



**THE FRIENDS OF
TRURO CATHEDRAL**

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2015



THE FRIENDS OF TRURO CATHEDRAL

Registered Charity no. 1072511
14 St Mary's Street, Truro. TR1 2AF

PATRONS

The Lord Bishop of Truro, The Rt. Revd. Tim Thornton
The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel Edward Bolitho
OBE

PRESIDENT

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Mr. Christopher Barley

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Miss Mary Prior

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Mr Ian Hare

Mr. Peter Hewson

Mr. David Lansdowne

Mrs Anne Pengelly

Mr. Christopher Rowe

Dr. Ann Stevens

Dr. Philip Stevens

CHAPTER

The Revd Canon Perran Gay

The Doctors Ann and Philip Stevens have come to the end of their term and will be standing down this year. Any nominations for a three year term should be presented to the Acting Secretary not later than fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Friends Annual Festival Day Sunday 17th May 2015

Programme

Sung Eucharist - 10am
Gather in Chapter House from 11.45 am

Lunch from 12.00 noon

Annual General Meeting – 1.45pm

AGENDA

Opening Prayer
Apologies for Absence
Minutes of AGM 18th May 2014
Matters Arising
President's Report
Chairman's Report
Presentation of Accounts
Election of Officers
Any Questions
Closing Prayer

**Talk by The Revd Canon Dr Lynda Barley, Pastor
3.00 pm
“A Room with a View”
Stories and patterns from my time as
Head of Church Research**

Tea and biscuits



The President of the Friends writes...

There will very much be a sense of 'All Change' this summer for the Chapter as we say farewell to three of our number. Canon Perran will be leaving us for the Isles of Scilly, and our two Chapter Canons, Bob and Bridget, will be standing down after having served the Cathedral so wonderfully since chapter canons were introduced nearly fifteen years ago. Between them, Perran, Bob and Bridget will have given fifty-one years of service to the life of the Cathedral, at the heart of its governance. We owe them all a huge debt of thanks.

Yet nothing lasts forever. I always remember Bishop Bill saying something about his time as bishop of Truro, how he would always say goodnight to his predecessors as he went to bed each night, their portraits being on the wall of the corridor that led from his office to the stairs. It reminded him, he said, of his own position as someone just passing through. That is something I am very conscious of as well. When you are associated with something fairly wonderful like the Cathedral you are, or ought to be, aware that the thing is bigger than yourself, that it had a life before you came and will have a life after you have gone.

There is the temptation, though, to see yourself as somehow having more importance than that, especially if you have a fairly prominent position like being the dean. It is all so very easy to fall into the trap of convincing yourself that, because I am the dean, I will necessarily have an impact on the place because I inhabit such an important position in the life of the Cathedral. Now, I am not arguing the opposite, that because the place is bigger than myself there is no point in doing anything because I am merely passing through; that way leads to inertia. But it does mean that whatever I, or anyone for that matter, do, it all takes place within the bigger story of the context of the place.

Truro Cathedral has been around for well over a 125 years now, and in that time it has seen people come and go, each of them not only telling their own stories but also contributing the overall story of the Cathedral itself. Of course, our own memories are limited; I have no way of knowing who the movers and shakers were in the 1960s for instance, any more than people floating around here in 2065 will know who Roger Bush and Mark Evans were.

And yet there is something really rather moving about being part of something which attracts people from all backgrounds to help tell its story. It's a story of faith, of worship, of community, of music, of friendships, of support in times of sorrow and celebration in times of joy, and that has to mean something in our society where we are so concentrated on the individualistic and the here and now. Traditions do matter, not in a sense of always doing something the way that they have always been done, but in recognising that in our society there are values and beliefs that are important, that transcend the selfish and the secular, that mean something, and which we want to be part of.

That is what the Friends are about, really. We are drawn to the Cathedral because it says something about what is important to us, and when we are here we want to contribute something positive to its common life and purpose. That may mean looking out for someone who is not very well or is new and appears a bit lonely, it may mean doing things to raise money for the work of the place, or it may mean doing things just to have fun: why not? This is what the Friends are about, reminding us, if we needed reminding, that people matter and that we care for them. And that, not unsurprisingly, goes back to the Gospel.

