

# InHouse

the Journal of the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association



Clergy partners  
Page 2



A shop for all  
seasons  
Page 5

## Heritage Skills Festival

Carol Heidschuster, Works Manager and *Clericus Fabricae*

**The Heritage Skills Festival in conjunction with the City of London Livery Companies took place on 23rd and 24th June 2017.** The event was more than two years in the planning. It attracted more than 4,000 visitors and involved 24 separate Livery Companies, from Broderers to Scriveners, from Goldsmiths to Plumbers; plus specialist heritage exhibitors; training providers from all over the country; and a wealth of Cathedral staff and volunteers.

The purpose of the Festival was to celebrate the rich diversity of skills that underpin the life of the Cathedral, and to affirm the many ways in which these skills are kept alive. Training, education and outreach are fundamental both to the Cathedral and to the Livery Companies, and these are the key principles that the event was built on.

Lincoln Cathedral has never been afraid to think big, and this event broke new ground. Working with the City of London Livery Companies was a genuinely unique opportunity to share skills and knowledge and showcase some of the best creative talent in the country. The City of London Livery Companies comprise London's ancient and modern trade associations, and have evolved from the very powerful medieval guilds. This was the first time that the Livery Companies had taken part in such an event outside London. Their passion for their crafts was infectious. It was a real privilege to work alongside them and share knowledge and ideas.



The event was a true shared endeavour across the organisation. As with all good endeavours, it started with some very basic questions:

- Where would the Cathedral be without the people who care for and support it?
- How do we celebrate the skills and dedication of the staff and volunteers who exercise expert and loving stewardship of the many skills that enrich Cathedral life?
- How do we let the wider world know what we do?
- How do we encourage people to catch the vision and take these skills into the future?
- How do we ensure a real legacy for the event?

The buzz of enthusiastic engagement around the displays, demonstrations and have-a-go areas was constant and a joy to be part of, as was the welcome given

to the exhibitors and to the public – the connections made – the friendships forged – the ideas exchanged – the vision shared. We are working hard to ensure that the event will have a lasting legacy of increased involvement in the wider community of professional heritage bodies, including fresh training initiatives.

Thanks go first to the Chapter for inviting the Livery Companies, and giving encouragement and support throughout the long planning process; thanks to all the many staff and volunteers who put so much into delivering an event that exceeded expectations in every respect; thanks to everyone who generously donated items for the auction, and to Ian Walter and his auction team for bringing the event to a magnificent conclusion; and thanks to all who came and took part with such gusto.

Are we likely to see such an event again? Never say never...

# Cathedral clergy partners

Muriel Robinson  
LCCA Executive Chair

Your editor is probably not the only clergy child who reads InHouse. Some of you, like me, will have gained a view of what clergy wives - as they all were in my time in rectories and vicarages- were supposed to do. My mum was no different from many others in having a diary which revolved around meetings of the Mothers' Union and Young Wives and catering for parish events from harvest suppers to vicarage tea. Things have changed greatly since then, of course, and we thought it might be a timely moment to talk to our Cathedral clergy partners about their lives and their view of their roles.

## Alan Wilson

Alan Wilson is the husband of the first female Dean of Lincoln, thus occupying a unique position in any Lincoln Cathedral history book!

Christine became our Dean in 2016 and fortuitously her husband, Alan, having retired from his life in the city, has been able to give her full time support in her new role. Although new to the area, Alan is already very involved with aspects of Lincolnshire life – he is a trustee of the Lincoln Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance and has recently been appointed Chairman of the Lincoln Community Larder.

He has also initiated a new project called "Journeys of Faith" which aims to establish three pilgrimage routes to the Cathedral starting from Louth, Epworth and Boston. All will be carefully researched, mapped, historical associations recorded and each building or church photographed. The project is designed to appeal to people of all ages and backgrounds, who may walk, run, cycle, motorcycle, drive, or find other ways to complete their own personal journeys. However, a key aspect of the project is to develop its spiritual content to promote discussion among the pilgrim groups as they journey to the Cathedral. The project is already advancing with local rambles, historians, architectural buffs and theologians involved in the preparatory stages, so look out for further announcements!

