Of the many anniversaries being commemorated this year, the most significant for the Cathedral is that of Magna Carta, sealed by King John 800 years ago, on 15th June 1215, at Runnymede. The story of Magna Carta is complex. However, its basic legacy is clear. Magna Carta is a cornerstone of English democracy, establishing the principle that all, including the monarch, should be subject to the law. Its influence through the centuries has been great, not just in this country, but also overseas, particularly in the United States. For a good introduction to Magna Carta, do look at the website of the Magna Carta Project (www.magnacarta.cmp.uea.ac.uk).

Canterbury is one of the five designated ‘Magna Carta Towns’ in England, alongside Runnymede, the City of London, St Albans and Bury St Edmunds. These towns or cities have a particularly close historical link with Magna Carta. In the case of Canterbury, the link is Stephen Langton, Archbishop from 1207 to 1228. Langton’s appointment as Archbishop of Canterbury by Pope Innocent III led to John’s dispute with Rome, the ‘Interdict’ which the Pope placed on England, and the King’s excommunication. Langton was closely involved in the negotiations between the King and the barons which resulted in Magna Carta. He died on 9th July 1228, and is buried in St Michael’s Chapel.

A further very close link with Magna Carta was revealed at the beginning of this year: one of the four surviving copies of the 1215 Magna Carta was identified by Prof David Carpenter as ‘the Canterbury Magna Carta’. This charter, now held by the British Library, was brought to Canterbury shortly after the agreement at Runnymede and was kept with the Cathedral’s archives. It was removed from the collection in about 1630 by Sir Edward Dering (along with other manuscripts), and presented to Sir Robert Cotton for his manuscript collection, which is now in the British Library.

The Cathedral Archives has lent items from its collections to the major exhibition at the British Library entitled ‘Magna Carta: Law, Liberty and Legacy’, which runs from March until September. Items from the Archives will feature in the exhibition to be held at the Beaney from June until September, entitled ‘Canterbury in the age of Magna Carta’. There will also be an exhibition touring through Kent centred around the Faversham Magna Carta, which is a 1300 issue of the document. This exhibition, entitled ‘Magna Carta Rediscovered’, will be on show at the Beaney, and also at Maidstone, Rochester, Sandwich, Dover and of course Faversham.

Cressida Williams
Magna Carta Events

The Cathedral is involved in the following events commemorating Magna Carta. Fuller details are available on the Magna Carta page on our website. See the Magna Carta 800 website at http://magnacarta800th.com/ for listings of events throughout the country.

Sat 30th and Sun 31st May

Children’s Magna Carta trail as part of the annual cathedral Open Gardens weekend.

Sat 6th June

Magna Carta Bell Peal Attempt (10.00 to 14.00)

Magna Carta Conference: see conference website. Organised by Canterbury Christ Church University, in partnership with Canterbury Cathedral Archives and the Historical Association.

Sat 13th June, 10.00 to 17.00

Canterbury Magna Carta family trail - Free family trail through the City visiting various heritage sites including the Westgate Towers, the Eastbridge Hospital, the Beaney, the Cathedral and the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. The trail will feature characters from the Magna Carta story and fun hands-on activities. There will also be free guided tours of the city offered by the Canterbury Tourist Guides, which need to be prebooked.

Sat 4th July, 19.00

Magna Carta Dinner - Three-course dinner in Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, with Dr David Starkey as guest speaker. Bookable through the Cathedral Lodge.
Tel: 01227 865350

Thurs 9th July, 15.00

Magna Carta Tea - Full afternoon tea in Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, with a talk by Cressida Williams, Cathedral Archivist, followed by evensong in the Cathedral. Bookable through the Cathedral Lodge.
Tel: 01227 865350

Fri 10th July, 10.00 to 13.00

Magna Carta 6th Form Conference - For local secondary schools, in the Cathedral Lodge auditorium. In partnership with Canterbury Christ Church University. Free of charge. To book and for further information, please contact the Cathedral Schools Department.
Tel: 01227 865262
Outside the Classroom

