

BEACON

The regular newsletter of the
Rochester Cathedral Campaign
December 2007



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Great News! The Henry Smith Charity has confirmed a grant of £50,000 towards the cost of providing disabled access into the crypt. Last month the archaeological dig (largely paid for by Jill Lovell's sponsored swim) revealed that there are no barriers to developing access to the crypt via the Garth, and now this gift from the Henry Smith Charity means that we are significantly further forward in being able to fund the work required. We will now actively be seeking the balance of the costs necessary. A very big thank you to the Henry Smith Charity for this support – it takes us a huge step nearer achieving this vital project.

Adrian Newman

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Thursday 20 December - 7.30pm
Friday 21 December - 7.30pm
Saturday 22 December - 12.30pm
(Lunchtime Carols)
Saturday 22 December - 3.15pm
(Christingle Service)
Sunday 23 December - 5pm
(Christmas Meditation by
Candlelight)
Monday 24 December - 3.15pm
(First Evensong of Christmas)
Monday 24 December - 4pm
(Blessing of the Crib)
Monday 24 December - 11.30pm
(Eucharist of Christmas Night
Preacher - The Bishop)
Tuesday 25 December - 8am
(Holy Communion)
Tuesday 25 December - 10.30am
(Eucharist - Preacher The Dean)

AN EVENING WITH THE GODSALLS

As you are all probably aware by now, Canon Ralph Godsall and his wife Ellen, will shortly be leaving the cathedral. He and Ellen have kindly agreed to host "An Evening with the Godsalls" where they will give a photographic talk on some of their experiences. Please come and join us for this relaxed social evening. Tickets for the event will be £7 and this includes a light supper and drinks. We will hold the event at Garth House on Thursday 13th March 2008. Please contact the Campaign Office for tickets.



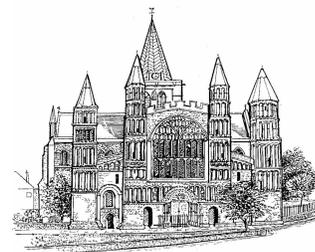
WE WISH ALL OUR SUPPORTERS
AND VOLUNTEERS A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Campaign Office
Garth House
The Precinct
Rochester
ME1 1SX

01634 810074



**CAMPAIGN
TOTAL
TO DATE
£2,620,767.38**



Etching by Elizabeth Mallinson



BUBBLING UNDER ...

We are currently waiting to hear news from a variety of bids submitted recently, many of which have been positively received. We will keep you in touch with these as decisions are reached and conveyed to us. The large Heritage Lottery Fund bid is currently being assessed, and a decision is expected in March.

An inaugural dinner to establish the Cathedral Business Guild has now been arranged for 6 March. This important new initiative will be developed to support musical outreach.

When we first held information events about the Campaign, 30 people registered an interest in knowing more about leaving a legacy to the cathedral. Now that the Music Review is complete, we are in a position to progress this aspect of the Campaign. Legacy workshops will be set up in the New Year – watch the Beacon for further details in due course.

We are working up a bid to one of the 2 landfill operators with local landfill sites, under the Landfill Tax Credits scheme, for repair work on the cathedral.

Plans are under consideration to build on the success of the Campaign by establishing a Development Office, working alongside an enlarged group of Trustees whose task would be to raise revenue to fund the ongoing work of the cathedral, particularly its music and fabric. Read the Beacon over the next few months to find out more.

ENDOW A DAY OF MUSIC

This has been set up as a way of raising awareness of the Music Forever Endowment. It costs £10,000 to Endow a Day of Music in perpetuity in the name of a loved one or to celebrate a special day. The day is commemorated in a beautiful leather bound book which will be displayed in a cabinet in the Cathedral, with your personal message inscribed, with the pages being turned daily. The gift payment can be made by way of a legacy (as mentioned above, special Legacy Workshops will be held in the New Year for those people who have a desire to remember the Cathedral in their Will). Just this last month, 3 more people have reserved their day making 7 confirmed dates and 2 to be finalised.

Dr Derek Clark says "We have very special moments in our lives, sad, happy, or life changing experiences. We might associate these with a time, place, date or loved one and sometimes it is nice to commemorate such moments in a special way. For many of us the sudden death of a life long partner has been the saddest moment in our lives and something we may want to remember in some permanent fashion. Many families have gravestones, memorial seats, and plaques in church. To provide something as a permanent joy to others by choosing to support the cathedral 'Music Forever' campaign and annually commemorate a memory on the date, in the form of a special Evensong, seems a sensible, practical and permanent way. Likewise, happy events may be the day of our marriage or birth of our children or grandchildren. What better way to remember, than by celebrating these by the gift of a legacy for the 'Music Forever' campaign. If the music of this cathedral inspires you let it inspire generations to come by ensuring that there is music forever".

MISSA CAROLAE CD—A Christmas Album

We still have stock of CD's for those wishing to purchase a CD as a Christmas gift for someone. Cost is only £12.99 each. If you would like us to post it to you there will be a £1.50 postage and packaging charge (UK only). Phone Lynne in the Campaign Office on 01634 810074 or go to <http://myspace.com/rochestercathedralchoir>

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

The BBC have advised that the times of the Rochester broadcasts have changed yet again to 16th & 23rd December at 8pm. This is subject to change so please check your TV guide!

OLD & BROKEN JEWELLERY

You will be pleased to hear that we have raised £500 from your unwanted/broken bits of gold jewellery. We are still collecting so if anyone still has a contribution to make please phone or drop off pieces at the Campaign Office.

CATHEDRAL PRESENTATION "KENT'S BEST KEPT SECRET"

One of our experienced guides, Mrs Lyndall Hacker is offering to come to your Group and share some of the secrets of Rochester Cathedral. She presents a very interesting slide show and talk for the Fund Raising Campaign. Please see the enclosed flier for further information.

Email: campaign@rochestercathedral.org

www.rochestercathedral.org