



# People's Cathedral Newsletter

## Welcome to the Ninth edition of the People's Cathedral Newsletter

Work is progressing at an impressive rate with scaffolding going up both internally and externally. We will remain open throughout the works - do come and see the progress in action.

## Project Update

**PEOPLE** The Marquee provided a welcoming venue for children and families from across the region as part of “**The Big Draw**” initiative. A wide range of crafting activities, centred on a specially designed “Cardboard Cathedral” provided an opportunity for engagement and learning about The People’s Cathedral.



The Cardboard Cathedral structure has subsequently been well used at other events to enhance all age learning by our Education team. A free **Spring Family Fun Day** is planned for 29 April - see the below “What’s On” for more information



**HERITAGE** Our Spring **Talks@Two** afternoon lecture programme was launched in March 2017, providing an opportunity for exploring themes on mental health, architecture and art – and the people who have shaped our community, and highlighting the Cathedral as a venue for learning.

Work is also underway on finalising new tour guides, planning for tower tours and developing new packages for coach tour operators to raise the profile of Guildford Cathedral as a **tourist destination**. Following the success of the Archive and Textile Study days in the autumn, a **Treasury Study Day** is planned to coincide with the re-opening of the Cathedral in May 2017, and a will take plan in October 2017, alongside an exhibition to celebrate this important anniversary in church history.



**COMMUNITY** Working with the Guildford Astronomical Society during Epiphany, visitors to Stag Hill enjoyed a sparkling Star Gazing evening in January. Our prayers were answered for a clear night when some 1200 people of all ages gathered to explore the night sky through telescopes manned by local volunteers.



The marquee was the venue for children’s themed craft activities and a well-attended astronomical talk on “*The Star of Bethlehem*” by astronomy expert, Prof David Hughes. The event attracted a high level of social media attention and positive coverage in the local press and on radio.



## Coffee Concerts Programme Returns for 2017

Following a very successful Christmas Carol Concert with Age UK Surrey attended by some 500 visitors, we are now well into our 2017 spring season. Performers this term include a soprano from the cathedral congregation, a cello duo from Prague and the FB Pocket Orchestra, providing a morning of foot tapping dance music. We are delighted that relationships founded in 2016 continue to build, both amongst attendees and performers. It is particularly pleasing that The Rock Choir will return in 2017 for another coffee concert and we are now included in their regular “Mystery Coach Tour” circuit. Coffee concerts have become a hugely appreciated part of the rhythm of Cathedral life and we look forward to welcoming a variety of musicians to our unique performance space in the future, to entertain and encourage some of the loneliest members of our community.



## Parish Engagement

There have been two specific new initiatives this term to enhance links with members of Parish communities. A **GraveTalk** forum was held on Candlemas Day, providing an opportunity for Clergy, Pastoral Assistants, Funeral Directors and individuals to trial a new resource designed to encourage discussion of difficult topics. Feedback was very positive and the Cathedral hopes to repeat the session in the future.

To support links with the **Mothers Union** a new **Mothering Saturday** crafting event is planned to provide a new opportunity for conversation and engagement with the wider community. The day, open to everyone, will be a collaborative event to celebrate Mothering Weekend, engage with families, encourage the Cathedral community and we are delighted that volunteers from local businesses will also be present to provide hand massages and to create a memory book to add to the variety of activities on offer.

A **Lent Lectures series** will also be offered as part of the preparations for Easter – see our What’s On Section for more information.

## Update from the Archives

We have been working very hard in the archives over the last couple of months and things are really starting to come together. One of the main aims of the project was to get the archive catalogued and visible to wider audiences and we really have been working hard to achieve this goal.



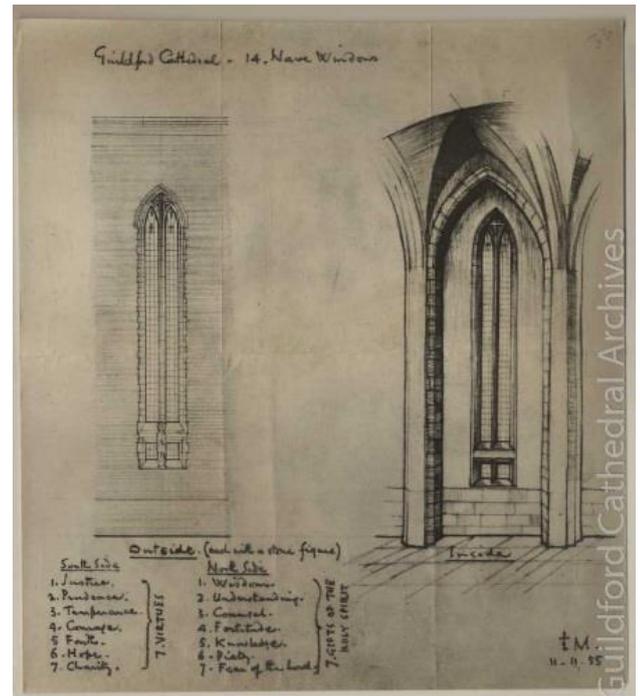
Our archive catalogue website is now up and running completely to both staff and to the wider public meaning that our archive is now fully searchable to researchers and visitors and can be accessed anywhere in the world. Consequently more people can now get a better idea as to the items that we have within our collection, begin researching our collections and see selected images of archival items. Because our collection is now catalogued to recognised professional standards it means that our collections can now easily be cross referenced by colleagues in archives throughout the country and the world. It also proves to the archive community that we are preserving and protecting our collection to recognised standards, and will only help to increase our standing amongst the academic and archival community.