We are currently in our second year at Canterbury Christ Church University, studying Primary Education. We undertook a work placement in the Archives and Library at Canterbury Cathedral in January in order to reflect upon the opportunities for primary school children to learn outside of the classroom. There were a number of locations and organisations we could have chosen but we felt that the Cathedral would be a rich learning environment for not just ourselves but for a variety of year groups and ages, both within primary and secondary schools. We have both taken a history specialism within our degree course and felt this would be an interesting experience with lots of opportunities for learning new things. It has been really beneficial to learn more about Canterbury’s history and the stories that the Cathedral has to offer.

When we first arrived we were able to observe school groups who came to the Archives via the Schools Department to help expand their experience and knowledge of the Cathedral and its history. We were interested in how the children would learn from this experience and found that they could become involved in hands-on activities such as dressing up in costumes to re-enact the historical events that took place within the Cathedral as they walked around, as well as imitating lifting stones with a crane, writing with quills, rebuilding the Cathedral using a wooden replica and making brooches. Whilst here, it has been fascinating to be able to have access to a vast array of primary sources and artefacts such as charters and an Anglo-Saxon sundial amongst other interesting objects. All of these were able to engage the children, and developed our understanding of how to incorporate a number of pedagogies in history within the primary classroom.

When we were not partaking in the tours and the educational visits we would assist the Archives staff with their day to day tasks such as assisting with the inventory of the items within the Cathedral. Were also able to research and create resources for the Archives covering the Battle of Agincourt and the Battle of Waterloo. These were relevant to the department as significant anniversaries are approaching this year. We were also able to spend time at the Canterbury Heritage Museum and The Beaney within their education department. Whilst at the Heritage Museum we were able to see how they operate and organise activities and events for school groups which relate to the history of Canterbury and topics the children are covering in school. At the Beaney we undertook an event which involved children from a special needs school. This involved the children discussing various objects and artefacts which the Museum had, allowing them to physically handle and engage with the objects.

We would like to thank everybody at the Archives and Library for welcoming us into the department and enabling us to get the most out of this experience. This has assisted us greatly in our development as teachers and we would like to wish them all the best for the future.

Stephen and Hannah
As Inventory Administrator one of the tasks that I have been involved in is handling the paperwork for major loans. I had already had some smaller scale experience of this because we handle the loan paperwork for parish silver going back out to the parishes. Handling paperwork for the major loans however is a totally different experience. After the initial contact is made and further discussions have taken place, the loan has to be agreed internally by the Dean and Chapter. Then it has to be considered by the Cathedral’s Fabric Advisory Committee and then by the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England.

A great deal of work goes in before a loan is finalised. The Conservators write up a comprehensive and detailed condition report of the items. This is integral as it highlights any damage existing and makes suggestions to prevent any more occurring. Once the borrowing institution has provided assurance that their display spaces and exhibition arrangements are suitable then the nitty-gritty of transportation, insurance, publicity, cost etc. is all negotiated.

I was lucky enough to be able to assist Emma Norris, Objects Conservator, in packing up the loan for the British Library’s Magna Carta exhibition. The items being sent were our medieval seal press, items from the tomb of Archbishop Hubert Walter (d1205) and a 13th-century charter. These had been wrapped and packaged before the arrival of the couriers. I then helped to pack the objects into the specially made crates and pad them out accordingly. A member of Dean and Chapter staff must remain with the items at all times while in transit. After the items were loaded into the van Emma travelled with them to London where she met Ariane Langreder (Head of Book and Paper Conservation) for the installation.

I have also been fortunate enough to act as courier myself. On 5th January I travelled by train to Durham to help with the de-installation of an 11th-century book, the Epistolae Pauli, that was on display for the Palace Green Library’s exhibition on bookbinding. On arrival I removed the book from display, thoroughly checked it for any damage or changes, and then packed it in its crate ready for collection the next day. After an overnight stay and an early morning it was loaded into the van and brought back to Canterbury via London.

