

FREE

Manchester
Cathedral



News

www.manchestercathedral.org

March 2014



Prayer / Worship / Music / Arts / Education / Heritage / Welcoming



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Lenten Prayer



By The Dean

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 5 March. On this day we shall have a special Eucharist at 5.30pm with the imposition of ashes. Ashes are a sign of penitence and our decision to repent of our sins and make amends towards a new beginning in Christ. There will also be ashes at the midday service, 1.10pm, so please feel free to join us at any of these times.

A special Lenten series on 'Prayer' will be on offer each Wednesday in Lent: 5, 12, 19 and 26 March, 2 April and 9 April. Bishop David will offer the reflections for at least four of these sessions. Please spread the word about this Lenten course and perhaps commit yourself to attending. There will be a reflection on Ash Wednesday during the service at 5.30pm, and otherwise the sessions will take place at 6.30pm in the Cathedral or in Cathedral on the Street (CotS).

If you attend Explore, please come along to this course as we seek to deepen our prayer life and relationship with God.

There will be a launch event at the Cathedral for the exhibition of Rob Floyd's Stations of the Cross on Saturday 8 March at 5pm, and a special Three Choirs Festival featuring our statutory choir will take place at Liverpool Cathedral on Saturday 29 March at 3.30pm. You are encouraged to attend and support our musicians, and enjoy some fabulous choral music!

Lent is about self-denial, fasting and prayer as we journey with Jesus for 40 days in the wilderness. I pray that you will keep Lent faithfully with the help and grace of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ,

Rogers Govender

ELECTORAL ROLL: YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

Once every six years each church is obliged to fully update their electoral roll. In order to remain on the electoral roll for the Cathedral each person must check their eligibility and complete a new electoral roll application form, irrespective of whether one has been completed before. If you are currently on the register, you should receive a form by email or post. Otherwise, blank forms can be obtained from a Cathedral verger. Completed forms should be returned to Mrs K D Green, 7 Olive Rd, Timperley, Cheshire, WA15 6HZ by 6 April.

EXPLORE GROUP

The Explore Group meets in informal sessions once a week, to discuss questions of faith, community, mission and spirituality. Thursdays at 6.30 pm in the Refectory; everyone welcome.

Being an Anglican Cistercian

By Canon Philip Barratt OCist

We are a small community of just four professed brothers, three postulants (people who are testing their vocation with us) and a few enquirers.

So what do we do? There is early rising for prayer, encountering the presence of God especially at the Divine Office; recitation of the psalms as human expression; Lectio Divina; contemplative prayer and silence; solitude; simplicity in living, diet and liturgy; living by the work of one's hands and understanding that as an integral part of one's spiritual existence; obedience to Christ, to the rule(s), to the Prior and to the community; stability; chastity (often misunderstood!) and fidelity to one's state of life; living and studying the rule of St Benedict and knowing the writings of the Cistercian fathers like St Bernard (among many); conversion of manners (i.e. ongoing conversion of life); humility.

And, most importantly, doing all of the above for the love of Christ. From the outset we worked with the Archbishop of Canterbury's Council which supports religious communities in the Church of England and, interestingly, is chaired by Bishop David Walker. In November we got the great news that we had become an "Acknowledged Community"

within the Anglican Communion and the Church of England in particular. So we are "official" - something which is very important to us as devout Anglicans.

The RC Cistercians (Trappists) have welcomed us and encouraged us to build ecumenical bridges with them as a part of the worldwide Cistercian family. What a very humbling privilege! They have introduced us as ecumenical students to a course of study which they offer worldwide, and which is now part of our formation programme.

The Church of England has no Cistercian monasteries (the last one was Ewell Abbey which closed in 2004 and its Abbott Brother Aelred has been involved in setting up our community). Yet what every 'residential' Cistercian community finds precious has the very same value to us; it just looks different. As I was saying to someone just recently, we are not as much 'new monasticism' as we are 'old monasticism done a new way'. Strangely, we come to this 'old monasticism in a new way' just at a time when, in the Church of England, the Archbishops' Advisory Council are overrun with applications for small communities from all walks of church life. We hope and pray that we will be a source of blessing to the church we love.

