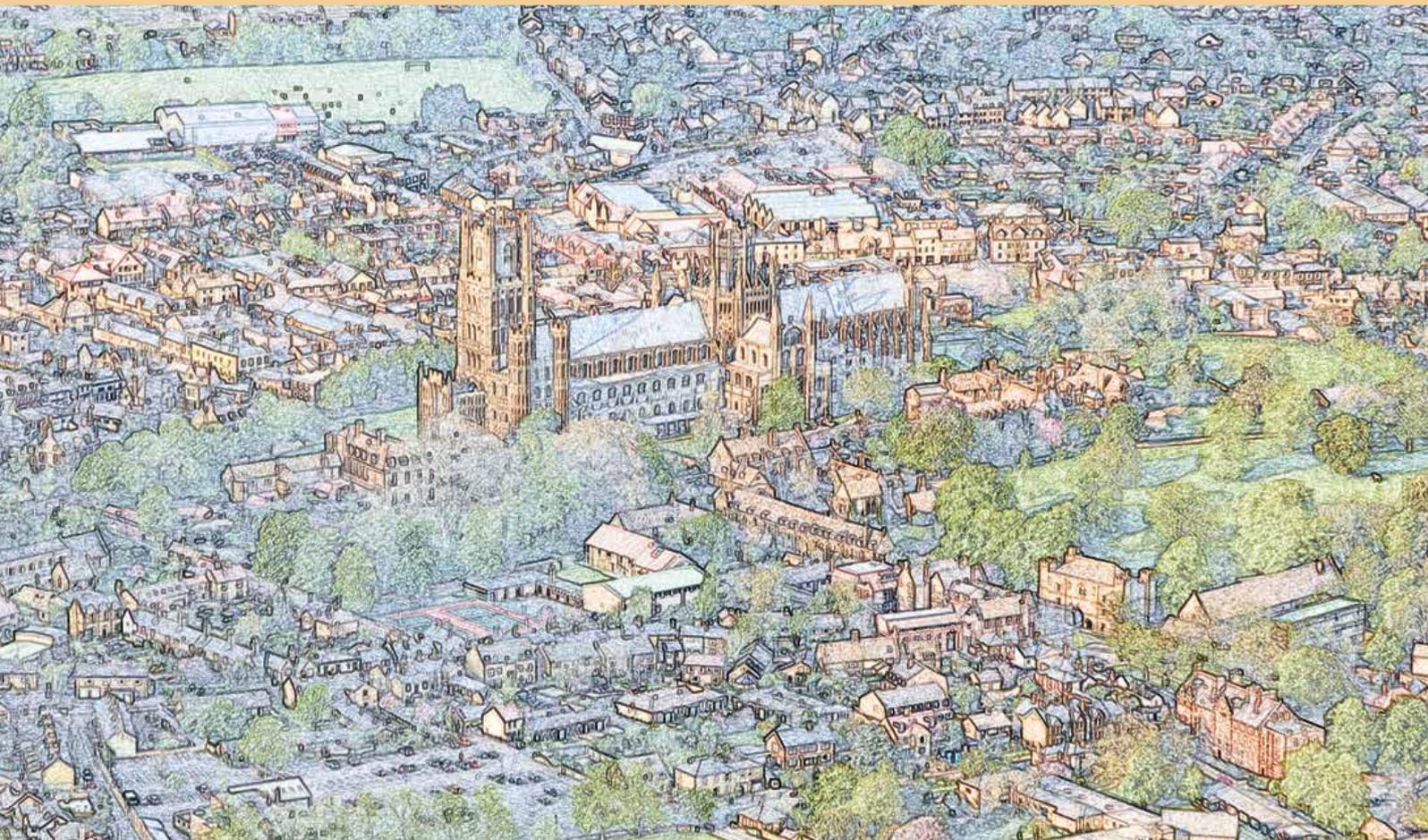




ELY
CATHEDRAL

Annual Review 2015

Joyfully proclaiming the love of God in worship, outreach, welcome and care





Canon Hugh Shilson-Thomas

Canon Victoria Johnson

The Very Revd Mark Bonney

Canon James Garrard

Dean

Canon Tim Bellis

Canon Sarah Squire

Canon Tom Green

Mr Stephen Bourne
*Administrator and
Chapter Clerk*

Dean's Report

I am delighted once again to introduce our Annual Review which records and celebrates a year of considerable activity and achievement as we continue to grow as a community *'Joyfully proclaiming the love of God in worship, outreach, welcome and care'*. Little, if anything, which is celebrated in this review could have happened



without the huge dedication of the staff and of so many volunteers, so first of all a very big thank you to all of them. Lots of people have commented to me on the lively and friendly atmosphere that is around the Cathedral, and that would not be so without this wonderful team of volunteers and staff and their 'can do' attitude.

'Worship, outreach, welcome and care' are the core words of the Cathedral's Mission Statement and are steadily becoming words that trip off people's tongues. This year the review is, as far as possible, shaped under those headings because it's these four areas that drive our life and help us work as a team rather than in individual silos. The principle purpose of a Cathedral is to be 'the seat of the Bishop and a centre of worship and mission' – so the daily round of worship, the *Opus Dei* of our Benedictine forbears, undergirds all we do, and our sharing in God's mission exemplifies itself in worship, outreach, welcome and care.

We were delighted to welcome Canon Victoria Johnson as a residentiary canon just after Easter. She has settled in really well and made a tremendous impact already not

least with her considerable pastoral and intellectual skills. Rigorous safeguarding policies and procedures are signs of truly caring for people, children and adults, and Vicky has done sterling work in getting these in order.

