

InHouse

The Journal of the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association



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Party follows annual meeting

Jeannette Davies
Chair LCCA Executive Committee

We hope you will enjoy the second new look version of InHouse which contains a mixture of articles, news of community members and activities, information and photographs.

The editorial team was encouraged by your comments on the previous edition and we continue to welcome your comments and suggestions.

This time we had a great deal of possible material so if you submitted something which has not yet appeared, please look out for it in our November edition. Material for inclusion is welcome and should of course have a connection with the Cathedral and its varied community.

I would like to draw your attention to the **Annual Meeting of Lincoln Cathedral Community Association** on Monday 24 October at 7pm in the Cathedral Centre. This will take a different form this year as it will be quite brief and followed by a Cheese and Wine party which will be our autumn social event when we as a Community Association will have the chance to say good bye to the Subdean before he retires.

A cheeseboard will be provided and



there will be no charge for this but a plate will be available for donations to offset the cost. Wine and soft drinks can be purchased from the bar at the Centre. The event will finish by 9.30pm.

We shall not be selling tickets for the event but will need to ascertain numbers by a week in advance at the latest and a list will be put up a little later on the LCCA notice board and in the chapter house during coffee for people to sign to indicate they will be attending the social part of the evening. More information will appear later about nominating possible committee members of LCCA in time for election at the meeting.

What's on

Thursday 1 September, 7.30pm
Bookclub

Sunday 3 September, 2pm
Cursillo National Ultreya

Monday 5 September
Exhibition of paintings by Lincoln East Artists. Open Monday to Friday, 10.30am to 4.30pm and on Sunday from 1pm to 3pm

Saturday 10 September, 9am to 4pm
Heritage Open Day, with free entry into the Cathedral

Saturday 17 September, 5.30pm
Lincoln Cathedral Old Choristers' Association attend Evensong

Sunday 18 September, 3pm
Battle of Britain Commemorative Service

19 - 24 September, 10am to 4pm
Art Exhibition by A Company of Painters (students of local artist Kathy Paton), covering a wide variety of subjects, including local views

Thursday 22 September, 3pm
Lecture by Dr Philippa Hoskin, University of Lincoln: *Grosseteste's Legacy - Pastoral care and politics in Lincoln Diocese in the later 13th century*. Tea in the cloister after. Tickets £6 from Lincoln Cathedral Library

Saturday 24 September, 7pm
Concert by the Hallé Orchestra. Tickets £20, £15 and £10 from Minster Shop

Friday 30 September, 7.30pm
Concert featuring the Friends' harpsichord, with oboe and viol - Charles Harrison, Anna Williams, Mark Hacking and Will Burn. Tickets £8.50 (children under 15 £5) from Lincoln Cathedral Library

New website for Cathedral

Phil Hamlyn Williams
Chapter Clerk



There is a scene in the film *Mamma Mia* where the future son-in-law of the owner of the under-occupied but idyllic Greek island hotel tells that all her problems are over, he is building a website.

All problems over? I suspect, not. What a good website can do though, is to open, in our case the Cathedral, to more people.

We want people to find us even if they weren't looking for Lincoln. We then want them to begin their visit before they get here and as important to continue their relationship after they leave.

Marketing people talk about brands. We don't need one, rather we already have one and it is the Cathedral itself. Visit, and it will do the work. So, the website will be rich with images and we hope music: a weekly recording of choral evensong.

Importantly there will be a secure area where members of the Cathedral Community will be able to log-in and find, amongst others things, Inhouse on-line.

It will be a place where we can communicate amongst ourselves.

We will be working on the design until the end of August when the construction will begin. We plan to go live in mid October. I would be very interested in any comments, observation or suggestions.

>chief.executive@lincolncathedral.com



What's on

Friday 7 October, 3pm

Annual Bishop Grosseteste Lecture
Michael Norton MBE - *Global Water Security*. Free tickets from Minster Shop

Saturday 8 October, 10.30am

Annual Reader Licensing Service and Eucharist
5pm: RSCM Lincoln Area Festival

10 - 29 October

Exhibition: Four Quartets. An exhibition of paintings by John Allcock, based on T S Eliot's collection of poems

Wednesday 19 October, 7pm for 7.30pm

Theological Society Lecture, Robert Hardy Lecture Theatre, Bishop Grosseteste University College.
The Revd Joseph O'Hanlon - *The Historical Jesus*. Tickets £5 from the Minster Shop

Saturday 23 October, 3pm

County Harvest Festival

Monday 24 October, 7pm

LCCA Annual General Meeting and Social Evening in the Cathedral Centre

Saturday 29 October, 1pm to 4pm

Peal attempt

Thursday 1 November, 7.30pm

English Touring Operal in the Wren Library: *Tenebrae Music* by Carlo Gesualdo. Tickets £7.50 form Lincoln Theatre Royal box office

Thursday 3 November, 7.30

Bookclub

Sunday 6 November, 5.30pm

Organ recital by Marcus Struempfe

Saturday 12 November. 11.30am

Enthronement of the Rt Revd Christopher Lawson, 72nd Bishop of Lincoln

An extraordinary weekend

Michael Newstead

Over the three-day period of Friday 17 June to Sunday 19 June 2011 the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral celebrated in style their 75th anniversary.

