

InHouse

The Journal of the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association



Along with the rest of the country in May we celebrated the coronation of our King, Charles III. The cathedral is very proud of its long association with the King when, as Prince of Wales, he was patron of the fabric fund for many years, but Lincoln's association with the monarchy goes back much further for almost a thousand years.

It is believed that our founder, Bishop Remigius, was a kinsman of Duke William of Normandy and it is said that he provided gifts of ships and gold to support William in his invasion of England in 1066. Once he had secured the throne William rewarded Remigius with lands including Lincoln and the Cathedral was begun in 1078.

The cathedral houses two royal tombs: that of Queen Eleanor of Castile, wife of Edward I and that of Katherine Swynford, third wife of John of Gaunt, son of Edward III.

Parliament was held in the Chapter House several times during the fourteenth-century and stained glass in there depicts other occasions when royalty visited.

More recently, several members of our congregation remember the coronation of 1953 and have enjoyed reminiscing. Thanks to many contributors, this edition of InHouse celebrates almost 1000 years association of Lincoln Cathedral and the crown.

We are also delighted to welcome our interim dean, Simon Jones, and welcome back Stephen Conway, acting diocesan bishop last year, and now our newly appointed Bishop Designate.

Pentecost was celebrated on a warm, sunny day and a forgotten painting has come to light. We are reminded of the important role played by the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral in the support they provide and you are warmly invited on the LCCA summer outing to Tealby.

The Editorial team



The LCCA is very grateful to Andrew World of Andrew World Joinery — all aspects of joinery undertaken — for sponsoring a year's editions of InHouse so free, printed copies can still be provided. Andrew can be contacted on 0784 157 2622.

King Charles III is no stranger to Lincoln and John Campbell (retired Dean's Verger) has kindly sent in some notes from his diary of those years.



Thursday 4th May 2006 The Prince of Wales dedicates the Dean's Eye Window

HRH's visit went well yesterday, all the planning paid off, hard work working with new staff who do not understand protocol or Lincoln history and politics!

For the best part of twenty years the Dean's Eye Window (glass & tracery) has been under preservation, repair, and replacement. Following a visit to the Works Department HRH came to view the newly installed ancient (13c) glass & modern tracery for a celebration ceremony and dedicated the window after which he unveiled a commemorative plaque.

For a large part of that twenty-year project the hole left in the north transept wall rendered the cathedral at times the coldest place in Christendom; the replacement of the glass is well overdue and welcome. However, the *Lincolnshire Echo* didn't quite get the gist of the occasion with the suggested headline 'Prince comes to open the Dean's Eye Window' until I noted; 'No way, we've been wanting to close the blessed thing for the last twenty years.'

A good time was had by all. HRH seemed to be on good form; he spoke from the heart. Before he departed, he was invited to sign the Royal Visitor Book after which I presented him with a small, coloured glass representation of the Dean's Eye Window saying, 'You might be the heir to the throne but you're not getting the real thing!'

Sunday 29th July 2007

Royal Visit.

A request last Thursday for a visit by the Prince of Wales came at short notice. HRH was last here in May 2006, for the dedication of the Dean's Eye Window. Two organisations, of which the Prince is President/Patron meet at the cathedral this week; such is his interest in their activities that he asked to visit en route to Scotland to begin his holiday. Ostensibly a private visit certain protocols needed to be observed. The visit was a long one, scheduled for a 12:10 arrival and 14:30 departure, it over ran by forty minutes.

HRH had requested time away from the public and the people he was detailed to meet and for 20 minutes or so he spent time in the east end of the cathedral with just the Dean, his PPO and myself. This is the twenty fifth anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Lady Diana Spencer – time to reflect. To observe the heir to the throne in such a private setting, join in conversation and hear some of his thinking was remarkable. His knowledge of and interest in the cathedral was amazing, some of his private thoughts, views and beliefs were surprising. His approach to those whom he met, from the officials to the crowds, who had waited inside and out, was relaxed. He took time to talk to most and even posed with a group of three teenage 'lads', one of whom stood shoulder to shoulder with the Prince and took a selfie on his mobile phone. All in all, a successful meeting, he departed leaving a lot of happy people feeling valued and even more happy to have met and or seen him.

