on hold.

In the early weeks of lockdown, people living in the Close and surrounding area could derive much-needed cheer on their daily walks from the *Spirit and Endeavour* outdoor exhibits.

There were pieces by Henry Moore, Danny Lane, Subodh Gupta, Conrad Shawcross, Peter Newman, Shirazeh Houshiary and Lynn Chadwick.

The cathedral stepped up its mission to reach out to the community, with its clergy recording *Daily Reflections*, uploaded onto the cathedral's YouTube channel.

It also recorded services, including a special one to mark the cathedral's birthday on 28th April, as well as a virtual tour of the *Spirit and Endeavour* exhibition.

Later that year, the Friends provided the funding for live streaming equipment, enabling cathedral services to be viewed as they happen during lockdown periods and at all times by those unable to worship in person.

Numbers attending online services were greater than those previously worshipping in person, demonstrating that many people were feeling so isolated at home that online worship also became a way of sharing precious time with others.

Similarly, the national Clap for Carers on Thursday evenings was taken up enthusiastically by residents of the Close.



In June, the cathedral was allowed to open for private prayer.



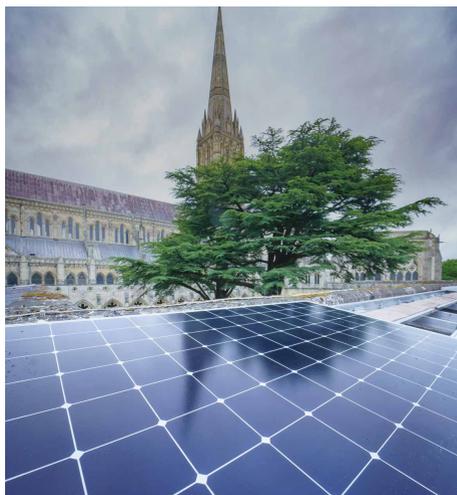
Continuing Government restrictions meant the pilgrimage to the Holy Land, due to be led by the Dean from 23rd May to 1st June had to be cancelled, along with the Visitation service in the cathedral in June to swear in new churchwardens, and Confluence, the flower festival due to be held in September.

The Visitation service was conducted online.

On 15th June the cathedral re-opened for private prayer. Those attending – socially-distanced - were able to light candles, but not take part in any corporate act of worship.

The following month saw the installation of 93 solar panels on the cathedral's south cloister roof, as part of its aim to be carbon neutral by 2030.

The panels, which cover 150 square metres, cannot be seen from the ground, but are visible to those on tower tours.



Solar panels were installed on the south cloister roof in July helping the cathedral towards its target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

They are estimated to produce more than 30,000kw hours each year, equivalent to the usage of eight British households.

Also in July, lockdown restrictions eased and in-person worship resumed in churches and cathedrals.

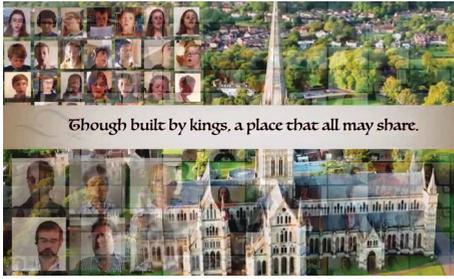
Salisbury Cathedral Flowers celebrated by creating a number of magnificent arrangements.



As the cathedral re-opened fully in July, Salisbury Cathedral Flowers celebrated with a number of stunning displays including this colourful arrangement.

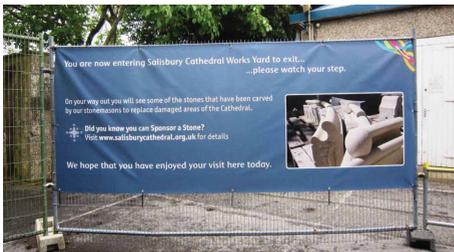
As visitors returned, in much smaller numbers than would be expected in normal times, they were greeted by a number of new measures: they had to provide their contact details, wear face coverings, keep socially-distanced from others and leave via the works yard.

While walking through the cloisters they were entertained by the Salisbury Anthem – specially commissioned to celebrate the 800th anniversary – played on a big screen.



Though built by kings, a place that all may share.

Visitors wandering around the cloister could listen to the Salisbury Anthem, commissioned to mark the 800th anniversary of the cathedral's foundation.



UK visitors and a handful from overseas, who returned to the cathedral albeit in much smaller numbers, had to follow a number of rules, including leaving their contact details, wearing face coverings and exiting via the works yard.

The cathedral launched its recovery appeal in a bid to recover the estimated £2 million in lost visitor income.

The public responded generously, with £315,000 being donated, including £36,786 given by members of the Friends.

In August, the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Eat Out to Help Out initiative, school holidays and fine weather encouraged visitors into the Close.

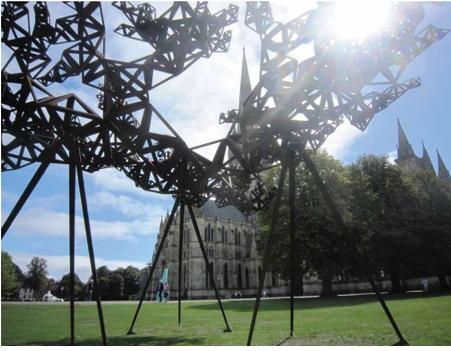
There was a more relaxed atmosphere, with some pausing to play or to simply have a chat on Peter Newman's Skystation.



The cathedral launched its recovery appeal, in a bid to recoup some of the £2 million visitor income, estimated to have been lost due to the pandemic.



Fine late summer weather saw a holiday atmosphere in the Close, with visitors enjoying family time on Peter Newman's Skystation.