It will be a wrench to say goodbye to Perran, Bob and Bridget, and we know that we will miss them terribly. But they will be the first to say that others will come along to take their places who will be very different to them, who will be sincere in their contribution to the place and who will inspire our affection and respect just as much as these three stalwarts have done. That is not to do with the fact that we recognise our own mortality, and that things, and people, move on, but rather it is do with the more important thing that this place, this Cathedral community says something about the friendship we find in God, and how the sharing of that friendship is a constant feature of all our lives: it was there before us, and will be there after we have gone.

What we are celebrating, therefore, is not just the quality of the people concerned, but what they stand for, what they hint at, which is nothing less than the love of God made known and real in the lives of people. Anything and anyone that contributes to that deserves our thanks and praise, whether they be individuals moving onto new things from here, or the Friends who add real depth and quality to our common life.

My thanks and blessings to you all.

Dean Roger

March 2015



Message from the Chairman



Dear fellow friends,

Dean Roger has written eloquently about the contributions Canons Perran, Bob and Bridget have made over many years to Chapter and the cathedral. Perran and Bob, of course, have been members of the Friends' Council for many years where they provided guidance and gave freely of their time, wisdom and experience as did Canon Philip Lambert who left Truro for Crete last summer. We are indebted to them all for all they have given and wish them well in the future. Apart from Perran, our thanks are due to three other members who will be standing down from Council this year, they are Philip & Ann Stevens and Anne Pengelly. Each of them, in their own way, have given valuable service to the Friends and whose wisdom helped me ease into my role as your chairman over the last year.

These changes mean that there will be some vacancies on Council to fill at this year's AGM. Council provides oversight and direction to the activities and fund raising with most of the work being done by the Social & Fundraising Committee which is ably led by Joy Reynolds. On your behalf I thank all members of this committee for giving both time and effort freely and organising many successful activities. Thanks are also due to Chris Rowe, our membership secretary, and especially to Mary Prior, she has combined her role as treasurer with being acting secretary to Council for the last year and, from my perspective, "kept the show on the road". The role of secretary has two different functions: one is arranging Council meetings and minutes whilst the other is more administrative and covers, inter alia, correspondence and collating reports for the production of newsletters (superbly typeset by Keith Sparrow). If you have either or both or even none of these skill sets, please consider offering yourself to become a member of Council at this year's AGM when we have seven vacancies to fill. Council will function more efficiently if we have a full complement of members and officers.

I am pleased that some members of the cathedral community are willing to stand and that our Canon Chancellor, Alan Bashforth, has been proposed as a representative of Chapter. This still leaves four vacancies to be filled. Council have approved, in principle, two projects to fund in the cathedral. These are the refurbishment of the toilets near the Chapter House entrance and restaurant and improving disabled access to the cathedral. Replacing the toilet facilities is necessary as in their current state they detract from the wonderful experience for visitors to the cathedral and its restaurant. The self closing door at the top of the disabled ramp by the cathedral shop has been problematic and not useable since late last year. Its replacement by a sensor operated sliding door which will be neither caught by the wind nor heavy to open is being investigated. At the time of writing our offer to consider funding these two projects has been welcomed by the Cathedral's "Exec Committee" and quotes are about to be sought. I will update you on these projects and the Friends' website at the AGM.

Many of you will be aware that the quinquennial survey of the cathedral revealed some necessary and substantial works which have to be done to maintain the building properly and protect it from the elements. Not least of these is re-tiling the roof which will require a major fund raising initiative. I understand that Chapter will be launching an appeal later this year and our association will do whatever we can to assist Chapter in this scheme.

If you can, please come to the AGM on Sunday 17th May. I am sure the presentation which follows from Canon Lynda on her time as head of church research at Archbishops' Councils before coming to Truro will be fascinating and challenging. I look forward to seeing you then.

Thank you for your support over the last year, it is valued and important.

With best wishes,

Chris Barley

Chairman

Thank You

A very special thanks to Keith Sparrow for his creativity, patience, and generosity of spirit which has kept the Secretary almost sane during the production of this Newsletter.



Friends Speakers Panel

Since the retirement of Eileen Beale who did such a marvellous job running our Speakers' Panel, we have been trying to update our equipment - something which Eileen had been pushing for for some time.