It all started on the Friday evening in the Cathedral Chapter House with a formal 'black tie' dinner in the presence of HRH Prince Edward who is an honorary Friend of the Association. This continues a long royal connection for the Friends as the Duke and Duchess York (later king George VI and Queen Elizabeth) became the first Friends in 1936. The Chapter House looked suitably decorated and a fine meal was provided by the caterers.

On Saturday two events were held. In the afternoon there was the Friends AGM at which the usual business took place including approval of the various benefactions to the Cathedral over the next year. These cover considerable areas of the work and life of the Cathedral including music, building work, vestments and general improve-ments.

This was followed in the evening by an anniversary concert which included two world premiers funded by the Friends and sung by our choir with an orchestra. Several people commented that this was one of the best concerts they had ever heard at the Cathedral which is no mean feat given the very high standards of music we all enjoy.

On Sunday members of the Friends attended the 9.30 Eucharist. This included the dedication of a new Alms dish which completes the new silver set.

Such major anniversary events as this take a great deal of planning and imagination.

Keith Jones, the secretary of the Friends and his immediate team of Volunteers, should be thoroughly congratulated as, of course, should others who helped make the three days such a success including musicians, caterers, vergers, stewards and other volunteers.

It was really good to note that all the events were well attended with some participants travelling long distances to take part in this special weekend. It is not always realised that there are Friends of Lincoln Cathedral in every continent and sub-continent except Antarctica!



Photograph: Steve Hill

Betty Dudman

One can only think of Betty's death as a release from a terrible captivity, *writes Christopher Laurence.*

For such an active and intelligent person, mind intact, to be suddenly paralysed and unable to speak, must have been a heavy burden.

Yet she seemed to carry it lightly, always uncomplaining and gracious with her visitors, and enjoying what she could enjoy, especially her trips out of the nursing home with her children.

She has made an enormous contribution to the life of the cathedral community, most of it unseen – like remembering choirboys' birthdays and ironing their surplices when her husband

Archdeacon Bill was a residentiary canon.

After his untimely death she gave invaluable service to Edward King House, being at one time its bursar and founder and chair of the Friends of Edward King House.

She also worked hard for the Women's Institute and was at one time Chair of the Lincolnshire North Federation. She was a natural leader and capable organiser, always concerned for ordinary people.

She was completely unself-regarding and self-effacing but not one to sit on her hands or hold her tongue if something was amiss or needed to be straightened out. A lovely, gracious lady. Rest in peace.

Pilgrims to the House of Peace

Sarah and Geoffrey Wilkinson

On Saturday June 4 2011, a number of us from the Cathedral and other churches went to Beth Shalom, the Holocaust Centre at Laxton in Nottinghamshire.

The name means House of Peace and it exists to remember all the millions, named and nameless, who have been and continue to be killed because of ideology and ignorance.

The Holocaust is the dark spring from which the place grew but it reaches far beyond that atrocity in its confrontation of prejudice, racial hatred and indifference which lead to repeated acts of deliberate cruelty and oppression.

Iby Knill, the Holocaust survivor who spoke to us in the afternoon, told us to be vigilant, not complacent and to speak out, not be silent. This in answer to a question, "What can we do to prevent such things happening again?"

There is much to see and hear at the Centre; an exhibition which charts the roots of Aryan ideology and anti-semitism in Europe and the devastating history of what was done to the Jews in particular but also Gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah's witnesses and the mentally and physically impaired.

It reminds us too of the shameful role of world governments, people and churches who failed to respond when they should; but also the huge sacrifice and courage of individuals and groups who often paid with their lives to shelter and save others.

There is *The Journey*, an award winning exhibition aimed especially at children but also adults which follows the development of the kindertransport and the stories of the children who were saved. Our group was guided around this excellent exhibition before lunch.



A friend who joined the group for the day told me she felt overwhelmed by the experience, asking herself if it was really necessary to put oneself through it. In her case it was a re-awakening of a history she already knew, had made a point of learning about during and just after the Second World War.

