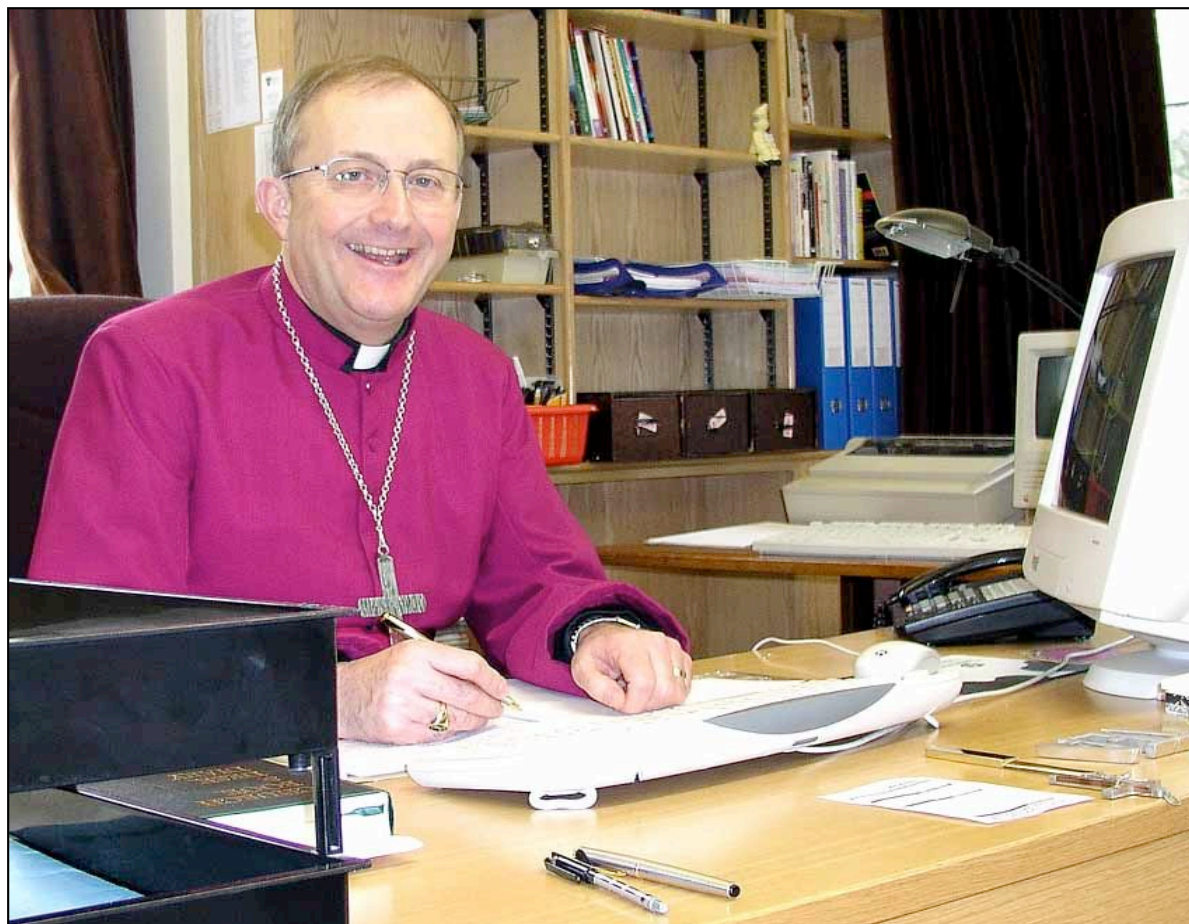


# BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL

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Friends of Blackburn Cathedral Music Newsletter No. 9  
and  
Blackburn Cathedral Old Choristers' Association Newsletter No. 18  
May, 2004

Editor: Dr. John Bertalot, Cathedral Close, Blackburn, BB1 5AA [john@bertalot.demon.co.uk](mailto:john@bertalot.demon.co.uk)



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW BISHOP + NICHOLAS AND HIS LADY, CHRISTINE!

Your editor popped into Bishop's House a week before **BISHOP NICHOLAS'S** Enthronement to take his photograph. "It's nice and warm in here," he commented to secretary **Sue Taylor** when she opened the door. "Yes, we love it," she replied enthusiastically as the bishop emerged from his office in his glorious new cassock which was adorned with a modern shining silver pectoral cross.

"Where do you want me?" asked my Episcopal host after welcoming me warmly. "Seated at your desk, please, inspiring the Diocese!" The bishop's office was immaculately tidy and breathed the air of calm efficiency.

And then a photo in Sue's office where computers and other office equipment were still being unpacked. Chaplain, the Revd. **Philip Gray** presented some papers for the bishop to look at while Sue looked on. (See photo on page 2.)

"And then may I have one of you, bishop, with Mrs. Reade?" Off we went up the corridor, past the chapel, which was still being re-decorated, and into the enormous lounge which was also immaculately tidy – having just been cleaned by **Kathryn Seed**, who also keeps your editor's house fit for habitation. "We had a reception and buffet here last night for the 36 women priests in our diocese," commented the bishop as **Christine Reade** seated herself on one of the comfortable settees. (See photo, page 2). "Our daughter, **Clare**, is away at the moment, but she'll be here for the Enthronement," said the bishop as he stood behind his wife.



+ Nicholas and Christine

“Have you been busy during your first 15 days?” “On my first day I had lunch with the Mayor and was interviewed on BBC Radio Lancashire. Later there were two Deanery visits, with Eucharist, address, questions and get-togethers.” He paused for a moment and added, “and there was the Diocesan Synod, of course.”

“My first Sunday was at my parish church – St. Peter’s, Salesbury, and then,” he concluded in Johannine Apostolic phraseology, “on the third day I met with the Anglican-Muslim group.”

Your editor left, mightily impressed by our bishop’s immense kindness, gentleness and steady determination to animate his flock in The Way of prayer and service.

**Welcome!**



Sue Taylor, Philip Gray and Bishop Reade

## BLACKBURN’S WARRIOR PRIESTS

No. 1

**The Very Reverend WILLIAM KAY**  
**DSO. MC. MA. 1894 -1980**  
**Provost of Blackburn Cathedral and**  
**Vicar of Blackburn 1936 –1961**  
**by OC PETER HEALD**

One aspect of the history of Blackburn Cathedral that is rarely mentioned concerns wartime and other heroics of two of our senior clergy. As one chorister who still bears the scars of the authoritarian discipline of **PROVOST WILLIAM KAY**, I would like to portray him in a light that mellows and helps to understand his formidable reputation.

For example, when **my father**, who was cathedral choir secretary for a few years and, coincidentally, was like

his stately Daimler, with all the windows lowered to precisely one inch and with strict instructions not to adjust them, because they were right for proper ventilation.

William Kay was certainly a kindly man, with a twinkle of humour in his eyes at times, and on more than one occasion, as Vicar of Blackburn, he had been seen at the kitchen sink of one of his elderly, impoverished parishioners, with his sleeves rolled-up, doing the washing-up. He was not, I understand, given to chatting overmuch, even among his peers, and it is difficult to exemplify the sweeter nature of this very fiery Very Reverend..



*The Young Provost Kay*

He was probably right, I seem to recall, on the memorable occasion (*narrated in the September 2003 edition of the Newsletter by OC PETER FIELDING*) when Provost Kay wrested the processional cross from the crucifer (the Revd. A. C .F. Davies) at a Diocesan Choirs’ Festival Service and showed him how to lift it high,. Things simply had to be right. I also seem to recall him once observing that lying and deceit just didn’t make sense.

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William Kay was born on 28 December 1894 at Withnell, Chorley, where his father was Manager of Withnell Mill. He matriculated in Michaelmas Term 1913 in Arts (Classics), later married Helen Brierley of Rochdale and had four daughters and later some grandchildren.

The Manchester Dispatch, of 8 January 1919 records that ‘*he is spoken of as a magnificent fellow. He has won prizes for football and rowing, but is, as befitting a candidate for the Church, studious and book-loving.*’

In his formative early adult years, William Kay was a very busy man indeed. He was a student at Durham University from 1913 to 1916 and was awarded his BA on 13 April 1918 ‘in his absence on Military Service.’ His MA by examination was awarded in 1924



**Organist T. L. Duerden, Provost Kay, Choirman Jim Smith, and Major Heald at a presentation to Jim (who had been in the choir since he was a boy).**

Provost Kay also commissioned out of the Grenadier Guards, (but then was posted into the East Lancashire Regiment at the beginning of World War Two) had his first heart attack, **Provost Kay** was the first to offer transport to the Infirmary. **My mother, my brother Eric and I** rode in

On 15 December 1915, William Kay enlisted at Westoughton in the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, as a private soldier '25406 Guardsman Kay W.'