We bade a fond farewell to Jan Munt in September after some 15 years as our Education Officer during which time she has developed the Education Department into a thriving part of our life that welcomes in excess of 8000 children a year to the Cathedral. Sally Newton has succeeded her and whilst battling with the problem of office relocation has got to grips with the job and is brim-full of new ideas to take this important work ahead.

Early in this new year we also said goodbye to Canon Alan Hargrave, the Canon Missioner. Alan's 13 years at the Cathedral have seen him advance the work of our welcomers, guides and education in many forms by leaps and bounds. His preaching has always been an inspiration, and his pastoral care and concern for all people, especially for minority groups and the unjustly treated, has been an important witness of Christian concern. We wish him and Annie every blessing as they begin what Alan called the 'Jubilee years' – I'm sure there'll be nothing retiring about his retirement. We are pleased to announce the Bishop has appointed the Reverend Canon Dr Jessica Martin to succeed Alan as a Residentiary Canon.

I hope that you enjoy reading this review and get some feel for all that's going on, a sense of the energy and enthusiasm that is around, but above all an appreciation that we are here to serve God and the community as faithful servants of Jesus Christ and to make him known in all that we do.

The Very Reverend Mark Bonney, Dean of Ely



Mission

Worship

Worship is at the centre of all that we do and everything flows from that worship. There are regular worship-based activities for children and young people, and this is one area we are hoping to develop further in the future as more and more families move into Ely. Little Acorns, Sunday Club and the Edward Bear Club provide opportunities for children to experience being part of a worshipping community on Sundays and during the week and thanks are due to all the volunteers who support this ministry. The 'Rave in the Nave' event attracted over 300 young people to the Cathedral and a working party is now re-imagining the format of the event to adapt to their changing needs. Also, some of our worship offering brings new worshippers into the Cathedral, those who might be new to church; the Pet Service, which was filmed by BBC Songs of Praise, and the Service celebrating the long reign of Queen Elizabeth, being two diverse examples. When events of crisis and tragedy struck, prayer stations were set up so the public could respond to the growing Refugee crisis in Syria and beyond, and special prayers were said during the Christmas Fair in response to the terrorist attacks in Paris. In a complex world, people are often drawn to Cathedrals to offer prayer and find peace, and no doubt this is something we will need to be increasingly attentive to.

Prayer is offered daily for those in need, and communion is taken to those at home if requested as well as home and hospital visiting. The Cathedral also offers support to those who seek the pastoral or 'occasional' offices of the church through baptisms, weddings and funerals. In 2015 there were 20 Baptisms, 9 Weddings and 7 Funerals as well as a number of memorials and thanksgiving services.

It is important that people feel that this is a place where they can mark significant moments in life, moments of sorrow and sadness, and moments of thanksgiving and joy.

Outreach

The Cathedral also supports many local and national charities through various services, events and collections. In 2015 Christmas collections were donated to support those trying to alleviate the refugee crisis, a pressing issue of our time which continues. In May, a group from Ely visited Zanzibar Cathedral and in June, the Ely Cathedral Girls' Choir visited St John's Church in Hackney. Both of these trips strengthened our bonds of affection with these communities whom we support through prayer and as part of our own financial stewardship. Locally, we are part of Churches Together in Ely and work with them to mark significant events in the church's year, such as the Walk of Witness on Good Friday and the work of Ely Foodbank.

Another mark of mission is to teach and nurture people in the faith. As part of our mission to help people of all ages explore the faith heritage of the Cathedral, Canon Alan Hargrave helped develop a new Cathedral app, which was launched in the Autumn of 2015. The app allows people to explore the Cathedral and monastic precincts and gives people new insights into our history and the Christian faith that is lived out here day-by-day. In addition there were various opportunities for adult education throughout the year, in the form of a Lecture Series on Art and Theology, the Amnesty and Etheldreda Lectures and an extensive program of events for Lent to help people deepen their faith and grow in discipleship.



Education

Welcome

The Cathedral continues to be a nurturing and welcoming place and seeks to embody welcome and care in all that we do. The Great West Door is a threshold between church and world, and a place where we are called to welcome tourists, pilgrims, the curious, the committed, the doubtful, those who seek silence and solace, those who come to worship and those who are vulnerable and in need of help. The work of our Ministry of Welcome team, admissions staff and vergers ensures that everyone is welcomed and this is a vital part of our call to embody that loving service which is such an important part of our mission as a Christian community.

Care

There are many different networks of care spanning the Cathedral community including our dedicated Pastoral Care Team, the Priest Vicars, the Mothers' Union, Ministry of Welcome Team, Stewards, Marthas, Flower Guild, Day Chaplains and Guides as well as the many informal networks that exist, a good example being the popular Wednesday Coffee Morning which is a place where volunteers and congregation members can catch up with each other and meet new people. Our volunteer community, through their time and talent, contribute to and help care for and sustain the life of this Cathedral in immeasurable ways and we owe them our collective gratitude. It was wonderful to give thanks for our Volunteers at a special Evensong service followed by a reception in June. In addition, in the past year our safeguarding policies and procedures have been reviewed, to ensure that the Cathedral is a safe place for everyone.

Canon Victoria Johnson

Outreach

The Lady Chapel is the new home for our expanding holiday Drop Ins, which now average over 100 visitors each day that they are run. They provide an excellent community for families with young children and encourage people to visit the Cathedral who otherwise may not.

We continue to be fortunate in that the support of the Education Trust allows us to help schools facing prohibitively high travel costs, removing a financial barrier to access. We have also taken the Cathedral Roadshow out to numerous schools, taking an aspect of our work and a sense of this great building to those unable to come to us.

Welcome

The Cathedral was as popular as ever with young people in 2015, welcoming over 8000 young people through its doors.

The Art Exhibition (July 2015) was a huge success and saw local schools transform the Cathedral with the varied and creative artworks they created. Many schools also enjoyed visiting the Cathedral to see their art work in situ.

