

Cathedral news



May 2009

New Cathedral Canons

On Sunday 3 May 2009 at 4.00 pm the Bishop of Wakefield will license a new Canon Precentor and install two new Lay Canons.

The Cathedral community is looking forward to the licensing of Andi Hofbauer as Canon Precentor. A profile of Andi appeared in the February edition of *Cathedral News* (which you can read on the Cathedral's web site (www.wakefield-cathedral.org.uk/archive) if you missed it. At the same service, the Bishop will install two new Lay Canons, Judge John Bullimore and Yaqub Masih.

His Honour Judge John Bullimore was a barrister in Leeds having been called to the bar in 1968 and has been a Circuit Judge for twenty years. John has given an enormous amount to the church both nationally and within the Diocese of Wakefield. He has been an active member of General Synod since its inception, he is the Chancellor of the Dioceses of Derby and Blackburn, he has been a Reader for 40 years and recently was the Deputy Chairman of Tribunals for the Clergy Discipline Measure.

Yaqub Masih has made a great contribution towards the life of the church in this country through his role as secretary of the Asian Christian Fellowship. He has organised receptions to raise the profile of the Fellowship, and of Asian Christianity more generally, in the wider world – including in the House of Lords. He has worked tirelessly for this cause and has been an immense help with our link with the Diocese of Faisalabad in Pakistan.

Both John and Yaqub will offer an enormous amount to the life of the Cathedral.



A Kaleidoscope of Colour

The third in our Spring Concert Series “Live@Cathedral” features former chorister, now concert pianist, Marc Corbett-Weaver. He has been described by Dame Judi Dench as “one of the most promising pianists of his generation” and simply “amazing!” by Aled Jones. Marc speaks to Sue Robinson.

When were you a Chorister and what are your best memories of your time at the Cathedral?

I joined the Choir when I was seven in 1992, and was read out at the Advent Service in 1998 – I remember lighting the Advent Candle. The experiences of being a Cathedral Chorister are probably the best kind of musical education – the great calendar of services, the tours and festivals, Songs of Praise and Choral Evensong on Radio 3.

At what point did you decide that you would make your career in music?

I’ve always known really, from when my fingers first touched the keys of the piano at my first lesson. I did ponder doing something more sensible and briefly thought about law, but I now know lots of very unhappy lawyers in London.



What have been the highlights of your career so far?

I spend lots of time travelling round giving recitals – Rachmaninov *Piano Concerto no.2*, Tchaikovsky *Piano Concerto no.1* and the Grieg *Piano Concerto* have been enjoyable highlights recently. However the truthful answer is not about performing, but ‘Music in Mayfair’. It began with a conversation at a charity event I was asked to play at called ‘The Story of Christmas’, which is produced every year by an organisation that fundraises through the central London corporate sector. Four years ago we set up a concert series, beginning with five lunchtime recitals. Now we run the Orpheus Sinfonia, do thirty concerts each year and thirteen of us organise everything from finance to publicity. On 22 September we perform our 100th concert with an orchestra of 100 at the Cadogan Hall in Chelsea.

We have heard that you are keeping local links. Can you tell us about them?

When I was 16 my parents took me to hear Akiko Ebi, a Japanese pianist playing at Ackworth Concert Society. My grandmother lived in Ackworth, my mother lives there now and I have become involved with the Ackworth Concert Society. I play the Tchaikovsky there on Saturday 19 September, with an orchestra conducted by Nick Meredith (Head of Music at Wakefield Grammar School Foundation). The Girls of Wakefield Cathedral Choir play later in the season with a brass quintet organised by Stephen Haynes, also an ex-chorister.

Tell us about the programme you have chosen to play at the concert.

This is a programme I have played quite a bit this year. The *Chaconne* is a famous transcription of Bach’s *Chaconne* from the *second Partita for solo violin*. The *Liszt Sonata* is very powerful emotionally. *Clair de Lune* is one of my favourite pieces of Debussy and I thought it would be fun to play his *Underwater Cathedral* in a real Cathedral. I will finish the concert with Ravel’s masterpiece *Gaspard de la Nuit*. It’s like a casket of wonders that explores the piano with a kaleidoscope of colours. The three movements explore dark scenes involving mermaids and ghosts...perfect at dusk in the Cathedral!

Marc’s concert is on Wednesday 27 May at 7.30 pm. Tickets are available from the Cathedral Bookshop and the Tourist Information Office, £8.00 and £5.00 for concessions. Not to be missed!