The Army loves details! Army Forms record that he was: **Name:** William Kay; **Address:** Pleasant View, Withnell (R); **Lodging:** The Vicarage, Westoughton; **Apparent Age:** 20 years, 352 months (*sic*); **Height:** 6 feet, 0 inches; **Chest Measurement:** Girth when fully expanded: 38 inches; Range of expansion: 3\* inches; **Complexion:** fresh; **Eyes:** hazel; **Hair:** auburn; **Trade:** Parochial Lay Reader; **Former Service with HM Forces:** 2 years, Durham University Officers' Training Corps.

During the early days of World War 1, the Army was billeted in part of the College, and W Kay, as Secretary of the Hatfield Hall Finance Committee, is recorded to have complained that the most conveniently placed lavatories had been appropriated by the Military!

He was mobilized on 1 February 1916 and posted to Caterham. On 4 October he was appointed Lance Corporal, and on 29 May 1917 he was Commissioned 2 Lieutenant (Special Reserve) Manchester Regiment, aged 21 years and 149 days and the army described him as *clean, smart, sober and intelligent*, and after serving 1 year and 117 days with the Colours, he was awarded three medals: the European War, the British War and the Victory Campaign Medals.

But he also won four other medals for conspicuous heroism.

#### FOUR MEDALS FOR OUTSTANDING BRAVERY

His wartime exploits with The Manchester Regiment read like a Boy's Own, book. As a 2nd Lieutenant (Acting Captain), in the space of one year, serving in France, he was awarded no less than four of the highest awards for gallantry: three Military Crosses and: the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) which was for courageous activities just seven days before peace broke out!

#### THE DSO

The citation for his Distinguished Service Order reads, 'On 4th November 1918, during the attack on the Sambre-Oise Canal, he displayed marked courage and able leadership when his battalion was temporarily held up. Under intense machine gun fire he went back to his brigade headquarters and reported the situation. Later, his leadership materially contributed to the success of the day's operation.' This was the battle in which a brother officer Wilfred Owen was killed, just seven days before armistice, having been awarded his MC a month before at Joncourt.. [Some of Wilfred Owen's war poems are featured in Benjamin Britten's War Requiem.]

#### THREE MCs

Military Crosses are awarded for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty.. The citation for William Kay's first MC, reads, 'He reconnoitered the enemy's forward positions in bright moonlight and obtained valuable information. On the following night he led a raiding party into the enemy's line with great gallantry under heavy fire. By his skilful leadership he saved many casualties and inspired all ranks with confidence by his personal example.'



Medals (DSO, MC and 2 bars on left) in the care of the Trustees of the Manchester Regiment Museum & Archives, on loan from Mrs Julie Newcombe.

Extracts from his second MC include '...*When the situation was obscure...this officer, personally reconnoitered the enemy position under heavy fire, bringing in useful intelligence ... displayed tireless energy and complete disregard for danger...*'

From his third, MC '...*at Joncourt on October 2nd 1918 prior to zero hour under very heavy shellfire encouraged the men by his calm and collected manner reconnoitered the whole line and brought back exact dispositions. In the evening he again led forward the ration party to the new line and it was entirely due to his personal energy and zeal that the rations were delivered intact.*'

An article in The Manchester Dispatch, headed **THE VILLAGE HEROES** included a glowing account of William Kay's military exploits:

*'A glorious record of achievement is that of Capt. and Adjutant Wm. Kay, D.S.O. and M.C.. He has been mentioned times innumerable, the last time in Field-Marshal Haig's latest dispatches, and his war decorations, all gained in the year 1918, include the Military Cross, with three bars (sic), and the D.S.O., the latter being awarded for signal service in the last big battle of the war' [seven days before the war ended].*

Further details of Captain Kay's heroism can be found in the history of The Manchester Regiment: *"This night (27th February 1918) a raid was carried out by a party of the battalion 110 strong under Captain Kay. The raid was entirely successful, seven prisoners being taken (2 men were killed, 2 officers and 11 men were injured and 2 men were missing). A wire from the General Commanding the 32nd Division congratulated all concerned on their brilliant exploit."*

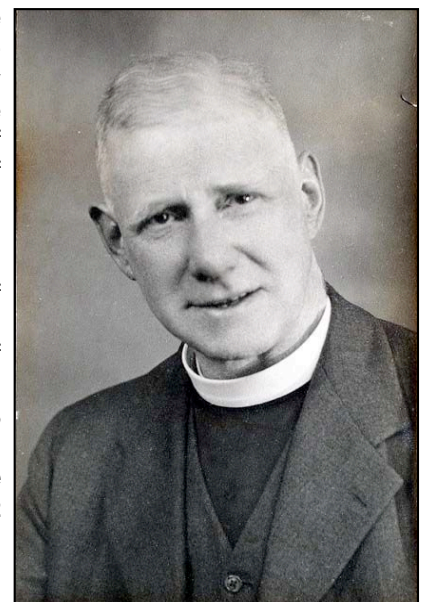
He was demobilized in January 1919, as a Captain, and his photograph and medals hang on loan in the Museum of The Manchester Regiment at Ashton-under-Lyne.

Did Blackburn fully realize that it had, as Provost, a warrior of such towering heroism?.

#### WILLIAM KAY – THE PRIEST

For William Kay, the priest: after demobilisation and presumably ordination in 1919 he was appointed Curate of Rochdale at the age of 25 then Vicar of Elmton with Cresswell in 1922, Rector of Whitewell with Steetley in 1928, Vicar of Newark in 1929, Honorary Canon of Southwell in 1932, Rural Dean of Bolsover in 1928 and of Newark in 1933. **Three years later he was appointed Provost of Blackburn Cathedral and Vicar of Blackburn**

– a post which he held with distinction until his retirement to 1961.



My own outstanding personal recollection of Provost Kay occurred on the morning of a Nine Lessons and Carols Service in the Cathedral. **MR. DUERDEN** had spotted dust on the stone pillar behind the lectern, and had given me a sweeping brush and instructions to remove it. Inevitably, dust fell onto the magnificent maroon velvet and brass-bound bible. Provost Kay walked into the nave at that moment and boomed, "Stop this desecration!"



When I explained that Mr. Duerden had told me to do it, he poked me in the chest with his impeccably-rolled umbrella and thundered, "I am Provost of this Cathedral, not Mr. Duerden!" I retreated, muttering, "No man can serve two masters," to which he added, "and don't quote the bible at me, Heald."

It was at about this time that choristers of the Cathedral were able to watch Provost Kay mixing concrete and **Precentor RENNIE SIMPSON** carrying hods of bricks (which had been paid for out of Provost Kay's salary) up a ladder to the bricky **Arthur Haythornthwaite** of Crofts the Builders of Preston. None of us recognised at the time the privilege of watching a cathedral church actually being built by loving hands.

I last saw Provost Kay in his New Forest retirement home at Brockenhurst, a year or so before he died. I had diverted my journey through Hampshire in order to call on him, but when I spotted him through his study window, quietly asleep at his desk, I really did not have the heart, or was it the courage, to disturb him.

**BRYAN LAMB** let me have a photocopy of The **SEE of BLACKBURN**, the diocesan magazine, dated **March 1980**, with an article entitled **School Choir sings at Founder's Memorial:**

The choir of St. Wilfrid's C of E High School paid a debt of gratitude when they sang at the memorial service to Provost Kay in the Cathedral on 24th January.

When the mill in Shakespeare Street was offered for sale, Provost Kay stepped in and bought it, paying for it with his own money. The building became the nucleus of St. Wilfrid's High School, now one of the most sought-after secondary schools in the district.

"Without Provost Kay, St. Wilfrid's could not have been", commented **CANON G A WILLIAMS** in his address at the memorial service. "The school and the cathedral itself are two lasting memorials – evidence of the fearless way he coped with the challenges of the postwar years, as the diocese fought to retain and re-equip its church schools."



The Revd William Hope, formerly Vicar of Euxton, who was a close friend of the former Provost wrote:

*Like most brave men, he never spoke of the incidents which won him his military awards. He was a man of*

*absolute integrity, unsullied Faith, dignity without pomposity, and possessed of a great sense of humour. Whether you liked him or not you knew that you would get fair play in your dealings with him and if you were lucky enough to get close to him you saw a very real Christian gentleman.*

*His health worsened very much these last two years, but to the last he worshipped regularly in the House of his God. The words of John Bunyan's Mr. Stand-Fast might well be William Kay's: "I have formerly lived by hearsay and faith, but now I go where I shall live by sight and shall be with Him in whose company I delight myself."*

I have often wondered just how much of his military experience led him to take Holy Orders. Awards for gallantry are usually associated with killing people.