Capture the Cathedral

Manchester
Cathedral



Photography
competiton

6 January -
28 March 2014

Categories:

- * Architecture and stained glass
- * Something different
- * Young Photographer (win a Samsung Galaxy 2 tablet, sponsored by the Manchester Evening News)



The overall winner will receive a voucher for one night b&b sponsored by the Crowne Plaza



Manchester Cathedral Visitors

We are delighted to welcome Dympna Gould to our team at the Cathedral. Here, she introduces herself and her role.



My name is Dympna Gould and I have recently joined the team at Manchester Cathedral in a new role as Visitor Services Manager. I was born in Manchester and was one of the last of the cohort to attend Loreto College in Manchester when it was an all- girls convent. I don't think I quite appreciated the finer points of Latin conjugation at the time but I am certainly revisiting this now when I try to decipher a plaque or ancient document. Despite having a pretty abysmal singing voice, it is also where I developed a love of hymns. You have been warned.

I went on to study English Literature at Leeds and then fell, quite accidentally, into a career in tourism, taking a 6 month contract at Thomson Tour Operations which evolved into 11 years. Group bookings were my speciality taking ballroom dancers from Bury and groups of golfers to more exotic climes. My love of this city led to a career mixing tourism, heritage and regeneration, working on major projects for Manchester City Council including the 2002 Commonwealth Games and all over the city.

As a freelance Blue Badge Tour Guide I developed walks linked to music and sculpture trails, art and architecture and hidden corners of the city.

The best response that you can elicit from a visitor, apart from the gasps of surprise when you walk through the Royal Exchange or John Ryland's Library, is 'I have lived in this city all my life and have never been here before.' That brings me to my role. The Cathedral has managed quite nicely without a Visitor Services Manager for 600 years so why now?

I share the passion and love for this sacred space with the great group of people who work, volunteer, arrange the flowers, ring the bells, look after the choristers or have attended services here all their lives. This is a great Cathedral in a great city. My role is to attract more visitors to this beautiful corner of it; to make sure that when people come in the door, it does not matter whether they have travelled half way across the world or have lived here all their life, whether they are homeless and distressed or attending a classical music concert; the warmth of the welcome and the quality of their experience will make them an honorary member of this ever expanding congregation and help to keep this building alive for another 600 years.

Full details on how to enter, including competition rules, are available at www.manchestercathedral.org

Bennett Street Sunday School

Do you recall the Georgian silver tea set displayed in the Cathedral show case? It formed part of a small exhibition of silver with a story. That tea set originally belonged to Bennett Street Sunday School.

Situated just off Oldham Road (on what is now named Bendix Street) the school was a near neighbour of the Cathedral. It was a philanthropic institution, a product of the Sunday School Movement and was run by lay people.

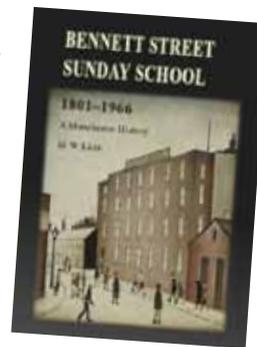
The founder was a modest but quietly charismatic man called David Stott and as a token of their esteem and regard this ornate silver teapot, sugar basin and cream jug were presented by the school members to him when he had been running the school for over thirty years. He had built the school in 1818 to accommodate 2500 scholars; he introduced them to the Bible instructed them in morals and behaviour and taught them to read and write decades before government legislation tackled the problem of education for working class children. It was the start of an enterprise that went on to promote the total welfare of these children by providing health schemes and encouraging thrift.

The school was always proud of the fact that it had a large adult following and Bennett Street became the biggest Anglican school in the city, a place for recreation and entertainment – in short a haven from the harsh realities of life in the area.

In the 1890s the mother of the artist L S Lowry was the organist in the ladies' room and he continued his interest and support of the school to the end of his life. In 1950 he painted an oil of the exterior, a work which has seldom been seen in public although it was included in the Lowry Art Gallery's exhibition entitled 'Unseen Lowry' in 2013. This painting forms the front cover of my book.

