

F OCUS

On St. Andrew's Cathedral
July/August 2016



Summer Edition

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And much more...!

The Provost Ponders

By The Very Rev'd Dr Isaac Poobalan

Dear Friends,

Seven Trebles from our Cathedral Choir along with Andrew our Master of the Choirs and Claire, our Provost's Warden, were at Rubislaw Care Home on Sunday the 19th of June 2016 to lead the afternoon worship. The opening hymn was 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven'. One of the ladies who walked in a bit late, may be it was Audrey, was bent over, moving slowly towards the front seat. It was the end of verse two, 'Praise Him, Praise Him, ... Glorious in his faithfulness' as she was still on the move. And as she reached the back of that seat, holding on to it with her left arm, she lifted her right arm up as if punching the air singing, 'Praise Him, Praise Him, ... Glorious in His faithfulness' with joy and absolute hope on her face. Moved to tears, seeing that vision of our glorious hope, I said to myself, what a wonderful call we have.

Our duty and joy

Later on, in that service, Lewa our RSCM Gold Medallist, sang Fauré's 'Pie Jesu'. How fitting, I thought it was, to be reminded that our duty as the Royal Priesthood and Holy People is to pray with Jesus our one true Intercessor and sing God's praises without ceasing. Pie Jesu which translates, 'Pious Jesus' means that Jesus fulfilled His duty as our Saviour, for piety means sacred duty which each of us is given. As a Cathedral we have a duty to fulfil which extends beyond the Sunday worship. We are duty bound to serve this city of Aberdeen where we are located and serve the church in the diocese which extends beyond the city. Our duty is our joy and we are blessed with able and committed people who can help us offer our utmost for the highest, when it comes to worship and music.

Need for help

Having patted on our back, gleefully, I am mindful that

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there are a number of duties in the cathedral we are struggling to fulfil. I shall refrain from making any reference to the sorry state of the interiors, for the moment. But, we need volunteers to keep the Cathedral doors open during the summer months from 10am to 4pm, which is two shifts of 3 hours and we need people to cater for lunch after the Cathedral at Noon Saturday concerts. If you are able to help, please contact Anne Leith on 01224 635493 for Stewarding; Margaret Byers on 01224 319544 for Saturday lunchtime catering and Kathy Priestly on 07703 462713 for Friday Café in the Cathedral.

God bless you with restful summer

This is the last day of school for most schools in Aberdeen, as I write this, and it is good to think of teachers in our schools taking time to rest and refresh themselves over the holiday period. We pray God will grant our young ones restful and safe summer too.

There will be no choir during the summer months which will be sad miss. I very much hope that the members of the choir who are not away during the holidays will continue to come and help the congregation sing. Please be assured, you will be duly rewarded!!

Ear to the ground

One of the pleasures of Summer Opening of the Cathedral is the opportunity to sit around and chat with volunteers. It is wonderful to hear the range of thoughts, ideas and opinions of how the Cathedral should or should not be developed for the future. And there is a deep sense of unanimity that any development should be future proofed while doing it with care and sensitivity to the rich heritage we have. To make these thoughts and Ideas count, I am intending to make a 'our story' timeline. The long sheet of paper will have various milestones marked out. And people can write their own story in it such as their date of baptism, confirmation,

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marriage or funeral of a loved one.

More details will be given when the 'Our Story' is up on the wall. But, feel free to write up.

And now, it is time to rest and refreshed. May God grant us the Sabbath peace. Please remember the following dates in your prayers.

Dates for your Diary

6.30pm September 25, 2016
Confirmation with Sung Eucharist

10.45am October 2, 2016 Harvest Thanksgiving Sung Eucharist

5pm October 30, 2016 Celebration of Bishop Bob & Liz's ministry in the diocese.

God bless,

Isaac

The Gallowgate Fair

by Christine Flett

My apologies to all for constantly reminding you that I am still collecting bottles for the Bottle Stall on 6th August at the Gallowgate Fair. Any bottles large or small will be gratefully received no matter what the content - but especially alcohol as this is what attracts the punters.

I will place a box in the JSC beside the hatch into which you can place your contributions. The proceeds of this fundraising will also go to the Development Fund.

Thank You

From Florence Cal-Anglia

My thanks to all for your prayers, telephone calls, cards, flowers, gifts and very welcome visits during my stay in hospital and now at home.

Hopefully my recovery will not take too long for me to have the pleasure of your company for to share in the worship of God's love.

Wardens' Corner

by Mark Edwards

As we move towards the summer "break" I'd like to share a few updates with you. A recurring theme does seem to be the state of repair of our Cathedral but I know from conversations with many that it is of constant concern. Our roofing contractor has now given us a start date for the repairs to the various roof-lines and gutters. We have also asked the contractor to remove vegetation growth from the West Gable and from the south-west corner where we have a splendid collection of ferns growing in the stonework! The pointing will be made good. Our Architect will also work with the Contractor to determine the root cause for the continued water ingress in the south aisle adjacent to the Crossing. Until we have this rectified can anyone who has cause to move the Piano please ensure that it is not placed close to the wall; the area impacted is obvious as the floor tiles are now clearly damaged.

