A photograph of the interior of Blackburn Cathedral. The image shows a large, ornate Gothic-style nave with high vaulted ceilings and pointed arches. The architecture is illuminated with dramatic lighting, featuring deep red and blue hues. In the distance, a choir is performing on a raised platform. Two Christmas trees, decorated with lights, are visible on either side of the choir. The foreground is filled with the backs of a large audience seated in pews.

Blackburn Cathedral

MUSIC & MORE 2014 No. 1 £2

*News of countless cathedral events
and many more free pages online!*



... who is a Consultant in Hillingdon, specializing in HIV treatment. He also has a clinic in Paddington.

But the longest wedding anniversary that month was celebrated by **Gary and Margery Wignall**, who had clocked up 51 years!



Like all our happy couples, Margery and Gary have been, and are, most faithful members of our cathedral. Gary has filled pretty well every lay position at the cathedral during that time (except, perhaps, Director of Music!) – from being a TLD chorister in the 1950s, to sidesman, churchwarden, bell ringer and a member of the cathedral chapter.

Blackburn Cathedral is clearly a place where longevity and wedded bliss thrive!

And there was another **special birthday** which was celebrated by Blackburn Renaissance Singers' Chairman **Alizon Elliott**.

She and husband **Dave** invited friends and family,



children and grandchildren, who had come great distances for a party in their lovely home in Darwen. The party started around lunchtime and ended around bedtime!



We're not saying why the birthday was special (for Alizon doesn't look it!) but the birthday cakes, which were decorated with photographs of Alizon as a young girl, may have given the game away. (Photographs on cakes? What will they think of next?)

To read all past editions of **MUSIC & MORE** and also our online **FREE pages**, and over **30 articles on practical choir-training**,
Google: bertalot.org
It's getting 50 hits a day from all over the world!



Dorothy Green, a most faithful member of our congregation, celebrated her **103rd birthday** fairly recently.

Her husband **Fred** was a longtime choirman and Cathedral Churchwarden and was also Mayor of the Ribble Valley.

Dorothy currently lives just outside Mellor and keeps her fellow pensioners entertained by her lively conversation.

When our BCCA Chaplain, the Revd. **Ian Hollin**, visited her a few months ago, he could hardly get a word in!

Margaret Dewhurst, (pushing the chair) whose husband, **Fred**, was

assistant cathedral organist in TLD's time, visits Dorothy regularly. That's great!

There was a spate of wedding anniversaries at the cathedral in succeeding weeks!



The first was for the **40th Wedding Anniversary of Canon Dr. Ian & Janet Stockton**.

Canon Hindley preached a special sermon at the 10.30 Eucharist when he promised Janet that he wouldn't embarrass her too much!

He didn't – but it was good to hear how Janet & Ian met when they were younger! The entire Stocktonfamily was at that service, including three lively grandchildren!

There were celebratory

drinks in the Crypt after that service, but Ian and Janet would celebrate their 40th the following month more privately – in Paris.

There were also celebratory drinks in the Crypt when **Audrey** and former churchwarden **Jim Holden** celebrated their



Golden wedding. They were joined by their son, former cathedral chorister **Dr. Benedict Holden** ...



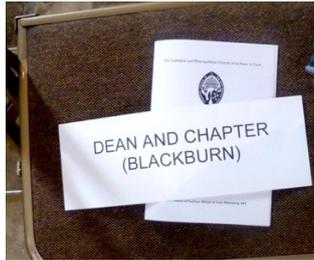
Welcome to the 9th Bishop of Blackburn



Many of us were privileged to be in York Minster on Thursday, 10th October, to see our new Bishop consecrated by the Archbishop of York.

But before the service began, the Dean of York, the Very Reverend Vivienne Faull, welcomed us (we filled that enormous Nave) with a special welcome to **Bishop Julian's parents** who were seated in the front row for, 'today is their 60th wedding anniversary!' We all erupted into joyful applause. What a way to begin that service where joy, history, magnificent music and consecration combined so inspiringly!

The whole service had, of course, been meticulously prepared and rehearsed. Seats for our own cathedral clergy had been reserved, and also seats for FORTY bishops, including bishops **Nicholas and Alan**. A Verger told your editor that the bishops of the Northern Province were always supportive of each other – and it showed for, when the Archbishop laid hands upon Bishop Julian, the forty bishops surrounded him with their own hands outstretched. *(Photo below)*



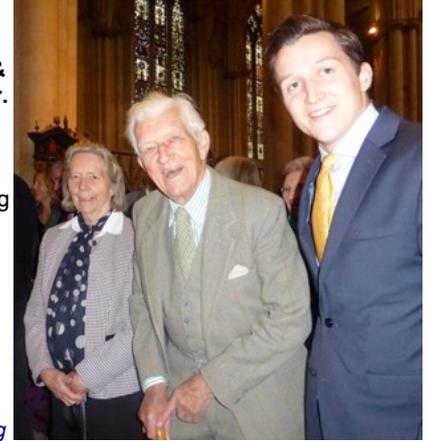
We were not allowed to take photographs during the service, of course, but the press were there and they took photographs!



The Dean and Chapter of York were seated on the right.

Our own Choir Virger, **Alex Barnes**, led one of the processions and, at the end of the service, the Archbishop led Bishop & Mrs Henderson down the length of the Nave, wreathed in smiles!

Immediately after the service your editor did take a photograph of **Mr & Mrs Henderson Sr.** and the Bishop's son **Jamie**. The Archbishop had blessed them during that service – that was another memorable moment!



A party from St. Wilfrid's Academy were there, including

*YPC members **Harry Bookes** and **Harvey Finney**, and Girls' Choir member **Rebecca Pratt**.*



Then **Val Edge**, *(above - on the left)* took a photo of some members of our own congregation.



We bumped into **Canon and Mrs Stockton**, **Canon Hindley** and **Russell Steele** as we all made our way to celebration lunches throughout that historic city. **Whatta day!**



The First Eight Bishops of Blackburn – within living memory

The Diocese of Blackburn was founded in 1926 on the recommendation of the then Bishop of Manchester, **William Temple**, who later became Archbishop of Canterbury. He was concerned to emphasize Christian pastoral support for the expanding cotton towns in the North of England. This would be underlined by transforming the 1826 parish church in the centre of Blackburn into Lancashire's new Anglican Cathedral.

Etching of William Temple on the Jesus Chapel screen.

The Diocese of Blackburn, with 250 churches and more church schools than any other diocese, was carved out of a large slice of the Diocese of Manchester which, in its turn, had been part of the Diocese of Chester until 1847 which, in its turn, had come from the Diocese of Lichfield in 1541!



1. Bishop Percy Mark Herbert, KCVO 1927-40

The portrait of Bishop Herbert in the Chesters Room

Percy Mark was the son of Major-General the Hon. William Henry Herbert (who was the son of Edward Clive, 2nd Earl of Powis).

He was educated at Rugby School (where **Richard Tanner** is now Director of Music) and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1909. In 1922, he married the Hon. Elaine Orde-Powlett, daughter of the 5th Baron Bolton and they had four children. In the same year he was also appointed Bishop of Kingston-upon-Thames.

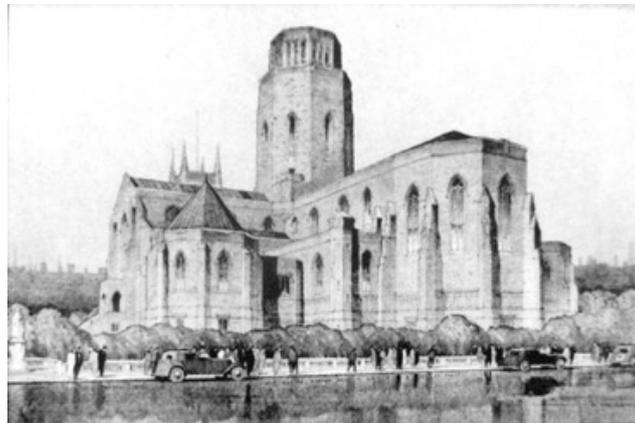
When he became the first Bishop of the new Diocese of Blackburn, his main task was to give it a sense of Christian identity and unity – centred on the cathedral. This was not easy, for the cathedral at that time was just the Nave of our present cathedral – and, being in Lancashire, there were other parish churches which felt strongly that *they* should have been chosen as the new cathedral:

Lancaster – for its sense of living history and its close connection with Royalty (The Duke of

Lancaster being our Sovereign, of course). **Preston** Parish Church was at the centre of the largest town in Lancashire which itself was at the centre of the new Diocese. And St. Peter's, **Burnley** also laid a strong claim.

But one of the reasons why Blackburn was chosen was because of the downwards slope of land at the East end of the church, which would enable a grand extension of the cathedral to be built with a potentially large area of crypt. None of the other claimants had such land available.

Ambitious plans were made to turn the Parish Church into a worthy Cathedral – a start was made, but WWII put a stop to all that and the plans had to be considerably modified – not least for financial reasons.



The original plans for the extension of Blackburn Cathedral, but only the transepts and 1½ bays of the East end were completed.



The Bishop of Blackburn, Dr. P. M. Herbert, visiting Musbury Church in 1927. With him is the vicar, the Rev. A. Winfield.

Photo kindness of OC Peter Fielding

In 1940 Percy Mark became, for 19 years, the Bishop of Norwich.

In his retirement he became Rector of St Mary Magdalene's Church on the Royal Sandringham estate. It was in that church in 1961 that he baptised the Honourable **Diana Spencer** – later to become Princess of Wales!

Memories 1

But on 6th October 1965 he returned to Blackburn Cathedral once again, at the age of 80, to preach at Evensong on the day of the Re-hallowing of the redecorated Nave.

JB remembers it well – for Bishop Herbert preached a fiery sermon – full of energy and zeal and encouragement, the message of which was, 'Here you have the beginnings of a new and glorious cathedral: so get up and get on with your mission!!' How wonderfully is that charge being fulfilled today!

For, right now, imaginative and creative plans are about to be realized – when we shall, very soon, have our Cathedral set in the midst of a thriving and beautiful Cathedral Close which, itself, will be at the heart of a thoroughly modern, and equally thriving, Blackburn.



2. Bishop Wilfrid Askwith, KCMG, DD 1942-54



Wilfrid Marcus Askwith was educated at Bedford School and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and ordained when he was 24.

His first post was as Curate at St Helens Parish Church. After this he was a Master and Assistant Chaplain at his old school, Bedford. Later, after serving abroad, he became Vicar of Sherborne, and then Rural Dean of Leeds before his elevation to the Episcopate.