Sunny weather enabled Conrad Shawcross's **Formation 1 (The Dappled Light of the Sun)** to be shown off to best advantage.

At the end of the month new Vicar of the Close, the Revd Canon Nigel Davies, who had been due to arrive at the end of April, was licensed.



The Revd Canon Nigel Davies was licensed as Vicar of the Close at the end of August.

From 1st September, an £8 charge was introduced for adult visitors to the cathedral, ending the long-held practice of asking for a recommended donation.

The ticket is valid for a year, allowing return visits, and there are reduced fees for students.



September saw the introduction of entrance charges as, in response to the devastating effect of the pandemic on the cathedral's income, Chapter abandoned the long-held practice of asking visitors for a recommended donation.



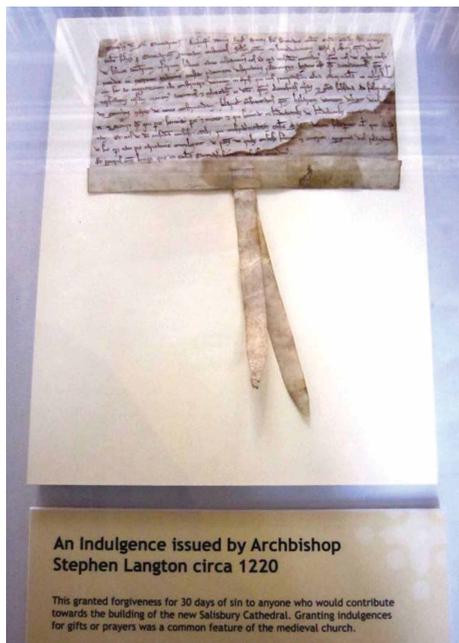
Cathedral archivist Emily Naish put on an exhibition entitled **The Cathedral that moved**, telling the story of the move in 1220 from Old Sarum to the present site.

Exemptions apply for the congregation, volunteers, Friends' members and local residents.

Early paying visitors were treated to a bonus in the shape of cathedral archivist Emily Naish's exhibition, *The Cathedral that Moved*.

The collection of treasures from the library and archive included the papal bull (letter) permitting the cathedral to move from Old Sarum, the Register of St Osmund, which contains documents from the cathedral's earliest history, and a 19-foot list of all the food eaten by a canon treasurer in a year.

There were also two information boards and a four-minute animated film by students of Bournemouth University.



Among the exhibits was an Indulgence issued by Archbishop Stephen Langton in about 1220, granting forgiveness for 30 days of sin to anyone contributing towards the cost of construction.

November saw the country again put into lockdown measures.

Churches held Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day services outdoors, with worshippers standing socially-distanced around war memorials.



Cathedral Flowers placed these simple, but effective poppy arrangements in the crossing to mark Remembrance season.

The displays of poppies arranged by Salisbury Cathedral Flowers to mark the time to remember those lost through war, took on an added poignancy in the year when thousands lost their lives due to the pandemic.

In response to the lockdown, the cathedral extended the *Light of Hope* installation until early December.

Devised by artist Peter Walker, the illumination was set up to mark All Saints' Tide, with Salisbury Cathedral joining other cathedrals across the country to illuminate the sky and send out a message of hope.

The display involved beams rising from the cathedral roof to form a cross of light intersecting at the pinnacle of the spire.

Later in November, on a grey, wet afternoon, the works department erected and lit the Nordmann fir Christmas tree outside the Friends' office, one of three



Ecclesiastical carpenter Richard Pike arranges the lights at the top of the Christmas tree, with clerk of the works Gary Price (left) and Richard Bates, also of the works department, steadying the ladder.

– the others being inside the west door and in the north porch.

The beginning of Advent would normally have been marked by the three *From Darkness to Light* services, attended by hundreds of people.

However, with Government restrictions banning large gatherings, these could not take place.

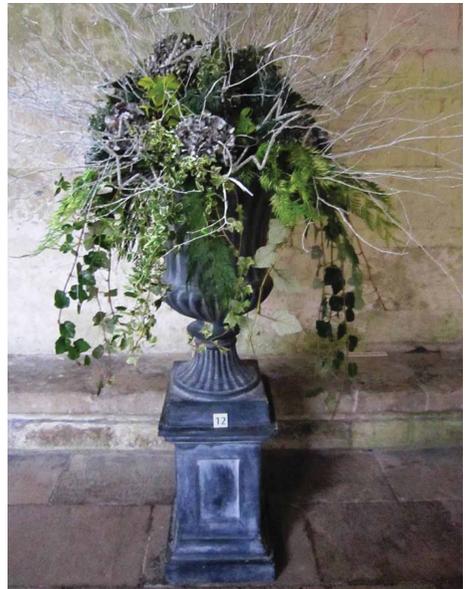
In early December when the cathedral reopened, visitors were invited to follow a Christmas Trail, a series of displays created by more than 30 members of Salisbury Cathedral Flowers.

Beginning with the magnificent Norway spruce Christmas tree in front of the west door and ending with an urn of green and silver-sprayed foliage, the displays interpreted popular Christmas traditions and their meanings.



This exquisite 'picture' created from hay represented the hay in the manger in the stable and was part of the Christmas Trail created by Salisbury Cathedral Flowers.

They included depictions of the role of angels as messengers of God, Christmas carols, the message of comfort and joy given to the shepherds, the three wise men, and St Nicholas and the legend of gift-giving.



A pedestal arrangement of green and silver-sprayed foliage depicted the star of Bethlehem, which led the wise men to the infant Jesus in the manger.

The concept of creative director Michael Bowyer, they were all created from foliage, including holly and ivy, and other materials, such as hay.

On 7th December the service of thanksgiving to mark the 800th anniversary of the laying of the cathedral's foundation stones took place.