There is also a section of the Catalogue website that is dedicated to online exhibitions. This area will be a place that we can draw attention to items within our collection, featuring them in online exhibitions. As we are limited to the space that we have within the Cathedral to display archival items this enables us to provide exhibitions of our collections and to showcase them in a new and interesting way. It also means that people living all around the globe will be able to explore our collections in this way, which if we were to exclusively hold exhibitions within the Cathedral they would be unable to do.

If you wish to have a look at the website the address is: [www.archive.guildford-cathedral.org](http://www.archive.guildford-cathedral.org). This website is constantly being worked on as we continue progressing on the cataloguing project so please do keep looking back, as there will always be new and interesting items for you to explore.

We have been working really hard on the digitisation side of the project and have managed to smash our previous figures and we have now digitised a whopping 1160 items which is a fantastic achievement and really is a testament to all the hard work that the team (including a group of loyal volunteers) have been doing over the past few months. Having so much of our collection digitised really does enable our collection to be reached by new audiences – archive material will now be able to be accessed off-site by those who are unable to come on site to view our items so having such a large number of items digitised really does mean that we can reach so many new audiences.

We now have a dedicated team of loyal hardworking volunteers who are always happy to pitch in and help us in any way with the archive project. Our team consists of around 6 individuals from all walks of life who are now trained up to work with archival material and assist in cataloguing the collection to professional standards and with the digitisation project. These volunteers really do play a key role in the success of the Archive Project and we could not thank them enough for all their hard work and determination.



If you wish to know more detail about the Archive Project please contact our People's Cathedral Archivist [Rebecca@guildford-cathedral.org](mailto:Rebecca@guildford-cathedral.org) or call 01483 547889.

## Artist in Residence



Our Artist in Residence, Richard Ellis recently attended the Epiphany Service and captured some stunning images of the work which will be on formal display in May at a preview evening and talk. Richard said:

“One of the objectives of my residency at Guildford was to show the Cathedral as a place of worship during its refurbishment. Having arranged the logistics, I was permitted to work on the scaffolding, which provided an excellent set of vantage points, and which, of course, was very much part of the images.

I had to make some decisions in advance about the style and content of the photos. The chosen option was, as with the many architectural photos I have taken there, to prioritise the effect of keeping the whole building in focus, with mostly wide angle shots.

Allowing the use of modest ISO ratings, typically 400 – 800, to keep the quality of the images high, meant the exposures were quite long, typically 1/15 to 1 sec. The resulting images of the service, therefore, showed some movement blur which, I hope, creates a sense of action and drama”.

More information on Richard and the work he had completed during his residency can be found at:

<https://photect.wordpress.com/>

## What's On

### **Lent Lectures *From Creation to New Creation*; Thursday evenings, 9,16,23,30 March & 6 April, 7.45pm**

This year's Lent series will explore the biblical vision of creation and new creation within our life of worship and witness. God's creative activity shapes our imagination, activity and identity. It effects how we live responsibly in caring for God's earth and shapes our hope of transformation as all is made new. The Spirit at work in human creativity and baptism we are a new creation in Christ.



### **Spring Talk@Two Thursday 2 March, 2pm - 3:30pm**

Guildford Cathedral kicks off our Spring Programme of Talks at Two with "The History of Mental Health Care in Surrey" by Julian Pooley from the Surrey History Centre, exploring changes in attitudes and treatment. . FREE admission and refreshments, please register for a place.

### **Free Coffee Concert Thursday 9 March, 11.15am – 12 noon**

The Fb Pocket Orchestra: Be prepared for a joyful morning, be taken back in time to ragtime and popular dances of the 1920s/30s and earlier with these talented local performers, all welcome.



### **Free Coffee Concert Thursday 20 April, 11.15am – 12 noon**

A Cello Feast: The Duo Brikcius, brother and sister, from Prague, will perform a wonderful selection of uplifting music. Free informal concert for everyone, with a free cup of coffee served from 10.30am.

### **Spring Talk@Two Thursday 27 April, 2pm – 3.30pm**

The People's Cathedral and the couple that created it: Sir Edward and Lady Maufe. Juliet Dunmur, delivers a fascinating talk on the role that her grandparents played in designing Guildford Cathedral. FREE admission and refreshments, please register for a place.

### **Spring Family Fun Day New Beginnings; Saturday 29th April 11.00am**

Spring into action with Guildford Cathedral's Family Fun Day, a FREE activity-packed afternoon for families to enjoy. We're celebrating Spring and New Beginnings with a fun-filled round of activities for ages 3-12, between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 29 April.

### **Spring Talk@Two Thursday 4 May, 2pm -3:30pm**

The Watts creative legacy in the Surrey Hills. Perdita Hunt will share her knowledge of G F and Mary Watts, building their arts and crafts home in Compton to create a place of inspiration and sanctuary. FREE admission and refreshments, please register for a place.

### **Free Coffee Concert Thursday 18 May, 11.15am – 12 noon**

We are thrilled that members of the Guildford, Godalming and Farnham Rock Choir are returning to fill the marquee with their wonderful music. FREE admission and refreshments, served from 10.30am.

### **The Treasury of Guildford Cathedral Free Study Day Wednesday 24 May, 10am - 1pm**

An opportunity to explore the fascinating collection held in the Treasury and learn more about ecclesiastical treasures, for all interested in the arts, heritage and local history. The day will consist of a series of talks with guest speakers from Guildford, Canterbury and Chichester Cathedrals. FREE admission and refreshments, please register for a place.



## CONTACT US

To learn more about these events, project activities or to volunteer, email [louise@guildford-cathedral.org](mailto:louise@guildford-cathedral.org) or call 01483 547886

The People's Cathedral

*"This building was paid for by local people and is today, and will remain, open to all"*