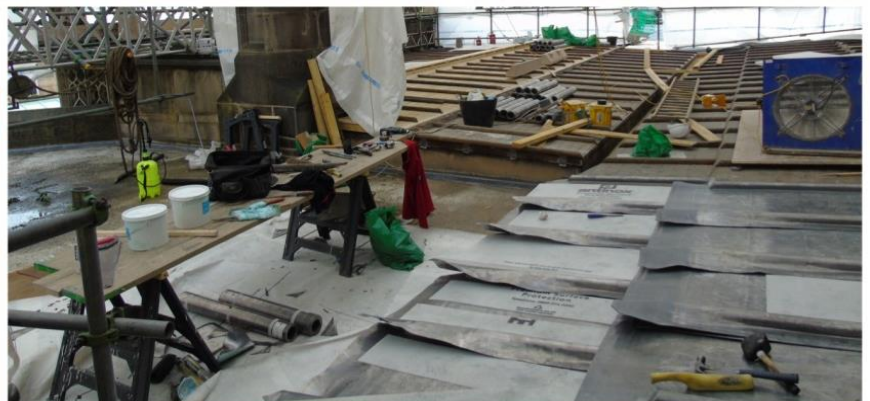


# Annual General Meeting and Easter Vestry

Sunday 8 May 2016

Manchester  
Cathedral



*Prayer – Worship – Music – Arts – Education – Heritage – Welcoming Visitors*

***Front cover images (clockwise):*** Bees on the Cathedral roof; numerous ducks purchased by staff and visitors to be entered into the 2015 Manchester Duck Race; Cathedral illuminated for the Key 103 events; south aisle roof repairs kindly sponsored by the First World War Centenary Cathedral Repair Fund; winners of the Organ Pipe Competition; choristers on Pancake Tuesday.

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## **Easter Vestry Meeting Agenda**

Sunday 8 May 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Easter Vestry Meeting will be held in the Cathedral Nave on Sunday 8 May 2016 at 12.15pm. The function of the meeting is to elect Church Wardens, Stewards and other lay officers of the Cathedral.

### **AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayers.
2. Apologies.
3. Notice convening the meeting.
4. Consideration of the minutes from the previous Vestry Meeting dated 3 May 2015.
5. Any matters arising from the minutes.
6. Election of Church Wardens. [+] [#]
7. Election of Stewards [+]
8. Election of Lay Members of Chapter as and when required [+]
9. Any other business.

*NB [+] Only persons whose names appear on the Electoral Roll of Manchester Cathedral are eligible to vote.*

*NB [#] Church Wardens at Manchester Cathedral have no statutory responsibilities. Church Wardens are the Senior Stewards. It is therefore essential that those nominated as Church Wardens are already serving as Stewards of Manchester Cathedral.*

## **Annual General Meeting Agenda**

Sunday 8 May 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Cathedral Nave on Sunday 8 May 2016 immediately following the Easter Vestry Meeting.

### **AGENDA**

1. Consideration of the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting dated 3 May 2015.
2. Any matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
3. Election of the Deanery Synod Representatives as and when required. [+]
4. Election of Community Committee members as and when required. [+]
5. Election of Cathedral Council members as and when required. [+].
6. The Dean's Report.
7. Reports from Cathedral departments and other organisations.
8. Any other business.
9. Closing Prayers & the Grace.

*NB [+]* Only persons whose names appear on the Electoral Roll of Manchester Cathedral are eligible to vote.

## **Minutes of the Previous Easter Vestry Meeting Held on Sunday 3 May 2015**

**Chairman** – the Dean of Manchester, Rogers Govender.

**Secretary** – the Cathedral Administrator, Stuart Shepherd.

### **Introduction and review of the past year**

The Dean began by welcoming community members and inviting them to quietly reflect on all of the good and very much positive things that have happened in the life of Manchester Cathedral over the past twelve months. Members were thankful for: the success of the new under-floor heating and a warm cathedral; the welcome shown to the new curate; the wonderful flowers; the terrific music; the opportunity of the Easter broadcasts; the volunteer opportunities; quality of the Cathedral Choir; the clergy team; Canon Holgate's arrival; clear information about all that is happening; supportive congregation; the 70 Welcomers and Guides; dynamic fundraising.

#### **1. Opening Prayer**

The Dean opened the Easter Vestry meeting with a prayer of thanks for all those present and for all the positive things that have happened at the Cathedral over the past year, remembering all those on the Cathedral Community Roll and for those no longer with us.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies had been received in advance from Barrie & Beryl Cheshire, Jennifer Devans, Amos Millington, Betty Preston, Gareth Screeton, Judith Walsh, Ralph & Judy White.

#### **3. Notice convening the meeting**

The meeting was convened at 12.15pm.

#### **4. Minutes of the previous Easter Vestry meeting dated 11 May 2014**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous meeting and were signed by the Dean.

#### **5. Matters arising from the previous meeting**

Under matters arising, Peter Briggs raised the issue that there had been no specific appeals or meetings about the Envelope Giving Scheme – whilst stewards work hard to promote the Envelope Scheme and attract membership, it is felt that specific appeals led by clergy are also required. The Dean agreed that specific appeals should take place in future but would ask that members meet with the Dean to suggest suitable dates well in advance so that all can work together.

#### **6. Election of Churchwardens**

The Dean is aware that there has been much conversation regarding the tenure of our churchwardens, and more specifically at the Cathedral Community Committee. It has been suggested that the tenure of churchwardens be for six years only. However, the Cathedral is not a parish church and as such, is not governed by the typical Church Representation Rules. Instead, cathedrals are governed by a corporate body called the Chapter and various associated legislation such as the Cathedrals Measure 1999. Whilst previous Easter Vestry meetings and Annual General Meetings have loosely followed the format required by the Church Representation Rules, the Dean and Canons are not required to follow them and are able to adapt them as they see fit.

The Dean then explained to members that in order to be a churchwarden, it has previously been agreed that individuals first need to have served as active stewards at the Cathedral. The Cathedral is always in desperate need of new stewards and churchwardens; if the tenure of our churchwardens, i.e. senior stewards, we would seriously restrict how people are able to assist and voluntarily serve the Cathedral's mission. To date, we've been lucky and our current churchwardens have served us well. As such, the Dean recommended to members that the tenure of churchwardens not be restricted to any specific period of time and asked members for their feedback. Overall, it was felt by

all those present that the current system has served the Cathedral very well and by consensus all agreed unanimously that the tenure of the churchwardens not be limited.

Three churchwardens are elected annually. Nominated for 2015 were Geoff Bamping, Graham Curtis and David Haywood.

**7. Election of Stewards**

Stewards are elected annually and there is no fixed number. The Dean thanked all of the stewards for their continued support and for all of the help throughout the previous year. It was reported that Basil Fox had decided not to stand for re-election this year.

- a. The following existing stewards had agreed to stand for re-election and were subsequently re-elected collectively: John Acaster; Helen Bamping; Geoffrey Berry; Peter Briggs; Barrie Cheshire; Beryl Cheshire; Jennifer Curtis; Kathryn DeBelle; Sylvester During; Kirk Eckersall; Joe Onyema Ejiakwekwu; Barbara Evans; Daphne Greaves; Doreen Hollingworth; David Howe; Marina James; Paul Kidd; Alan Maguire; Tom Matthews; Jack Peacock; Derek Pike; Elaine Screeton; Paul Seymour; Ian Shaw and Ian Simpson.
- b. Gareth Screeton had been proposed and seconded as a new steward and was subsequently declared as such, giving a total of 26 active stewards for service in the Cathedral.

**8. Election of Lay Members of Chapter**

The Dean explained to all those present how two Chapter members are elected by the Cathedral Community. David Howe was elected for a period of three years back in 2012 and had now stepped down from the Chapter; as such, a vacancy had arisen. The Dean expressed his gratitude to David for all of his hard work on the Chapter over the past years.

Jennifer Curtis, Basil Fox and Ian Simpson had all been proposed for the elected member vacancy and so a ballot ensued, facilitated and overseen by the Cathedral Administrator. Two churchwardens assisted in counting the ballot (namely Geoff Bamping and David Haywood). Only those on the Cathedral Community Roll were able to vote and Jennifer Curtis was elected to be the new Lay Member of Chapter. The Dean extended his congratulations to Jennifer and thanked Basil and Ian for their generosity in also standing for election.

**9. Any other business**

There was no further business to be attended to so the Dean closed the meeting and progressed with the opening of the Annual General Meeting.

Stuart Shepherd  
3 May 2015



## **Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting Held on Sunday 3 May 2015**

**Chairman** – the Dean of Manchester, Rogers Govender.

**Secretary** – the Cathedral Administrator, Stuart Shepherd

### **1. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting dated 11 May 2014**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the previous meeting and were signed by the Dean.

### **2. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting**

No matters arising.

### **3. Election of the Deanery Synod Representatives**

The Dean explained that three representatives of the Cathedral Community attend meetings of Hulme Deanery Synod. This is due to the Cathedral being situated geographically within the Hulme Deanery, but it was important to note that as mother church of the diocese, the Cathedral must not align itself with the activities of any one deanery. Sylvester During and Kathryn de Belle were elected for a period of three years in 2013 and then Basil Fox was elected for three years in 2014. Therefore there were no vacancies this year and the Dean expressed his gratitude to Sylvester, Kathryn and Basil for their continued support and service.

### **4. Election of Community Committee members**

The Dean explained how up to ten members of the Cathedral Community can be elected for a three year term to join the Cathedral Community Committee. The Dean thanked Jennifer Devans and Nick Johnson for their past service on the committee as they were stepping down this year and not seeking re-election. The following members' terms were not due to expire this year: John Acaster; John Brodrick; Beryl Cheshire; Pauline Dimond; Barbara Evans; Diana Fletcher and Ian Simpson. Two nominations for the three vacancies had been received and despite the Dean asking for any further nominations, Kathryn DeBelle and Kirk Eckersall were swiftly elected leaving one unfilled vacancy remaining.

### **5. Election of Cathedral Council members**

The Dean explained that four members of the Cathedral Community are also elected for a three year term (but may be re-elected for further terms) on to the Cathedral Council. Other members of the Cathedral Council are drawn from many areas of civic, business and religious life in Manchester. The Council meets twice a year and provides help and support to the Dean and the Chapter on issues concerning the Cathedral. The Dean then explained that John Acaster, Graham Curtis, Barbara Evans and Michael Powell were last elected in 2012 and so were now due for re-election unless there were any further nominations. In the absence of such, and given that all four had been duly nominated and seconded by members of the Cathedral Community Roll, they were to be considered duly re-elected. The Dean thanked them for their on-going support and commitment.

### **6. The Dean's Report**

The Dean announced that he will be celebrating his 10th anniversary in January 2016 and wanted to give thanks and praise to God for guiding us in our ministry and mission to the city and diocese. Since the last AGM Canon Alma Servant had joined and left the Cathedral as Cathedral Pastor, Jeff Makinson and Lucy Shepherd had left the Cathedral's employment (and were both married), Geoffrey Woollatt joined us as Jeff's successor and a new Canon for Theology and Mission, David Holgate, joined us with his wife Patricia.

Archbishop John Sentamu had visited the diocese and preached at the Cathedral in October during a service for school governors. The Archbishop is a great ambassador and supporter of our cathedrals and the Dean expressed his gratitude.

The Cathedral's Volunteer Programme (Volition) won Business in the Community at the Be Proud Awards at the Town Hall in November; the programme is now being rolled out nationally with central government



funding so congratulations to Anthony O'Connor, Lauren Bailey-Rhodes and Tracy Fishwick for enabling this to happen.

The Dean finished his report by giving a précis of the various fabric developments taking place in the Cathedral over the next year or two and ended by thanking once again the hard work, dedication and support of the stewards, volunteers, musicians, vergers, staff and clergy.