Tuesday 29th November 2011

Visit of the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall. A blustery day – turned the Duchess's 'see through' umbrella inside-out and unusable!

The arrival of the royal party was delayed, which was unusual; talking to the duchess she commented that there was a problem with *earwax* which did not help the situation. Entering into a conversation I noted that air/cabin pressure can be a problem for some people. She then clarified the conversation saying 'No, not earwax the AWACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) aircraft which took precedence in landing at RAF Waddington over the Royal helicopter. We did laugh – bang goes my knighthood!

John G Campbell

Operation Monarch: A reflection on Royal Maundy 2000



Paraphrasing a communication received from the Almonry Office of Buckingham Palace, in October 1999; 'Her Majesty will deliver Maundy Gifts in Lincoln Cathedral on the 20th of April next, please prepare for the occasion'. My three former cathedrals; Bradford, Winchester, and Carlisle, had all hosted Royal Maundy a few years pre or post my tenure, and I was glad of that. Can you imagine Holy Week, the busiest week [liturgically] of the year - the last thing one wants is a Royal Visit and all that that brings. Well, on that October day, 1999, my life changed, and I lived and breathed 'Operation Monarch' for six months.

Russell Pond, the then Chapter Clerk, and I were steered through protocol by Christopher Williams, Secretary to the Almonry. We were told that it was our service, and, with the Precentor, we had a free hand, BUT... 'Her Majesty prefers this', 'Her Majesty is fond of that' and 'Her Majesty likes the other'. However, we soon settled into a trusting relationship with Buckingham Palace, resulting in an 'Opus magnum'. Rubrics, processional routes, seating plans accommodating 148 recipients and their 592 guests and a total congregation of 2048 including clerics too numerous to mention, ran into several issues.



Apart from dealing with the palace, relationships with press & media, City, County, military, and police service was a great exercise of collaboration and in some cases a healing process.

Recipients of Maundy Gifts are honoured (traditionally) for their Christian Service. Two other stipulations were that they had to be over 70 years old and of 'modest means'; one male and one female for each year of the monarch's age had to be chosen. It was decided not to make recipients exclusively Lincoln or Anglican centred so the Dean & Chapter invited Rural Deans from across the diocese, together with leaders of other denominations: Roman Catholic, Methodist, URC, Baptist, New Life, Emanuel Church, Quaker & Salvation Army, who were invited to nominate recipients, all of whom were presented with their Maundy Gifts (two leather purses; one containing 74p in especially minted Maundy Coinage, and the other contained an amount in lieu of an allowance for former tangible gifts) by Her Majesty, who spent three quarters of the time, during the service, moving round the Nave and the Quire personally delivering gifts – taking time to chat with each recipient during well-chosen pieces of music. The music was chosen so that the Queen could gauge the time and give equal attention to all as she moved around talking but also counting, not least the amens at the end of Zadok the Priest, to get back to her seat before the piece ended, which she did 'on the dot'.

The day came, windy but sunny, all gathered on time; the choreographed processions of over 180 took their places as the Royal Almonry Procession approached the West Door at 10:53 ready for the fanfare. As the Dean, Her Majesty, Prince Philip and I stood at the great doors HRH looked anxious. Her Majesty asked what was wrong to which he replied 'Wow, I wonder where I am to read from'. Pointing to me, HM replied, 'Don't worry the verger will put you in your place' and I did.

The Queen and the Prince were like any other married couple – they bickered with ease.

My fee for the day was 10p: 1p 2p 3p & 4p piece, perhaps the hardest earned money never spent.

John G Campbell – Dean's Verger 1990 - 2020

Carol Hill had a 'lifetime opportunity' as a "Taperer to the Queen" when Her Majesty visited Lincoln Cathedral for the royal Maundy service. She was very proud to be chosen as one of the two Acolytes carrying a candle in procession, and sitting only feet away from the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in the Sanctuary.

