

# The Prayer Book TODAY

**Seventeen new Corporate Members**

**Partnership with the Royal School of Church Music**

**Prayer Book mission in Exeter**

**Pre-Coronation prayers: an analysis**

**PBS**

**Trinity 2023**

TRY THE PAPER FOR 10 WEEKS FOR JUST £10.

# CHURCH TIMES

Read the Church Times, the world's  
leading Anglican newspaper.



“Brilliant journalism, fresh, lively, provocative - very useful and wide-ranging info about church life”

*Malcolm, via Feefo*

“Outstanding journalism on the implications of COVID-19 - at a time of isolation creating a much-needed community of ideas - it has really helped in understanding what has been happening and ways of responding.”

*Heather, via Feefo*

“I appreciated the article written by the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the USA, of his spiritual journey. There are many other fine articles each week which give much joy!”

*David, via Feefo*



**New to the Church Times? Try the paper for 10 weeks for just £10.**

Visit [www.churchtimes.co.uk/new-reader](http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/new-reader) or call 01603 785911 and quote CT2102.

\*New subscribers in the UK only. £10 for your first 10 issues, then £30 quarterly by Direct Debit.



# Key dates 2023

## **PBS Annual Conference 2023**

*Lively Sacrifice: The Prayer Book and the Vocation to Holiness*  
Liverpool Hope University  
17th–19th August

[www.pbs.org.uk/event/pbs-annual-conference-2](http://www.pbs.org.uk/event/pbs-annual-conference-2)

Please see the enclosed booking form.

**Bursaries available for licensed clergy, ordinands and under-30s.**

## **Chichester Branch Festival**

Saturday, 16th September at Chichester Cathedral  
11a.m. Choral Communion  
Preacher: The Revd Dr Stephen Edmonds, PBS Trustee  
Lunch follows at the Bishop's Palace

[www.pbs.org.uk/event/chichester-branch-festival](http://www.pbs.org.uk/event/chichester-branch-festival)

Contact Bradley Smith for further information—

[bradley.smith@pbs.org.uk](mailto:bradley.smith@pbs.org.uk) or 07931 527724

## **Lichfield Branch Festival**

Saturday, 23rd September at Lichfield Cathedral  
12.30p.m. Choral Communion  
Buffet lunch in the Old Stables  
2.45p.m. Guest speaker: The Rt Revd Rowan Williams  
(Archbishop of Canterbury 2002–2012)  
4.15p.m. Choral Evensong

[www.pbs.org.uk/event/lichfield-branch-re-launch-celebration](http://www.pbs.org.uk/event/lichfield-branch-re-launch-celebration)

Contact the Revd Stephen Anderson for further information—

[fr.stephen.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:fr.stephen.anderson@gmail.com) or 07889 003588

## **50th Anniversary of the Prayer Book Society**

Saturday, 7th October 2023  
11a.m. Choral Communion at St Margaret's, Westminster  
Celebrant and preacher:  
The Rt Revd and Rt Hon. the Lord Chartres  
Lunch at Church House  
Guest speaker: The Rt Revd Paul Thomas, Bishop of Oswestry  
3p.m. Choral Evensong at Westminster Abbey

## **Winchester & Portsmouth Branch Festival**

Saturday, 4th November at Winchester Cathedral  
12.30p.m. Sherry reception and lunch  
2.30p.m. Meeting of members  
Guest speaker: The Revd Canon Angela Tilby  
5.30p.m. Choral Evensong  
Contact the Revd Dominik Chmielewski for further information—[master@hospitalofstcross.co.uk](mailto:master@hospitalofstcross.co.uk)

Cover photo: Lent Quiet Day, St James Garlickhythe, London.

