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PORTICO

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2014

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project starts to take shape

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PETERBOROUGH
CATHEDRAL

Salutations!

from the Dean



Spades in the ground at last! Early fruits of the Peterborough 900 Campaign have been audible for quite some time now. Indeed, it's difficult to remember life before the new sound system was installed in the Cathedral. But the current phase of development is highly visible. Landscaping of the approach to the West Front is nearing completion though the

top surface of bonded gravel can't be laid on the ramped path until the weather warms up in the Spring. Work is under way to construct the glass doors and screens which will be fitted inside the porch in the New Year, when we also hope to install the new interpretation panels inside the Cathedral.

You will not be surprised to learn that all this activity has involved a great deal of hard work, not least by the Project Board and especially Stephen Crane, the Project Manager. It has also incurred quite a bit of disruption for staff, congregation and visitors alike in negotiating our way around the building site, temporary entrances, moving offices and so on. But it's also exciting that all this will result in our Cathedral being much more open, accessible, welcoming, inspiring and informative.

Meanwhile, welcome to this edition of Portico, and thank you for your interest and support.

Charles Taylor

PORTICO MAGAZINE



If you enjoy reading Portico magazine and would like to receive future issues by post or by email, do get in touch! Copies are usually published in the Spring and Autumn and you can subscribe free by contacting:

Liz Hurst, Communications Officer, Peterborough Cathedral, Minster Precincts, Peterborough PE1 1XS. Telephone 01733 355309 or email liz.hurst@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk

We are grateful to photographers: Elli Dean, David Lowndes, Matthew Roberts, Neil Torr.

We would also welcome your comments and suggestions for Portico, so please contact me using the details above, or talk to us online via social media.



CATHEDRAL NEWS UPDATE



CATHEDRAL'S HIVE OF ACTIVITY

Corporate Partner, Central England Co-operative, has generously helped the Cathedral to establish a hive of 50,000 honey bees in gardens at the back of the Precincts. In a scheme led by the British Beekeepers' Association, the Co-op and others are trying to strengthen the bee population across the UK by using urban habitats as well as rural

locations. The Cathedral's hive is tended by bee-keeper Richard Davies. The established gardens in the Cathedral Precincts, stocked with flowers, fruit trees and other plants, provide an excellent environment for the bees. We keenly wait to see whether they can provide us with Cathedral honey!



Cathedral cameos in print and on screen

The Cathedral has made cameo appearances in various ways over recent months. It was the venue for Stamford and Nene Valley Living magazine's autumn fashion feature (pictured). Then Dr Janina Ramirez and a TV crew came to film for a BBC Four series about monasteries to be shown in early 2015. Filming from the top of the tower was the order of the day for both BBC TV's Bargain Hunt and ITV's Long Lost Families. Both will be screening episodes set in Peterborough in the New Year, so check the schedules!



WI members gather for tour and tea

We were delighted to welcome over 160 WI members, from Huntingdon and Peterborough Federation branches, to the Cathedral during October. They brought with them the WI Centenary Baton which is travelling the country in the months leading up to the organisation's 100th anniversary in 2015. Members enjoyed a guided tour, tea and Evensong, which included the WI hymn, "Jerusalem".



Cambridgeshire's legal eagles land in Peterborough

The High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire Linda Fairbrother, together with the Dean and Chapter, hosted the Justice Service, at Peterborough Cathedral on Sunday 5th October. The service is an annual event, which brings together in an act of worship many people who are directly involved in the maintenance of law and order and the administration of justice in the county. Amongst those attending were Circuit and District Judges, High Sheriffs from

neighbouring counties, the Bishops of Peterborough and Ely, the Dean and Chapter of Ely Cathedral, magistrates, mayors, senior police officers and other civic dignitaries. The service is an opportunity both to pray for those involved in the Cambridgeshire justice system, and for the High Sheriff to thank them on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. A lunch for guests was served in the New Building before the service, which took place at 3.30pm.



Waitrose chooses Cathedral for event

Nearly 200 partners from the new Waitrose store in Peterborough came to the Cathedral in October, in preparation for the opening of their brand new store. Inspiring speeches filled the New Building, and the South Transept became a hub of Waitrose branding and activity. Store Manager Jon Webb said, "The Cathedral proved the perfect venue and the Partners are still talking about how good the event was."