Interim Dean, Canon Simon Jones



Over the past couple of months, since his arrival for Passiontide, our interim Dean, Canon Simon Jones, has already made a positive impact in our cathedral community. People have spoken warmly of his ability to remember names and people and warm personality as well as his gifts as a preacher and celebrant. We had an 'official' profile before Simon arrived, but InHouse wanted to delve a bit deeper, and Simon happily agreed to talk to us.

I started by asking about Simon's call to the priesthood, and he talked about the ways in which choral music and his involvement in church choirs and in learning the organ had gradually deepened into an awakening into faith. Conversations with his Diocesan Director of Ordinands (DDO) in the sixth form and with the Durham DDO (one Stephen Conway) whilst Simon was at university led to a selection conference at the then unusually young age of 20 (Simon being the youngest at that particular conference by some 19 years!). A year in London working in a parish and teaching piano at a school in Kilburn led to ordination training at Westcott in Cambridge, alongside study at Selwyn College for his PhD. After a curacy in Tewkesbury, Simon was drawn into chaplaincy and went to Merton College Oxford.

At Oxford he was charged with reconfiguring the chaplain's role and to set up a welfare team with a focus on student mental health. And twenty years on, here he is with us until Christmas.

How does life at the cathedral compares to chaplaincy? Simon said that actually he can see a lot of parallels. Just as in higher education, there are many teams of professionals and volunteers dealing with fundraising, events, administration, catering and so on. Obviously at Merton, chaplaincy sits to one side of the main purpose of teaching and research, whereas at the cathedral worship and mission are central, but the complex interaction of many teams is very similar. In both, the Chapel/Cathedral provides a safe and welcoming space. Simon spoke powerfully about the value and importance of our own congregation, even though we are not a parish. The gathered community clearly matters to him – we are all active participants and there are many ways of contributing, including just being there. With the Precentor, he is keen to make us an even more welcoming community, ready to help those who may barely have been in any church, let alone a cathedral, feel welcome and comfortable. To that end, he is keen to help us reflect on what we do from the perspective of the first-time visitor, and to open up our worship so that what we do is more visible and accessible.

In his spare time, Simon enjoys music, cooking and Scandinavian crime fiction! He is looking forward to getting to know the city, having made getting to know people his first priority. He is clear that his being here is a privilege for him - Lincoln, both cathedral and diocese, having so much more to offer than our national reputation sometimes suggests. As he said, 'I've found wonderful people doing amazing things - one of my jobs is to hold up a mirror to give us a true picture of who we are and what we can offer'.

I think we are pretty clear that the privilege is also ours, to have such an engaging and inspiring interim Dean.

Muriel Robinson

LCCA Summer outing The LCCA would like to invite you to their summer outing to Tealby on 29th July . We can tour the church and hear a talk about the Tennysons. Bring a picnic. An optional short, guided walk will follow. Register your name either at coffee after Sunday morning Eucharist or email lcca@lincolncathedral.com.

Welcome (back!) to our new diocesan bishop



On January 1st 2022, Bishop Stephen Conway, the Bishop of Ely, took on an additional role as our acting diocesan bishop, and I wrote a piece for InHouse about his arrival and plans for that interim role. On May 24th 2023, Bishop Stephen was presented to us again as our new substantive diocesan bishop, with a two-day programme of events across the diocese to re-introduce him to us in this new role. At evening prayer on the 24th, Bishop Stephen joined us in the cathedral and there was a small welcome reception. But how did this happen? Was it a quiet 'shoe-in' with no external process? Far from it.

It's apparently really unusual for an interim to then become the next substantive bishop. Diocesan bishop appointments are discerned through a rigorous national process. The local Vacancy in See Committee elects six of its members to join six national members, elected by General Synod, the two archbishops and the two appointments secretaries (one from the Archbishops' Office and one from the Prime Minister's office) to form the Crown Nominations Commission or CNC. The appointments secretaries have no vote, but the other fourteen do. I was privileged to be one of the diocesan members and although the actual meetings take place under a vow of secrecy, I can say that this is not like a normal job interview, but a process in which we remain open to the workings of the Holy Spirit.

