

Issue 24
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THE BUTTRISS

PRESERVING BRISTOL CATHEDRAL

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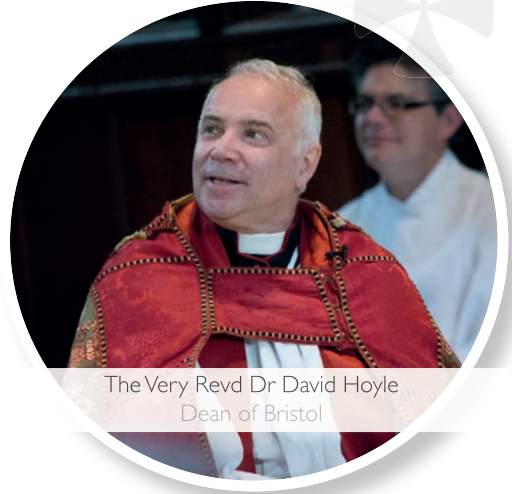
FITZARDING

THE DEAN WRITES...

I wonder whether I should have told the Precentor... I am pretty certain she is entirely unaware that there is a naked man under her seat.

He is, it has to be said, not much of a threat. He has been there a very long time, well over 500 years. He is also a bit preoccupied; for all that time he has had a very unhappy cat clinging to his bare back. Interestingly, our nudist is ordained. I am sure that will make the Precentor more comfortable. He is the priest who figures in the fable of *Reynard the Fox*. We have a whole series of carvings of this story in the choir of the cathedral. In the Precentor's stall, we reach the point in the story when Reynard has tricked a cat called Tibert to go mousing, in the priest's barn. The priest had set a trap there, convinced he could catch Reynard himself. When the trap was sprung, in the middle of the night, the priest (who clearly wore only aftershave in bed) leapt up and then tangled with the terrified Tibert.

Reynard, Tibert, the monkeys in the Elder Lady Chapel, the Precentor, you and me are all part of a long and, frankly, eccentric cathedral history. You see, the cathedral is a place where all roads meet. It is a destination for the city and for the diocese. This is the place where we assemble when we need to take note and mark the moment. It is the place where we pray for our future before the God who is our beginning and end. More than that though, the cathedral is a little glimpse of the Kingdom to which all are summoned. It is, it has to be, generous, even reckless, in its welcome. At the Cathedrals Conference, which took place recently in



The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle
Dean of Bristol

Manchester; we were reminded that cathedrals should offer a home to communities who wonder where, and if, they belong. All roads, all people come here. So, we can find foxes and cats, Precentors and Sub Sacrists, and always and forever the presence of the living God.

I write this because this is the last edition that will be produced by our Development Director, Naomi Miller. It has been her greatest gift to us (amongst many) to help us revel and rejoice in the sheer abundance of life in the cathedral of our city. Women at war; Shakespeare's *Richard III*, fashion, art, music and little twitter storms around them have been her meat and drink. She moves on, not far away I am glad to say, with our thanks and best wishes. Like any good *Buttress* she will now, support us from the outside. We, meanwhile, will be where we always are, at the heart of things, giving glory to the God who (as Gerard Manley Hopkins reminded us) *made all things counter, original, spare, strange*. Cats and foxes welcome, priests, though, might like to check that they are properly dressed before entering. Thank you Naomi, you understood us and served us well.

**The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle,
Dean of Bristol**

THE CHAIRMAN WRITES...



Stephen Parsons
MBE DL Chairman

Thirty years ago in 1989 Bristol Cathedral Trust was created to support Bristol Cathedral and preserve its fabric. Over that period, funds were grown, two flats were purchased providing accommodation for the Vergers and essential fabric projects were delivered. The Fitzhardinge Society was created which allows a wider membership to engage with the Cathedral and I thank you all for your continued support.

In 2013, Trust and Chapter made a joint commitment to increase the tempo of our fundraising and Naomi Miller was appointed as our Development Director. Naomi sadly leaves us at the end of October to join Bristol Cultural Development Partnership and we wish her all the very best. This ending provides a good moment to reflect on the almost five years that Naomi has been with us and the achievements are impressive.

