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## Newsletter - Autumn 2013

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### VISIT TO GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE



Grimsthorpe Castle and Gardens

At the kind invitation of Lady Willoughby, our patron, the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral enjoyed a summer afternoon's meander around the grounds and gardens of Grimsthorpe Castle.

The grounds, which comprise formal lawns, herbaceous borders, walled gardens, ornamental fruit and vegetable gardens, quickly seduced us into resting awhile whilst we indulged our senses in the fragrance which wafted on the slight breeze.

Our rest was but short-lived – the tour of the castle beckoned. A thoroughly absorbing introductory talk by Lady Jane Willoughby, which highlighted both the family history and the artefacts of special note, gave us an insight into items of special interest. During our walk round, the fine collection of paintings, tapestries, furniture and ceramics caught the eye whilst the thrones used by George IV at his coronation banquet or the Regency giltwood throne and footstool used by Queen Victoria seemed to beckon wearying limbs – but not for us.

All too soon the guides hastened us to linger less and head towards the chapel. Our visit concluded, at Lady Willoughby's invitation, with evensong, offering us all a space in time for contemplation and private thought.

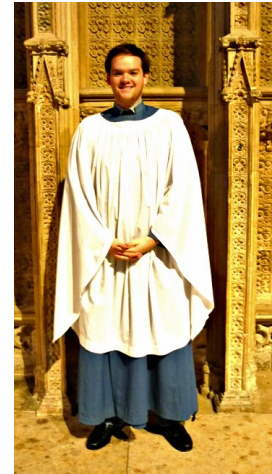
If one is allowed a personal reflection, the charm of the visit was in the knowledge that Grimsthorpe is still lived in and enjoyed as a family home; our thanks to Lady Willoughby for allowing us to share her home albeit briefly.

*Dr Carolle Kerry*

## THE FRIENDS' CHORAL SCHOLAR

In July we bade farewell to our last Choral scholar, Edward Joyner who has moved to Southwell Cathedral and we now welcome Daniel Brown. He was born in France of American parents. His early years were spent in the United States but he moved to London when he was eight.

Educated at The French Lycee in South Kensington he studied for his degree at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Originally he read History and Politics but after joining the college choir he changed his course to study music. After receiving his degree he returned to London and studied vocal technique, searched for choral scholarships and found Lincoln.



He says he is absolutely loving it here. The pace is faster than he has previously experienced and the repertoire so much more varied. We wish him well.

## THE FRIENDS' MASON



Adam is no longer our apprentice mason. He has just received his NVQ Level 3 certificate in Banker Stonemasonry. Both we and all in the Works Department are very proud of his achievement. This qualification concludes the apprenticeship stage of his training. Adam now becomes an Improver Stone Mason. The next two years are his opportunity to build on his masonry skills in banker work and fixing and to start to develop his particular talents and interests within his craft. His mason's mark is **VA**.

The Clericus Fabricus writes:- *"We would like to express our grateful thanks to the Friends for supporting Adam's apprenticeship and Improver Training."*

*I can assure you that it is a worthwhile investment. We are very pleased with Adam's progress to date. He has worked hard on his college course, and we have seen a growing maturity in his work. He is becoming a very effective member of the team."*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CATHEDRAL?

As the restoration of the South-Western turret, which is surmounted by the Statue of St Hugh, comes ever closer to completion, so the scaffolding gradually comes down.



At the same time at the north western end of the cathedral scaffolding is being erected to prepare for the restoration of that pinnacle and the statue of the Swineherd of Stow.



In Richard John King's book "A Handbook to the Cathedrals of England" published by John Murray in 1862 there is an engraving of the old statue of the swineherd which was removed and replaced in the 19th Century at the last restoration and which was then stored in the Cathedral cloisters.

Also at the west the scaffolding has been removed from the small door. In the last six months one of the steps has been removed to provide easier access and the door surrounds have been partially cleaned. Alas, the cleaning was not completed as time ran out. As a busy time for the Cathedral approaches this entrance will also have to be used for the many concerts and events in the calendar. When times are quieter then the cleaning will be completed.



Meanwhile at the other end of the cathedral, at the east, scaffolding now surrounds the Judgement Porch. Not for cleaning this time but to allow access to the Angel Choir south triforium roof so that it can be reroofed and the timber repaired.

This is yet another example of the necessary repairs which are constant in the life of the building.

## SEAMEN'S CHAPEL

At the Annual General Meeting it was decided to finance the restoration of the carpet and kneelers in the Seamen's chapel. As can be seen the carpet is very worn at the edge. The kneelers which have an embroidered design on them are quite dirty. They will be cleaned and protected from undue wear. This work is presently being carried out.



Seamens' Chapel - Worn Carpet and Kneelers

# Notices

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS.

Some members have asked if we send out reminders. As the cost of postage is now so high we do not do this. However, the renewal date is written on your membership card.

## TEA TIME TALKS

*In the Cathedral Centre at 3.30 pm for Tea & biscuits and talk at 4.00 pm (£3.00)*

November 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy LLOYD	A Stranger in the Caribbean - The highs and lows
November 12 <sup>th</sup>	Lt E Colman RN FRGS	The Search for Franklin
November 19 <sup>th</sup>	The Sub Dean	The Heritage-Lottery Bid
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Ellis	The Work of a Master Mason

## DIARY DATES

Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>. ..... A Feast for St Hugh. (See below)  
Wednesday December 11<sup>th</sup> ..... A Concert of Carols by Candlelight. (See below)

### A FEAST FOR ST HUGH

on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
Lunch in the Assembly Rooms, Bailgate  
following the 12.00 noon Eucharist in the Cathedral.  
Guest Speaker-Mr Tony Worth. Lord Lieutenant of  
Lincolnshire  
Tickets - £16.50

### A CONCERT OF CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral  
on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December  
Tickets - £10.00  
(Order Form Enclosed)

## WEEKEND AWAY

12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014.  
Staying at the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne, and Visiting Roch-  
ester Cathedral, Eastbourne, Lancing College Chapel,  
Chichester Cathedral and Petworth house  
£300 per person

## CHRISTMAS CARDS.

It seems our members are split in their tastes of Christmas card. Some like the Cathedral with snow and others like old prints of the Cathedral. This year we hope to satisfy all and have two designs. An Order form is enclosed.

BENJAMIN BRITTEN CENTENARY  
A CEREMONY OF CAROLS  
LINCOLN CATHEDRAL CHAPTER HOUSE

SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2013 (2.00pm and 7.00pm)

Lincoln Cathedral Box Office 01522 561644

This year we have had an active year and are now planning visits and talks for next year. If you have any suggestions or can help in any way, we would be very pleased to hear from you