Care

As the new Director of Education, I have been able to seamlessly continue the work of the Department, welcoming schools who return to the Cathedral year after year, as well as engaging some new ones. The visits on offer have been adapted to meet the demands of the new curriculum and to keep our programme fresh and relevant - with several new visits on offer.

Sally Newton, Director of Education



Music

Worship

2015 saw the continuation of the work of all choirs, singly and in collaboration very well. The primary duty of the music is to serve the *Opus Dei* - the work of God - which is the essential reason for the Cathedral's existence. Daily singing of Sunday Eucharists and Evensong in term by boy and girl choristers, lay clerks and on regular occasions by our voluntary choir ECOS (Ely Cathedral Octagon Singers) continues to be at the heart of our offering of worship to God.

Alex Goodwin began work as Assistant Organist of the Girls' Choir and warm thanks are due to him, Paul Trepte, the Director of Music; Edmund Aldhouse, Assistant Organist and Director of ECOS; Sarah MacDonald, the Director of the Girls' Choir, and Andrew Parnell, Organist of ECOS. The music and liturgical worship offered in the Cathedral in 2015 maintained the highest of standards. The challenges of chorister recruitment remain ever present.

Outreach

Paul, Rebecca Duckworth and Anne Mizen also deserve much thanks for their roles in animating the work of *The*



Ely Imps, our outreach choir of mixed voices from the age of 7 to 13, which despite other choirs for similar age groups springing up, has maintained good numbers. Some of the most memorable acts of worship of 2015 were sung by *The Imps* - especially the Pet Service which was featured, in part, on Songs of Praise with Aled Jones, one of our music patrons and a great supporter of the Cathedral.

Welcome and Care

Three services held in 2015, sung variously by the three Cathedral choirs, give a good impression of the way in which the musical and liturgical life underpins these elements of the Cathedral's strategy. In October, on the Feast of the Translation of St Etheldreda, Evensong was attended by the first recipients of the Etheldreda Medal, awarded by the Bishop after nominations from within the Diocese for those who had served their communities in important ways. This was not restricted to service to or through the Church. The very fact that the event took place within formal worship made for a wonderful celebration and drawing together of different threads of experience. It is also a prime example of the Cathedral being used by the Bishop as his seat of mission.

In the same way, the Cathedral hosted the service at which the Diocesan Strategy was launched with a variety of musical styles (which is mirrored at Ordinations and other diocesan services).

Many other examples could be given but these two sum up the close relationship of all four elements – Worship, Outreach, Welcome and Care that are part of our mission statement.

Canon James Garrard



Operations

Worship

The department had another busy year in 2015, striving for the highest possible standards of presentation in the ever widening range of worship styles offered by the Cathedral. As well as our regular routine of Daily and Weekly Worship and School Services, there were a number of major Special Services including two Ordinations and the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire's Justice Service. The team of Vergers, Bedesmen and Stewards played a major role in ensuring that Worship continued uninterrupted no matter what other events were taking place in an increasingly busy building.

Outreach

As Chapter continues to follow a policy of reaching out as much as possible to the wider community, the Operations Department facilitates a growing number of major events which are hosted with the intention of drawing people into the Cathedral who might otherwise never enter.

An important part of the Operations Department's role is to ensure the safety and security of everyone using the Cathedral and this requires ongoing dialogue with the emergency services regarding improvements to Event Management.

Welcome

We continue to explore ways in which we can improve our Welcome to all users of the Cathedral, be they congregation, pilgrim, concert-goer or tourist. During the past year the staff and volunteers have undertaken additional training with the aim of giving each person a genuine welcome which is sensitive both to their individual needs and to the Cathedral environment. We have welcomed over 110,000 visitors to the Cathedral as tourists and many more as members of audiences

and congregations attending over 20 major concerts, graduation ceremonies and services too numerous to count.

Care

Our staff and volunteers are tasked on many different levels with the care of the Cathedral building, its contents and the people using it.

During the course of the past year there have been 2 significant projects to conserve and improve the fabric and facilities, which have impacted on the work of the Department. The South Transept has undergone major restoration and this was quickly followed by a project to re-wire much of the Cathedral's ageing electrical circuits and to provide an improved facility for audio-visual enhancement at large services and events. Throughout these projects it has been our task to maintain the daily life of the Cathedral with as little disruption as possible and I must applaud the efforts of the whole team in this respect. Our small team of Cleaners in particular have battled valiantly onwards to keep builders' dust and grime at bay!

As part of our programme of care for the Cathedral's congregations and audiences, we have also made further improvements to the sound system during the year, installing digital equipment to provide more flexible and effective operation of the system.

We have also been engaged in consultation with the Emergency Services to ensure that every possible safeguard is in place, including a significant programme of staff and volunteer training, to care for the safety and security of Cathedral users in these troubled times.

Chris Flatman, Director of Operations



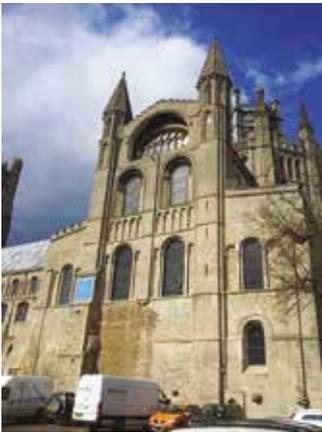
Fabric

Cathedral Fabric

The works and projects we undertake within the Cathedral are guided and motivated by reasons not only of fabric conservation and preservation but also with our core values of Worship, Welcome, Outreach and Care in the forefront of our minds.

In 2015 the completion and commencement of several large projects was made possible through grants from the World War 1 Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Headley Trust as well as generous private donors, and much valued support from The Friends.