Helping the Homeless...still

The Reverend John Thomas Becher carried out an experiment in Southwell (Nottinghamshire) to try and reduce the number of poor people living in the parish. In just three years he managed to bring the poor rates down by 75%. Through the enormous success of this project he encouraged 49 surrounding parishes to pool their



resources together founding, in 1824, the Incorporated Workhouse. Applicants for the Workhouse were stringently assessed on their needs and only the poorest and most destitute were admitted. Once in, they were given clean clothes, meals and beds. Children were educated and left to follow apprenticeships at the ages of 12-13 years. Men and women carried out mundane and menial tasks which were deliberately harder than work in the outside world to dissuade the 'idle and profligate' from staying in the workhouse. Although some 'inmates' spent their whole adult lives living in the Workhouse, it was only intended as a place where people could get themselves back on their feet by learning to do a good day's honest hard work. Becher's work in Southwell led to the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, known as the New Poor Law, with the hope that homelessness and poverty would be a thing of the past. Workhouses were set up all over the country and the last closed only 50 years ago. The system was by no means perfect, but it helped.

Today at the Cathedral we continue the work started by Becher, by trying to help the homeless of Wakefield. At the Wakefield Rent Deposit Scheme we carry out assessments of need, provide emergency food and the deposit to enable people to get off the streets and into rental accommodation. Becher would be proud to see his work continuing, but at the same time disappointed that it is still necessary in the 21st century. We still don't have the answer. The work we are carrying out here in Wakefield and similar projects throughout the country are by no means perfect, but they help.

Nigel Russell

The Workhouse in Southwell is owned by the National Trust and is open to visitors from 11 am to 5 pm Wednesday to Sunday throughout the summer months. Take the fascinating audio tour and allow a couple of hours for your visit.

Service times

Sunday:	0800	Holy Communion (said)
	0915	Eucharist & Junior Church (choral)
	1100	Eucharist (choral)
	1830	Choral Evensong
Monday to Saturday:	0800	Morning Liturgy
	1030	Eucharist (Wednesday & Saturday)
	1230	Eucharist (Monday & Friday)
	1230	Prayers for Peace (Thursday)
	1530	Evening Prayer (Saturday)
	1630	Evening Prayer (Monday & Friday)
	1700	Choral Evensong (Tuesday)*
	1800	Choral Evensong (Wednesday)*
	1830	Choral Evensong (Thursday)*

*Outside choir term time Evening Prayer is said at 1630.

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On Sunday 3 May Evensong will be at 4.00 pm and will include the Licensing and Installation of the Reverend Andrea Hofbauer as Canon Precentor and the installation of Judge John Bullimore and Yaqub Masih as Lay Canons. You are advised to arrive early if you do not have a ticket for this service. There will be no Evensong at 6.30 pm.

For other events, please visit the website:
www.wakefield-cathedral.org.uk

A Visitor from Overseas

We are looking forward to having Farrell Graves, a theological student from the Episcopal Church of the United States of America, with us from 1 June to 10 July 2009. He will be with us to find out more about the life of our Cathedral and its mission and ministry.

Farrell writes: "I am an ordinand at the General Seminary of the Episcopal Church and a candidate for holy orders in the Diocese of Los Angeles. I was born in High Point, North Carolina, which, until globalization, was the centre of furniture manufacture in the United States, but my studies have taken me far from home. I have studied world religion, Japanese literature and have a doctorate in Japanese ethics. Despite all these studies, I would not call myself bookish. I enjoy interacting with people - an interest that made ministry more appealing than professorial life in the archives. I do enjoy teaching and writing, but only as a means of helping others. When relaxing, I enjoy going to the gym, cycling, and exploring cities and the countryside."

If you can offer a meal to Farrell or if you are going out for an afternoon and fancy introducing him to your favourite part of Yorkshire, he'd probably appreciate an invitation and would enhance his experience of life here at Wakefield Cathedral. Please let the Cathedral office know on 01924 373923 or by email to admin@wakefield-cathedral.org.uk



News in brief



Annual Meeting 2009: Peter Barber, Judy Barker, Kairon Bebbington, John Courtney, Ian Hemingway, John Knight and Shelagh Wing were elected Churchwardens at the Annual Meeting on 29 March. We are enormously grateful to Alison Dean, Simon Beresford and Sue Turmeau who are standing down as Churchwardens. Rosemary Arthur, Simon Beresford, Penelope Gray, Chris Haigh, Jean Rhodes and Katharina Schmidt were elected to the Cathedral Community Committee.

Common Fund: the Bishop of Wakefield has written to the Dean to thank the Cathedral community for paying our Common Fund assessment (formerly known as Diocesan Quota or Parish Share) in full in 2008.

Easter Garden: Thank you to all who made the Cathedral's Easter Garden, especially Junior Church members who decorated the pebbles. Also, thank you to those who made the flower displays.

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The Cathedral is open daily from 8.00 am.

For all enquiries please contact Cathedral Centre.