I was the fourth generation of my family to attend Bennett Street and I have long wished to introduce others to its work, for in its day it was hugely influential and a true part of Manchester's social history.

By M W Lees



Bennett Street Sunday School 1801-1966: A Manchester History (Stellar Books) is available from St Denys Bookshop in the Cathedral Visitor Centre and the Lowry Gallery Shop, amazon.co.uk and stellarbooks.co.uk or by telephone order on 0161 928 8273

Writing the Cathedral

It should be reasonably obvious to those regularly involved in the life of our Cathedral that our community has a real commitment to poetry and literature. When I was appointed the Cathedral Poet-in-Residence in late 2009, there was already a well-established international Cathedral Poetry Competition and a desire to engage with the wider literary scene in Manchester.

Since 2009, I have been privileged to be involved in and help develop all sorts of literary endeavours, often in tandem with Manchester Literature Festival. Our latest project, due to be officially launched at 7pm on Ash Wednesday, is 'Writing the Cathedral.'

Towards the end of 2012, my friend and fellow poet Rachel Davies and I worked with a group of local poets to write fifteen new poems for the Cathedral. The poets – based in various parts of the city environs – were a mixture of published and unpublished talent. The factors which united us were a love of poetry and a commitment to bringing the dramatic architecture of the Cathedral alive in verse. Using Rachel and I as a critical sounding-board, the writers worked up poems which responded to different parts of the Cathedral.

By Rachel Mann

They could be in any style or form, but had to be based on some identifiable feature or part of the architecture. Poems have, thus, been written about external features like the Grottoes through to the Lady Chapel and the sculpture of the Mother and Child. I was especially thrilled with the results, for the final poems represent local poets responding – often with great spiritual sensitivity – to a Cathedral many had known their whole lives.

One further exciting dimension of this project is that the North West Sound Archive has recorded each poet reading their poem. The poems, then, shall be retained for posterity, but – via the wonders of the new Cathedral App technology – will also be available to be listened to by visitors and congregation alike.

The launch event will involve live readings of the poems by the writers and all are welcome to attend. The new poems will be published in a small pamphlet. This will be available on the evening and in the future to visitors, friends and tourists. Both the recorded and written versions of the poems will also be available on the new Cathedral App being developed. As the Cathedral moves into an exciting future, anticipating ever widening public interest and visitor numbers, Writing the Cathedral promises to be one more way we can develop the Cathedral's mission in the world.

Art Exhibitions: Rob Floyd's Stations of the Cross

Perhaps predictably, as I come to the end of my two-year journey painting The Stations of the Cross cycle for Manchester Cathedral, I find myself with more questions than answers, but this has still been a journey of discovery.

I'd be lying if I said that it's been plain-sailing, attempting to engage with Christ's Passion, but in some ways I was prepared for this, or, at least, expecting it. In the Gospel of Thomas, Christ says, 'He who is near me is near the fire, and he who is far from me is far from the Kingdom'; words which have always deeply unsettled and resonated with me.

And Christ's message, I feel, is an unsettling one, one that is capable of truly shaking our worlds to their very foundations. It seems to me designed to do this and nowhere in the Gospels is this more apparent than in the Passion itself: it's a punishing, bleak and brutal affair. During one of my particularly despairing 'reports from the front line' a friend quipped that surely any atheist accusing Christianity of being a 'comfort blanket' has not attempted the painting of The Stations: never a truer word spoken in jest. But, of course, the Christian message and the Passion are ultimately

concerned with hope. Christ stages the events in order to commune a message of vital and urgent importance to us, as He tells Pilate: '...I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself.' And it is this feeling of the Passion as drama, with everyone involved, wittingly or unwittingly playing their part, that I returned to again and again, and which I have tried to express.