On a slightly more light-hearted note Alan has formed a Walking Football Group which meets weekly at the

Deans Gym at Lincoln College and is open for new members of, shall we say, more mature years - if interested please contact him directly!

Alan regards it a privilege to be living in the very large and ancient Deanery and is increasing his knowledge of the history and architecture of the house. He is already a keen guide to Katherine Swynford's famous chapel but doesn't expect to compete with the Cathedral Guides any time soon!

He has been very grateful for the warm and friendly reception received from the Cathedral community and others in the diocese and looks forward to a long and happy association with Lincoln.

## Jo Patrick

Married to Cathedral Subdean, John, for almost thirty years, Jo Patrick knew right from the beginning that she would be a clergy wife because they were married during John's training for the ministry.

However, as a recently qualified vet,



she was keen to pursue her own full-time career and John encouraged her in this. As John was training in Oxford, Jo took her first job in Henley and when he moved to the Wirral for his first curacy, she went to work for the PDSA in Liverpool. The parish fully accepted that she had her own career; the Vicar's wife also went out to work. Although always invited to groups such as the Mothers' Union, Jo has rarely been able to go because, until very recently, her hours have included out-of-hours on-call duties and evening surgeries. Joining a practice in Lincolnshire, when John moved here, she was eventually offered a partnership, which she thought she might have to turn down but John was happy to remain within the county and so she accepted. Jo has over the years taken on some of the more traditional tasks of a clergy wife, such as helping to run the Sunday School when the children were small and participating on the coffee rota, because they can be done on a Sunday when, as a committed Christian, she would be at church anyway. She also enjoys entertaining and offering hospitality, which she sees as a way of giving something back for the privilege of living in a clergy house. She feels that it's part of the deal, although, out at work, this isn't usually during the day and John sorts himself out if there are lunchtime meetings. Despite working full time, Jo is very much part of the Cathedral Community and her participation, particularly the hospitality at the Subdeanery, is very much appreciated.



### Griff Dines

Dr Griff Dines is our newest clergy partner, as his wife Sal McDougall has taken up the role of Precentor this September.

Griff is looking forward very much to getting to know the cathedral community, having been on the fringe as husband of the Bishop's Chaplain (and living in the Close) for the last 5 years. With Sal, Griff is looking forward to settling into their new home and, once the boxes are unpacked, being able to extend hospitality to the cathedral community.



Griff has taught maths at Lincoln's newest school, the University Technical College on Lindum Hill, for the past year. This means that, having moved from one side of Minster Yard to the other, Griff's commute has doubled! Before that he taught at North Kesteven School in Hykeham.

Before moving to Lincoln, Griff worked as a business consultant for a small boutique consultancy focussing on enabling teams to function better and work more efficiently. His work took him to many different places including Australia, Canada, Iceland and Oman as well as continental Europe.

Griff is a keen yachtsman, although he no longer sails as much as he used to. Having sailed the waters off the west coast of Scotland for many years, he enjoyed the 150th anniversary of the Shipping Forecast on Radio 4 recently which brought back memories of recording it in many and diverse places as a child. He is very proud to have made

it to St Kilda twice on his own yacht.

Nowadays Griff relaxes in other ways, most notably with Sal in their Spanish cave house in the Altiplano de Granada, far off the beaten track in north east Andalucía. Despite the impression people often have of cave living - in case you're wondering, yes, it has running water, electricity, and even wifi - Griff loves the way of life there, and the relational base of the local culture. While his Spanish leaves much to be desired, he is working hard at improving it - poco a poco!

Having very briefly been in the Navy immediately after school, Griff is excited about the flagpole at the Precentory and has already begun to build his collection of appropriate flags. While he has stopped short of joining the British Flag Institute, he looks forward to meeting any fellow vexillologists who might be lurking in the congregation.