The service, postponed from April because of the first lockdown, was attended by the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall.



Prince Charles and Dean Nicholas Papadopoulos at the foundation service in December.

During the service the royal couple unveiled a specially-engraved stone, carved in the works yard, to mark the occasion.

The stone, made of 150-million-year-old upper Jurassic limestone, was extracted

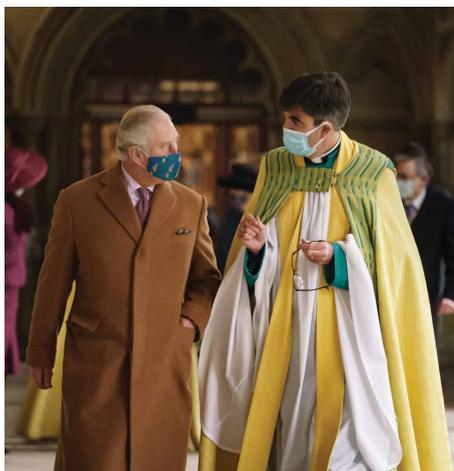


Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall sign the visitors' book. A posy for the Duchess was made by Cathedral Flowers creative director Michael Bowyer from Cornish narcissi, English hellebores and blue oxypetalum.

from the same seam as the stone originally used to build the cathedral.

Prince Charles gave an address, reflecting on the cathedral's past and the future.

He said: "As we gather here, we are profoundly aware of all those who have gone before us, who have bequeathed us the magnificent legacy of this glorious



Dean Nicholas takes Prince Charles around the cloisters to meet cathedral staff and volunteers.



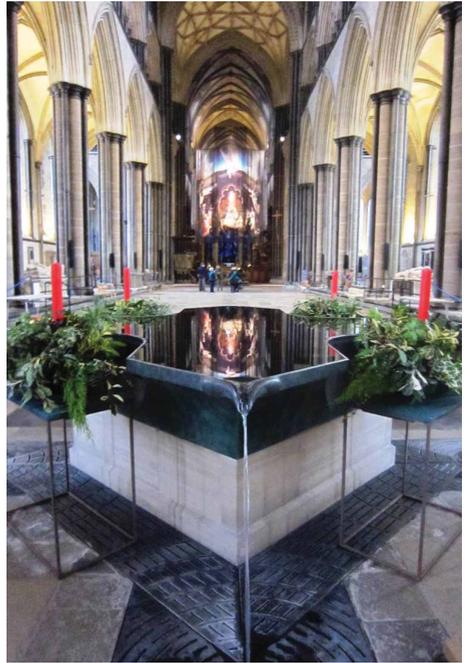
Prince Charles shares a joke with Michael Bowyer and Susan Branch from the cathedral flowers team.

building, and who have maintained the spiritual community which has kept the flame of faith alive here for so many centuries.

“The work of building, of maintaining and of protecting for the future is for us all to take forward, in each generation.”



Prince Charles meets cathedral archivist Emily Naish.



The Nativity scene is reflected in the font, set off by four foliage arrangements for Advent.

After the service, the royal couple signed the visitors’ book at a table on which was placed for the Duchess a posy of Cornish narcissi, hellebores and oxypetalum made by Cathedral Flowers’ creative director Michael Bowyer.

The Prince and the Duchess then met cathedral staff and volunteers in the cloister.

The Nativity scene, a Renaissance-style tableau of three 35-foot voile panels, which was unveiled just before Christmas 2019, was again hung over the spire crossing for all to admire.

As 2021 arrived and everyone was glad to see the back of 2020, rising coronavirus case numbers saw the country plunged into the third national lockdown, forcing the cathedral to close again.

History was made on Saturday 16th January when the cathedral became a vaccination centre, inviting citizens aged 80 years or older to receive their Covid-19 injection.



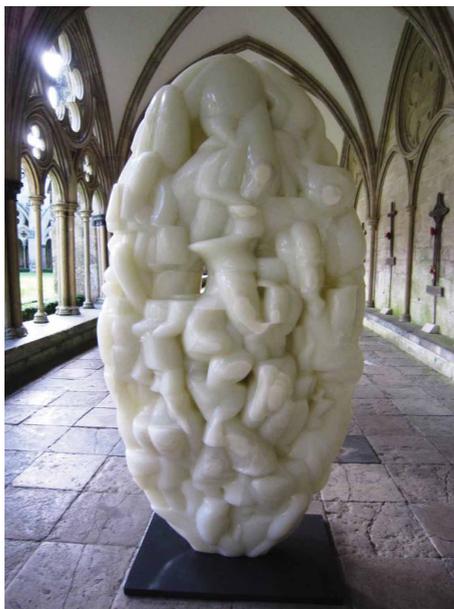
The cathedral opened as a vaccination centre in January. This view of the south transept shows the cubicles, patients and staff.



Cathedral floor manager Rob Douglas ready to welcome patients to the cathedral.



People queue along the cloister before going into the cathedral for their Covid-19 injection.



Patients entering the cloister could admire Sir Tony Cragg's Sail sculpture.



A member of the medical team explains the procedure.



In February the cathedral urged everyone to light a candle to reflect on 2020 and to express their hopes and prayers for 2021.

National news coverage called it the ‘grandest vaccination centre’ and the event was made all the more special, thanks to director of music David Halls and assistant director John Challenger playing a selection of music on the Father Willis organ.

As the weeks went by, many more sessions were held for other groups, in accordance with the Government’s priority list, and David and John continued to play a selection of classical music and tunes from films and musicals.



The cathedral remained closed until 19th May.

By the end of March, 25,000 people had been vaccinated by the cathedral, and medical staff were already welcoming back the over-80s for their second jab.