I understand the questioning from those of her and my parents' generation who had done that. I too, on this second visit to the Centre can only take so much each time. I studied the rise and consequences of Nazism at university and also have a personal involvement and commitment.

But the shop, with its range of books on the Holocaust and numerous atrocities since World War II, the many informative films held and shown and the wide reaching

work of the Aegis Trust to educate and to combat genocide wherever in the world it erupts; the exhibitions, the speakers, themselves Holocaust survivors who address each group and the beautiful gardens full of white roses and several monuments in remembrance and for reminders, all

play a part in answering such questions because they have a crucial message now.

Parties of schoolchildren and adolescents regularly go for a day. Church and other groups go to visit, all to learn. For the truth is that we in Britain and Europe and the rest of the world have still not learned the lessons either of the past or present, And racial, religious and "difference" suspicions and scapegoating, violence and genocide will continue until we do.

Beth Shalom is an awful place. It could be an appallingly sad and despairing one, and there are unfathomable depths of sadness and darkness and evil there. But it is also a place of light, peace and hope in the human spirit to confront, to survive and to tell.

New faces upstairs and down

It has been another busy time for the cathedral musicians, who have continued to delight us with a very high standard of musicianship. Highlights during services were *Lo, the full, final Sacrifice* by Finzi and Walton's *The Twelve* both of which were sung to an extremely high standard and gave us the chance to hear solo voices along with the full choir.

Personnel

Xanthe Stonehouse-Pope was admitted as a Burghersh Chantress on 12 June; Charlie Ashworth, Robert Hodgkison, Alexander Kirkland, James Read and Thomas South were admitted as Burghersh Chanters on 26 June.

At the start of the new term we warmly welcome some new faces, including our new Assistant Organist, **Claire Innes-Hopkins**.

In the choir we shall hear some new voices:

Ted Corner writes:

Born and brought up in York, I sang as a treble in the local church choir and music group. Singing lessons with Yvonne Seymour, A-level music among others and Eton Choral courses, led me to Huddersfield University where I read for a BMus, majoring in performance.

During my degree I sang initially Bass and latterly Tenor as a choral scholar with Leeds Catholic Cathedral and a regular 'dep' at Wakefield Cathedral, enjoying the weekly services and also the opportunity to record, both for CD and for radio.

In the last year I also worked with Huddersfield Girls' Choir, teaching the girls music theory in preparation for their RSCM awards, occasionally acting as a rehearsal pianist and accompanying them, with the choir director, to concerts and recordings.

Having now graduated with a 2:1 degree, I am looking forward to moving back to my Anglican roots and extending my musical experience with the Lincoln Choir.



Edward Joyner writes:

I'll be starting as a counter-tenor at Lincoln in September.

I'm 25 and come from Adelaide in South Australia, which is known for its wine and festivals. Since I graduated in 2006, I've worked as state manager of Australia's national chamber music company, Musica Viva, and managed the city's professional chamber choir.

I'm also a bass lay clerk at St Peter's Cathedral - the one you see on the cricket when England plays Australia at Adelaide Oval. While I'm hardly a stereotypical Aussie bloke, I did live across the road from Don Bradman, and I've experienced bushfires and sharks!

I'm really looking forward to moving to Lincoln and singing with the choir.



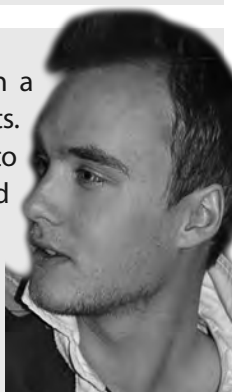
Tom Stockwell will sing Bass: Tom was born in 1989 into a very musical family. He began his musical training as a chorister at Salisbury Cathedral with his two brothers - becoming the first ever set of triplets together in any Cathedral choir.

After being a senior chorister in his last year, he won a music scholarship to King's Bruton in Somerset, and then to Lancing College for his A-levels. Here, he was a choral scholar, organist and choral director as well as being an active sportsman and member of the Combined Cadet Force.

Tom then won a choral scholarship to Truro Cathedral in Cornwall. Alongside

this, he worked in a wine merchants. Tom then moved to Oxford to study, and sang in several college choirs alongside other groups. He is also a member of the Rudolfus choir and has enjoyed doing session work for Universal Records.

Tom has just finished a year singing in the choir of Blackburn Cathedral where he was a member of four choirs, as well as playing the organ for occasional services. In his spare time, Tom enjoys playing Cricket and



Hockey, Wine, Ale, Architecture, Music and spending time with his girlfriend Becky who is studying Medicine at University College London.

Tom is really looking forward to moving to Lincoln and is thrilled to be working in one of the most beautiful buildings in the world!