LETTING IT SPEAK FOR ITSELF



An update on our Heritage and Education project from Stephen Crane, Project Manager

It has been nine months since the Heritage Lottery Fund gave approval for the start of work on phase one of the £2.4 million "Letting it speak for itself" project. During that time much has been accomplished, the most visible sign being the works at the West Front and in the Precincts.

What's happening on site

There are five packages of work: stonework, metalwork, joinery, landscaping and electrical. The two main contractors, who bring a wealth of experience to the project, started on site on Monday 4th August 2014.

Visit Peterborough Cathedral today and you will see the new universal access into the building, the replacement and conservation of many of the portico steps, the reconfiguration of the portico railings, the installation of new floodlights and the extensive landscaping on the south side of the Precincts. As the project has progressed, the Cathedral Archeologist has been visiting the site to record and photograph important historical aspects.

Much of the work has meant that the West Front entrance has had to be closed. However, this first phase has been designed to avoid disrupting the Christmas celebrations and installation of the new doors and further physical work will resume in the New Year.

What's happening off-site

As well as the manufacture of the new oak and glass doors, the architects and experts in electrical and structural design have been finalising the second phase of the project. This will focus on the conservation of The Knights' Chamber and No 25 Minster Precincts, and their transformation into our new Heritage, Visitor and Education Centre. In addition, our interpretation designers have been finalising the images and text for the display panels, which will shortly go into manufacture for installation in the New Year.



Pictured clockwise: Worship continues, choristers after Sunday Evensong. Cathedral Archeologist, Jackie Hall, with her colleague, Caroline Atkins. Manufacture of the oak and glass doors begins.

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDED JOBS



Lisa Foulkes-Arnold has joined the team as Volunteer Co-ordinator. She has a head start, having been a Cathedral volunteer herself, taking on the organization of exhibitions and helping with bookings for guided tours. "I found volunteering a great way to meet people when you're new to the city," she said.



Judi Horspole has joined the Education Department as Heritage Learning Assistant, a two day a week post. As a volunteer, Judi has led school groups and family activities at Peterborough Museum and Flag Fen. She also has a degree in Ancient History and Archaeology, so is well equipped for her new role.



Hafsa Tanvir is our first Project Management Intern. She will assist Stephen Crane with aspects of the running of the project, working for two days a week during term time. Hafsa is in her third year of a Business Administration degree at UCP (University Centre Peterborough).

UCP MOVIE MAKERS

A group of media students from UCP has begun work on making a silent film about life at the Cathedral. The idea is to create a short film which will become part of a new display in the Cathedral. Visitors will then be able to see something of the huge range of activities that take place in the Cathedral on a daily basis.

One of the group's first major assignments was to film during the Remembrance Sunday service, which involved high level camera positions as well as filming at ground level. The group has also covered school visits, the Taizé service and other events.





NAVE DINERS SHARE ASPIRATIONS FOR CITY

Four hundred and twenty guests from businesses in and around the city of Peterborough were welcomed to dinner in the Nave on 18th September by the Dean, Charles Taylor. The guests were attending Opportunity Peterborough's annual Bondholder Dinner, held for the first time inside the Cathedral.

This prestigious black-tie event celebrates Peterborough's business success, and this year it was delivered in partnership with the Cathedral's Peterborough 900 campaign.

"One of the original purposes of the Nave of cathedrals was to be not only a place to congregate for worship, but also a gathering place for the wider community," said the Dean in his welcome. "It is a meeting point of the ordinary and

the sacred; a place where the sacred may be discerned and celebrated in the ordinary."

He went on to say: "Our gathering here in this communal sacred space for this particular event is especially symbolic of the bonds and mutual interdependence between this Cathedral and the commercial and civic communities of Peterborough. We share a common concern for the welfare of our city and region; not just for its economic prosperity, but for its social cohesion and cultural aspiration, all of which are of course intertwined."

Opportunity Peterborough's Steve Bowyer said, "we were delighted to work with the Cathedral to host this prestigious event in such an iconic venue, and have received very positive feedback from guests."

