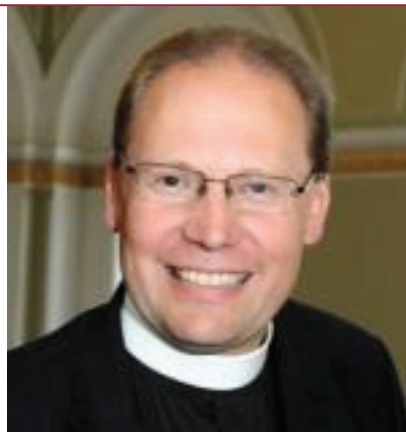




**Canon Peter Howell-Jones writes:**

May I take this opportunity to thank so many people for their support and welcome as the Howell-Jones family move to Chester. We are delighted to be here and look forward to developing new friendships and exploring the area in the months to come.

One of the consequences of Christian ministry is the formation of friendships. You can't journey with other human beings for any given period of time without some level of affinity and relationship developing between you. To deny it is to deny what it is to be human. To be human is, in part, to be relational!



Leaving Birmingham Diocese after 14 years has brought this into sharp focus for me. There are family, friends, work colleagues, business acquaintances and others who I have encountered during my day-to-day ministry who will no longer be geographically close. Moving to Chester has 'disturbed' the immediacy of these relationships and I'm left asking the question, "will they continue?"

Historically, I'm told, clergy were strongly discouraged during their training from building friendships once in parish ministry. I guess there was a fear that when a particular parish ministry ended it would be painful to leave newfound friends behind and difficult if not inappropriate to maintain such relationships once a new incumbent arrived.

This may be so. But for Christians to resist the natural evolution of friendships within the context of ministry, community or working environment for fear of being hurt, is to deny not only our humanity but also the incarnational ministry of Jesus.

Throughout the gospels we see Jesus building relationships with those he encounters - he shares his life, helping to bring about human flourishing and transformation. He encourages, he challenges, he prays for; he heals, he feeds, he cries with; he risks, he speaks out, he dies for. Such is the nature of incarnation and such is the nature of the ministry to which we are called as Christians both individually and as a community.

At interview I was asked about my vision for the role of Vice Dean. Part of my response highlighted the importance of listening, engaging and journeying with people inside and outside the Cathedral community and helping the institution of the Cathedral to keep focused on the primary task of mission. Of course the task of mission is relational; it requires us to build relationships and share our lives with others. It is risky. But it's worth it!

**Prayer for September**

Lord of heaven and earth,  
as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer,  
give us patience and courage never to lose hope,  
but always bring our prayers before you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



**For those wishing to attend:  
The installation of Canon Peter Howell-Jones as Canon Residentiary and  
Vice Dean will take place on Saturday 24th September at 4pm.**

## CURATE'S CORNER

For most of the month of August I have been away from the Cathedral, having a much needed week on the Isle of Iona and a few days in Stranraer visiting my middle sister. As I write this I am also getting ready to go to Greenbelt, which is an important date that goes into my diary every year...

The three places have something in common with each other... Good company, space for God, and time away from my office! Iona this year was extra special as I haven't been for 4 years and so was really looking to being back there with good friends and company. Greenbelt is always such a special place with good seminars, worship and music plus good company as well.

One thing I have been thinking about over the past two weeks, is power. We had been discussing poverty on Iona and highlighted power or lack of power as one of the issues at the heart of poverty and as I was looking at the readings for last Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> Aug) I saw the issue of power there as well.

Power when used for good is fantastic, but the problem with power is that it can often go to our heads. Power is given to us, we don't automatically have it, and if we take it without being given it, abuse of power is usually the result.

The Iona community elects a leader, the council and other committee members and so abuse of power is not an issue. Greenbelt is run mainly by volunteers and although there are paid members of staff, it is governed by volunteers who have been 'given' power by their commitment to the Greenbelt ethos. Jesus gave authority to Peter in Matthew 16, but in Romans 12, we are told that whatever we do we need to do it in a way that is holy and acceptable to God, and that included Peter!

How do you use the power you have? Is it rightfully yours or have you taken it away from someone else? Are you using it in ways that are holy and acceptable to God? If not why not?



## Charitable Giving

For some time it has been a matter of concern to some of us that the Cathedral is unable to give any money to support the main Missionary Societies of the Church. Whilst appreciating the good work of the Kondopoga Group we think this is a big omission.

After much thought and consultation with the Clergy team it has been agreed that we should have a Missionary Weekend each year to raise some money. It is intended that this will be on the 15th and 16th October. Plans are at an early stage but we intend to have an afternoon tea on the Saturday and have a retiring collection at the 10am Service on the Sunday.

As October 16th is Bible Sunday and this is the celebration year of the King James Bible, it seems apt that any monies raised will be given to the Bible Society. In future years we hope to support other societies, eg. CMS, USPG, Leprosy Mission and the Melanesian Mission.

Further details will be given in the October Newsletter.