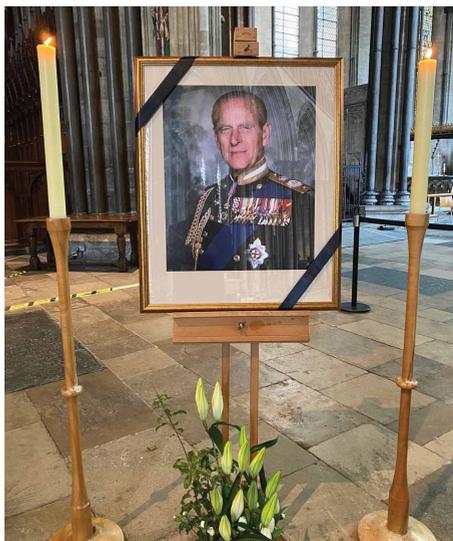
In February, the cathedral launched *Light a Candle*, a virtual community of prayer and light.

The launch marked a year since the first person in the UK died of Covid-19, and the initiative aimed to encourage people to reflect on 2020 and to express their hopes and prayers for 2021.

The scheme involved people lighting a candle, taking a photograph of it and uploading it to the *Light a Candle* page on the cathedral website, adding a dedication.

The Salisbury Pancake Race, organised by St Thomas's Church and held on Shrove Tuesday, was another casualty of the third lockdown.

Finally, the cathedral paid tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh, who died in April, by displaying a portrait of him and an arrangement of lilies.



The cathedral's tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh, who died in April.

Vaccinations update

Since the end of the year covered by *Spire*, thousands more people received their Covid-19 vaccination, some in the cathedral and more recently, at Leaden Hall.

On 1st May, the Sarum South Primary Care Network vaccination team held its last clinic in the cathedral before moving to Leaden Hall.



A ceremony was held to mark the last vaccination clinic to be held in the cathedral.

Leaden Hall was being used by the education team for schools' workshops and by staff for meetings.

Since 16th January, the PCN team and its 90 volunteers vaccinated 35,000 people in the cathedral, the final jab being given by Dr Rob Hewetson to Gerard Henderson.

A farewell ceremony was held in the cathedral, at which Dean Nicholas Papadopoulos thanked the team for all they had done for the community and the cathedral, and Bishop Nicholas Holtam gave a blessing.

Bishop Nicholas said: "It has been a privilege to witness the vaccination roll-out across the diocese and to observe the ways in which the community and medical professions have worked selflessly towards a common goal."



Dr Michele Giorgi, joint clinical director Sarum South PCN, paid tribute to staff and volunteers, the cathedral organists who played for every vaccination session, and cathedral staff and volunteers who worked alongside the NHS team.

The PCN presented the cathedral with a framed collage created using consumables from the vaccination sessions, and the cathedral gave each participating practice a print of the Patrick Blower cartoon featuring the cathedral as a vaccination centre, published in *The Daily Telegraph* on 18th January.



The vaccination team moved to Leaden Hall in May.

Dean Nicholas said the NHS team's story "will remain part of our story forever".

Poem

We are grateful to Friends' member Ruth Marden for contributing this poem she wrote following her Covid-19 vaccination in the cathedral in January.

Salisbury Cathedral January 2021 Vaccination against Covid-19

This place was never a stranger to disease.
It fostered healing. The spire itself was added in the throes of the Black Death, when stalwart teams went right on building.
They, and their kinsfolk used to consider plague a visitation to be endured – not, as we judge pandemic, a cosmic outrage. They were instructed, too, that pestilence was punishment for sin: their own. At least we're spared that extra burden.

This refuge, made for worship, till recently open to visitors from far away, today takes in our nearest, our frail and old.

The shot was brief – two seconds at the most.
Here in the aisle we're resting, safely spaced, Crusader tomb alongside holding the pattern.

And now the organ's feting us with Handel, then Mendelssohn, with waltzes twirling after in life-asserting, cheerful repertoire.

The smooth stone pillars lift and resolve in arches.
From the new font cool water brims and spills.

Ruth Marden

The Vicar of the Close

Moving house and starting a new job in the middle of a pandemic is not for the faint-hearted.

But the Revd Canon Nigel Davies took it in his stride.

He and his wife Jayne came to Salisbury last summer from the Lake District, where Nigel was team rector of Kendal Deanery's Beacon Team for nearly 12 years.

In a year when many people chose to stay put even when restrictions were eased, he makes light of the upheaval and the delay in their re-location – his licensing as Vicar of the Close had been due to take place at the end of April.



Vicar of the Close Nigel Davies was licensed in August last year. With the service over, he can relax and share a joke with family and friends.

“Once we were here, we settled in well,” says Nigel.

“It’s a nice house and an amazing place to live.

“Everybody has been welcoming.

“The delay was unfortunate, but we had a month to settle in and sort the boxes from the end of July before my licensing at the end of August.”

Nigel succeeded the Revd Ian Woodward who retired in 2019.

“My son had mentioned the job of Vicar of the Close for retired clergy, so I looked for the advert and applied,” says Nigel.

“I was due to start here at the beginning of May last year, but no-one could go anywhere.

“My final Sunday (in Kendal Deanery) was Easter Day and the next Sunday I carried on, doing live-streamed services until July.

“I got a bit of a send-off, but it was very flat. It was not the end people imagined.”

It was not the start to his ministry in Salisbury he would have imagined either.

“Worship has been strange, but it’s strange everywhere,” he says. “We are not seeing it function as it used to.

“People have seen me at services when they have been allowed and I have done visitor duty when visiting was permitted, so I have met guides, stewards and chaplains.

“But there are lots of staff I still haven’t met.

“The folk at Wyndham House I know online and I have met some on



Nigel trained at Salisbury and Wells Theological College, just a stone's throw from where this picture was taken outside the Friends' office.

vaccination days, but they look different with masks!"