We now have a new pcprojector, a second hand laptop computer and various accessories at a cost of approx. £600. We also have 4 very keen speakers in Eric Dare, who was a founder of the Panel, Mary Holifield, Susie Greenslade, and our newest recruit Dee Gordon Jackson.

The idea behind the Panel has always been to spread the word about our wonderful Cathedral and encourage people even in the outer reaches of our County to visit and appreciate its beauty of form and atmosphere.

The lack of proactive advertising during this period of transition has resulted in a fall off of bookings but with help of Colin Reid in the Cathedral office we look forward to a more productive future. One visit recently has already resulted in a group return visit and official tour of the Cathedral.

Many of you will belong to other organisations outside the Cathedral. When the eternal search for Speakers is mentioned why not suggest our Speakers' Panel. We have beautiful slides of a beautiful and meaningful building to show with very knowledgeable presenters.

Mary Prior

Report On Social And Fundraising Activities 2014

The Friends have had a busy year of activities again, raising funds and having fun. We apologise for being out-of-touch in autumn 2014 and early 2015, when our office was out-of-bounds, due to building works next door in the Cathedral office, for longer than scheduled. Alas no phone or email messages were accessible.

In spring 2014 we said Goodbye and Thank You to Roberta Evans, who had led the social and fund-raising side of The Friends for over twenty years. She has given pleasure to countless people all that time, and raised vast sums for the Cathedral – an extremely hard act to follow! We are all so grateful for Roberta's hard work and commitment, her charming manner and enthusiastic leadership – thank you Roberta!



The year had started with a (very difficult but clever) evening Quiz in the Cathedral Restaurant, devised by Mark Evans and hosted by Nick Hawker. We all worried away over the questions, surely someone at the table must know the answer, (the next table seemed to be galloping

along in such a knowing way), lots of laughter, and food and drink made a merry evening.

In July our annual Boat Trip down to St Mawes was as magical as ever. The boat arrived and quickly filled up; pasties came on board and were devoured as we headed down-river to Malpas and into deeper waters.



The weather held fine (extraordinary how it always does for this trip), drinks, chips and other sustenance were consumed at St Mawes, and then the peaceful and beautiful return to Truro, where the silhouette of the Cathedral in the setting sun welcomed us home.



Roberta and Mark Evans gave two tea parties, in July and September, in their pretty garden – what a lovely way to spend a sunny afternoon – and at the same time raise some funds!

Throughout the year, our monthly Coffee Mornings have carried on, now supervised by Angela and Ian Hare, with Rosemary Edmunds and friend Christine still providing a table full of tempting items for sale, and Anne Pengelly selling yards of raffle tickets – much fun and laughter. Do come in and join us, everyone is welcome, on the second Wednesday of each month in the Pearson Room, opposite the Cathedral car park.

September saw a group of us going to the Minack to see Dickens' "Great Expectations". It was a super production and the sun blazed down – the Dean's dog-collar looked horribly hot – but we all enjoyed the play, the spectacular view, and ice-creams in the interval!

Throughout the winter, our Film Club has met and watched a great variety of films, an opportunity to chat and relax, and watch some old favourites as well as new. Also this winter, Pauline Sansom and Roberta have arranged hilarious Beetle Drives every month, followed by tea, in the Cathedral Restaurant. Heads down and dice rattling, shouts of frustration and elation, arms waving, a very strange group we must look to others in the room – but oh! the excitement when one completes a Beetle! Both Film Club and Beetle Drives will be back in the autumn!

Our Panto “Puss in Boots” took place over two evenings in January 2015, and great fun it was. Written for The Friends, and produced by, David Ivall, the cast including lots of well-known faces, and being set in Cornwall, we all felt very involved, and happily joined in singing Trelawney with the full cast at the end. Amazing things were done with costumes, make-up, and the Restaurant screens and plants, proving once again that Cornwall is full of hidden talent.



2015 will bring more events, some of which are described below, and we hope that all Friends, wherever they live, will join us whenever they can – and bring their friends! Our events are published in the bi-monthly Cathedral Newsletter, on the notice-boards in the North Transept, and we hope that soon our website will be up and running again, so that you can check what is going on there.

Some 2015 Events

Music on a Summer Evening: music and supper at the Deanery, 7.00 for 7.30 on Saturday 13 June. Price £15. Limited numbers, so Friends only.