## **7. Reports from organisations and Cathedral departments**

### **a. Administrator's Report**

The Cathedral Administrator was thanked for all of his hard work over the past year in introducing up to date governance at the Cathedral.

### **b. Extract of Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2013**

The main reason for a sudden increase of income in the 2013 accounts was the grant received for the under-floor heating project. The Cathedral was closed for the majority of 2013; therefore incoming resources were dramatically reduced.

### **c. Extract of Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

The Accountant worked hard this year to ensure that the previous year's accounts were also available for the AGM. It was acknowledged that the accounts were still in draft form and still subject to audit at the time of the meeting, however no changes were anticipated.

When asked if any financial benefits had been realised from the new under-floor heating system, the Accountant responded by explaining how gas expenditure had fallen but electricity costs had risen slightly – it would be hard to predict what the financial savings might look like until the end of the next winter, at which point, there will be sufficient data for a true comparison to be made.

The Accountant was also asked why Gift Aid was showing as 0% for 2013 and 1% for 2014; it was explained that Gift Aid for the two years amounted to £9,570 and £10,277 respectively but against the bottom line, these amounts were still negligible in percentage terms.

The Dean thanked John Atherden for being able to get the accounts up to date so that the previous year's finances could be presented.

### **d. Architect's Report**

The Dean thanked the Architect for his report; in response to a question raised, a précis was given on what might be involved in the west end development of the Cathedral. The standard of the grouting on the new floor was discussed and the Dean agreed by expressing his own personal dissatisfaction – the Architect is currently exploring possible solutions/alternatives.

### **e. Booth Centre**

The Dean thanked Amanda Croome and her team for their continued work with the homeless – they are now dealing with an average of 220 people each week in their new premises. The last Sleepout proved extremely successful and raised £40,000; the Dean also thanked Cathedral staff for their work in organising a successful sock appeal.

### **f. Manchester Cathedral Guild of Change Ringers**

The Dean thanked the bellringers for their efforts. A new set of bell ropes have been fitted in the tower but there is still much urgent repair work needed. The Dean congratulated the bellringers for winning the annual Lancashire 6 & 8 bell striking competitions for the second year in succession.

### **g. Cathedral Community Committee**

The Dean expressed his gratitude to all those members serving on the Cathedral Community Committee and reminded all those present at the AGM about the forthcoming events being arranged

by the Committee, namely the Whit Walks (and the need for volunteers to carry banners) and the Cathedral barbecue.

**h. Churchwardens' Report**

The Dean thanked the Wardens and Stewards, without whom, many of the events and services would struggle to take place.

**i. Deanery Synod**

The Dean thanked the three representatives of the Cathedral Community for dutifully attending, and reporting on, the meetings of Hulme Deanery Synod.

**j. Development Project**

The Dean expressed a huge debt of gratitude to Anthony O'Connor for his endeavours to help sustain and improve the building fabric – he has yet again managed to raise an enormous amount of funds during difficult economic times. The Dean also thanked Anthony, along with Peter Mellor and Stuart Shepherd, for their support in working at concerts and dinners, which mitigates a £100k expenditure incurred by the Chapter in running the Cathedral.

The Dean and Anthony both expressed their thanks to the Lord Lieutenant for his personal support of the Development Project.

**k. Education Department**

Petra Wilcockson was thanked for her efforts in keeping the Education Department running during Pam's maternity leave; Pam and Petra were both congratulated for their achievements of the year.

**l. Electoral Roll**

The Dean offered his thanks to Kim Green for her work in maintaining the electoral roll.

**m. Envelope Scheme and Planned Giving**

Having already heard from Peter, the Dean thanked him, Barbara and Jo for their sustained efforts.

**n. Flowers**

The flower arrangers were thanked for their sterling efforts; their achievements are substantial given their limited resources. They were especially thanked for their flower work during Easter and the BBC transmissions and Songs of Praise.

**o. Friends of Manchester Cathedral**

On behalf of Chapter the Dean thanked the Friends for their continued support, particularly in part-funding the areas of Education and Choristers.

**p. Music Department**

The Dean thanked the department for their hard work and dedication and explained how all are looking forward to the arrival of the new organ. The Dean reported that chorister recruitment is at a crisis point but the Chapter is doing all it can to ensure the continuity of the choir – the Chapter has agreed to resource a Chorister Recruitment Officer who will be responsible for promoting and recruiting to the Cathedral Choir.

**q. Servers**

The Dean thanked Ian Simpson and the servers for their support each Sunday and saint's day.

**r. Verger Department**

The Vergers were thanked for their work over the past year and for undertaking training in health and safety. Gareth Screeton has left the Cathedral's employ; the Dean thanked Gareth for his service and wished him well for the future – the vacancy will be advertised in due course.

**s. Visitor Centre**

The Dean thanked Peter Mellor for his report and for ensuring the Visitor Centre continued to run smoothly. It was explained to members that the Visitor Centre is a separate corporate entity in its own right; as such, its accounts are not presented at the AGM but are registered at Companies House should anybody be interested in them.

**t. Visitor Services**

Dympna Gould was thanked for her tremendous work in increasing visitor numbers and the volunteer body. The Dean also expressed her personal thanks to all volunteers.

**u. Volunteer Programme**

The Dean congratulated the Volunteer Programme for its successes and explained how heart rendering it has been listening to the personal stories of the programme's participants.

**8. Any other business**

Under any other business, Jane Walker was thanked for her hard work on resurrecting the Sunday School and the Cathedral Kids section of the website – Jo Hooper and Stuart Shepherd were thanked for their efforts in responding to the website development requests. All were asked to keep Jane in their prayers as she approached ordination to the priesthood on 20 June 2015.

**9. Closing remarks, Prayers & the Grace**

The Lord Lieutenant offered the words of a Sister Aloysius from St Francis House, who always used to say: 'never let money get in the way... if God thinks it's right then it'll happen... God will provide.' He concluded with a reflection on how well the Cathedral was doing – there are lots of positive things happening and there is much to celebrate – we're certainly doing something right. The Lord Lieutenant feels privileged to be a part of the Cathedral's history, particularly at this point in its development history and wished to thank all members for their support of the Cathedral's ministry, mission and work.

The meeting closed with a period of silent reflection ending with the Grace.

Stuart Shepherd  
3 May 2015



## **The Dean's Report to the Annual General Meeting 2016**

I begin my report this year with an important reminder of our central calling: to be a community of prayer and worship. We express our love for God in this way and this must always be the most important thing we embrace as a cathedral. Everything flows from this relationship with the Lord.

The clergy team had a good retreat at Rydal Hall in July led by Sister Jean Mary CHN. Sister Jean Mary is a committed praying presence in the Cathedral (Lady Chapel) on Wednesdays from 12 noon to 2pm. Taking time to be alone and together with God and focusing our corporate life on prayer is at the heart of all Christian ministry and I am pleased that this is central to our life. Jane Walker our Curate led an excellent Lent (2016) course on prayer and we dedicated the new icons in the north aisle as a focus for prayer for the world. I am also pleased that our Reader-Emeritus Raylia Chadwick has been leading sessions on meditation.

Throughout the year and well into 2016 we have been working on our Heritage Lottery Fund bid for the West End development. This has included working on a vision and business plan for the next decade. I am very grateful to Mrs Marion McClintock for assisting with this work. I shall explain some of the details of this development with the members of the AGM to be followed up by a comprehensive presentation from the architects at a later stage.

Fundraising for our various projects continues apace. I am grateful to all who support the Development Project and want to express my sincere thanks to all our donors. Your contributions in cash or kind have enabled us to do some significant improvements to the fabric of the Cathedral thereby enabling our mission into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond! Thanks to Anthony O'Connor for his amazing work in raising these much needed funds.

Street-pastors serving the city centre now have their Co-ordinator based at the Cathedral and I am Chairman of the Management Committee. This is an important initiative as we seek to serve vulnerable people on our streets. Volunteers are always welcome to join up.

Thank you to members of the clergy team for the spiritual leadership and ministry to the community. Canon David Holgate has led the Pilgrim Course as a way of encouraging discipleship – thank you David. Canon Phillip Barratt has provided us with good liturgies for our regular and special services – thank you Phil. Revd Jane Walker set up Kid's Club which is our monthly session for children (Sunday- School) – thank you Jane. We desperately need volunteers to lead Sunday- School.

Our Music Department has struggled to recruit new choristers over this past year. I appointed Charlie Corkin to be our Chorister Recruitment Officer (CRO) to work with local schools to set up a much larger Manchester Children's Choir in the hope that we could also identify potential choristers through this scheme. Please support Charlie and Christopher Stokes in this new area of outreach.

Security is a growing concern, not least in the light of terrorist activities in Europe and the UK. CCTV cameras are now in operation at all our entrances. There may soon be the need to employ Cathedral Constables to provide regular security around the precinct. We share the sorrow of so many around the world who have recently lost their lives because of acts of terrorism.

Thank you to all members of the staff team who do great work for God at the Cathedral. Thank you to all our volunteers – without your help we cannot engage in God’s mission in this city. Thank you to all our partners and networks in the city and beyond who support us and work with us to make a difference in this great city region of Manchester. God bless you all!

**Rogers Govender**

*Dean of Manchester*

## **Administrator’s Report**

2015 was a busy year for us all and I’m pleased to report that the Cathedral’s administrative staff rose to the many challenges placed before them. As Cathedral Administrator I’m responsible for ensuring all governance matters are taken care of and that the Cathedral’s statutory responsibilities relating to finance, human resources, safeguarding, security, health, safety and wellbeing are implemented and adhered to.

A revised *Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults* policy was implemented in October last year; all staff and clergy and the majority of our volunteer Welcomers and Guides have received briefings at various levels appropriate to their needs. The previous policy had already incorporated the House of Bishops’ principle safeguarding policies, namely *Promoting a Safe Church*(2009), *Responding to Domestic Abuse* (2006), *Protecting All God’s Children* (4th edition 2010), and *Responding well to those who have been sexually abused* (2011) together with the Diocese of Manchester safeguarding policy and that of Chetham’s School of Music. The revised policy now incorporates the more recently produced joint practice guidance for the Church of England and the Methodist Church on *Safeguarding Records* (2015), the practice guidance on *Responding to Serious Safeguarding Situations* (2015), *Risk Assessment for Individuals who may Pose a Risk to Children or Adults* (2015) and *Safer Recruitment* (2015). Jo Hooper and I (as safeguarding officers for the Cathedral) continue to attend frequent training sessions that are run by the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) to ensure we keep up to date with the frequent changes in policy and good practice.

Our health and safety advisors, STORM Consultancy Ltd., continue to work with us and conducted numerous site visits throughout the year. These consisted of general site audits, event audits, staff briefings and various other training sessions (including Equality and Diversity Training, Invacuation and Evacuation Procedures, First Aid and Defibrillation Training, Counter Terrorist Training and Health and Safety Awareness). STORM has recorded all accidents over the year (most of which featured someone tripping or slipping over and other minor accidents). STORM was also involved in various projects and has produced numerous documents for the Cathedral (including CDM for the South Aisle Roof Repairs and West End Office Refurbishment, Full Cathedral Asbestos Survey, Cathedral Risk Assessments, Cathedral Fire Risk Assessment, Management of Contractors Policy and Cathedral H&S Policy). In addition to the training provided by STORM, Cathedral staff have also received briefings in Mental Health Awareness (by Manchester Mind), Security Awareness (by Counter Terrorism Officers from GMP) and training in Microsoft Office (by The Manchester College).

2015 saw the launch of the Cathedral’s online retail offer, which is a beta-site to test the market and see how much interest there is in visitors purchasing Cathedral-branded merchandise. We are working closely with St. Denys’ Bookshop on this and thank them for their advice and support in selling some of our more recently acquired Cathedral jewellery. If you haven’t taken a look, the online shop can be accessed via the Cathedral’s website.