Early 2015 saw the completion of the Old Library Mezzanine project, as a result of which the Operations Department have a new base on the new upper floor, whilst the ground floor has been made available for the Education Department. Much-needed space was therefore created in the centre of the Cathedral, from which our core values flow. This was erected with minimal impact to



the historic fabric, thanks to its careful design. The end of this project coincided with the commencement of the South Transept project and the recent completion of the North Transept, heralding the continuation of a very active phase of works at the Cathedral, particularly within this central zone of the building. Dr. Miriam Gill's fascinating art historical report on the North Transept wall painting fragments has

revealed them to comprise representations of saints and clerical figures related to the Cathedral and monastery dating from the late 14th century.



The South Transept project, as well as encompassing external restorations to the south and east elevation stonework, glazing, rainwater goods and full restoration and gilding of the sundial, also included improvement of hand rails to the Stained Glass Museum gallery and the South Transept triforium walkway, plus introduction of hand rails to the eastern side

of the South Transept triforium. In addition to this, a new timber walkway has been introduced, rendering access to either side at triforium level much improved.

This momentum was maintained by the commencement, in September, of the rewiring of the north side of the Cathedral. This was vital work, replacing decayed bare copper MICC cable which was badly eroded and causing power failures. As with the South Transept works, this was enabled by a grant from the World War 1 Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund, for which we are extremely grateful. Without this, neither project would have been possible. Both have brought about much-needed improvements. Without adequate lighting, sound and facilities our welcome and offering to worshippers and visitors would become limited indeed, and care of the fabric and safe, effective use of our triforia improve the safety and experience of both staff and visitors alike.

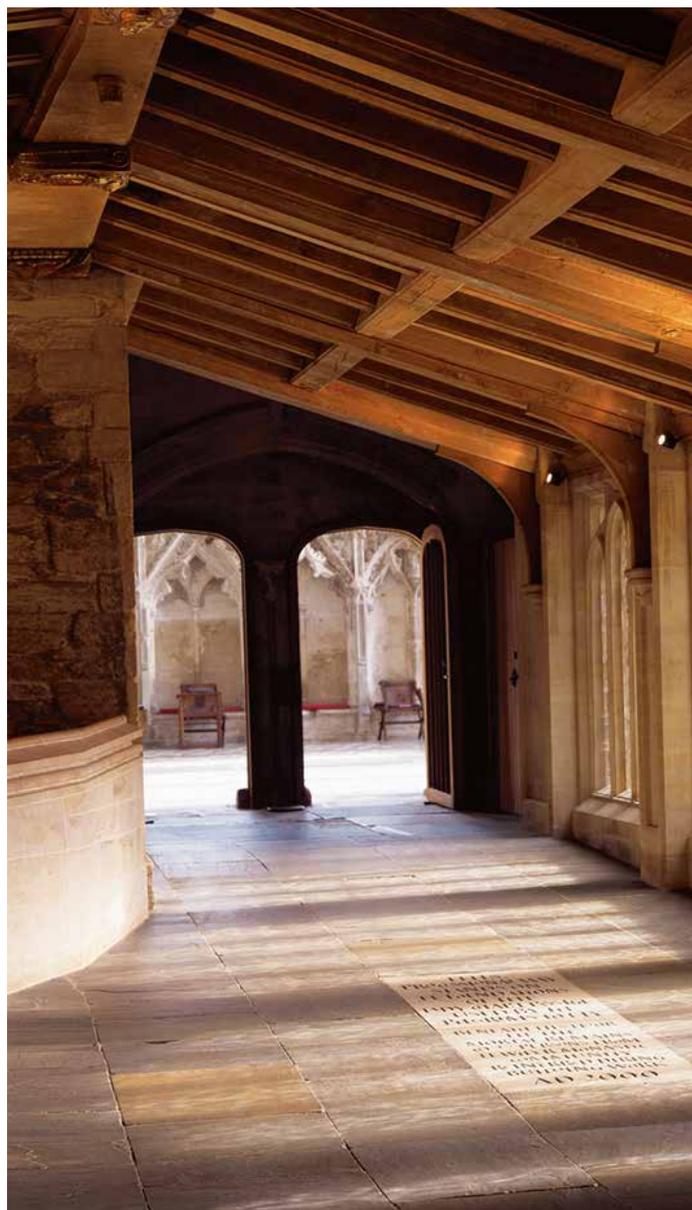
During this busy time smaller projects were continuing apace. The Lady Chapel kitchen refurbishment was undertaken over the summer, hugely improving the functionality of this space and giving us vastly improved catering facilities. We thank The Friends for making this project possible.

The Refectory has had its external face improved in 2015, with the replacement of the door onto Cross Green, addition of shutters and bin stores to match, and a new sign above the door. The ongoing support of the Friends for our monument conservation programme enabled us to tackle the conservation of the impressive marble monument to Bishop Peter Gunning in the South Choir Aisle. This has been carefully cleaned, repointed and lightly waxed and its appearance and well-being is much improved as a result.

Whilst the Cathedral Shop was closed for rewiring we were able to alter and relocate the desk and rearrange furniture to improve the layout and functionality of the space. The design and construction of new mobile education cabinets has enabled a de-cluttering of the area immediately behind the west desk as well as a more suitable storage solution for education materials and aids.

Finally, 2015 saw the completion of the installation of antennae on the West Tower for CCTV and broadband to local communities. We are pleased to be able to play a role in provision of these essential services to our community, reaching out to neighbouring villages from our unique vantage point.

