What’s inside:

Project updates and how you can help
New - supporting our treasures in the Archives & Library
A round-up of the Cathedral’s Annual Open Evening
The importance of music at Canterbury Cathedral
Welcome to our winter newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about our plans and the progress made with your support in 2015. Thank you to everyone who has been with us on this exciting journey and we look forward to keeping you updated in 2016.

The Canterbury Journey

We are pleased that the project’s development continues to gather pace. Since June, more than 4,000 people have given the project team their thoughts on the Canterbury Journey. A number of new activities have also been trialled at the Cathedral and further afield, including a day at the Cathedral’s dedicated stone yard, family fun days and multi-sensory tours of the collections. The team’s focus now turns to bringing together the wide range of suggestions to create a plan of activities that reflects all that has been learned over the last eighteen months. A similar process is underway for the conservation elements of the project - the Nave, Great West Towers, Southern Precincts and Christ Church Gate. Findings from the detailed surveys are now being used to draw together a coherent schedule of works.

The early part of 2016 will see the Cathedral preparing a Stage 2 application to the Heritage Lottery Fund. We simply could not have reached this point without the support of so many - thank you.

Despite a wet and blustery autumn, the Cathedral’s dedicated teams have been hard at work across the Cathedral. This has included urgent repairs to the medieval Infirmary Chapel ruins to protect the magnificent North Chancel window from further weather damage. These works also afforded an excellent opportunity to digitally record the ruins to help inform their future care.

Heading through the Dormitory undercroft and Cloisters, visitors can see the progressing works overhead to the North West Transept. The removal of the old lead roof uncovered significant timber damage which had to be addressed before the new leadwork for the roof could be introduced.

Works to the Great South Window have also been going well. The masons have been assessing each of the Window’s 200 stones individually, and where replacements are needed they will be added by hand to the Window during next year. The project has involved a number of skilled trades and crafts - including masons, scaffolders, leadworkers and glass conservators. Being able to maintain these skills in-house is a huge benefit for the Cathedral.

These complex projects have only been possible with the help of our partners, including our Lead Tile and Stone sponsors. Thank you to everyone who has helped make them a reality.

Stonemasonry Apprenticeships

In our Annual Report we provided an update on the progress of our stonemasonry apprentices, who are all at various stages of study towards NVQ3 or foundation degree level through the Cathedrals’ Workshop Fellowship (CWF). Since 2006, nearly £500,000 has been committed by the Trust to develop the skills of these talented young people. This is the result of over 300 gifts of all sizes, demonstrating the huge impact we can make together.

The Worshipful Company of Masons has a longstanding connection with Canterbury and the CWF. Its members have been generous supporters of both the Cathedral’s annual Schools Day, giving children the chance to learn more about stonemasonry, and our apprentices over the last twenty years. This includes one of our recent graduates, who has been part of the team rebuilding the Great South Window.

The Company has also pledged their support to the next intake of two stonemasonry apprentices, as part of The Canterbury Journey. Alongside generous support from Kent County Council and Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust, these two apprentices will be able to learn a range of traditional and modern techniques, under the world-class mentorship of the Cathedral’s own master masons.

Update: Cathedral Conservation

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Spotlight: Archives & Library

The Cathedral has cared for archives and books since Anglo-Saxon times. The current collections include items dating to the 9th Century and 30,000 books and pamphlets from before 1900. The dedicated team of Archives & Library staff and conservators cares for these world-class examples of our written heritage including books, paper and parchment items. Together, they tell the story of Canterbury and the nation and we are pleased to share them through loans to trusted partners like The British Library in London.

The Cathedral is entrusted with the care of a host of civic, ecclesiastical, corporate and private collections; providing a truly comprehensive resource. The Library is particularly rich in material relating to subjects including travel, natural history and theology. The team provide expert daily care to these collections, as well as working on a programme of digitisation and photography. The Archives and Library are an essential port of call for international scholars as well as local interest groups, and welcomes 2,500 researchers to the Reading Room each year. The collections tell the unique story of the community, buildings and role of the Cathedral.

On 6th October, the Cathedral was pleased to host its annual Open Evening and welcomed more than 1,300 people on a rather rainy autumn evening to find out a little more about the building, its hidden spaces and its friendly community.

Each of the Cathedral’s departments hosted a stand with details of their specific areas of work. These ranged from the Cathedral Lodge and conference centre to the Schools department and The Canterbury Journey project team - meaning there was something for everyone to enjoy.

This year, a number of displays were based outside the Nave with the Stained Glass team taking an atmospheric posting in the Crypt and the Gardeners transforming a corner of the Chapter House into a magical autumn garden!

The idea of the evening is for people to learn something new about the Cathedral and to try their hand at some of the techniques used by our conservators. Carving stone and exploring stained glass were just some of the activities on offer. Visitors also witnessed the Works department with their new MEWP (Mobile Elevated Working Platform), sponsored by The Friends and providing easy access to most of the Nave with a reach of 21m (70ft).

The evening was completed with a special concert by the Cathedral’s choir. Learn more about the choir overleaf.