**Stuart Shepherd**

*Cathedral Administrator*

## Extract of Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2015

### MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

File name SOFA 15SUM

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

DRAFT SUBJECT TO AUDIT

### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Endowment Funds 2015 £	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Unrestricted Funds 2015 £	Total 2015 £	Endowment Funds 2014 £	Restricted Funds 2014 £	Unrestricted Funds 2014 £	Total 2014 £
<b>Incoming resources:</b>								
Voluntary income	0	985,755	759,483	1,745,238	100,000	331,486	822,720	1,254,206
Grants receivable	0	586,018	188	586,206	0	322,651	126	322,777
Charges & fees arising in the course of mission	0	0	136,128	136,128	0	0	120,130	120,130
Income from activities generating funds	0	24,104	30,621	54,725	0	11,500	38,034	49,534
Income from investments	0	25	6,457	6,482	0	21	6,779	6,800
Other incoming resources	0	0	6,722	6,722	0	0	113	113
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,595,902</b>	<b>939,599</b>	<b>2,535,501</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>665,658</b>	<b>987,902</b>	<b>1,753,560</b>
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,827</b>	<b>125,827</b>	<b>226,654</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>65,450</b>	<b>149,035</b>	<b>214,485</b>
<b>Net incoming resources available for mission</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,495,075</b>	<b>813,772</b>	<b>2,308,847</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>600,208</b>	<b>838,867</b>	<b>1,539,075</b>
<b>Resources expended on mission:</b>								
Ministry	0	270,281	259,613	529,894	0	263,036	275,525	538,561
Cathedral upkeep	0	1,141,630	596,564	1,738,194	0	169,895	444,488	614,383
Education & outreach	0	172,042	43,529	215,571	0	136,314	17,387	153,701
	<b>0</b>	<b>1,583,953</b>	<b>899,706</b>	<b>2,483,659</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>569,245</b>	<b>737,400</b>	<b>1,306,645</b>
<b>Governance costs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,890</b>	<b>8,890</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,091</b>	<b>9,091</b>
<b>Total expenditure on generating funds, mission and governance</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,684,780</b>	<b>1,034,423</b>	<b>2,719,203</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>634,695</b>	<b>895,526</b>	<b>1,530,221</b>
<b>Net incoming/outgoing resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-88,878</b>	<b>-94,824</b>	<b>-183,702</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>30,963</b>	<b>92,376</b>	<b>223,339</b>
Gains and losses on revaluations of investments	491	0	0	491	-154	0	0	-154
Gross transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in funds</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>-88,878</b>	<b>-94,824</b>	<b>-183,211</b>	<b>99,846</b>	<b>30,963</b>	<b>92,376</b>	<b>223,185</b>
Funds brought forward	159,512	161,931	744,873	1,066,316	59,666	130,968	652,497	843,131
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	<b>160,003</b>	<b>73,053</b>	<b>650,049</b>	<b>883,105</b>	<b>159,512</b>	<b>161,931</b>	<b>744,873</b>	<b>1,066,316</b>

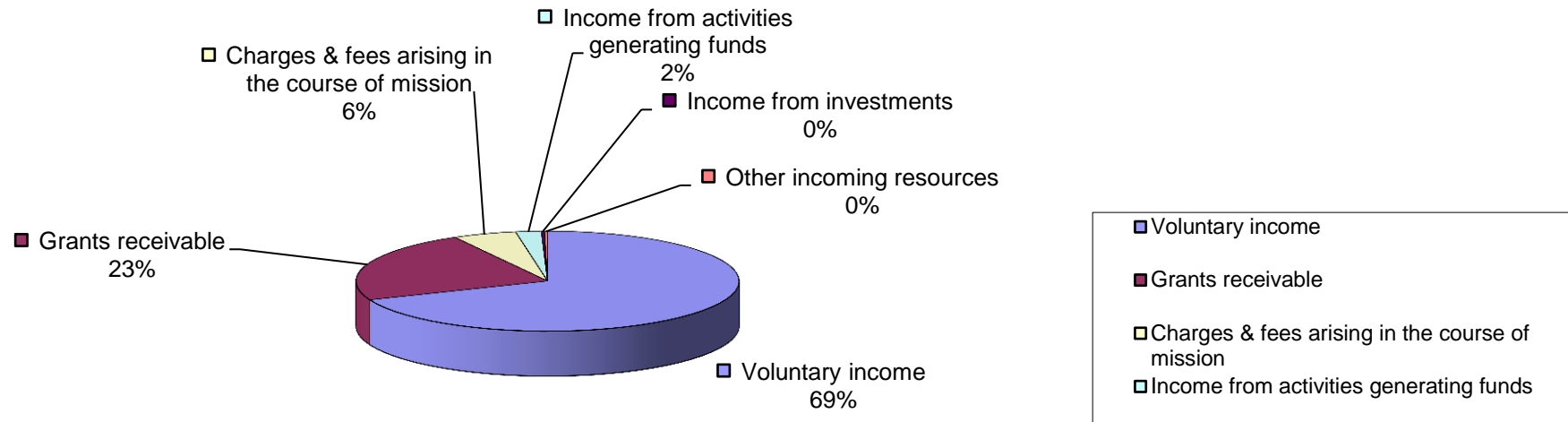
**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL  
BALANCE SHEET  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

DRAFT SUBJECT TO AUDIT

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Fixed Assets:</b>		
Investments	13,504	13,012
Ground rents	14,000	14,000
Tangible fixed assets	14,281	16,076
	<b>41,785</b>	<b>43,088</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stock	3,000	0
Debtors & prepayments	764,450	813,301
Cash at bank & in hand	511,606	603,339
	<b>1,279,056</b>	<b>1,416,640</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Creditors & accruals	437,736	393,412
Net Current Assets	841,320	1,023,228
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>883,105</b>	<b>1,066,316</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Endowment funds	160,003	159,512
Restricted funds	73,053	161,931
Unrestricted funds:		
Designated- Cathedral furniture fund	4,950	7,208
General	645,099	737,665
	<b>883,105</b>	<b>1,066,316</b>

## MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES

2015

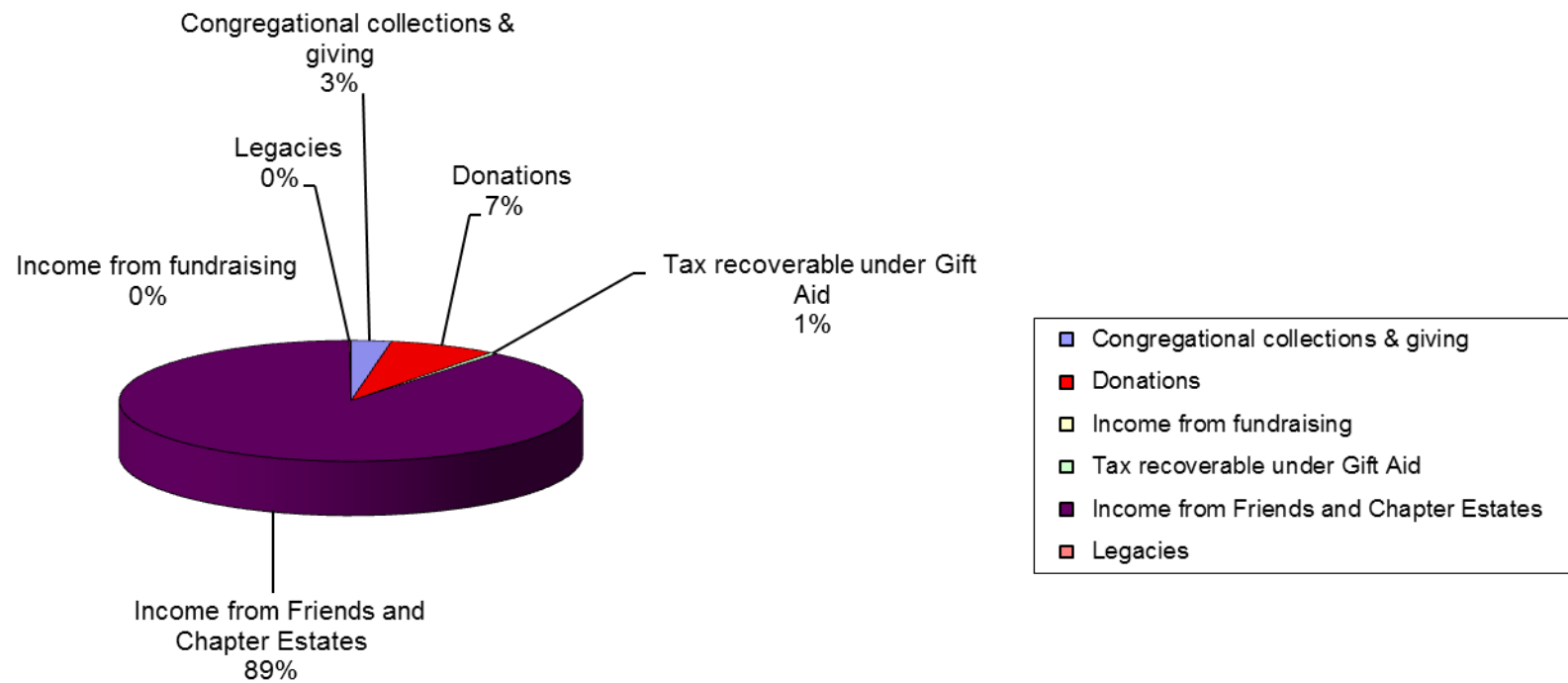




## MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

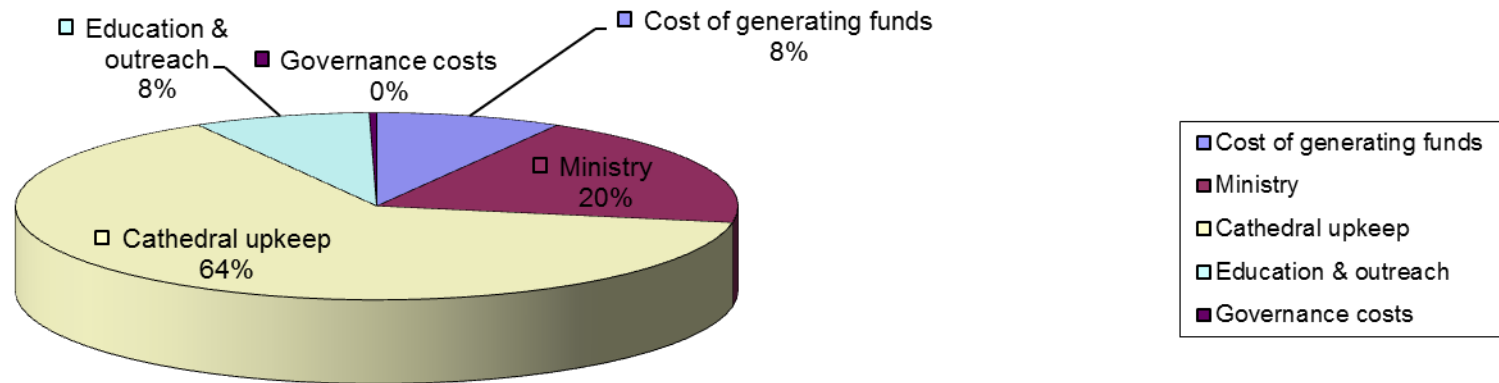
### VOLUNTARY INCOME

2015



**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL**  
**TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON GENERATING FUNDS, MISSION**  
**AND GOVERNANCE**