I also noted during a recent

downpour that the north passageway is flooding very badly. Our Architect and I have inspected the area and work will be progressed to clear the drainage channels such as they are. We have noted algal growth on the grilles that provide air vents to below the floor level and this indicates that there is water ingress into our foundations. The architect is now almost certain that it is this that is causing the humidity/damp in the Cathedral which in turn is causing the mould growth on the walls. Again, the Architect has this matter in hand and we will be progressing this as a matter of urgency.

With still no progress on the repairs to the JSC and various works on handrails etc. I have notified our retained Contractor that we no longer require their services. I know that the unacceptable delay caused frustration and anger within our community so my only option was to suspend the agreement; I will work with the Architect to source new Contractors

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when I return from my holiday.

On a more positive note we have progressed two issues. Firstly, we now have a policy and supporting documentation to control and record the use of images of our younger members and of vulnerable adults. This is an important part of our overall PVG strategy and I'd like to thank Victoria Angoe and Derek Sleeman for their work in concluding this Project. And I'm pleased to report that the Cathedral Operations Leaders Team [COLT] held their first meeting last week to look ahead at the next major events in our Calendar. We will ensure that a more extensive description of the Team's work appears in Focus in the near future.

So as the schools break for summer and many of us take a break from the hectic schedules that seem to govern our lives today, I'd like to say, on behalf of the whole congregation a big "Thank you" to our Choristers, Lay Clerks and musicians for

leading and supporting us in our worship through the year. And in so doing I would like to also extend the same "thanks" to all of our teams that work continuously behind the scenes to make our Cathedral run as it does. It is always a mistake to start a list as someone always gets left off, albeit unintentionally!! To everyone who helps run our wonderful Cathedral .. "Thank you".

For those choosing to take some holiday at this time I wish you all a restful and enjoyable time; safe journeys!! And if by chance you are a visitor to us on your holidays, and have picked up a copy of Focus to read all about us, you are most welcome and I trust that you found in us a warm welcome, a chance for some peace and reflection and that you will take memories [and maybe some tales] of us back to your own communities. To you also, safe journeys and may the Peace of our Lord be with you.

At our meeting on June 14th, we agreed to appoint an interim branch coordinator, Florence Cal-Anglia, an interim treasurer, Moira Middleton and interim secretary Kathy Priestley. This action was taken with the view that by the time of our AGM at the beginning of 2017 we would have a clearer view of how the Branch is to proceed.

In the meantime regular MU meetings would take place at 2pm on the first Tuesday of the month, i.e. October 4th (speaker), November 1st (quiet day) and December 6th (Advent Service and festive tea).

We already have volunteers to take on organising these events.

However there is to a short meeting for all members on AUGUST 28th immediately after the morning service in the Cathedral south aisle. Tea and coffee will be served

during the meeting so please stay in the Cathedral after the service so that we can start promptly. We have called the meeting to ratify the interim appointments and plans.

If you are unable to attend or you would like to discuss any of the above please contact Kathy at mrskpriestley@gmail.com or phone 01224642713 or 07703462713.

Thank You — Joint Ceilidh
From Christine Flett

Thank you to all who bought tickets, provided prizes and provided food. The evening was very enjoyable but with a disappointing turnout from the Cathedral willing to exercise their dancing toes.

When all the money is collected we should have more than £350 which will go to Development Fund.

Informal Summary of Trustees Meeting: 1st June 2016

by Claire Morrisson (on behalf of the Trustees)

1) Activity Portfolios

The Trustees have agreed to divide their work into the following Activity Portfolios:

- Finance
- Building and maintenance
- Communications (including IT) and publicity
- Operations (events, catering etc)
- HSE
- Peacock Visual Arts liaison

Mark has prepared draft Position Descriptions for each portfolio. It is intended that the Trustee with responsibility for each portfolio should not have to do the bulk of the work himself/herself, but should be the convenor of a small group of non-Trustees, overseeing their work and liaising between them and the Trustees. Mark thanked the trustees for their in-depth review of the draft HSE policy. The suggestions will be incorporated in the final version. Isaac, Regina and Michael will refine the job descriptions for the technical and non-technical elements of the

Communications Portfolio. It was decided that Andrew and Claire Morrisson will take responsibility jointly for the Finance portfolio, with continuing support from Johnson Carmichael, and Regina Jäschke will have responsibility for the Operations portfolio. The assignment of other portfolios is in progress.