NEWS FROM OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

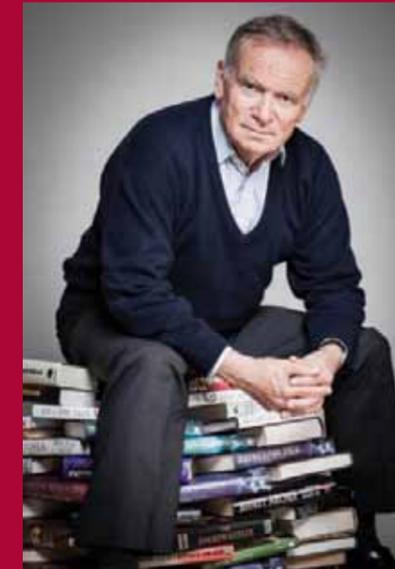
Peterborough Cathedral is delighted to announce that it now has over 60 Corporate Partners as it approaches its 900th Anniversary at the heart of the city. The aim is to reach a total of 100 Partners by 5th June 2015, when Jeffery and Mary Archer will join us at the Cathedral for the annual Corporate Partners' dinner.

Partners can join the scheme and support our fundraising for as little as £900, which can be paid over the period up to 2018. All the funds raised will go towards our Peterborough 900 projects, with our current focus being the new Heritage and Education Centre in the Precincts. The Centre will give

local people the opportunity to learn more about the city's heritage in exciting and engaging ways (see more on page 4 and 5).

Corporate Partners receive a range of benefits, including attending our popular quarterly business breakfasts to network with fellow Partners. Also included is a generous discount off meeting room hire in our fabulous Grade I & II Listed buildings, and invitations to a number of Cathedral events throughout the year.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Corporate Partnership scheme, please contact Rachael Clarke on 01733 355301 or Rachael.Clarke@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk



Walters upgrades to Platinum membership



Walters Office Suppliers have come to the Cathedral's rescue with a generous donation of the desks, tables and chairs needed to kit out extra office space for new workers on the Heritage and Education Centre project. Their donation means that two new part-time workers and an intern now have a suitable place

to work. It also means that Walters moves up from Silver to Platinum membership and can enjoy a car parking space in the Precincts for a year.

Handelsbanken celebrates 4th anniversary



Handelsbanken celebrated its 4th year in the City of Peterborough with a reception for customers and other guests in the New Building during September. The evening began with a rousing organ recital by Assistant Director of Music, David Humphreys, which proved very popular with guests.

Branch Manager Julian Turner said: "We were overwhelmed by the universally positive feedback we received from our customers and Peterborough professionals, who clearly enjoyed every aspect of the evening."



CORPORATE PARTNERS

- Advanced Security Consulting Ltd
- Anglia Regional Co-operative Society Ltd
- Anglian Water Services Limited
- Art in the Heart
- Athene Communications
- Baileys Event Catering
- Barclays Bank plc
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- EasyLife IT
- ESP Ltd
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- River Design and Print Ltd Trading as E Print
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- Walters Ltd
- Whitworth Holdings Ltd
- WLP

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Girl choristers team up for fun run

The girl choristers, joined by family and friends, entered a team into the 5km fun run at the Perkins Great Eastern Run, to raise money for the Choir Tour Fund. There were around 40 in the team altogether and they raised approximately £1,250 in sponsorship. The girls are due to go on a singing tour during 2015, similar to the boys' singing tour in France earlier this year.



A visit to the POSH

Boys and girls from the Cathedral choir enjoyed a "backstage" tour of the Peterborough United Football Club in preparation for their visit to sing Christmas carols there before the home game on 20th December. They were shown the players' dressing room and the silverware in the Board Room. They were also told about some of the strict house rules the players have to follow (draconian fines if your mobile phone rings in the dressing room on match days!).



New faces

The autumn term is always a time for newcomers in the Music Department and this year is no exception. Jeremy Lloyd is the new Organ Scholar, joining us from the Royal Academy of Music where he graduated with First Class Honours in July this year. Charles Cunliffe has taken up the first Choral Scholarship funded by The Wates Family Enterprise Trust and there are nine new boy and girl choristers. Jeremy Jepson has also joined the choir as a Lay Clerk. Fond farewells were said to Lay Clerks Amiele Yarwood-Burke and Simon Nurser who retired at the end of September.