Memories 2



Former Choristers **ALLAN HOLDEN** (10) and **GORDON FIELDING** (9) were train bearers for the Archbishop of York, Cyril Garbett, at a service in the still-being-built Blackburn Cathedral, seen here with **Bishop Askwith**.

(In those days Archbishops had trains! And note the incomplete window)
The other clergy were the Bishop of Lancaster, Priestly Swaine (L) and the Bishop of Burnley, Benjamin Pollard (R).



OC Gordon Fielding writes:

The Archbishop doesn't look like someone to argue with!

I got his autograph that day (Cyril Ebor), but it got lost in the mists of time.

Here's a photo of the train-bearers taken fairly recently! Both Allan & Gordon are lively members of BCCA.

Allan wrote: *The visit of Dr Cyril Forster Garbett, Abp of York, to Blackburn Cathedral, dating back to 1944/45 is now a little vague in my memory, I was 10/11 years old at the time, but I am still able to recall that I was starting with a severe cold, which caused me to have bouts of sneezing, watery eyes and a continual use of a handkerchief during the proceedings, all of which gave a degree of discomfort, following*

which I was confined to my bed, but the thought of letting TLD down at the last minute, overcame my condition. [Tom Duerden: Organist of Blackburn Cathedral 1939-64]

To be selected for the privilege of carrying the Archbishop's train was an honour for Gordon and myself and I'm sure we carried out our duties with great aplomb.

The Archbishop was paying, as I recall, a pastoral visit in a belated recognition of Bishop Askwith's appointment, two years' previously, as the Bishop of Blackburn. The photograph was taken against the backdrop of the Cathedral's extension which was in its early stages of development.

Sometimes we need to be reminded of the dedication of our previous spiritual leaders and clergy for the contribution they made in the evolution of our beloved Cathedral, which of course, continues to this present day.

Maybe this photograph is a small reminder of this reality, which brings together the young – just starting on a spiritual journey of their own, which still exists after 70 years, and the older pioneers and leaders of our faith.

It is surely an occasion in the history of our Cathedral to remember with affection and gratitude.

Dr. John Roach, former Fellow of Corpus Christi College Cambridge when JB was organ scholar there, wrote:

Askwith was a Corpus man, and was an Honorary Fellow of our College. Moreover he and I went to the same school.

I remember him very well because he used to visit the College quite often in the '50s. He was a former rowing blue – having rowed in the Boat Race. He was very tall and rather formidable!

You'll notice, at the bottom of Bishop Askwith's portrait (top left - which is in the Sacristy) that Blackburn is represented by the smoking of many factory chimneys.

That's what the town was like – even up to 50 years ago, for it had been a successful mill town from the 13th century when wool was woven in people's houses. In the 14th century Flemish weavers settled in the area and it was they who helped to develop the woollen cottage industry.

James Hargreaves was the inventor of the *spinning jenny* in the mid 1700s, which was a mechanical device which transformed the weaving industry. He was a weaver in Blackburn and it became a boom town in the Industrial Revolution, and was amongst the first industrialised towns in the world.

But Blackburn's textile sector fell into decline from the mid-20th century and subsequently faced similar challenges as other post-industrial northern towns had, but in recent years Blackburn has had its own transformations which have coincided with the restoration, redecoration and development of our Cathedral.

In 1954 Bishop Askwith was translated to **Gloucester**. (*Bishops are translated, not promoted!*)

3. Bishop Walter Baddeley, 1954-60



Walter Hubert Baddeley (1894–1960) was born in Portslade, near Brighton in Sussex, and educated at Keble College, Oxford, and Cuddesdon College before ordination. He was ordained to the diaconate and priesthood in 1921.

Baddeley was a war hero. (Look at his portrait: there were a lot of medal ribbons on his clerical stole.) He won medals for bravery in WW1 and rose to the rank of acting Lieutenant Colonel at the age of only 25, after which he returned as a student to Oxford. At the age of 38 he became Bishop of Melanesia in the Solomon Islands, ten years before the Japanese invaded them in WW2.

Bishop Baddeley remained in the Japanese-occupied Solomon Islands during World War II, paying particular attention to medical work among those injured in fighting against the Imperial Japanese Army – including many American soldiers.

For this he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom which is an award bestowed by the President of the United States. It is the highest civilian award in the USA and recognizes those individuals who have made "an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, world peace, cultural or other significant public or private endeavours".

He also received an honorary Doctorate of Sacred Theology from Columbia University, New York City.

After returning to England, he served as suffragan Bishop of Whitby from 1947 to 1954 and then was translated to Blackburn in 1954.

Bishop Baddeley is listed in the Calendar of Saints of the Church of the Province of Melanesia!



A letter addressed to Bishop Baddeley in Melanesia in 1942 – but 'returned to sender' on account of the Japanese occupation of Melanesia.

Memories 3

OC Bryan Lamb wrote two fascinating articles about Bishop Baddeley which appeared in two issues of M&M: Autumn 2004 and January 2005.



Bishop Baddeley's enthronement in Blackburn Cathedral.

His throne, at the floor level of our Nave, was where our ambulatory now is, (immediately behind the present bishop's throne). It's almost impossible for those who have known our cathedral for only a few years to realise that this was indeed what our still-being-built

cathedral looked like 60 years ago. The archway on the right is the only recognizable feature now.

Note the enormous cathedral choir which T. L. Duerden directed so successfully during his 25-year tenure here. The photo of the enthronement was taken from the organ loft which, in those days, was immediately over our present choirstalls!



Photo of Cathedral Organist T. L. Duerden shaking hands with senior choirman Tom Robinson, with Bishop Baddeley on the right.

On the left is **Provost William Kay** who was a war hero in WW1 having been an infantry battalion commander, also with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was awarded not only a DSO but also an MC and two bars! OC **Bryan Lamb** (again) wrote a fascinating article in the January 2003 issue of M&M about Provost Kay and TLD.

OC **Peter Fielding** wrote, in the June 2004 issue of M&M: *Two things stand out in my mind [of those years]: the choirstalls being surrounded by scaffolding [during the building work to extend the cathedral] and Provost WILLIAM KAY placing a radio on the front row of the congregation to listen to Neville Chamberlain's speech in which war was declared on 3rd. September 1939!*

4. Bishop Charles Claxton, 1960-71

Charles Robert Claxton (1903–1992) was the fourth Suffragan Bishop of Warrington before being translated to the See of Blackburn.



He was educated at Queens' College, Cambridge. He was ordained in 1928 and began his ministry with London curacies before becoming Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bristol in 1933. He was then chaplain to the Bishop of Bristol before becoming the Suffragan Bishop of Warrington and then the Diocesan Bishop of Blackburn.

It was during Bishop Claxton's episcopate that most current major changes in our cathedral were made – which we now enjoy. That's why his official photograph shows the new South Transept window by John Hayward – which was one of the many new works of art installed in our cathedral during his Episcopate.

Memories 4



He re-hallowed the gloriously restored Nave in the presence of HRH Princess Margaret and Archbishop Donald Coggan of York, on 6th October 1965.

In December 1969 he consecrated the new central altar in the magnificently refurbished transepts and East end, beneath the

crowning glory of the new Lantern Tower with wonderful glass by John Hayward. (That glass, alas, is no longer with us, for the many layers of glass were bonded with a special adhesive which would last for ever. It didn't.)



That evening Bishop Claxton attended the dedication of the brand new J. W. Walker organ – bought through the generosity of William and Sarah Thompson of Burnley.

The first piece that JB played during that service was, of course, Bach's *St. Anne Fugue*, written in praise of the Trinity. The anthem was Sydney Campbell's *Sing we merrily* so that our Imperial Trumpet could be heard for the first time – played very merrily by our Sub Organist, **Ronald Frost** who was also senior organ tutor at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

And in the recital immediately after that service JB included his Pedal Variations on Henry Smart's *Regent Square* which JB composed especially for that occasion. He finished with Dupré's *Variations sur un Noël* which ends with very full organ!



Admiring the new organ console after JB's recital:
L-R: Bert Collop, Managing Director of Walker's, Bishop Claxton, the Mayor of Blackburn and JB

Bishop Claxton became the first bishop to present the RSCM Bishop's Chorister Award for excellence. This award has now spread throughout the world – and it was Blackburn's musicians who led the way!



Here he is, with (the world's) first Bishop's Choristers in 1967, which included (centre L-R) cathedral choristers **Derek Crompton, Ian Harrison and Charlie Hopwood.**

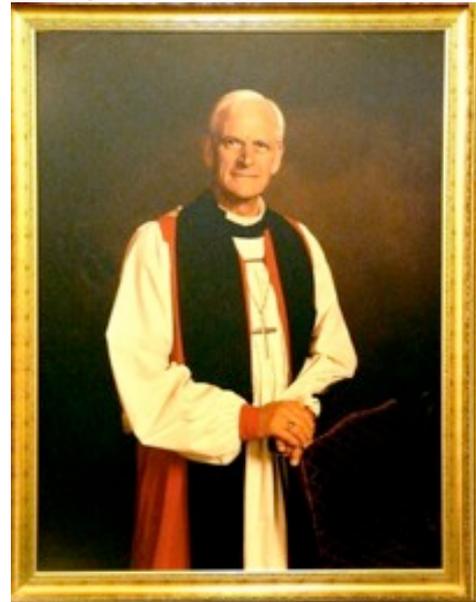
Bishop Claxton took great pride and pleasure in his choristers; every year he treated them to a fish and chip supper in Blackpool and then we all went to a show.



Also, when he visited a diocesan church, which had a bishop's chorister in the choir, he insisted that that chorister should 'attend' him during the service. So when he came to his cathedral, he was surrounded by at least half a dozen of his choristers!

During his long retirement he was an honorary assistant bishop in the Diocese of Exeter.

5. Bishop Robert Martineau 1972-1981



Robert Arnold Schürhoff Martineau (1913-1999) was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He was ordained in 1938.

He was a chaplain in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve in WWII, and his speciality was mathematics. This showed itself not only in sermons, when he invariably made 'Point 1, point 2 and point 3', but also it was rumoured that he knew the registration numbers of the cars of all his clergy!

Memories 5

Bishop Martineau told JB that, on one occasion when he was in Africa, he led a service for some Africans to whom Christianity was new, but they didn't speak English, so he had an interpreter. As it was Good Friday he told, in great detail, the story of Christ's Crucifixion – and then he stopped. But his interpreter said, 'You mustn't leave it there.' 'Why?' asked the Bishop. 'Because they don't know what happened afterwards! Tell them!' (*That is the 'Good News'*)

He was a very gentle man and disliked display – so he didn't wear the bishop's cope or mitre which architect Laurence King had designed to be worn by Bishop Claxton for the rehallowing of the Nave in 1965, so he invariably wore his own more modest cope.