I certainly don't pretend to be 'emerging from the studio' with all the answers. I imagine the creative process rather like Jacob wrestling with the Angel, refusing to let go until a blessing is received. The blessing for me here is one of renewed hope, and a sense of being involved with something that is worthwhile: a sense of being on the right path. Over the course of creating this body of work my style has perceptibly changed, I feel (although this may not be immediately obvious since I did not begin the paintings in linear order, but rather as inspiration came for each image). One of the main developments has been the adoption of a looser, 'unfinished' way of applying the paint. And this is important because, often, highly-finished paintings can feel like a statement: the artist knows, and is now telling us. With a rougher, less finished image, the viewer has to get more involved with the painting, and do some of the work with their eyes and imaginations.

On Saturday 8 March, during the 'unveiling' of the canvases I will be around to discuss the thinking behind the works, what I was meditating on and trying to express. Generally, artists are not on hand to tell us about their stuff. The British conceptual artist Victor Burgin states that he wishes his art to be akin to the bandages put around the invisible man, thus revealing his form, meaning that when we experience an artwork it is more important what we find out about ourselves rather than the artist who created it. I want that for these paintings too. I do hope they will aid spectators in their own meditations, and I hope that people will feel a resonance with them and find them useful. As there will be no firm answers given, I hope that the paintings will inspire some discussion and perhaps even debate; an enriching dialogue.

Finally, I would like to thank the Cathedral for allowing the cycle to happen in this way and to everyone who has supported me throughout its development. Rachel Mann's poetry will certainly add another dynamic to the project, as well as another perspective. And had I been without Canon Andrew Shanks - put quite simply - it would not have happened.

I am aware of the tremendous work that Andrew has done as Canon Theologian over the years and what a loss he will be to the Cathedral and the wider community in Manchester. It has been a real privilege to work with him on this project, which he has inspired and influenced greatly, and now it is a real honour to be involved in what will be his final art exhibition, before retirement, at the Cathedral.

By Rob Floyd



This exhibition is part of PassionArt 2014. See www.passionarttrail.co.uk for more.

QUIZ NIGHT

WITH
SUPPER

'Help us light up the Cathedral's future'

A Quiz Night, hosted in the Nave of Manchester Cathedral by members of Manchester Cathedral and Manchester Arndale, in aid of the Cathedral's Lighting Fund

There will be a raffle and a cash bar on the night

'Be A Part Of It'

Thursday 1 May 2014 - 7pm
Manchester Cathedral
Tickets: £8.50

Tickets available from:

Cathedral Office: 0161 883 2220 (Card or Cash)
The Reverend Robert Whyborn: 07802938267 (Cash)

www.manchestercathedral.org/beapartofit



Campaign Corner *Be a Part of it*

Manchester Cathedral Development Project

The Development Project committees are responsible for planning and delivering some of our major projects. The committees are made up of members of staff, clergy, Chapter, consultants and many volunteers from other organisations in the city. We have invited some of these volunteers to introduce themselves and explain a little about their work with the Cathedral.

HLF Development Group:
Marion McClintock

My name is Marion and I am the chairman of the ad hoc HLF Development Group for the Cathedral. I grew up closer to London than to Manchester, but have lived and worked in Lancaster for the last 45 years and regard that as my real home. I attend Lancaster Priory weekly, and five years ago became involved with their successful bid for the installation of an historic organ scheme, funded by the HLF. It was a great pleasure when I was approached by the Dean and Anthony O'Connor to use the experience thus gained to help the Cathedral seek HLF funding for its future development.

Recently the Cathedral's interior has been transformed by the new floor and related changes. The objective of the working group that I chair is to build on that work and obtain HLF funding for the medium

term development of other parts of the Cathedral, in order to open them up to much more diversified and numerous visitors than at present. The project will involve both physical redevelopment and excellent planning for the optimal use of what is to be reshaped. The new appointment of the Cathedral's Visitor Services Manager is an important step in that direction, and the Cathedral is already actively involved in discussions with two key partnership connections; Manchester City and Chetham's.