Each of the two in-person meetings started with Eucharist in the Lambeth Palace chapel. People don't apply, but notices in the Church Times and consultations with the appointments secretaries provide opportunity to put forward names for a potential longlist, which in due course becomes a shortlist.

Once the CNC has an agreed preferred appointee, the name goes to the Prime Minister and in due course can be announced. Next the College of Canons will be instructed to hold an election, and also instructed in who they are to elect! Various legal processes follow and at that point Bishop Stephen will become legally the Bishop of Lincoln; then, at the King's convenience, the new Bishop kisses hands and we can have an enthronement in the cathedral in the autumn (King Charles is following his mother's practice of spending the summer at Balmoral and during that time acting not as head of the CofE but as head of the Church of Scotland).

But what made Bishop Stephen want to respond to the invitation to put his name forward? He told me of how his time as interim bishop had awoken a strong and unexpected love for the diocese and a desire to serve here. In the announcement on the cathedral website, Bishop Stephen said how much he is looking forward to the opportunity to continue his ministry in Lincolnshire, which he described as a vast county known for its wide skies and fertile fields and home to a rich and diverse population. And this can be seen in the photo stories of his tour of the diocese. [News/Lincoln Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance \(anglican.org\)](https://www.lincolncathedral.org/news/lincoln-diocesan-trust-and-board-of-finance)

In due course we will learn more about the new Bishop's vision for our diocese, but for now we welcome him warmly, look forward to celebrating at his enthronement in his cathedral and to working with him, and continue to pray for him and our diocese.

Muriel Robinson

Royal Connections

Our venerable cathedral has witnessed many historic events; medieval parliaments have met in our Chapter House and many of the people buried here have links to royalty.

Eleanor of Castile

At the far end of the cathedral, by the east wall of the retro choir, lies the tomb of a royal wife, Queen Eleanor of Castile, the beloved consort of King Edward I.

The daughter of Ferdinand III of Castile, she was born in about 1241 and came to England for her arranged marriage when she was very young. Although the match was made for political reasons, Edward and Eleanor's relationship was a good one: she travelled with her husband on crusade (1270-74) and produced eleven children in 20 years. Eleanor and Edward had close ties with our cathedral and were the guests of honour when the Angel Choir was dedicated in 1280. Ten years later she became ill and died at the manor of Harby, south of Lincoln. Her body was embalmed in St Katherine's Priory and her viscera were buried beneath her tomb. The grieving King made a journey with her other remains to London and in each of the eleven places where the body of the queen rested, he instructed that a cross should be erected. The first cross was at Cross o' Cliff Hill in Lincoln and the last one was at Charing Cross. Her heart was interred in Blackfriars, London and her body rests in a tomb in Westminster Abbey. The viscera tomb was lost in the Civil War, but it had been recorded by Dugdale. To mark the 600th anniversary of her death, Mr Joseph Ruston, a Lincoln industrialist and High Sheriff, paid for a copy of the original monument to be made.



Judi Jones

(Grateful thanks to Jim Newton for cathedral photos in this issue)

Katherine Swynford

On the south side of the sanctuary under a shallow arched canopy lie the tombs of Katherine Swynford and her daughter Joan, Countess of Westmoreland. During her life, as the mistress of the powerful son of King Edward III, John of Gaunt, Katherine was regarded by many as a scandalous figure. Whilst John was married to his second wife Constance of Castile, Katherine gave birth to four children fathered by him. During the Peasants' Revolt in 1381 Katherine's life was in danger and she found refuge in our Cathedral Close, taking a twelve-year lease on the property which is now the Deanery. Here she was able to shelter the children from her marriage to Hugh Swynford of Kettlethorpe and her four illegitimate Beaufort children. She was probably still little more than thirty years old!

Many of the clergymen living in the Close were kind to her (evidence for this comes from bequests in wills). Eventually when John's wife died, they were married in our cathedral in 1396 and the children's births were made legitimate. On her marriage to John, Katherine became one of the most important noblewomen in England and lived in great luxury in John's many palaces but after his death she returned to Lincoln. She died in 1403 in her rented house in the Close known as the Priory. Katherine and John's great-granddaughter was Margaret Beaufort, mother of the first Tudor monarch, King Henry VII, and so Katherine is the ancestress of the present-day royal family.