Robert & Truda Martineau in retirement in North Wales.

When JB stayed with the Martineaus in their retirement, the bishop brought JB his early morning cup of tea in bed. It doesn't get any better than that!



6. Bishop Stewart Cross, 1982-88

David Stewart Cross (1928–1989) was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and was ordained in 1955. His first post was as a curate at Hexham Abbey.

Stewart Cross became Precentor of St Albans Cathedral and then for several years he was a producer for religious programmes at BBC Manchester. In fact he produced the second TV *Songs of Praise* which came from Blackburn Cathedral which JB conducted.

Stewart Cross said, afterwards, that it was the best that BBC Manchester had done so far – not least because we insisted that all the 250 singers, from diocesan church choirs which filled the nave, had to attend all three rehearsals before the recording.

Ruth Bond, wife of assistant organist Keith Bond (who had succeeded Ronald Frost who had become unwell), was music secretary in those days, and she worked out a means of issuing tickets to singers after each rehearsal which they had to show when they attended the next one. No ticket – no sing!

Memories 6

Bishop Cross was a very caring bishop. When JB was 'transported' (not translated!) to Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton, New Jersey, the year after Bishop Cross came to the Blackburn, JB's American Rector confronted JB with the militantly liberal Christianity policy of Trinity Church. JB didn't understand what the Rector was getting at, and felt somewhat threatened, having had a more evangelical background.

So JB wrote to Bishop Cross to ask him what Christian liberalism was all about, and the bishop wrote a **four-page hand-written letter** to JB explaining it so gently. What a wonderful thing to do!

As bishops sign their name with a cross (+ Stewart), some of us wondered if Bishop Cross would put the cross after his name as well as before! His wife, Mary, did sign her name *Mary +*

And, of course, Bishop Cross wrote the marvellous hymn **Father, Lord of all creation**, which so clearly proclaims his own lively, joyous faith, and through which the faith of countless Christians is, for ever, strengthened.

7. Bishop Alan Chesters, CBE 1989-2003

Alan Chesters came from Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. He was educated at Elland Grammar School, St Chad's

College, Durham (BA 1959), St Catherine's College, Oxford (BA 1961, MA(Oxon) 1965) and St. Stephen's House, Oxford (1959–62). He was ordained deacon in 1962, and priest in 1963.

His first appointments were in the South of England, but after a few years, he returned to the North, where he was to spend the rest of his



ministry. He became Director of Education for the Diocese of Durham and Rector of Brancepeth (1972–85).

He was an Hon. Canon of Durham from 1975 until 1984 when he was appointed Archdeacon of Halifax.

In 1989, The Queen appointed him Bishop of Blackburn on the advice of the Prime Minister, **Margaret Thatcher**. He took his seat in the House of Lords in 1995.

Bishop Alan was closely involved in education in schools and he became Chair of the General Synod Board of Education, and C of E spokesman on Education in the House of Lords through his interest in Further Education and Higher Education. Church schools were his continuing concern in Blackburn as was St. Martin's College, in Lancaster.

Memories 7 Like all our Bishops, he hosted Christmas parties in Bishop's House for our Cathedral Choristers. (A work of supererogation, perhaps?)

It was during his episcopate that Blackburn Cathedral celebrated its 1,400th anniversary, for the Venerable Bede – 672-735 – mentioned in his *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* that there was a church in Blackburn in 596. Great were the celebrations – including a visit by **Archbishop George Carey**. The last concert in those celebrations was given in August 1996 by JB's *Princeton Singers* from the USA which was attended by a capacity audience, headed by Bishop Alan. The cathedral Director of Music at that time was the brilliant **Gordon Stewart**.

Bishop Alan retired in 2003 and became an Hon. Assistant Bishop in the dioceses of Chester, Gibraltar-in-Europe and St. Asaph. He moved from Chester in 2010, and became Hon. Assistant Bishop of the dioceses of Southwark and Chichester.

The Queen awarded **Bishop Alan a CBE** in recognition of his services to communities in the North West. How good it was that his family was at the Palace to witness that happy day: his wife, **Jennie**, with son **David** and his wife **Kate**.



Bishop Alan wrote, afterwards, *'It was a very happy day. I found it humbling to hear of the wonderful*

things so many of the other recipients had done. Afterwards we joined a few friends for lunch, and that proved a great time for a trip down memory lane.'

Bishop Alan was a strong bishop – one could feel his out-going presence everywhere, and he 'got things done'! It was he who appointed **David Frayne** as Provost of Blackburn. (David Frayne, thanks to the reordering of the statutes of England's Cathedrals shortly afterwards, became the first **Dean** of Blackburn.) And he appointed our present Dean, **Christopher Armstrong**. (Bishop Alan appointed the right people at the right time – thank you, Bishop!)

None of us will ever forget Bishop Alan's farewell service in Blackburn Cathedral when, after blessing us, he knelt at the altar whilst the cathedral choir, conducted by **Richard Tanner**, sang Rutter's *The Lord bless you*. There wasn't dry eye.

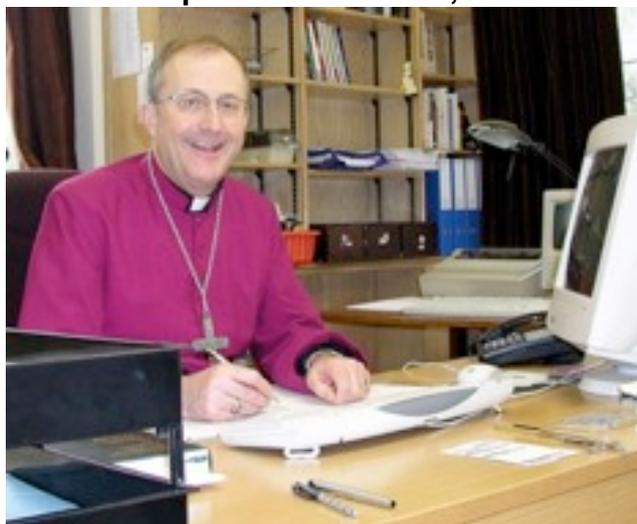
Bishop Alan commented: 'How well you describe that final Eucharist – I can hear the singing now!'



In Bishop Alan's so-called retirement (for assistant bishoprics keep him busy!) he's also sub-Warden of a gracious retirement college for clergy near East Grinstead in Surrey where one of his fellow retirees is **Canon Wilfrid Browning**, who was the very first Residentiary Canon of Blackburn in the late 1950s.

It was JB's privilege and pleasure to visit Bishop Alan and Canon Wilfrid twice at The College of St. Barnabas in recent years. The warmth of their welcome still stirs his heart.

8. Bishop Nicholas Reade, 2004-12



Nicholas Reade was educated at Elizabeth College, Guernsey and the University of Leeds. He was ordained in 1973 after studying at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield. After a number of appointments he became Rural Dean of Eastbourne. He was Canon and Prebendary of Chichester Cathedral between 1990 and 1997 and then became the Archdeacon of Lewes and Hastings, a position he

held until his ordination to the episcopate on 2 March 2004, followed by his installation at Blackburn Cathedral on 27 March 2004.

Like his predecessor, Bishop Reade had plenty of energy and, in the latter half of his episcopate, he often spoke in the House of Lords.



Bishop Reade making his oath of allegiance to HM The Queen in the House of Lords.

Memories 8

A memorable day occurred when **Archbishop Rowan Williams** paid a visit to our cathedral. There was a question-and-answer session after the full Eucharist, during which **Dean Christopher Armstrong** acted as Master of Ceremonies, presenting the questions submitted by members of the large congregation.



Dean Christopher Armstrong, Archbishop Rowan Williams, Bishop Nicholas Reade & The Rt Hon Jack Straw MP, backed by portraits of Provost Jackson & Dean Frayne

The many searching questions were answered fully, not only by the Archbishop and Bishop Nicholas, but also by Blackburn's MP, the Rt. Hon. **Jack Straw**.

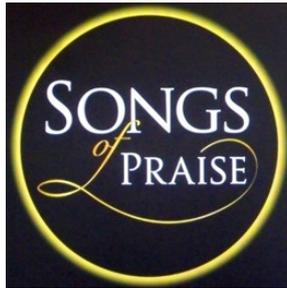
There was one particular photograph that Bishop Nicholas treasured: it was taken early one snowy New Year Sunday morning after he had celebrated Eucharist at Sandringham church. He was spending the weekend with a Gracious Lady, who shall be nameless, but whose dogs may give a clue as to Her identity!



Songs of Praise came again from Blackburn Cathedral – in a programme recorded the same day as our live Pentecost Sunday morning Eucharist. So the coloured lights were still there, warming the pillars in the Nave. Our Cathedral looked its best!

The presenter said that the programme came from a county famed for its red rose and its industrial heritage as well as for its beautiful countryside.

He said that Lancashire was established as a county way back in the 12th Century. 'It boasts thousands of acres of rural beauty – the Forest of Bowland, which has been dedicated as an area of outstanding natural beauty, is as big as New York City!'



This beauty was well illustrated by hymns 'in the imposing setting of Blackburn Cathedral.' The first hymn was, of course, *Lord of beauty*.



Lord of beauty, thine the splendour

The presenter said that, in the 18th Century, Lancashire was the birthplace of the industrial revolution. Its damp climate and plentiful supply of coal made it the ideal base for the newly-flourishing cotton industry, so the Green and Pleasant Land of Lancashire's hills became dotted with mill towns – such as Blackburn.' And so what did we sing to illustrate this? *Jerusalem!*



in England's green and pleasant land.

'When it comes to choirs,' said the presenter, 'Blackburn Cathedral doesn't do things by halves.' He introduced **Louisa Stirland**, a member of our Girls' Choir, who was the BBC' Young Chorister of the Year. She sang a solo with her fellow choristers in Vaughan Williams' lovely setting of *The Call*: 'Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life'.



Samuel Hudson played the organ for the singers, who had come from diocesan churches throughout Lancashire.



I Come With Joy, A Child Of God
St Botolph

We spotted a few members of our own congregation amongst the packed cathedral:



Rebecca Hudson and Judge Jeremy Duerden.