It's always a good plan to start with the basics, which for us was the complete overhaul of the outdated toilet facilities. Unglamorous but essential, and whilst Naomi will surely not wish to be principally remembered for this, it was a well-executed project which gave the Trust confidence for all that was to follow. This has included installation of new boilers, paid for by the government funded Cathedral Repairs Fund, an enhanced CCTV System and new radio security.

When a further application to the Repairs Fund was unsuccessful Sir David and Lady Ord very kindly donated the funds to allow the complete restoration and cleaning of the Rose Window. Christ in Majesty now sparkles as the light shines through. It is a spectacular improvement. Beautiful new glass doors have been installed in the cloister; our 16th century Plaster Panels have

been restored and sponsors have funded a new Guide Book and an improved Welcome Area.

Alongside of these practical improvements, the Cathedral has become a hub of activity and a venue for citywide collaborations, including Bristol Film Festival and the Cary Grant Festival. We have staged theatrical productions of Shakespeare and worked with The Prince's Trust to host annual showcases of young businesses. We are about to embark on our largest partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund, to care for our archives and collections. Our newly fitted people counter provides us with the first accurate visitor figures and we now know that almost 400,000 will have visited or worshipped here in the last 12 months.

We have always known that the 1907 Walker organ, housed in its 1685 Rhenatus Harris casing and pipes, would need to be restored. The last significant appeal to the city was 50 years ago in 1964. At last year's Fitzhardinge Dinner and through the Buttress we launched the beginnings of our Organ Appeal, to which many of you have already given your support. I am delighted to say that we have now received £1.5m towards our £2m target and hope to be at £1.7m by the end of the year. My thanks to the Trustees of the Harry Crook Charitable Trust who have been so generous with their £1m grant. You can read more about Harry in this edition.

We will all miss Naomi. She had a hand in all of the above and leaves quite a legacy. We hope that you will join us in creating a powerful legacy for our Cathedral.

Stephen Parsons, MBE, DL, Chairman



LEAVING A LEGACY

By remembering Bristol Cathedral in your will, you will be helping to ensure the legacy of this remarkable building for generations to come. Whether you would like to leave us a little or a lot, your gift will make a difference.

Bristol Cathedral is part of our history, the symbolic heart of the modern city. For more than 800 years there has been a place of worship where today's Cathedral stands. For all this time the building has sustained the community, and the community has sustained the building.

There are many different aspects of the Cathedral's life which you could support with a gift. A non-specific bequest allows us to put the money where it's needed most. Alternatively some people prefer to give to that aspect of the Cathedral which truly mattered to them. Some might give to support the organ, or our worship and liturgy; others might give to support our education work, or to enhance the beauty of the building and stained glass. If this is something you would be interested in, we would love to talk to you more about what we might be able to achieve together.

If you would like to talk to someone in confidence about the sorts of purposes your gift might fund, and if and how you would like your gift to be acknowledged, contact Wendy Pradalie on wendy.pradalie@bristol-cathedral.co.uk / 0117 946 8184. If you would like to make a gift to the Cathedral in memoriam, please come and discuss this with us too. It can be a wonderful and appropriate way to remember a loved one.



Making a Will

A will is an effective legal document that can help to safeguard the future of those you care about and allows you to finalise your estate in a way that best reflects your wishes. There are many ways in which a legacy can take effect and we strongly recommend that you seek professional advice to guide you through this process.

Visit www.gov.uk/make-will for more advice and information.



THE DIFFERENCE A LEGACY CAN MAKE

The story of Bristol Cathedral begins with the endowment by Robert Fitzhardinge of an Augustinian Abbey in 1140. By his death in 1170, the abbey comprised of an abbey church, the exquisite Norman Chapter House and the Abbey Gatehouse, the latter two of which still remain today.

Could he have imagined the imaginatively decorated Elder Lady Chapel, the wonderful East Window or internationally acclaimed medieval Hall Church that followed after his death, all of which were funded by the land and the rights to church revenue that he had bought for the Abbey to ensure its survival for generations after his lifetime?