South Bank Religion

Christopher Laurence

When Oliver was clearing the house of a deceased aunt, he told us, he found a box labelled, "pieces of string too short to be of any use".

You never quite knew how factual were many of his great fund of anecdotes. His company was always entertaining and quite often thought-provoking. He was a lateral thinker for whom the status quo was never satisfactory and always open to question.

It must have been a daring piece of lateral thinking to appoint him Dean of Lincoln (not "Dean of Lincoln Cathedral" he would insist but "Dean of Lincoln"). He was a leading exponent of what was called "South Bank Religion", a great wave of radical re-thinking by a group of bright young clergy gathered by Mervyn Stockwood, Bishop of Southwark.

This new wave had not struck the rock of Lincoln Cathedral in the late '60s. The new Dean found himself high and dry on a religious tradition which prided itself on being changeless in a world of change.

Oliver was a man more of passion than of patience and his career at Lincoln was never an easy one. He longed to make the cathedral, in itself and in its worship, more accessible to the people of the city, county and diocese. In this endeavour, it is remarkable to see how many of the present features of cathedral life were innovations in his time. (He would point to the fabric of the cathedral and remark, "Everything you see was an innovation when it was put there"): trained guides, stewards (he designed their sashes), a proper Chapter Clerk's office, a communication-centre, information-desk, reception-desk, a



Oliver Fiennes

shop, a refectory, the 9.30 Sunday Eucharist – and the recessional Psalm 150 at the end. In this journal we should specially remember the Community Association. Oliver wanted the lay community of the cathedral to have a formal presence and a structural voice in its governance.

Oliver delighted in drama – he welcomed the institution of the Mystery Plays in his time – and it's worth remembering that when he arrived in Lincoln the Magna Carta lived in a drawer in the library from which it could be taken and handed round to visitors; a far cry from the drama of the scene when it was secretly placed on a Vulcan to be flown to the USA for a sensational tour. It's also worth remembering that throughout his time the cathedral remained unheated except briefly over the Christmas period. It was thought that, having been brought

up in a draughty castle he considered heating to be an unnecessary indulgence. Indeed, I can remember Oliver and Juliet sitting in their drawing room (now the Cathedral Centre conference room), heated only by a small portable electric fire.

Two memories of special occasions: a deanery pilgrimage, when the deanery pilgrims stood outside Great West Doors as they opened to reveal the dean and the choir standing to welcome them in to their mother church. And the great eighth centenary celebration of St. Hugh, a large congregation seated in college-formation (facing one another across a centre aisle), and applauding as the Great West Doors swung open to receive a delegation of white-habited monks from the Grande Chartreuse, St Hugh's own monastery at Grenoble.

Indeed, you could say that it was Oliver Fiennes who opened the doors of Lincoln Cathedral.

Celebrating 75

Micki Philp

The music chosen for the Friends' 75th Anniversary Celebration Concert was just that, a real celebration and those who were fortunate enough to attend spent a remarkable evening listening to music and music-making of the highest quality.

Handel's *Dixit Dominus* was the opening piece and this music takes no prisoners. The choir, organ, orchestra and soloists were all on sparkling form. Rhythmic and precise, the choir soon made the Lord's enemies his footstool.

Aric Prentice gave a shining account of *Virga Virtutis*. The soprano soloists were just ideal for Handel, clear, brilliant and with a lovely command of Handel's demanding line. *Juravit Dominus* was splendidly vibrant and *Implebit ruinas* really powerful, no escape.

Conquassabit, one of my favourite sections from the piece, was thrilling and energetic; the whole piece was underpinned by dynamic continuo playing which provided a superb undercurrent of energy. The *Gloria* was just that – glorious, vivid compelling. It was all stunning and not an easy ride for anyone, least of all the conductor, who led the team brilliantly.

A beautifully contrasting piece followed: a new setting of *Psalm 23* by

Philip Moore. This was refreshing, pastoral and peaceful with most beguiling melodic lines. Ben Chewter with his choice of registration made full use of the darker harmonies for the shadow of death and the closing bars of the psalm were magical providing a glorious affirmation of hope and faith. I look forward to hearing this piece again.

The second half of the concert opened with Handel's Coronation Anthem *The King shall rejoice*. Crisp entries and dynamic back row singing made this most enjoyable.

The second new commission followed and again I hope to hear it repeated soon. *Vidi Aquam* opened with a beautiful flowing floating organ introduction which gave way to a liquid flowing treble line. The weaving voices created the threads of melody and harmony which were like streams meeting and mingling. There were some show stopping organ moments also and moments of glory for the back row. This will be a welcome addition to the repertoire I am sure.