And Laura Corney with Alison Givens.



burning sun and moonlight tender

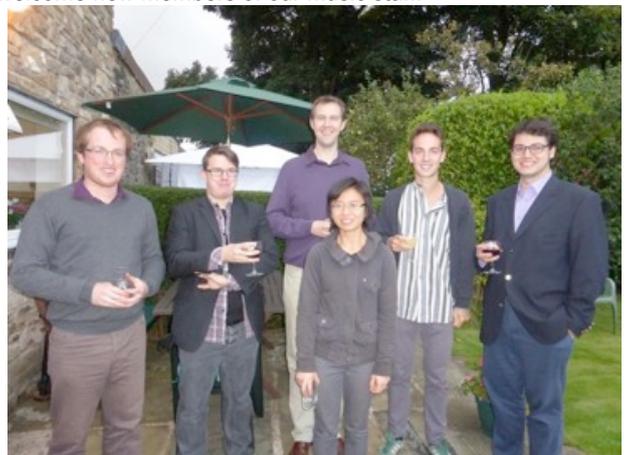
Our Virgiers had, as ever, worked hard to make the cathedral ready for this recording. Not only did they have to set out all the chairs for the singers but, for one item (for a soloist with piano in an empty cathedral), they had to take them all out – and then put them all back again.

Our Virgiers are **Heroes!**

There was another televised SONGS OF PRAISE from Blackburn Cathedral on January 5th. See **M&M online 36**



Dave and Alizon Elliott (see p. 2) again threw a party in their lovely home and garden at the start of the season to welcome new members of our music staff.



L-R, Assistant Director of Music, **Shaun Turnbull** (starting his 2nd year with us). His colourful organ playing dazzles us every week.

Choral Scholar **Philip Almond** (also starting his 2nd year with us). Organ Scholar **Karen Au** (standing in front of Director of Music **Samuel Hudson**). Karen had been Organ Scholar of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge – 53 years after JB!

Our two new Choral Scholars: **Nicolas Walker**, former Senior Chorister of Chichester Cathedral choir, and Head Boy of the Choir School, then he became Deputy Head of School at Charterhouse. Nic will be pursuing a music degree at Homerton College, Cambridge. (Well done!) And **Christopher Davies** from Plymouth, who has a B.A. (hons) in music from Chichester University, and is completing an M.A. in music from Bangor University. **WELCOME, ALL!**

What are some former choristers getting up to?
Up to what are some former choristers getting?
From Former Choir Prefect, Bernard Hargreaves

1967 Derek Crompton
1968 Bernard Hargreaves

Bernard now lives in California with his wife Janet, and three grown-up sons who all went to Berkeley University!

Hi JB,
 Please see the attached photo of me hiking on the Half Dome in **Yosemite National Park** in late July.
 The photo was taken at the top of Half Dome with a celebratory Newcastle brown ale.
 Best regards,
 Bernard
 PS: I read OC **Stephen Holmes'** "To Infinity and Beyond" over summer and really enjoyed it, especially some of the Lancashire analogies!



RSCM SINGING COURSE 2013: YORK MINSTER
 by Cathedral Choir Prefect Oliver Fulwell

On Monday 12th August, four Blackburn Cathedral choirboys (another joined us later) set out on a journey to York to participate in a residential course, led by the Royal School of Church Music for outstanding choirboys, to enhance their confidence and to help their voices improve.

We were conducted by **Malcolm Archer**, renowned organist, conductor and composer, and it was an honour to be singing with him. Accompanying us was highly skilled organist, **David Bednall**. Overall, we had the very highest standard of music staff.



Tim Ferguson (ex Blackburn choral scholar - who had fallen off his bike, hence the black eye!), **Aidan Halsall**, **Leo Fulwell**, **Oliver Fulwell**... and (below) **Sebastian Roberts**

During the course, we sung at seven services – one Matins, two Eucharists and four Evensongs.

The repertoire was mostly well known and everything was beautiful. The music included Darke in F, Francis Jackson in G, the jazzy 'All wisdom cometh from the Lord' by Philip Moore, Archer's own 'O Sacrum Convivium' and our favourite, Vierne's *Messe Solennelle*.

In this music, there were plenty of solo opportunities for us and **William Fielding** was granted a solo which he sang professionally and outstandingly. To be honest, the acoustic at York Minster didn't quite compliment us as much as it does in Blackburn. On the other hand, the building itself was bigger and more spectacular than Blackburn. (Only a little bit, though!)



There were many highlights to this course. These included the chance to meet new people. We made many friends whom we may not see again. The accommodation was also extremely good. We were all well fed with great food – our compliments to the chefs! There were tennis courts and a playing field on which we could spend our free time. We were also allowed into the city one day, where we could spend our pocket money.

William Fielding with Malcolm Archer. (William is wearing his well-deserved RSCM Gold Award medallion.)

We all agreed that the course was too good an opportunity to miss and it definitely lived up to our expectations.

Our thanks to Blackburn Cathedral Choirs' Association for generously helping to fund our amazing trip.

From former JB chorister Ivor Bolton
who is Conductor of the
Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra

Dear John,



I am so sorry and sad not to be able to attend the opening of the new Choir School on Sept. 15th.

My orchestral conducting commitments in Amsterdam and Munich make it physically impossible to get there for that one day.

Ivor Bolton conducting his Salzburg Orchestra at a BBC Prom.

I think often of Blackburn and my time under your inspiring leadership.

I also wish I could be there to celebrate your birthday.

I am enjoying rehearsing Gluck's 'Armide' in Amsterdam and the project runs concurrently with 'Le Nozze di Figaro'.

I came to Amsterdam direct from the Salzburg Festival where we did a beautiful production of Mendelssohn's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' music with Shakespeare's play, and also several concerts.

I hope life will eventually slow down enough in the next few years to rekindle these bonds of friendship which are so important to me and all of us.

I haven't actually been at home in Barcelona since May 26th!

Please send my best wishes to all my Blackburn friends.

All best

Yours ever

Ivor

1971 Ivor Bolton

Thanks so much, Ivor. We are all immensely proud of you and your world-wide musical leadership. You have many friends here, including some of your contemporaries who are still singing in the choir: Phil Wilson, Peter Eastham and Derek Crompton. Philip Carr is a churchwarden!

NEWS FROM a very healthy JOHN KEEN in NOTTINGHAM
'BCCA representation in epic ROW100 charity event'

1981 John Keen

Every 2 years, one of the "Big 4" accountancy firms asks its employees to rank a shortlist of UK charities to determine which of these the firm will support. In the current cycle, my firm is actively supporting 'Action for Literacy' and 'Shelter' as its 'National Charities'.

This year, one of the charitable fundraising initiatives was ROW100, where teams of 4 (employees) volunteer to row 100 kilometers (the equivalent of 2.4 marathons – 64 miles) on a *Concept 2 indoor rowing machine*, as fast as they can.



This is what rowers looked and felt like! Exhausting!

Various offices across the UK have been running the event since May and on 6 September the firm's Nottingham office put two Audit teams forward, "EM Oar'd-it" and "Absolutely Flabulous" (I was in the Flabulous team: back row with a cap on.)



I sang treble in the Cathedral Choir with JB between 1978 and 1981, and in 1982 I was awarded the St Nicolas Chorister Award. My family then moved to Edinburgh and I sang treble, then alto in St Mary's Cathedral Choir, Edinburgh until 1988 when I moved to Newcastle to study law.

Whilst in the North East, I swapped choral singing for rowing. I joined the University rowing club and found that there were **many transferable skills from my choir years, not least discipline, team-work and rhythm.**

In 1997 I was fortunate enough to be coached by Chris Bates, a member of the GB lightweight rowing teams that won gold at the World Rowing Championships in 1991, 1992 and 1994. Chris turned me into a lightweight rower (72 kgs maximum) and guided me to three finals at the National Rowing Championships of Great Britain as well trials for the GB senior squad in 1998.



Medals: GB rowing champs gold (left) meets St Nicolas Chorister Award (right)



From Bob Keen (John's Dad,) sent after the BCCA Reunion:

How my John managed his 100Km row, I don't know. It took 6 hours and 42 minutes. It is some years since he gave up competitive rowing and only rows very occasionally now. I think he had one other rower in

his team of four, one cyclist and someone to make up numbers. He said afterwards that he had never had so much pain in his legs as he had at the end of the event.

It was good to get back at the **BCCA Reunion**, and to witness once more your skill at getting a motley bunch of old choristers into some form in a matter of minutes!!!



Samuel Hudson had generously invited JB to rehearse & conduct his Responses for the BCCA Reunion Evensong! Former scholar Tim Ferguson (L front) seemed to enjoy the experience!

A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHEF MANAGER DAVID RILEY



David is a Blackburn lad – he trained as a chef for ten years in Samlesbury, then worked in Stanley House, spent three seasons in France as a chalet manager and then two summers in Spain.

He's been on the staff of King George's Hall for three years – when up to 500 people were catered for – and now he's come to us as Chef Manager of our Café in the Crypt.

His cheerful smile will add even more joy to the delicious lunches and dinners he creates – so introduce yourself to him and watch that smile appear!



From Dr Roy Massey

Director of Music Emeritus, Hereford Cathedral

(Re JB's Variations for Pedals only, just published)

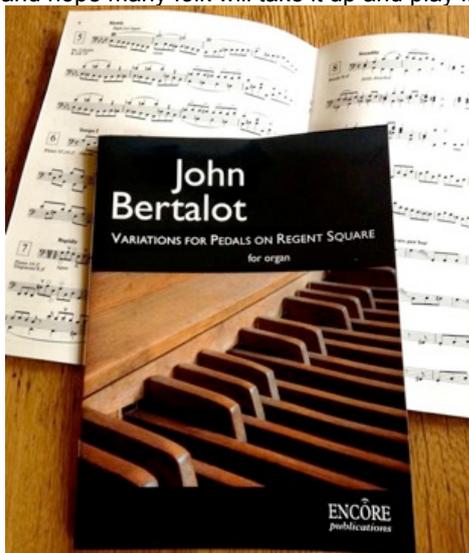
Hi John,



Thank you very much indeed for the copy of Bertalot for feet. It looks splendid - nicely laid out, clear to read, and just looking through the pages with breakfast this morning brought back many memories of the notes as I had attacked them in several venues.

'...it brought the house down!'

Reading Town Hall brought forth the loudest rattles from the pedal-board and Hull City Hall the most vivid general effect - and it brought the house down! I hope the piece will sell well, and hope many folk will take it up and play it widely.



They are fun, both to play and listen to, and audiences do seem to love hearing them. They are also a good antidote for rheumatism in the legs, feet and ankles, and should be recommended by all reputable rheumatoid specialists!!

Just looking at your registration suggestions brings it back to me how very advanced the Blackburn organ specification was in its day, especially the Pedal organ.

Such enterprising Pedal departments were a lot less common in those days than they are now.