## Simon Warburton Development & Fundraising Manager

'Hello, my name is Simon and I've just started working at the Cathedral as the Development and Fundraising Manager.

As I'm sure you are aware the Cathedral needs to seek financial contributions to ensure its varied and diverse activities are maintained. At the heart of this is maintaining the Cathedral's Mission, and the Cathedral also plays a critical social and economic role within the community through music, education and as a visitor attraction. Part of my role will be to work with Chapter to place all of the competing priorities into a coherent plan and to establish a number of Trusts or Foundations for Music, Education and the Cathedral Fabric. Once established these will become registered Charities, each of which will have their own fundraising plans, ring fence any investment and support the vital costs of those activities. As some of this activity might also involve physical development I will also be working alongside local and national partners to ensure the Cathedral's Development plans meet the statutory requirements and needs of our partners.

I would encourage all to come and discuss their thoughts for the development and fundraising activity within the Cathedral, but from the short time I've been here we have been exploring the following priorities:

- Addressing the debt of the Song School – I've already been approached by helpful members of the congregation who wish to join together to address this issue
- Establish, coordinate and manage the Development Trust, Education Trust, and Music Foundation activity– focussed fundraising activity, clear priorities and ring fenced investment
- Working in Partnership – Work with the Friends of Chester Cathedral and Companions of St Anselm offering support where required and working together whenever needed in order to prioritise action.
- Continue the development activity for the Cathedral Quarter – Including seeking additional sources of funding for the Nave Platform, Cathedral at Heights, a new toilet block and the Refectory / café
- Work with Visitor Management and Hospitality – a crucial source of income for the Cathedral and potential for further fundraising activity.

In my previous jobs I have worked in the Economic Development department of West Sussex County Council and then as part of the Land and Property team at the regional regeneration agency, the Northwest Development Agency (NWDA). I have a degree in Sociology and Psychology from Southampton University and a Masters in Planning from Manchester University. I am recently married (of 4 months!) and live in a village outside of Warrington.

I think this is a really exciting time for the Cathedral and I look forward to meeting and working with you all. Please feel free to drop me a line on 01244 500966 or email me at [simon.warburton@chestercathedral.com](mailto:simon.warburton@chestercathedral.com)



## The new Assistant Director of Music is Benjamin Chewter.

He started playing the organ at the age of six and was educated at Christ's Hospital School (the Bluecoat School) in Sussex. He subsequently held the Organ Scholarship at Canterbury Cathedral (the year of the Enthronement of Rowan Williams as Archbishop) before going up to Emmanuel College, Cambridge as Organ Scholar, where he read Music and was organist to the mixed-voice choir of King's College Chapel. During this time he directed the College Choir on tours to Mexico, Germany and Sweden, and made a recording on the Priory label. Following this, he moved to London to take up the Organ Scholarship at Westminster Abbey and then spent three very happy years as Assistant Organist of Lincoln Cathedral. Ben is delighted to be in Chester, and is looking forward to starting work with Philip and Laurence in September. He is living near Saltney (where his new house is about 35 metres from the Welsh border), and lists his interests as cooking, (very) amateur photography, any of the Sibelius symphonies, most films by the Coen brothers and the piano playing of Art Tatum.



## Worship in the Cathedral:

### Weekdays:

- 0830 Morning Prayer  
(St Anselm's Chapel)
- 1230 Eucharist  
(1130 on Thursdays)
- 1730 Choral Evensong (said service  
on Wednesdays)

### Saturdays:

- 0900 Morning Prayer  
(St Anselm's Chapel)
- 0930 Eucharist
- 1615 Choral Evensong

### Sundays:

- 0800 Prayer Book Communion  
Service (said)
- 1000 Cathedral Eucharist
- 1130 Sung Mattins (or Prayer Book  
Eucharist 1st & 3rd Sundays)
- 1530 Choral Evensong
- 1830 Evening Service

*All subject to occasional variations.*

## 'In the footsteps of Thomas Brassey'

**Saturday, 1 October 2011**

The Friends of Chester Cathedral have arranged a very informal outing on Saturday, 1 October: a 'Heritage Walk' in Chester starting from Chester Railway Station, and looking at the life and work of Thomas Brassey, the great Victorian railway engineer. The walk will finish at the Chapel of St Erasmus in the Cathedral, the restoration of which was financed by Brassey's three sons in memory of their parents and where there is a bust of him (see above)

John Wolfenden, a Chester Blue Badge Guide and heritage enthusiast, will guide us around the city seeking out surviving evidence of the great man's life.

Thomas Brassey (1805-1870), was born outside Chester and went to school near St John's Church. He became famous, greatly admired and incredibly wealthy as a contractor, especially for his railway work. By 1847, he had built about one third of the railways in Britain, and by time of his death in 1870 he had built one in every twenty miles of railway in the world. He also built Chester Railway Station in 1848 to the designs of Francis Thompson.