Annual Boat Trip: 6.00 for 6.30 departure at Penrose Quay on Monday 20 July. Price including a pasty - £15 adult, £5 child. Plenty of space on the boat.

Talk by Michael Swift about Brittany, followed by tea, in November.

Knitting Group starting up in the Restaurant; **Barn Dance** in October; **Visit to St Hilary Church; tea at Trelowarren**.....lots being planned!

Joy Reynolds

March 2015

Truro Cathedral Flower Guild

It has been some time ago since I was asked to write about the Truro Cathedral Flower Guild.

We have 9 - 10 ladies, who methodically come in week after week, rain or shine, to arrange flowers in the Cathedral. As we have 10 arrangements to do each week, we cannot offer our ladies a free week, and of course illness and holidays make the list shorter. Never mind we are a truly dedicated bunch who love doing whatever is required of us.

I'm sorry to say that we only have 4 "In Memoriams" a year, whereas at least 10 years ago this figure was around 12 displays. Anniversaries, a Floral Display are all welcome. We have an average of 4 weddings a year, either in the Nave or St. Mary's Aisle.

The average cost per week for flowers is now £100, and we are lucky to have foliage donated.

Audrey Henry

We do not always properly express our appreciation to the ladies for the beautiful flower arrangements which they produce. Thank you ladies - during Lent we really miss your work. We hope more and more people in the future will think of saying it with flowers - Editor



Truro Cathedral Servers

We currently have 29 members which is the same as last year.

During the year Adam Farmer was forced to resign due to continuing ill health. He had served for over 7 years and for much of his time served jointly here at the Cathedral and at St. Feock where he was greatly encouraged by Canon Peter Walker and was delighted to join Canon Peter at the Cathedral. We continue to remember him in our prayers.

Byron Gregory joined us after leaving the choir as Joint Head Chorister and we hope he is off on a period of absence and will return in the future. He presently has a number of Musical Roles which impinge on his time but perhaps more importantly is preparing for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We wish him well in all his efforts.

Returning to Serving is Ian Josling who left us in 2011. Ian started serving again in July 2014 and we are delighted to welcome him back, noting also that he has joined the lay Assistants. Sally Stephens has also joined the Servers already having valuable experience from serving elsewhere. Sally will be known to most as a Communion Assistant but also you may have spotted her helping out with Offertory Candles.


We are all extremely grateful to Jacqueline Davis for the way in which she deals with the preparation of the Monthly and Quarterly Rotas for Members which are very exacting tasks. Thanks also to the ladies of the Sewing Room who attend to all our requirements with our Cassock Albs.

We were all very disappointed at the unexpected News that Canon Perran Gay will be leaving us on July 5th. Many more Tributes will flow in the next few months but at this early stage we wish he and Rainy every success in their Ministry on the Scilly Isles and in other areas of his expertise. Perran has been an outstanding supporter and mentor to the Servers and his calm guidance and leadership will be greatly missed.

Canon Perran conducted our annual Devotional Service in February. It was a meaningful and peaceful Service and with his guidance we were able to reflect upon the events of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Day. Canon Perran will conduct his last Servers' Practice for us in April.

After many years, our annual Servers' Outing to Country Skittles ceased and instead Members and their families were invited to join the Annual River Cruise to St Mawes in July which is so popular with The Friends of Truro Cathedral. The Chapter paid for Members' Tickets instead of the





coach to Country Skittles. In this way the Monies re-cycled as any River Cruise profits find their way back to the Chapter. As Bishop Bill might have said “ A cunning plan!”

Members are well aware of the privilege we enjoy in being Servers in our glorious Cathedral and we pray that we may continue to fulfil our roles with reverence and dignity.

If any person would wish to discuss the possibility of becoming a Server, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Cathedral Clergy, Jacqui or myself.

Peter Hewson

Head Server

Pastoral Care at Truro Cathedral

Pastoral Care takes many forms in congregational life and is the glue that holds our cathedral community together so that we can be more effective Friends of the cathedral. It is ably coordinated through the Pastoral Care Network and Chapter is very grateful for this vital contribution to cathedral life. Members of the network are trained and endorsed by Truro diocese.