The discussions at the group, on which senior officers of the Cathedral sit, are designed to lay the foundations for a bid. There are two principal strands: the scope for physical re-development, and the essence of the Cathedral's history and mission, past and present, as understood by all members of the Cathedral community and more widely. The latter discussion in particular is of great fascination, including the addressing of critical issues in contemporary society, the Cathedral fabric and fittings, education and training, and the performing and visual arts (with particular reference to music). The project has important potential for the future direction of the Cathedral, and if anyone would like to contact me with their ideas, I shall be very pleased to hear from you.

Be in touch via: grace.timperley@manchestercathedral.org

Saint of the Month

*Dewi Sant (David, in English) c.601
Bishop of Menevia, Patron Saint of Wales*



In Welsh, 'David' is of course 'Dewi', and he is the only Welsh saint to be honoured outside of Wales. As with so many early saints, for all his fame, very little was written about him until long after his death. In this case it was about 500 years, at which time his holiness and fame was cited in order to support the claims of the Welsh church to be independent of Canterbury.

The picture pieced together from later legendary accounts is of a high-born and devout priest. His mother was St Non, for a while he lived the prayerful life of a hermit, before becoming an energetic abbot and bishop. He was a founder of no less than 12 monasteries and was present at two church councils. At the first of these, the Synod of Brefi, he preached so powerfully that it is said that he succeeded St Dubricius as the Primate of Wales with his cathedral, at what is now St David's.

As he was known as The Waterman, it is likely that the communities he founded followed a strict spiritual discipline which was also vegetarian and teetotal. Over 50 ancient churches were dedicated to him, all in south Wales. Several Irish saints were reputedly his students. St David's flag is a

yellow cross on a black ground. These days, when 'nationalism' has earned a poor reputation for its association with wars and rivalries, it is understandable that many Christians find the links between Christian saints and national identity a compromising and embarrassing one. What are we to make of it? One way of getting things into perspective is to recognise the historical inevitability of smaller social units like tribes coming together to form larger political entities like kingdoms.

The question then is whether or not these larger, national units are to be based solely on military might and power. The involvement of Christian saints in the process says not. Politics needs the spiritual. National identity needs to be based on more than political power. It is for this reason that at its best the church has often led the way in encouraging the healthy separation of spiritual power from political power, a process we know as secularisation.

Patron saints like Dewi Sant might remind us of the redeeming quality of prayer and the quest for uncompromised holiness over the corruptions and betrayals of political power. Politicians need our prayers, and especially the prayers of the saints.

Albert Radcliffe

The Diary March

Saturday 1 March
5.30 pm *Evensong attended by Liverpool Organists' Association*

Tuesday 4 March
12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 5 March – Ash Wednesday
12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*
4.30 pm *Evening Prayer*
5.30 pm *Sung Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes (BCP)*
6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*
7.15 pm *Writing the Cathedral Poetry Event*

Thursday 6 March
10.00 am–7.30 pm
Taste of the North

Saturday 8 March
6.30 pm *Launch event for Rob Floyd's Stations of the Cross art exhibition*

Wednesday 12 March
6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*

Thursday 13 March
1.10 pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*
6.30 pm *Explore Group*

Saturday 15 March
11.00 am *Coffee Concert: Marco Grieco*

Wednesday 19 March
12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*
6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*

Thursday 20 March
12 noon *Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer*
6.30 pm *Explore Group (Refectory)*

Friday 21 March
7.30 pm *London Concertante Chamber Ensemble Concert*

Monday 24 March – Friday 28 March
9.30 am–4.00 pm
'Message of Peace & Hope Tree' Community Events

Tuesday 25 March
12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 26 March
6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*

Thursday 27 March
6.30 pm *Explore Group (Refectory)*

Friday 28 March
7.30 pm *RNCM performance of Gluck's 'Orfeo ed Euridice'*

Saturday 29 March
10.00 am–1.00 pm *Leadership for Life – Advocating for Minorities in Pakistan*

Exhibitions

Rob Floyd, Stations of the Cross
Monday 3 March – Sunday 27 April

Capture the Cathedral
Friday 9 May – Thursday 5 June Regiment Chapel

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You can also subscribe online to the E-News, and updates for Development, Music and Events for Schools.

