

# Blackburn Cathedral Music & More online Supplement No. 25

## Bishop Julian's Inauguration Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### Everything was ready!

The West front of the cathedral had been re-gilded in glorious gold, and reds and blues, for the Bishop was about to knock on the door for permission to enter his cathedral.

But Assistant Director of Music **Shaun Turnbull**, who played magnificently for that service, could enter without knocking!



In the crypt some of the distinguished guests were chatting



Lord Tom Taylor of Blackburn, The Mayor and Mayoress of Blackburn with Darwen, and the High Sheriff, Colonel Alan Jolley and Mrs Jolley.

The Cathedral Choir and the Cathedral Girls' Choir, in our gloriously refurbished Song School, were putting finishing touches to their music, under the direction of **Samuel Hudson** for, as ever, they had a fine programme of music to sing:



The coronation anthem, *I was glad* by Sir Hubert Parry.  
*God be in my head* composed by our first cathedral organist, Dr **Herman Brearley** for the Enthronement of the First Bishop of Blackburn in 1926 and sung at every Enthronement since.

*The Call of Wisdom* by Will Todd (b. 1970),  
and, of course, many rousing hymns for us all to sing.



Meanwhile our organ scholar, **Karen Au**, assisted by former Deputy Head Chorister **Harvey Finney**, played stirring music, including Bach's *St Anne Fugue* to set an expectant mood for the congregation,

and the Music Group, led by **Sue Witts**, added their calming music to help set a contemplative mood for worship.



But what were all those packages of sandwiches and pop doing, which seemed to fill every available shelf and table in the cathedral itself? We were about to find out!



In the crypt **Canon Hindley** marshalled the scarlet-robed Mayors of the Diocese for their procession into the cathedral. They were headed by the Rt. Hon. **Jack Straw MP** who, a few days later announced that he would be retiring as Blackburn's MP in 2015...



... while Virger **Brian Newton** led the distinguished clergy and lay canons who were visiting us for this service.

On the extreme left can be seen **Lady Shuttleworth**, wife of the Lord Lieutenant who, alas, could not be with us as he was unwell.



**The Dean** welcomed the large congregation – saying that we should be seated when the bishop walked up the Nave after we'd all sung the processional hymn.

He added, with a touch of humour, 'The sandwiches, which are available for everyone, should be eaten after the service!'

The opening hymn, **Sing praise to the Lord** (a.k.a. *O praise ye the Lord*) was sung vigorously by everyone as the choir, clergy and distinguished guests processed to their places in the chancel.



*One of our distinguished guests was the **Bishop of Bloemfontein** (below centre) – whose diocese in South Africa is twinned with ours.*





When all were in their places we turned to face the West door, and a fanfare, composed by Samuel Hudson, was played by **Peter Mainwaring and Anthony Thompson ...**



The Bishop knocked on the West door with a Saxon Hammer which had been found on the bed of the River Ribble and which had subsequently been mounted with silver wire in a cedarwood shaft. All new Bishops of Blackburn have first sought admission to their cathedral through wielding this hammer.



And like the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Julian was asked by young people, 'Who are you and why do request entry?'



To which the Bishop replied, 'I am Julian, a servant of Jesus Christ, and I come with my wife, rejoicing in the grace of God, eager to do His will and willing to travel with you in His service.'

And then the Bishop and (breaking with tradition) Mrs Henderson walked into the cathedral as the choirs sang *I was glad*.



And as the choir sang 'O pray for the peace of Jerusalem' the Bishop prayed, 'remembering with gratitude previous Bishops of Blackburn'.



He was then arrayed in his cope and mitre and returned to the central altar for the necessary legal formalities which included the reading of the Archbishop's Mandate, and the taking of the oaths concerning the Church of England and his Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty.

And then, surrounded by the Cathedral Clergy, The Dean installed Bishop Julian into his Cathedra...



... and we all applauded!



There were many other memorable moments, but perhaps the most telling was the Bishop's sermon when he said, 'So much has happened to me in the last few days, that I feel I shall wake up and still be the Archdeacon of Dorking!'

'But I have been called to service, and without my wife, Heather, I should not be here today. I come as a new member of the diocesan team. I am a sinner like everyone here, but through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ I, like you, am redeemed.'



And after it was all over, we did enjoy the sandwiches and pop!

*Dorothy & Geoffrey Bracewell  
from  
Fence Parish Church.*