They meet together with the Canon Pastor on a monthly basis to facilitate coordination and encourage mutual support. Pastoral ministry through the team is thus also coordinated with the priestly ministry of the residentiary canons and the priest vicars. This lay and ordained ministry includes the provision of home communions, bereavement support, home visits, transport to services, hospital visiting and baptism visiting.

The cathedral has good working relationships with the hospital chaplaincies across Cornwall. It is formally linked on a pastoral basis to the churches on the Isles of Scilly and congregation members have been active in offering their services to a Scillonian Support network for those Scillonians (and their families) who need pastoral support while, for example, receiving medical care in hospital.

The main Sunday morning congregation continues to enjoy opportunities for fellowship over Sunday carvery lunches on a regular monthly basis and towards thirty congregation members now participate. There are local residents who are unable to attend cathedral services and pastoral

outreach to nearby sheltered/ warden assisted residential homes has been further developed. It now includes a joint carol service kindly hosted by Sunley Orford House.

Many visitors come to the cathedral seeking prayer and solace, and the cathedral vergers play a key role in the coordination of the steady stream of prayer requests made through the cathedral prayer box and web portal. I am grateful for their assistance too with the coordination of the daily intercessions in our cathedral services and the inclusion of intercessions for the long term sick at the weekly Thursday Evening Prayer.

The candle pricket stands attract generous levels of donations and contributions are made to Cornwall based charities including the local farming community, the homeless, the distressed and the terminally ill.

Many visitors both from Cornwall and beyond take advantage of individual cathedral services supported by the Pastoral Care Network and others to address particular pastoral needs, for example, the annual Remember Our Child and the now biennial Addaction services.

Alongside the different congregations in the cathedral, there are many groups of volunteers on which cathedral life is very dependent. Whilst the Pastoral Care Network is there to support pastoral care extended to volunteers it is dependent on the eyes and ears of everyone looking out for the wellbeing of others particularly in their volunteer groups. The best pastoral care comes from those we know and with whom we are familiar.

Over the last few years pastoral care at the cathedral has become more effective but on occasions people have been unintentionally missed. We personally benefit as we exercise mutual pastoral care and the Pastoral Care Network is there to support the various volunteer groups to exercise this care among themselves too.

If you have any pastoral concerns please get in touch through the cathedral office where a list of those available through the Pastoral Care Network is also maintained.

Revd Canon Dr Lynda Barley





Pastoral Care Co-ordinators

The Pastoral Care Network, under the leadership of Canon Pastor Lynda Barley, endeavours to respond to the needs of the Cathedral community.

Leader	Canon Lynda Barley 0772 059 3069 canonpastor@trurocathedral.org.uk
Cathedral Office Co-ordinators	Anne Marie Rickard 01872 276782 annemarierrickard@trurocathedral.org.uk Elizabeth Stewart 01872 276782 elizabethstewart@trurocathedral.org.uk
Home visiting and support	Mard Sellwood 01872 272109 robinandmard@talktalk.net
Hospital chaplaincy link	Eric Mundler 01872 276614 ecmundler@btinternet.com
Home communion	Carolyn Hendra 07834 585239 carolyn.hendra@virgin.net
Bereavement support	Charles Butchart 01872 276516 butchart@coosebean.demon.co.uk
Transport	Mary Prior 01872 571448 mphone800@btinternet.com

If you are concerned about somebody, please contact Canon Lynda or the facilitator, Charles Butchart, or get in touch with the appropriate team co-ordinator.

Friends of Truro Cathedral Membership Report 2014-5

The past year has been one of consolidation, Membership enquiries unfortunately are still at a low level and I would like the Membership's views on how we can expand this in the coming twelve months.


The closure of the Pearson Room in November for almost two months has caused us some dislocation but we appreciate greatly the co-operation of Marilyn and her staff in the Cathedral Restaurant who kindly allowed me and the ticket selling rota volunteers to set up camp in there for almost two months around Christmas.