Griff finds it fascinating being married to a member of the clergy and seeing both the positive and negative sides of having a public face. However, he is in no doubt that Lincoln Cathedral is one of the material glories of the Church of England. Griff enjoys the spiritual glories too - which he counts as balancing the truth of scripture, tradition and reason, while allowing none the upper hand. He looks forward to having more excuse to attend Choral Evensong on his way home, and to enjoying the next stage of life in Lincoln with Sal.

### Ed White

Edmund Christie White is the husband of Philippa, our Succentor, who was the first female curate appointed by the Cathedral in 2015. He was, in fact, the very first of our current 'Fraternity of Clergy Husbands' - Ed's phrase, not ours!

Ed was born in Nottinghamshire but spent his formative years in Derbyshire where his father was vicar near Ilkeston, so he grew up within a parish church environment and took part in the village pantomimes, Easter plays and other entertainments and it was during a youth event run by Derby diocese that he met Philippa. They continued to keep in touch once they were both at

University but it was not until after they were married that they were able to find themselves in the same university city - Oxford - where Philippa was reading Theology and Ed was doing his doctoral thesis. Ed's degree is in English Literature with his doctorate on the works of John Milton and 17th century church politics, which touched on the beginnings of Methodism, the Quakers and other nonconformist groups. He is eager to see the Cathedral's first edition of 'Paradise Lost'. Apparently Dean Honeywood was a contemporary of Milton at Cambridge University and he would like to think that perhaps the Cathedral copy was actually a gift from Milton to Honeywood. Sadly there is no notation in the copy but it is still a nice thought! He is also interested in amateur dramatics - perhaps fed by his father's enthusiasm - and took part in the Mystery Plays last year where he also had the opportunity to do some singing. He has a keen interest in church music but at present feels that singing along with the congregation at the 9.30 Eucharist in the cathedral is as far as he wants to take this at the moment.



As we all know, he and Philippa are now the proud parents of young Gregory Judah Harry White so, together with teaching and giving general support around the house and garden, he has quite a full agenda at the present moment, but we are certain that he will always be a very kind and helpful member of the Cathedral Community.



# Flowers in Lincoln Cathedral

Michaela Philp

**Some time ago I wrote a piece for the Community Quarterly about the way the flower team operates here in the Cathedral.**

Just to re-iterate: we are all volunteers, part of the noble army of volunteers who give time and talents to our wonderful cathedral. Ours is a particularly obvious contribution as flowers beckon in most of the areas in the building, from a warm welcome in the narthex, to a stopping point in the nave, flowers for St Hugh and Bishop Grosseteste, the Morning Chapel, the high altar and all the chapels on the south side of the choir. The armed services have their own teams who look after the forces' chapels.

Team members meet every quarter and we put together a rota covering all we do at that meeting. We are funded by a grant from the Cathedral itself and a further generous grant from The Friends. We could not really function without these and we are very steadily building funds. We also have a Dalek into which visitors may put donations. Dean Bird, who is a volunteer vergier, keeps our accounts meticulously and regularly empties the Dalek and counts up the gifts.

We do, however, twice a year ask for donations from the Community. I put notices in the Chapter Letter at Easter and All Souls' Tide and ask for donations towards the very expensive (and oft times cantankerous) lilies. We buy in near a hundred each year and they are placed all around in our locations. At All Souls' we ask for donations for white chrysanthemums and these go to the high altar. The Community is always very generous and we feel these requests give people a share in the flowers at these special times. We are all deeply grateful to the Community for its support at these times.



## New Life 2017

Margaret Campion

**Soon after Alan and I joined the Cathedral community, around the mid 1980s, there was a positive rash of babies and young children in the congregation!**

One of Alan's greatest pleasures as a community member was seeing these youngsters grow up and develop first into little tots at Sunday School, then begin to sing in the choir or start serving at the Family Services. Then they grew and grew and took off to University but still they came back when at home and it was (and still is) a pleasure to see them develop into the lovely young people they are today. So it was a real sadness to hear some faint whispers of disapproval about the noise that babies do sometimes make when brought into the Family Service at 9.30.