It has now become clear, however, that from his youth the priesthood was his destiny, that his wartime service was merely something he could not avoid, and that he was remarkably good at both.

So whilst I acknowledge the great privilege of having known this real Christian gentleman, I hope he looks down kindly on me for my impertinence in revealing aspects of his life in a tale he would never have told.



**Peter Heald.**

*Unbounded thanks and admiration to Peter for this scholarly and most fascinating article. For reasons of space it has been somewhat shortened: but readers On Line will be able to read Peter's full article when Mellor receives Broadband in July. Stand by for an announcement. Ed*

Special thanks to Mr David Hopkins, Curator, Museum of The Manchester Regiment; Major R G Woodfield MBE, Regimental Archivist, Grenadier Guards; and Mr Arthur Moyes BA MEd, Archivist, Hatfield College, Durham University for their help in preparing this article.

**BISHOP BADDELEY'S** heroic exploits in two world wars, are currently being researched by **OC BRYAN LAMB** and will appear in the next Newsletter

## CATHEDRAL CHOIR'S TOUR OF GERMANY May 28-June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Sat 29th Fly to Berlin, transfer to Braunschweig  
Sun 30th Morning service at Braunschweig Cathedral.  
Evening concert  
Mon 31st Bank Holiday - activities/free time  
Tues 1st June.  
Morning train to Berlin  
Evening Concert in Berlin Cathedral  
Wed 2nd Sight seeing in Berlin  
Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Return to UK

This will be an attractive trip for the Cathedral choir and its supporters. They will get a fantastic welcome in Braunschweig and the opportunity to visit Berlin and sing in the Cathedral is very exciting indeed.

## OC CHRIS HUNWICK AND THE PRINCE

The Earl of Wessex visited Chetham's School, Manchester, at the end of 2003 in his capacity as the new Patron. He spent half an hour viewing the treasures of the Library. His guide was our highly intelligent Old Chorister, **CHRIS HUNWICK**, who told your editor what happened.



"I showed him two of the Sextons' Registers from the Cathedral, pointing out how the bells of Manchester Cathedral were tolled for 36 hours over 9 days upon the death of Prince Albert in 1861, and how the fee for a burial had been re-funded when it was dis-

covered that the corpse of the young boy, a cholera victim in 1832, had fallen into the hands of the anatomists at the Hospital and he had been buried with a brick in place of his head!"



*Such are the excitements currently being experienced by CHRIS, who is Archivist not only of Manchester Cathedral, but also of Chetham's School. (See our last edition for more photos!).*

## OC DEREK AND MARILYN CROMPTON . . .

returned safely to their lovely Balderstone home after their month-long tour around the world. They visited Hong Kong, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia (the view of Sydney Opera House from the plane is spectacular!) Los Angeles, San Diego and New York.

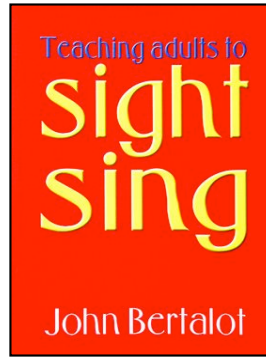


In New York they sailed on the Staten Island Ferry past the Statue of Liberty, went up the Empire State and took in a performance of *The Phantom of the Opera*. "We couldn't get into the London performance," said Marilyn, "so thought we'd take to opportunity to see it on Broadway." What a good idea!

The excuse for the tour was to celebrate Marilyn's significant birthday – but who needs an excuse to go round the world? Welcome back!

## JOHN BERTALOT'S LATEST BOOK . . .

. . . *Teaching Adults to Sight Sing* has just been published by Kevin Mayhew. It is based on his experience of teaching his adult choir at Fence Parish Church (where he's organist, when not editing this Newsletter!) how to read music.



The book has a bright red cover and is now on sale world-wide. (The Cromptons would have just missed buying a copy in Australia!).

If the sales of his previous book are anything to go by, this new book will have to be reprinted within a year!

Copies are available from Kevin Mayhew

Phone: 01449 737-978

## THE PAVILIONS in Church Street. . .

...have now been fully restored and glow in their pristine whiteness. Enormous glass panels between the three listed buildings allow the cathedral to be seen from Church Street – or Church Street to be seen from the Cathedral.



They're an impressive addition to the centre of Blackburn, which is now known as *The Cathedral Quarter*. Heartiest congratulations to The Powers That Be who initiated this scheme and to those who paid for it.

## BISHOP ALAN CHESTERS

Bishop Chesters' photo-portrait now hangs proudly in the Cathedral Crypt Assembly Area – right next to the portrait of his much loved predecessor **BISHOP STEWART CROSS**.



It's quite a shock to be faced with life-size portraits of two such distinguished Fathers-in-God as one makes one's way to the cathedral cafeteria. Their eyes follow one's progress relentlessly, both going and coming!

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## JOHN SCOTT

England will shortly be losing one of its most brilliant and most respected cathedral organists. **John Scott** (who was given the LVO in the New Year honours' List for directing the music of St. Paul's Cathedral at so many Royal occasions), will be leaving St. Paul's Cathedral this August to take up the leading church music post in the USA – at the church of Saint Thomas, Fifth Avenue, New York City.

This church has the only fully resident choir school in the USA – it has had, as its music director for the last 33 years, one of America's most highly loved organists – **Dr. Gerre Hancock**, who is known affectionately by all his colleagues as Uncle Gerre.

The great music tradition of this fine church (which is right next to the Rockefeller Center) was begun at the beginning of last century by **T. Tertius Noble**, who was then organist of York Minster! John Scott will continue this fine tradition but, my goodness, we shall miss him!

Your editor enjoyed a delicious lunch with John in February when JB shared with JS some of his American experiences – such as, when seeing a letter addressed to *Mr. John Smith Esq*, it's not overkill, for 'Esq' means that the chap is an attorney! America is a foreign country, but a supremely exciting one.



(Do you notice anything about the façade of St. Paul's? The West front is being fully restored and it's covered with a vast photograph on white tarpaulin of an architect's scale drawing of the West front. The age of miracles is not past!)

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From **OC TONY MURPHY** in Hertfordshire

Hi John

Sorry for not keeping you more updated - things have moved quite quickly in the last few weeks. I'm now leaving Diageo - after twelve and half years!! I've taken up a new role in Cadbury Schweppes still based out of central London. I'm now HR Director for Global Commercial Strategy and Marketing. Sounds a lot grander than it is believe me! I'm currently on 'garden leave' until I start next

week - basically that means I'm being paid for staying at home!!!

I'll catch up with you soon I hope

Much love

Tony and family

From **OC PETER HEALD** in Ely – *about our Newsletter*: Don't know how you do it! Well - actually, I do. All it needs is a combination of spare time, enthusiasm, skill, dedication, vision, late nights and so forth. Simple, really.

Heartily supportive of schemes to offset production and mailing costs (see **BOB KEEN'S** money-quiz!), **Constance's** instant response was to offer to pay for the production of a single issue, and to offer the privilege to other OCs. What d'you think? The 2nd class stamps idea makes a lot of sense - good on Bob - and if we could have an estimate of the cost of producing the OC's portion of an issue, we would happily consider a contribution.

All power to the individual and corporate elbows.

Ever,

Peter.

*Peter and Constance: Thank you so very much. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated! JB*

From **OC FRANK HARE** near Malvern.

Hello John

I received the Newsletter right on time. I must say (from one Editor to another - ahem -) that it really is a good read. The amazing thing is just how many OCs you have managed to find that were previously thought "lost". I am also amazed at the application of their talents being turned into such a wonderful array of careers.

This in itself is a reflection on the type of chap the choir managed to turn out over the years. Providing a stable and creative pastime clearly has its merits. Not to mention the "team player" attitude which is so important in later life. As a devotee of marriage, I am particularly pleased to see so many OCs getting married and raising families.

Above all else, the Choir produces such nice people who never seem to forget their old friends despite the years passing so quickly and absences at meetings all too frequent.

As for me, I am still working and really love it SO much. I'm on issue 22 of my magazine **INSITE**, which now is sent to some 20 countries !! This included one via a phone call from a deep toned voice seeking a copy "*fraam thee Ukreyn*".