New Members in 2014-5 (to 11th March 2015)

Dr. R. H. Bradshaw
Mrs. E. M. Clear
Mr. D. C. StG. Craven
Mr. O. E. J. Craven
Miss. F. M. Davie
Mrs. F. Griffin
Mr. T. O. M. Gurrin
Mrs. D. Harmer
Mrs. H. N. Hopper
Mr. I. S. Josling
Mr. A. J. Kent
Mr. R. A. Mills
Mr. and Mrs. E. C. and A. Mundler
Rev M. Richards
Mr. and Mrs. N. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Thorne
Mr. and Mrs. A. R. and G. Titchener
Miss. E-E. J. Whiscombe

We also offer our condolences to relatives of members who have passed away.

New application forms are available and in addition a pdf version can be sent electronically too. We are also encouraging those members who use Online Banking to set up their own Standing Orders within that as well. These important measures save us postage costs. Gift Aid forms are of course always available and increase the value of your subscriptions to us.



I'm usually in the Office on Wednesday mornings, please feel free to pop in or drop the office an email if you want to talk and I'll you call back. I'm usually around after the Sunday morning Eucharist too.

Christopher Rowe
Membership Secretary.

Truro Cathedral Restaurant and Coffee Shop

Fresh simple Cornish food using local seasonal ingredients

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Monday – Friday 8.30am – 4pm

Saturday 9.30am – 4pm

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Lunches

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10% discount available for Friends

The Restaurant is available for functions and parties. Please contact the Restaurant Manager,

Marilyn Trevelyan, on 01872 245011

or by e-mail:

MarilynTrevelyan@trurocathedral.org.uk

Friends Annual General Meeting Lunch Menu

Welcoming glass of sherry

Main Course

Braised loin of Pork with Sage & Onion Stuffing

Or

Grilled Fillet of Seasonal Fish
served on a bed of Cherry Tomatoes, Spinach and Leek
with a Lemon & Vanilla Buttercream Sauce

Or

Vegetarian Nut Roast with Apple & Mango Chutney

All served with Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Black Forest Trifle

Or

Lemon Roly Poly with Vanilla & Raspberry Custard

Coffee or Tea

£13.50 per head

Music at Truro Cathedral

In my September report, I reviewed our Cathedral Choir trip to the Isles of Scilly in April, the CD recording sessions in May, and our reconstruction in June of Lutheran Vespers, as it might have taken place during Bach's time in Leipzig (complete with orchestra). I also introduced our new personnel, boy Choristers, Lay Vicars and Scholars, who joined us in September. For this current report, I will pick up where I left off and begin by focusing on two important events in October.

The first is that we held a "Be a Chorister for a Day" event for girls. As you will be well aware by now, plans are in full swing to introduce a set of girl Choristers to run in parallel with our wonderful boy Choristers. The girls will be in the age range 13 to 18 and will all attend Truro School, whose staff it has been a joy to work with so closely in recent months. The boys, in their younger age range of 8 to 13, will remain at Polwhele House School which has been such an important ingredient in fostering their excellence for more than 30 years now. Both sets of Choristers will mostly sing with the Lay Vicars and Choral Scholars, but very rarely at the same time; my hope is that each will have its own distinctive identity, musically and socially. Whichever set of Choristers is singing, the group will be Truro Cathedral Choir.

The open day was a great success and culminated in some 20 girls joining the current boys and gentlemen to sing Evensong, a service you can hear as a live webcast on Soundcloud.

We held auditions in November and January and I am delighted that we have 18 extremely talented girls ready to join us in September. We hope to have our first services with the girl Choristers on Sunday 11th October.



The second significant event in October was the “Cornwall Remembers” week running up to Remembrance Day. In a packed schedule of lectures (including one by Michael Portillo), musical events (including a fabulous Ivor Gurney evening), poetry readings, schools’ workshops and art exhibitions, the Cathedral Choir sang daily themed Evensongs and also took part in two moving performances of Benjamin Britten’s War Requiem on the Saturday and Sunday evenings. They somehow managed to offer what I felt was a particularly special performance of the Fauré Requiem on the Sunday morning as well! To conclude what was effectively a festival of remembrance, the Choristers sang at a service on Remembrance Day itself, when some 10,000 poppies were dropped from the central tower.


As well as our normal round of services and concerts in December, we sang a concert for the Tresanton Hotel in St Mawes to raise money for our choir tour fund. At our Advent Carol Service, we gave the first performance of “*Seven Magnificat Antiphons*” by Gabriel Jackson, and at Nine Lessons and Carols we gave the first performance of “*The Salutation Carol*” by Russell Pascoe.