If we are a real community we should surely welcome the young even though we may have to turn up our hearing aids from time to time, because these youngsters and their staunchly Christian parents truly enrich our community and if encouraged rather than discouraged will continue to enrich us and the whole church for the rest of their lives; after all as we are taught, Christ welcomes us as His children, so surely we should welcome babies and children in His name.



# A shop for all seasons

Elaine Johnson



**Sam McKay has worked in the Cathedral shop for nearly eighteen years and been manageress for the last three.**

She says retail is her passion: hard work but very rewarding. The staff get to know regular customers, building lovely relationships with them and every day, of course, there are all the different visitors. She always comes back from holiday thinking how lucky she is to have the job that she does in such a beautiful building. For her, it is the thought of when it was built in 1072, the men and women who built it with the few tools they had and everything that has happened here through the ages. She wonders how a building like this would ever get erected in today's climate of health and safety!

Buying stock for the shop can be a real challenge. Sam says she can't only buy what she likes herself because we don't all have the same taste. She looks for a quality gift, ethically produced, British-made, if possible, preferably local and for a competitive price, generating an income for the Cathedral, to which all profit from the shop is gifted. Local means printed bags from Grantham,

Saints and Sinners Lincolnshire produce, Stokes' tea and coffee, Lincolnshire Lavender products and Welbourn plum loaf. She buys carefully because companies do change with the times and she always has to ask herself if a product is fit for purpose. Will it sell, will it fit in the shop? Although Sam has regular suppliers, she also likes to go to the trade shows, for example, the Harrogate Home and Gift Fair, because reps can't bring everything with them. Going with an open mind, she looks at as much as she can, especially the new lines because she wants the shop to carry a varied selection of gifts, religious items, jewellery and cards, something for any occasion. Not everyone can get to the shops downhill and locals are valued customers.

For the Cathedral shop, Christmas starts in January when the Bedouin tent, a successful addition for the Market, is ordered, then Christmas products are ordered in February. This year the theme is traditional and animal-orientated. The Cathedral Christmas card is already on sale in the shop; Advent calendars and candles will be out in September, including an ethical calendar with a bibli-

cal text along with the chocolate. Easter cards have been ordered for next year and Meaningful Easter eggs will be ordered soon.

The shop has four full-time staff, a part-time lady mid-week, a weekend team and nine volunteers. It is open seven days a week, although the hours occasionally have to work round big events in the Nave, and only closes Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day and Good Friday. Being scheduled to move to a new shop in the new visitors' centre in 2020 is really exciting but there will be sadness leaving the present room with its old stonework and character pieces. However, the staff will not miss the stuffiness in Summer and cold climate in Winter. The new premises will have a proper heating system!

Finally, a date for your diary: Christmas shopping night this year is Wednesday 15th November, 5-8pm. St Peter at Eastgate infants will be singing carols, followed by the Cathedral choir later in evening. There will be complimentary gift-wrapping and refreshments provided by the Cathedral Centre; a lovely preliminary to the festive season.



# Living with history

Margaret Campion

**The Cathedral has around 80 Close Houses strung around its ancient precinct like a necklace of pearls, and like pearls, which need to be used and looked after or they will crack and lose their lustre, so these ancient houses need to be looked after, lived in, loved and protected.**

Sadly, not all tenants have looked after their properties and some have become worn out, dilapidated, their gardens reduced to jungle. It is a daunting task for the Cathedral to maintain these buildings to a high standard so, with help from tenants, some of these buildings find a new lease of life. One such house was in Pottergate when, twenty years ago, the repairs needed were extreme and beyond the financial help of the Cathedral. This was in the time of Dean Alec Knight and he knew a farmer, James, from the east of the county who was retiring and looking to re-

turn to Lincoln, his native city. James and his wife, Joy, agreed to take on the restoration of the crumbling house and restore its jungle of a garden. This proved to be no small task and involved negotiations between Dean Knight and the highest officials of English Heritage before terms and conditions could be agreed, but eventually they were and under the active stewardship of Carol

Heidschuster, the Works Manager, repairs began – foundations, plumbing, roofs, wiring, woodwork repairs to ancient panelling, floors levelled – it must have been a daunting task and one that took several years to complete.