It is very exciting being given the opportunity to work on major loans. We are very proud of our collections here, but to see them taken elsewhere to be admired and experienced by others too is a real privilege. A lot of work goes into the loan process both beforehand and afterwards but it’s very rewarding to receive feedback and to be able to share and promote our rich heritage here at the Cathedral.

Madylene Beardmore
Delicious Choices

One of the wonderful things about ‘Picture this...’, the collaborative project between Canterbury Cathedral Library and Archives and the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MEMS, University of Kent), is that while the central ideas remain the same, there is so much room for change and expansion.

Since the project’s conception by Karen Brayshaw and myself in 2012, the monthly exploration of items from the Cathedral Library’s rich collections has expanded to further include medieval and early modern materials from the archives too. Consequently, an author contributing to the project is truly spoilt for choice when selecting a piece on which to write. Many of the articles that have appeared over the three years are the fruits of the annual writing workshops, and this year’s, the third so far, saw twelve of us meeting up on Saturday 7th March.

The ‘Picture this...’ workshops follow a very simple pattern. A selection of medieval and early modern manuscripts, printed books, charters and even paintings are chosen, then, after getting to know each other a little, the postgraduate students from MEMS who signed up to participate, are invited to peruse these objects as the first part of a day-long workshop. Before lunch, the participants are asked to narrow down their preferences to just one piece. This part of the process could be likened to being offered a box of chocolates, all different and all delicious, and told to have only one. Some people have an immediate favourite that took their fancy from the start; while others have two or three in mind. Some participants are repeat returners and therefore get to choose different chocolates over the years; surprisingly rarely do we have the same delicacy being hankered after by more than one person.

Once the choice is made, the participants are asked to explain what it is that they found compelling about their preferred item and what burgeoning ideas they have on how to expand their initial thoughts into an article. Over the three years that Karen and I have run these workshops, I have been fascinated to see just what attracts people to particular items. For some, it is because it falls exactly into their area of specialism and they are delighted to work first hand with examples they may only have seen in reproductions. For others, it is the very newness of a topic that they have never come across that interests them. In all cases, the amount of enthusiasm, skill and knowledge that is palpable in these workshops is a source of real pleasure. The remainder of the day is spent by the participants in close observation of their chosen work and with them beginning to map out ideas. This opportunity for deep interaction is crucial, especially as these busy authors are giving their time for free.

In no small part, the change and expansion that I noted in the opening of this piece is due to the varied material that is open to write about and because of the particular interests of the individual contributors. Another factor is because Karen and I have been heartened and supported to extend the parameters of what is possible (exhibitions, conferences, increasing samples and broadening the collaboration). Our thanks to all the contributors and cathedral and university staff who have made the workshops happen; thanks to them, in the coming twelve months we look forward to some fascinating articles on subjects as diverse as Elizabeth I to Barnacle Geese.

Dr Jayne Wackett (Editor: ‘Picture this...’ )
A learned scholar, well read and sophisticated in his reasoning, Henry VIII concerned himself with theological issues throughout much of his life, gaining the title of Fidei defensor for his spirited assertion of the validity of the seven sacraments, including marriage, in 1521; risking excommunication for his claim in the 1530s that the Ecclesia anglicana was historically independent of the authority of the bishop of Rome; and taking a leading role in the drafting of A Necessary Doctrine and Erudition for any Christen Man, also known as the ‘King’s Book’, of 1543. His extensive book collections, greatly augmented by the spoils of the monastic houses in the 1530s, were housed in several palaces, but the chief library was at Westminster Palace, where a full inventory was compiled in 1542, every book marked with a number that corresponded to its place on the shelves. As the king’s own literary output suggests, the books were not there just for show, and a significant number contain marginalia in his hand: these are particularly revealing of the strategies he considered as he set about extricating himself from his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, widow of his dead brother. At one stage, for example, he considered bigamy as a possible solution to the dilemma in which he found himself, agreeing with the arguments of the medieval theologian and philosopher Augustinus Triumphus who pointed out in his Summa de potestate ecclesiastica that the bigamy practiced by the patriarchs was not against the law of nature: in his copy of the Cologne edition of 1475 Henry has written beside the pertinent passage, ‘ergo nec in nobis’.

