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Newsletter - Spring 2017

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Welcome to our new Dean

Members were pleased to attend the installation of the Ven. Christine Wilson as Dean of Lincoln Cathedral and delighted to welcome her when she visited the Friends' Office to meet the Administration Team and hear a little of their work. Everyone who attended our Concert of Carols were greatly amused by her entertaining contribution which captured the spirit of the occasion.

From The Dean

Dear Friends of Lincoln Cathedral,



It is hard to believe that three months have already passed since I was installed as Dean of Lincoln last October. It is a joy to be part of the cathedral's particular rhythm with its daily pattern of *ora et labora*. The space between quiet early morning prayer at the Shrine of St Hugh and the service of Sung Evensong in the Quire, is filled with meetings and study, committees and planning.

There have been so many people to meet and get to know and I have discovered the cathedral to be an extraordinarily busy place serviced by highly committed volunteers and staff who are passionate about their part in preserving and developing this iconic and sacred place.

There are many flourishing communities within the building. It is wonderful to see the diverse range of contributions to the life of the cathedral whether that be in the conservation and maintenance of the fabric, through events and commercial enterprise, in providing pilgrims and visitors with hospitality and welcome, in education and information, in pastoral and spiritual nurture or through offering inspiring music and worship.

I am particularly grateful to the Friends for the valuable support you give to enrich our life and enable so many important initiatives. It is certain that your generous contribution has enabled us to achieve many of our aspirations. I hope that you will feel a sense of pride in the difference you have made through your generosity and goodwill. Thank you on behalf of the Chapter and cathedral community for your continued support.

Every blessing,

The Very Reverend Christine Wilson

From the Works Department

Two of the key conservation and restoration projects on the Cathedral are coming to an end.

North West Turret



The Turret's Restoration Campaign was launched back in 2010, and is now in its final stages. The South West Turret was completed in 2014 and the North West Turret will be complete by early Spring 2017. It has been a monumental effort both in the scope of the work undertaken and also in the efforts and enthusiasm of our fundraisers. We are very grateful to all our funding bodies and to all the many individuals and groups who have supported and sponsored the work, to help the team achieve such a magnificent result. Thank you.

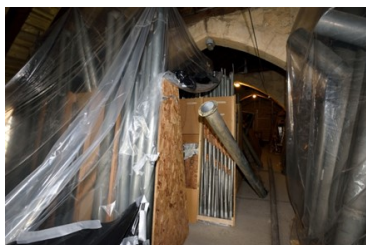
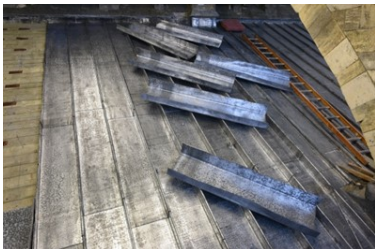
North West Transept East Clerestory Roof

The joiners and lead workers have as always worked together on this major roofing project. The valley beam was repaired; several rafters, and two wall plates were replaced, using seasoned oak.

Reduce, reuse, recycle. All the roofing boards were replaced with new tanalised timbers according to the Architect's specification. The old boards were inspected, and as many as possible have been stored to be reused for floorboard repairs on the estate.

The lead is 100% recycled. It is taken off site and recast. A small amount of virgin lead is added in the recasting process to help the malleability of the lead. It is then returned to the Cathedral and put back on the roof.

This area of work between the two transepts is popularly known as 'The Dark Side', for no more sinister reason than that the sun never quite manages to penetrate there. We are on schedule for the completion of this project at the end of March 2017. Sections of lead are fixed to the boards



The organists are eagerly awaiting completion, so that the pipes which were removed to protect them, can be returned.

Training

We are delighted to be working throughout 2017 with the National Heritage Training Group. We are providing three advanced work-based learning placements: Charlie Dashwood and Stuart Jackson are working towards NVQ Level 3 Stonemasonry through York College; and Matthew Osborne is working towards NVQ Level 2 Joinery through North Notts College. The scheme is fully funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and administered by the National Heritage Training Group.

Carol Heidschuster (Works Manager)

David Mattingley

Members will be delighted to know that our Friend David Mattingley, (from Australia) who so kindly donated the royalties for his book, "Battle Order 204", to the Friends, has been awarded the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur



From Christobel Mattingley



David and Christobel Mattingley

David Mattingley DFC was made Chevalier (Knight) in the Legion of Honour in 2016 and received the award from the French Ambassador to Australia in a special ceremony in the Queen Adelaide Room at the Adelaide Town Hall on 30 September. The award was made for his service in the liberation of France in World War 2 when David, a Lancaster pilot in RAF Bomber Command, flew 23 sorties over occupied Europe.

On his 23rd sortie, over the Ruhr, Germany's industrial heartland, his plane was shot up three times and severely damaged. David himself was severely wounded, with fractured skull, severed tendons in his right hand, wounded right shoulder and right knee. Yet he managed to bring his precious plane and crew back to base in Lincolnshire without his crew realising how badly injured their skipper was. He received an immediate award of the Distinguished Flying Cross for gallantry and spent many months in hospital attended by the King's surgeon.

When war broke out in Iraq and young Australians were sent there to fight, David, realising the nightmares they would live with if they were lucky enough to survive, agreed to his wife Christobel writing his story. *Battle Order 204: A Bomber Pilot's Story* (Allen & Unwin, 2007) went into reprint before publication and is now in its 6th printing. It was launched at Prince Alfred College in Adelaide, where David taught history for 32 years, and in Lincoln Cathedral, which was a welcome landmark for weary crews returning from ops. All royalties go to The Association of Friends of Lincoln Cathedral who have already paid for the restoration of the kneelers and carpet in the Airmen's Chapel from this income.

Readers across the world, including from Germany, Canada and Brazil, as well as the UK, New Zealand and Australia, continue to respond, and David was chosen to represent Australia in the official mission sent to London in 2012 for the opening by the Queen of the long overdue memorial to the gallant men of Bomber Command.

Christobel Mattingley AM

News from the Friends' Office

We were delighted when John Campbell, the Dean's Verger was awarded a British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours and we send him our congratulations. Unfortunately John has been in hospital and we hope he will soon be back with us following his heart surgery.

As we go to print our Hon Secretary, Keith Jones is unwell, We are sure you will all want to join with us in wishing Keith a complete and speedy recovery.

Forthcoming Events

13th May	New Members' afternoon	2.00 pm	Cathedral Centre
17 June	Annual General Meeting	2.00 pm	Cathedral Centre
7th, 14th, 21st and 28th November	Teatime talks	3.00 pm	Cathedral Centre
13th December	Carols by Candlelight	7.30 pm	Cathedral Nave