# Contents

Key dates 2023 . . . . .	3
Letter from the Chairman . . . . .	4
Message from Cambridge University Press . . . . .	5
A fiery and organic introduction! . . . . .	6
Prayer Book gives me all I need . . . . .	7
Merriel Halsall-Williams . . . . .	7
Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer: Oxford, 21st March 2023 . . . . .	8
A democratic little book. . . . .	9
Pre-Coronation prayers: an analysis . . . . .	10
The Kilmister Award 2023 . . . . .	10
Partnership with the Royal School of Church Music . . . . .	11
Cranmer Awards—an exciting future . . . . .	12
PBS Lenten Quiet Day. . . . .	13
Correspondence. . . . .	13
Seventeen new Corporate Members . . . . .	14
Valentine's Day in Manchester . . . . .	17
Prayer Book mission in Exeter . . . . .	18
A Prayer Book retreat . . . . .	19
Prayer Book shapes community life . . . . .	20
Making the most of Social Media . . . . .	21
Prayer Book leads to growth in Lincoln parish . . . . .	22
News from the Branches . . . . .	24
Other events. . . . .	25
Edith Matthias Prayer Book Trust . . . . .	26
Branches . . . . .	30
Media and Society contacts. . . . .	31



# Letter from the Chairman

Dear friends,

I was travelling home from an excellent meeting with my PBS colleagues on 29th April when I received a message alerting me to the fact that the order of service for the Coronation was available online. It was meant to have been embargoed until 10p.m. but somehow it had already found its way on to the Internet! After several months of media speculation about the nature and content of a 'slimmed-down' Coronation, I opened the document with some trepidation. Which aspects of traditional Coronation ritual had been dropped to save time? Would the Prayer Book be used? My first observation was that the majority of the prayers appeared to be in traditional language. So far, so good.

On closer inspection, however, it became clear that while *some* Prayer Book texts had found their way into the order of service, numerous others had not. There was to be no Collect for Purity; no Nicene Creed; no Prayer for the Church Militant; no Confession and Absolution; no Comfortable Words; no Prayer of Humble Access. None of these key Prayer Book texts, all of which had been used in the Coronation of 1953, would find a place in the ceremony on 6th May. The *Gloria* would be sung at the beginning of the service rather than before the blessing; the Lord's Prayer would come before the administration of Holy Communion and not after it; and there was no mention of the Litany, a Prayer Book text which has been used at every Coronation, either as part of the service proper or immediately before it, for hundreds of years. I had hoped that on this, of all occasions, the Prayer Book Communion rite would be used intact, and I admit that I felt deeply disappointed to see that the Church of England's normative liturgy had been side-lined on this most significant occasion.

Looking at it in a more positive light, however, there is clear Prayer Book influence on the new rite. As I have already noted, some Prayer Book texts *were* used, including the *Te Deum* and Bishop John Cosin's translation of the *Veni Creator Spiritus* (though three of the five verses were sung in other languages); and the Eucharistic Prayer chosen was the one closest to the BCP's Prayer of Consecration. We should also be thankful that millions of people heard the Epistle and Gospel read in the unparalleled language of the Authorised Version. Above all, we must be *truly* thankful that, in this increasingly secular age, the Coronation remained an explicitly Christian ceremony for a Christian king, conducted in a Christian church by Christian ministers.

Now that the celebrations are over and the bunting has been packed away for a future occasion, let us not lose sight



of the privilege and responsibility we have, as members of the Established Church loyal to the Prayer Book, to pray each and every day for His Majesty the King; asking God to grant him the strength, the courage, the wisdom, the fortitude, and the faith that he will need to fulfil his vocation. The Prayer Book takes this duty very seriously indeed. There are prayers for the Sovereign in all the Prayer Book's key services, but sadly those prayers are sometimes omitted, especially at Matins and Evensong. I want to take this opportunity to encourage clergy, readers and others who find themselves conducting these services not to neglect the State Prayers in public worship. I also want to encourage fellow lay men and women to use them in their private prayers.