Most of Henry’s books still remain in the British Library, but some have migrated elsewhere over the years. One of these, as has recently been discovered, is now housed in Canterbury Cathedral Library (W2/X-6-12). Printed in Strassburg in 1519, it is a copy of the editio princeps of the commentaries on the Epistles of St Paul written by the ninth-century Benedictine scholar Haimo of Auxerre, attributed here as elsewhere, to the contemporary German scholar of the same order, Haimo of Halberstadt. Edited by the humanist scholar Ottmar Luscinius, who suggested that the clarity of the exegesis by this Carolingian theologian was greatly superior to that of the medieval scholastics, it represents precisely the kind of Biblical scholarship, moderately reformist but by no means evangelical, that would have appealed to Henry in the second half of his reign. According to the Westminster inventory Henry had two copies of this work, both described as ‘Haymo in Epistolas Pauli’, and they would have have been numbered No. 365 and No. 366. The latter went missing soon after Henry’s death and presumably no longer survives; the former, as the inventory number in the upper right corner of the title page indicates, is the Canterbury copy. As is the case with a number of other books from Henry’s library the blind-stamped binding is by the London stationer John Reynes (d. 1545): the zoomorphic decorated roll includes Reynes’s initials. How, then, and in what circumstances did it get from the royal library to Canterbury Cathedral? The post Henrician shelfmarks provide the evidence.

During the latter years of Elizabeth’s reign the royal library seems to have been neglected—Elizabeth herself...
gave away some of her greatest treasures including the early Greek Genesis now in the Cotton Library—and one of the individuals to have taken advantage of this situation was Richard Bancroft, bishop of London and archbishop of Canterbury (d. 2 November 1610). During his lifetime Bancroft built up a major collection of manuscripts and printed books from a variety of sources and he left these for the establishment of an archiepiscopal library at Lambeth. The status of some of his books, however, was not altogether clear. Just a month after Bancroft’s death Patrick Young, recently appointed keeper of the king’s libraries, wrote a revealing letter to his patron James Montagu, at that time bishop of Bath and Wells. Acknowledging Bancroft to be a great lover of books, Young did nevertheless complain that the late archbishop had borrowed at least five hundred books from the royal library. Some he had returned, but others he had retained, entering them in his catalogues and in some cases binding them with his own arms. Young seems to have somewhat exaggerated the losses but ex-royal books can be found in Lambeth Palace Library, including more than twenty with Westminster inventory numbers.

Bancroft’s greatest desire, as he put it forcefully in his will, was that the library he had established would remain intact and that the books would pass ‘unto my successor and to the archbishops of Canterbury successively for ever’. To maintain the integrity of the collection Bancroft’s successor George Abbot had a full catalogue compiled, and this lists two copies of Haimo’s commentary: ‘Haymo in omnes Epistolas Pauli. fo. bis’. One of these (also the editio princeps) was bound with Jacques Lefèvre d’Étaples’s commentary on Paul’s epistles (Basel, 1527) and survives as Lambeth Palace Library **E2649.(H2). The other is the Canterbury copy.

After the execution of Archbishop William Laud in 1645 and the abolition of the hierarchical structure of church, the Lambeth collection was transported to the University of Cambridge— Bancroft had named the University as a possible beneficiary if his successor were unwilling or unable to maintain the collection as a unity—where the books were catalogued and shelfmarks assigned to each: these appear in the catalogues as well as in the books themselves. They take the form of a Roman letter followed by a Greek letter and then an arabic numeral. After the Restoration, during the archiepiscopacy of Gilbert Sheldon (1663–77), the books were returned to Lambeth and a new catalogue in three volumes compiled. At this point the books themselves were assigned new shelfmarks: printed books were given an arabic number, then a capital letter in roman, and finally another arabic number. Many, but not all, Lambeth books retain one or both of these shelfmarks and can thus be matched up to the catalogues. Although the sammelband containing the two sets of commentaries on the Pauline epistles, for example, has new endpapers which hide the Cambridge shelfmark (F delta 14), the post Restoration shelfmark 9 V 1[2] can still be seen.