I have graduated into the elite squad holding a "bus pass" from last November (ouch). My wife **Chris** is as usual battling on [after her stroke] and creating more great paintings. She has become a Trustee-Director of her treatment centre called ARCOS. Try our web site **[www.arcos.org.uk](http://www.arcos.org.uk)** and see what miracles our staff do.

I visited a day centre for severely handicapped young people last week, with our Principal Kay Coombes. It was so shocking I nearly broke down, but just hung on, feeling very sick. Such terrible infirmities - simply left behind by the State. ARCOS tries to pick up the pieces. All funded by private donations!! I have told everyone if they hear me complain about ANYTHING in future just say "the day centre". We have NO problems compared to these unfortunate souls.

Well that's it for now – keep smiling !!

Love to all my old mates (had a great letter from **OC BERNARD WEST** recently - I will reply soon).

Yours, **Frank** – formerly Blackburn Dec Bass 4 / Dec Tenor 3 / Can Tenor 3, Can Bass 4 and occasional Alto and Treble assistant - phew - I did get around!



**Bernard and Frank**

*Thanks so much Frank; it's always so very good to hear from you. Great news about Chris, too. JB*

From **OC MARTIN MARSH**, in France (via a letter sent to Treasurer, **GORDON FIELDING**)

Martin is moving 'lock, stock and barrel, wife, 3 kids, dog, cat, 2 cars and enough possessions to furnish half of Paris' to France. He is hoping to come to this year's Reunion.

He also quotes that he is not planning to work for a year or two, apart from rebuilding a couple of barns and ploughing up 1.5 acres of land, etc. He is also struggling to get through a few miles of French red tape - a formidable task.

He wants to set up a standing order."

*Great to hear your news, Martin. May your stay in La Belle F be happy – and special thanks for asking for a standing order for membership of BCOCA. This is greatly appreciated. JB*

### DAVID AND ISOBEL GALILEE . . .

. . . were given a great send-off at a luncheon party in the cathedral crypt on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> February. Many cathedral pholk were there to enjoy the pharewell, phood and phun:

The Dean →

The Galilees →



Speeches were made by **DEAN CHRISTOPHER ARMSTRONG** and **CHURCHWARDEN KEITH BANKS**, and, of course, by **CANON DAVID** himself which was, as ever, a riot!



And how good it was to see **DEAN FRAYNE** and **LIZ** who had driven all the way from their lovely home in the Deep South to honour a greatly loved Canon and his Lady.



### A VERY SPECIAL BAPTISM

It was with delight that we welcomed Old Chorister **PETER BANKS** with his wife, **Val**, to the cathedral on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, for the Baptism of their daughter, **Evie**, whose photo appeared in the last Newsletter. Peter was a chorister in JB's time, as was his brother, **IAN**, who is now a doctor in Australia. Peter's illustrious parents are, of course, Churchwarden Canon **Keith Banks**, and **Joan**, who is an MBE!

The service was conducted by the Dean, and afterwards the party assembled at the excellent **Millstone Inn**, Mellor, for a celebration lunch. The **Cromptons** had returned from their world tour just in time, for Derek stood in as pro-Godfather to Evie, on behalf of Dr. Ian Banks in Adelaide.



**Back row: Proud Grandparents Joan and Keith and proud Dad Peter.**

**Front: Proud pro-Godfather Derek & Marilyn Crompton, and proud Mum Val with the star of the day, Evie.**

Derek was due to sing a solo: *Out of the Deep* at 4.00 pm Choral Evensong, but as the lunch went on longer than expected (it was delicious and the company great) he only just made it in time. (Being *just in time* seems habit-forming!) But, of course, some folk don't need to rehearse!

### Former Director of Music **GORDON STEWART**...

..blew into your editor's house at mid-morning coffee time towards the end of March. He'd just returned from con-



ducting a **BBC TV Songs of Praise** in Johannesburg Cathedral and was full of praise for all that he saw and heard in that lovely country.

He told me that he was putting the finishing touches to his RSCM Millennium Youth Choir's concert tour of the USA. (A major undertaking.) Wow! He then dashed off to Manchester to give an organ lesson to a University student. ("He's brilliant!" said Gordon.)

"I didn't know you taught at the University," I said. "Oh yes," he replied, "I've done that for at least 20 years!"

**Former Sub Organist KEITH BOND** is well. He and **Ruth** live in an exquisite village not far from Aldeburgh (Benjamin Britten's former home).

Keith plays for three Sundays a month at Aldeburgh Parish Church, and then, on the fourth Sunday, his Singers (a highly professional group) sing a full Choral Evensong at nearby Blythborough Church. This is an enormous mediaeval church which Britten used for concerts when his Snape Maltings Concert Hall burnt down. many years ago. Keith has recently had the church organ enlarged.



Cartoon © by John Minnion

When I spoke with Ruth on the phone she told me that she was about to mend a hole in the kitchen wall! She also plays recorder in a local Consort. Clearly both Keith and Ruth are creatively occupied in that lovely part of England. We miss them both so much.

**Former Senior Old Chorister ALBERT OGDEN ...**

...sent the editor a most attractive brochure in German of **'What's On in Salzburg'** which includes details of Albert's very own art exhibition for three weeks this August! Heartiest congratulations, Albert.

When Albert was Senior Old Chorister in 2001 he generosity put on an exhibition of his paintings and drawings in the cathedral for our BCOCA Annual Reunion – and sold many of them, which helped to swell BCOCA's coffers by more than several hundred pounds. May Albert's Salzburg Exhibition reap even greater rewards (despite the state of the Euro!).

*What about an Old Choristers' outing to Salzburg to support Albert?*

**Residenz, Antikensammlung**

Residenzplatz 1, Salzburg Special,  
Tel. 0662 824705, [sbg.special@salzburg.co.at](mailto:sbg.special@salzburg.co.at)

Mo 02.08.2004 bis Sa 28.08.2004

„Mainly Music“

Sonderausstellung mit Zeichnungen von A.B. Ogden. Charakterstudien von Musikern und Einzelpersonen aus dem Publikum, die der Engländer A.B. Ogden im Verlauf von mehreren Jahren während seiner Konzertbesuche in Salzburg, vor allem auch während der Residenz - Mozart - Matinéen, gemacht hat.

Ausstellung für Konzertbesucher von 11.30 Uhr bis 13.30 Uhr frei zugänglich.

An Email from **OC BERNARD HARGREAVES** wung its way from California to your Editor's computer in March with some good news:

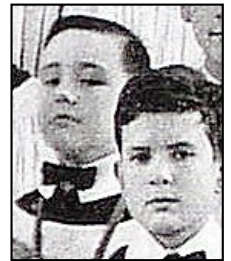
John,

Nice to hear from you I enjoyed reading the Newsletters, and look forward to receiving the future updates. I have mailed you a check for the BCOCA membership dues of \$40.00 today (the check is in the mail!).

Take care of yourself,

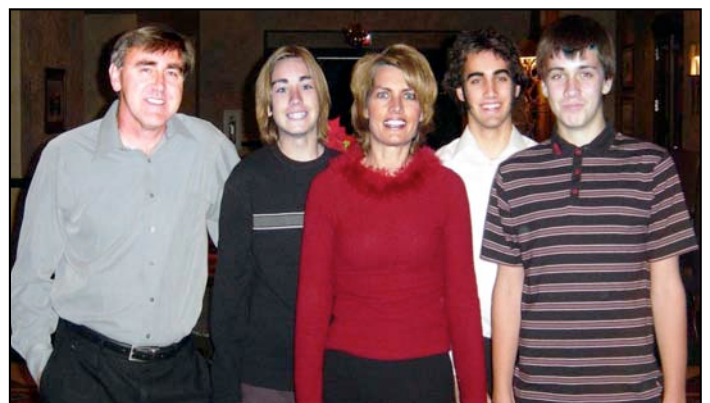
Regards, Bernard (Alias 'Butch')

*Bernard, and his two brothers, were in the choir in JB's early days – 1965 – when there was a hardboard screen across the East end of the restored Nave (where the choir steps are now) whilst the Lantern Tower was being built and the transepts, East end were being transformed into their present glory.*



*Photo: Bernard (L) with Alec Simpson in 1965. Anyone know where Alec is now?*

*Bernard sent an up-to-date photo of himself (L) and family, who are clearly thriving in California (Everyone does!)*



A Round Robin Email was received from **OC RUPERT DUCKWORTH** in Australia – who, with his wife **Chrissie**, visited us at Christmas (see their photo in our last edition.)



Rupert is back to full time employ after his successful year off completing his MSc in Environmental Science. He will head off to Tanzania in May; his first trip back to Africa since the accident. As he says, he has to get back on the horse sometime and he's looking forward to the work.