I had to leave early and so missed the Stanford apart from the opening which followed me through the great west door and all the way around the building, a lovely farewell.

Many thanks to all who worked so very hard towards making this a truly memorable evening.

CDs on sale

You will remember reading about the CD of Organ Duets recorded by Charles Harrison and David Leigh; this is now available from the cathedral shop.

In August the duo met up again for a recital in Dublin to launch the CD over there.

In early July the cathedral played host to the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge as they recorded part of their new CD of music by Howells; conducted by Stephen Layton the recording was carried out by Hyperion and should be released later this year.

Almost rain-free

Michael Newstead

Over the year the Cathedral Community Association usually holds three social events and this year is no exception.

On Friday the 24th June the annual BBQ was held in the Subdeanery garden and, as usual, this was a well attended and happy occasion. This is very much a 'self help' event with all the cooking and preparation undertaken by regulars at the Cathedral. Attendees also had to bring along their own cutlery, plates, drink and where possible their own chairs!



We have been very lucky over the last few years in that it has hardly rained during the BBQ itself, although this year it did rain for the last half an hour, but, in true British spirit, umbrellas and waterproofs came out and most people survived to the end. Two years ago it rained for three weeks before the event, stopped raining for several hours as the BBQ was being set up and during the BBQ itself, then promptly started to rain again for the next period!

We are very grateful to the Subdean and Mrs Nugent who have allowed this annual invasion to take place in their garden.

Detective stories and satirical leaflets: a profile of Austin Lee

John Ketteringham

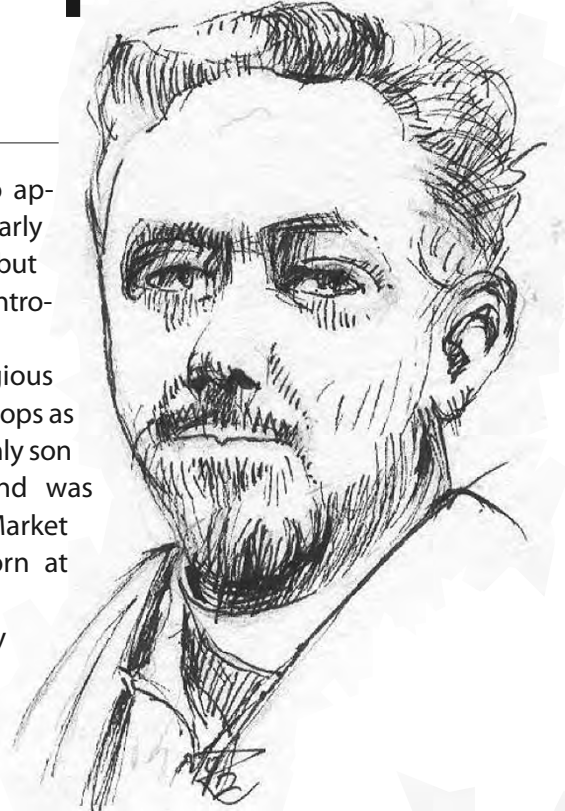
Austin Lee was a cleric who appears to have been particularly popular with his parishioners but at the same time he was a controversial figure.

He set out to combat religious apathy but described the bishops as timid little men. He was the only son of a brilliant clergyman and was brought up at Claxby near Market Rasen although actually born at Keighley, Yorkshire in 1905.

He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge where he graduated BA in 1926. He entered Wells Theological College after graduating and his first curacy was at Kew where he served until 1929. From 1931 until 1933 he was a chaplain in the Royal Navy.

Lee returned to Claxby as vicar in 1944 and for a time he considered resigning in order to contest a Parliamentary seat. Whilst at Claxby he issued a number of broadsheets which might well be likened to the political pamphlets of the eighteenth century.

When Clement Attlee became Prime Minister in 1945 Austin Lee sent him an 'open letter' which was widely quoted in the Press. Referring to the appointment of a new bishop of Lincoln Lee said 'Names for this bishopric will be suggested to you. Among them will be men who have given offence to nobody, men who are colourless in their observances, inclining neither to the high or the low. Reject them all'. Austin went on to declare 'What was wanted for bishops were holy and humble men of heart



who would attract men and women to the church by the power of love'. In 1948 Austin Lee left Claxby and accepted the living of St Stephen's, Hounslow where he remained until 1951.

Austin Lee became a feature writer with the *Daily Mail* and also the *Daily Mirror*. He was always a controversial figure and he had a number of provocative and controversial newspaper articles published. He gave up his living because he said, 'the Bishop dislikes me'.

He alleged, 'that the church was full of humbug and boot-licking – appointments only go to those who can be guaranteed to give no offence'.