After he was appointed archbishop of Canterbury in 1677 William Sancroft (1617–93) turned his attention to the library that had been entrusted to him. Presumably driven by space constraints, he sent books, almost
inevitable duplicates, from Lambeth to Canterbury Cathedral library, Archbishop Bancroft’s injunctions to the contrary. Amongst these was the Henrician copy of Haimo’s commentary, in which the Cambridge shelfmark, F delta 13, can be seen as an offset on the second front free endpaper, and in which the Sheldon shelfmark, 11 V 11, is still visible.

The three identifying marks remind us of the need for vigilance whenever we examine an early book: trivial details can be much more revealing than at first appears. It is the shelfmarks that lead us to the owners and no doubt readers of this copy of Haimo’s commentary: a theologically-minded king of England, whose agenda transformed the English church, and a bibliophiliac archbishop of Canterbury who established a major ecclesiastical library. The Canterbury copy may be a duplicate of the surviving Lambeth volume, but it has a different story to tell.

James Carley, Professor of the History of the Book, University of Kent

The archive of Ash with Westmarsh

The historic records of the parish of Ash with Westmarsh were transferred from the church to the care of the Cathedral Archives in March. This makes up a rich collection of records from the 16th century onwards, originally kept in a magnificent, triple-locked chest standing in the chancel of the church of Ash St Nicholas, latterly kept in a vestry above the porch.

The mandate issued in 1538 by Henry VIII’s chief minister and Vicar General, Thomas Cromwell, instructed every parish in the land to keep a permanent record of each baptism, marriage and burial. Elizabeth I reminded parishes of their duty when she ascended the throne in 1558, and it was from this date that many parishes finally fell into line. In 1598, all entries recorded up until then (mainly on paper) were to be copied into stout registers of parchment pages, which would also contain all future entries. Alongside these registers were kept other records, including those of the vestry, the Overseers of the Poor and the churchwardens.

Ash has been particularly fortunate in having a succession of enthusiastic local historians whose interest in the parish led to extensive research among the records of the church, leading to a number of publications: Sir Reginald Tower, Dr James Ogilvie, David Downes, Elizabeth Hudson and Dr David Cave come readily to mind. In 1978 the Parochial Registers and Records Measure required historic parochial archives to be deposited with the appropriate Diocesan Record Office unless a parish made the necessary arrangements to retain records within the church. Ash decided to retain its records, under the careful eye of a succession of church archivists, most recently Dr David Cave.

At the beginning of this year, with the forthcoming renovation of the vestry and porch, the PCC had decided to deposit the records with the Cathedral Archives, as its Diocesan Record Office. Microfilms of the registers and some other volumes had been available at the Cathedral Archives, and information from the registers had been accessible online via Findmypast; however, there can be a need to consult the original registers themselves, and the non-register material can be of significant interest to those involved in family and local history and other research.

Peter Ewart
During the last seven months I have been settling into the Archives and Library department following a transfer across from the Works Department where I was a Conservator for some time. I have in fact, worked for the Dean and Chapter for nine years now and during this time have been involved with many and varied projects concerning both the building fabric and the cathedral interior, furnishings and objects.

In my newly defined role as ‘Objects Conservator’, I will be focusing my attentions more towards the cathedral collections, with a view to enhancing existing set ups, both on a practical and theoretical levels across several areas including: improved methodology, storage and organisation of the Triforium store, assessing and preparing objects before going out on loan, condition reporting and carrying out remedial conservation treatments.