For several months leading up to the Coronation, we were preparing to celebrate this momentous occasion in the life of our Church and nation by collating articles, liturgical texts and other resources to help individuals and parishes to better understand its spiritual significance. I want to record my thanks to my colleagues Iain Milne and Nick Clarke for their marvellous work on this project. Our online seminar series, *Thy Chosen Servant: the Rite of Coronation*, was a particular highlight, and I am grateful to our four excellent speakers who, over the course of five weeks, shared a great deal of wisdom and insight on the following subjects:

*Anointed, Blessed and Consecrated: The Coronation Liturgy*  
The Revd Canon Dr Robin Ward, Principal of St Stephen's House, Oxford

*The King Shall Rejoice: Music and the Prayer Book at the Coronation*  
The Revd Philip Corbett, Vicar of All Saints', Notting Hill, London

*Rod of Equity and Mercy: The Objects of the Coronation*  
The Revd Canon Dr Robin Ward, Principal of St Stephen's House, Oxford

*Reflections on Coronations, 1661–1953*  
The Revd Prof. Ian Bradley, Divinity Emeritus Professor, University of St Andrews

*Here is Wisdom: The Coronation and the Bible*  
The Revd Dr Michael Brydon, Chaplain to the Bishop of Sodor & Man and Vicar of St Matthew's, Douglas

During each seminar, recordings of which are available on the Prayer Book Society's YouTube channel, reference was made to that rich but sadly much-neglected Prayer Book treasure, the Litany; so, in view of the Litany's place in previous Coronations, we encouraged our members and supporters everywhere to use it on the eve of the Coronation. It was good to hear that many people did indeed pray the Litany as part of their spiritual preparation, and we were delighted to see some parishes advertising the Litany as a public service, sometimes combined with another Office.

Let me take this opportunity to encourage every PBS member to rediscover the Litany. Its petitions are as fresh and as relevant today as the day they were composed. The Prayer Book expects the Litany to be used three times each week (Sunday, Wednesday and Friday) but it can be used at any time. Could you make a commitment to praying the Litany, perhaps just once a week? I feel sure that its use will enrich our personal devotion, open our eyes to the needs of the world around us, and strengthen the witness and work of our Society.

With my prayers and good wishes,  
Bradley

*Almighty and everlasting God,  
we are taught by thy holy Word,  
that the hearts of kings are in  
thy rule and governance,  
and that thou dost dispose  
and turn them  
as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom:  
we humbly beseech thee so to dispose  
and govern the heart  
of CHARLES thy Servant,  
our King and Governor,  
that, in all his thoughts, words,  
and works,  
he may ever seek thy honour and glory,  
and study to preserve thy people  
committed to his charge,  
in wealth, peace, and godliness:  
grant this, O merciful Father,  
for thy dear Son's sake,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

## Message from Cambridge University Press

Copies of the Book of Common Prayer with updated Royal Prayers were published by Cambridge in Lent 2023, but unfortunately an error was found in this printing and stocks were withdrawn. After the corrected copies of the Book of Common Prayer went to press, an amendment by Royal Warrant

was made to the Royal Prayers, taking effect on 6th May. We are printing an addendum slip which will be included with all currently printed copies of the Book of Common Prayer, and the change will be made to the text in our next printing. We expect the first copies of the current printing to come

into stock in June, though ordering is currently open and any orders will be fulfilled once this stock arrives. We thank you for your patience in awaiting these books.

Abigail Syed on behalf of  
Cambridge Bibles



# A fiery and organic introduction!

Lilly Nelson

It was in late 2021, after a long period of discernment for ordained ministry, that I had the privilege of falling under the deeply prayerful and patient mentorship of my ordination director, Liverpool Cathedral's Canon Precentor, the Revd Canon Dr Philip Anderson. It was through Philip's social media presence that I became aware of the Prayer Book Society Conference and the bursaries available to ordinands; and having secured one of those generous bursaries, I attended the conference at my Alma Mater and former workplace, Liverpool Hope University. It was there

that I was handed my very first copy of the Book of Common Prayer.

As God would have it, a week later I entered my ordination pathway as a Prayer Book enthusiast, which is something I definitely didn't see coming!

Through my chaplaincy work, I knew of the Book of Common Prayer's existence, but we had not been properly introduced. To be honest, all I knew about it was that we didn't use it anymore

because of its 'inaccessible language'. My journey through various styles of worship has been varied, ranging from Fresh Expressions to Evangelical, but with this newfound love of traditional liturgy, I find myself firmly forming to be set 'higher up the candle'.

