

Rochester

CATHEDRAL BEACON

The regular newsletter from the Development Office of Rochester Cathedral



From the Dean's desk...

Over the summer months we have been completing the outstanding capital works on the Crypt. We are very grateful to the Friends of Rochester Cathedral for funding these remaining aspects of the Hidden Treasures project and are now in a better position to move forward and make good use of this splendid facility.

We have a functioning Servedy, designed and built by Graham Peachey, who does so much good work around the Cathedral and always goes the extra mile, and I'm delighted to report that we have had a major donation from Lukehurst Furniture Stores who have donated 100 chairs and 12 tables (£5,500). This will allow us offer the crypt space for special events and dinners and is part the Cathedral's financial strategy to increase income and secure long term stability. Martin Lukehurst is an active member of the Cathedral Business Guild and a great supporter and friend of the Cathedral.

It is a joy that we will be having the annual Business Guild Dinner in the Crypt after so many years of cancellations. We will also be having a special fund raising dinner on October 26th to mark the 500 anniversary of the start of the Reformation at which our quest speaker will be Dr. David Starkey, who is Vice Patron of the Cathedral Trust. Do get in touch for further information.

The Very Revd Dr Philip Hesketh
Dean of Rochester

Pounds for Projects

It's nearly time to get rid of all your old one pound coins so those of you with old coins still in your money box please do empty them out and bring them along to the cathedral. We are collecting them and hopefully we will get enough to be able to make repairs to the Pilgrim Steps.

The steps lead up to the shrine of William of Perth. They have a 20th century staircase cover allowing easy access into the east end of the cathedral. These timber steps need repair to allow continued access and preserve the medieval steps.

If you can't get to the cathedral but would like to make a donation please use the "Donate" button on the cathedral web page or send a cheque made out to Rochester Cathedral Trust to Garth House, The Precinct, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1SX. Thank you.



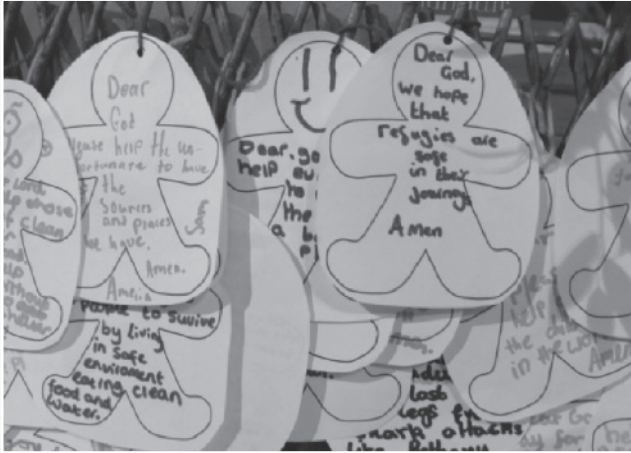
Pledges and gifts for January to August 2017 are

£189,786.22

PLEASE HELP US AND DONATE NOW By phoning 01634 810074 or go to: www.justgiving.com/rochestercathedral trust

Education Round up

The summer term is always a busy time with lots of school visits and many children involved in finding out about the Monks and Monastic way of life.



We also held the Diocesan Schools Festival in mid June. This is organised by the Diocesan Education team and supported by us. It is for year 6 pupils in Church schools to mark the end of their primary education and before they move on to their secondary schools. During the 4 days of the Festival this year we welcomed 866 children. The morning is taken up with various activities which lead into and support the Eucharist service in the afternoon. We ran a workshop which enabled some of the children to dramatise the Gospel reading. The other area we were responsible for were prayer stations, thanks to our volunteers we were able to run 8 of these catering for 75 children in total at any one time. The prayer stations involved making origami boats, decorating hearts, and writing prayers on templates.

We were blessed with good weather for the 4 days of the Festival which meant lunch could be taken outside. They then joined together for the Eucharist in the afternoon, Bishop James led this service on three of the days and Bishop Rod on the other day, and we were also pleased that Canon Rachel and Canon Matthew were able to be involved in the service.

As the saying goes

And now for something completely different...

As part of our involvement in the Hidden Treasures Fresh Expressions project the Education team have

been responsible for delivering elements of the Activity Plan. Our final "Spotlight Display" was Holey Roses.

This developed from an idea we had following a discussion with 2 of our Library volunteers, they raised the fact that there were several of Dean Reynolds Hole's books in the library, and of his love for gardening and especially roses. We invited Flower Guilds and Parish Churches to take part. Participants were able to view items in the Crypt exhibition and the Library and decide on an item they would like to interpret through flowers.

Holey Roses took place from Saturday 27th May through to Sunday 4th June. Each arrangement was unique and interpreted by the group involved, during this time we had over 2000 visitors to the Ithamar Chapel, where the majority of the arrangements were on display. The feedback was extremely positive from both participants and the general public. We were also able to offer Highlight tours which

focused on Dean Samuel Reynolds Hole and included a short visit to the garden – as you can imagine these proved very popular, especially with local people who have missed the opportunity to get into the Garth over the last few years.



