

*Christ Church Cathedral*  
OXFORD



Summary Annual Report and Accounts  
2012-13

## Summary Annual Report 2012-13

### Introduction

The undisputable highlight of the year was the celebration of the Office for the Royal Maundy in the Cathedral on 28 March 2013. Her Majesty the Queen distributed two purses containing Maundy coins to 174 pensioners from the Diocese selected because of the Christian services they have rendered to the Church and the community. The number of recipients represents as many men and women as the Sovereign has years of age. After preparations extending over six months and involving significant numbers of Christ Church staff and many others, the ceremony took place without a hitch and was enjoyed by many Oxford residents who congregated in Tom Quad to watch the Queen leave after the service.



### Worship

There are between three and six regular Cathedral services every day of the year. Our congregations are varied, including a core of regular worshippers, those attending special services and civic events, as well as tourists visiting Christ Church from around the world.

*After Eight*, the Cathedral's informal late evening Sunday service of discussion and reflection, continued throughout Michaelmas and Hilary Full Term. Themes this year included: 'Across the faiths' exploring connections between Christianity and other faiths; 'Taking a Stand' featuring four campaigning Christians; and 'Modern Heroes' including the poet John Betjeman and filmmaker, Ridley Scott. Guest speakers included David Ford, Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University, and Garth Hewitt, founder of the Amos Trust.

Our Christmas services this year included a new offering, 'Journey to Bethlehem'. Aimed particularly at families with young children, the service followed the shepherds and angels around the Cathedral, travelling with Mary and Joseph to the crib.

### Education

Our varied education programme continued with a record number of schools visiting for educational tours. Summer lectures for 2013 included contributions from new ecumenical and lay canons appointed in 2012, Professor Lionel Tarassenko on '*Artificial Intelligence to Artificial Consciousness*' and Professor Paul Fiddes on '*Spirit and Letter in a Late Modern Context*'.

In February, the fourth Richard Harries Lecture for the Council of Christians and Jews was given by Reverend Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas Mercer, 2012, Human Rights lawyer of the year, with

a response from Clemens Nathan. The subject was 'Conflict, Human Rights and the treatment of Prisoners: the cases of Israel and the UK.

### Ministry to Visitors

After the modest drop in visitors during the Summer Olympics in 2012, Christ Church enjoyed record visitor levels this year, with over 411,000 for the financial year, including 86,000 visitors in July 2013 alone. As a result visitor fee income exceeded £2.1m, an increase of 11% over 2011/2012. Our Cathedral Steward volunteers introduced a programme of guided tours around the Cathedral, which have been well received by tourists.

### Music

Amongst many musical activities in the year, the Cathedral Choir's tour to China in August 2012 was perhaps the most memorable. The Choir was invited to give the opening concert of the International Choral Festival in Beijing's National Centre for the Performing Arts (known as 'The Egg') as well as concerts in Guangzhou and Shenzhen. The Beijing concert was streamed live on the internet and broadcast throughout the country. In all venues the choir was received with rapturous applause and standing ovations.

At the other end of the musical spectrum the choir has been busy recording again. In September, the choir's new recording of Mendelssohn's version of Handel's *Acis and Galatea* was released on the Nimbus label (NI6201). This was a collaboration with the Oxford Philomusica Orchestra and is a première recording of the original Mendelssohn manuscript which is held in the Bodleian Library. This recording received excellent reviews, as did the choir's next release, on the AVIE label, entitled *Choirs of Angels* (AV2184). This is the second volume in a series of music from the Eton Choirbook. It featured on BBC 'The Choir' and 'CD Review' and was nominated for a Gramophone Award.



As usual the choir performed a huge selection of music throughout the year, including new works by Mark Simpson, for the final concert of the Newbury Spring Festival, and Francis Grier, whose major new work, the *Missa Aedes Christi*, was premièred in June. This was a joint commission by the JPT Family Trust and the Friends of Christ Church Cathedral, and involved a collaboration with the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance. The work was performed both liturgically and in concert. The choir also participated in the celebration of the Brothers Grimm in a BBC Radio Four live broadcast of *Sunday Worship* from Christ Church in May.

There have been several concerts during the year including two performances as part of a festival of choral music in Oxford, 'The Divine Office'. There were also concerts in St John's Smith Square, in the Cathedral (for Music at Oxford), in the Sheldonian (*Acis and Galatea*), and the choristers participated in Britten's *War Requiem* in Oxford Town Hall.



The Cathedral Singers celebrated 35 years activity and had a busy and satisfying year. Numbers joining the choir have increased resulting in a healthy number of singers on the books. As well as the usual pattern of Cathedral services, the choir sang in Westminster Abbey and Exeter Cathedral. In July a new CD '*How shall I sing that majesty*' was launched. One of the choral scholars, Bertie Baigent, secured an organ scholarship at Cambridge.

The Cathedral continues to be an important centre for concerts, both within the college and the city. The students held weekly concerts during term and there was a lively Music Society festival in February. The music outreach programme continues to flourish, with termly concerts in the Cathedral involving large numbers of children (and their families) from local primary schools.

## College Activities

Christ Church is a unique foundation and the Cathedral is the chapel for the College too. The College Chaplain is responsible for organising College services there. College Communion is the main weekly College service at 9am on Sundays in term time, which is a relaxed and reflective Eucharist attended by around 20 people. The biggest college service of the year, and one of the most moving of the entire Cathedral year, is the Advent Carol Service held on the last Sunday of Michaelmas term, which sees the Cathedral filled to capacity with junior and senior members and their families. This is a beautiful mixture of prayers, readings and music sung by the Cathedral Choir. At other times of the year, academic members of the College take part in Cathedral life by serving, reading, playing music at services and welcoming visitors.