He went to live in Galway, Ireland where he remained until returning to the priesthood in 1958 as curate in charge of West with East Allington and Sedgebrook moving to Carlton as Rector in 1959. In 1961 he became Rector of Willoughby with Sloothby

and in 1963 became curate in charge of Mumby leaving Lincolnshire later that year to become vicar of Great and Little Paxton, Huntingdonshire.

In 1964 he produced a satirical leaflet in which he suggested that the 'shabby old fashioned parson' should be replaced by a musical prayer wheel! He had become somewhat bitter with congregations as well as bishops and he alleged that 'the average church congregation contains a galaxy of the meanest, most malicious backbiting, narrow-minded and bigoted members of the community'.

Under the pseudonyms of John Austwick and Julian Calendar he wrote a number of detective stories and he was a member of the National Crime Writers' Association. In 1959 he appeared in the BBC television programme *Tonight* when he was interviewed concerning 'Miss Hogg' the heroine of a number of his detective stories. He also did some work on film scenarios and during his breaks between clerical appointments he worked in turn as a chef, barman and schoolmaster. In 1954 his autobiography *Round Many a Bend* was published.

Life was never dull for Austin Lee and he deserves remembering as a very gifted and most colourful campaigning clergyman. He certainly earned the title conferred on him by the Press as a 'cleric with a broom'.

Austin Lee died in January 1965 and the funeral service took place in the chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge. His ashes were interred in the family grave at Claxby.

Extraordinary pianist to give talk

Wendy Lloyd

Many of us will have seen the lady with the big hats who sits with her head bowed near the altar on Decani, some of us will have spoken to her and a few very privileged people will have heard her play the piano.

Dorothy Roberts was not only a concert pianist of great repute, she is also an abstract artist who exhibited in New York in 1995. She is recorded in five international dictionaries including the World's *Who's Who* of women.

She has played to Sir John Barbirolli, Sir Malcolm Sargent and Sir Adrian Bolt, all of whom helped her become established. She has broadcast on the BBC, both television and radio, many times and has given numerous recitals in the Celebrity concerts on the QE2. The piano was bolted to the floor but during one violent storm the clock, which was not, chimed ceaselessly and in the wrong key!

She has played the pianos of Beethoven and Haydn and on one occasion stood in for Eileen Joyce in



Schloss Leitheim in Germany in the room Mozart had played in.

Dr Roberts is a born raconteur with a fund of stories including carting a boudoir grand piano around a selection of London flats and learning a Mozart piano concerto by candlelight because there was no electricity.

She was a close friend of Joan Sutherland, whom she accompanied in recitals and later Joan performed at her

farewell concert when she left Sydney, where she was born. The friendship continued until Joan died last year.

Dorothy comes to the cathedral to worship God and to give thanks for her extraordinary gift as a pianist, and on September 23 in the Minster School she will give a talk, including some playing, entitled *My Musical Journey*. By doing this she hopes to raise enough money to help pupils at the school do as she did and so give something back.

For those who have not heard Dorothy play and for those who want to hear her again, I recommend that you attend the Minster school on September 23 where she will talk about some of her experiences interspersed with vignettes of piano playing.

I know she is planning to include Liszt's transcription of *Mendelssohn Wedding March* and *Elf Music* which is fiendishly difficult.

Tickets are available from Counterpoint in Grantham Street 01522 560065 and children accompanied by parents will be free.

Charitable giving

Michael Newstead

Although the bulk of monies raised through the Community Association go directly to the Cathedral, a percentage is given, as donations, to charitable giving and the wider Church.

In this first period two such donations were made. £5000 to the Diocese of Lincoln for general expenditure and £2500 to the national fund to help the aid effort in the Horn of Africa.

We were also pleased to be able to respond to a specific request from Mark Hocknull - the Chancellor of the Cathedral and head of the Lincoln school of Theology. Some time ago we granted £5000 to support this important

work but subsequent to this we received a specific request as to how this money could best be used. The request is set out in full as it clearly explains the very interesting approach taken.

I have been thinking about the research centre I am planning to establish in the School of Theology and although I want to keep this focused in the area of political theology, I need to give it a specific focus which stands out from other similar centres in other universities.

Given my own background as a research scientist it seems best to focus more on this.

The approach of the centre would be to situate religion and science debates in a

wider political context looking for deeper issues in society which disputes between science and religion are symptoms. Historically these have been to do with education, social mobility, the proper role of the church and the state. All of these are still live issues today.

I think that the Centre will also be able to develop a different approach to the so called New Atheism of Richard Dawkins et al., that moves away from the slugging match that it has become.

What I'm hoping is that the LCCA will be happy for me to use the money it has generously given towards the original Centre for this modified and focused purpose.