I am someone who struggles with written communication. I have been diagnosed with dyslexia and dyspraxia, which affects recall memory, and I often find it difficult to articulate myself. I was diagnosed as an adult, which means I am still learning how I am affected. One of the appeals of the Prayer Book for me is its rhythm, and the opportunity it gives to recite our doctrine. Our love for God is held in collective prayer, affirming our faith in what we believe about our Lord and Saviour. We say in ancient, beautiful language what countless people have said before us. 'O Lord, open thou our lips'—we are gifted words at times when we are unable to find our own.

Working as part of the University Chaplaincy team based at the cathedral offices, coupled with my discernment meetings with Canon Philip, meant that I was at the cathedral a fair amount of the week. Between the extreme realities of serving in pastoral ministry and doing my best at keeping myself together while turning over the soil of my life with the discernment team, Choral Evensong provided the gift of space with God where I could just breathe and exist.

Those evening services at Liverpool Cathedral held me at various points in my faith journey, particularly the times when I didn't have a home church. My memories of being able to shrink in much needed anonymity into the choir stalls; feeling very small in that huge, holy building; and kneeling in the choir stalls, tracing my fingertips over the words of the Psalms and responses in the Book of Common Prayer are precious.

*As God would have it, a week later I entered my ordination pathway as a Prayer Book enthusiast*

It is noticeable that when the prayers are intoned and the Psalms are sung, this is done at a much slower pace, giving the words the time they deserve; allowing people like me to follow along, gently studying the words and encountering truly precious jewels.

Attending Evensong was valuable ahead of my discernment Stage 2 (formally, Bishop's Advisory Panel). It held me steady while I felt life was shifting under my feet; it kept me calm as I stepped out of my comfort zone to follow God's call.

I feel extremely blessed that my introduction to the Book of Common Prayer has been so quick, fiery and organic. Together with Jayne Manfredi, whose beautiful 'Love Letter to the BCP' in the Lent issue of this journal prompted me to share my own story, Bradley invited me to contribute a video reflection on one of the Advent Collects, and in March, I had the honour of reading one of the lessons at the Cranmer Commemoration in Oxford. I am doing everything I possibly can to share my new passion for the Prayer Book with my fellow students, and I hope some of them will join me for the next PBS Conference. Having recently been appointed Cranmer Hall's Prayer Secretary for the new academic year, I am hoping to organise some additional Prayer Book worship and teaching for those who wish to learn more.

I am finding it a real joy to be part of the Prayer Book Society. Here I am, just finishing my first year's training at Cranmer Hall, and still learning about all the Book of Common Prayer has to offer today and what it has in store to serve my future ministry.

Lilly Nelson is an ordinand at Cranmer Hall, Durham.

## Prayer Book gives me all I need

Angela Tilby

Having celebrated Thomas Cranmer this week, I have been thinking about the Prayer Book Society (PBS), which I joined in 2020 after being invited to give one of four talks on Zoom on the Advent Collects. I was astonished at the numbers participating, some from the United States and other parts of the Anglican world. The afternoon was an experience of the kind of focused, orthodox, theologically informed conversation that I crave, and rarely find.

Few would have guessed what the PBS was to become since it started in 1972 as a protest group against attempts to ban the Prayer Book in favour of contemporary liturgies. (The Church of England was, at the time, ploughing its way through Series 1, 2 and 3, and then the ASB, before the arrival of *Common Worship* in 2000.) At that point, many thought of the Society as no more than a bolthole for an eccentric group of traditionalists. But those traditionalists turned out to be surprisingly militant in their affection for what many had come to regard as a long-outdated set of rites.

To their credit, Society members, after fighting hard to ensure that the Prayer Book would continue to be legal, sensibly transformed themselves into an organisation devoted to the study and celebration of the Prayer Book as the key historical element in the liturgical and cultural traditions of the Church of England. There is now a long-term vision to ensure that the Prayer Book and what it stands for remain available for generations to come.

