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## Newsletter - Spring 2016

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### The Dean

On 31st January the Very Revd. Philip Buckler retired after nine years as Dean of the Cathedral and Chairman of the Association. We wish him and his wife, Linda, a long and happy time in their new home. The Dean writes:-



Deans may come, and Deans may go, but Lincoln Cathedral goes on ... even in a vacancy. As many will know the Church of England has this strange tradition of leaving the appointment of a new Dean to take place some while after I have retired. But of course Cathedrals are not identified with any single individual, and have the capacity to continue their work under the corporate guidance of the Chapter.

One of the things that struck me most forcefully when I arrived in Lincoln was the recitation of the Obits at Evensong – each day recalling past members of the Foundation who had died on that day – from the 11<sup>th</sup> century to the 21<sup>st</sup>. It is a reminder not only of the particular individuals but also of the times in which they served. We often hear media comments hinting at the end of the Anglican Church or even the Christian faith. But there is nothing new in this, as we realise when we remember those who lived and witnessed to their faith in extreme times of the past.

Our Cathedral today stands firm, watching over its City and Diocese. It inspires all who come – not only with its magnificent architecture, but also with its atmosphere of prayer and worship nourished day by day in each of the four services that punctuate the daily rhythm of praise offered to God.

The Friends have always played an important part in supporting the life and ministry of our Cathedral. I thank you for this and pray that you may continue in this work and yourselves find the blessing that I have known in being a part of this holy place.

*Philip Buckler*  
*Dean of Lincoln 2007 -2016*

### North West Transept East Elevation Roofing Work.

This complex project continues on schedule; the roofing team has moved on to the next phase. The joiners are currently repairing the south east valley beam, situated at the junction of the south and east facing sections of roof.

When exposed, the valley beam showed significant rot. The structural engineer calculated that a normal scarf joint repair would not be strong enough, because of the beam's location and the sheer-

type loading forces exerted on it. Therefore, two stainless steel angled beams approximately 1.5 metres long will be inserted to take the pressure. This is a sympathetic structural repair with minimum intervention that allows for future maintenance. It is a typical example of the joinery team working with a combination of wood and metalwork in the design process.

When the valley beam repair is complete, the remaining section of lead can be fixed in the first phase of the project. The joiners have already worked half of the north face of the triforium repairs, in anticipation of being able to board up to two thirds of the total job.



The joiners expose the rotten beam



The full extent of the rot cut away

### Training Skills for the Future

Our five year training partnership with Lincolnshire County Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund finished at the end of 2015.

We have had 16 trainees since May 2011, each one on an eighteen month training placement: 5 joiners; 3 lead workers; 3 stonemasons; 2 glaziers; 2 heritage bricklayers; and 1 painter/decorator. The trainees worked alongside our craft teams on the Cathedral and the Close, and made a valuable contribution to the work of the Department. They were fully funded from a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, which paid them a bursary for living expenses, and all their training costs.

The aim of the scheme was to boost the numbers of skilled craftspeople entering the Heritage sector; and we have seen a very high success rate. We are hopeful that if the HLF set up a further scheme along similar lines, we could approach them in collaboration with Lincoln Cathedral Connected.

Two of the last tranche of students are now employed in the Cathedral Works Department.

Beatrice Searle Funding from the Worshipful Company of Masons is allowing Beatrice to stay on for her final year at Moulton College in Northampton, and finish NVQ Level 3. Beatrice is also a talented artist. She has an exhibition of drawings at the Angel Coffee House in Free School Lane, (almost opposite the Central Library) that opens on 1<sup>st</sup> March and runs to the end of the month.

When Beatrice completes her training we hope to be in the financial position to appoint our own stonemasonry apprentice again. I am currently working with the Worshipful Company of Masons who are going to be offering us a contribution towards this cost.. Further funding needs to be secured to enable this to become a reality.

Adam Coulson Adam achieved NVQ 3 Heritage Bricklayer qualifications during his traineeship. He works on the Close properties. We have been able to give him a contract up to the end of March 2017.

## North West Turret

The North West Turret project is progressing on schedule. As we approach Spring 2016 the masonry and stone conservation work are both continuing steadily.

The mild winter has allowed the masons to fix the large pinnacle that our carvers were working on at the end of last year. The pinnacle is approximately 9 feet high and is covered with ornamentation. It abuts the West Front parapet.



The masonry towards the bottom of the Turret is less decayed than the stones higher up. The majority of the work in this last year of the project is consolidating and preserving the original stonemasonry, including conservation cleaning of the existing carvings.