Sue and Helen
Education Officers

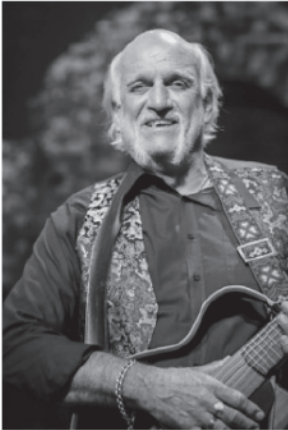
Text donations via Just Giving

Donating a small gift has been made even easier now.

All you need to do is text the message **RCTR46 £10** to **70070**

and you can make a difference via **JustGiving™**

A Troubadour's Tale (A singer of songs and teller of tales) on 3rd November 2017 at 7.30pm



A rare opportunity to enjoy an evening with Terry Bishop in the splendour of the beautiful Crypt. Listen to him speak and sing whilst we enjoy a glass of wine and refreshments.

Terry travels the world as a renowned lecturer and entertainer. He is a man of many parts; one time lecturer for the Smithsonian Institute, Social worker, Youth Manager and world traveler. He now spends his time "Sailing the high seas" lecturing on many diverse topics. When at home in Spain with his wife Julie, this busy couple also find time to support a charity bringing music to disadvantaged children. His UK base is in Rochester.

Terry has kindly offered to entertain us to assist the Rochester Cathedral Trust in the ever-ongoing campaign to raise money to keep music alive in our cathedral.

Do come and join us for a very special evening's entertainment.

The evening will conclude at approximately 9.30 pm.

Kent Police Male Voice Choir Concert

On the 8th November we are delighted to welcome for a return visit The Kent Police Male Voice Choir together this time with The Revelation Strings. The concert will commemorate Remembrance Day and tickets are available from Garth House (01634 810074) or email lynne.bax@rochestercathedral.org

They will also be for sale at the Cathedral Shop at £10 each or Concession (student or pensioner) at £8.



51zero/festival2017

51zero launches the 2017 Festival of artists' film, video and digital arts with an eclectic evening of silent short films, animations and heritage moving-image, screened alongside live music performances. The Festival features contemporary artists and established musicians, alongside emerging local practitioners and students from University of Kent School of Music and Fine Art. Following the launch night, the exhibition of films will continue throughout the week, accompanied by a rich programme of special events including workshops, artist talks and participatory activities. Open to all ages, families are welcome and events are free.

Launch event: 27th October, 7pm – 9:30pm, Rochester Cathedral Crypt. The film screening will be followed by complimentary refreshments and 'meet the artists'. To reserve your place please contact Lynne lynne.bax@rochestercathedral.org.

Exhibitions: 28th October – 2nd November here in the Crypt (10am - 4pm) and at the Guildhall Museum, Rochester.

Full programme details and further information will be published on www.rochestercathedral.org and on the Festival website www.51zero.org from 1st October.

Future Events 2017

The following are events that are firm in the Diary for the next few months, more to be added so please watch this space!

Wednesday 6th September	Business Guild Annual Dinner in the Crypt. The first cathedral dinner to be held in the newly refurbished Crypt! Our after dinner speaker will be Rory Sutherland, one of the Trust's patrons. He is Vice Chairman of Ogilvy Mather Group and is the author of several books as well as appearing many times on television. He will talk about "How to be illogical – and when" which will be good fun. Reception at 6.15pm followed by dinner at 7.30pm. Tickets £75. Any profits made go toward the music running costs of the Cathedral.
Thursday 14th September	Business Guild networking breakfast at the Commissioner's House at The Historic Dockyard in Chatham. Registration 8am. Subject is "Exporting Kent" and we are partnered for this event with The Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce.
Thursday 26th October	Reformation Dinner – This is a very special event and starts off with Evensong in the Quire at 5.30pm followed by a Reception at 6.30 in the South Transept with dinner downstairs in the Crypt at 7.30. Dr David Starkey will be our guest speaker so this guarantees to be a wonderful evening. Tickets limited to 100 people and are priced at £125 each.
Friday 3rd November	An evening with Terry Bishop in the Crypt. "A Troubadour's Tale". An evening of tales, singing and refreshments. Tickets are limited to 100 and cost £20 per person.
Wednesday 8th November	A special Remembrance Day concert by the Kent Police Male Voice Choir with The Revelation Strings. Tickets are £10 each. Concert starts 7.30pm.

For more information on events, please contact Lynne Bax on 01634 810074 or email development@rochestercathedral.org



Martin Lukehurst sponsors new Crypt furniture

We are very grateful to local furniture retailer Martin Lukehurst of Lukehurst Furnishers for his kind generosity in sponsoring the cost of the new tables and chairs in the Crypt for use at future dinners and events.



EMAIL REQUEST

To those of you that are online Would you like us to email your copy of Beacon to you in future? Besides being greener, there is a cost saving too!

Please email to: development@rochestercathedral.org to be added to the distribution list.

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