Chrissie is battling away as ever at Qantas keeping the passengers in order AND the management. She spends most of her spare time dreaming and planning the next holiday or trip away!

*Rupert added that winter is a coming as the days get shorter and the temperatures slightly lower. We've been through that – it's great to be in the Northern Hemisphere right now!* JB

**HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS** to the Cathedral's Music Staff – for we now have more singers in our choirs, and also more choirs, than ever before. Is our grand total of singers 75, 85, 95, or more than 100? See page 17 and you'll be amazed! Well done, **RICHARD & GREG!**

## OUR BISHOP'S ENTHRONEMENT

Unbounded congratulations and admiration to the entire Cathedral Staff for all they did to ensure that Bishop Nicholas's Enthronement was such an outstanding success.

Your Editor popped down to the Cathedral on the day before the big event, and found that **Debbie Heyes**, the cathedral receptionist, was having to field endless phone calls from folk who wanted tickets for the service.



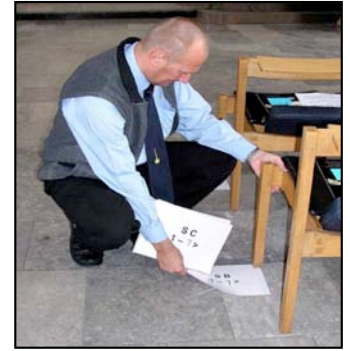
"They've left it far too late," she confided. "They should have applied months ago!"

The Cathedral was humming with activity:

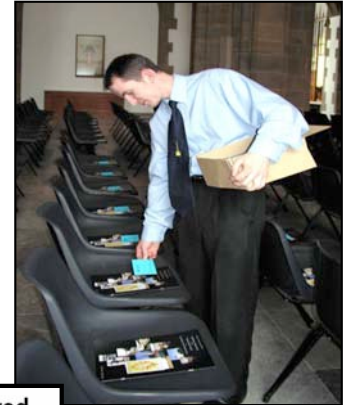
The organ was being tuned by **David Wood** and his assistant, **Michael Ledbetter**, while **CANON HINDLEY** looked on.



Head Virger **Howard Waddell** was putting reserved-row notices on the floor,



which **Jane Jeal** had polished to perfection.



whilst **Mark** was putting the superb programmes onto chairs in the North Transept.

The Cathedral is being prepared for the Bishop's Enthronement Tomorrow.

Please do not touch or remove the service papers

There is a copy of tomorrow's service at the Welcome desk at the back of the Cathedral for you to glance at.

**Canon Hindley** confided that the printed orders of service were so superb that eight copies had been pinched by visitors to the cathedral that morning. A special notice had been printed to stop that!

Everything was ready for the Great Day!

**Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2004, 9.30 am**

The Cathedral Choir was hard at work with last-minute preparations (the boys had been there since 8.30 am!) **PHIL WILSON** (left) just made it in time!



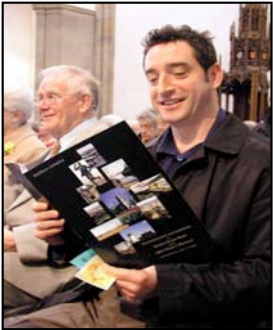
(L-R) **Phil Wilson**, **Adam Crewe**, **Alec Stuttard**, **Judge James Prowse** and **Stewart Hopkinson**.



The cathedral quickly filled with guests who had come from all parts of the Diocese and beyond. **Lord Tom Taylor of Blackburn** was in the front row, looking resplendent in his CBE regalia,



and our Wardens, in full fig, and ushers, with **CANON HINDLEY** were there to ensure that everyone was welcomed – former Senior Old Chorister **ERNIE GORNER** looked particularly happy!



**Steven Greenwood** was seated in the North Transept, looking at his handiwork – the magnificent **order of service**, in full colour, printed on heavy glossy paper, including photographs of all eight Bishops of Blackburn. He and **Canon Andrew Hindley** had done a brilliant job. It is a collector's item.

The service started exactly on time, when the whole congregation turned to face West as the Bishop knocked on the door with the historic Saxon hammer.



After being greeted by the Dean, Bishop Nicholas processed by himself up the nave, stopping seven times to remember the first seven Bishops of Blackburn, as the choir sang, with brass and organ, Parry's *I was glad*.



The Bishop presented to the Dean his Mandate from the Archbishop of York, and it was read, most

impressively, by the Chancellor, watched by the Diocesan Registrar **Tom Hoyle** (L), with Deacon, the Rev. **Becky Hollis** (Broughton St. John) centre.



The Bishop was anointed by the **Bishop Stephen** of Lancaster (far right) and **Bishop John** of Burnley, watched closely by Chaplain **Philip Gray** (left)



Then came the Enthronement – as **Dean CHRISTOPHER ARMSTRONG**, supported by the Residentiary Canons, Archdeacons and Suffragan Bishops, led the eighth Bishop of Blackburn to his throne.





The bishop smiled his thanks as everyone applauded loud and long.

The choir was in terrific form under **RICHARD TANNER'S** clear leadership,



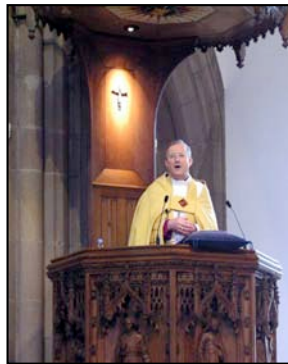
and they were, as ever, skilfully accompanied by **GREG MORRIS**, supported by organ scholar **ALEX DAVIES**.



The congregational hymns were magnificent – augmented thrillingly by a brass quintet. Everyone sang lustily, including **Lord and Lady Shuttleworth** who were on the front row next to the High Sheriff and Lord Taylor.



They, and representatives from Lancashire life and from the our twinned dioceses, were greeted by **Bishop and Mrs. Reade**. A particularly impressive moment came when the RC **Archbishop of Liverpool**, read the Gospel, surrounded by many other Fathers in God.



The bishop's sermon started memorably: **A headmaster once said that when his predecessors had retired they'd gone to heaven. But when I retire, said the head, I shall go to Bognor Regis!** This led the bishop to say that he had lived near to Bognor Regis, but was so glad he had come to live in Lancashire.

He talked about firework displays. When rockets shot into the air there was always an audible 'Oo' from the crowd. And when it exploded into myriad stars there was an audible 'Ah'. This Enthronement service was, for him, an 'Oo-ah; experience – and the Christian life for all of us should be an 'Oo-ah' experience.

We shall remember the 'Oo-ah' text for a long time! And finally the Bishop blest us, before leaving his Cathedral



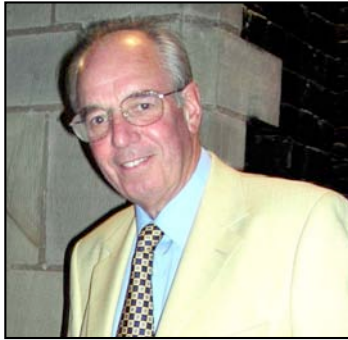
at the end of an impressive procession, thoroughly Installed and Enthroned as our new Bishop of Blackburn.

**WELL DONE ALL, and a renewed HEARTY WELCOME!**

**BCOCA Chairman, GORDON SHAW** attended bishop Nicholas's consecration in York Minster a month earlier. What did our Chairman wear for this great occasion?

### “GORDON’S DRESS SENSE”

One week before the consecration of our new Bishop at York Minster, **Sheila** and I received our special invitation for the service from the Dean and Chapter and to attend the lunch in St William’s Hall for Deans, Canons and members of Chapters. Sheila was to be seated at the front of the nave and I was included in “Procession No. 3” in the Chancel. What a privilege to be honoured in this way.



It was with some pride that we set off for York arriving with only minutes to spare. Sheila entered by the West door and I went in by the South door as instructed. My ticket clearly said for “a place in the procession of senior clergy and representatives”



I’ve never seen so many clergy in one place before, every single person was robed. Bishops, Deans, Canons, Hon. Canons, Registrars, at least 200 people. I appeared to be the only person not robed – whoops! I had assumed my best suit would be perfectly adequate as a member of the Cathedral Chapter. After a hasty discussion with **Dean Christopher and Canon Andrew** it was agreed that I

should take my place in the procession as the lay chapter representative of the Cathedral congregation – God would not concern himself with such a triviality as attire, and in any case I’m not often seen in a suit!