Singing with The Sixteen

The Sixteen has invited the choristers to join with them on Saturday 31 January 2015 when they sing Monteverdi's Vespers. The choristers will rehearse with the Sixteen in the Cathedral and join them in the performance at 7.30pm. Tickets are already on sale and full details are on The Sixteen's website www.thesixteen.com



RE-PITCHING THE ORGAN – AN UPDATE

The day when the Cathedral's magnificent Hill organ can play at the same pitch as other musical instruments is getting nearer! Efforts to raise the £410,000 needed to re-pitch the 5,286 pipes of the organ have very nearly achieved their goal. Once the re-pitch is completed, the way is open for collaborations with professional orchestras and amateur musicians that could only be dreamed of whilst the organ remained at "Old Philharmonic pitch" rather than "standard pitch". The work will be undertaken by expert organ builders, Harrison and Harrison of Durham. It is due to begin in 2015 and will take between 18 months and 2 years to complete.

STOP PRESS: A third party charitable trust has generously offered to help us by matching, £ for £, any donation received by the end of 2014. If you can help please contact James Dyer, Campaign Manager, on 01733 355301 or email james.dyer@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk



TAKING UP THE BATON

Sue Dobson interviews Steven Grahl, the Cathedral's new Director of Music

Steven Grahl bounds down the wooden stairs from his office and guides me through the scaffolding encasing the Music Department's building. As we cross the Precincts he confides: "the children are very excited, we're going to the POSH ground after school to check out the sound system and see if we can do a Christmas carol concert there. I hope we can make it happen, it would be a great thing to do."

Since taking up the baton as Peterborough Cathedral's new Director of Music in September, Steven has approached every aspect of the multi-faceted job with characteristic warmth and enthusiasm. He's keen to continue his predecessors' work in making Peterborough a centre of excellence for church music and firmly believes that the young choristers deserve the very best musical education, finding the equality of opportunity at Peterborough "very appealing".

"We have two choirs here, the boys' choir and the girls' choir, and they work on an equal footing. Being a chorister is very demanding, for the children and their supportive parents, but it's a priceless adjunct to school education. As well as engaging with wonderful music, everything from 15th century to modern composers, they learn the kind of team building, time management and social skills that stand them in good stead for the future. Choristers tend to do well in life."

With a music career that has spanned keyboard player (organ, piano, harpsichord), conductor, accompanist, choral director, singer, recitalist, composer, arranger, teacher and examiner for the Royal School of Church Music, Steven brings with him an impressive range of skills, knowledge and experience that leaves even the most accomplished professional musician a little breathless. "It's good to have a craft," he says modestly. "You can draw on your own skills to bring everyone together."

Winning ways

Steven grew up in Derby, where he was a chorister at Derby Cathedral and later the sixth-form Organ Scholar there. His gap year was spent not backpacking around the world but acquiring more skills as Organ Scholar at Norwich Cathedral. Time well spent, it seems, for he then won the Organ Scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford, studying for a degree in music and playing for the daily chapel services.

Winning the Betts prize for further study, he took up a Scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music, graduating with distinction (having won all of the available organ prizes) in 2003, by which time he was already Organist and Director of Music at St Marylebone Parish Church in London, famed for its fine professional choir.

Steven comes to Peterborough from Oxford, where for the past seven years he has been the Assistant Organist at New College, one of England's top musical foundations. There he played for the daily choral services, accompanied the Chapel Choir in concerts, broadcasts, webcasts and recordings and was responsible for the choral outreach scheme, delivering high quality singing to children in three Oxford primary schools. As a member of the Oxford University Faculty of Music he tutored undergraduates in keyboard skills and techniques of composition.

Somewhere in between all this he has made numerous recordings and broadcasts, given concerts and solo recitals in cathedrals across Britain, toured Europe and America and even contributed to several film soundtracks, including Lord of the Rings: Return of the King and Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, activities he intends to continue in Peterborough.

In fact as soon as he arrived in the city he began work on recording a CD of contemporary organ music, which contains several pieces written especially for him, and a number that have not been recorded before. His interest in the work of modern composers saw him participating in the 2009 Festival of New Organ Music and the 2014 London Festival of Contemporary Church Music. To relax, Steven listens to and plays jazz.