Once the essential repairs were finished and they could, if not exactly move in, rather camp out, the time had come to discuss the exciting details of fittings,

stitching their tapestries with their ladies around and perhaps a minstrel softly strumming in the background! Really, on a sunny afternoon it was magical!

The garden was another mighty task because it is truly large, stretching right down to the bend above Pottergate Arch and Lindum Hill – the coachman's old house is the one above the road and looks directly towards the Adam & Eve

pub – but it was totally overgrown when it was rescued by the current owners. It is now a lovely sweep of lawn bordered by a newly planted herbaceous border; in July, it was awash with pinks and blues with a touch of yellow to lighten the palette. It curves around to reveal a small hillock surmounted by the most delightful Cottage Ornee, against which are two beautiful bronze statues



colours, carpets, curtains, furniture and designation of rooms which is where Joy came into her own. The front rooms of the house are dominated by the beautiful oriel windows both upstairs and down and are filled with light – it is so easy to imagine Catherine Swynford or her sister Philippa – both of whom are associated with the house – sitting at these windows on cushioned seats,

of small grandchildren. Recently the vegetable garden has been transformed into a rose garden, a quiet and tranquil spot for a hot summer afternoon.

It was such a privilege to be allowed to wander through this lovely old house and hear the stories of the restoration project. Very many thanks are due to James for giving us his time and sharing it with us.



# Jekyll and Hyde

Ruth Andrews

**Another spectacular in the Cathedral, another chance for local amateurs to work together gaining experience, making friends and surprising themselves with their achievements.**

And another subject where views on suitability of content for location causes heated talk in the community. But what we actually witnessed was the oldest topic of all: the constant battle between good and evil, one with which every religion has been engaged since time began and one which has many facets. Those who were fortunate enough to attend our ex-Chancellor's talks on good and evil and our attitudes to them will have followed the way definitions of each have changed over the centuries. In our current age many things are being revisited in light of new discoveries, knowledge and revelations and we are beginning to realise that life seldom presents issues in black or white, rather that greys are the modern reality. We have a

natural proclivity to move towards the light; we see the promise of life in it but, from time to time, the dark beckons offering a hiding place, a retreat, a pause in striving to be better than we are.

Dr Jekyll starts his quest with the best of motives: eventual separation of the good self from the bad, which in turn can then be eliminated entirely. He even entreats God's help. However, it is trite but true that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. When he becomes his own guinea pig he says "Will I see the world through different eyes?" And we well know that the perspective we come from colours what we see and how we judge. Under the drug's influence, hypocrisy in others is stripped away. Hyde sees the underlying self of those who judge him and, in his feeling of being invincible, he delivers justice as he sees it, removing them physically from society as he hoped to remove evil from the human character. In the end, does

he kill the prostitute, Lucy, to save her from herself or because he feels she is responsible for pulling him to the dark side, when he is hoping the good in him will be saved by the influence of fiancée Emma?

Tribes use oral histories; Jesus used parables; the Medieval church used mystery plays, to teach truths and raise questions. Presentations of this nature, using multimedia to represent human dilemmas, which are ageless, are a continuation of a long tradition. Such a one challenges our neat boxes. To quote from the score, "We don't want to see what's lurking behind the façade." The production itself was tight, disciplined and alive. The musicians were first rate and the awkward acoustics and amplification were balanced to a large degree, with the result that the audience, for the most part, were fulsome in their praise. What stayed with me was the text: 'Judge not, lest ye be judged.'