However, I've always interpreted the movements in your Variations in as colourful a way as possible, and used the entire resources of a large organ to extract the maximum colour and effect.

The giant organ at Hull City Hall was particularly suitable for such an approach, though I didn't manage to employ any of the percussions which are all working and available. I missed that particular trick as my rehearsal time was limited. Perhaps next time!

Thanks for the latest Blackburn *Music & More* magazine which is interesting and colourful as usual. You really do a splendid job in making it happen, though I imagine it is quite a lengthy job putting it all together - but long may you continue to do it!

As ever,

Roy *Thanks so much, Roy. And thanks for playing my Variations so frequently. I originally wrote and played them for the dedication of our brand new organ way back in December 1969! Dr Francis Jackson, the Consultant for our 1969 organ, found them humorous all those years ago. I've just sent him a copy, too: he still finds them humorous! JB*

(Dr Massey celebrates a very special birthday in May!)



From Robert Costin,

Former Assistant Director of Music,
Blackburn Cathedral 1995-96.

Now Director of Music, Ardingly College, Sussex.

He has just made a superb recording of a Bach composition which was written for the harpsichord but which he plays it on the organ!

Hi John,

Lovely to hear from you. Yes, I've had a busy and enjoyable summer. A trip to NZ was marvellous and it was good to spend time with former Blackburn organ scholar, **Indra Hughes**. I've just spent the last week as harpsichordist at the British Isles Music Festival at Ardingly. I need to get my mind focused on the new term now.

I had a great review of my new CD of Bach's **GOLDBERG VARIATIONS** (originally written for the harpsichord) in the *Independent* a few weeks back, so I'm still basking in the glory.



Album review: Robert Costin, Bach: Goldberg Variations



Though nowadays played on all manner of instruments, from harp to accordion, the Goldberg Variations were originally written for harpsichord.

However, hearing this masterful performance by Robert Costin on the Pembroke College organ, it's impossible to imagine that Bach, an accomplished organist, didn't compose it on such an instrument.

Right from the wistful charm of the opening "Aria", the organ's timbre is a model of acoustical grace, a perfect union of instrument and space, and as Costin launches into the Variations, its full majesty is revealed in rich, satisfying sonorities that build to an epic climax

A marvellous, engrossing performance by a true master.



Robert's career has taken him all over the world, including Africa, North America, Asia and Australasia.

Robert will almost certainly be coming to Blackburn Cathedral in the near future to play the Goldberg for us. Watch this space!

Heartiest congratulations, Robert!

Remembering GORDON SHAW

Choirman, librarian, handyman, member of the Cathedral Chapter, Electrical Engineer, wonderfully loving husband, father and grandfather, and a faithful friend to all who were privileged to know him.



Gordon Shaw's funeral on Tuesday 24th September was remarkable. Gordon was such a lovely man – loved and respected by all who were privileged to know him. Someone said, after his funeral – 'Gordon is the only man I know about whom nobody has ever said anything bad.' That's a wonderfully negative compliment, and so very true.

Folk started to arrive for his funeral a full 35 minutes before the service began – the Nave quickly filled. People had come from far and wide to be there: **Dean David & Liz Frayne** from Somerset; **Lindsey Cooper** from Devon; former organ scholar **Chris Woodward** from London, former choral scholar **Tim Ferguson** from York and **Sarah Davy** from Chelmsford.



The music was sung exquisitely by all the cathedral choirs directed by **Samuel Hudson**. **Shaun Turnbull's** organ playing was exactly right: accompanying the choirs so sensitively and leading the singing of the hymns so imaginatively.

Gordon's elder son **David** said that his Dad wanted this service to be a celebration of his life. He was so very proud of his three children and eight Grand-daughters for they have all achieved so much. David ended by looking at the coffin and saying, 'You made us what we are today; good-night, Dad, and God bless you.'



Gordon had asked Renaissance Singer, **Robert Mitchell** to address us: Robert gave an illuminating résumé of Gordon's life, school, Grade 7 piano (with merit), 40 years at Mullard's... He became a legend in his lifetime for his contribution to our concerts – not least in giving his all when



singing **Come into the garden, Maude!**

The lesson, from John's Gospel, ('Let not your heart be troubled...') was read exceptionally clearly by Grand-daughter **Elysia Kenyon**. We could hear every word.

Canon Andrew Hindley's address brought tears and laughter. Sheila first saw Gordon ('his back') when he was playing the piano in a church hall. 'Who's that?' she asked. She



soon discovered what an exceptional man he was. Gordon's life was built upon two pillars: Love and Faith. The cathedral was, literally, his second home and he made the cathedral what it is today.

The cathedral choirs sang Purcell's **Thou knowest, Lord**, and David Cooper's exquisite, **Come, my Way**.



The Renaissance Singers sang Ken Burton's setting of **Rest, (Come unto him)**, and the congregation sang the rousing hymns with a will: **Angel voices, The day thou gavest, and O praise ye the Lord**.

The prayers led by the **Dean** were faith-filled. 'Go forth upon thy journey from this world, O Christian soul...'

And then the cathedral choirs sang Stanford's moving setting of the **Nunc Dimittis** in G as the cortège left the cathedral.

We were all enriched by the service which was as an outstanding tribute to a man whose like we shall not see again.



It was a happy coincidence that three past Directors of Music of Blackburn Cathedral sat together:

L-R: **John Bertalot**, **Gordon Stewart** and **Richard Tanner**, with **Joan Banks MBE** (widow of former churchwarden and choir-parent, **Keith Banks**) next to them.

After the service (R) **Dean Frayne** exchanged greetings with Blackburn Cathedral Choirs' Association Treasurer, **John Marr**, & OC **George Nicholson** (L)



and (L) former organ scholar **Chris Woodward** complimented Head Chorister **William Fielding** on his solo in David Cooper's **Come, my Way**.

It was a special joy to welcome **Lindsey Cooper**, seen here speaking with **Liz Frayne**, for David Cooper's anthem, **Come my**

way moved us all so much at that never-to-be-forgotten service for that never-to-be-forgotten man.

See a greatly expanded version of this page on blackburncathedral.com – music – M&M online 23



PS from Lindsey Cooper

in Barnstable (see previous column)

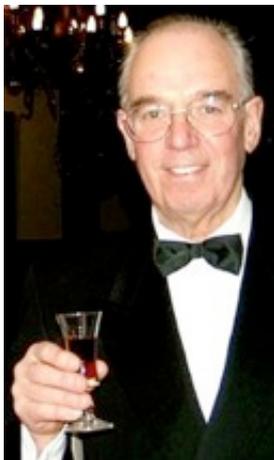
What a beautiful and moving service for Gordon; a fitting tribute for someone who filled the Cathedral Nave with people who loved him.

David [Cooper] was very fond of Gordon as a friend, choirman and neighbour – and grateful for his loyalty, enthusiasm and unwavering support over eleven years [when David was Director of Music of Blackburn Cathedral].

Renewed thanks for all your hard work in the production of M&M which keeps 'refugees' like me in touch.

Warmest wishes,

Lindsey



Gordon Shaw

Canon Michael & Ruth Taylor

After two years of meticulous and detailed planning, your itinerant reporter made the long and hazardous journey to Lytham in the autumn to visit Canon Michael and Ruth Taylor in their new home, to where some other priests have also so graciously retired.



By happy coincidence there was much to celebrate that day: The 54th anniversary of Michael's ordination as a deacon, and 53 years as a priest. And he and Ruth had recently celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. **Congratulations all round!**

Michael, as most of us know, was Canon Sacrist at Blackburn Cathedral (Canon Hindley's predecessor); his special gift was acting – there had been a flourishing Cathedral Guild of Actors not so very long ago, which presented plays in our crypt. And Michael was usually the effulgent star! (We gather that Michael had had a choice of careers in his youth: priesthood or his first love, the stage. What a loss to the stage, but what a gain for the Church!)

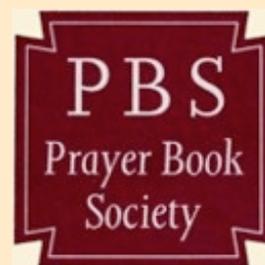
He and Ruth showed JB their most lovely retirement home overlooking the sea (it's about a mile beyond the Lytham Windmill). Spacious grounds with manicured lawns, a fountain, flowers and lots of sunshine that day. Their own apartment (so neat) is on the ground floor with French windows which lead directly onto the gardens.

Conversation flowed effortlessly during a delicious lunch in the spacious dining room – two erudite resident guests joined us – one of whom had had two careers, legal and ordained. What a friendly atmosphere!

Michael is chairman of the Residents' Association, and celebrates regularly in the delightful chapel there.

Michael and Ruth come to Blackburn Cathedral quite frequently (for Michael, being an honorary Canon, attends Chapter meetings). Be sure to say 'hello' when you see them, for they so value the many friendships they made during their so-pastoral and creative years with us.

KEEP THE
B.C.P. TO
THE FORE



OUR ANNUAL FESTIVAL
IS AT THE CATHEDRAL,
SATURDAY 17th MAY

11.00 a.m. Choral Communion
Preacher: The Bishop of Blackburn

Festival lunch bookings,
and further details: 01772-821676

2.15 p.m. Afternoon Speaker:
'The Relevance of the 39 Articles
in the 21st Century.'
Revd. James Lee Potter

3.30 p.m. Choral Evensong

ALL WELCOME –
MEMBERS OR NOT –
TO EACH AND EVERY PART

2001 Ernest J. Gorner

Former Senior Old Chorister Ernie Gorner sent this photo to your editor in November. He wrote:



Dear John,

Enclosed a photo of HRH here in a bitter cold day at Kirkby Lonsdale. Freezing!

We chatted amongst other things of his programme on the life and times of Sir Hubert Parry and the programme he did on BBC TV.

A charming & engaging man. The crowds really enjoyed his visit.

Regards, Ernie

POST BELGIUM CONCERT

Our Cathedral Choir parents and friends enjoyed the opportunity to hear the music which was sung during the choir's visit to Belgium in July.



Conducted by **Samuel Hudson** with **Shaun Turnbull** at our organ, the main work was Vierne's *Messe Solennelle* which, as we all know, gives super scope not only to the choir but also to the organ to display their full range of dynamics from *ppp* to *fff*



In complete contrast, the men sang Tallis's *Lamentations*, which were exceptionally expressive.

If the response of our Blackburn audience was anything to go by, our Belgian friends must

have been greatly inspired by the programmes that our musicians offered them, Well done, all.

ALL EIGHT SHAW GRAND-DAUGHTERS...