A particular project I have recently been working on is a 19th century Staffordshire Punch Bowl, produced by Meigh & Sons belonging to the Howley Library Collection. It is transfer printed traditional blue and white, in a pattern called the ‘British flora’. The bowl has suffered damage to the foot ring along with blackening of the earthenware body as a result of the break edges being exposed for a lengthy period of time. There is also a complete break extending across the rim. When dirt becomes deeply ingrained within a porous ceramic body it is a fairly involved process to draw it back out. I explored a number of safe conservation processes to mobilise and remove the dirt. This process is crucial in being able to progress to the next stage of the work. Meanwhile, the detached rim section has been re-joined and bonded using an adhesive Paraloid B72, suitable for earthenware body types. A tinted fill is matched to both the underlying ground colour and the degree of translucency visible through the glassy glaze layer; this is adjusted accordingly at the mixing stage. Once cured the filled areas can be polished and further additions of colour and pattern can be made over the top.

Dental wax sheets were heated and formed to take up the desired shape and I used this as a mould to replicate the missing areas of the foot ring. The foot is now ready for casting and I hope to be able to show you the finished piece in the near future.

Emma Norris, Objects Conservator
Recent Archives Accessions

Parish Records (U3)

Ash, St Nicholas (U3-274)
- Composite registers, 1558-1783
- Registers of baptisms, 1688-2007
- Registers of banns, 1783-1998
- Registers of marriages, 1783-2008
- Registers of burials, 1678-1949
- Registers of services, 1842-2010

Chartham, St Mary (U3-154)
- Parish magazines, 2009-2014

Dover, Holy Trinity (U3-92)
- Register of banns, 1931-1939
- Order of services, 1833
- Papers relating to the church hall, 1902-1962
- Inventory, 1927
- Easter Vestry minute book, 1889-1925
- Churchwardens, sidemen and choir minute book, 1897-1912
- Parish boundary alterations, 1908, 1934
- Holy Trinity National Schools minute books, 1854-1922
- Parish magazines, 1931-1937
- List parishioner who died in WW1, 1920s

Hawkinge, St Luke (U3-293)
- Registers of services, 1955-1983

Minster in Thanet, St Mary (U3-164)
- Register of marriages, 2006-2011

Northbourne, St Augustine (U3-74)
- Overseers’ account books, 1915-1925
- Overseers’ receipt books, 1913-1926
- St Nicholas at Wade and Sarre (U3-18)
  - Registers of marriages, 1993-2011

Swingfield, St Peter (U3-153)
- Register of burials, 1940-2005

Teynham, St Andrew (U3-227)
- Registers of services, 1878-2003

Teynham, St Mary (U3-222)

Westmarsh, Holy Trinity (Ware) (U3-255)
- Register of baptisms, 1861-1968
- Register of banns, 1904-1966
- Register of marriages, 1861-1966
- Registers of services, 1893-1968

Whitfield, St Peter (U3-66)
- Register of banns, 1989-2003
- Registers of marriages, 1997-2013

Whitstable, All Saints (U3-131)
- Registers of baptisms, 1987-2014
- Register of banns, 1995-2000
- Register of marriages, 1992-2012
- Registers of services, 2007-2012

Canterbury City Council (CC)
- Petty Sessions fine and fees account books, 1933-1953
- Deeds relating to the Red Lion, Hackington St Stephen, 1585-1840
- Books of Condolence completed after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, 1997
- Complete set of 1st edition OS maps for the City, 1873

Dean and Chapter of Canterbury (DCc)
- Stained glass thesis (AddMs/389), 1957

Unofficial (U)

French Church Charity Commission papers (U47), 1573-1664
Red Lion Residents Association (U533), 1967-2004
Canterbury Christian Council (U535), 1988-1995
Perambulation of the Parish of Littlebourne (U538), 19th century
Helen Goodburn papers (U539), 20th century
Sketch book of views of Canterbury (U540), 1910
Herne Bay deeds (U541), 1884-2003
Canterbury St Mary Northgate deeds (U542), 1821-1838
Deal Christian Men’s Fellowship (U548), 1952-2009
Deal and Walmer Council of Churches (U549), 1965-2007
Canterbury parish book (U550), 1710-1761
Wingham Cricket Club (U553), 1878-1887
Recent Library Accessions