Vicki Roulinson, Director of Works



Administrator's Report

Last year, I described our cathedral as “a place of many facets”, but I didn't note what an exceptionally busy place it is. The clergy and senior management team meet together every week, to ensure that special acts of worship and several other events find their place in the Cathedral's diary and that responsibilities for delivering them without a hitch are clear to all. This requires a considerable feat of coordination between our very small remunerated staff and the many volunteer groups (some 20 of them) upon whom we are so dependent. I should also say that a full diary is not in itself a virtue. The Cathedral is supposed to be first and foremost a place of prayer and contemplation, a haven of peace and safety. So somewhere in the midst of all the activity we remain mindful of the need to make space for calm, contemplation and worship. That's not always easy to achieve while simultaneously accommodating the disruption of film companies and large public festivals, but our people work hard to achieve the required balance. I join the Dean in thanking all of them for making it work in such a joined-up way and for the care they lavish on their tasks. In doing so, I would like to make special mention of David Scates, for his stewardship of the Cathedral Centre during Claire Mills' maternity leave. The cathedral environment is not the easiest for a businessman to drop seamlessly into, as I know all too well!

We have also managed to make time to plan for the future: we have looked back over the things we could have done better and we are now looking into the future, to work out how to ensure that constant improvement in our current activities will be achievable and that we will be in a position to offer an impressive experience to the people of Ely, our visitors from further afield and, of course, our congregation.

If we are to live up to our iconic role as The Ship of the Fens, there are many things we need to do to reach out and to create new pilgrims, but also to make proper provision for our expanding local community. With that in mind, we began work last year on a Masterplan that will result in a series of new developments over the next couple of decades, as well as features to ensure the safety of the Cathedral and its people in these turbulent times. I look forward to the outcome of the consultations that are now under way, from which we hope to develop a package of proposals that will have the support of our many stakeholders and that will underpin our requests for support from external funding agencies.

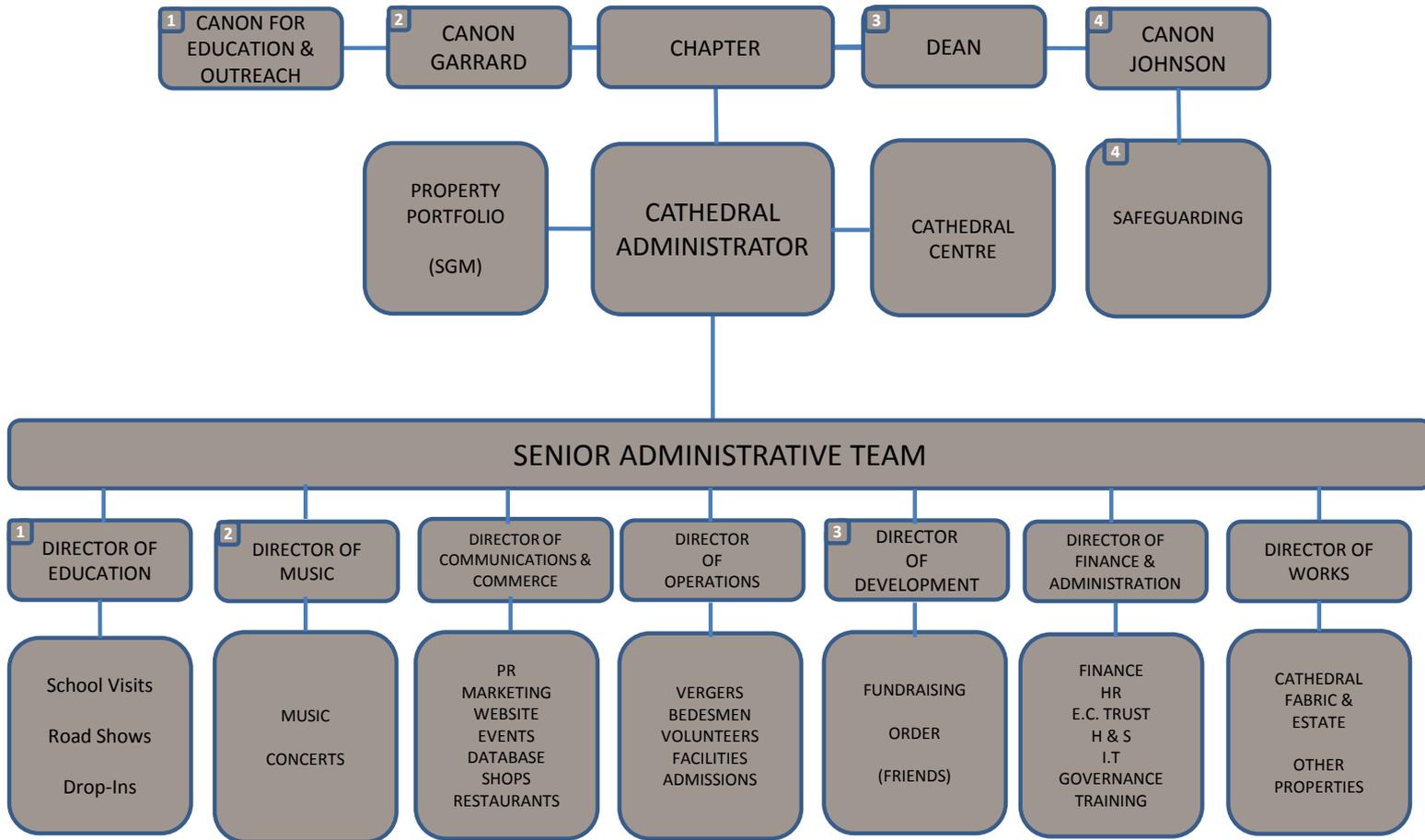
I rarely hear cathedrals described as exciting places, but we have embarked on an exciting new phase of Ely Cathedral's long history. I hope all those who read this Annual Review will wish to join us on that journey, and that many others will discover the stimulation to be found in this place.