**2015**



**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - INCOMING RESOURCES**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	<b>Endowment Funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2015 £</b>	<b>Total 2015 £</b>	<b>Endowment Funds 2014 £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds 2014 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2014 £</b>	<b>Total 2014 £</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>								
<b>Voluntary income</b>								
Congregational collections & giving			48,868	48,868			55,801	55,801
Donations		44,600	86,204	130,804		39,000	83,490	122,490
Income from fundraising			0	0			0	0
Tax recoverable under Gift Aid			9,453	9,453			10,277	10,277
Income from Friends and Chapter Estates		939,155	614,958	1,554,113		193,895	673,152	867,047
Legacies		2,000	0	2,000	100,000	98,591	0	198,591
	<b>0</b>	<b>985,755</b>	<b>759,483</b>	<b>1,745,238</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>331,486</b>	<b>822,720</b>	<b>1,254,206</b>
<b>Grants receivable</b>								
Church Commissioners - Stipends		137,814	0	137,814		136,298	0	136,298
Church Commissioners - Section 23 grant		64,796		64,796		64,004		64,004
Other revenue & capital grants	0	383,408	188	383,596	0	122,349	126	122,475
	<b>0</b>	<b>586,018</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>586,206</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>322,651</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>322,777</b>
<b>Charges &amp; fees arising in the course of mission</b>								
Facility & other fees			136,128	136,128			120,130	120,130
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136,128</b>	<b>136,128</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120,130</b>	<b>120,130</b>
<b>Income from activities generating funds</b>								
Gross income of refectory & other activities		24,104	30,621	54,725		11,500	38,034	49,534
	<b>0</b>	<b>24,104</b>	<b>30,621</b>	<b>54,725</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>38,034</b>	<b>49,534</b>
<b>Income from investments</b>								
Income from property			3,016	3,016			3,016	3,016
Interest receivable on short term deposits		25	3,441	3,466		21	3,763	3,784
	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6,457</b>	<b>6,482</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6,779</b>	<b>6,800</b>
Other incoming resources			6,722	6,722			113	113
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,595,902</b>	<b>939,599</b>	<b>2,535,501</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>665,658</b>	<b>987,902</b>	<b>1,753,560</b>

*Prayer – Worship – Music – Arts – Education – Heritage – Welcoming Visitors*

**MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - OUTGOING RESOURCES**

**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

	Endowment Funds 2015 £	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Unrestricted Funds 2015 £	Total 2015 £	Endowment Funds 2014 £	Restricted Funds 2014 £	Unrestricted Funds 2014 £	Total 2014 £
<b>OUTGOING RESOURCES</b>								
<b>EXPENDITURE ON MISSION</b>								
<b>Ministry</b>								
Clergy stipends and working expenses		123,730	8,279	132,009		94,382	8,586	102,968
Clergy housing costs			14,222	14,222			11,598	11,598
Clergy support costs			37,794	37,794			40,317	40,317
Services & music		146,551	199,318	345,869		168,654	215,024	383,678
	<b>0</b>	<b>270,281</b>	<b>259,613</b>	<b>529,894</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>263,036</b>	<b>275,525</b>	<b>538,561</b>
<b>Cathedral Upkeep</b>								
Major repairs & restoration		1,141,630	244,859	1,386,489		169,895	99,114	269,009
Maintenance & interior upkeep			249,105	249,105			255,858	255,858
Cathedral insurance			65,585	65,585			64,254	64,254
Support costs			37,015	37,015			25,262	25,262
	<b>0</b>	<b>1,141,630</b>	<b>596,564</b>	<b>1,738,194</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>169,895</b>	<b>444,488</b>	<b>614,383</b>
<b>Education &amp; Outreach</b>								
Educational activities		170,076	28,568	198,644		133,885	2,445	136,330
Archives & library		205	0	205		0	39	39
Charitable & other giving		1,761	14,961	16,722		2,429	14,903	17,332
	<b>0</b>	<b>172,042</b>	<b>43,529</b>	<b>215,571</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136,314</b>	<b>17,387</b>	<b>153,701</b>
<b>Total Expenditure on Mission</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,583,953</b>	<b>899,706</b>	<b>2,483,659</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>569,245</b>	<b>737,400</b>	<b>1,306,645</b>

## **Accountant's Report**

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the incoming and outgoing resources of Manchester Cathedral and its wholly owned trading subsidiary Manchester Cathedral Hire Limited. The trading subsidiary was formed in 2014 to carry out the non-primary trading of Manchester Cathedral, namely the hiring out of the Cathedral for non-religious events.

The figures for the year ended 31 December 2015 are draft subject to completion of the audit.

Total incoming resources for 2015 amounted to £2,535,501 compared to £1,753,560 in 2014. The main reason for the increase in income is the substantial grants from Manchester Cathedral Development Trust for capital works on the new organ being undertaken by the Cathedral. In addition the Cathedral received a grant from the World War I Cathedrals' repair fund of £225,000 towards roof repairs on the South side of the Cathedral.

Within Resources Expended on Mission, Ministry costs were similar to 2014 but the total for Cathedral Upkeep was considerably higher due to the work on the organ, on the roof and on the refurbishment of the toilet facilities. Education and outreach costs were higher than in 2014 but were matched by a similar increase in grants received in the year.

There were Net Outgoing Resources for the year of £183,702 compared to Net Incoming Resources of £223,185 in 2014. Total funds as at 31 December 2015 amounted to £883,105.

**John Atherden**  
Cathedral Accountant

## **Architect's Report**

2015 was a busy year as we continue to address the backlog of maintenance work that has built up over several decades. Fortunately the government awarded significant grant funds for Cathedrals in 2014 and we were successful with our application for work to the East end of the south aisle roof.

This project commenced on site in 2015 and ran smoothly, on programme and on budget completing in the Autumn of that year. All the leadwork to the South aisles has now been replaced – the next priority being the song school corridor roof where the sheet lead is wearing thin.

Attempts were made to reinstate the conical copper roof to the Chapter House. The original roof was lost after damage during WWII. Its reinstatement would both replace a failing asphalt flat roof and provide great interest to the south side of our church.

During 2015 we also rearranged the toilets in order to ensure that children can have separate facilities when this is required. This work established that in the corridor area there is buried asbestos which once we disturbed it had to be removed. There remain other areas in the library area that has asbestos lagged pipes in floor ducts which should be addressed when the office and library work is undertaken.

**John Prichard**  
Cathedral Architect

# MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

FeildenCleggBradleyStudios

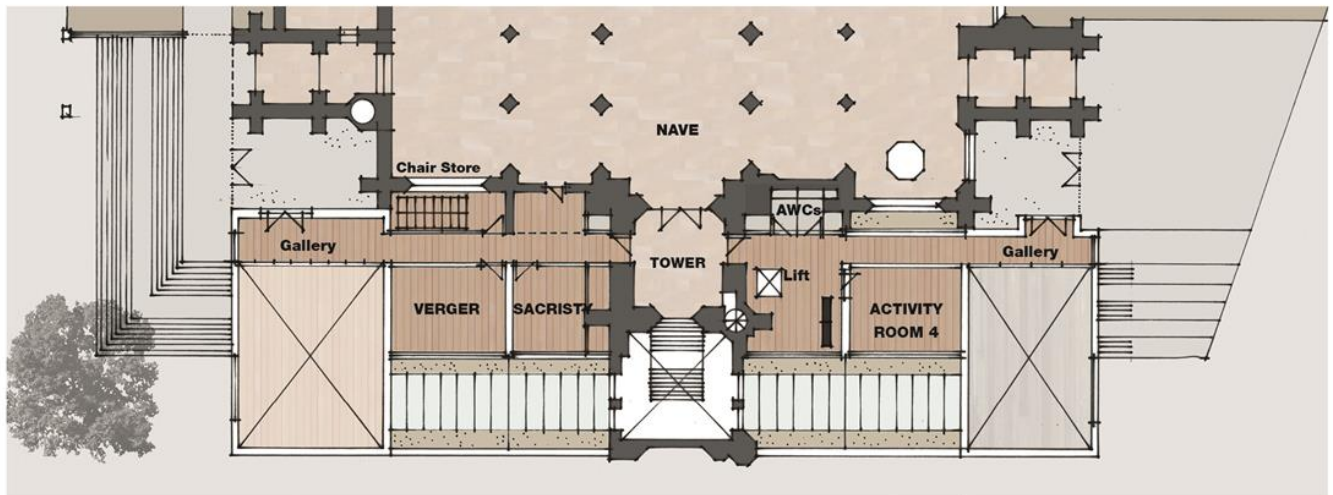
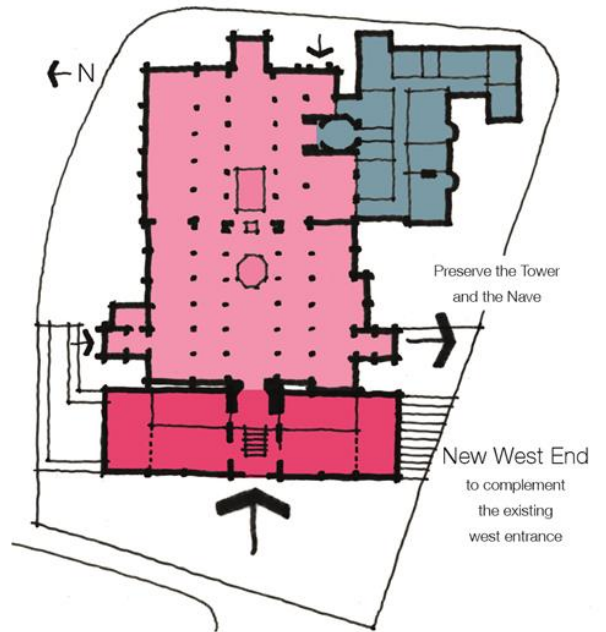
## A NEW VISION FOR THE WEST END

### Vision

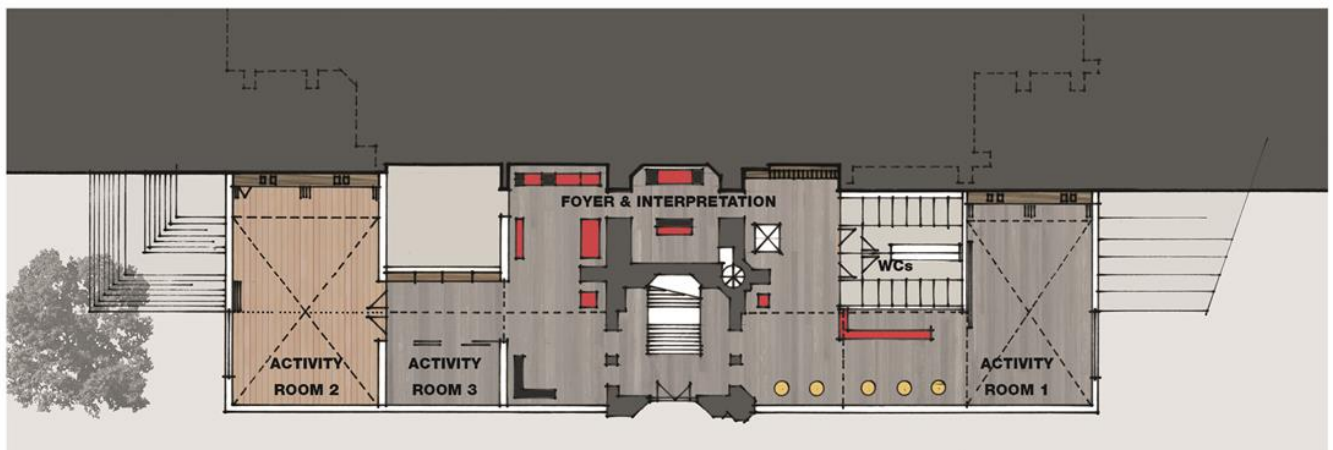
A fully accessible, inviting and engaging entrance foyer to meet the needs and expectations of up to 1,250 visitors. The re-imagining of the public space to the west of the Cathedral on Victoria Street. Freeing up the Nave.