And that is, in essence, the principle of the Anglican *via media*: the liturgy offering common ground that could never have been achieved by statements of doctrine, or even by Canon Law. Within the covers of the Prayer Book are spiritual resources not only for communal worship but for the whole of life, and for everyone in the English Church, lay or ordained. As I look at the nine *Common Worship* books on my own shelves, I am grateful to the Society for keeping this ideal alive.

Today, there is a reassuring professionalism about the Society's profile and its publications. It was quick to recognise the opportunities of the digital age, offering online tutorials as well as study and conversation, founding diocesan groups, and supporting the next generation in offering awards for public reading and study. Gifts, books, booklets, Christmas cards, website are all beautifully produced without a hint of *Comic Sans*.

And there's a bonus. I would have no problem choosing my third book after the Bible and Shakespeare on *Desert Island Discs*. With the Prayer Book, I would have all I need to say the Divine Office, celebrate Holy Communion, marry, baptise and bury anyone on that remote shore who might require me to do so. Thank you, Prayer Book Society.

The Revd Canon Angela Tilby is an author, broadcaster and former producer.

This article was first published in the *Church Times* and is reproduced here with kind permission.

## Merriel Halsall-Williams



Miss Merriel Halsall-Williams, Head of Spoken English at Moreton Hall School, Weston Rhyn, Shropshire, recently became the second recipient of the Kilmister Award for distinguished voluntary service to the Prayer Book Society.

Nominated in recognition of her role as National Administrator of the Cranmer Awards from 2007 to 2019, she was presented with an engraved medal and certificate during the 34th National Finals of the Cranmer Awards at Liverpool Hope University in February 2023.

Merriel's successor, Jo Clark, says, 'Merriel's endeavours were not only focused on the National Finals; she has also organised the Lichfield diocesan heats for many years. Her knowledge and calm approach enabled a smooth handover when, after thirteen years of dedicated service, she decided to pass on the baton, and I am deeply grateful for her ongoing support of the Awards.'

We send Merriel our warmest thanks and congratulations.





## Commemoration of the Martyrdom of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer: Oxford, 21st March 2023

Gathered with the clergy, choir and congregation of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, Prayer Book Society members enjoyed an uplifting service of Choral Matins on the anniversary of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's martyrdom. The service was conducted by the Revd Dr Will Lamb, Vicar of the University Church; the lessons were read by PBS Chairman, Bradley Smith, and Cranmer Hall ordinand, Lilly Nelson.

There may remain among us some who wonder about the spiritual value of a precisely choreographed liturgical worship. Imagine, if you will, being transported through the architecture, choral harmony, sombre prayers and faithful preaching to an enchanted place. That is the essence of worshipping through the framework of the English liturgy. Having initiated proceedings, the priest allows the service to flow without intervention. Transcending multiple generations across time and space, the exquisite choral harmony accompanies the mystical reality of prayer to our Father in heaven.

In his time, Cranmer was recognised as an evangelical, eager that no man should perish apart from the saving grace of Almighty God. The Revd Tom Sander's sermon stood firmly on the Archbishop's legacy as he encouraged and exhorted those in the pews to work out their salvation

with fear and trembling. Set against the story of Cranmer's tortuous fireside recantation, Father Tom asked, 'Why are you a Christian?' His message took his listeners on a journey from Cranmer's trial in St Mary's Church to his last breath and how this momentous event gives us pause to reflect on the gravity of being called, by name, into the service of Christ. He reminded us that we belong to an inherited and lively faith: *as Cranmer died for Christ, will you live for Christ?*

Led by the clergy, the congregation walked in procession behind the cross from St Mary's, where Cranmer had been tried, to his place of execution. The Revd Richard Smail, Chaplain to the Oxford Branch of the Society, read John Strype's account of Archbishop Cranmer's death and led those gathered, including a large group of children from a local Jewish school, in prayer. We then walked to the Martyrs' Memorial, where a wreath was laid on behalf of the Prayer Book Society by the PBS Oxford Branch Chairman, Mr Geoffrey Horne.