Her tomb did not always look like this. Her chantry chapel extended northwards into the sanctuary and her daughter Joan asked to be buried beside her. Two priests were paid to say masses for their souls and they did so until the chantries were dissolved in Edward VI's reign. The tombs had elaborate brasses; Katherine's was decorated with brass representations of the emblem of the Order of the Garter until they were wrenched off by the Earl of Manchester's soldiers in 1644. So, this tomb has a very close royal connection.



The Chapter House Parliament

In 1301 King Edward I called one of the earliest English Parliaments in Lincoln and historians believe that it was held in the Chapter House. It was on this occasion that he announced that his son, who later became King Edward II, was to be Prince of Wales. Since then, the heir to the throne has borne the title of Prince of Wales. Edward II held two parliaments here in 1316 and his son, Edward was in Lincoln when he heard that his father had been murdered in Berkeley Castle. Later that year he called a parliament to meet in Lincoln.

Indeed, many monarchs have visited the Chapter House including the young Henry Bolingbroke, later King Henry IV, when he was admitted to the Cathedral's Confraternity in 1386 and the following year King Richard II and his young wife were also here.

Crowds gathered here during the tense days of the Lincolnshire Rebellion in October 1536 when the gentry and the commons combined to petition King Henry VIII to stop the radical changes he was imposing on the church. Henry's reply to the rebels was read out here by the Recorder of the City, Sir Thomas Moigne. It contains the harsh phrase describing the inhabitants of Lincolnshire as "the most brute and beastly" of his realm. The Victorian stained glass in the Chapter House windows depict other occasions when royalty had occasion to visit our great church. It is not surprising that the diocese of Lincoln together with its great cathedral church figured so prominently in our country's history.

Judi Jones

Bell-ringing for two coronations

Les Townsend, Master of the Companie of Ringers at the cathedral, 1991 – 2014, rang for the coronation of our late queen in 1953 and also rang at Coleby for the coronation of King Charles in May. He started ringing on the bells of Long Buckby church in Northamptonshire, where he grew up, and regularly rang at six churches in the surrounding villages. In 1953 he rang at all six churches on Coronation Day dashing between each on his motor-bike! Les has been ringing since 1948; what a record.

I wonder how many other campanologists across the country have rung for both coronations?

Elaine Johnson

Coronation Chairs.

Over a 14-year period my husband and I visited every church in Lincolnshire following the guide by Henry Thorold "Lincolnshire Churches Revisited". One I particularly remember was the church of St. Vincent in Burton-by- Lincoln which we visited on 27 August 2002 whilst on a bike ride with a couple of friends. It stuck in my memory because at the west end of the church was a small gallery. We climbed the stairs and found that this gallery was in fact the family pew of the Monson Family and was provided with a fireplace and upholstered chairs. All very civilised! Closer inspection of the chairs revealed that they were, in fact, the chairs used by Lord and Lady Monson during the coronation of Queen Elizabeth in 1953. Of course, we sat on them and tried to imagine how exciting it must have been to be part of that extraordinary occasion. I have no idea whereabouts in the Abbey the couple would have been sitting or how clear a view they may have had of the proceedings, but it must have been very thrilling – even for a Lord and Lady!

The announcement of May 6th 2023 for the coronation of Charles III reminded me of this occasion and I began to wonder how many more of these interesting chairs are still around in the county. If anyone has information it would be interesting to see where they are now.

I also wondered where they were made so did a quick 'google' and discovered that it was the Ministry of Works who commissioned all these special seats. The firm was W. Hands & Son Ltd. of High Wycombe and the blue velvet upholstery was provided by Lister Mills in Bradford. Each chair was stamped W. Hands & Son and numbered and each bore the monogram ER11 beneath a crown. After the ceremony the people who used the chairs were allowed to buy them – hence their location in the gallery of the Parish Church at Burton.