... love singing. The two eldest are blossoming considerably: **Caroline** (18, daughter of Gordon & Sheila's **Elizabeth**) has just won a place to **BIMM** (the Brighton Institute of Modern Music), which has four campuses around the UK. Caroline is studying at the new Manchester campus.



Readers of **M&M** will remember that Caroline won a top prize in a national talent search a year ago after performing to an audience of 2,500 at London's O2 Arena, competing against thousands of others from across the country.

She has passed grade 6 piano with merit, grade 7 music theory with merit and grade 8 classical singing with merit. And now she's going on to major in song-writing at **BIMM**.

Ella (17, daughter of the Shaws' elder son – and Old Chorister – **David**) has recently won a competition to sing to an audience of 20,000 in Manchester Arena!

A WOW is called for!

THOROUGHLY ORGANIZED

Head Chorister **William Fielding**, who recently played the organ for a complete 10.30 Cathedral Eucharist, has passed grade 7 piano with distinction.

He also plays the cello in the Blackburn Symphony Orchestra with his father, **Paul**, who plays the double bass.

William plays the trumpet in QEGS school band and plays the organ for QEGS morning assembly.

He also accompanies some rehearsals of the Blackburn Music Society, and is making great strides on the organ with **Samuel Hudson**. (Vierne & Messaien!)

William recently played the historic Father Willis organ in Salisbury Cathedral. (See photo)

(His uncle, **Robert Fielding** who is Director of Music of nearby Romsey Abbey, knows how to pull strings!)

Robert's son, **Richard**, was a chorister at Salisbury Cathedral – and another of William's uncles, **Mark Fielding**, is a professor at the Guildhall School of Music. And of course William's father, **Paul**, sings in the cathedral choir; William's sister **Elizabeth** is a dedicated member of our Girls' choir, and Mum **Rachel** is a strong member of the Renaissance Singers and often serves as an acolyte (along with Elizabeth and crucifer William) at our Sunday services.

Whatta family!



Another WOW is called for!

Congratulations to all.

From James Kealey

Organ Scholar at Royal Holloway College,
University of London.
Blackburn Cathedral Organ Scholar 2012-13.



I am missing Blackburn, but I'm finally settling into a new routine here, trying to find the balance between work and practice, and getting used to my new surroundings. I have to say that I feel much more prepared for the years ahead here, after the fantastic time I had in Blackburn. The people here are great, the music course is great, and the choir is amazing!

It's been a busy start to the term, and I don't see it getting any less busy – with concerts, services, recitals all over the place in the next year – which I am all very excited about, as well as the academic studies, which I am really enjoying.

It's nice (like last year) to be in a place where I am surrounded by like-minded people (although, I have only met another 3 'Northerners' here...).

I was thrown in at the deep end here – with accompaniments, psalms and playing the Langlais *Te Deum* in the first lunchtime concert – which I was very nervous about – I wanted to start the year off well – prove that I can do this scholarship!

Best wishes, **James**

We were grieved to learn of the death of ANN CRONSHAW

Ann's husband, **David**, was a cathedral choirman with TLD and during JB's early years at the cathedral. Ann's funeral service, (or rather Service of Thanksgiving, as **Canon Wedgeworth** stressed in his sermon) in October, was attended not only by Ann & David's three



children, **Andrew, Angela and Peter**, but also by their five grandchildren and by many members of the cathedral congregation. (OC **Peter Fielding** is Godfather to Peter.)

David Barnett, Ann's son-in-law, gave a beautiful eulogy: Ann was born in Malta where her father was a chaplain in the Royal Navy.

The family later moved to England but at the start of WWII Ann was evacuated to Canada, where she enjoyed a wonderful time. On returning to the UK after the war Ann became a child care officer in Skipton, and eventually married David, who was a friend of Ann's twin brothers.

Their marriage lasted for 57 years, and both Ann and David were closely involved in our cathedral. Ann's ebullient high spirits always enlivened every gathering in which she was involved – including serving on our 'welcomers' desk, and she was a JP for 21 years. But in recent years Ann had been increasingly unwell.

Canon Wedgeworth said in his sermon that undeserved suffering is at the heart of our faith, but that the care Ann received from David and her doctors wonderfully demonstrated the resurrection side of our faith.

Donations in memory of Ann should be made to **Alzheimer's Society**, c/o Alty's Funeral Service, Broomfield Place, Blackburn BB2 1XF.

St Mary's House

by former Choir Parent and Churchwarden

JIM HOLDEN

St Mary's House, which is now being demolished to prepare for our new Cathedral Close, has had over the years many occupants. It was a junior school where very young **Tom Duerden**, was a pupil, and many years later it housed the cathedral Song School when **TLD** was Director of Music before it moved to its present position in the cathedral crypt.



Among TLD's boys in 1940 are Peter & Gordon Fielding. Can you spot them?

In the late 1950s **Canon Desmond Carroll** lived there, and in the early '60s it housed the clergy library and the cathedral Appeal Office, presided over by the redoubtable **Mrs. Meggitt**. (She was the only cathedral secretary at that time!)

In 1964 John Bertalot arrived as the new organist in succession to TLD and a few years later John, along with his mother, '**Dots**', who'd moved up here after his father's death, was housed in St Mary's House. Shortly after his arrival and in conjunction with the **Workers Educational Association** he started a series of weekly evening music talks. These continued over the winter months for a number of years. Some of those who attended such as Mrs Ranson (wife of the Diocesan Registrar Leslie Ranson) and Faith Jackson (wife of Provost Lawrence Jackson) were from the cathedral, but there were a number of outsiders, and I was one of those.

His evenings were very wide ranging: one year was devoted to the development of music and the development of notation. I have to say that there were times when the class could be quite mutinous while John was illustrating some of the early music but we persevered despite many mutterings, with John chivvying us along. He did not deviate from his grand plan.

Dots Bertalot in JB's studio, St. Mary's House, hosting (L-R) **Flor Peeters**, who gave one of the opening recitals in the new organ early in 1970, **Bert Collop**, Managing Director of Walker's organ builders, **Terence Duffy**, DoM Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, and an unrecognizably youthful **JB!**



For another session JB had evenings devoted to opera. His talks on Benjamin Britten were appreciated but when he got to *Wozzeck* by Alban Berg he really did have to exert his powers of persuasion. I don't think any of us were won over. One composer it was evident that he did not like was Wagner!

Over the course of the years he helped in his light-hearted way a group of ordinary folk to appreciate many, many aspects of music. Some events stand out. One night when Thomas Tallis was his subject he showed us the full score of the 40-part motet *Spem in alium* which he'd conducted in Ely Cathedral.

When the new organ was finally completed in 1969 he had us in the darkened cathedral to hear him demonstrating the wide range of colours he could extract from the instrument – and this was before it was formally dedicated. When the organ was in full use there was usually one evening in each session when he would give us our own private recital. I remember him playing some Delius – not a composer you might associate with the organ.

JB also gave five Bach organ recitals every Lent which we attended. As usual he introduced each item and on one occasion the small son of one of our class was there. Afterwards the boy was asked by his Mother what he enjoyed the most. He replied, 'The talking!'

At the interval each week '**Dots**' Bertalot appeared with some coffee to give us strength for the second half! (She was asked why her coffee tasted better than anyone else's: 'I boil the milk!') And there was, of course, much informal discussion. **Those were some very instructive and enjoyable evenings.**

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL CHOIRS' ASSOCIATION 48th ANNUAL REUNION

This year's BCCA Annual Reunion was very special, for it coincided with the opening of the £225,000 gloriously refurbished Song School through the great generosity of John Booth.

To see a full presentation of splendid photographs of BCCA members and the new Song School, **Google:**

blackburncathedral.com/ – music – Music & More Online Supplements numbers 23a & 23b

Meanwhile, enjoy these tasters! **Tucking into lunch:**



L-R: **Iain Thompson** from Cheshire, **Ralph Robinson** (in the distance) from Yorkshire, **Neil Inkley** (Peterborough Old Chorister), **David Smalley** and **John Highton**, all from nearer to home.

The Annual Meeting was chaired efficiently and happily, as ever, by the **Dean**, with **John Marr**, Treasurer, and Vice Chairman **Eric Bancroft**. (Our Chairman was away that morning doing something very athletic for 10kms)



We are solvent thanks to generous **GRAND PATRONS & PATRONS** and **faithful subscribers**. BCCA gave £1,600 to our cathedral choirs to help with summer courses and the Belgium tour. 'M&M is much appreciated', said the Dean. We look forward to the transformation of the Cathedral Close starting in the New Year!

Samuel Hudson taking the rehearsal for Evensong with **Shaun Turnbull** at the organ, sung by former choristers and current choirmen, boys and girls.



Back row: L-R: Choral Scholar **Philip Almond**, **David Smalley**, Vice Chairman **Eric Bancroft**, **Ralph Robinson**, **Adrian Wilson**, Choral Scholar **Nicolas Walker** (ex Chichester) **Bob Keen**, **Alec Stuttard**, **Phil Wilson**, and in front of them **Emily Crewe** and **Paul Fielding**.

Decani choristers rehearsing



Front row, far end: Former Choral Scholar Tim Ferguson and choirman Andrew Orr. Back row, far end: John Marr, Callum Shaw, Choral Scholar Christopher Davies, Anthony Snape, Revd Ian Hollin, Allan Holden, Revd. Philip Chew, Steve Holmes & Iain Thompson.



Tony Murphy (R) had flown in from New Jersey that morning especially to attend our Reunion – as he had last year. We appreciated this more than we can ever express. Thank you, Tony.

Other exceptionally long-distancers were Constance Heald from Ely and Revd. Philip Chew from North Wales. Bryan Lamb, also from Cambridgeshire, couldn't be with us, (he usually comes by taxi!) for he'd recently had a cataract operation which had gone wrong. He sent his warmest wishes.

We enjoyed a super dinner in the Crypt, prepared by Dave Riley



And after our retiring Senior Old Chorister, the Revd. Ian Hollin (L), had made his farewell speech in English, our new SOC, the Revd. Philip Chew, made his acceptance speech in Welsh. We were speechless!



And the next day, Sunday, saw former choristers at the 10.30 Eucharist, sitting in the front rows:



Front row: Adrian Wilson, Callum Shaw, Chris Snape, new 'Old Chorister' Emily Kennedy & Alan Carr.

Centre: The Revd. Ian Hollin & friend Mrs. Margaret Payne, Ralph Robinson, Eric Bancroft, John Marr & Nigel Chew.

Back: Tony Murphy, Allan Holden, David Smalley, Alec Stuttard and the Revd. Philip Chew.