Today, legacies are just as important for the continued care of the Cathedral's fabric and the busy life that happens within it. Here a just a few examples of how recent legacies are benefitting the life of the Cathedral:

Advent Candle

A candle is lit on each Sunday during Advent. Previously we had a large, wooden, advent wheel, but it was not visible to the congregation as it was suspended from the roof in the south transept. We had long wanted to commission a new piece of art to replace the wheel which would be more accessible, and were finally able to do so when we received a legacy from Jessie Moate - a former member of the congregation and local resident. Jessie's family have lived in Bristol for a long time, with four generations under one roof. She was one of the first women to train as an architect during the war, and in 1946 she became a member of the Town Planning Institute. She worked on the

reconstruction of Coventry Cathedral after the war with her husband, Frank, and Sir Donald Gibson. She was also involved in the post war re-building of Bristol. We were very grateful for her legacy and felt she would enjoy this beautiful new piece of art for the Cathedral.

People Counter

One of our current priorities to improve and understand the experience of visitors in the building. Last year an unrestricted legacy allowed us to install a People Counter at the main entrance of the Cathedral which is giving us a more accurate idea of our visitor figures and their peak visiting times. Between 1 January – 30 June, we welcomed 180,446 users to the building, of whom 156,244 are classed as 'general visitors'. Not only is this significantly more than we'd previously thought, it completely changes the way that we sit in the city and puts us in the top 5 free attractions in the South West.

Repair of historic chimneys

As we all know, caring for our ancient site and buildings is an expensive act. A recent legacy was given, with the specific request that it be used to conserve our medieval buildings. We were able to repair chimneys in the south east corner of the Cathedral Cloister, which form part of the historic buildings used by Bristol Cathedral Choir School.



A SPECIAL LEGACY

HARRY CROOK



Harry Crook
Harry Crook Foundation

We are delighted to announce that work has begun to plan the restoration and rebuilding of the Cathedral's historic organ following a gift of £1,000,000 from the Harry Crook Foundation, the largest philanthropic gift since the rebuilding of the Nave in the 1860s.

“This is one of the most significant projects that Bristol Cathedral will have embarked upon. The Harry Crook Foundation has given us a gift that will transform our work and worship. We can restore one of the great cathedral organs. We have been encouraged and supported. We are immensely grateful and we are delighted that the life and work of one of Bristol’s great servants and ambassadors will now always be linked with the cathedral and its music.”

**The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle,
Dean of Bristol**

Harry Crook set up his Foundation in 1963, endowing it with shares from his Kleeneze Brush Co Ltd, famed for its door-to-door brush salesmen. He served Bristol City Council as an alderman for 25 years and in 1955 was the city's Lord Mayor, during which time he welcomed HM The Queen to open the newly built Council House, now City Hall. During his lifetime he supported a large number of charities in the city, particularly youth organisations. The trustees of the Foundation have been honoured to follow in the founder's footsteps and to support charities serving Bristol.



“My co-trustees and I are delighted to support this wonderful project which we are sure Harry Crook would have been excited to be part of. Harry loved to support the city and people of Bristol and had a great fondness for the Cathedral and for its outstanding choral work.”

**Richard West, Chairman of the Trustees
and great-nephew of Harry Crook**

“As a boy in the late sixties I worked during school holidays at the Kleeneze Brush Company in Hanham and so I knew first hand of Harry Crook. He was a committed Bristolian, and in his lifetime he loved and supported Bristol Cathedral, so how wonderful and appropriate that the Trustees of the Harry Crook Foundation now continue to support projects and institutions he held dear to his heart. ”

**Stephen Parsons, MBE, DL,
Chair of Bristol Cathedral Trust**

WHY I'M LEAVING A LEGACY

LEGACY AMBASSADORS

Two members of the Fitzhardinge Society share their reasons for giving legacy gifts.

I once had a Legacy. Not, you should understand, a kind forethought of a doting maiden aunt but a gentleman's conveyance made by Fuji Heavy Industries. She would make stately progress from farm to town and town to farm. One day, whilst waiting for the traffic lights to change I looked to my right, through the window sticker that backwards read as U-R-A-BUS, and witnessed a 'boy racer' goading me by revving his Subaru WRX. As the lights changed he tore off in a cloud of noise, smoke and burning rubber only to be sedately re-joined at the next lights moments later. As I came parallel the boy-racer gave me a warm, respectful and engaging thumbs-up!