Stephen Bourne, Cathedral Administrator



How We Work

CATHEDRAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STRUCTURE



The numbers 1,2,3 and 4 in the boxes signify line management relationships between the Clergy and the Management Team



Development

Worship

We continue to be grateful to the many individuals and charitable trusts who have contributed generously to named Choristerships - of which we now have 10 - and to the Lantern Choristership, the special fund for those who would like to support Choristerships but who cannot commit to the cost of a full Choristership by themselves. The Lantern Choristership has attracted donations now approaching £50,000. A special service of Thanksgiving was held in September 2015, when Chorister benefactors were able to see the Choristers receiving their medals, chat with them informally, and meet and mingle with each other at a reception hosted by the Dean afterwards.

Outreach

The Economic and Social Impact Study commissioned in 2014 was completed and the final results presented to Chapter in June 2015, with presentations to other interested groups. This was the first time Ely Cathedral has carried out such a study, and we are one of only a handful of cathedrals to do so. The aims of the research were to support Ely Cathedral in understanding how it creates economic value and generates social impact in the City of Ely and the wider region. The data and insights gathered also provided evidence to feed into and underpin the Cathedral's future planning, particularly as background to the Masterplan process. We are enormously grateful to everybody who took part in the study, the results of which can also be viewed on the Cathedral website.

Welcome

The Order of St Etheldreda enjoyed another strong year, with the Annual Gathering, Summer Drinks Party, joint visit with the Friends to the Fitzwilliam Museum,



and a tour of the Palace of Westminster (see image) and Lambeth Palace all very well attended. We were sad, however, to say goodbye to Coralie Green in June, who had been the 'face' of the Order for almost five years and with inimitable style and panache had fashioned it into the stimulating membership group it is today.

Care

The early part of the year saw the completion of the World War 1 Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund, with the results of funding round three announced in March. We secured £150,000 to carry out essential and urgent rewiring of the North side of the Cathedral. Together with the grant secured for renovation of the South Transept in November 2014, this brought the total secured from this fund for major fabric projects to £542,060.

A number of funding bids were in process for 2016 and we look forward to reporting further successes as the year unfolds.

Helen Bright, Director of Development



Communications

Worship

In 2015 we set ourselves an objective to place even more focus on publicity for Services and Worship at Ely Cathedral. Working alongside the resident clergy, we have developed our use of social media campaigns such as the successful '#Lent' campaign. In addition we increased the production of posters and other printed materials to bring much greater awareness of Choral Evensong and key services. This has been well received and the media have also supported our efforts with increased publicity, especially local radio and print media. A highlight of 2015 was BBC Songs of Praise coverage of our annual Pet Service. We hope to welcome them back to film at Ely on a more regular basis.

Outreach

We have continued to promote the Cathedral Residents' Pass which enables others who live within the CB6 and CB7 postcode areas free access to the Cathedral. In 2015 we issued over 5000 passes, and we hope to significantly increase that number in 2016.

Welcome

Every year we welcome thousands of visitors and we strive to increase this number, recognising the numerous benefits they bring. We had a very successful year of events and concerts which significantly influence our visitor numbers. Following on from the achievements of 2014, the Christmas Fair attracted over 15,000 visitors in just two days. Our exhibition, For Worship & Glory, in partnership with the Royal School of Needlework, attracted in excess of 8000 visitors while the highly successful June concert, Summer Swing, was sold out.

In August we welcomed back the film crews to Ely for a new TV production, 'The Crown'. Sumptuous costumes, royal carriages and regal props were used to film key scenes in the life of the British Royal Family during the 1950s. It is due to be broadcast in Autumn 2016. This year also saw the release of Macbeth, starring Michael Fassbender. As only three other locations were used, the Cathedral's interior features prominently and is beautifully represented on the big screen.

Care

Our department focuses on improving income for the Cathedral to fund its day to day operations and support the general care and upkeep of the building. Each year we aim to do better than the last, by developing existing revenue streams and creating new ones.

At the beginning of the year Ely Cathedral Shops Ltd became Ely Cathedral Enterprises Ltd, which encompasses the two shops, the Refectory Café and The Almonry. Penny Price joined us as Head of Retail with the responsibility of increasing sales and improving the product offering. The Almonry Restaurant underwent a long overdue refurbishment and our new evening chef, Ben Renshaw, has come on board with an emphasis on affordable bistro dining. All ECE outlets performed well last year.

In 2015 we continued to develop other revenue streams such as high profile exhibitions and events, filming contracts and venue hire. We have seen a marked increase in the demand for corporate hospitality and private hire and this is something Ely, and many other UK Cathedrals, has recognised and begun to cultivate.

Lesley Ann Thompson, Director of Communications and Commerce



Finance

The figures reported here are from our full group consolidated accounts and include the results of the Chapter of Ely Cathedral, Ely Cathedral Enterprises Limited and Ely Cathedral Trust. For the year ended 31 December 2015 the group made a combined surplus of £426,000 compared with £357,000 in 2014. Both of these figures exclude the net gains and losses (realised and unrealised) on investments. In 2015 our net gain on investments was £15,000 and compares unfavourably with the £273,000 in 2014. This reflects the state of the stock market at the end of 2015.

Income

We continue to be extremely grateful for the congregational giving, both within the Stewardship scheme and other areas of Cathedral life. Our visitor numbers have been good and we remain a very popular tourist venue. Income generated from our concerts and events has grown in 2015 and was boosted this year by filming location income.

Ely Cathedral Enterprises (formerly Ely Cathedral Shop Ltd) made a net contribution of £239K (2014: £224K) which is extremely important to us and our shops and restaurants continue to be a great way to enhance the visitor experience.