Moving from the Lake District to Salisbury was not a journey into the unknown for Nigel.

"I trained at Salisbury and Wells Theological College (now Sarum College), so I always had a soft spot for Salisbury," he says.

"And the cathedral convinced me to come – when I first went into it all those years ago, I went 'wow'!"

"The training was great - and I met my wife."

After completing their training, Nigel and Jayne served their curacies in Manchester Diocese before moving to Carlisle Diocese.

Nigel has worked in a number of roles, including serving as a rural dean. Jayne was most recently a hospital chaplain and retired a month before Nigel.

While she has made contact with the Mothers' Union locally, Nigel says she is not rushing into doing anything, as she has been busy caring for her mother following hip surgery.

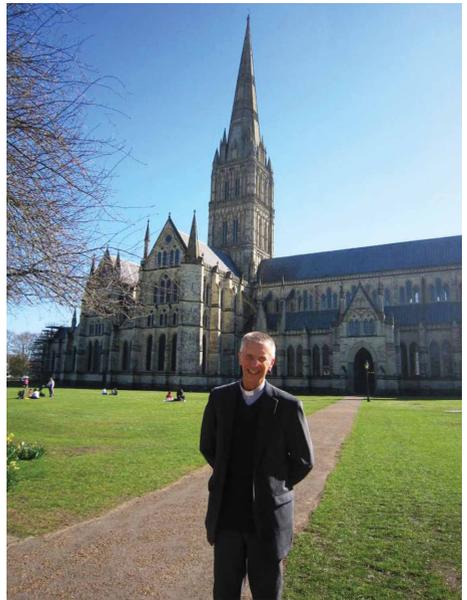
The couple have three children – Joseph, who is a member of the vergers team at the cathedral, Emily, who is a dance teacher, and Lydia, who is a student.

Nigel trained as a teacher in Lancaster and taught for seven years before being accepted for ordination.

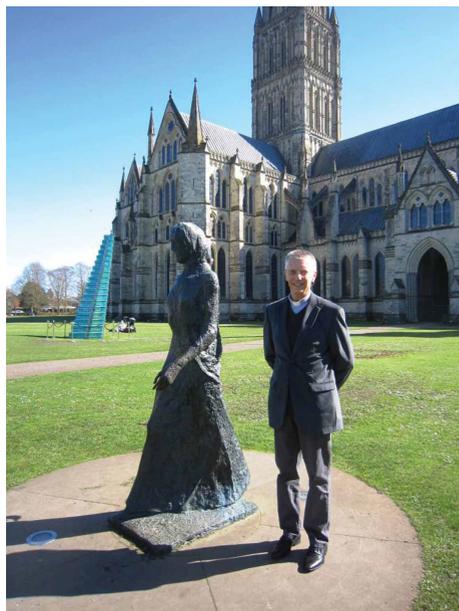
"I taught eight- 13-year-olds," he says. "Many were children of lower ability or who had been turned off education."

"I decided I would much rather be helping these children than teaching."

"I was a regular churchgoer and my father was an Anglican priest, but I didn't want to be one!"



"When I first went into the cathedral all those years ago, I went 'wow'!" Nigel says.



“My main role is being around for and engaging with the residents of the Close and cathedral congregation,” says Nigel.

“However, there was *something missing*, so I went to a selection conference to test my vocation.

“I went with an open mind, saying ‘let’s see whether it’s yes or no’. It turned out to be yes.”

Nigel waited a year before going to see the colleges, saying he wanted to be himself, rather than someone he imagined the ideal candidate to be.

“I turned up and said ‘here I am’,” he says. “It was affirming when they said I had a calling.”

Nigel regrets that nowadays a lot of ministry has become remote from people.

“It’s oversight and management and working with a core group of people,” he explains.

“Clergy are busy doing organisational stuff and you do not have time to be with parishioners, but the heart (of ministry) is pastoral work with people.

“To be there pastorally for everybody within the Close, as well as the cathedral congregation is an achievable task; it is the pastoral work and worship which I enjoy.”

One administrative task Nigel enjoyed in his previous role was organising a band of retired clergy and licensed lay ministers, as this meant he was able to maintain Sunday worship in the way his congregations wanted.

And by giving them set Sundays, they were able to form a relationship with the congregation.

The pandemic inevitably loosened such bonds and led to pastoral work such as visiting having to be put on hold.

Nigel sees his main role as “being around for and engaging with the residents of the Close and cathedral congregation”.

He also administers arrangements for baptisms, weddings and funerals, and liaises with the families, and takes his turn presiding and preaching in the cathedral.

He works on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays plus Sundays and is based at the Friends’ office, an arrangement that forms part of the Friends’ annual giving to the cathedral.

He enjoys “getting out and about visiting”, but during the height of the pandemic he did his best to introduce himself by delivering prayer cards around the Close on various occasions and taking part in midday Zoom prayers and the online Lent courses.

“The role is fulfilling because I can give pastoral care to people,” he says.

“Loneliness and isolation are increasing among the population and I will foster a sense of concern and manifest that to those who may feel left out.

“In our world it is people who have money, influence and connections who can change the world.

“We can model a way of caring and compassion for the less fortunate who do not have the connections that can make a significant change.

“People want to help but do not know how: it’s about connecting them with groups that need a helping hand.”

Nigel says that while congregations are declining through age, the Church needs to seize the opportunities that have arisen during the pandemic to continue a mix of in-person and online worship.

And he wonders whether the technological know-how of the young could be used to encourage them to get more involved with the Church by seeking their help with online worship.

“I hope people feel able to approach me,” he says.

“I don’t want them to think that I am too busy with stuff to be able to be with people – I am here for them.”