2) Proposed new Constitution

Michael tabled a paper outlining proposed changes to the Cathedral Constitution to align it closer with the Model Constitution of the Province. These changes relate to Clause 4, which defines the qualifications for voting rights at the AGM and Clause 5, which defines the quorum at the AGM. Feedback from the Trustees will be incorporated in revised drafts of these clauses and an EGM will be called in the autumn to put them to the congregation.

3) PVA notification of reduction of floor space and progress on creating a rectory on-site

Our solicitor, Philip Anderson, has notified PVA that we will reduce the floor space rented to them when the lease next comes up for renewal. PVA have a meeting of their Board of Governors in the week commencing 6th June and we expect a formal response from them subsequently. We have instructed Philip Anderson to get an updated cost and scope of work for the dilapidations in all the cathedral buildings from Graham and Sibbald. The architect, James Roy, has completed his measurements in the Merchant's House and is now able to start drawing up plans for its conversion. The Trustees thanked Andrew for all his work as the Peacock and Mitre liaison person, directing Philip Anderson and managing the negotiations with PVA.

4) PVG Permission Forms

The Trustees reviewed two documents: A form to request permission to use images of those aged under 16 on the congregational website, in photo displays and in publications; and a document specifying the procedures for handling the permission forms and material itself. Revisions and corrections were identified and the Trustees agreed to the use of both documents subject to those amendments.

5) Update on administration of Development Fund

Christine Flett has agreed to become administrator of the Development Fund. She will oversee the day to day financial transactions and maintain a financial balance sheet, under Claire's supervision. Treasurer responsibilities remain within the Cathedral Finance portfolio and the formal accounts will be prepared by Johnson Carmichael as part of the overall

Cathedral OSCR reporting.

The Trustees agreed that Isaac Poobalan and Christine Flett be added as authorised signatories in the current mandate for the account. The continuing authorised signatory is Sylvia Simpson. The Trustees agreed that the signing rules in the current mandate be replaced with the following: 'The bank may act on the instructions of any two authorised signatories for unlimited amounts.'

The Trustees agreed to pursue Johnson Carmichael's offer of setting up and teaching us to use financial accounting software that will facilitate grant applications and OSCR returns in future.

6) Investment of proceeds from Grandholm Rectory

Andrew reported that a sum of £300,000 could be invested, leaving sufficient in the current account for foreseeable expenses

associated with progression of the Development Project as well as routine expenditure this financial year. Approximately £100,000 will be required in approximately 12 months' time, for the new accommodation in the old Merchant's House. The remaining £200,000 could be invested over a longer time period. Mark suggested he approach a relative, Gerry Towler, Principal Director and Senior Financial Advisor at 'My Financial Services Ltd', for informal advice on the best available low risk investments and the Trustees accepted this offer.

7) Repairs and maintenance

a) Mark tabled a quotation of £4018 + VAT from Graeme W. Cheyne (Builders) Ltd for cathedral roof repairs. They also quoted £1000 pa for an annual roof inspection, gutter clearing, slate repairs and patch pointing, commencing

September 2017. The Trustees asked Mark to clarify some points and accept, subject to a satisfactory reply.

- b) Mark reported that Mutch have not progressed the list of maintenance and repair work he submitted to them and he will meet with them again to expedite it.
- c) Fixing the audio loop system: Derek Elliott-Jones has attempted to fix the loop system and the Trustees believe this is now working again in the absence of feedback otherwise from the congregation.

8) *Inclusion of children in main Sunday morning Eucharist*

The Trustees considered the concerns received from several members of the congregation about the children's contribution to the Pentecost Eucharist. There had been some

excellent children involvement at services on Christmas Eve and Good Friday, but it was felt that the Whitsun message was not made clear which was felt to be important, particularly to the adult congregation, on a major festival. They suggested the way children can be more involved in the main Eucharist could be a subject of a separate broader discussion. The Provost responded that while a lot of hard work had gone into the material preparation for the Whitsun service, which made it look most beautiful, the worship aspect could have been more inclusive of all ages. He agreed the next event should be more integrated into the core form of Episcopalian worship.

9) *Development Project Advisory Boards update from Isaac*

- a) The American Advisory Board at the meeting

Informal Summary of
Trustees Meeting: 1 June 2016

on the 22nd of February 2016 at 120 Broadway, New York included the Revd Dr William Lupfer in the Chair, and Prof Gordon Graham, Canon Michael Belt and the Revd Kristin Miles in attendance. This has not yet been formally constituted as the Board and Isaac is still in discussion with Revd Dr Lupfer.

- b) The UK body is named the 'Board of Patrons' with the Bishop in the chair. It includes The Lord Provost of Aberdeen, The Lord Simon Glenarthur, Dr Ian Long (Head of Albyn School), Professor Ferdinand von Prondzynski (Principal of RGU) and Mr Damian Bates (MD of the Aberdeen P&J). The Board met in May and Isaac presented the vision for the Development Project. He received detailed feedback from Simon Glenarthur.