Sponsor our Conservation

It can be daunting to see the high cost of the Cathedral’s major projects, and difficult to see how a relatively small gift can make a difference. However, the success of our sponsorship opportunities -Lead Tiles, Stones and Glass Guardianship- demonstrate that together these gifts have a huge impact. So far these campaigns have secured £260,000, a significant sum by anyone’s standards!

These schemes support the Cathedral’s urgent fabric conservation and are currently directed to the North West Transept’s new roof and the Great South Window’s glass and stone restoration.

Your support will allow the Cathedral’s in-house specialists to carry out their essential work and train young people to carry on these skills. To make a contribution, complete the attached form or visit www.canterbury-cathedral.org/supporting-us/. Sponsorship can be made in your own name, in memory of a loved one, or perhaps given as a gift. For more details, contact Charlotte at charlotte.walshe@canterburycathedraltrust.org.

Protect these Treasures

You can help guarantee the long-term care of these wonderful collections by supporting the vital work of our specialist conservators today. A gift of £25 could ensure delicate items are stored safely, whilst a gift of £100 could help repair a book or purchase specialist tools. To find out more, please complete and return the attached form or visit www.canterbury-cathedral.org/supporting-us/

Your support will allow us to conserve and care for a number of fragile and currently inaccessible items, helping us to share these vital resources with a much greater audience, now and in the future.

Ariane Langreder, Head of Book and Paper Conservation
And now on a musical note...

Canterbury Cathedral has been home to a choir for more than 500 years and music remains central to life here. It has a powerful ability to bring people together; to worship and reflect, to celebrate and commemorate, and simply to allow us to be part of something greater than ourselves. Today, the Cathedral is brought alive by daily sung services and special events attended by thousands each year. Canterbury enjoys choral music from its Boys’ and Girls’ Choirs and 12 Lay Clerks so is never without music. The Choirs receive generous support from The Choir Bursary Fund, The Marit & Hans Raising and John Sunley Memorial Bursary Funds and The Peter Cundill Foundation.

Canterbury is committed to sharing the talents of its Choirs and enriching the lives of others through music. The Cathedral Choir tours regularly, most recently spending Easter with friends in the United States performing 9 concerts in 14 days! The Girls’ Choir are looking forward to concerts across the country next year, including a joint performance with the Girls’ Choir of Rochester Cathedral. We were all very proud earlier this year when two of our choristers made the final of BBC Radio 2 Young Choristers of the Year. Voice trials were also held in November and the junior choristers will join the Choirs in September.

The Cathedral is delighted to host the International Children’s Choir Festival. Since 1997 over 150 choirs have participated, gathering each summer to perform in the Cathedral and join in mass rehearsals and workshops. This year, the festival culminated in public concerts at Canterbury and Southwark Cathedrals.

The music of Canterbury Cathedral would not be complete without accompaniment from our Quire Organ, built in 1886. However, in recent years this wonderful instrument has struggled to provide the quality of music deserved by visitors and musicians alike. The Cathedral is therefore planning the essential restoration of the Quire Organ and the eventual introduction of an enhanced Nave Organ. This will involve increasing the size of the Organ and distributing the pipes more evenly between the South and North Quire Triforia to provide a more nuanced and balanced sound.

By Christmas, detailed climate surveys will be underway so we can understand the scale and cost of the solution needed. We look forward to keeping you updated on our fundraising plans as this ambitious project evolves.

“ The community’s generous support for our choristers is hugely valuable in enabling us to continue to attract and maintain the most talented individuals regardless of financial circumstances. ”

David Flood, Organist and Master of the Choristers

Our Benefactor List - an apology

In our recent Annual Report we omitted a small number of individuals from our Benefactors List, which recognises support of £1,000 or more in that financial year. We apologise unreservedly for this error and publish those names with our sincere gratitude here.

Mr & Mrs S G Bunce
Mrs Jane A Edred Wright
Mr J Horsfall Turner
Mr & Mrs Alan Thistleton
Professor Michael Wright CBE DL

Wishing you a peaceful Christmas from the Trust team

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Patron: His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent
Patron: (United States of America) President George H W Bush

Canterbury Cathedral Trust Fund. Registered Charity: 1112590. Charitable Company limited by guarantee: 5588837

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Please support our work this Christmas. Simply complete and return this form with your gift. Thank you.

Full name inc. title:
______________________________________________________________________________

House name/number: ____________________________
Road: ________________________________________
Town/City: ____________________________________
Postcode: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
Signature: __________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

I would like to make a gift today of: £ ...........

Gift Aid is a way for charities to benefit from further funds toward their cause, at no extra cost to you. For every £80 donated to the Trust with a valid Gift Aid declaration, we receive £100! If you have previously signed a Gift Aid declaration for us, please consider completing this form so we can remain up-to-date.

Please treat: (Please tick appropriate box)

☐ My enclosed gift as a Gift Aid donation
☐ All donations I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations
☐ All donations I have made in the past 4 years and all future gifts as Gift Aid donations

I am a UK taxpayer. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations to charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) in each tax year, then it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please send me further details about:

☐ supporting our treasures
☐ sponsor a stone and sponsor a tile campaigns
☐ becoming a Canterbury Cathedral Glass Guardian

Canterbury Cathedral Trust Fund - WM15
Registered Charity number: 1112590 Charitable Company number: 5588837