The processional hymn began and off we went led by a verger. I walked with our bewigged Chapter Clerk **Tom Hoyle** and was amazed to see the Minster bursting with people, many from Blackburn. I was the only person in that procession NOT ROBED. I strode on, head held high like the “Emperor in his birthday suit” smiling at acquaintances and friends extremely proud to be representing you all as Chairman of BCOCA and as a Gentleman of Blackburn



Cathedral Choir. It was a glorious service, and after it was all over we very much appreciated the generous hospitality of the Dean and Chapter of York Minster in the historic St William’s Hall.



### THREE GENERATIONS OF FIELDINGS PETER, ROBERT & RICHARD



It was a particular joy to welcome **OC ROBERT FIELDING** to the cathedral on the last day of March, when he gave a superlative lunchtime recital which attracted a most appreciative audience – four curtain calls – with members of the Fielding clan well represented. (Uncle **PAUL** turned over for him!)

Robert had been a cathedral chorister (briefly) during JB’s early days here, before the family moved down south. He is now Organist and Master of the Choristers of Romsey Abbey, leads inspiring choral and organ classes all over the country, and conducts the Winchester City Festival Choir.

It was also good to welcome Robert’s son, **Richard**, who is a chorister in Salisbury Cathedral Choir. He’s sung there for 5 years and ‘retires’ this summer. “Do you play an instrument?” asked your editor. “Yes, the organ – and my Dad teaches me!” (Of course!)

Robert and Richard had to dash off after the recital: “I’m conducting a rehearsal in Winchester tonight – it’s a four-hour drive.” *They left a great impression behind them. Come again!*

#### **OC Peter** wrote after the recital:

Dear John, thank you for your kind vote of thanks addressed to Robert yesterday. I enjoyed the recital thoroughly, but perhaps I’m a little biased!

I’m really looking forward to the Brahms next week. I’m grateful to **RICHARD TANNER** for asking us to play. It’s a work I remember from a very early age. I used to be taken to St. John’s Church, Blackburn (behind the Town Hall where **TLD** was organist for 25 years before coming to the cathedral for a further 25 years) when aged about five or six to listen to this and many other great Choral works, sung by a great choir. The Bass line alone contained both **FERRIER** brothers, (George Ferrier was **Mrs. Duerden’s** Dad, and William Ferrier was **Kathleen Ferrier’s** Dad),

For Big occasions T.L.D. used to use his Festival Choir and his ordinary choir. For T.L.D.’s Festival Choir only the most able Trebles (boys) were selected, and after many successes the choir became known as St. John’s Prize Choir. I wasn’t old enough to be in this elect group, but I was taken to the Blackpool Festival about 1937. I

remember that St. John's won and I'm pretty sure **Sir Edward Bairstow** was the Adjudicator! I had a feeling of being overwhelmed on these occasions.

Thanks again. John  
Peter

**OC ROBERT FIELDING** wrote after the recital:

Dear John,

I thoroughly enjoyed playing my favourite organ again!

Romsey Abbey is busy musically and a young lineup of 18 boys coping very well with Lotti's *Cruxifixus*, Bairstow's *Lamentations* and Weelkes *Hosanna*.

Just warming up the Tournemire *Victimae Paschali* and Howells' *Sarabande for Easter Morning*. for the Easter weekend.

Have you played the 1885 Walker since it was overhauled?

Great to see you again and all best wishes for Easter,  
Robert

*Whatta great music programme Robert is leading down south! JB*

### **FIVE GENERATIONS OF FIELDINGS!**

**TOM, HAROLD & PETER; ROBERT & RICHARD**

**Peter** sent the editor a 1937 photo of his father **Harold**, (who constructed the Song School music desks – see page 18) and grandfather **Tom**, when they were all in the choir of St. John's. Blackburn under **TLD**. There's History for you!



*Tom, Harold and little Peter in 1937!*

## **THE RENAISSANCE SINGERS**

by John Bertalot

One of the finest concerts ever to have been heard in Blackburn Cathedral was given to a large audience on 'Maundy' Wednesday by the Renaissance Singers under the inspired direction of **RICHARD TANNER**.

**Richard Tanner's** expressive conducting with bass soloist **Mark Rowlinson** waiting to sing.



They sang two major works: Stainer's *Cruxifixion* and Brahms' *German Requiem*. Either work would have been enough for most choirs, but the Blackburn Stalwarts tackled them both brilliantly, thanks to meticulous preparation, terrific talent and dedication by every singer, terrific accompaniment on organ and piano, respectively, and superb direction by the conductor.

**GREG MORRIS**, ably assisted by **ALEX DAVIES** presided at the console for the Stainer; one member of the audience commented afterwards how thrilled he was by Greg's use of the myriad colours on our organ for this work.



The Stainer soloists were our very own **OC DEREK CROMPTON**, and **Mark Rowlinson** who is a soloist for the BBC and a former BBC producer. They were magnificent.



More than several folk commented to me after the concert that they didn't know that Derek could sing so brilliantly! (Where have they been for the last 40 years?)

The soloist for the Brahms was our very own **NICOLA MILLS** who helps to train the youngest children in our choirs. Her singing was a transcendental joy.



But it was the Singers to whom so much credit is due – they were wholly brilliant, following Richard's every nuance of expression – singing absolutely together with exquisite tone. No words of praise are too high for what they achieved, or for Richard's meticulous direction of every note.

**Alizon Elliott**



**Margaret Robinson**



**Kennedy & Moon**



**Back row:** Rachel Fielding, Margaret Robinson, Jan Moon, Fred Wild, Gordon Shaw, Andy Jump, Graham Moon, George Greenwood, Tom Smith, Joyce Wicks, Ruth Bowler, Michelle Allen, Ginny Crewe  
**Front row:** Alizon Elliott, Ann Oaten, Emma Jenkins & Margot Berry, (both partially hidden) Edward McCullough, Owen Kennedy, Robert Mitchell, Phil Wilson, Tony Robinson, Mavis Bathe, Rosemary Lyons, Eileen Hemingway, Janet Goodship. **Derek Crompton** (L) is seen waiting for his next solo in the Stainer. **Richard Tanner** (Right)

The brilliant accompanists for the Brahms were **OC PETER FIELDING (right)** and his son, **MARK (left)** who is an internationally acclaimed accompanist. Their pages were skilfully turned by Peter's third son, **JOHN (centre)**.



And, of course, the audience was knee-deep in Fieldings, including (L-R) Peter's brothers, **GORDON & PAUL**, and Paul's wife **Rachel**, who is a leading member of the Singers, and son **William**, who loves organ music. Whatta family!



It was a special joy to welcome **DOROTHY WADE**, sister-in-law of **OC PETER HEALD**, with her husband, **David**, to the Renaissance Singers' concert – for she was a founder-member of the Singers, when they were called the **Blackburn Bach Choir**.

Dorothy was celebrating a Significant Birthday that night and was greatly impressed by the Singers' performance.

By the way, she and her twin sister **Constance** joined the Blackburn Bach Choir when they were very young.



From former Assistant Organist **IAN PATTINSON** (now organist of Lancaster Priory).



You might be interested to know that I'm as busy as ever with concerts up this way. My mother (mezzo-soprano) and I (on organ and piano) were doing a gig down your way: in April at St Peter's Church, Burnley.

This Lent, I've been busy playing the organ for Requiems (all with orchestra) by Faure, Rutter and Andrew Worton-Steward. The latter wrote the piece as his own Requiem, while he was dying of AIDS in 1989. The Rutter was for the Church College Choirs Festival in Carlisle Cathedral, where I happened to meet **OC Adam Crewe**, who was singing in the choir made up of several church and college choirs from around England.

Best wishes, Ian.

From **OC GRENVILLE ROBINSON** in Southern California!

JB,

Last newsletter was wonderful. Great to see **Ronnie "Whizz" Frost** picking up an award. Would be good to know if he and the wonderfully "voiced" Barbara are in rude health.

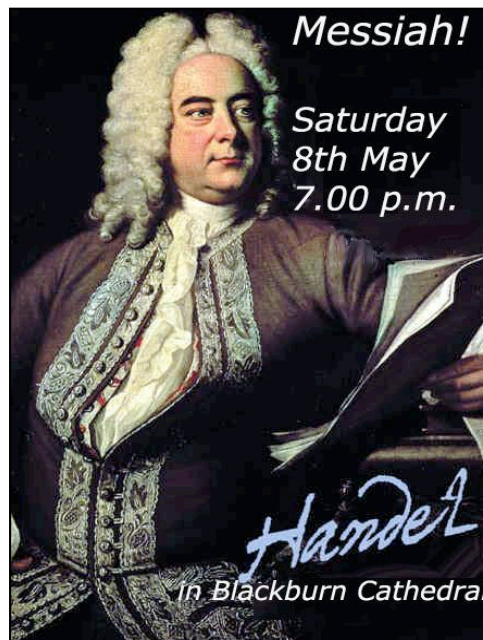
Had a surprise guest two weekends ago, when the senior **Beaumont** (Old Chorister **Graham**) appeared spontaneously in So. Cal. In good spirits, by all accounts.