The Executive Committee of the Community Association were very happy to endorse this approach.

The last journey of Paul

Lincoln Cathedral Pilgrimage following the last journey of St Paul, 14 to 23 May 2011

Jeannette Davies

1. Malta

Acts 28 vv 1, 2: *After we had reached safety, we learned that the island was called Malta. The natives showed us unusual kindness ... they kindled a fire and welcomed all of us round it.*

Pilgrimage Liturgy Book (PLB) (prepared by the Precentor): *Guide us your faithful people as we make our journey. Fill us with your spirit of love, preserve us from all harm and bring us safely to our destination.*

Luke describes in the Acts of the Apostles St Paul's arrival as a prisoner on Malta with the ship's crew following the shipwreck off the coast of the island and consequent abandoning of the vessel.

Almost 2,000 years later a group of pilgrims, mainly from Lincoln Cathedral, picked up the route of Paul's last journey to Rome after flying to Malta. Our bishop elect, Christopher, prayed with us the prayer I have quoted before our departure from Lincoln. Paul came ashore at a place now known as St Paul's Bay on the island of Malta. At this spot we commemorated the shipwreck. He spent three winter months there reputedly sheltering in

a cave as a prisoner of Roman soldiers.

We packed a lot into the two days we had in Malta visiting Valletta and St Paul's Cathedral at Medina as well as St Paul's Grotto in Rabat where, traditionally, he lived and preached during his visit. Our guide told us something of the history of the island and life there today and we had the strong impression that St Paul's sojourn and the gospel he brought in 60 AD remain a central part of life there. Festivals celebrating various saints are keenly anticipated and celebrated. The people support their churches generously. We were told that there was never a problem about raising money for church needs!

3. In transit

Acts 28 v 13 and 14: *Then we weighed anchor and came to Rhegium. After one day there a south wind sprang up and on the second day we came to Puteoli. There we found believers.*

PLB: *Shepherd of Israel, your flock is never without care: grant that your church may always rejoice in faithful pastors, who are servants of Christ and stewards of your mysteries.*

And so, following St Paul we drove through the island of Sicily passing the gently smoking Mount Etna and then crossing the Strait of Messina from Sicily to Rhegium on the southern tip of Italy.

Paul continued his voyage by sea to Puteoli near Naples but we began our journey northwards to Rome by road. We celebrated Eucharist in the courtyard of the very pleasant hotel where we stayed and led by the Precentor applied the theme of being in transit to our lives as Christians. Next day we made for Sorrento and stopped

2. Sicily

Acts 28 vv 11, 12: *Three months later we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead. We put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days.*

PLB: *As we remember on this island the virgin Lucy who gave up her life for the sake of the gospel, let us call to mind with thanksgiving all who down through the ages have suffered for their faith.*

What was Tony Wintin doing prowling around the corridors of our hotel knocking on doors at 2.45am?

He was making sure we were all ready to leave the hotel at 3.15am in order to be aboard the catamaran which took us from Malta to Sicily.

The weather was rough and we wondered if our pilgrimage would acquire an unwanted degree of reality. But the crossing was swift and by 6.30am we were following Paul's steps

to Syracuse on the island of Sicily. This was a city with a fascinating history and we spent time looking at the Greek and Roman remains in the city including the Greek theatre dating back to the 4th century BC.

In the afternoon the Precentor celebrated Eucharist in the modern and dramatic church building of the Santuario of Madonna delle Lacrime, whose ecumenical outreach included permission for our group of Anglicans

to use one of their chapels and an Orthodox chapel with iconostasis.

Next day the Dean of Syracuse Cathedral very generously allowed us to celebrate the Eucharist in the Chapel of St Lucy in the Cathedral. He had delayed visitors in order to give us a quiet space. This was a memorable occasion.

The Precentor spoke to us of the dedication of St Lucy, a young girl from Syracuse, who gave her life and virginity



to see the remarkably preserved Roman city of Herculaneum destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius at the time when Pompei was also destroyed.

We did not go to Puteoli as there was nothing remaining of St Paul's landing there. Instead we visited the abbey where St Benedict had established his church and order and the British war cemetery at Montecassino.

The gravestones commemorating the huge number of young men who had died there were a sobering experience for us all.

to God suffering a cruel martyrdom as a result.

The cathedral had as its skeleton the pillars of a Greek temple built 2500 years ago. The old part of Syracuse known as Ortygia was beautiful and fascinating.

In the evening some of our group went to a wonderful production of *Andromache* by Euripides in the Greek theatre. Helped by a synopsis of the plot which Mike Brown got on his iPhone, we were totally bound up in the drama and beauty of the production and its backdrop even though we did not understand much of the language.