Salisbury Cathedral tower tour

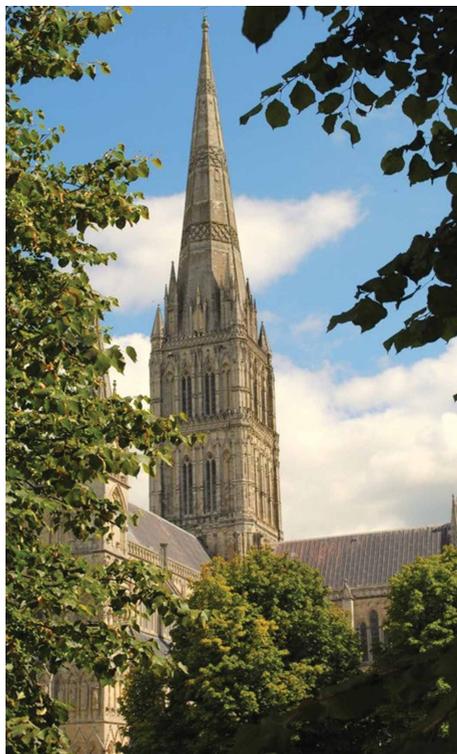
We are grateful to cathedral tower guide Chris Basham for this most interesting illustrated feature.

Salisbury Cathedral’s impressive tower and spire are its most recognisable feature. It is also a local landmark, being visible for miles.

Today, it is the tallest in England, although there were taller ones - Lincoln and Old Saint Paul’s, for example; but they have fallen down.

Salisbury Cathedral tower tours start at the west end of the cathedral where two spiral staircases inside the turrets you see from the outside rise to the level of the bottom of the great west window.

Before embarking on the climb, we try to put visitors off: We don’t want to scare people away, but the tour, although safe, is not something to be undertaken lightly: getting half-way and finding you can’t make the rest is a negative experience for



us and the other members of the party, but most of all for the participant.

You have to be fit enough to climb 332 uneven steps on steep winding staircases, you need a good head for heights and you need to be able to manage confined spaces; and it's no use thinking you are going to get to the top in stiletto heels because, if you do, I'm not taking you!

Having got the basics about stamina and safety across, we give a bit of context: the spire and tower reach 404 feet or 123 metres above ground level; the structure weighs about 7,500 tons and the building was not designed to take the load.

There is no firm dating for the spire, but we think 1310 to 1330 is about right and so the first 60 or so years of Salisbury Cathedral, completed in 1258, passed before the tower and spire were added.



Balcony view to the east end.

Now it is time to start to climb to the balcony just beneath the west window, a height of about 60 feet.

On the way you get a first look at the ancient oak timbers – many of which came from County Wicklow in Ireland - as well as some graffiti, which is often medieval and covers the walls. Arriving at the west window balcony, this is what you see.

The length of the building is about 450 feet and, unusually, there being today no choir screen or pulpitum to divide the sacred areas from the public ones, you can see from the west window behind you to the Prisoners of Conscience window at the extreme east end, a remarkable view.

The west window is a composite of glass from various sources, some of it French, but at the bottom in the shape of three panels of coats of arms, is some of original surviving 13th century glass.

Almost all the original windows were destroyed during Wyatt's alterations at the end of the 18th century.

For the next climb, a spiral staircase takes you to the roof-space above the vaulted ceiling. The roof is of wood and lead supported today by a series of rectangular queen post trusses, although in the past it was less highly pitched and made use of X-shaped scissor trusses.



The walkway takes you the length of the nave.



The roof is supported by a series of wooden trusses.

The deep wells created by the vaults below look like a gigantic open egg box. Although the roof configuration dates from the 1500s, many of the oak beams are original.

The walkway on page 71 takes you the length of the nave where a heavy door opens into the original stubby tower which was surmounted in the early 14th century by the 'new' tower and spire.

The original tower was built in conformity with the rest of the building in the style we call early English, and the decorated tower was built on top after extensive reinforcing work had been done involving flying buttresses inside and outside, thickening walls and, notably, by belting the structure in wrought iron. This particular feature was much admired by Christopher Wren when he was asked to survey the building. You can see the wrought ironwork in the picture (top right), together with the way up to the next level, in the shape of an open wooden spiral staircase inserted just before the war when the existing stone staircases were blocked off.

After about sixty relatively strenuous seconds climbing you reach a wooden balcony half-way up, where you get a better view of the ironwork and can clearly see the architectural shift from old



A view of the wrought ironwork and way up to the next level.

English to decorated. Lots of people need a breather here and I talk about graffiti, some being initials, others sketches, and a few are technical drawings connected with the original building of the structure.

The glass panes in the windows on this balcony, together with others on the floor above, are inscribed by people who



The glass panes are inscribed by people who bought them during the 1980s restoration.

purchased them for insertion here during the 1980s restoration. Did you buy one?

The door which you see in the corner leads to a very narrow spiral within the thickness of the turret. The steps are narrow, and you have to use your toes! This is probably the hardest climb for that reason and it leads to the chamber where the bells are hung.

Salisbury Cathedral does not have a peal of bells as you find, for instance, at Winchester. The reason is that the medieval bells were hung in a separate bell tower, which stood, with its own spire reaching two hundred feet, very close to where the Bell Tower Restaurant now stands. The bell tower was neglected for many years, ruined in the Civil War and demolished by Wyatt in the 1789-90 restoration. In consequence the bells in the tower only sound the Westminster chimes. And the hour bell, the single object rescued from the demolished bell tower, rings the hours. The bells are not hung, as you would expect in a belfry, upside down because they are not swung, which might stress the tower, rather they are struck by hammers operated through levers and pullies by the clock lower down.