### Facilities

- Functional Front of House
- Exhibition Space
- Activity Rooms
- Lift
- Toilet Facilities



Nave Level



Street Level

 Manchester  
Children's  
Choir

# Love to sing?

**Launching Saturday 7 May**

Join us each Saturday  
10am-11:30am **FREE**



Manchester Cathedral  
Victoria Street  
Manchester  
M3 1SX

Ages between six and eleven

**No experience needed,  
just come along  
and have fun!**

 **@ManCathMusic**

tweet

For more information, contact  
[music@manchestercathedral.org](mailto:music@manchestercathedral.org)



The Booth Centre has been lucky to benefit from a close longstanding partnership with Manchester Cathedral having been located there for 19 years. Since moving to a new larger premises in March 2014, we are grateful to have been able to continue this special partnership this year. The support of the Cathedral, through the financial donation towards our running costs, is vital to help us to continue to help the growing number of homeless people in the city. We are now seeing nearly 100 people each day coming into the centre, so the continued support from staff and visitors of the Cathedral is more important than ever.

A group of staff from the Cathedral came and spent a day volunteering at the Booth Centre in the summer, helping out in our activity sessions and working alongside homeless people in our kitchen and café areas. We are looking forward to welcoming more staff volunteers this year with another two volunteer days in the diary already.

For the third year running, staff took part in the annual Manchester Sleepout held at the Cathedral, braving the cold to sleep under the stars for the night to highlight the hardships faced by homeless people night after night. We were delighted that the Cathedral team managed to raise an incredible £3,217.25 towards helping homeless people in our community! The Manchester Sleepout raised over £60,000 this year! This would not be possible without the Cathedral kindly welcoming us to host the event in the grounds, meaning that all funds raised go directly towards helping homeless people to move off the streets.

We were once again extremely grateful to receive over 200 pairs of socks from Canon Wray's Sock Appeal this year. New pairs of socks for the homeless people who visit the centre make such a difference. Thanks to your donations we're able to continue to offer free pairs of socks for people when they use our shower, such a vital thing when people have cold, wet feet from sleeping out all night.

As well as raising vital funds, staff and visitors to the Cathedral regularly collect donations of food and toiletries to contribute towards our appeals throughout the year. As a small charity, seeing more and more people who need our support, donations such as these enable us to continue to offer our services free of charge.

Canon David Holgate volunteers at the centre as our Chaplain. Visitors to the centre enjoy sitting and chatting with David about their experiences. It is extremely valuable to have a volunteer who can offer up time and a listening ear for people who are going through a very difficult time in their lives. The Booth Centre is proud to be part of the upcoming event at the Cathedral focussing on Challenging Hate Crime in the community. We look forward to hosting yet another Sleepout with you this year as well as a Carol Service at Christmas, hoping to raise more funds to continue to help homeless people who need support. Thank you to all at the Cathedral for your continued support and commitment to the Booth Centre.

**Amanda Croome**  
*Booth Centre*



## **Manchester Cathedral Guild of Change Ringers**

We began the period of this report with 'Ringing for England' on Saint George's day, followed by ringing for the service commemorating the centenary of the landings at Gallipoli in 1915. This was immediately followed by a four week silence whilst some essential repairs were carried out on several of our bells, we now have a new wheel on bell number 9, and a new composite clapper in the tenor, minor remedial work was carried out on some of the other bells. The bellhanger was under pressure to finish the work by the late spring holiday as we had a visiting peal band coming to ring during the annual whit walk. Bells and band once again made a glorious noise.

The government requested bells to be rung to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the signing of the Magna Carta on 14<sup>th</sup> June so we returned to the tower after the morning service to ring a quarter peal. Another quarter was rung before the ordination service on 20<sup>th</sup> June. In all we rang a healthy 15 quarters.

Whilst our bells were 'unringable' we ventured out to attempt quarter peals at Newton-le-Willows, and Blackburn Cathedral. Our thanks to them for letting us borrow their bells.

We repeated our success in the six bell striking competition, this year hosted by the Rossendale Branch of the Lancashire Association but we failed to retain the eight bell trophy. We did however retain the ten bell trophy in the annual competition held at St Mark, Worsley on a very soggy November day.

This year's Dinner, again joint with The Manchester Universities Guild is being held at The Manchester Hall (formerly the Masonic Lodge) on Bridge Street in early March. On the whole we continue to build on our strengths and service ringing is steadily improving. We sometimes have more ringers than bells these days.

Practice nights are well attended by our own ringers, and we receive invaluable help and support from ringers from the surrounding area. On a difficult note, over the last twelve months we have sacrificed almost 50% of our potential Wednesday evenings to corporate events taking place in the Cathedral, not being able to hold practices on a regular basis makes it very difficult for ringers to commit to turning up on an almost ad hoc basis. My personal thanks go to Natasha who manages the Cathedral Diary – she always goes out of her way to keep us informed of Wednesday bookings.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in the Cathedral on 18<sup>th</sup> November. The committee remains unchanged except for the appointment of Andrew Ingham as steeple keeper. We welcomed three new members to the tower, and are delighted by the continued support of the Manchester Universities Guild, most of whom (and some of us too) manage to ring at one other tower as well as the cathedral every week.

We have decided to purchase a new set of muffles for the bells at a cost of £420.00 and donate them to the tower. Catherine Rhodes has presented us with a first aid kit, and running repairs to the rope chute and slider on the 6<sup>th</sup> bell cost about £40.00.

St George ringing will be taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 10.00AM, and on 1<sup>st</sup> July we hope to be ringing for the National Commemoration of 100 years since the battle of the Somme.

**Malcolm Murphy**  
*Ringling Master*

## Cathedral Community Committee

*'...and let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in habit of doing but encouraging one another- and all the more as you see the day approaching...'* (Hebrews 10:24-25)

The current committee consists of Dean Rogers Govender, the Sub-Dean and Canon Precentor Philip Barratt, the Revd Jane Walker, Canon Barrie Cheshire, Beryl Cheshire, Barbara Evans, Pauline Dimond, Ian Simpson, Graham Curtis, John Broderick, Kathryn de Belle, Kirk Eckersall and Canon David Holgate.

We have discussed the following items:

- Cathedral Kids – led by Curate Jane Walker. Check out the website's interactive content. Run at the start of each month, invitations are actively sought to provide a leader to support this worthwhile venture for our younger people attending Sundays and in particular young families.
- Whit Walks – Whit Monday 30th May and Roy Chow still as leader; all welcome and look out for the notices! We required stewards also this year. We now need to raise funds to cover cost (£4,000) of this traditional witness of faith, all churches in the parish who attend contribute £50 and Cathedral £500 with various donations being found and contribution from surplus of funds within the Manchester and Salford Whit Walks account £1,400. This now leaves the balance at Nil. Action and support is required.
- Service sheets – after consideration and consultation; it was agreed by all that the service sheets are working well and give an opportunity for congregation and visitors alike to take them home and review at their leisure.
- Refurbishment – the Dean has given various updates throughout the year on all refurbishment development project activities, particularly the Organ which is to be installed and commissioned by Easter 2017. An early draft of proposals for the West End development of the Cathedral from architect consultants with an estimated cost of approx. £7m has also been outlined.
- Lighting – this will have four elements of action, the first of which will be installation of new lighting in the Nave and Quire.
- It is planned to open up the Lay Clerks and Library into one room, which will be available for hire. The chandeliers alone cost £12.5k each and four are required; the 'Friends' have donated £12.5k to purchase the first one.
- Administration Office's redevelopment – as part of the re-configuration the current refectory will be incorporated into administration offices for the Music department all other offices knocked through into open plan with the addition of a glazed entrance foyer at the Dean's door (to create a proper reception and entrance).
- Christmas Day services – it was agreed that a transport rota should be set up to assist all regular congregation to attend Christmas morning service as no public transport is available.
- Mission Art Installation, Hate and Action meetings, Modern Slavery. St Philip's has changed from a resource church to new outreach church. Pilgrim course with Cannon Holgate. Lent course group and prayers led by Rev Jane Walker. St Denis Bookshop available some Sundays. Meditation group continued by Raylia. Philip, Pauline and friends leading pilgrimage to Walsingham – 13 May 2016.

All meetings start with a prayer and finish with the Grace.

**Ian Simpson**  
Chairman

## Churchwardens' Report

The Wardens and Stewards comprise a team, currently of 29 persons, elected annually, who support all regular Sunday services at the Cathedral, as well as a large number of special services, including many that fall on days other than Sunday. I am blessed with a dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers, whose often unseen efforts ensure the smooth running of services, and for this I am most grateful. My particular thanks go to my fellow Wardens, Graham Curtis and David Haywood, and to Jack Peacock who kindly stands in when Wardens are in short supply.

I thank also the Dean and Chapter, the Precentor and the Vergers, without whose cooperation and support we could not function, and, in case they are not mentioned in any other report, the Readers and Lay Administrants, who add so much to our liturgy.

The Wardens are trustees of the George Pilkington Trust, and were able this year to distribute charitable donations to the Wood Street Mission (£3,000), the Booth Centre (£1,500) and the Salvation Army (£1,500). These organisations have expressed their gratitude for the donations. Their work, for which there are ever increasing demands, accords precisely with the terms of George Pilkington's Will.

I have decided to stand down from my role as Senior Warden, as it is time now for others to take over the baton, and just want to say a big thank you to all who have supported me over the last seven years.

**Geoffrey Bamping**

*Senior Warden*

## Communications and Marketing Report

It has been a very busy year with lots of great events and stories to tell. In February 2015, the Dean and Chapter agreed to appoint a full time Cathedral Communications and Marketing Officer. The role includes working with heads of departments to tell the Cathedral's story through its various channels (such as Cathedral News, press and publicity materials etc).

In 2015, we have hosted a number of high profile events which have been covered in the media. These include the Citizens Parliament, a vigil attended by Faith Leaders in a show of unity against EDL, Memorial Service for Coronation Street actress, Anne Kirkbride, People's Assembly, Live BBC Broadcast of Easter Day and Songs of Praise recording. In August, we flew the Rainbow flag from the tower as a public show of support during Manchester Pride and as far as we know we were the first UK Cathedral to do this. We received a lot of positive feedback and support for doing this; a small number of complaints were also received. The flag attracted lots of attention on social media: on Facebook, a photograph of the Rainbow flag received 70 likes, 12 shares and reached 1,730 people; a video of the flag being raised received 78 likes, 32 shares and was viewed a total of 1,909 times; a Twitter announcement about the flag received 8,835 impressions (times seen on Twitter), 326 engagements (times people interacted with tweet), 36 retweets and 33 favourites; a Twitter photo of the Rainbow Flag flying from the tower received 2,314 impressions (times seen on Twitter), 125 engagements, 21 retweets, and 18 favourites. The Church Times also featured a photograph of the flag flying from the tower.

**Twitter:** 4,401 followers

**Facebook:** 1,597 followers

**Instagram:** 383 followers

In 2015 work began on updating the Cathedral website, including the introduction of a page for Cathedral Kids (screenshot below). The pages are updated for each season and include learn, play, pray, watch and events. In 2015 the website witnessed 146,979 sessions (total number of sessions with the date range that the user is engaged with the website), 427,293 page views (total number of page views with the date range), 69.4% returning visitors and 30.6% new visitors. We also launched Manchester Cathedral TV on YouTube.

In November 2015, we supported Key 103 Radio's Mission Christmas Appeal. The appeal was to collect toys for children living in poverty in Greater Manchester so that they woke up to something on Christmas Day. Manchester Cathedral collected seven bin bags full of toys and the overall total raised during the appeal was £1,844,468 of gifts to support 48,690 local children. Our involvement in the appeal has led to a great new relationship with the station. We were invited to launch Christmas Movies at Manchester Cathedral on air and they recently held two concerts at the Cathedral which provided a huge amount of publicity for the Cathedral. Many of the people attending the events had never been to Manchester Cathedral before.