## A word from the editor

**In this very full edition, with what we hope you will agree are so many interesting features, it seems superfluous for me to add much. There are just three coming LCCA events I would like to highlight.**

The Harvest Supper this year is on Tuesday October 17th in the Chapter House. This year we will be entertained by a ceilidh band, though, mindful of the possible unfortunate consequences to some older joints of Stripping the Willow on stone floors, they are planning more of a recital than a full blown dance! Food as ever by the Cathedral Coffee Shop and bring your own choice of liq-

uid refreshment. Tickets will be on sale any day now via the Cathedral Shop and at coffee on Sunday mornings.

The second event is our AGM, this year on Wednesday November 8th at 7pm for 7.30pm in the Cathedral Centre. If you are considering standing for the Committee, forms can be obtained from the Chapter Office. Do talk to one of the existing committee on a Sunday if you want to know more about what is entailed. After the business part of the meeting, we have asked the Dean to speak to us about the way forward for the cathedral as part of the meeting. Coffee and tea will be available before-

hand free of charge, though please do consider being generous with donations, as this does cost rather more per head than our Sunday coffee!

And the final 'event' is slightly different- we will be running a stewardship campaign this autumn, with the support of Chapter, to encourage everyone to spend a little time reconsidering our giving of time, talents and financial support to the Cathedral. This will be launched with a special edition of InHouse, mailed to all LCCA members (that is, to everyone on the Cathedral Roll). Please watch out for this special edition, and do take the time to read it!

# Escape from poverty

Bob Harvey



**The most frequent attitude of people who live in poverty in the Third World is that some things in life will never change, no matter how hard you work at them.**

People living in deprived circumstances resign themselves to living in poverty, and believe that there is no alternative. But there is a way forward, because a good education can be the escape route out of poverty.

In February 2016, I was in India, and was invited to visit Bangalore, which is generally described as being more European than Indian. The reality, however, is a city of two tales, with the plush offices of the great multi-nationals towering over the abject poverty of crowded slums.

Riding into Bangalore on the bus

from the airport, my host talked about a schools project that delivers free education to children living in the slums, and I asked if a visit could be arranged. Next morning, when we visited one of the **Building Blocks** pre-school Learning Centres, I was blown away by what I saw. These were not the barefoot ragamuffins I had watched playing in the dust of the surrounding streets; these were children with shining faces and freshly laundered school uniforms, who were being given the opportunity of an exciting new start in life. **Building Blocks** pre-schools are administered by a local charity, **Family Development Services**, which was started by an Indian philanthropist and idealist, James Ambat.

Building Blocks follows a kindergarten programme designed to give underpriv-

ileged children a good foundation in language, arithmetic, science, social and practical life skills, starting at the early age of three years. The Centres are a different world for the children from the slums, where they lack access to clean running water and electricity.

For the first time in their lives, in the school washrooms, they learn to wash their hands with soap, in a sink, and learn how to use a toothbrush. In the classrooms, they look at books with colourful pictures and play with educational toys, acquiring manual dexterity and using crayons for colouring. Attending Building Blocks is a totally new world for them, provided mainly through the generous financial support of Indian individuals, groups and companies.

Children are admitted to Building Blocks at the age of three, and by the age of six, they are basically numerate, and are literate in both Kannada (the local vernacular) and English. With these skills, they can then gain access to the private, English-language-medium school system.

I have set up a charity "Escape from Poverty," to fund sponsorships, scholarships, and after-school mentoring and coaching programmes to ensure that when they move on to their new schools, these children do not fall behind the progress of children from more advantaged backgrounds. Every penny we raise is remitted to India, with all our costs being paid personally on a pro bono basis. If you would like to know more, send me an email at [mail@bobharvey.co.uk](mailto:mail@bobharvey.co.uk), or call me on 01522 520 551.

## Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in this edition of InHouse are those of the authors of those articles. They do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association Committee, the Editors of InHouse, the Cathedral Chapter or any other contributors to InHouse.

## Editor and Editorial Policy

The current editor is Muriel Robinson, supported by Elaine Johnson and Margaret Campion and with photographs supplied by Jim Newton, the editorial team and authors or printed under a Creative Commons permission.

Decisions on content are made by the editors for each edition of InHouse. Submissions of short articles is welcomed though it may not always be possible to use all pieces as space is limited; articles are also commissioned to address identified issues. We reserve the right to edit submitted articles.

Copy for the next edition should be emailed to the Editors at [murielr@btopenworld.com](mailto:murielr@btopenworld.com) by **December 1st 2017** in Word format; accompanying photographs are also welcomed as JPEG files. Advice for contributors is available- please email for a copy. Regrettably it is not possible to accept hard copy as we do not have any secretarial resources.



# The Mystery of the BAP

Muriel Robinson

**No, this isn't an article about the long running and unwinnable argument about what to call a round individual bread product.**

BAP in this case stands for Bishops' Advisory Panel (and yes, that is Bishops in the plural). Anyone who is recommended for ordination either to the distinctive diaconate or priesthood in England has to attend a BAP as part of their route to ordination training and these BAPs are staffed by a large team of lay and ordained Bishops' Advisers, all volunteers, trained, led and supported by staff from the Ministry Division at Church House Westminster. I have now had the privilege of being a Bishops' Adviser for two years and during that time I have helped to run three BAPs, so it seemed a good time to offer readers a view of how the process works.

Before candidates go to a BAP, they have of course undergone a great deal of reflection and scrutiny at diocesan level. If they are successful in demonstrating their vocation and readiness to the diocese, then the Bishop agrees to their being put forward for a BAP and the process begins. A few weeks before the BAP the paperwork arrives. Each group of three advisers will work with up to 8 candidates during any BAP and so we have 8 hefty packs of information to read as we prepare. There's a long form completed by the candidate, another lengthy report by the DDO, a set of at least four references and a short piece of writing by the candidate on an aspect of mission and evangelism. Each of the three advisers has a different remit- Vocational, Pastoral or Educational- and for each there are three broad criteria, broken down into detailed sub-sets. As an Education Adviser I look particularly at Faith, Mission and Evangelism and Quality of Mind but I am also reading more widely to try and see what I can already see as positive pieces of evidence and what questions I need to ask to fill the gaps. All this takes a considerable amount of time; being retired, I am able to set aside the week before a BAP to prepare, but those



<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0/>

Photo by Rik Lomas from Flickr, 'Bread', shared under Creative Commons licence

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/riklomas/3626263984>

advisers who are still working will be juggling this work alongside their day job.

The Panel itself usually starts on a Monday afternoon. We advisers arrive first for a pre-meeting then we meet the candidates about teatime and work with them intensively till teatime on the Wednesday, when they leave. During those 48 hours we will each have interviewed each of them for an hour, we will have watched them present to their group and lead a discussion on their presentation, and assessed other pieces of written evidence completed by candidates while they are with us. We all eat together and as you would expect there is also a framework of prayer time, all drawn from Common Worship and including daily Eucharist and evening and night prayer. Days start at 7.30am and the formal process ends at 9pm but the evenings are then taken up with preparing future interviews and writing up our reports. By the time we go to bed on the Wednesday we have to each have written 8 reports of three sections, one for each of our criteria. These are then moderated on the Thursday and we only leave when we have all agreed the end reports and recommendations. These are sent to Diocesan Bishops a week later for

them to take the final decision. Meanwhile we advisers collapse in a heap and try to catch up on the many missed hours of sleep (or, in many cases, go back to the day job and try to catch up with that).