I think he was simply making a statement of solidarity between those who may outwardly be a bit different but who belong to the same whole.

It is that sort of solidarity that I most appreciate in Bristol Cathedral. It is the reason that, as a Fitzhardinge member, I have adjusted my will to include a legacy to Bristol Cathedral Trust. There are, of course, many demands on one's resources; it is a lifetime's good practice to ensure that all resources are working, that family are provided for and that kindnesses are rewarded. It is tempting to think that the cause-du-jour must first be aided but the stately Bristol Cathedral, there to serve all the people and good purposes of Bristol for a very long time past and ahead, is surely a very wise investment in future generations.

When you see Lada drivers scouring the country for any other Lada drivers to whom they can shape their hand in the totemic 'L' perhaps they are just reminding you that the 'L' also stands for... Legacy!



**Jake Olver, Trustee and
Fitzhardinge Founder member.**

Sarah Fernandes

"I started coming to Bristol Cathedral because of my love of the organ and choral music, which I find spiritually uplifting. When I heard that there was an appeal for money for the organ renovation, I knew that I wanted to help. It occurred to me that I would be asking my sons to give some money to the Cathedral after I had died, but why not donate it now, while I'll be able to benefit from seeing the organ project come to fruition and being able to enjoy its glorious new music."

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CATHERINE'S PARACHUTE JUMP



Catherine Lynn-Jones
Treasurer

In my role as Treasurer of Bristol Cathedral Trust I fully expected to attend Trustees meetings, review the budgets and annual accounts and generally offer guidance and support within the realms of my knowledge and experience. What I did not expect to be doing was jumping from a plane at 15,000 feet in order to raise money for the on-going organ appeal.

I had always said that before I reached the age of 40 I would do a skydive and with the clock ticking I realised that I couldn't keep putting it back. As Treasurer of 2 charities, both in the middle of fundraising appeals (the £2m organ and a new playground area at our village school), this seemed like another indicator that now was the time to do it. I set myself a target of raising £2,000 to be shared between them.

Having persuaded one of my best friends to join me (although I'm not sure she quite saw it like this – and to this day blames the prosecco), we signed up for the highest possible tandem jump we could do. With a childhood phobia of falling at the forefront of my mind this seemed like madness.

The day of the jump arrived, waking up at 4am in nervous anticipation, and the journey to Salisbury was filled with bouts of jittery chatter interspersed with periods of silence and contemplation. However once there we were swept up in the experience and atmosphere of the jump site. My emotions certainly got the better of myself as I welled up even watching the induction video! It was then swiftly into our fetching jump suits and a bit of basic training in the positions we needed to be in to exit the plane, free-fall and land. We were introduced to our instructors, who were reassuringly relaxed and we were ready to go.

The cramped plane took us higher and higher and soon the hatch opened. Shuffling along the bench watching the first skydiver was a little daunting to say the least, one second they were on the edge of the plane and then had vanished. All of a sudden it was me hanging off the front of my instructor on the edge of the plane – and then we were falling.

All of the expectations of that rollercoaster tummy feeling did not happen – it was simply the most exhilarating experience ever. I'm not quite sure what I screamed/shouted but I think there were lots of whoops and "this is amazing". The 125mph minute of free fall, covering 2 miles, passed in a blink and all too soon the parachute deployed for a final 5 minute descent, looking over stunning views of Old Sarum, the spire of Salisbury Cathedral and as far as the Isle of Wight.

Back on terra firma I lost the power of speech and the ability to stand for a couple of minutes as the adrenalin and the sense of achievement were coursing through me, partly for myself but also for the support from friends and family in sponsoring me – I had raised £2,100.

Looking back on one of the best days of my life, I keep thinking "I've got to do that again". Whoever would have thought that being a treasurer would bring so much fun!

SAYING GOODBYE FAREWELL FROM NAOMI



Naomi Miller
Development Director

Those of you who have grown to know me over these past 5 years will know that I am rarely lost for words. It is therefore, a rather unfamiliar feeling for me to find myself in a sudden silence, unsure of how to begin the process of saying goodbye to a job, a building and a community that has meant so much to me.