Victorian set of bells which ring the Westminster chimes.



Ancient bell from the old tower re-cast in restoration.

There was a fire in the 18th century in this part of the tower, extinguished by the citizens of the town who probably formed a bucket chain to get water from the Avon up to the tower in order to put out the blaze.

According to the then clerk of the works, they were not a moment too soon or the fire would certainly have brought the whole edifice down. A charred timber preserves the memory of the event.



A charred timber shows the aftermath of the 18th century fire.

Another open wooden spiral takes you to the final level, called Eight Doors because it has eight doors in the shape of a double set facing each of the main points of the compass; but reaching this level, the first thing you will be struck by is the amazing medieval scaffolding rising from the floor to the very tip of the spire.



The medieval scaffolding.

The exact purpose of the scaffolding is a mystery.

When I first saw it, it seemed obvious that it was the scaffolding used to build from, but apparently, analysis of the wood suggests a later date than the stonework, so it might have been put in as a stabilising measure a few years later following a series of notable storms.

Of course, all this wood, metal and stone had to be got up there in the first place and luckily, the builders left us their means of doing that in the shape of a massive windlass, big enough for a man to walk in and capable of bringing up several tons of material from the nave floor

Eight Doors is as far as we can take you. If you wanted to go higher and were a steeplejack, then you have to take to a series of ladders, with safety equipment, and pass through various levels before you reach the point where things get even more interesting.



The enormous windlass.

As the spire narrows, you become unable to climb higher because your shoulders are too wide. The medieval builders thought of this and left a convenient hatch, called the weather door (probably because it faces north), so you can clamber outside and continue your climb on a set of metal rungs cemented into the stonework.

After hauling yourself up something over thirty feet you finally reach the top where you can stand on a tiny platform to change the light or service the anemometer. Not for the faint hearted, and definitely not me!

For ordinary mortals, the final treat is to open the doors to the three sides we can access (that to the south is sacrosanct, occupied by the peregrines) and enjoy the splendid views over the town and countryside.



A view from the top.



The view to the east from the balcony with Bishop Wordsworth's School and St Osmund's Church in the centre.



Back to the beginning where it all began – Old Sarum, the site of the original city. (200mm lens).



Looking west over the floods in December 2019.

Imagine the white castle on top, the old cathedral behind and all the grass cleaned off the ramparts to expose the white glaring chalk which the clergy objected to on the grounds that it hurt their eyes.

Remember Bishop Osmund was an academic and had established a library and scriptorium where ancient works by the church fathers were copied and preserved. Some, we think, in Osmund's own hand still exist.

Threads through Creation exhibition

18th August to 26th September

Threads through Creation is a set of 12 textile panels by textile artist Jacqui Parkinson.

Ms Parkinson took nearly three years to create the panels, which are eight feet high and between four and 11 feet wide.

They re-imagine the days of creation described in the book of Genesis.

The panels begin with dramatic, stark elemental designs, followed by more exuberant, spectacular and colourful ones, with dozens of creatures to spot.

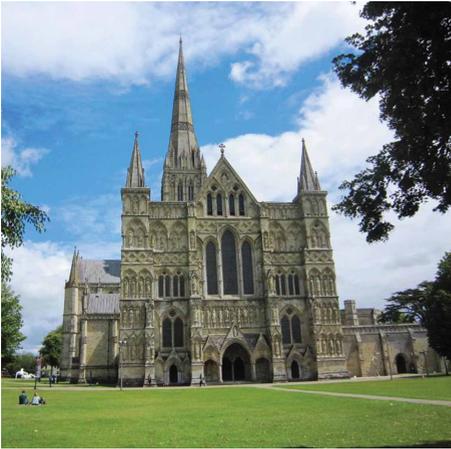
One panel includes a dog trying to talk to a monkey.

For more information visit www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/events



Salisbury Cathedral through the seasons

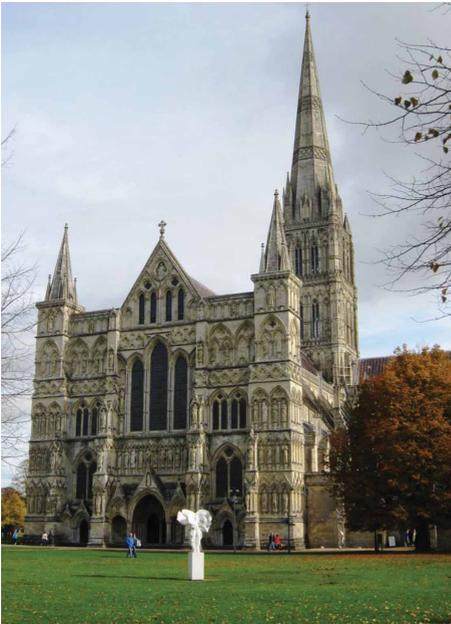
After the difficult year we have all endured, here are some pictures of Salisbury Cathedral taken from April 2020 to March 2021 to gladden our hearts.



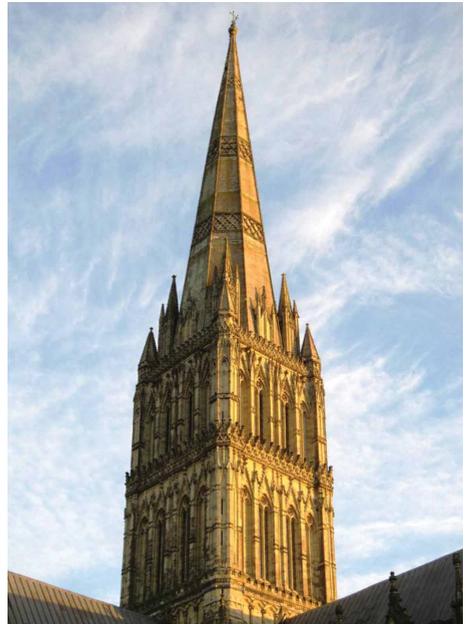
It's just warm enough to enjoy a picnic on this spring day.