Carol M Heidschuster  
(Works Manager)

## Library Report

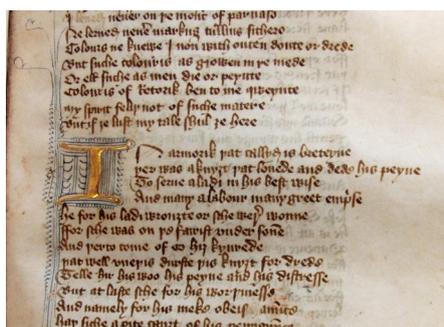
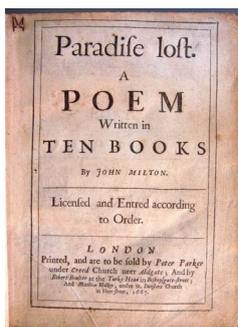
2015 was a very successful year for the Library with visitor numbers reaching 16,700 during normal opening hours between April 1st and 31<sup>st</sup> October...our highest yet! Between July and September the library was one of the venues in the city for the Great Lincolnshire Exhibition when many treasures not normally seen were on display. The star exhibit for the library was the New Testament volume of the Lincoln Chapter Bible which for reasons yet to be discovered found its way to Trinity College Cambridge in the 17<sup>th</sup> century where it has remained ever since. It was wonderful to have the 2 volumes on display next to each other for the first time in over 200 years.

Many projects are currently being undertaken including a stock check of the Wren Library; an audit of illustrations in the manuscript collection; work continues on re-organising the library collections in Exchequergate; as yet uncatalogued sections of the library are gradually being put onto the catalogue to make them more accessible and a new guide book to the library is being written.

The Wren library continues to be used for meetings, events and university symposia and a steady flow of researchers visit to consult the Cathedral's rare early printed books, manuscripts and modern reference collections.

The Adopt a Book scheme continues to bring in much needed money which helps towards the conservation of the books and a programme of conservation has recently restarted in association with the Hull Bindery.

A changing selection of books and manuscripts is on display throughout the year and this year our first exhibition will feature "Literature and Classics", linking in with the 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. This will include amongst other things, a first edition of Milton's **Paradise Lost**, a first edition of Cervantes' **Don Quixote**, a 15<sup>th</sup> century manuscript copy of Chaucer's **Canterbury Tales** and a 1785 edition of Shakespeare's plays.



### **In Memoriam ~ John Ketteringham. MBE., B.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. 1929 - 2015**

I first met John Ketteringham when, as a young lad, I delivered his mother's groceries. We both lived in Alford, Lincolnshire.

It was from here that he first developed his love of the county and his passion for bell-ringing. Indeed he taught me the first rudiments of ringing until the lure of the organ loft enticed me away from the tower.

As a ringer he had a national reputation. He composed many changes which are regularly rung in church towers. An author, he wrote many books about Lincolnshire, its history, the people, their stories and customs. His abiding literary work must be "Lincolnshire Bells and Bell Founders," for which he was responsible. It is the authoritative work recording almost every bell in Lincolnshire with their dates, places, inscriptions and bell founders.

For a time he was the Secretary of the Association and during his time he devised the original website which was an innovation at the time. He remained an ardent supporter, sometimes irascible but always interested, encouraging and appreciative of new developments whilst maintaining a nostalgic love of the old.

"Ring out wild bells." Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart the kindlier hand  
Ring out the darkness of the land  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

*Keith Jones*

### **Concert of Carols by Candlelight**

As members are finding out, this event is one of the most popular occasions in the Cathedral at Christmas. To enable members to be certain of obtaining a ticket and a good seat we reserve a central block of seats and include a priority booking form in our autumn mailing. After the date printed on the priority form tickets are released to the general public via the Cathedral Shop and our office. Tickets are usually sold out two to three weeks before the event, We do urge members to book early as last time many members were disappointed not to be able to buy tickets.

### **The Friends' 80 Anniversary Concert for a Summer Evening.**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30, we shall be holding our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert for a Summer Evening. The Cathedral Choir and organ will be augmented by soloists and orchestra and the tickets will be priced at £10. The programme includes Handel's "The King Shall Rejoice", "Zadok the Priest"; two songs for summer by Delius, and the Friends commission, a wonderfully tuneful setting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. The second half will be a performance of Rutter's Magnificat.

We hope that many Friends, and others, will help to celebrate our Anniversary.

### **EVENTS 2016**

Sat	14 May	New Friends' Afternoon. 2.00 p.m. Cathedral Centre
Sat	18 June	ANNUAL General Meeting Cathedral Centre 2.00 p.m.
Sat	18 June	80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Music for a Summer Evening - Cathedral Nave 7.30 p.m. £10.00
Thur	30 June	Visit to Wakefield Cathedral and Nostell Priory - travel by coach.
Fri	9 September to	Weekend away. Staying at the Hydro Hotel, Eastbourne, and visiting Hatfield House, Charleston Farm House, Lewes. Berwick Church and Bateman's House.
Mon	12 September	Tea time Talks, In the Cathedral Centre at 3.00 p.m. £3
Tues	in November	Tues 3, 8, 15 and 22.
Wed	14 December	A Concert of Carols by Candlelight In the Nave 7.30 p.m.