The cost is £5.00 per person in aid of the Friends, payable on the day, which includes a cup of tea or coffee in the Cathedral Refectory after the walk. The meeting point will be outside Chester Railway Station at 11.00 am on Saturday, 1 October.

The walk will last about 2 hours.

Places are limited and must be booked in advance – for further information or to book, please contact:

Nick Fry,  
12 Abbey Square, Chester,  
01244 500958,  
e-mail: fry@chester cathedral.com



## In Residence - Day by Day

<b>Sunday</b>	All Clergy
<b>Monday</b>	Rev. Christine Bull
<b>Tuesday</b>	Canon Jane Brooke
<b>Wednesday</b>	The Dean
<b>Thursday</b>	Canon Chris Humphries
<b>Friday</b>	Canon Chris Humphries
<b>Saturday</b>	Rev. Christine Bull

## September Saint: Michael

Archangel. His name means "Like unto God" According to the Book of Daniel, one of the chief princes of the heavenly host and special guardian and protector of Israel.



In the Book of Revelation he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil (or dragon) who was cast out of heaven. By his intercession souls can even be rescued from hell. He is depicted in art as weighing souls and also slaying the dragon.

His feast on the 29<sup>th</sup>. September commemorates the dedication of his basilica on the Salarian Way near Rome.

High places such as St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall are associated with his cult, and believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, and in the 10<sup>th</sup> century Mont-St. Michel in Normandy, where a Benedictine abbey was founded to commemorate an earlier apparition..

He is often chosen as a Patron of Cemeteries.

## The Chester Mystery Plays



The Chester Mystery Plays form a spectacular festival presented mainly by members of the local community under professional direction. This rare Chester production has become a much anticipated highlight in the British arts calendar, attracting people from all over the world. One of the largest community events in the UK, hundreds of enthusiasts of all ages from throughout the area make up the cast, crew and the support teams working in administration/marketing and front of house.

The Chester Mystery Plays are performed in Chester every five years, with the most recent production being in 2008 in the grounds of Chester Cathedral. In 2013 the Chester Mystery Plays will be performed by hundreds of local volunteers led by a production team including Artistic Director, Peter Leslie Wild and Music Director/Composer, Matthew Baker. And for the first time ever, the Plays will be performed in the Nave of Chester Cathedral.

Tickets for the 19 performances are now on sale at the Cathedral Box Office [www.chestercathedral.com](http://www.chestercathedral.com) 01244 500959 Cathedral Undercroft opening times, Monday – Saturday 9.00 – 5.00 and Sunday 12.30 pm – 4.00 pm [www.chestermysteryplays.com](http://www.chestermysteryplays.com)

### The Cathedral Retreat 2011

## The Art of Advent

Praying Advent with painting, poetry and prose

From 6pm Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November until 2pm Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November

Led by Canon Jane Brooke and The Revd Christine Bull

Foxhill Retreat and Conference Centre

Cost £98

Booking forms now available from Canon Jane, Revd Christine or the Cathedral Office

### Shop News:

The Cathedral Shop now has stock of new key rings showing the Cathedral Cross on one side and its motif on the other. They are priced at £3.75 and would make a great gift. Call in to and see them along with any other great gifts available.

Remember the Shop is now selling postage stamps.



### Andy's Recipe of the Month:

#### BANANA BREAD



6 oz Flour	1Tsp Salt
1Tsp Cinnamon	4oz Castor Sugar
4 Med Bananas Sliced	1 Egg Beaten
1oz Butter	3Tbsp Milk
2oz Chopped Walnuts	

Put flour and salt in a bowl, add spice and sugar and stir in the walnuts, banana and milk, then beat until mixture is a dropping consistency.

Place in a greased bread tin and bake for 1 hour on low heat.

### CATHEDRAL PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer chains are nothing new, what is new is having one in operation at the Cathedral.

Requests for prayer can come from you, as Cathedral members, for yourselves, for members of the Cathedral community or for other people you know in your extended families, workplaces or neighbourhoods; they may be for someone who is bereaved, or trying to cope with some other crisis, or perhaps for someone facing a new and challenging situation or responsibility. The request is passed quickly and in strict confidence along the telephone chain, and within a very short time a number of people are praying in response.

Those of us who have volunteered to be on this new prayer chain are either from the Pastoral Care Team or Cathedral members who have expressed a wish to be involved. It has not been set up in competition with the Guild of St. Raphael, but rather to run alongside and complement the Guild's important work.

The members of our Prayer Chain believe that prayer always makes a difference; we believe that God always heals us, and seeks to enter into a particular situation with his transforming love and healing power. Sometimes knowing that someone else is sharing a burden is all that is needed to lift spirits.

If you have an urgent concern for which you would appreciate prayer, the prayer chain will respond immediately. Just ring Ruth Blakebrough-Miller (01244 390956) who will pass on your message in confidence round the chain.

A good God who hears and answers our prayers is waiting.

### Concerts and Events at Chester Cathedral

#### Tickets

17 Sept	City of Chester Male Voice Choir	7.30pm	01244 500959
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