Am due to get a picture done for my new business cards, when I move to a different location in a couple of months. I have just made the leap from Mortgage Associate to Mortgage Sales...living life on the edge on commission-only....having picked my 50th birthday to embark on this new venture :-))

Good wishes from the left coast.

Gren

*Gren – you will always be ever youthful to us! JB*



Soloists include our very own **Philippa Hyde!**

Blackburn Cathedral Choir, the Renaissance Singers and the Northern Chamber Orchestra

**Richard Tanner**, conductor

Tickets from the cathedral office, 01254-51491

**Baroque Classics**  
**The Renaissance Singers,**  
**Philippa Hyde, Richard Tanner**  
**and the**  
**Northern Chamber Orchestra**  
**Blackburn Cathedral, Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June**  
 7.30 p.m. Tickets: 01254-51491

On March 25th, for the Feast of the Annunciation, the girls were joined by **Nicola Mills** who sang Schubert's famous "Ave Maria". Many of the older girls have sung solos to an exceptionally high standard and I've received many positive comments on the quality of **Emma Pearson's** singing of the Lent Prose.



Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> July  
**FIVE CATHEDRAL CHOIRS' CONCERT**  
 in Liverpool Cathedral with the choirs of **Blackburn, Liverpool Anglican and RC Cathedrals, Chester and Manchester Cathedrals**



For full details of all these concerts contact Debbie at the Cathedral Office: 01254-51491

Book Saturday-Sunday 25-26 September for **Blackburn Cathedral Old Choristers Special Reunion**

which will celebrate the exact 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of

**John Bertalot's coming to Blackburn Cathedral!**



Put this date in your diary now!  
 ALL Old Choristers warmly pressed to be there!



The **Renaissance Singers** presented their annual evening of fun in the Crypt on 14th February. This year, predictably, it was a Valentine Evening. There were solo items from **Alizon Elliott, Ginny Crewe** and **Gordon Shaw's** famous "Come into the Garden Maude". Ensembles from "The four seconds" and A Mediaeval Madrigal from five of the gentlemen.

A sketch called "Dinner for one" was performed by **Gordon Shaw** and **Eileen Hemingway**. **Peter Crewe**, our Chairman, sang and accompanied himself on the guitar. The whole audience joined in community singing with songs such as "Daisy Daisy". **Richard Tanner** and **Philippa Hyde** sang Papageno/Papagena's duet from "The Magic Flute". The choir was on top form, singing a selection of madrigals and partsongs as well as some modern arrangements of songs such as "In the mood", "Ain't misbehavin'", "Let's do it!", and "Tea for Two". Accompanists **Matthew Drury** and **Ruth Livesey** performed exceptionally well on the Clavinova.

**From the Desk of Richard Tanner**

All the choirs have been busy since the publication of the last newsletter.



The **Girls' Choir** has continued to progress swiftly and has sung two Evensongs, as well as a special Holy Week evening service - all to large congregations. On 26th February, Evensong included hymns and music featuring texts by George Herbert and the girls were joined by **Philippa Hyde**, who sang Vaughan Williams' "Love bade me welcome".





The Singers were in action again the following week, singing at the Ash Wednesday Eucharist on 25th February. Music included Missa Bel' Amfitrit Altera by Lassus and Allegri's *Miserere*, with stunning top c's from **Emma Jenkins**.

The music for **Bishop Nicholas's Enthronement** included Parry's *I was glad* (of course), my *Fanfare for a Bishop* scored for brass, organ and choir – which was sung twice during the service, Richard Shephard's *The Secret of Christ* (Dr. Shephard is headmaster of York Minster Choir School and a prolific composer of church music – he writes his compositions down in ink – i.e. he hardly ever alters a note!) Elgar's *The Spirit of the Lord*, and *Psalms 121* with stunning solos from chorister **Thomas Croxson** and tenor old chorister **Derek Crompton** (of course!).

On April 3rd two members of the choir, **Ruth Livesey and Owen Turner**, were married by **Canon Hindley** in the Cathedral. The choir, directed by Richard Tanner, comprised The Renaissance Singers as well as other friends of the couple and the organ was played by **David Goodenough**. Ruth came down the aisle to "Zadok the Priest" and Ireland's "Greater Love" was sung during the signing of the registers with Emma Jenkins and Gordon Shaw providing the solos.

The **Children's Choir** added a touching dimension to the 9.0 am Parish Eucharist on Mothering Sunday.



**Nicola Mills** directed the children, who sang "My mum's one in a million" at the Offertory. Nicola is doing a super job with this wonderful bunch of singers. The family atmosphere at this service was very special.

Next term is an incredibly busy term for the choir, They sing Handel's **Messiah** with the Northern Chamber Orchestra on 8th May.

Two boys and three men will represent the Cathedral Choir at the 350th Anniversary of the Sons of the Clergy at **St Paul's Cathedral** on 18th May, along with representatives of every Cathedral Choir in the country.

Then on 29th May the choir travels to **Germany** where they will sing in our link Cathedral at Braunschweig, as well as a concert in Berlin Cathedral.

On July 4th we join the choirs of Liverpool Anglican and Roman Catholic Cathedrals and Manchester and Chester Cathedrals in **Liverpool Anglican Cathedral** for a concert to celebrate the Cathedral's centenary.



### NUMBERS!

We start the summer term with exceptionally healthy numbers of singers in our choirs. 27 boys (including probationers), 15 men, 40 girls, 28 YPC, 22 Children and 31 in the Renaissance Singers. **A grand total of 163\* singers** - more than ever in the Cathedral's history!

My thanks go to all of our singers and to their families for all their hard work and commitment. It's a real privilege to work with you all.

**Richard Tanner**

*\*163: That's ten more than the number of fish that Jesus' disciples caught after the Resurrection! (John 21:11) Ed.*

### RSCM'S MILLENNIUM YOUTH CHOIR

From **OC NOEL HUNWICK** re the Millennium Youth Choir's tour of USA – March 2004

*'The US was great, I really enjoyed my first visit there, and the choir and the people we stayed with and met were fantastic.'*



Also singing in this very prestigious choir (made up of hand-picked teen and early 20s singers from all over the UK) was our very own **EMILY CREWE**. Emily is not only Head Chorister of our Girls' Choir but she also sings in the Renaissance Singers.

**GORDON STEWART**, the choir's director, phoned your editor to say: 'The Millennium Youth Choir were just sensational night after night. Tears were pouring down the cheeks of the audiences and we had standing ovations every night during our 10-day tour..'

He added, 'I'm now going home to sleep; I'm flying to Edinburgh tomorrow to lead an organ academy which includes a world premiere.' He paused to draw breath and concluded, 'It's all non stop right now; I'm teaching at the Salisbury English organ school and then give the celebrity recital on Percy Whitlock's organ in St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth. It's all go.

*It certainly is! Ed*

### Stoppe Presse 1

Two members of our Girls' choir recently passed their Grade 5 singing exams with flying colours: **Carley Bett** was awarded a Merit, and **Emma Pearson** gained a coveted distinction! Well done! And *Well done* to **Philippa Hyde** for teaching these young singers so encouragingly.

## Stoppe Presse 2

From the Editor of the magazine of the National Federation of Cathedral Old Choristers

Dear John,

Thanks so much for continuing to send the BCOCA newsletter - they are fantastic and a model for all OCAs!! We're using the photograph of the Blackburn 1953 'Coronation' prefects in our next edition! **Michael Barry**

## Stoppe Presse 3

The YPC sang a beautiful BBC Daily Service on Easter Monday, which included the introit Andrew Simpson wrote for them. The first congratulatory phone call **GREG MORRIS** received was from **OC NIGEL SPEAK** in France! *Thanks, and well done!*

## MORE CATHEDRAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

**May 20<sup>th</sup> Thursday, after the 8.00 pm Ascension Eucharist**

'L'Ascension' (Messiaen) played by **Jeffrey Makinson**, the brilliant Sub Organist of Manchester Cathedral

**May 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 10.30 am**

Diocesan Eucharist with Celebrant and Preacher **Bishop Nicholas**. This service has been arranged so that as many people as possible will be able to meet our new bishop. Cars should be parked in the Shopping Centre car park - but get there early for the cathedral will be full!