4. Rome

Acts 28 v 14: *And so we came to Rome. The believers came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them Paul thanked God and took courage.*

PLB: *Eternal God, you reconcile and restore what is divided and broken: have mercy upon us. For our blindness, ignorance and prejudice Father forgive us. For the light that shines in the darkness and can never be put out: let us bless the Lord.*

Following in part the route of the Appian way which Paul and his captors took, we too came to Rome. He probably spent three years there before he came to trial before Nero in AD 63 or 64 and afterwards was beheaded.

We spent just two days there. We shared in the Mass at the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls and afterwards visited the tomb of St Paul in that church and then we had a wonderful visit to the Basilica of St Clement, a 12th century church built over a 4th century church which had been constructed on an earlier Pagan temple and Roman house.

In the evening we attended Vespers at St Peters. Next morning was free to spend as we wished. Then, having

travelled down the old Appian way to see St Sebastian's catacombs, we went to the airport to fly home leaving Rome behind.

Each member of the group will have taken away something different from our journey. But we all found it to be a wonderful experience. As well as having an enjoyable holiday well organised by Pax Travel and well looked after by the Precentor, our principal guide Virginia, our coach drivers, the hotels where we stayed and restaurants where we ate, we also spent time reflecting on the different aspects of pilgrimage, including the themes of a journey which begins and ends, shipwrecks in our lives, dedication and being in transit.

The Precentor's leading of our worship and his short homilies focused us on the spiritual aspect of our journey. I highly recommend the experience to anyone who may have a chance to go another year. I end with the Pilgrim's prayer for the end of the day from our Pilgrimage Liturgy Book

O thou, most holy and beloved, our Companion and our Guide along the way, our bright morning star raise us up with the dawn of each new day, for your love is new every morning. Amen

Unsung Hero(ine)s

Rosemary Cumberland

One of our regular readers asked if we could produce an article about someone rather special whom you may have seen or heard in the cathedral – Jane Freebairn-Smith.

Jane is not only one of the Duty Chaplains to be seen in the cathedral; she is also the Assistant Canon Pastor. She assists Canon Alan Nugent with the pastoral work of the cathedral – visiting people at home, taking communion to those unable to attend the cathedral services and visiting homes and hospitals.

Jane started working in the Church as a Licensed Lay Worker in 1961. In 1988 she became a non-stipendiary lay Ministry Deacon in Glasgow; then following a number of diocesan posts, based at St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow, Jane was priested in 1994 – one of the women pioneers. In 1995 she moved to Lincoln as Team Vicar in North Hykeham. After retirement in 2004 she was asked to help with pastoral work at the cathedral. Jane enjoys this work and feels privileged to be a part of the cathedral community. She finds that visitors are often amazed at the size of the cathedral. It is also good that



Jane Freebairn-Smith

members of other faiths and denominations feel able to pray here.

As Duty Chaplain she is available for people who need to talk to a priest; she is also available to talk to visitors, volunteers and staff. The Duty Chaplain leads the prayers at mid-day and 3.00 and sometimes celebrates at the Eucharists.

Thank you Jane (and, indeed, all those who act as Duty Chaplains) for all the valuable work you do for the Ministry of Welcome within the cathedral

Bookclub

Jeannette Davies

Are you interested in reading? Do you love books? Our Bookclub is the place for you.



Join us on:

Thursday 1 September

The Double Comfort Safari Club by Alexander McCall Smith

Thursday 3 November

Old Filth by Jane Gardam

Meetings are held at 28 Wragby Rd Lincoln at 7.30pm.

Contact:

John Davies on 01522 528102 or Tim Wallis on 01522 751211

Errata

We would like to apologise for two errors which crept unnoticed into our last issue:

In the article *Tales from the Cathedral's History*, Francis Hill was a congregationist, not a Methodist, as stated.

In the news item on page five, Alan White Hon ACWCI was the son of the late Jas White who was a Clerk of Works, but not of Lincoln Cathedral.

Post script

Thank you for reading our latest *InHouse*. We would welcome comments, suggestions and contributions – please send them to inhousetincoln@gmail.com (if you do not have access to e-mail perhaps you could contact one of us directly).

We would also like to encourage you to have your copy sent to you via e-mail; if you would like to do this, please send a message to the above address with 'Subscribe' as the subject. Your e-

mail address will not be passed on to anyone else. It is hoped that later in the year, *InHouse* will be available to see (in colour!) on the new cathedral website.

Thank you to everyone who has helped us to compile this edition (and there are many of you!) Particular thanks to Will Harrison for producing it and to the Works Department for the printing. We are planning the next issue for November.