After lunch in the church's library, there followed a lecture by the University of Durham's Professor Alec Ryrie, entitled 'The Many Purposes of the Book of Common Prayer', during which we learned more of Cranmer's purpose for drawing together the BCP, and its effect on the nation's social norms and ecclesiological

behaviours. In Cranmer's time, the clergy conducted Divine Service on behalf of the people. Under the Prayer Book, the congregation became participants. Cranmer identified the liturgy as meeting the task of spurring on laggards and bridling enthusiasts. Archbishop Cranmer's inspiration to infuse all the prayers and responses with Holy Scripture is seen in his preface to the 1540 Great Bible: *'the minds of men diverse will be more inflamed by the love of his true religion by exposing the people to his Holy Word'*. Thomas Cranmer was convinced that the Bible would be enough to cleanse the nation of false religion.

After the talk, questions incited reflections on the nature of the *Ecclesia Anglicana*, the shaping of the mind through liturgy, and the relationship between medieval saints and Anglo-Saxon kings. The appetite for exploring the context and contemporary power of the Book of Common Prayer, deeply rooted in our ancient English liturgy, endures.

The commemoration concluded with a service of Evening Prayer in the chancel of the University Church. All departed edified, uplifted and refreshed. My hope is that readers may consider attending next year's event, which is planned for the same date and at the same location.

Lt Col Adrian Clark RLC



# A democratic little book

Nicholas Johnson

It was a great honour and privilege to be asked to make the presentations at the 34th Prayer Book Society Cranmer Awards. I'm afraid I'm not His Majesty the King, nor a peer of the realm, but a simple parish priest here in Liverpool, so hopefully you weren't too disappointed!

It was wonderful to listen to many of the finalists present their pieces today. It is such an inspiration to hear the words of the Scriptures and the beautiful texts of the Prayer Book spoken in such a beautiful, measured and clear way. Many of the clergy would do well to listen to these wonderful finalists and could learn a thing or two!

It is especially delightful to hear these words from young people. So often we are told in the Church that the Prayer Book is old-fashioned, that it has had its day and that it is not accessible. The evidence of today, alongside much else, shows us that this is nonsense. The beauty of the Prayer Book language makes it easier for the words to seep into our hearts, to lodge there, and to remain there until the opportune moment when they suddenly come to mind to our assistance. There are so many phrases and passages from the Prayer Book that, if I consciously try to recall them, I might be able to, but more importantly that just spring to mind when I need them. This is why it is so vital to study the Scriptures and the wonderful words of the Prayer Book, and endeavour to commit some of them to memory, that they may help us in our daily lives.

It was encouraging also today that some of the passages chosen for recital were from the less well-known parts of the Book of Common Prayer. This is one of the other great strengths and gifts of our Prayer Book, for it is democratic, as, contained within this small volume, which can be placed in everyone's hands, is a pattern for the whole Christian life. Our Church has lost something with the vast library of books constituting *Common Worship* as, in its multiplication of options and enormous number of volumes, the ability of everyone, laity and clergy alike, to have in their hands a complete pattern of Christian living in one book has been lost. This is why I hope the finalists will keep and treasure their copies of the Book of Common Prayer, and look through them often. In the lesser visited corners of the Prayer Book, there is much wisdom, insight and guidance still relevant for living a Christian life—yes, even in today's world!

I have many happy memories of attending Prayer Book services from a very young age with my dear grandmother. It was through the Prayer Book that I learnt the faith and came to love the Lord. The Prayer Book Society does such very important work, and has done these past 50 years, to defend the use of the Prayer Book, and there are encouraging signs that its use is increasing once more. Let us all hope that this trend may continue; that the clergy may be, as the Lord says, like householders who bring out of their treasures



things new and old, that others may be drawn to faith by these inspired words. Let us remember that innovation and novelty are not always best! The treasures of the past are also valuable, and the Prayer Book is a living tradition, not a museum piece. It has been so central to our national life for these past nearly 500 years in its various iterations, and for 360 years in its final definitive form. Whilst the words may be so old, its use is flexible, within certain bounds, and if we can encourage its more frequent use, perhaps it may just keep our dear old Church together as it has done throughout its history.