Margaret Campion

Coronation 1953

I was a married man with a one-year-old son and a heavily pregnant wife, living in Cambridge. I had just graduated and we were penniless. Most of our friends were in the same condition, but one had married money and was the proud possessor of a television set. With many of his friends we crowded into his sitting room to watch the coronation of Queen Elizabeth. The set was in the corner of a large room, so we strained to see what was happening on its 12-inch screen. The images were quite fuzzy but it was exciting to see the splendour and panoply at a time when the country was still confined to rationing and post-war utilitarianism. The actual coronation was hugely solemn and dignified. The moment when Archbishop Fisher reverently placed the crown on the Queen's head was unforgettable. For some of us it was amusing to recognize the Bishop of Durham, Michael Ramsay, supporting the Queen in all his finery. We were used to seeing him pedalling up Kings Parade on a rickety old bicycle on his way to give one of his lectures which I had found impenetrable.

For me there was a personal pleasure to recognise in the Queen's procession her hereditary Champion, John Dymoke, my former neighbour, schoolboy at the same school and latterly fellow officer in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. He was carrying (I think) the Queen's personal banner.



The opportunity to watch the whole grand event on television gave us a sense of participation. But it was a strain on the eyes and on our son's patience, lying in his carry-cot, so it was a relief to find fresh air again. We left for home feeling proud of our monarchy, of our young Queen, and of our country which could produce such a glittering show.

Christopher Laurence

Coronation memorabilia



On 6th May I joined nine ladies who were all around in 1953. We indulged in lunch, champagne and memories! Lots of different memories, but all included a small black & white television! We watched the ceremonies and compared and contrasted the two events. On the whole, we felt that the shorter ceremony was preferable and, of course, much more accessible because of the immense progress of technology – we could really feel we were actually in the Abbey.

We had a table of memorabilia and after lunch we all told stories about our souvenirs. A school photo had a class of seven-year-olds sitting cross-legged on the floor with a large placard saying "Coronation Year 1953". There was a Coronation Crown (a 5-shilling piece, not something to wear); a copy of the Bible used in both ceremonies; a box of spoons, replicas of the Anointing spoon; a sampler embroidered with an extract of the Queen's Coronation Speech and commemorative booklets about the Royal Family and Our Two Princesses. We remembered how the two princesses were the glamorous pop stars of the immediate post war years and how they differ in every way from what our grandchildren consider to be pop icons today.

It was a great day for reminiscences and as we drank the last toast to His Majesty, I fervently hoped that he would live for many more years and that I would not have to search my memory (and my cupboards) for souvenirs of **three** coronations!

Margaret Campion.

Crowns in the Cathedral.

In this year of the coronation, crowns have been rather prominent and I wondered, considering the number of kings and queens who have paced through our mighty cathedral over almost 1000 years, how many crowns were incorporated in wood, stone, glass and textiles to mark these occasions. So I began to look...

The Chapter House glass seemed to be a good starting place, but all the sovereigns pictured wear the open golden circlet rather than the elaborate closed crown with the arches and velvet cap. These golden circlets were worn by most medieval kings and the closed crown seems to have been worn for the coronation ceremony only and today the two closed crowns: St. Edward's crown and the Imperial State crown, are only seen, apart from the coronation, at the State Opening of Parliament, until they are displayed on the coffin as the monarch is taken to Westminster Hall to lie in state until the burial.

So, are there any crowns other than golden circlets anywhere in the cathedral? The answer, of course, is in the Service Chapels situated in the north transept. Here you will find a rich assortment of crowns including both the Imperial State Crown and St. Edward's Crown. In the Soldier's chapel dedicated to St. George, are found crowns on the pew ends, crowns on the memorial to the Lincolnshire Regiment, and crowns on the banners 'laid up' and hanging on either side of the altar.



It is in the Airman's Chapel, dedicated to St. Michael, that you will find the greatest number of the two great crowns because all the badges in the windows dedicated to the different squadrons, all show one of the two crowns – either St. Edward's Crown or the Imperial State Crown. The carpet below the altar also has crowns in the four corners and the altar frontal is made from material used for the altar frontal in Westminster Abbey for the coronation of George VI and also shows the crown.