We have joined our neighbours and are part of the Medieval Quarter Marketing Group. This group is made up of people from the neighbourhood including the Corn Exchange, TfGM, NOMA, Manchester Arena, Northern Rail, Chetham's, Ask Developments, Select Property Group and the National Football Museum. The purpose of the group is to market the Medieval Quarter to visitors and work together to raise the profile of the area.

**Joanne Hooper**  
*Communications and Marketing Officer*



## Deanery Synod

The following meetings were held:

### 19 May 2015 at St. Crispin's, Withington

The meeting commenced with opening prayers led by Fr. Patrick Davies. Apologies for absence were read out viz. 1 clergy and 6 lay members.

A talk was given regarding stewardship, which was based on supporting God's people in generous sharing of God given gifts and talents. The talk described three aspects at the centre of stewardship viz., Biblical principles, donations and talents. The following are some guidelines for stewardship:

1. Preach and teach, including generous giving.
2. Mission, and ministry.
3. An annual review of giving.
4. Saying thank you.

It was explained that appropriate communication skills are required in the delivery of the points noted above. The talk was concluded by stating that effective stewardship enables mission. A discussion followed when participants were formed into five groups to develop the items above.

After the break the minutes of the last meeting (25th/Feb./2015) were agreed and signed as a true record. Matters arising from the minutes - none were raised. The Diocesan Synod report was reported and Bishop David's Presidential Address informed Synod he had been interviewed on radio and asked the reasons for becoming a Bishop. He was asked about the Living Wage and the spikes at the entrance of Selfridges causing a problem for the homeless rather than a deterrent to smokers.

Saddleworth Deanery has appointed a chaplain to work with the over sixties who are a large part of the congregation and in the population at large.

The new Parish Share scheme will be presented to the next Diocesan Synod for final approval.

The next item was the Treasurer's report. There is a balance of £354.21p. in the Deanery A/c. All parishes have paid their subs for 2014. For 2015, St. Edmund's, St. Crispin's, Manchester Cathedral, the Ascension, St. Clement's and Holy Trinity (Platt) have paid. Outstanding subs are encouraged to pay ASAP, please.

A Culture of Invitation Day on 12<sup>th</sup>/Sept. is focussed on why people don't invite their friends to church. Rev .Ken Flood will open the gathering.

Events and dates from around the parishes were announced.

The Deanery quiet day is planned for May, 2016.

A.O.B. Mission and Pastoral sub groups need to meet, a date will be arranged.

The meeting closed with prayers.

**8 October 2015 at the Ascension, Hulme.**

Rev. Ken Flood was in the chair. Rev. Falak led Synod in prayer and updated us about The Ascension, there are good relations with schools in the parish. The car park at the rear of the church is now Pay and display with takings coming into the PCC. Apologies for absence were noted and accepted.

Rebecca Turner led the talk about the activities of Christian Aid and stated that a recent visit to Manchester Cathedral had been made by herself to discuss the work of Christian Aid in Burkina Faso in Africa and that the mission would hopefully continue. Some people present noted that it was a good sign that Christian Aid was becoming established in Manchester and that the charity was developing a higher profile due its good works.

Rev. Neil Elliott, who is the new curate at a St. Edmunds, Whalley Range, was welcomed to his first synod meeting. Peter Capon did not stand for re-election to the General Synod and by agreement was co-opted to the Hulme Deanery Synod and will continue as Deanery Lay Chair.

Minutes of the last meeting on 15 May 2015 were agreed and signed as true and accurate record. Matters arising from the previous meeting and noted that the Culture of Invitation Day at Christ Church Brunswick went well.

There are two clergy vacancies on Diocesan Synod Rev. Patrick Davies and Rev. Paul Mathole were elected without opposition. Rev. Dr. Hayley Matthews was elected at Deanery Chapter. There are at three elected lay members on Diocesan Synod, Philip Geldard, Addy Lazz-Onyenobi and Bob Palmer. Philip and Addy are standing for the General Synod and if either were elected then a vacancy would arise for a casual lay vacancy on Diocesan Synod.

Peter Capon reported on the General Synod focussing on one main issue in relation to Rev. Simon Killwick's last synod meeting who put forward a Private Members Motion asking the Synod to consider senior church leadership. The motion was carried by Synod.

The Treasurer's report was made saying that the balance of the account was £364.31p. in the bank with four parishes yet to pay their subs., St. James', St. Werburgh's, Christ Church Moss Side, and Holy Innocent's.

Rev. Patrick Davies proposed, as the Christian Aid talk was good news then a donation may be made from the deanery to the charity. Jackie Dixon seconded that we donate £200 and was agreed by all.

St. Crispin's festival will be held on 20 Oct; Manchester Cathedral to hold their annual Sleepout in aid of the homeless in November. St. Clement's are holding a Singing event on 20 Feb. and St. Werburgh's curry night on 20 November.

Canon Ronald Frost, Director of Music at St. Anne's has died recently and his funeral will be on 15 October. The parishes were reminded to kindly complete their income surveys. The meeting was closed with parting prayers at 9.05pm.

**27 January 2016 at Christ Church, Brunswick.**

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend this meeting and it has not been possible to prepare the minutes as usual.

**Basil Fox**  
*Representative*

## Manchester Cathedral Development Project

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Movement in 2015</u>
<b><u>MC Development Trust</u></b>			
Unrestricted Income		£1,124,571	+£7,500
Organ	£2,265,355	£2,303,748	+£2,293
Roof (South Aisle)	£315,883	£225,524	+£0.00
Lighting & Sound	£2,256,000	£733,445	+£121,329
Library (re-order)	£90,000		
Liturgical Furniture	£180,000	£135,910	+£21,800.00
Pop-up Cathedral	£460,186	£345,686	+£0.00
Sponsor-a-tile	£0.00	£3,791	+£919.00
Hope Window	£94,485	£94,485	+85,485.00
ICON	£6,000	£6,150	+£0.00
Underfloor Heating	£2,344,000	£2,344,000	+0.00
Jesus Chapel Frontals	£100,000		
East Door	£45,730		
Stone Cleaning	£100,000		
West End Development	£5,000,000		
<b><u>Manchester Cathedral</u></b>			
Chorister Funding	£400,000	£312,075	+£3,100.00
Music Endowment	£1,000,000	£576,199	+£160,000.00
Alligating of Canon Court	£10,000	£10,074	+0.00
Medieval Quarter	£12,000,000	£37,000	+£0.00
<b><u>Manchester Cathedral Visitor Centre</u></b>			
General	£15,000	£15,532	+£0.00
Building	£101,000	£101,461	+£0.00
<b><u>Volition Community</u></b>			
Volunteer Programme	£800,000	£755,696	+£5,723
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>£9,125,347</b>	<b>+£408,149</b>
<b><u>Event Activity</u></b>			
Events (2008 to 2015)		£522,221	+£126,982
<b>Total</b>		<b>£9,647,568</b>	<b>+£535,131</b>

### Fundraising & Event Activities

I am pleased to be able to confirm that we have received **£535,131** in 2015 towards the various development project initiatives

### Events & Visitor Donation to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015

The following is a breakdown of net income (profit) for events in 2015. During this year, we also gave our facilities free of charge to 41 organisations to stage events. Taking into consideration our standard hire fee, Manchester Cathedral supported community initiatives to the tune of **£143,500**.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Target 2015</u>	<u>(2014 – Ach)</u>	<u>(2015 – Ach)</u>	<u>2015 %</u>	
Concerts	£30,000	£56,305	£28,023	93%	
MCDP	£1,000	£4,322	£3,043	304%	
Carol Concerts	£6,000	£7,475	£7,887	131%	
Dinners	£36,000	£28,926	£44,944	124%	
Events	£35,000	£17,675	£39,582	113%	
Sponsorship	£3,000	£11,600	£3,500	116%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£111,000</b>	<b>£126,304</b>	<b>£126,982</b>	<b>114%</b>	
<u>Event Income</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
	£5,504	£29,803	£68,052	£81,317	£65,767
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>		
	<b>£18,492</b>	<b>£126,304</b>	<b>£126,982</b>		

The following is a breakdown of net income from visitor donations; the 2015 figure is up to September

<u>Visitor Donations</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
	£18,289	£31,136	£42,006	£16,930	£42,177
	<u>2015</u>				
	<b>£59,480</b>				

### Liturgical Furniture

We have now received all the external approvals we require for the liturgical furniture and have signed off the final costs. As part of this, we have also improved the furniture design for choir members, these respond to differing adult and chorister needs. We are also looking into the lighting design [LED and candles] for the music stands, and again we should be able to share these proposals with you once they have been worked up.

### 2015 Completed Projects

The works to reconfigure and refurbish the existing toilet block are complete and included the following:



- Reconfiguration of the existing male WCs and single unisex toilet to create new boys and new girls WCs. This is to include, new quarry tile floor, new vanity units and new toilet doors and partitions.
- The heating system has been extended and electrical layout altered.

We have also completed the South Aisle Roof Repairs, dismantled the old organ, re-ordered the Booth Centre, the Cathedral Visitor Centre and the Jesus Chapel refurbishment was completed. All these projects were funded by the MCDT.

### **2016 and onwards**

A number of fabric renovations and building interventions are also planned for 2016 and beyond, which are hoped to be complete in readiness for 2021 (the Cathedral's 600th foundational anniversary as a collegiate church). These include:

- Installation of the Hope Window;
- Installation of a new lighting scheme;
- Installation of a new lighting scheme for the library;
- Installation of a new sound scheme;
- Cleaning of the Cathedral internal masonry;
- External masonry repairs and works in the bell tower;
- Installation of a new glazed entrance at the east end;
- Fabric refurbishments in the Cathedral office and reception area;
- West end development.

**Anthony O'Connor**

*Director of Fundraising and Development*

## **Education Department**

The period between Easter 2015 – Easter 2016 has been another busy one! The Education Department provided learning sessions for almost 4500 pupils of all ages, backgrounds and abilities on 98 Cathedral visits, bringing us much closer to the levels reached prior to 2011 when the Education Officer post became part-time. Thank you to Petra Wilcockson who capably covered my maternity leave for 9 months until September 2015, and generously volunteered her time on Thursdays and Fridays to help achieve these figures.

I am grateful to the small team of dedicated Education Volunteers who helped to increase capacity for visits, enabling the Education Department to cater for larger groups and leading tours when the Education Officer was unavailable. One of my priorities for 2016 is to recruit and train more Education Volunteers to better meet the demand for visits. I am looking for people who are good communicators and have (or would like to gain) experience of working with children. If you are reading this and know somebody who may be able to assist, please do ask them to get in touch.

The scope of the work continues to increase and (as well as our popular RE, Art and Humanities trails, and joint sacred spaces visits) I delivered new sessions on British culture, music, the Elizabethan settlement, human rights, Wilfred Owen and the Anglo-Saxons. There is never a dull day!