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Service Times

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer	9.00am	Mon-Fri
Holy Communion	1.10pm	Mon-Fri
Evensong	5.30pm	Tues-Thurs*
Evening Prayer	4.30pm	Mon & Fri

Saturday Services

Morning Prayer & Holy Communion	9.00am
Evensong	5.30pm*

Sunday Services

Matins	8.45am
Holy Communion (1662)	9.00am
Sung Eucharist	10.30am
Evensong	5.30pm*

*Please note
During school holidays evening services are said. All said services are at 4.30 pm.

Variations to the schedule for special dates and services will be listed here whenever possible.

Looking ahead *April*

Wednesday 2 April

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*
6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*

Thursday 3 April

1.10 pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*
6.30 pm *Explore Group (Refectory)*

Saturday 5 April

11.00 am *Coffee Concert*

Wednesday 9 April

6.30 pm *Lent Course 2014*

Thursday 10 April

12 noon *Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer*
6.30 pm *Explore Group (Refectory)*

Saturday 12 April

9.00 am–6.00 pm *Pickled Walnut Wedding Fair (CotS)*
11.00 am *Chetham's School of Music Founders' Day service*
2.15 pm–5.00 pm *Be a Chorister for a Day*
5.00 pm *Be a Chorister for a Day Act of Worship*

Sunday 13 April

9.00 am–6.00 pm *Pickled Walnut Wedding Fair (CotS)*

Monday 14 April – Holy Week

10.30 am *Sung Eucharist with Blessing of the Oils and Renewal of Vows*

Tuesday 15 April

11.30 am *Bishop of Beverley's Chrism Mass*

Wednesday 16 April

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 17 April – Maundy Thursday

7.30 pm *Sung Eucharist with Stripping of the Sanctuary, followed by the Watch*
8.30 pm–11.00 pm *The Watch*

Friday 18 April–Good Friday

12 noon *Way of the Cross*
7.30 pm *Music and Readings for Good Friday*

Saturday 19 April

7.30 pm *Easter Eve Liturgy with Baptism and Confirmation*

Sunday 20 April – Easter Sunday

10.30 am *Easter Day Eucharist*

Tuesday 22 April

12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 23 April

2.00 pm *Townswomen's Guild Thanksgiving Service*

Friday 25 April

7.00 pm *Hope14 Prayer Service*

Saturday 26 April

1.00 pm *Lunchtime Concert performed Mirabilé Vocal Ensemble*

Wednesday 30 April

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Looking further ahead *May*

Thursday 1 May

7.00 pm *Cathedral Quiz Night*

Friday 2 May

7.00 pm *Angus and Julia Stone Concert*

Sunday 4 May

7.30 pm *Oldham Choral Society perform Durule and Faure Requiems*

Tuesday 6 May

7.00 pm *Theological Society: Andrew Shanks, Neo-Hegelian Theology*

Friday 9 May

7.00 pm *Launch event for Capture the Cathedral competition*

Monday 12 May

7.30 pm *Visitation Service for Manchester Archdeaconry*

Tuesday 13 May

12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 14 May

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 15 May

7.00 pm *The Fall Concert*

Friday 16 May

7.00 pm *Belinda Carlisle Concert*

Saturday 17 May

11.00 am *Coffee Concert*
2.15 pm–5.00 pm *Be a Chorister for a Day*
5.00 pm *Be a Chorister for a Day Act of Worship*
7.00 pm *A service to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first ordinations of women to the priesthood*

Thursday 22 May

10.00 am–2.30 pm *Mothers' Union Quiet Day*
1.10 pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*
7.00 pm *The Wickham Lecture: Elaine Graham*

Friday 24 May

12 noon *A service to celebrate Canon John Sykes's 50th anniversary of preaching*

Wednesday 28 May

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

The Cathedral Diary is accurate at the time of going to print. Keep up to date via social media, website or telephone:

0161 833 2220

Contacts

The Clergy

The Dean:

The Very Revd Rogers Govender
dean@manchestercathedral.org

Canon Theologian:

Vacancy

Archdeacon of Manchester:

The Venerable Mark Ashcroft
archdeaconmanchester@manchester.anglican.org

Canon Precentor:

Canon Philip Barratt
precentor@manchestercathedral.org

Cathedral Curate:

Revd Rhiannon Jones
curate@manchestercathedral.org

Chapter Lay Canons:

David Howe, Jennifer Curtis, Barrie Cheshire

Cathedral Chaplains:

Canon Adrian Rhodes
Revd Peter Bellamy-Knights (Retired)



Staff

Cathedral Administrator: *Stuart Shepherd*
stuart.shepherd@manchestercathedral.org

Dean's PA: *Alison Rowland*

alison.rowland@manchestercathedral.org

Cathedral Administrative Secretary:

Joanne Hooper
joanne.hooper@manchestercathedral.org

Cathedral Office Assistant: *Jade Newbury*

jade.newbury@manchestercathedral.org

Finance Assistant: *Joanne Hodkin*

joanne.hodkin@manchestercathedral.org

Logistics Officer: *Peter Mellor*

peter.mellor@manchestercathedral.org

Senior Verger: *Derrick May*

derrick.may@manchestercathedral.org

Vergers:

Martin Taylor
martin.taylor@manchestercathedral.org

Gareth Screeton

gareth.screeton@manchestercathedral.org

Organist & Master of the Choristers:

Christopher Stokes
christopher.stokes@manchestercathedral.org

Sub Organist: *Jeffrey Makinson*

jeffrey.makinson@manchestercathedral.org

Worship & Music Administrator: *Lucy Shepherd*

lucy.shepherd@manchestercathedral.org

Education Officer: *Pam Elliott*

pam.elliott@manchestercathedral.org

Director of Fundraising & Development:

Anthony O'Connor
anthony.o'connor@manchestercathedral.org

Secretary to the Development Project:

Grace Timperley
grace.timperley@manchestercathedral.org

Volunteer Programme Manager:

Lauren Bailey-Rhodes
lauren.bailey-rhodes@manchestercathedral.org

Visitor Services Manager: *Dympna Gould*

dympna.gould@manchestercathedral.org

Congregation

Churchwardens & Stewards:

wardens@manchestercathedral.org

Archives: archives@manchestercathedral.org

Flowers: *Helen Bamping*

Friends of Manchester Cathedral: *Pauline Dimond*

Ringling Master: *Malcolm Murphy*

Secretary to Bell Ringers: *Catherine Rhodes*

Please contact the above people via the

Cathedral Office: **Manchester Cathedral,**
Victoria Street, M3 1SX, 0161 833 2220

Also:

Chetham's School of Music: 0161 834 9644

National Rail Enquiries: 0845 748 4950

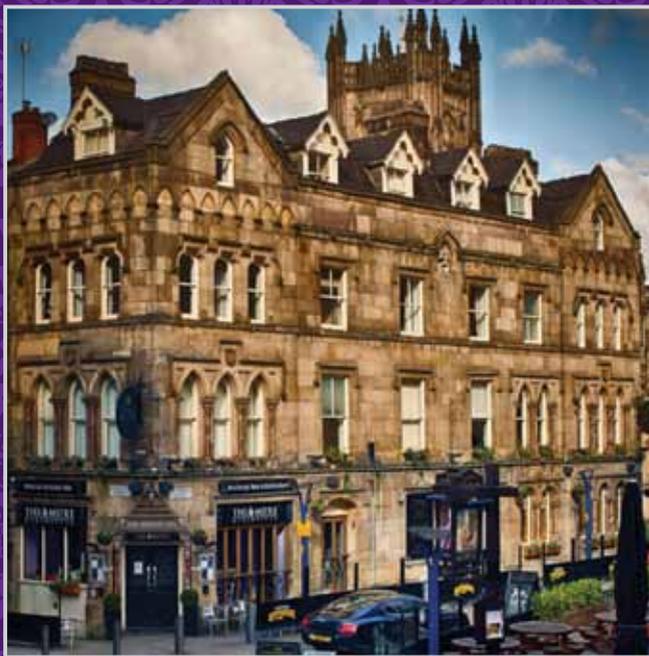
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