CONSERVATION, CLEANING AND CUNNING DESIGN



Julian Limentani says that the work of a Cathedral Architect is, by its nature, largely invisible and “always understated as much as possible”. He retires at the end of the year after 25 years in the post, and it’s fair to say that the major projects he has worked on have achieved very far from understated results!

The 13th century painted Nave ceiling is gloriously visible, having been conserved and cleaned after years hidden by grime; the whole Cathedral interior has been cleaned from roof space to crypt following smoke damage caused by the fire in 2001; and the conservation and repair of stonework on the West Front has revealed the full magnificence of this iconic symbol of the city. As Cathedral Architect, Julian Limentani planned and managed these projects in detail.

What is less visible, but certainly no less effective, is the rainwater hopper system that he invented to minimise the leaks and flash floods that the Cathedral was often subject to. “In a heavy downpour the amount of water coming off the Cathedral is enormous because of its huge footprint. It needs to be got rid of in a very efficient way; if you have the slightest blockage anywhere it causes a major problem,” Julian explains. His solution was to insert a chute into the downpipe so that it has a break in the middle of it, thus collecting

excess water so that it doesn’t all try to escape at once. The system not only worked at Peterborough - there are now 56 rainwater hoppers installed - it was praised by SPAB (the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings) and is being installed at other cathedrals.

The fire in 2001, which occurred just when work on the Nave ceiling was nearing completion, clearly had a huge impact on Julian’s work. “You had to protect everything you had cleaned because there was soot coming out of the atmosphere for about a year,” he says. “But we found things during the clean that would otherwise have remained undiscovered. For example, some of the 160 bosses in the Presbytery ceiling were loose and in danger of falling. We wouldn’t have known that without the fire and we were able to repair them.”

Julian has been immersed in church architecture since he joined Marshall Sisson architects after university. One of the partners, Peter Foster, was Surveyor of Westminster Abbey and the practice repaired a number of London churches which had been damaged during the Second World War.

Marshall Sisson still has 80 or so parish churches on its books, so Julian will remain busy even after he has handed on responsibility for the Cathedral. He will also continue as an Honorary Lay Canon at the Cathedral.

STEPHEN OLIVER BECOMES CATHEDRAL ARCHITECT

Stephen Oliver has been appointed as the new Cathedral Architect, working alongside Julian Limentani until the end of the year. Stephen is experienced in the care of historic buildings, having worked on Bury St Edmunds and Guildford Cathedrals as well as numerous parish churches. He has also worked for the National Trust at Canons Ashby and Lyveden New Bield in Northamptonshire, and for English Heritage at Apethorpe Hall.



In good company

Anyone who appreciates the special nature of Peterborough Cathedral, and who wishes to make a regular commitment to support it financially and prayerfully, is invited to join The Company of St Peter.

The Company was set up by the Cathedral’s Development and Preservation Trust in 2001 and since then its members have raised over £2.8 million to support the ministry, fabric and music of this great Cathedral church.

The idea of a “company” is significant. Not only do members help to raise funds for the Cathedral, they do it with a great sense of community and celebration. Members are invited to an annual dinner in the New Building, as well as to join in regular outings to places of interest. It is a great opportunity to meet people from different walks of life who share a common enthusiasm for the Cathedral.

If you would like to find out about joining the Company of St Peter, please call 01733 355301 or email james.dyer@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk to ask for details.



King Richard III Visitor Centre & Leicester Cathedral Trip

The Company of St Peter and Friends of Peterborough Cathedral are invited on a trip to King Richard III Visitor Centre & Leicester Cathedral.

Thursday 21st May 2015

£35 per person including coach travel, refreshments on arrival, buffet lunch, entry to Richard III Visitor Centre and Cathedral tour. For more details please call Shiane Clare on 01733 355315 or email shiane.clare@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk.