Vaughn, S.N.  Archbishop Anselm, Ashgate, 2014
Richardson, T.L.  Elizabeth Carter of Deal, Sandwich Local History Society, 2013
Billett, J.D.  Divine office in Anglo-Saxon England, Henry Bradshaw Society, 2014
Price, C.  As Thomas was cudgel’d one day by his wife, Canterbury Christ Church University, 2015.

Canterbury Catch Club

As noted above, Chris Price has produced an edition of some of the music from the Canterbury Catch Club collection, with an accompanying CD of recordings. The curious title of the publication is taken from one of the catches included in the edition. Chris is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Music and Performing Arts at Canterbury Christ Church University, and also a lay clerk in the Cathedral Choir. He has been working on the Catch Club for a number of years: see the project’s website at www.canterburycatchclub.net. The Catch Club was a gentleman’s music club which existed between 1779 and 1865; its archives and music collection are in the Archives and Library, on deposit from the City Council. Chris will be curating an exhibition on the Catch Club which will be on display at the Beaney from mid-September.

Self-service Photography

At the Cathedral Archives and Library, we are committed to opening up our collections, and to providing quality services for our researchers. Alongside this, the preservation of the material in our care remains a top priority.

In response to enquiries received from researchers, we will be introducing a pilot project for self-service photography. This pilot will run from 21st April until mid-August. We will then review the pilot; if it is decided to continue to offer the service, the service would continue after our Summer closure.

Researchers may apply for a daily permit, for which there will be a charge. Income from these charges will contribute towards the care of our collections.

We hope that this service will assist researchers with the progress of their research. Many archives and libraries across the country offer similar services. The conditions of the service are detailed in the form for applying for a self-service photography permit.

We would welcome any feedback about the pilot and service.
Dates for your diary

Evening Talks
Friday 22nd May 2015 18.30, Reading Room
‘Before the Ancestors: the clerestory windows of the early 12th century’
Sandy Heslop BA FSA FRHistS, Professor of Visual Arts, University of East Anglia
Tickets £7.50, available from The Canterbury Ticket Shop or 01227-787787

Festival of English, Open Lecture Programme: Canterbury Writers,
Tuesday 2nd June 2015 18.00, Reading Room
Lecture by Dr Jennie Batchelor of the University of Kent
‘Jane Austen, Kent and the curious incident of the £10 note’
Free of charge, no pre-booking required.

Friday 24th July 2015 18.30, Reading Room
‘Series of Ancestors, Series of Miracles: The Glazing of the Trinity Chapel’
Dr. Rachel Koopmans, Associate Professor of Medieval History, York University, Toronto.
Tickets £7.50, available from The Canterbury Ticket Shop or 01227-787787

Vintage Film Show
Saturday 23rd May 2015 14.00 hrs, Powell Lecture Theatre, Canterbury Campus
Screening No. 9 by Tim Jones of Canterbury Christ Church University.
Booking essential; tickets £5. See www.canterbury.ac.uk/shop/archive-film-screenings or telephone 01227 782955.

Canterbury Cathedral Open Evening
Tuesday 6th October 2015
The popular annual event is an opportunity for visitors from the local community and beyond, to sample life behind the scenes at the Cathedral.
The event starts with Evensong sung by the Cathedral Choir at 17.30 and activities and displays run from 18:30 – 20:40. The evening will finish with a special concert sung by the Cathedral choristers, followed by Compline at 21.00.

The Annual Cathedral Archives and Library lecture
Thursday 8th October 2015 18.30 hrs, Reading Room
given by Dr Sheila Hingley of the University of Durham,
Title to be confirmed
Free of charge; no pre-booking required

Reading Room Closures
Monday 17th to Monday 31st August 2015 inclusive.