We have been extremely fortunate in 2015 to receive significant grants towards urgent repair work, much of this coming from the World War 1 Cathedrals Centenary Repair Fund. This has allowed us to do much needed stonework, stained-glass window repairs and electrical rewiring projects.

During 2015 we received several legacies, two of which were substantial. One of these was dedicated to Music and the other to Fabric. We are so grateful to the individuals who have pledged money to us in their will.

Expenditure

Worship, outreach and education are all at the core of our mission and we spend the majority of our income on them each year. These are supported by the income-generating work of the Cathedral as well as the Fundraising work done by the Trust and Development Office. We are also grateful to the Friends of Ely Cathedral, who are invaluable supporters of the work we do.

Future

It has recently been announced that the World War 1 Cathedral funding scheme is to be extended by a further £20m. We hope to be successful in new bids for a share of this money.

At an operating level (i.e. before any of these large exceptional costs or income) we again have budgeted to achieve at least a break even position in 2016. This is only made possible by the staff, volunteers and many supporters of the Cathedral, to whom we owe a debt of gratitude.

Please note that the full 2015 Annual Report and Audited Accounts are available on the Cathedral Website: www.elycathedral.org/who-we-are/useful-documents

Alison Binstead, Director of Finance



Analysis of consolidated income and expenditure (net incoming resources) for 2013 - 2015

	2013		2014		2015	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income						
Ministry and Worship:						
Congregational giving	219		243		230	
Appeals and fundraising	257		357		381	
Church Commissioners' grants	153		158		143	
Other grants	92		305		444	
Event Charges and fees	310		286		307	
Legacies	0		10		416	
		1031		1359		1921
Income generation:						
Visitor income	540		557		561	
Ely Cathedral Enterprises Limited	1226		1254		1294	
		1766		1811		1855
Investment and property:						
Property income	308		344		340	
Investment income	268		278		286	
		576		622		626
Total income		<u>3373</u>		<u>3792</u>		<u>4402</u>
Expenditure						
Ministry:						
Worship and Outreach	(785)		(898)		(900)	
Education	(169)		(188)		(210)	
		(954)		(1,086)		(1,110)
Cost of generating funds:						
Cost of facilities for visitors	(209)		(204)		(213)	
Cost of Ely Cathedral Enterprises Limited	(966)		(1,030)		(1,055)	
Support and Governance costs	(173)		(164)		(128)	
		(1,348)		(1,398)		(1,396)
Property, Investments and project management:						
Upkeep and maintenance of Cathedral and Grounds	(579)		(574)		(577)	
Major restoration and repair work	-		(228)		(743)	
Investment management and costs	(119)		(149)		(150)	
		(698)		(951)		(1,470)
Total costs		<u>(3,000)</u>		<u>(3,435)</u>		<u>(3,976)</u>
Net surplus for the year		<u>373</u>		<u>357</u>		<u>426</u>

Please note: these figures do not include realised or unrealised gains and losses on investments.



Ely Cathedral Centre

Another successful year for the Conference Centre has seen a further increase in revenue generated and a consolidation of numbers of events held. Total event numbers would themselves have continued the year on year growth trend, but for the fact that one regular user (15 – 20 bookings per month) moved into their own purpose-built facilities.

Worship

Overt worship may not be obviously synonymous with what is, after all, a commercial Conference Centre, but nevertheless the very nature of the groups that use the facility means that the reverential tones of Prayers and the strains of some well-known (and some less well known) hymns can be heard floating out of various rooms with more frequency than one might expect. In 2015 and 2016 the Centre has been pleased to host events for the National Council for Social Responsibility, the “Seasons of invitation” workshop, numerous events organised by Ely Diocese, ECOS, Edward Bear, Mothers’ Union and The Cathedral Council, the vast majority of which contain an act of worship.

Outreach

Many of the Community Groups which use the Centre are naturally aligned to the Cathedral’s mission of Outreach, encompassing Special Needs groups, Charities and one-off fund raising events for various causes whose operations range from hospices to offender rehabilitation services via way of “dog cafes (K9)”. The Craft Fairs held three times during 2015 and scheduled for two dates in 2016 (with a third special summer event being run by a regular client) provide further opportunities to reach and engage with the wider community and visitors to the City. The opportunity for users of the Centre who are not local residents to look round the Cathedral at no charge

as part of their booking has also been well received and well utilised.

Welcome

From the middle of 2015 and into the early part of 2016 the Centre has undertaken a satisfaction survey of all new customers to the Centre, covering various aspects of the service they receive. This has resulted in an exceptionally high satisfaction rating in excess of 95% across 12 categories. The survey and other data collection methods have further revealed that a high proportion of these new bookings are a result of recommendations from other users. A number of customers have written, emailed (even sent cards) of thanks, in many cases expressing their gratitude at the way they were received and dealt with during their event. The centre continues to be a “House of many rooms” and is delighted to welcome a diverse range of commercial, community and cathedral based (in house) events at an approximate ratio of 35:35:30

Care

Customer Care is the most obvious form of care to be found at the Centre and the feedback from customers (see “welcome”) and the high percentage of long term and/or repeat bookings suggest that it is successful in this regard. There are, however, other less obvious areas where the Centre is able to demonstrate a combination of Care, Outreach and Welcome: being a building to which the public have access and where the doors are open for the working day, there are occasions when individuals who live their lives on what might be called the margins of mainstream society drift in. In many cases this offers an opportunity to offer them anything from a cup of tea to a non-judgemental ear or a friendly word in a safe and unthreatening environment.

David Scates, Centre Manager



Friends

2015 was another successful year for The Friends. Membership is buoyant and so are our activities and involvement with Cathedral projects.