Cathedral Flowers

This is a reminder that members of the congregation can contribute directly to the Cathedral flower fund, and can also sponsor a Sunday as a reminder of an occasion which is special to you (an anniversary, celebration or memorial date) — or you can contribute to the cost of decorations in the church's year, such as Christmas or Easter — or Harvest in October.

Any donations may be placed in an envelope marked "Flower account" and handed in at the Cathedral.

The Flower Team also needs volunteers to help with the weekly flower displays. Please contact Helena Thomas if you would like to volunteer: helenathomas26@gmail.com, tel. 01224 487265



Cathedral Summer Concert Schedule

Concert with the French Boys' Choir "Les Petits Chanteurs de Saint Andre Colmar" - Thursday, 14 July (time tbc)

Concert by the Haydn Youth String Orchestra (from Holland) - Sunday, 17 July at 7.30pm (free entry/retiring collection)

AIYF Concert with the Madison Youth Choir & ACE Choir - Sunday, 31 July at 2.30pm - more information and tickets through the Aberdeen Box Office

AIYF Concert with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Voices and the Aberdeen African Choir - Tuesday, 2 August at 7.30pm - more information and tickets through the Aberdeen Box Office

Concert with International Recital Organist Allesandro Bianchi - Thursday, 4 August at 7.30 pm (free entry/retiring collection)

We are taking a short break from publishing the Focus magazine, with the next edition scheduled to be available at the beginning of September.

The deadline for contributions to the September issue of the Focus magazine is the 1st of September.

Please send your articles
to Amber at a.shadle.07@aberdeen.ac.uk,
or hand them in to the
Cathedral office.

Events Around the Diocese

TEA AND TRADE

Every Tuesday 10.00 to 11.00am, Christ Church, Kincardine O'Neil

Time to chat with friends old and new, bring along extra garden produce, books, flowers, craft supplies, home bakes, and anything else you might like to swap or share.

CLAN GATHERING

Saturday 9 to Thursday 14 July Kelburn Country Park, Largs
Last ever Gathering. Further information and prices from web:
www.clangathering.org.uk

SEA SUNDAY 10 July

GALLOWGATE GALA

Saturday 6 August 10.00am to 1.00pm, St Margaret's hall, Gallowgate, Aberdeen
Stalls available for this event.
Contact Jacqui, email:
jacquistewart@btinternet.com

CELEBRATION FOR 140 YEARS OF MOTHERS' UNION

Tuesday 9 August 2.00pm
St Mary-on-the-Rock, Ellon

GALLOWGATE GALA CEILIDH

Friday 12 August 8.00 to 11.00pm

St Margaret's hall, Gallowgate, Aberdeen
Cost £12 per person.

ANNUAL LOGIE BUCHAN SERVICE

Sunday 14 August 3.00pm

INSTITUTION OF REV CANON PAUL WATSON AS RECTOR OF ST CLEMENTS, MASTRICK

Thursday 18 August 7.30pm
St Clement's Church, Mastrick Drive, Aberdeen

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 20 August 10.00am to 12 noon
St Margaret's hall, Gallowgate, Aberdeen

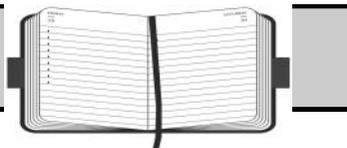
MESSY CHURCH

Sunday 21 August 3.00 to 5.00pm
St Mary's Inverurie

ANNUAL LECTURE

Wednesday 24 August 7.30pm
St Drostan's Church, Old Deer
Speaker: Mrs Janet McLeman

July/August Diary



Weekly Services

Wednesdays at 10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sundays at 8.00 am	Holy Communion (1970 Liturgy)
Sundays at 10.45 am	Sung Eucharist (1982 Liturgy) followed by coffee in the JSC
Sundays at 10.45 am	Crèche available in the JSC
Sundays at 6.30 pm	Said Evening Prayer

Weekly Events

Tuesdays at 6.00 pm	Fellowship, JSC
Fridays 10.00 am to 12 noon	Cathedral Coffee Shop (Teas/ Coffees, and a whole range of homebaking, as well as sandwiches available)
Saturdays at 12 noon	Cathedral at Noon (30 minute recital followed by refreshments)

Cathedral at Noon - July/August

Summer Organ Series:

2 July	Chris Black – Organ Music
9 July	David Smith – Organ Music
16 July	TBC
23 July	TBC
30 July	Ed Jones returns!

All are welcome to attend the Cathedral at Noon performances held every Saturday at noon!

This is a free event, with a light lunch provided afterwards.

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Sacristan	Margaret Buyers, mlbuyers@icloud.com	01224 319544
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