These Cranmer Awards, named after the Prayer Book's principal translator and author, are an essential part of the work and mission of the PBS, and I commend all those who entered in the heats and festivals, and all the finalists who made it to today. Our thanks go to all those who worked so hard

to put on the events and to organise this day, and again to the finalists for travelling all the way up here to the distant North, to Liverpool!

My prayer for all the finalists is that they will continue to study and explore the Prayer Book and hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest its words. They have all done admirably today. Who knows what lies in their future. Maybe some will find in the pages of the Prayer Book a vocation to priestly or religious life; maybe the words will inspire them to lay office in the Church; maybe taking part in this competition will encourage them to read in church; perhaps the beautiful prose, now committed to their hearts, may lead them to write or to act. Whatever lies in store for them in their lives, let us pray that the beautiful words of the Prayer Book may inspire them and help them in whatever walk of life they pursue. The glory of the Prayer Book is that it can support and uphold us throughout our lives, as an unchangeable, yet abundantly fruitful, companion. My hearty congratulations to you all! Well done, and be assured of all our prayers as you embark on the good works the Lord has prepared for you to walk in.

Based on the speech given by the Revd Nicholas R. Johnson SSC, Vicar of Tuebrook, at the Cranmer Awards.

# Pre-Coronation prayers: an analysis

Neil Inkley

It is a welcome move that the Church of England has brought out an attractive little book of daily prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III, spanning the twenty-eight days from Easter Day to the day of the Coronation itself. For that latter day, two prayers were involved, so a total of twenty-nine prayers in all. Such a number of prayers assembled and issued in a single pass is bound to say something about the pattern of prayer complication in the Church of England of today.

We lovers of traditional language might take comfort that four of the prayers are in that form and will be immediately recognisable to us: day 8—Collect for the King from the BCP Communion Service; day 13—Veni Creator; day 18—The National Anthem; day 9—a new prayer but in a Thy/Thine format.

Two more prayers are in a similar vein but employ ‘your’ rather than ‘thy’: day 14—a new prayer; day 25—‘Lord of all power and might’ from the BCP but substituting ‘your’ for ‘thy’.

Seven of the prayers (1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 11, 29) display the more recent tendency to use ‘you’ to tell God things (that He surely already knows) rather than ‘who’ in order to remind US about them. Thus, ‘Eternal God and Father, you create and redeem us’ jars with me whereas ‘Eternal God and father who creates us’ (day 1) does not. Similarly, ‘Glorious God, the whole creation sings your marvellous work’ would seem better as ‘Glorious God, whose whole creation sings your marvellous work’ (day 7). Significantly, the prayer for day 23 is one of those which does use the ‘who’ form—‘Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit’—so it appears there is some acceptance of this structure, which seems so much more logical.

Another recent tendency is to begin prayers with selective adjectives defining God. Prayers used to begin with ‘Almighty God...’ or some such other adjective, which indicated our acknowledgement of His omnipotence. This new tendency is to pick out a particular segment of God’s power and use a related adjective for OUR convenience it would seem, because that is what *we* want to talk about for the time being—which seems somewhat arrogant. Sometimes the aspect is so transparent that one senses what is coming next. For example, ‘Creator God’—it’s a green issue; ‘Generous God’—it’s stewardship. Four of the Pre-Coronation prayers contain such selective adjectives: ‘Sovereign God’ (day 3 and day 12) occurs twice, no doubt because we have kingship in mind; ‘Glorious God’ (day 7) is related to the environment; ‘Tender God’ (day 26) is related to gentleness.

Of the remaining twelve prayers, seven address God directly as ‘you’, while five (days 5, 14, 20, 21 and 27) use ‘your’ in their slightly different construct. Thus, it seems that a ‘mixed economy’ is still the practice of the Church of England in the composition of prayers. There does not seem to be a quest for one *via media*, if indeed there is one. My own wish would be for any one occasion to stick to one genre of prayer form rather than every occasion being a mixture. But let me emphasise that all my comments are purely by way of analysis. The purpose and the achievement of this little book of Pre-Coronation prayers are both commendable, and the Church of England did a great service in publishing it.