Outside the Service Chapels, on the west wall window of the north transept, there is a memorial to the British Legion which also shows the crown.

So – a rich haul of crowns in glass, wood and textile but there is still one in stone which is outside on the north west turret just below the figure of St. Hugh and was made by our own stonemasons and presented to Queen Elizabeth when she visited the cathedral on her Golden Jubilee tour in 2012. It is gilded and, on a sunny day can be seen gleaming in the sunlight!



In the Seaman's Chapel, dedicated to St Andrew, the crowns are only on the kneelers in the pews and are different, they are called Naval Crowns and were designed, worked and presented to the Chapel by Lt. G.W. Wells RN in 1963.



Margaret Campion

Tim Hyman and the 'Dean & Chapter Lincoln Cathedral' in the Mary & Martha Room.



In April last, the death was announced of Canon Rex Davies, Sub-dean of the cathedral from 1977-2003. He was the last person left alive from the portrait "Dean & Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral in the Mary and Martha Room", currently hanging in Exchequergate. The InHouse team have done some research into this portrait and with the demise of Canon Davies, it seems appropriate to include our findings in this edition of InHouse as a small tribute to the people portrayed.

One day last year when visiting Exchequergate with Julie Taylor, the Cathedral Librarian, I noticed, high up on a wall in one of the small rooms now used by the Library, a picture I recognised from my days as Schools Officer, back in the 1990's. This picture was then hanging on the wall of the Sub Dean's Office in the Old Sub Deanery and entitled "Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral in the Mary and Martha Room".

It is a curious portrait of the Residentiary Canons in 1984. Curious because they are pictured somewhat oddly, as if the artist was working from above and looking down on them. The faces, although recognizable, seem to be almost caricatures of people I actually knew quite well, since three were still in post when I first saw the picture in 1996 (or thereabouts). I wondered how it had arrived in Exchequergate – who actually owned it, when had it been painted, by whom and, really, just why it was there?

Our kind Librarian did a little digging and discovered that it was by an artist called Tim Hyman who had been Artist in Residence in 1984 and who had spent a year in the cathedral producing many pictures including this one and a second one of the Dean and Chapter. This second portrait was purchased by the Usher Gallery. Both were included in an exhibition at the Usher in 1985 and subsequently around the country.

The canons in the picture are Dean Oliver Fiennes, Precentor David Rutter, Chancellor John Nurser, Sub-dean Rex Davies and Archdeacon Bill Dudman. With the death of Canon Davies all these clergy are now deceased (which makes me feel rather ancient!) but I was surprised that they – or rather, their picture, had been banished to the outer regions of Exchequergate since Tim Hyman is quite a well-known artist, a member of the Royal Academy, still alive and working today. I followed up the information Julie provided and asked to view the painting in the Usher. Although not currently on display, they kindly took me to the store to see it.

The Usher portrait is five separate head and shoulders of the canons displayed in a single frame. They are in quieter colours and more easily recognisable than the portrait in Exchequergate.

Extracts from the catalogue for the exhibition of Tim Hyman's work explain that the painting in the gallery is the preparatory sketch for the bigger painting held here. Apparently Tim did numerous studies until he felt the subjects were not 'wilfully distorted'. He also had 'about 30 other paintings on the go' at the same time.

The Chapter Letter of 9th–22nd September 1984 includes more details which prove that our picture is an original. It says that the Chapter had the right to choose one picture "which it will do without too much consultation!" Does this mean that perhaps there was some disagreement among the Chapter as to which to choose?

I was also intrigued by the inclusion of 'The Mary and Martha Room' in the title. I made enquiries around the cathedral but no one knew where such a room was. However, the museum catalogue describes "...a room where the cathedral and the workaday city below are simultaneously visible, suspended between two worlds." I conclude that such a room could only be the Great Chamber in the Chancellery (now the Deanery). One mystery solved!

If anyone reading this has any further information, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Margaret Campion with help from Julie Taylor, Dr. Nicholas Bennet and Lisa Mitchell at The Collection.