The Offertory was made by John Marr and Nigel Chew, and we remembered, in our prayers, those who are no longer with us, but who rejoice in a greater light: Choirmen Tom Wilkinson and Gordon Shaw, Choir parents Barbara Walmsley and Pat Stuttard.

The Old Choristers joined with the cathedral choir to sing the communion anthem:



And then everyone went to THE NEW £225,000 SONG SCHOOL for its dedication by the Dean. What a transformation!



See 8 pages of photographs of this wonderful weekend online! blackburncathedral.com/ - Music - M&M Supplements online 23a & 23b



A stunning BBC Choral Evensong...

...live, Wednesday 16th October

See two glorious pages of photographs and details of the broadcast:

www.blackburncathedral.com/ **Music - M&M online 26**

The American Guild of Organists (AGO)

In the October edition of the AGO's monthly magazine, there's a most interesting review of a new book called *The Seduction of the Church* by Dr Malcolm C. Doubles. (He speaks Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Aramaic, German, French ... and American!)

In his book he sets out 'to prove that so-called inclusive language has been misused to launch an attack on the faith itself'. He makes the point that, in eliminating the male image for God and Christ, we can no longer say 'Jesus is Lord', for 'Lord' is masculine. Similarly some Americans object to the word 'King'. Therefore 'Thy Kingdom come' and 'The King of Love...' are out. Gender "new-speak" creates its own theology, using language as a vehicle to shift ideology and so 'accuracy of language becomes secondary.'

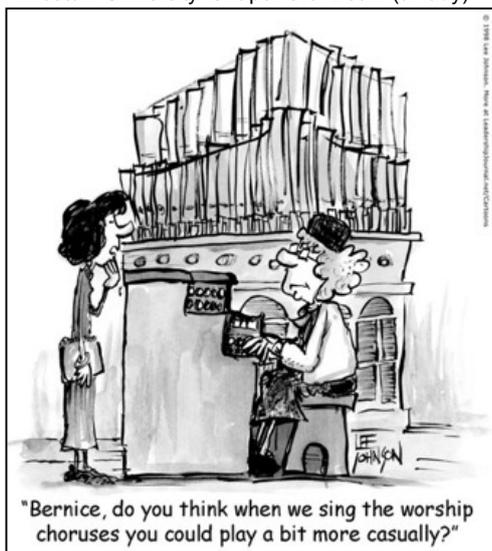
He notes that 'attendance at mainline Protestant churches has steadily diminished, coinciding with reformed liturgy and reformed hymns.'

JB remembers that, at one of the services in his church in Princeton (that church was, and still is, at the forefront of liturgical reform), the *Jubilate* (Psalm 100) was re-written: 'O go your way into her gates with thanksgiving and into her courts with praise: be thankful unto her and speak good of her name'. *But that is neither inclusive nor gender neutral!*

And at a carol service in Princeton University Chapel the Dean (a lady) concluded the Bidding Prayer by saying: 'May Almighty God bless us with her grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the Queen of Angels bring us all.'

And some churches don't think that sin should be mentioned. It's not nice. So when JB conducted his arrangement of *Amazing Grace* for a televised service in a Californian cathedral, the minister changed the words from, '... how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me', to '...how sweet the sound that saved a *soul* like me!'

Comments welcome!



GORDON STEWART

Director of Music, Blackburn Cathedral 1995-98...

...has recently issued a stunning recording of himself playing the magnificent organ in Huddersfield Town Hall (where he arranges weekly lunchtime recitals which attract large audiences). And a fine orchestra plays with him here!



This CD is especially special, not only because of Gordon's brilliant playing, but also because all the music is by the Yorkshire composer **Andrew Carter**.



Andrew is known, mainly, for his choral compositions, (commissioned by King's College, Cambridge, St. Paul's Cathedral and other prestigious temples of music) but his orchestral and organ music is also full of good tunes and catchy rhythms, making this CD a must for anyone who enjoys music which can be appreciated immediately, and which is brilliantly played by organist and orchestra.

Heartiest congratulations, Gordon and Andrew!
The CD is available from www.allegromusic.co.uk



Bishop Julian's Inauguration Saturday, 19th October 2013

(Above L-R) The Diocesan Registrar, The Chapter Clerk, The Bishop of Bloemfontein, Canons Stockton, Penfold & Ledbetter.

(Above, facing forward) The Archdeacon of Blackburn, The Bishop of Burnley (partially hidden), **The Bishop of Blackburn**, The Bishop of Lancaster, The Archdeacon of Lancaster, The Dean of Blackburn and Canon Hindley.



The choirs processing into the packed cathedral before the Bishop was formally admitted.



There were superb trumpeters who played exciting fanfares by Samuel Hudson, and also for Parry's 'I was glad'.



There was applause from the 1,000-strong congregation of clergy & laity after the Dean had installed Bishop Julian.

A sandwich lunch had been prepared for everyone which we enjoyed enormously afterwards in the cathedral, where we chatted with each other informally!

See 3 pages of glorious photographs of that wonderful service on the cathedral's website: www.blackburncathedral.com/ Music - M&M online 25



The Bishop seeks admission to his cathedral by knocking on the West door with a Saxon hammer which all 'new' Bishops of Blackburn have used since Bishop Herbert in 1926. *(Photo: 'Look North' BBCTV)*

The Revd. John Shorrock

1943 Peter Fielding
John P. Highton
John M. Shorrock

It was with sadness that we learnt of the death of John Shorrock who was an exact contemporary of OCs Peter Fielding and John Highton as Prefects in our Cathedral Choir under the leadership of the legendary T. L. Duerden. (Both Peter Fielding and John Highton attended our recent BCCA Annual Reunion.)

At his Service of Thanksgiving in St Thomas à Becket Church in Warblington, in which John & Jane's daughter Sarah Jane and granddaughter Helen read lessons, his son, Patrick paid a moving tribute to his father:

My father was many things: a son, a brother, a priest, a husband, a father, a grandfather - and a friend to many. But in all of these, he was consistently himself, with an ability to focus on the positive and the joyful, and to be a source of fun and laughter. One of my earliest memories as a child is lying in my bed at night, unable to get to sleep, and hearing his - shall we say? - extremely audible laugh coming from a long way downstairs. I remember thinking what a shame it was to be upstairs and isolated from all the fun that was going on.

I feel a similar sense of isolation now that he has been taken from us, and the sound of his laughter is being heard in Heaven rather than here on earth. But, as well as expressing our sense of loss today, I want to celebrate and give thanks for him, and the wonderful memories that we have to share.

Born in Blackburn in 1929, the eldest of four brothers, he joined the Choir at Blackburn Cathedral, where he eventually became head chorister. Even before his voice broke, he was beginning to think about ordination. These thoughts led to a life of service as a priest. This included ministry at another Cathedral, Canterbury, where he served as Sacrist and minor canon.

All his life, he was sustained and inspired by a vision of a God whose love is huge in its kindness and generosity, life-enhancing in its effects, and welcoming to all.

I hope and pray that, by the power and grace of the God John served, and through his prayers for us in Heaven, we may continue to live life as generously and abundantly as he did.

Justin Miller

Blackburn Cathedral Organ Scholar 2009-2010...

...telephoned your editor on Guy Fawkes' Day. He's playing the organ for several months for services at Ripon Cathedral (their Director of Music is away) and enjoying a great time there. 'The organ has just been rebuilt,' he said, 'and it's being heard for the first time at Choral Evensong today, and,' he added, 'guess whose chant we're using for the psalm - yours!'

Justin sounded full of life and energy - for, since leaving us, he studied for two years for his Master's degree in Cleveland, Ohio, then he returned to the UK and was organ scholar at St. Albans Abbey, where **Richard Tanner** and **James Davy** had been amongst his distinguished predecessors!



Justin's partner, **Richard Pinel**, (left - this photo was taken when they were at a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace!) is Assistant Director of Music at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Richard not only teaches organ at nearby Eton College, but has just been made a Junior Fellow of Birmingham Conservatoire. So the Pinel-Miller household is making a lot of joyful music in the most illustrious places.

OUR CATHEDRAL BELLS...



The Inauguration of Julian Henderson as the 9th Bishop of Blackburn on 19th October 2013
Bell Ringers in the Cathedral (from left): Gary Wignall, Frank Anderton, Brenda Wilson, Vanessa Humphreys, Jean Barnes, Ian Fowler, Ray Hutchings (RM), Ian Smith, Charlotte Ferguson, Graham Barnes, Beate von Bremen & Donna Jones

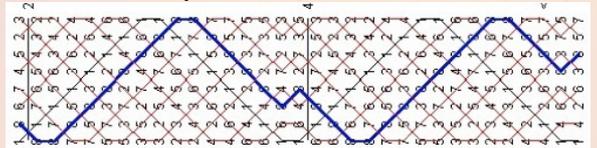
...RANG FOR BISHOP JULIAN

Blackburn Bellringer **Dr Beate von Bremen** wrote:

We were 12 Bell Ringers, all from the **Lancashire Association of Change Ringers** but from different branches: Blackburn & Preston Branch.

For the Inauguration of our new Bishop we rang between 10am - 11 am and then again just after the installation ("A fanfare is played and the Cathedral bells are rung.")

- Rounds and call changes
- Plain Bob Major (see this part of a change-ringing chart!)



- More Rounds and call changes
- Grandsire Triples after the interval, and finally
- **Firing**

Firing is an old custom. It is not done very often nowadays and most bands have not much practice. Therefore ringers tend to be a bit nervous about it.

Firing consists of ringing all the bells simultaneously to produce a very loud sound. The standard procedure when firing is to start ringing rounds. When the conductor calls "fire next time" the band fires several times consecutively. If I counted correctly they fired 12 times. Then rounds are rung again after which the 2nd cycle of firing starts. Again the band fired 12 times. After this the band rang a 3rd time rounds and then stopped.



Watch this **video** of our bell ringers **FIRING** - on **YouTube**:

'FIRING BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL'

Dr von Bremen concluded: Unfortunately we did not meet up with the Bishop. but it is customary for the Bishop to visit the belfry on Easter Sunday at 10 am before the service for a thank you and a short prayer. So we expect to meet up with the Bishop next year. Maybe we will be able to take another picture on that day.

OC PHILIP CROZIER is making music all over the world ...

1971 Ivor Bolton
1972 Philip Crozier

... rather in the manner of his contemporary in our choir, IVOR BOLTON.

(Ivor is conductor of the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra)



Philip is an organ virtuoso. He is married to a French Canadian organist – they play organ duets – and lives in Montreal. This photograph of Philip appeared in the November edition of the American Guild of Organists' magazine after he had given nine recitals in Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, France and Denmark!