THE COMPANY OF ST. PETER

A membership initiative raising funds for the Peterborough Cathedral Development and Preservation Trust



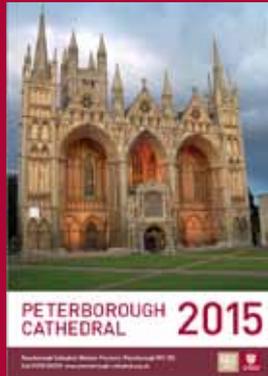
Grant awarded for repairs

Peterborough Cathedral was awarded £88,433 from the First World War Centenary Cathedral Repairs Fund in November, to repair stonework on the Old Baptistry gable. A grant from the same fund was used earlier in the year to help with the cost of stonework repairs to the Holy Spirit Chapel. In early 2015 it is hoped to put an application to the third and final round of this £20 million Fund, which was announced in the Chancellor’s March budget. This time the application would be to pay for repairs to the tesserae pavement at the east end of the Cathedral.

Shopping Ideas

THE 2015 CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

A richly illustrated A3 calendar with some stunning photographs of the Cathedral, including the panorama from the top of the tower, beautiful ceilings, red-robed choristers and the annual Heritage Festival. The calendar has been produced in collaboration with PPS Print and all proceeds go towards the Peterborough 900 Development Campaign. £7.99 (£30 for five) from Peterborough Cathedral shop or call 01733 355315.



PETERBOROUGH 900 WINE

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of these wines is donated to the Peterborough 900 Campaign, thanks to Corporate Partner, Hawkshead Wines. The wines are a Chilean Los Villos Sauvignon Blanc from the Valle Central and a Plaimont Gascogne Rouge from Southern France.

£10 per bottle
£55 for a case of 6
£100 for a case of 12

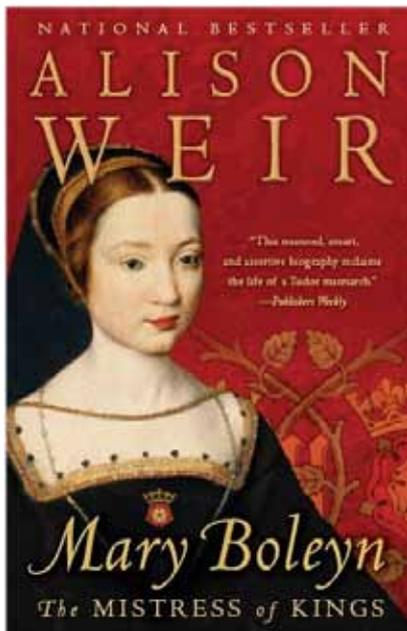
To order for collection from the Cathedral, call 01733 355315 or email pam.featherstone@peterborough-cathedral.org.uk



TICKETS TO ALISON WEIR'S TALK

The renowned historian and novelist, Alison Weir, will give an illustrated talk entitled "The Exile of Katharine of Aragon", followed by Q&A and book-signing.

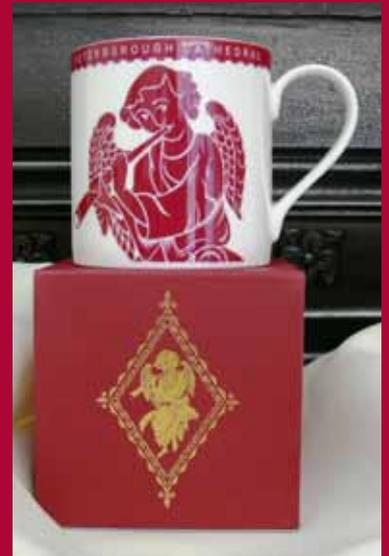
Friday 30th January 2015, at 7.30pm, at Peterborough Cathedral. Tickets: £11 (£5.50 U18), incl. free glass of wine or soft drink, from the Cathedral Shop or online via www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk



SPECIAL OFFER

Exclusive to Peterborough Cathedral shop, this beautiful bone china mug was designed by Sally McIntosh, inspired by the image of an angel from the painted Nave ceiling. Each mug is complete with a presentation box.

Special price for Portico readers: £12.50 (usual price £15.95), on presentation of this page. Offer ends 31.12.14.



PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL

Visiting hours

Mon-Fri - 9.00am to 5.00pm
Sat - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Sun - 12pm to 3.00pm



Call 01733 355315 or visit our website at www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk

Regular services and events may take place during these times. Visit our website for details. Closed Boxing Day.