Nearly 2,000 Friends, both local and distant, belong to our organisation. Overseas Friends often say how much they like to hear of our activities and keep in touch with what is happening at the Cathedral – what a help the internet and email are for this. More local Friends enjoy the friendship that we offer, in all sorts of ways, and we usually have plenty of volunteers for packing Christmas Cards and Friends mailings. Our social events are also popular and we try to give everyone a warm welcome.

The Friends aim to provide fellowship and fun as well as practical and financial support for the Cathedral. During the last year Friends activities have included a trip last April (with the Order of St Etheldreda) to the Fitzwilliam Museum and a very memorable talk and viewing of the Treasured Possessions exhibition. Later in April we held a wine-tasting evening and then a well-attended New Friends evening in June. July saw our annual outing which was to Binham Priory and Houghton Hall, whilst September saw Friends Day and our AGM. Sadly our planned guest speaker, James Runcie, was unable to join us. We held another Friends evening in November, this time a social and quiz evening which was so successful that we are repeating it this year but in a bigger venue! Another achievement was selling over £4,000 worth of Friends Christmas Cards and having a very enjoyable stall at the Christmas Fair.

The healthy state of Friends finances has enabled the Friends Council to continue making various gifts to the Cathedral. In 2015 these totalled over £86,000 and particular projects included the Cathedral kitchen

upgrade (£25,000), conservation of North Transept wall paintings (£10,000) and funding for a Cathedral chorister (£25,000 over 5 years). In April 2015 a new charity took effect – The Friends of Ely Cathedral CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). This happened following the transfer of our operation to the new charity, the only difference Friends may have noticed is that we have a new charity number.

Another major happening in 2015 was that, following the winding up of the J Paul Getty Jr Trust, The Friends of Ely Cathedral took over the supervision of the 1986 deed relating to The Paddock (Cathedral owned land between The Deanery and Broad St carpark). It was agreed at the AGM that, if any future decisions have to be taken concerning the land, then they should be ratified at a Friends AGM rather than being agreed by the Friends Council.

We are always pleased to welcome new Friends and offer friendship as well as the chance to support our magnificent Cathedral. Our nominal annual membership fees are just £15 single/£25 joint and further details are on The Friends noticeboard in the Nave or via Sue in the Friends Office in the Chapter House (01353 660348) or sue.hunting@elycathedral.org Alternatively please contact any of the Friends Council: their details are on the noticeboard. Mrs Helen Merrick is Chair of Council and is always happy to talk to any prospective new Friends. Our Social Committee is active and always glad to have new members and/or new ideas. Please let us know if you would like to get involved: there is plenty of scope and you would be very welcome!

Sue Hunting, Friends Secretary



Ely Cathedral Business Group

Ely Cathedral Business Group (ECBG) is an important element of the Cathedral's outreach work, focusing on the positive role played by business in our community. Our theme and purpose are expressed thus:

"Ely Cathedral Business Group believes that there is a strong correlation between the health of the business sector and the wellbeing of the communities in which those businesses operate. The purpose of ECBG is to explore this relationship and strengthen the correlation. We want to help businesses succeed and thereby make our communities stronger."

2015 has seen steadily growing membership, with participants drawn from many businesses as well as local community organisations and interested individuals, and now totalling over 1,200.

The year's main events, listed below, have all been characterised by inspiring, informative and provocative keynote speeches together with lively discussion and networking opportunities.

In the spring we enjoyed the 2015 Election Hustings with a Question Time style panel discussion led by each of the five Parliamentary Candidates for the South East Cambridgeshire constituency.

In May the Celebration of Business saw 100 businesses exhibiting in the Nave and Transepts of the Cathedral and culminated in the Celebration of Business Reception with keynote speeches from Dame Julia Cleverdon, Vice President of Business in the Community, and Lord Green of Hurstpierpoint, Former Minister of State for Trade and Investment and former Chairman of HSBC.

The Autumn Discussion was led by Professor Wayne Powell, Chief Science Officer of the Global Agricultural Research Partnership CGIAR.

A new, and well received, initiative in 2015 has been our monthly Monday night informal discussions held in the Royal Standard pub in Ely, each led by a member of the Group. 2015's contributors were Walter Herriot OBE, Dr Peter Dawe OBE, Tom Green, Patrick Neate and Mark Haynes.

Members of the Business Group made donations totalling nearly £5,000 to support the Ely Foodbank during 2015, and we hope to repeat this in 2016 and 2017.

We are most grateful to our generous sponsors whose contributions enable us to cover all of the costs associated with ECBG. This means that we are able to offer participation in ECBG events free of charge to all.

At the time of writing, we have just enjoyed the 2016 Spring Debate: European Union: Britain In or Out?

Panellists on the 'IN' side of the Debate were George Freeman MP, Minister for Life Sciences, John Shropshire OBE, Chairman of G's Fresh and William Martin, Chairman of the NFU Sugar Board; On the 'OUT' side of the Panel were Stuart Agnew UKIP MEP, Nick Clarke UKIP candidate for Police and Crime Commissioner in Cambridgeshire, and John May, East of England Chairman of Business for Britain. There was lively debate amongst both panellists and the audience of some 450 people, resulting in a strong vote in favour of remaining in the EU.

Tom Green, ECBG Chairman





Service of Thanksgiving for the reign of HM The Queen



Ecclesiastical Embroidery Exhibition



Advent Sleepout Challenge



Ely Cathedral Christmas Fair



Annual Choristers' Pancake Race



'Songs of Praise' filming the Pet Service with Aled Jones



Schools' Art Exhibition



Jan Munt Retires



ECBG Celebration of Business Exhibition



The Dean with the Cambridge University Boat Race Crew



Filming 'The Crown'



Choristers promoting the Summer Swing Concert



Installation of Canon Victoria Johnson



Christmas Eve Crib Service



Anglia TV Christmas Broadcast



Easter Day Evensong BBC Broadcast