The Education Programme continues to be highly regarded by teachers and pupils, as illustrated by a sample of evaluative comments from the past 5 months:

*Thank you ever so much for the pleasant trip, the girls enjoyed it thoroughly and were discussing the facts about Christianity in lessons. Thank you for catering for us and making us feel welcome. It was a pleasure meeting you. Hope to arrange another visit for the next academic year. Zakaria Girls High School (Islamic School)*

*Many thanks for a fabulous day in both sacred places. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and have learnt a great deal about both religions. Mather Street PS, Oldham (Shared Story Trail with Manchester Jewish Museum)*

*Learning objectives fully met. Have worked with the Cathedral on matching visits and activities to school's long term planning. Children have gained a better understanding of the different types of prayers and where they can be used. (They) enjoyed writing the prayers and lighting the candles for intercession. (They) thoroughly enjoyed the activities and workshop. Big thank you. CE School of the Resurrection, Beswick*

*The children had a wonderful time and the information you provided and their subsequent write-ups about the visit showed what wonderful facts and insights they had observed. To me it has heightened their interest in both RE and History so thank you again. We'll hopefully see you next year. St Mary's RC PS, Swinton*

*It was thoroughly insightful. I learnt about the value of a GCSE trip to the Cathedral, because there were so many stimuli within the Cathedral that could draw out discussions about morality and philosophy. Bury RE Teachers INSET session*

This year I am expanding our family offer and with this in mind have developed a family outreach programme of activities for 2016. Working alongside Charlie Corkin, the Chorister Recruitment Officer, I am planning some special musical activities such as "Sing the Cathedral: Disney and friends" and an Acoustic workshop for families to help generate interest in the choir and organ.

The installation of the new organ has created some exciting opportunities to reach schools in Greater Manchester. In 2015 the Cathedral Development Project launched the "Paint a Pipe" project. Schools were invited to decorate 3 pipes from the decommissioned organ on a "Musical Manchester" theme. 24 schools took up the challenge and on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 representatives from each were invited to a special event featuring educational workshops, lunch and a prize-giving. The judges were the Archdeacon of Manchester, the Venerable Mark Ashcroft; the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Warren Smith; Mrs Kathleen Lowe from The Stoller Charitable Trust (which funded the 2.5 million organ scheme) and Manchester's Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Carl Austin. The prizes were generously funded by the Lord Lieutenant, Warren Smith and The Stoller Charitable Trust and awarded as follows:

- 1st Prize, £1000 St George's Central Primary School, Tyldesley
- 2nd Prize, £700 St Hilda's CE (VA) Primary School, Prestwich
- 3rd Prize, £300 St Andrew's CE Primary School, Bolton
- Highly Commended, £100 Springbrook School, Oldham

I am delighted that the Musical Manchester pipes will be displayed in the spring (date TBC) at Manchester Airport by their Artist in Residence, Andy Leigh. They will be hung from the ceiling of the Bus, Train and Metrolink interchange station, thus showcasing the artistic talents of Greater Manchester pupils to a wide audience. I hope the exhibition will inspire and encourage even more pupils to discover Manchester Cathedral's rich cultural heritage, and all that the Cathedral stands for.

**Pam Elliott**  
*Education Officer*

## Electoral Roll

It has been another quiet year for the Electoral Roll with minimal changes. There have been two additions and one deletion, due to death. The roll stands at 109 as of 1st March 2016.

As I pass on the position of Electoral Roll Officer after nine years in office I would like to thank you all for your help in keeping the Electoral Roll up to date. I am sure you will continue to let my successor know if anyone who might be on the Roll moves away or passes away; and notify them of anyone you think might be eligible to be added to the Roll.

Electoral Roll application forms can be obtained from the vergers or the office and are then approved upon completion by one of the clergy.

**Kim D Green**  
*Electoral Roll Officer*

## Envelope Scheme and Planned Giving

### Gift Aid donations by the Envelope Scheme and Planned Giving for the Tax Year Ended 5 April 2015

The Gift Aid scheme allows the Cathedral to claim tax relief on donations. The Cathedral is able to reclaim 25 pence for every £1 donated by a basic rate taxpayer who has signed up to the scheme. Once a Gift Aid declaration has been made, it can apply to all donations made since April 2000 and to all future donations. Donations can be made via the envelopes provided or by bank transfer.

The Gift Aid secretary is required to provide the Diocesan office with figures on a quarterly basis in order for tax to be reclaimed from HMRC. The returns comprise the total sum donated by each individual signed up to the scheme, the last date each donor made a donation and the total sum donated for that quarter.

Peter Briggs has heroically carried out the role as Gift Aid secretary for the Cathedral since 2009. Peter retired from this role in summer 2015 and I would like to thank him for his service and for his support to me in the transition period. I can only aspire to be as efficient and timely as Peter in making the quarterly returns!

The Gift Aid secretary relies heavily on the stewards and wardens to identify potential new donors and to invite them to sign up to the scheme. Peter and I would like to thank all of them for their continuing help. Thanks are also due to Jo Hodkin for diligently recording donations and passing information to Peter and myself so that we can make the return.

The figures in this report reflect the donations received for the tax year 2014-15, ending on 5 April 2015. They do not include donations made via the green envelopes as they do not form part of the planned giving scheme. In this period there were 52 donors (a reduction in 11 on the previous year):

<b>Total Giving via Envelopes and bank payments</b>	<b>£18,137</b>
<b>Tax Reclaimed</b>	<b><u>£4,534</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,671</b>

This represents a fall of £4,586 from the same period last year.

**Diane Johnston**  
*Gift Aid & Planned Giving Secretary*

## Flowers

We started the year after Easter 2015 with some trepidation, following the resignation of two teams of flower arrangers from Bolton (10 people). This left us with only 6 arrangers including myself. However, we rearranged the teams and rotas to provide adequate cover, and I am extremely grateful to my five colleagues and to others who have helped in various ways, for all their hard work and support, which has enabled us to provide a good standard of arrangements throughout the year, including the major festivals. We are also very grateful for the generous contributions from the congregation towards flowers at Easter and Christmas.

Efforts have been made to recruit new arrangers and helpers. We have been fortunate to recruit two new helpers, Judith and Stephen, who have lightened the load on the arrangers, freeing them up to concentrate on what they do best. Sadly no new arrangers have yet come forward.

We are also grateful to Middleton and Radcliffe flower clubs, who have helped us for many years, by taking on the arranging for one week each year.

Fortunately perhaps, the last year has not been too onerous, as there have been no major services or events other than the normal festivals of the church's year. However, we are now in the process of planning for the Battle of the Somme Commemoration service in July, 2016, which is going to be a big challenge for us. We have been in discussion with Radcliffe Flower Club, who have kindly agreed to help us with this major project, so that we expect to have around 20 flower arrangers plus a significant number of helpers working on this. We are honoured and excited at having been given the opportunity to be part of this national event.

**Helen Bamping**  
*Flowers*

## Friends of Manchester Cathedral

The Friends have had another busy year, being involved in the many activities of the Cathedral as well as supporting Friends' events.

During May we enjoyed a weekend visit to Glastonbury, Bath and Wells with accommodation once again at a Premier Inn close to Glastonbury. Saturday was free to enjoy a costumed guided tour of the Abbey, England's cradle of Christianity providing sanctuary, tranquility, history and heritage in one place. It is also the resting place for three Saxon Kings. On the Sunday, after a good breakfast, we enjoyed a pleasant drive to Wells to attend the Eucharist. A former Assistant Musical Director of Manchester Cathedral, Matthew Owens, is now at Wells Cathedral and played for the service. After a warm welcome from their congregation over coffee, we had a light lunch in the refectory. Another interesting afternoon was spent exploring Wells Cathedral's Bishop's Palace grounds which include Vicars' Close, known as the only completely medieval street in England. Originally built in 1348 to house 42 Vicars Choral, it is still used to house members of the Music Department. The beautiful natural springs continue to provide water for the city of Wells. On the Monday we completed our weekend spending a few hours in Bath with free time to visit the Abbey, Roman Baths and its varied attractions. We met for a farewell lunch at the beautiful Bath Pump Rooms (associated with Jane Austen's characters), which had a delicious menu and good service. Our friendly, efficient coach driver made the return journey relaxing and comfortable.

The Annual General Meeting was held in June, beginning with a Cheese and Wine buffet, hosted by Geoffrey and Helen Bamping. Canon Phillip Barratt (Precentor) kindly entertained us with a selection of piano music. The Friends are always delighted to be able to attend Evensong before the A.G.M. and were very appreciative of such a variety of music during the afternoon and evening. Votes of thanks were given to Helen and Geoff, and Philip for helping to make a business meeting into such an enjoyable occasion. 22 members attended with 12 apologies.

On Saturday 1st August, Council hosted Afternoon tea in south aisle for members and tourists. Friends' membership forms were available and some new members have since joined us. We were encouraged to find a queue at the entrance and as the afternoon progressed, visitors at other events in the Cathedral joined us. Once again, Canon Philip kindly gave his time to play a wonderful selection of music and visitors were likening him to Noel Coward as he wore a white jacket! This was a very pleasant new venture for the Friends as it brought together such a mixed group of people, some of whom have been attending the Music Department's Coffee and Cake concerts and have enjoyed meeting up again. These friendly occasions contribute much to the warm welcome our visitors now receive.

In October we held our Autumn luncheon at the Mitre Hotel with a good meal at which we were pleased to welcome Canon David Holgate who kept us enthralled by sharing with us his love of Vintage music.

The Friends' Council continues to sponsor Cathedral choristers and the Education Department.

A generous legacy from the estate of the late Joyce Albon has enabled Council to give financial help towards the refurbishing of the Nave furniture. As Joyce was a loyal guide for 18 years and loved the Cathedral, Council is providing the Dean's chair in her memory and a contribution towards the new lighting of the Library.

We have been pleased to welcome the following new members: Rev. Arthur Newall; Helen Buckley; M. Bernard Richards; and Judith Walsh.

The Dean and Chapter have thanked the Friends for their continuing generosity towards Cathedral projects. Manchester has an increasing number of visitors and many hundreds wend their way to the Cathedral. We are encouraged by their appreciation of our beautiful building and thank all our members for their interest and support.

**Pauline Dimond**  
*Hon. Secretary*

## **Music Department**

The Cathedral Choir, despite reduced forces, has managed to maintain a full cathedral-style repertoire this year; this is ample testament to the skill and ability of our young choristers and, of course, to our superb Lay Clerks. The old Harrison & Harrison organ was removed on schedule during the summer months and so we started the Michaelmas term by accompanying the Choir with a boudoir-grand piano, on hire from Forsyth's music emporium in Deansgate. We kept to the normal repertoire, concentrating mainly on the romantic and modern settings and adapted the accompaniments to a more pianistic style. Grateful thanks are due to my colleagues, Geoffrey Woollatt and Aaron Shilson for their adaptability and good humour in making this work so well.

December saw the arrival of our new 'continuo' organ, built by Tickell's of Northampton. This consists of three ranks of pipes – 8'4' and 2' pitches – housed in a beautifully fashioned case, replete with decorative Tudor roses and bees, (the symbol of Manchester). This instrument is mainly suited to music of an earlier period than the 19<sup>th</sup> century and so the Choir's repertoire has shifted back to the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century with some glorious works by the great Tudor and Jacobean composers such as Tallis, Byrd and Gibbons. Later repertoire is being maintained by migrations to the Nave and the Viscount electronic organ.

Since last year's report we lost our five senior choristers, as always happens, and have gained three new probationary choristers – whom we warmly welcome, along with their families. Four of the senior choristers have gained places in Chetham's as instrumentalists and the other opted to go to Lancaster Grammar School as a boarding pupil. I want to record my thanks to the children for their wonderful singing over the years and to their parents for the constant support they have given to enable them to be part of the Choir.

The building of the new Grand Organ continues apace and visible signs, courtesy of a massive erection of scaffolding over the pulpitum, of work in Cathedral itself have manifested themselves since January.

**Christopher Stokes**

*Organist & Master of the Choristers*

It has been an excellent year for the Cathedral Voluntary Choir. The choir have performed for a number of large-scale services including a very solid rendition of Parry's *I was glad* for the Installation of Canons in September.

Back in June, we welcomed the Nave Choir of Chester Cathedral to Manchester to take part in a joint Evensong. Conducting nearly 50 singers was a new and exhilarating experience for me, especially having been the accompanist for the Nave Choir a few months previous to this.