I am aware that I have made this sound hugely demanding and it is- and should be. It is demanding of advisers and even more so for the candidates, for whom the outcome is life changing. It is also hugely rewarding and that is what keeps us doing it despite the pressure and the somewhat limited perks of four days' full board in a CofE retreat house. We meet such inspiring and enthusiastic people and even when we are unable to recommend someone, we will almost always have gained something from meeting them. Yes, I come back shattered but also re-invigorated by a week with so much time for prayer, and re-enthused about the future of the CofE. Candidates come alive as they share their stories with us and we learn much about the breadth of our tradition. I'm sure the process could be improved, but I am also sure that we are already helping to run a rigorous and prayerful process designed to ensure that future generations have the priests and deacons we need to further Christ's kingdom.

# The Sandford Award

Judi Jones

**When we look back on our school days, often the first thing that springs to our minds is a school outing.**

For me, growing up in York, it was to the Castle Museum, and this visit instilled in me my love of history and, in fact, moulded my life. It is therefore very important that education programmes at heritage sites, museums, archives and collections offer children a first class experience and it is here that the Sandford Trust plays its part. Today the Trust is based at Bishop Grosseteste University with the talented historian Tracy Borman (who is also Joint Chief Curator of Historic Royal Palaces and author of many erudite books) as Chief Executive. A major aspect of the Trust's remit is sending judges to assess and shadow formal, curriculum-linked, education programmes in sites throughout Britain. Almost 500 sites have received the Sandford Award since the scheme began in 1978.

I am privileged to be a Sandford judge and, over the last six years, have been fortunate to visit and compile reports on famous sites such as the Tower of Lon-



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/>, photo of Coventry Cathedral, one of this year's award winners, by Hamish Foxley, 'The new window (from the outside)', reproduced under Creative Commons.

don, Hampton Court and Kensington Palace as well as less well known sites like Gainsborough Old Hall, Conisburgh

Castle and the tiny Cottage Museum at Woodhall Spa. All of them offered, in very different ways, an excellent experience to school parties, and all of them too were run by talented and committed education teams. It is fascinating going behind the scenes and seeing parts of historic houses that few people are able to visit, to examine artefacts used in handling collections, interviewing education staff, teachers and pupils. The hard work and the professionalism of the staff is amply rewarded by the wonderful responses from the children for they really have been inspired and informed by the marvellous workshops on offer.

For many years volunteers at our cathedral have offered relevant, curriculum-related, and exciting programmes to thousands of schoolchildren. We now have a full time Education and Outreach Officer, Sally Bleasdale, who has already helped gain a Sandford Award for Lincoln Castle and I know that one of her aims is to enter Lincoln Cathedral for a Sandford Award. I believe that we are already well on the way to achieving one.

## Cathedral Events

Friday 13 October  
Organ Celebration

Friday 20 October - Sunday 29 October  
Frequency Festival

Saturday 18 November  
The Snowman – (Sold Out)

Saturday 25 November  
Handel's Messiah

Sunday 10 December  
Organ Concert  
La Nativité

**Thursday 5 October 7.00pm for 7.30pm**  
**Robert Hardy Lecture Theatre, Bishop Grosseteste University**  
**Longdales Road, Lincoln, LN1 3DY**

**Professor Peter McCullough**

Changes in Liturgy, Preaching, Building and Governance from the Reformation to the Civil War as exemplified in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Professor Peter McCullough teaches English literature at, and is archivist to, Lincoln College, Oxford. He specialises in the period 1509 to 1740. He writes - 'I have been particularly interested in the way that religion, both in its political and doctrinal aspects contributed to England's literary Renaissance.'

He serves as a Lay Canon on the Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral where he carries a brief for the history of the cathedral and its interpretation for the public.

Tickets £5.00 (including a glass of wine or juice and free parking) available from Lincoln Cathedral Shop, Unicorn Tree Books and on the door.

E.Mail: [email@lincolnthologicalsociety.net](mailto:email@lincolnthologicalsociety.net)  
Website: [www.lincolnthologicalsociety.net](http://www.lincolnthologicalsociety.net)