## Other Activities



During Lent, there was an exhibition of Passion paintings in the North Transept, the 'Sarum Cycle' by Nicholas Mynheer. There were two meditations based on the paintings.

## Fabric

During the year, the most significant project was the work on two areas either side of the back of the Cathedral to provide covered storage areas for equipment and flower arrangers as well as an improved verger kitchen and disabled toilet facilities. The project, completed in November 2013, was funded by the Friends of the Cathedral at a cost of nearly £300k.

## Charitable Work

Chapter has a policy of donating a portion of congregational giving and upkeep support to a variety of charities operating internationally and locally. In the current financial year, ten charities were the recipients of such donations at a total cost to the Cathedral of £16,100. The beneficiaries of the Christmas services of Nine Lessons and Carols were The Gatehouse and Asylum Welcome.

## Staff Changes

We welcomed the new Regius Professor of Divinity, Graham Ward, in September and a new Archdeacon for Oxford, Martin Gorick, in May. At the end of the year the Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity, George Pattison, resigned to become the 1640 Professor of Divinity at the University of Glasgow.



Graham Ward



Edmund Newey



Martin Gorick

In March 2013, we were sorry to say goodbye to the Sub-Dean, Edmund Newell, who has taken up the position of Principal of Cumberland Lodge, an education and study centre in Windsor Great Park bestowed by King George VI in 1947. His replacement, the Reverend Dr Edmund Newey joined us from parish life in Handsworth at the beginning of the new financial year in August.

## **Financial Review**

Christ Church Cathedral is unique in the Church of England in that it is outside the scope of the Cathedral Measure 1963 and subsequent Cathedral legislation. Founded in 1546 by Henry VIII, the Cathedral is part of the Collegiate Foundation, styled 'Ecclesia Christi Cathedralis Oxon: ex Fundatione Regis Henrici Octavi', traditionally known as 'The House'. The Cathedral has charitable status but is not an independent registered charity. Christ Church (as a whole) has charitable status: its charity registration number is 1143423.

The Dean and Canons have identified the major strategic, business and operational risks that may affect the Cathedral and have taken reasonable steps to mitigate those risks. An annual budget is agreed with the Treasurer and submitted to the Governing Body of Christ Church for approval. The Treasurer of Christ Church underpins the financing of the Cathedral's activities by providing a corporate grant to cover the Cathedral's excess of expenditure over income on its unrestricted fund. In total, the call upon the corporate grant in 2012/2013 was £130,200 (2011/2012 - £98,600).

Incoming resources: Total incoming resources (excluding the corporate grant) rose by 16% to £1,290,000. Net visitor fees rose by £104,800 as a result of higher visitor numbers (up 9% to 411,000) and income from the Friends of Christ Church, who support vital Cathedral projects, rose from £73,500 to £145,900. Other income captions were largely flat year on year.

Resources expended: Expenditure for the year rose by £222,500 to £1,418,100 (19%). Significant components of this increase were the appointment of the fourth Canon Professor in October 2012, increases in chorister school fees and the need to employ a higher number of lay clerks because of the shortage of suitable choral scholars together with the cost of Cathedral projects, referred to above. The largest project, which will complete in November 2013, will provide a covered storage area outside the back of the Cathedral and provide disabled toilet facilities within the building.

Net assets rose by £19,000. The major element of this gain was the revaluation of CCLA investments. The debtor position at 31 July 2013 was unusually high because of a large balance due from the Friends of the Cathedral that was settled in early August.

## Extracts from the accounts

The results for the year as reported in the Cathedral's statement of financial activities are as follows:

	<b>2013</b>			<b>2012</b>		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income	1,205.9	214.3	1,420.2	1,072.9	134.0	1,206.9
Expenditure	(1,205.9)	(212.2)	(1,418.1)	(1,072.9)	(122.7)	(1,195.6)
Gain (loss) on investments	-	16.9	16.9	-	(1.7)	(1.7)
Transfer of fund	-	-	-	-	(2,648.5)	(2,648.5)
Net incoming (outgoing) resources	<u>-</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>19.0</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,638.9)</u>	<u>(2,638.9)</u>

The main components of the Cathedral's income and expenditure are:

### Income analysis

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	£000	£000
Corporate grant	130.2	98.6
Donations and grants	366.6	261.3
Facility fees	97.5	110.2
Investment income	7.4	23.1
Visitor fees	818.5	713.7
	<u>1,420.2</u>	<u>1,206.9</u>

## Expenditure analysis

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	£000	£000
Dean & Chapter	251.9	223.6
Choir & Music	573.9	469.6
Upkeep of Cathedral	402.4	326.1
Administration	173.8	158.7
Charitable distributions	16.1	17.6
	<hr/> <u>1,418.1</u>	<hr/> <u>1,195.6</u>

The summarised balance sheet at 31 July 2013 together with prior year comparatives is

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	£000	£000
Investments	150.9	134.0
Cash	167.7	387.3
Net current assets (liabilities) other than cash	65.8	(155.9)
	<hr/> <u>384.4</u>	<hr/> <u>365.4</u>

The summary financial information for the year ended 31 July 2013 has been extracted from the statutory accounts, which were approved by Dean and Chapter on 13 November 2013. A copy of the full accounts is available from the Cathedral Registrar ([john.briggs@chch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:john.briggs@chch.ox.ac.uk)) on request.

By order of the Dean and Canons  
13 November 2013