

## RENEWED REFRESHED REVITALISED

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE





## It is a time to celebrate renewal at Guildford Cathedral

THE SCAFFOLDING has gone, the floorboards are up, the dust has been swept away and the musty smell of construction is a fading memory. Worshippers and visitors to the Cathedral during the construction work over the past 18 months will remember the sea of scaffolding and enclosed, cramped spaces. But now the People's Cathedral project has been completed and the building transformed.

And what a transformation.

For all things come from you and of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29:14

The Cathedral has been revitalised as a stunning space of tranquillity and peace to inspire generations of visitors to come. Refurbishment of the structure during building works has enhanced the architect Sir Edward Maufe's original fusion of space, light, shape and tradition to produce a breathtaking interior.

With the addition of a new lighting and sound system fit for the 21st Century, we are blessed with a beautiful, modern Cathedral. The transformation is awe-inspiring.



At the cusp of a new chapter in the life of the Cathedral, we have even more reason to welcome, worship, inspire and engage with everyone that comes through our doors.

As Christians, our continuing prayer must be that a thriving community of faith and charity can be maintained and expanded for the future. This vision needs our continued and generous financial support to be realised.

Responsibility for stewardship of all that the Cathedral brings – and hopes to bring in the future – lies with all of us. Stewardship means taking good care of what we have, making best use of all our gifts.



Your support makes us everything we are – your generosity allows us to flourish into the future: a true People's Cathedral.

As part of our Stewardship scheme, please prayerfully consider your regular giving commitment to the Cathedral.

The enclosed leaflet *Building the People's Cathedral* highlights the many blessings of our community life, worship and activities. Regular worshippers will be familiar with many aspects but there may be some surprising 'unknowns'. The leaflet was prepared for a separate fund-raising exercise but provides a succinct picture of what we do.

## ONGOING FINANCIAL NEED



THIS HAS been a challenging year for the Cathedral's finances, but we can now look to the future. The People's Cathedral project has been completed, and the final contract price agreed. Steps have been taken, including release of an endowment, to ensure the Cathedral has funds in place to pay for the works.

With that behind us, we can focus more on our ongoing mission. The Cathedral continues to run with an operating deficit. Chapter is maintaining pressure on costs, and looking to increase income, with a view to reducing the deficit and then achieving a balanced budget.

We hope to obtain financial support from the Church Commissioners' Cathedrals Sustainability Fund, to enhance our marketing capability and increase our income from events, tourism and fundraising. We also aim to build on our outreach through our music.

The committed giving of our congregation remains an important part of our income and a key support for our mission.

## HOW DO I GIVE?

**ALL GIVING** to the Cathedral is greatly appreciated. Committed giving is best – the Cathedral knows the amount it is to receive each month or year and can make its plans accordingly. It is hoped that regular worshippers here will express their commitment through membership of the stewardship group of regular donors.

This can best be arranged with a direct debit through the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), a registered charity that handles the administration of stewardship arrangements for many churches and cathedrals. Through the PGS, the collection of Gift Aid is managed very efficiently, a link of giving to annual inflation can be arranged if desired and changes can be dealt with easily and quickly by donors direct with the PGS.

If you wish to have more details of the Parish Giving Scheme, with an application form, please contact the Stewardship Administrator, Charles Martin, whose e-mail address: is clmartinx@aol.com. If a regular payment direct to the Cathedral is preferred, he can also provide the necessary details for this purpose.