**June 20<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, 7.30 pm.**

The Cathedral's YPC led by **GREG MORRIS** gives a concert in St. Nicholas Church, Fleetwood. *Fan Club exhorted to be there to support our young people.*

**June 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday, after 4.00 pm Choral Evensong:**

'Messe de la Pentecote' (Messiaen) played by our own **GREG MORRIS**

**July 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 7.30 pm**

The Cathedral's YPC celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a special concert in the Cathedral. ALL PAST YPC MEMBERS invited to participate. Lunch first, followed by rehearsals. Contact **GREG MORRIS 01254-51491. greg.morris@blackburn.anglican.org**

## GREG MORRIS

The fame of our cathedral Assistant Director of Music is spreading far and wide! During the next few months he will be giving recitals in Carlisle Cathedral, Newcastle Cathedral, Manchester Cathedral and Westminster Abbey! Come to hear him at **St. Peter's Burnley on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00 am!**

## SOC BOB KEEN'S QUIZZIZZ Nos. 1 & 2

Heartiest congratulations and thanks to **Senior Old Chorister BOB KEEN** for the great success of his first quiz (the money-puzzle) - which was won by the **Holding** family. **James and Simon** are, of course, valued members of our cathedral choirs. It raised nearly £30-00 to help swell the coffers of the BCOCA account. Well done all!

See the answers to the first quiz on page 19 - and give your brains a work-out with **the second quiz!** You'll need an atlas in one hand and a strengthening drink in the other, methinks! Closing date - 22<sup>nd</sup> May (the day before **THE KEENS' BCOCA LUNCHEON PARTY** at **GORDON AND SHEILA SHAW'S** lovely home in Mellor.

## SPECIAL LUNCH FOR NEW MUSIC DESKS!



**SOC BOB & PAULINE KEEN** are sponsoring a Special Lunch on **Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May** to raise very necessary cash to pay for the constructing new music desks for the Song School.

The present music desks were skillfully built by **HAROLD FIELDING** 70 years ago and they have given magnificent service. But they are falling apart and urgently need replacing.



Come to the lunch, immediately after morning service.  
**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2004, 12.30 pm**

in the lovely home and garden of

**Gordon & Sheila Shaw**  
**Sunny Bank,**  
**Whinney Lane,**  
**Mellor, Blackburn**  
**BB2 7EH**  
(01254-81-3586)



## Tickets only £12-00 from

**Gordon Shaw**, in the cathedral choir  
**Ernie Gerner**, sidesman at the cathedral  
**Debbie Heyes**, cathedral office (01254-51491)  
or Senior Old Chorister **Bob Keen**  
(01625-523-962)

The Shaws' home is halfway up the hill to Mellor, on the left. Limited car parking at their home, extra car parking at their neighbour's house, immediately opposite.

**Donations and Prizes** for the Raffle warmly welcomed. Cheques made out to **R. Keen c/o Cathedral Office, Blackburn BB1 5AA** We'd greatly appreciate your active support, please! Thanks!

**BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL OLD CHORISTERS ASSOCIATION  
SOC Bob Keen's COMPETITION No. 1 ANSWERS!**

**CUT OFF**

Thanks to all those who entered the first competition, and to the OC who made a generous donation without an entry. In trying to make the quiz more difficult and deliberately omitting the total amount from the question, a couple of equally correct answers were thrown up and these were accepted as correct and the entries put into the draw. A Joey used to be 4d although I was after 3d, and "part of a head" was meant to be Half Crown (2/6d) although Crown and 5/- was accepted, provided the totals were adjusted accordingly. The winners were "The Holdings" of Clayton-le-Moors. Well done to them and to the other six who had correct entries. The answer is printed below.

	<u>Clues</u>	<u>Word(s)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
1	Supreme Ruler	SOVEREIGN	1	0	0
2	Type of pig	GUINEA	1	1	0
3	Boy's name	BOB		1	0
4	Leather worker	TANNER			6
5	Baby marsupial	JOEY			3
6	Type of transport	PENNY FARTHING			1/4
7	Sun, Moon, Mars	THREE FAR THINGS			3/4
8	Girl's name	PENNY			1
9	Young quadruped	PONY	25	0	0
10	Type of singer	TENNER (TENOR)	10	0	0
11	Part of head	HALF CROWN		2	6
12	Ailing sea creature	SICK SQUID	6	0	0
			£ 43	5	6

**Details of the second competition are given OVER THE PAGE.** You are required to find the names of the places. Entry costs £1. To save on unnecessary bank charges, please pay your entry fees by way of 5 x 20p (Second Class) Postage stamps attached to, BUT NOT STUCK to, the entry form.

Rules

1. Entries to be sent to Bob Keen, BCOCA, "Grasmere", 44 Woodlands Road, Handforth, WILMSLOW, Cheshire, SK9 3AU - WITH ENTRY FEE OF £1 (in 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamps). *Even if you can't complete it, send it in anyway – it's not easy!*
2. Closing date: 22 May 2004.
3. In the event that there is more than one correct entry, all the correct entries will be put into a draw and the prize will be awarded to the first entry drawn by Bob Keen, whose decision will be final.
4. Winner to receive a prize of a £5 W H Smith token.
5. Winner's name to be published in the next Newsletter.
6. Except for members of the Keen family, entry is open to anyone, not just Old Choristers.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

Post Code.....

**QUIZ No.2 ENGLISH TOWNS and VILLAGES (£1-00 in 5x20p stamps and answers to Bob, see previous page)**

**CLUES**

**ANSWERS**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1 Keep left (9)   | Southport |
| 2 Fasten together (6)   | -----     |
| 3 Bowl out (4)  | -----     |
| 4 Dry error? (7)  | -----     |
| 5 Inter (4)   | -----     |
| 6 Two ways to cross a stream (11)   | -----     |
| 7 Is this local area network finely granulated? (9)   | -----     |
| 8 Dirty puddle (9)  | -----     |
| 9 Shining preposition (8)   | -----     |
| 10 Not one of Mr Ford's (6)   | -----     |
| 11 Recent fortification (9)   | -----     |
| 12 Get your jewellery here! (9)   | -----     |
| 13 Aged bad actor (6)   | -----     |
| 14 This meat is off! (6)  | -----     |
| 15 Fast trees (9)   | -----     |
| 16 Evil spirit reputed to rob graves! (5)   | -----     |
| 17 Goon Show character (6)  | -----     |
| 18 Sherwood hero's horse (5.5.3)  | -----     |
| 19 Own Scots pine perhaps (7)   | -----     |
| 20 The 281 feet spire of St Wulfram's is a landmark here. (8)   | -----     |
| 21 Where Matthew washed his hair, perhaps? (7.4)  | -----     |
| 22 A mycoprotein used as a meat substitute. (5)   | -----     |
| 23 Draws out laughter. (11)   | -----     |
| 24 Continue tearing. (5)  | -----     |
| 25 What the cock did in the morning. (5)  | -----     |
| 26 Vegetable. (4)   | -----     |
| 27 High backed seat. (6)  | -----     |
| 28 Naval hero. (6)  | -----     |
| 29 Dark stream. (9)   | -----     |
| 30 Gardener's cart. (6)   | -----     |
| 31 Pale port (10)   | -----     |
| 32 Rodent's escape route. (9)   | -----     |
| 33 Continued. (7)   | -----     |
| 34 Shows the way. (5.4)   | -----     |
| 35 Where the slow of learning may eat! (9)  | -----     |
| 36 Keep mocking. (7)  | -----     |
| 37 Desire to get older. (7)   | -----     |
| 38 Aquae Sulis. (4)   | -----     |
| 39 Cleaned! (5)   | -----     |
| 40 Harry's cousin. (6)  | -----     |
| 41 This woman may not be what she purports to be. (7)   | -----     |
| 42 Calls red footballer! (9)  | -----     |
| 43 Able to make a noise! (7)  | -----     |
| 44 One of A E Housman's "four quietest places under the sun" (4)  | -----     |
| 45 Where tradition says King Canute crossed the river. (9)  | -----     |
| 46 Clever tree. Perhaps. (9)  | -----     |
| 47 Once capital of Mercia and now home to one of the country's<br>oldest public schools with a connection to "Dear Lord and....." (6) | -----     |
| 48 A sofa with padded arms and back of the same height and<br>curved outwards at the top. (12)  | -----     |
| 49 Jack frost's patch. (6)  | -----     |
| 50 Pass something on to another! (7)  | -----     |