Another major project, for which we did most of the hard work in December and January, was the making of a DVD. This is a pioneering project that will culminate in a release which will include a DVD of Nine Lessons and Carols from 23rd December 2014, followed by a substantial documentary about the history of the Nine Lessons service from Bishop Benson to the present day. There will be a separate CD alongside the DVD which will include an audio-only recording of a reconstruction of the first ever Nine Lessons service, which took place in Truro in 1880.

In the new year, the Choristers presented their annual Cushion Concert which, for the first time, was combined with a “Be a Chorister for a Day” event for boys aged 7 to 9. We have since had our auditions and have appointed four talented boy Choristers who will start with us in September.

Our CD of music by First World War composers, which includes all six of Parry’s magnificent “*Songs of Farewell*”, was released in November and we have been fortunate to have had flattering reviews in the classical press, including Gramophone and International Record Review. I was particularly pleased that BBC Music Magazine published a podcast review of the CD, something normally reserved for the most distinguished national and international artists.

Looking ahead, we have a “come and sing” event on Sunday 26th April. Do please consider joining us for this rare chance to sing with the Cathedral Choir, and see separate publicity for full details. Our summer concert on Saturday 20th June at 5.00pm has the most incredible programme which will include John Tavener’s “*Funeral Ikos*”, Arvo Pärt’s “*The Beatitudes*” and the Durufle Requiem – all music the Choir will relish getting its teeth into.



We will record a CD of music by Gabriel Jackson in May and we have a live broadcast of Choral Evensong on BBC Radio 3 on Wednesday 3rd June at 3.30pm. Music, for the Eve of Corpus Christi, will include Finzi's great anthem "*Lo, the full, final sacrifice*" and the Evening Canticles in A by Sumsion.

Christopher Gray

Secretary's Report

Our Annual General Meeting this year takes place on 17th May. Last year it took place on Sunday 18th May. During the course of that AGM our valued Chairman Bob Foulkes and equally valued Secretary Pam Macleod stood down. Chris Barley, new to the Friends Council took on the job of Chairman but a New Secretary did not come forward. Again this year we are looking for someone to take on this "Secretary" role. What is really needed is someone who can organise 2 lunches a year and 2 newsletters a year. Other duties normally regarded as secretarial e.g. keeping Minutes at Council Meetings can be and/or are done by other members of Council. Please consider whether this could be your job for the next three years.

We have 4 vacancies on our Council, the doctors Stevens, Philip and Ann, stepdown this year. We are very grateful for the wisdom they have shown during their terms as members of Council. There are only 4 Council Meetings during the year unless a special problem or project surfaces. So if you feel you would like to take part in the "inner workings" for the next three years, please complete one of the nomination forms and send in before the Meeting.

Last Autumn our newsletter commemorated the anniversary of the First World War in tandem with a very good article by our President on memories and how they can differ. Our Autumn lunch was as usual very well attended (63 for lunch and 71 at the Meeting afterwards). It is interesting that the lunch attendees are not necessarily the same people as the Meeting attendees. This was followed by a talk from Stephen Tyrrell about the Romans in Cornwall. This was very well received and we were requested afterwards for Stephens address so that he could be invited to give a repeat performance at another venue.

For the upcoming Annual General Meeting we will be starting with lunch at 12 noon. The AGM should start at 1.45pm and will be followed by

a talk by Canon Lynda Barley our Canon Pastor. As we find out more about Lynda (rather like a dripping tap info comes out a slip at a time) we discover what a remarkable lady she is. We hope to learn much more during her talk.

Mary Prior

Acting Secretary

Truro Cathedral Shop

Our new exciting Cathedral gift range is unlike anything you will see anywhere else.

We have locally produced fudge, biscuits and chocolate all with our stunning Cathedral packaging. Why not check out our beautiful collection of Cathedral ceramics in distinct designs that will brighten any home and make the ideal gift?

Friends of the Cathedral will receive a 10% discount.
Summer opening Monday to Saturday 10 am-5pm

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Remember that Gift Aiding your subscription gives an extra 25% to the Friends.

If you are a tax payer but not gift aiding your subscription, please fill in the appropriate form. These are available from the Friends' Office opposite the entrance to the Cathedral car park.
Thank you.