Glorious summer sunshine accentuates the beauty of the west front.



There's nothing nicer than a stroll through the Close on an autumn afternoon.



The spire in all its glory on a bright winter afternoon.

Membership

A big thank you to our loyal members who have stuck with us throughout the last difficult and challenging year.

Without your support we would not have been able to make the vital grants to the cathedral, listed earlier in your copy of *Spire*.

As we advised in the Christmas 2020 and Easter 2021 newsletters, subscription rates have increased – for the first time in ten years.

They are now £25 for a single membership and £40 for joint membership.

These increases will enable us to keep pace with inflation (particularly increasing postage costs), mitigate the impact of the pandemic on membership numbers, and fulfil our aim to give as much as possible in grants to the cathedral. Our grants are only possible by means of the subscriptions, donations and legacies of our members.

The pandemic resulted in a huge loss of income for the cathedral.

Its recovery appeal was launched last summer to recoup some of the loss and you will see the result of that appeal reported earlier.

However, further ground needs to be made up.

Now is a good time to encourage your friends to join our Friends' community.

Their annual subscription will contribute to the preservation of our cathedral, its life, ministry and worship, and help to safeguard it for future generations.

They will receive a Friends' membership card, entitling them to visit the cathedral free of charge (excluding ticketed events, concerts or parking).

They will be sent our publications, containing information about grants and activities.

And they will receive invitations to our events: musical evenings, talks, theatre performances, holiday and our annual Friends' Day.

Why not consider gift membership for a friend or loved one?

Details are available by contacting the Friends' Office, 33a The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EJ; tel 01722 555190; email friends@salcath.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued Friendship and invaluable support – it means so much.



Office opening times

Despite the difficult times we have faced during the last year, we want you to know that the office is open for enquiries.

Members may telephone or drop by the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 1pm.



Legacies

People making a will or updating an existing one, do so to make the future more secure for their family and friends.

They can also support a cause they care about by making a gift in their will.

We hope you will consider making a gift to the Friends in this way.

It is a simple and cost-effective way to help preserve the cathedral for the future, its treasures and the Christian faith they celebrate.

Most charitable donations in the UK are free from inheritance tax, which benefits your family by helping to reduce the tax payable on your estate.

Your support has already helped conserve many of the most inspiring features of our medieval cathedral, as well as keeping our wonderful choral tradition alive – there is hardly a part of the cathedral or area of cathedral life that hasn't been touched by the Friends.

Legacies to the Friends have formed the foundation of substantial support in recent years and we are immensely grateful for this and to those of you who have already taken this step.

In 2019/20 a legacy of £106,000 left to the Friends made a major contribution to the repairs to the cathedral's Father Willis organ.

And in 2020/21 an £8,000 legacy helped fund repairs to the lower part of the east end of the cathedral.

If you can find a place for the Friends in your will, it will enable more people to experience the richness and inspiration

of our cathedral and pass it on securely for the future.

All you need to do is speak to your solicitor and request that the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral (charity number 243439) be included either as:

A residuary beneficiary to receive the whole or a percentage of your estate after other legacies and liabilities have been met;

A pecuniary beneficiary to receive a specific sum;

A specific beneficiary to receive property, stocks and shares, works of art or other objects;

A reversionary legacy, which becomes payable after the death of another named person, often a spouse.

We are grateful to all our members, past and present, for remembering us in this way.

We think hard about the projects we support and your help will be appreciated every day.

On Thursday 30th September Salisbury Cathedral and the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral are holding a legacy event in the cathedral.

Samantha O'Sullivan of Parker Bullen solicitors will talk about leaving a legacy, explaining the process and answering questions.

If you are interested in attending this event, please phone the office on 01722 555190.

Booking instructions for visiting Salisbury Cathedral

In September 2020 Salisbury Cathedral introduced charges for visitors. Members of the Friends who live in postcodes SP1 or SP2, are cathedral volunteers or members of the congregation can continue to visit the cathedral free of charge, by stating one of these criteria when booking.

Members who do not live in one of the two postcodes or are not volunteers or congregation members should book as Friends, by visiting the cathedral website and entering the code:

FDC217VH

This will change the entrance ticket charge from £8 to £0.

Please remember to bring your 2021/22 Friends membership card with you to show to the staff at the front desk.

Members can continue to turn up without booking, but may not be able to enter during busy periods.

33a The Close
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP1 2EJ

Tel: 01722 555190

Email: friends@salcath.co.uk

www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk

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Please sign – non transferable

for on-line booking to visit the cathedral please use the booking code:

FDC217VH

and bring this membership card with you

Registered charity no. 243439

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The Objects of the Friends

To support the Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral in maintaining, preserving, improving and enhancing the fabric, fittings, ornaments, furniture, music and monuments of the cathedral, and to support its life, worship and ministry. The association was formed in 1930 and has approximately 2,630 members.

Please find your membership card(s) below for immediate use for the year July 2021 to 2022, irrespective of when you pay your membership subscription.

Current rates of membership are as follows:

Individual Friend	minimum £25 per annum
Joint Friends	minimum £40 per annum

Application forms, direct debit mandates and Gift Aid declaration forms are available from our registered office:

33a The Close, Salisbury SP1 2EJ tel: 01722 555190

Email: friends@salcath.co.uk

Or can be downloaded from www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk

We are open Tuesday – Thursday, 10am to 1pm for enquiries.



2021/2022

**Friends of
Salisbury Cathedral**



2021/2022

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Salisbury Cathedral**