Our annual summer tour was a great success. This time we headed for Tewkesbury Abbey. It was lovely to see a number of former members of the choir join us for the weekend, and a great time was had by all. Preparations are in full swing for this summer's tour, in Norwich.

In January, Tony Butler, who had been with the choir for 31 years, decided to call it a day. He has been an amazing stalwart of the choir, and will be greatly missed by everyone, although he says he'll still turn up to the odd Sunday Evensong.

**Geoffrey Woollatt**

*Sub-Organist*

## **Project Manager's Report**

The Cathedral organ was dismantled and removed in July and August 2015 to make way for the new Kenneth Tickell instrument that is currently in manufacture at the Tickell Organ Builders factory in Northampton. The enabling works to the Pulpitum, including structural strengthening were contracted to commence in 2016 and are going well. The organ pipes shade designs by the artist Stephen Raw have been developed and approved by the CFCE. The site set up and enabling works

for the organ installation are programmed to commence on 7 July 2016 with onsite installation of the new organ contracted to commence on 18 July 2016 with final handover on 2 April 2017.

BDP Ltd have been appointed as lighting designers and building services engineers and have subsequently developed a design for the central Nave and Quire up to RIBA Stage 4. A lighting mock-up will be produced in line with the design for CFCE and FAC consideration and then subsequent formal approval will be sought.

BDP Ltd have also been appointed to develop a design for a new sound system in the Cathedral. An outline design has been produced based on acoustic surveys of the Cathedral. This design will be developed in line with Cathedral requirements for spoken word and music, with subsequent production of a system mock-up in 2016 (again for the CFCE and FAC consideration).

The proposed West End development has been progressed with a design competition via OJEU resulting in the appointment of Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios as Lead Architect.

**David Thorncroft**

*Project Manager from Dooley Associates*

## **Servers**

***'Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people'*** (Ephesians 6:7)

Our current servers are; Ian Simpson, Kirk Eckersall, Basil Fox, Veronika Sekerakova, Kahindi Daniel, Marina James. We give grateful thanks in the past year for their support and commitment.

We are proud and privileged to serve each Sunday and assist the Chapter and clergy in our Christian fellowship. We have also served throughout the year for all our Saint's and high days.

We are a small and happy bunch with a wide age range and backgrounds with a shared belief to serve the Lord. We support one another when required to swap at short notice as listing each Sunday when business commitments are required.

We are all committed to continue as servers throughout the coming year.

**Ian Simpson**

*Head Server*

## **Vergers Department**

Amidst the rejuvenation of the Cathedral, through its various projects of building works in their various forms, the Vergers' department has also undergone a number of changes. The year started off with three full timers and with lots of help from our former young team member Gareth's mother, Elaine – Elaine's help really does ease the pressure and she is truly appreciated.

The department became short handed when Gareth decided to leave Manchester Cathedral to pursue a change of career and went to work at Manchester Airport. Gareth found happiness in his new job but it seems that part of his heart will always be at the Cathedral where he continues to worship and volunteer as a steward and provide holiday cover for us vergers on an ad-hoc basis.

Team work can sometimes be taken for granted. With the subtleties of the occasional banter, when we work as a team it is good for moral and the working process – I'm pleased to say that our team of

vergers has that chemistry on the whole. A new verger, Michael Jenkinson, was employed by the Cathedral in order to replace Gareth but as circumstance would have it, Michael resigned after a few months due to personal reasons. Subsequently, the Chapter decided that they were not going to employ a third verger on financial grounds. It would not be the truth to say that it's all plain sailing because that is not the case – far from it! However, we have a fair and balanced rota that we try to work to and other cathedral colleagues work closely with the Vergers to support out of hours working and major events (bearing in mind that there has to be flexibility for all staff when it comes to supporting many of our evening events). The Cathedral Logistics Officer, Peter Mellor, works to support the majority of evening events so that the vergers do not need to work too much overtime.

With all the on-going building work and a lot of school visits taking place on a regular basis, the place soon gets dusty with books, pieces of paper, general litter and furniture disarrayed. So on the whole, we do have our work cut out on a daily basis to keep the place clean and tidy, and to try and maintain that constant default 'look' that you are all used to.

As vergers we are often in the middle of the practicalities of activities that occur on the Cathedral floors; because of this we need to keep up to date with as much fresh information as we can about the place, particularly in case visitors ask us a question on a random matter, which they often do. Sometimes this may mean retraining from time to time, for example Martin and I at the start of this year renewed our training in first aid and working with the defibrillator. We also completed various courses in IT and computer software in conjunction with Manchester College.

**Derrick May**  
*Senior Verger*

## **Visitor Centre**

Manchester Cathedral Visitor Centre has been experiencing a dynamic period of growth and development since the appointment of a Sales, Marketing and Conference Coordinator in September 2015.

The centre exists essentially as a community resource *to advance the education of the public in the history and heritage of Manchester Cathedral and the surrounding area*. The production of the Hanging Ditch Bridge information leaflet has seen a dramatic increase in the numbers of tourists visiting the building. As part of this on-going commitment, a rolling programme of cultural and heritage exhibitions are also planned. These will include an exhibition about the Hanging Ditch Bridge as part of the Manchester Histories festival, participation in the Manchester Curious architecture festival as well as several visual arts exhibitions.

Community support remains a priority for the centre which offers space at reduced rates to charities and organisations such as the Holocaust Education Trust who hosted a teacher training day with us in January and the Conversation Club, a charity which supports Refugees as part of Manchester City of Sanctuary, which holds monthly sessions at the Centre. The Centre continues to accommodate three local businesses and the successful Volition employment programme.

The Visitor Centre has two conference rooms, which offer meeting facilities to corporate business as a way to generate the income required to support the organisation's charitable endeavours. Uptake of these rooms continues to grow steadily, with the income for the period September 2015 to February 2016 being nearly three times that for the same period over the previous year. The number of bookings from new clients and repeat bookings from regular clients has increased exponentially including bookings from such prestigious organisations as the BBC. This expansion is partly due to



improved marketing including the production of a brochure and improvements in the Centre's online profile.

Visitor experience has been enhanced by the addition of a staffed welcome desk in the reception area. A projecting banner has been designed and installed to the front elevation of the building and a finger post is planned for the Cathedral grounds to direct people to the Visitor Centre entrance in Cateaton Street.

**Petra Wilcockson**

*Sales, Marketing and Conference Co-ordinator*

## **Visitor Services**

Manchester Cathedral's profile as a historic place of worship and as a heritage destination continues to rise. We welcomed over 153,000 visitors in 2015 with a further 32,000 attending events. But figures and statistics only tell half the story. Trip Advisor, the world's largest travel site, has awarded the Cathedral a Certificate of Excellence for the second year running. From a total of 601 reviews (March 2016), 509 rated the visitor experience as Good or Excellent. The Cathedral is now ranked 5th out of 45 in the 'Sites and Landmarks' category and 13th out of 150 'Things to do'-in 2014 the Cathedral was in 27th position.

***'When you consider the options open to a visitor to a city like Manchester, the wide range of world class museums and galleries, the National Football Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry, the Trafford Centre and Salford Quays this is a considerable achievement. It would be an incredible feat to see the Visitor Services Manager realise her ambition to see Manchester Cathedral move into the top ten attractions in Manchester.'***

Barry Noble Visit England Assessor, Visit England Inspection, November 2015.

Over the last two years strong partnerships have been built or reinforced with heritage and cultural organisations across Greater Manchester. Monthly meetings, attended by Jo Hooper and myself, take place with representatives from the National Football Museum, Chetham's Library and School of Music, Manchester Arena, Victoria Station and Transport for Greater Manchester, Manchester and Salford City Council and Marketing Manchester, the Corn Exchange and NOMA. This group not only shares information, training and event planning but is making great strides in redefining the Medieval Quarter and its potential as a cultural and visitor hub and a strategically influential part of the wider ambitions for regeneration of the Northern Gateway to the city.

The recent launch of the Spring Events programme is the 6th brochure in this series and distributed to libraries as well as galleries and museums across the city. It is important in planning a programme of events at Manchester Cathedral that we keep sight of local audiences and the very loyal emerging group of visitors who now attend every Coffee Concert, regularly attend the talks and lectures and feed in their interests and requests in terms of the content of future programmes.

In 2015 talks and lectures have taken place on subjects as varied as Manchester's Radical Tradition, Psychogeographic Manchester, Lady Margaret Beaufort and her links with the church. Exhibitions in 2015 included The Good Thief, Lady Margaret Beaufort, The Manchester Academy of Fine Arts Summer Exhibition, Ghislaine Howard's Prodigal Son, Wilfred Owen and The Soldiers' Story and the 75th Anniversary of the Manchester Blitz of 1940. It is key that as a cultural institution that the

Cathedral is not only relevant in a modern metropolis but also original and interesting. The wider mission is for people to return time and again to become friends as well as visitors and as the Dean often points out, part of the wider congregation.

New tours have been researched and developed including 'A History Etched in Stained Glass' The 'I've lived here all my life but' tour aimed at local residents and Stories behind the Stones'. There has been a wonderful reaction to our youngest tour guide, Blaise Wilcockson, aged 11, who has filled the Cathedral with the sound of children's giggles and laughter as he sets off on his Mini Medieval Safari to uncover medieval beasts, grotesques and Green Men. The team from York Minister has recently asked for advice and support in developing young guides at their cathedral.

For Heritage Open Days all three Royal Charters were on display, an expert on the Stanley Family clinked around in a suit of armour and Grace Timperley, doctoral student at Manchester University, delivering a brilliant talk on Myth and Legend in Medieval Manchester.

Voices from the Past dramas returned with Joshua Brookes and the Missing Grooms and the Thomas Clarkson speech taking place in the Quire. The Visitor Services Manager has had year round support from Michael Powell and Sue McLoughlin in shared visits between Chetham's Library and the Cathedral, talks on Dee combined with Rachel Mann as Dee's daughter in the Audit room at Chetham's. The absolutely fascinating collection of Sexton's reports was unearthed and brought to life by Michael Powell in November at the 'What lies beneath' event followed a tour of memorials and statues by acclaimed author and lecturer Terry Wyke.

An exciting new relationship has been forged with the Museum of Science and Industry as we hosted the Manchester Science Festival and opened up the Cathedral to a series of Science Fiction movies bringing new audiences, families and an Extra Terrestrial within our midst.

Last year saw a huge rise in private tour group bookings. We have had visits from numerous branches of the University of the Third Age, the Worthington Family History Group, Mothers' Unions, Hong Kong and Kansas State Universities. The Visitor Service Manager hosted the European Peace Trail and retired bankers, Church Commissioners and NHS workers, international football fans and a Hairy Biker for TV.

We are extremely lucky to have such dedicated volunteers. The number of Welcomers and Guides rose to over 80 last year. The daily flow of worshippers, workmen, exhibition planners and roadies as well as the tide of visitors can be overwhelming at times and yet, they return with a smile, week in, week out. We lose count of the number of compliments on the wonderful flowers prepared by Helen and Ian.

The constant in all of this wonderful yet challenging calendar of events and services is the team of Vergers, Derrick, Martin and Elaine without whom none of the above would happen and I cannot praise them highly enough. Most importantly, a special thank you to the Dean and Anthony O'Connor for their support and guidance in an extremely challenging but rather wonderful year.

**Dympna Gould**

*Visitor Services Manager*



*Back cover images (clockwise): a sculpture by artist Karen Lyons related to gun violence- a portrait bust of Manchester peace activist Erinma Bell MBE DL; staff volunteering at the Booth Centre; Cathedral vergers in fancy dress for the Christmas Movie Nights in December 2015; Canon Holgate in chaplaincy work at the Booth Centre; Cathedral staff on the Sleepout in aid of the Booth Centre.*