I feel so grateful to have played a small part in the story of this extraordinary place. The highlights too numerous to list fully, but certainly include enjoying breakfast with Archbishop Justin, seeing the amazing transformation for the Fitzhardinge Dinner each year; programming exhibitions and events to mark the centenary of WWI, spending Valentine's Day with Cary Grant in the Chapter House, climbing to the top of the Central Tower numerous times on Doors Open Day, sharing the news of our gift from Harry Crook with colleagues and being moved to tears by *Henry V* staged in the Nave.

One of the many gifts that working in an ancient building gives you is the wonderful sense of perspective. Through the love, care and investment in people across the generations, a version of Bristol Cathedral has stood for almost 900 years. It's changed significantly in that time, of course – losing a Nave, punching holes through chapel walls, building a Nave, moving the organ around. When the medieval builders were adding the stones to create our exquisite East End, they worked in the knowledge that they would never see the full fruition of their hard work. We are the same. The work is never done, the story never finished. Bristol Cathedral, through the love, care and investment from people, will continue to grow, develop and stand for another 900 years.

Thank you to you all for your support and friendship during my time here. I look forward to celebrating together once the organ has been renovated and at future Fitzhardinge Dinners - as a guest, rather than the organiser!

Naomi Miller,
Development Director



REMEMBERING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

*Sombre the night is.
And though we have our lives, we know
What sinister threat lurks there.*

Isaac Rosenberg
Bristol Poet

d. 1st April 1916, Battle of the Somme

Since August 2014, Bristol Cathedral has been remembering a fallen First World War casualty from each month of the conflict and telling their stories. The title of our project comes from the lines written by Isaac Rosenberg, a Bristolian War Poet who died on the Western Front in 1918. His words remind us of the fragility of life and freedom and of the immeasurable sacrifice made by his generation of young men and women.

It has been an honour to hear and share stories from the First World War; told by local artists, history groups, authors and national organisations. Alongside our online book of remembrance, we have published a book of the project. We have welcomed exhibitions exploring the experiences of female photographers at the Fronts, conscientious objectors, families sending parcels and packages to those in the trenches, residents of Beaufort War Hospital, pioneering women in the city and a local boy, killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. Our choristers collaborated with a local young theatre company to tell the story of their counterparts from a century beforehand, our Nave was transformed into a French WWI field hospital for a production of Henry V and over 19,000 shrouds were laid in memory on College Green. We have prayed, sung, read and remembered.



Thanks to: Antic Disposition; Art's Council England; the Avon Family History Society, Bristol Archives; Bristol Books; Bristol Cultural Development Partnership; Bristol Libraries; Clive Burlton; Eugene Byrne; Glenside Hospital Museum; Impressions Gallery, Bradford; Marko Dutka; Parcels of Comfort; Remembering the Real WWI; Shrouds of the Somme; Jacqueline Wadsworth, and all members of the Bristol Great War Network. The project would not have been possible without the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and we are especially thankful to them.

EVENTS TO MARK REMEMBRANCE 2018

At The Going Down of the Sun **5 September – 18 November**

Bristol photographer Marko Dutka's series of photographs are a rich and respectful repository of war graves, seen within a contemporary, night-time setting. His images show the glow of Bristol's street lighting, light trails from airplanes, and the movement of stars to create a rich and respectful repository about those who lost their lives and who still lose their lives in conflict, along with those they leave behind. Accompanying the images are recordings made by living descendants and members of local communities.

J'Accuse

Thursday 1 November, 6pm

Two men who love the same woman - one her husband, one her lover - meet in the trenches of World War One. Their story becomes a microcosm for the horrors of war; in this silent film classic with live organ accompaniment. Abel Gance's epic war film, *J'Accuse*, turns 99 this year. Released in 1919, the film includes real battlefields of the first world war on screen, and depicts the very real tragedy and horror of war. Tickets £14

Thank You: A Festival of Remembrance **from the Royal British Legion**

Saturday 10 November, 7.30pm

Join the Royal British Legion for a special Armistice Concert, bringing together musical talent from across the region with orchestral pieces, choral works, readings and a feature from local children. The evening will be compered by Terry Waite, CBE and the highlight of the evening, a performance of Karl Jenkins' *The Peacemakers*. The evening will be a centre-piece of the South West region's commemoration attended by Dignitaries and Military Personnel, raising money for Bristol Poppy Appeal, directly supporting members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and their beneficiaries.