Philip is our only Old Chorister who was an Old Chorister whilst still singing treble in our choir! How did he manage that?

Well whilst he was a treble his parents moved to Carlisle, and so, as a leaving present, we made him an OC of Blackburn – and he then sang treble in Carlisle Cathedral choir.

But shortly afterwards they all moved back to Blackburn, and so he re-entered our choir as a treble. It's simple when you know how!

RENAISSANCE SINGERS' BRITTEN CENTENARY



The Renaissance Singers, directed by **Samuel Hudson**, gave an immensely powerful concert in November to mark the centenary of the birth of Benjamin Britten.

Read all about it on the cathedral's exciting website:

www.blackburncathedral - music – **Music & More Supplement 27**



We were saddened to learn of the death of KEITH WALMSLEY

Keith and Barbara were dedicated choir parents of cathedral choristers **Paul & Michael** – so dedicated, in fact, that they threw themselves wholeheartedly into the life of our cathedral – Keith becoming Secretary of the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral, and Barbara becoming a member of *many* cathedral organisations.

Barbara's funeral earlier this year was most moving, and attended by many friends and admirers who packed the Nave.

Keith's funeral was similarly attended – and it was so moving to see his coffin borne into the cathedral on the shoulders of his sons and grandsons.



Paul, who is an anaesthesiologist in Kentucky, spoke eloquently about his father who had been an officer in the Royal Navy and later became a distinguished Blackburn headmaster.

Samuel Hudson had formed a choir especially for that service. They sang Croft's *Burial Sentences* and *Psalm 23*,

also Elizabeth Poston's *Jesus Christ The Apple Tree*, and John Rutter's *The Lord bless you and keep you*.



Canon Hindley said that conversations with Keith were never short ('that runs in the family!') and always exciting. He was a worrier – a belt-and-braces person, and he ensured that his children were well brought up. (They were!) Keith also worked for the Samaritans and was able to help many people.

'The whole cathedral gives thanks for his creative life, and when he meets Barbara again they will have plenty to say!'

The service ended on a note of triumph as the choir sang Haydn's *The Heavens are telling*, which was a favourite of Keith, as he was borne out of the cathedral on the shoulders of his grandsons, and sons **Paul & Michael**.

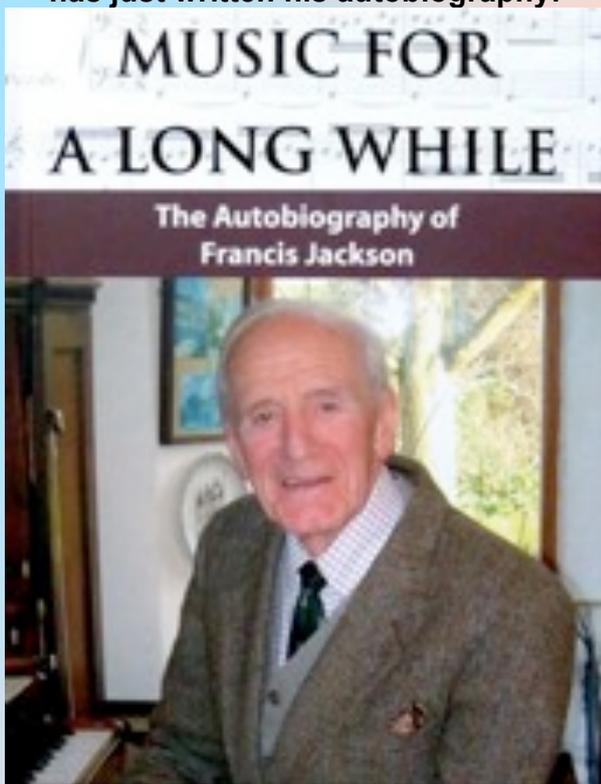


MUSIC & MORE

is supported by **Blackburn Cathedral Choirs' Association (BCCA)** and by most generous **GRAND PATRONS & PATRONS** and by *many* other individual donors. **THANK YOU!** **M&M** is published by Blackburn Cathedral BB1 5AA & printed by **DELMAR PRESS** Ltd, Nantwich CW5 5LS

For subscriptions to **M&M @ £20 or more**, please contact Amanda Snape: snapeamanda@yahoo.co.uk

Dr. Francis Jackson CBE,
 who was the Consultant for the creation of our new 1969 organ,
 has just written his autobiography!



It makes fascinating reading for, having reached the age of 96, this most distinguished church musician tells how he became a young chorister in York Minster choir in the 1930s, how he fought in WWII, became Master of the Music of York Minster for well over 40 years, gave 1,621 organ recitals all over the world, published nearly 150 compositions, recorded 20 CDs, lunched with The Queen, has an 'earned' doctorate and three honorary doctorates. He also generously mentions Blackburn three times in his unput-downable book!

Page 258 – the months of planning of our brand new organ, and his opening recital thereon on 10th January 1970; **page 253** – a recital by his Minster choir in our cathedral (he even remembers what music they sang!) and **page 313** when he was celebrating the 50th anniversary of his joining the Minster choir. He wrote:

A totally unexpected surprise conveying the best wishes on this fiftieth anniversary came from the choir of Blackburn cathedral in a beautiful card portraying the fourteenth century Swan Inn at Lavenham (where harpsichords come from). It was a mystery how knowledge of this minor jubilee had reached so far westward, but the card was signed by every member of the choir ...

Thank you Francis! We'll send you another autographed card for your 100th birthday!

JESUS & MUHAMMAD

Is their message still relevant?

The cathedral Dialogue Officer, **Anjum Anwar MBE**, recently organised a fascinating day in our cathedral when an enormous audience of adults and school children overflowed our North Transept to hear speakers proclaim the message of Christ and of Muhammad.



See the cathedral's website for a full report with many photographs. You, too, will be inspired!

www.blackburncathedral.org
 - Music – Music & More Supplement 28.

HAIL & FAREWELL

It has given us enormous pleasure to welcome and to promote many choristers this autumn and to have awarded some valuable prizes, thanks to the generosity of many donors.



But we have also said 'Farewell and Thank you' to other choristers who have served our cathedral so well in their young lives. Singing in our cathedral choir is a life-changing experience!

See the cathedral's website for many photographs of these pivotal moment in the lives of our young choristers:

www.blackburncathedral.org – music – Music & More Supplement 29. (Or Bertalot.org – *M&M online 29*)

We also said FAREWELL & THANK YOU to ANTHONY TATTERSALL

former chorister and current choirman, who is starting a new life for himself and his family in New Zealand. They flew to NZ on Christmas Eve!

Anthony and his twin brother Peter joined the choir 33 years ago; their elder brother, David, had joined four years earlier. They were outstanding choristers, and became similarly outstanding in their subsequent careers.

David became a Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy (submarines) and is now farming in New Zealand.

Peter is a PhD in Princeton, NJ, married to another PhD.

Anthony is not only a talented school-teacher, but he founded OCTAVIUS – a prodigiously talented choir which often sings in Blackburn Cathedral. He's also a recording engineer, fabulous alto and terrific Husband, Father and Friend. Golly we'll miss them all!

The choirmen gave him a great farewell dinner at the **Shajan Indian Restaurant** one Sunday evening in November.

Anthony's brother David was there from NZ.

JB was thrilled to greet his two former choristers.



Thank you, Anthony for all you have meant to us, and very best wishes to you, Kerry, Matthew & Charlotte!



Cathedral Hymn-singing Fund-raiser

OC David Smalley will conduct an evening of hymn-singing on a grand scale (a choir of 250!) on **Tuesday 11 March at 7.30 pm**. All hymn tunes are by David. It will be a unique evening. £5 at the door. Come early!

We were deeply sorry to hear of the death of **PHILIP ROBERTS**. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Alma, his wife of more than 50 years.

Alma and Philip were among the earliest members of FoBCM and at their Golden Wedding, in appreciation of the music at the Cathedral they had enjoyed over so many years, rather than receiving presents, they invited contributions from friends to add to their own generous donations to FoBCM.

Philip will be greatly missed.



Heartiest congratulations to OC

1990 Christopher Hunwick

... who has appeared on TV yet again from his privileged 'place of work' – i.e. Alnwick Castle – where he is Archivist to the Duke of Northumberland. He's appeared several times on 'educational' TV programmes recently (see a lot of past editions of M&M!).

This one, broadcast in early December, was even more fascinating, for in it he tells the story of **Harry Hotspur** – who was the eldest son of the 1st Earl of Northumberland in 1364. Chris told us that young Harry (who led a successful battle against the Scots when he was only 13) has become a national legend for bravery – included not only in Shakespeare's *Henry VI pt I*, but also the **Tottenham Hotspur** football team which is named after him!



And there's so much more in that TV programme – including the **£40m fabulous gardens** of Alnwick Castle and the **1,300ft Northumberland Lady of the North**, who has just become a major tourist attraction.

Read all about it, & more: 'Google' Bertalot.org – **M&M online 30**. **JB's Blog has over 10,000 'HITS' at c.50 a day!** See Bertalot.org

At Choral Evensong on Sunday 8th December 2013
NELSON MANDELA, who died three days' earlier, was remembered with special music & prayers.

Remind yourself of Canon Chris Chivers' shattering sermon about forgiveness: **'MANDELA, RECONCILIATION & PEACE'** which is now reproduced in **M&M online 31**



Our 2007-8 junior organ scholar **Tom Daggett** (who went on to win the organ scholarship to Lincoln College, Oxford from where he was awarded a first-class honours degree in music) is making amazing pastoral music in the East End of London right now.

He's just issued a press release about his choir called **Cantignorus**, which has made a 'hit' CD. The choristers of **St. Paul's Cathedral** were involved as well! (*The CD is only 79p from iTunes*)

Read all about it in **M&M online 32**

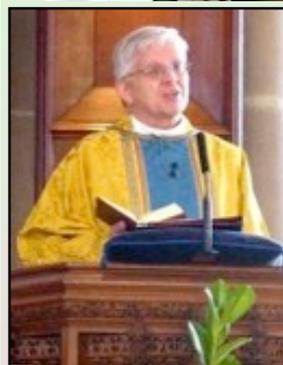
Our Christmas Spectacular attracted a capacity audience!



Read all about it in **M&M online 33**
'Google' [Blackburncathedral / music / Music & More](http://Blackburncathedral/music/Music%20More)

And read about all our other exciting events at Christmas and the New Year:

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS on 23rd December on M&M online 34



Christmas Day with Bishop Julian's first Christmas Sermon in full on **M&M online 35**

OUR SCINTILLATING NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERT with Helen Davies and Samuel Hudson, plus **Songs of Praise 2:** all on **M&M online 36**