Friends of Lincoln Cathedral



Just about every cathedral has an Association of Friends, and Lincoln is no exception. The clue is in the name, and our Constitution states that we exist to “bind together in friendship those who, loving Lincoln Cathedral, wish to bear a part in supporting its life and worship”.

The Friends is an independent Charity, answerable to its members (there are over 1,000, from all over the world), with the Cathedral as its sole beneficiary. It is run on an entirely voluntary basis, by Trustees, Officers and an elected Council.

As an Association, we value our friendship with the Cathedral, particularly when constructive dialogue achieves real benefits. It's a side of our work that we are keen to nurture, and its fruits can be seen in nearly every aspect of the Cathedral's life. Some are very visible, but we have also helped in areas that would not otherwise have had proper support.

Major projects, including the lighting in St Hugh's Choir and the restoration of the Father Willis organ, have only been possible through large grants from the Friends, and we gave £100,000 towards the cost of the lavatory block off the Cloisters.

We have refurbished furnishings, rebound books, funded flowers, purchased pianos and capitalised Choristers. If you remember the recent shivering temperature in St Hugh's Choir, think about the Friends when you bask there next Winter, as our biggest-ever grant (£170,000) has enabled the new heating in that area! And if you join services online you probably already know that the live streaming equipment was paid for by the Friends.

The full list is even longer, as it goes back to 1936, and we are keen to raise money so that it continues to grow. Our funds come from Members' subscriptions, donations and legacies, as well as from investments and events. The annual Carols by Candlelight concert is our main fundraising event, packing the Nave with members and the general public every December.

Of course, it's not all about money, important though that is. Previously we have organised concerts, talks and visits for our members to enjoy and are reviving some of these after several fallow years resulting from the pandemic. These events take a lot of organisation, and we are always grateful for volunteers to help!

If you are already a Friend – thank you, we appreciate your support. If not, there's no time like the present to join. It's also worth bearing in mind that membership makes a great gift for anyone who loves our Cathedral. Costing from just £20 annually, paid-up Members enjoy free admission to the Cathedral (at most times), and a 10% discount in the Cathedral Café. Life Members also receive a discount in the Cathedral Shop.

If you would like to find out more, drop into the Friends' office on a Wednesday morning. You'll also find information in our leaflets in the Cathedral, or at our website www.thefriendsofincolncathedral.co.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you as a Friend!
Paul Pinchbeck *Membership Secretary*



'From Queen to King' Quilt

Many people will have seen the beautiful quilt which hung in the crossing for several weeks. The inspiration of the Fabric Quarter, Bailgate, it commemorated the end of one reign and the beginning of another. The unique and beautiful quilt reflected the community and celebrated the joy of stitching. Each square of fabric was decorated with applique and embroidery. The only brief was that it had to tell a story of what the period between the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III meant to the stitcher. It could be an emotion, a single event or a detail which struck a chord; the interpretation was down to each contributor. The final result was stunning.

Pentecost

A simple notice inside the entrance to the cathedral explained that Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter and celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the Christian church.

Visitors were invited to follow instructions in making a paper dove for the display alongside, 'together bringing peace to mankind'.

The finished display was a beautiful illustration of the season and a very friendly welcome to our cathedral.



Pentecost Cake in the Cloisters

The last Sunday in May was Pentecost. There was a wonderful Evensong service in the cathedral, followed by Cake in the Cloister.

Cups of tea and coffee were served, with generous portions of assorted cakes in brilliant late afternoon sunshine. Tables were placed on the lawn area and decorated with flower arrangements donated by Marie.

It was lovely to see so many people chatting away enjoying their cake. The delicious cakes had all been donated, including several gluten free ones, and the money raised will go towards 'Winter Warmer Packs' distributed during cold weather, later in the year.

Thank you to all the team who worked hard to make this event a success.

Linda Jones



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Copy for the next edition should be emailed to the Editors at inhouse@lincolncathedral.com by 10th September 2023 as attachments in Word format; accompanying photographs are also welcomed as JPEG files. Please don't insert photos, clip art or illustrations into the Word files but send them separately in as high a resolution as possible. 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 link to InHouse is published in the chapter letter when it is produced and is also on the cathedral website under 'Latest News'.