Sleeping Soldier

At dusk on the eve of Remembrance Sunday, a WWI soldier will appear on the side of the Abbey Gatehouse, adjacent to the Cathedral, fading into the rising sun at dawn. Created by artist Leo Jamelli, the artwork portrays fallen soldiers awakening for one night to stand guard over our cities, protecting against danger; and searching for fallen comrades who lie in eternal sleep. As the sun finally rises and the projection fades into the daylight, their watch is over and they pass once more into sleep.

Remembrance Sunday

Battle's Over

Dawn

Bell ringers, pipers, buglers and trumpeters across the country will be marking the centenary of the ending of the First World War, paying tribute to the millions that lost their lives.

10am

Join our Cathedral congregation at 10am as we process together to the Cenotaph for the multi-faith remembrance service, beginning at 11am. Regularly the most-attended civic remembrance service outside of London, this year's service marking the centenary of the Armistice will be especially poignant and popular - attendees are advised to arrive in plenty of time

Duruffe's Requiem Eucharist

5.30pm

A special service for Remembrance Sunday, at which the Cathedral Choir will sing Duruffe's Requiem.

Ringin' Out for Peace

7pm – 8.30pm

The bells of Bristol Cathedral join other cathedral and church bells across the Nation and beyond, as they ring out in celebration of Peace.

CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHTS

Advent Procession and Carol Service Sunday 2 December, 6pm

Join us for this special candlelit service to mark the beginning of Advent. The processions in this service are a metaphor for a journey which we make together. The words and music seek to enable us to worship God, who calls us to do his will and make the world what he created it to be - full of his light and truth.

Carols by Candlelight

Friday 14 & Saturday 15 December, 7.30pm

This concert includes carols sung by the Cathedral Choir; festive readings and a chance for everyone to join in with some seasonal favourites. Due to popularity, we are delighted to offer this concert on both Friday and Saturday evenings. Tickets £5-£15.

Family Carol Service

Sun 16 Dec, 3.30pm

Come along to this retelling of the nativity story especially for families. Well known carols and readings form the basis of this favourite Christmas service that is always popular with music provided by the Cathedral Choristers. Children are encouraged to come dressed as wise men, angels, or shepherds. (Adults too, if you want!). All are very welcome to join us for the Christmas story.

Messiaen

Monday 17 December, 7pm

Join us for an organ recital of Olivier Messiaen's classic Christmas organ cycle, *La Nativité du Seigneur*. Messiaen's organ cycle presents a tableaux of nine movements, telling not only the story of the nativity of Jesus Christ, but also a journey which expresses theological ideas through music.

Performed by David Bednall and Paul Walton, this free recital is a meditative, multi-sensory experience, performed in a candlelit cathedral suffused with incense: sound, light, and scent in praise to God.

Finding us

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bristol-cathedral.co.uk

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 **@BristolCathedra**

 **bristolcathedral**

Shoppers' Carols

Tues 18 December, 5.15pm

Experience a moment of calm in amongst busyness of the season with a short carol service in the beautiful atmosphere of Bristol Cathedral.

Toddler Carols

Wednesday 19 December, 10am and 2pm

Too young for Nine Lessons and Carols? Come along to this informal carol service for babies, toddlers and pre-school children. The Cathedral will be decorated for Christmas and we will sing all the favourites as we move around the building, so no need to worry about noise or wrigglers!

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 23 Dec, 6pm & Christmas Eve, 3.30pm

Join us for one of the most loved traditional Christmas services, as we make our way from God's creation to the manger in Bethlehem. Due to the extremely popular nature of this service, please arrive with plenty of time, to ensure being able to be given a seat. Last year the Christmas Eve service was very busy: do consider attending on Sunday 23 to avoid disappointment.

Eucharist of Christmas Night

Christmas Eve, 11pm

Welcome in the light of Christmas morning with this special midnight Eucharist.

Festival Eucharist

Christmas Day, 10am

We celebrate Christmas morning at the Cathedral. The Cathedral Choir will be accompanied by the organ, a string quartet and a trumpeter. All are welcome.