Neil Inkley is a Vice-President of the Prayer Book Society.

## The Kilmister Award 2023

The Kilmister Award is an annual award for lay people who have made an outstanding voluntary contribution to the life of the Prayer Book Society.

Named after the Society’s founder, Tony Kilmister, the Award was established to recognise and celebrate the unsung heroes and heroines of the Society who, in many and varied ways, do such valuable work to further the PBS cause. Recipients of the Award will receive a handsome medal engraved with the PBS logo, and a framed certificate.

In total, 50 Awards will be presented: five Awards each year for ten years. The Awards ceremony will take place during the Society’s Annual Conference in August. Special arrangements will be made for those unable to attend. Staff and Trustees (past and present) are not eligible, nor are those whose service has already been recognised by their being appointed a Vice-President, Honorary Branch President or similar.

The Trustees now invite nominations from members. Nominations, which should include a brief summary of the

candidate’s voluntary contribution, must be sent to Mrs Fi Rosen, PBS Company Secretary at **fi.rosen@pbs.org.uk** or in writing to Copyhold Farm, marked for Mrs Rosen’s attention, by 31st July 2023. The Society’s Executive Committee will review nominations and present names to the Board of Trustees for approval. In order to avoid disappointment, nominations should be confidential.



## Partnership with the Royal School of Church Music



One of the success stories of Church growth in recent years has been the Choral Evensong phenomenon. Cathedrals and college chapels in particular, but also many parish churches with a strong choral tradition, have seen steady increases in these congregations. Those who take the time to step outside the daily maelstrom into the space and moment of Evensong are an eclectic bunch. They include long-time churchgoers, passing tourists, post-graduate students, and city professionals seeking a moment of quiet at the end of a frenetic day. But there are also those for whom Evensong is part of who they are, or are learning to be. The choristers, young and old, who give their worship at choral services, are often overlooked in churches counting congregations. The music they offer is key to the wonder of Choral Evensong and it is the Book of Common Prayer that provides the framework of worship within which that praise is offered. The beauty of music, great buildings and spoken word combine to create a space where, for a moment, we glimpse the presence of God.

The PBS Board has been working for some time to reach out to choristers through the Royal School of Church Music. The RSCM, founded by Sir Sydney Nicholson in 1927, supports choirs and choristers throughout the land and internationally. Their work includes training young and older choristers and encouraging churches to recognise the mission opportunity that choral worship offers. We too are promoting the potential for the BCP as a tool for mission and discipleship.

Our goals align closely with those of the RSCM and it became clear in our conversations with them that there were mutual benefits in working together more. These include our helping them to offer stronger BCP-related discipleship training in educating young choristers, and their willingness to promote our work to their membership. As an outcome

of this, we are delighted that the Cranmer Awards will be closely linked to the RSCM young chorister training scheme, *Voice for Life*. A chorister entering the Awards will receive credit towards VfL discipleship goals.

In the coming months, you can expect to see more news of what we hope will be an increasing role for the Society working with the RSCM. To celebrate the start of our partnership, we are jointly sponsoring the composition of a new anthem, which will be written by Jack Oades: [www.jackoades.com](http://www.jackoades.com). This anthem will set the words of the Collect for the sixteenth Sunday after Trinity:

*O Lord, we beseech thee, let thy  
continual pity cleanse and defend thy  
Church; and, because it cannot continue  
in safety without thy succour, preserve  
it evermore by thy help and goodness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

This work should be ready in time for us to hear it sung liturgically at our 50th Anniversary Celebration Service in St Margaret's Westminster on 7th October.

Jon Riding  
Trustee of the PBS and Chairman, Cranmer Awards  
Committee.

# Cranmer Awards—an exciting future

The Cranmer Awards are the Society's principal means of reaching young people. The competition, which challenges youngsters to recite from memory passages from the Prayer Book, celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2019. We were honoured that our patron, then HRH the Prince of Wales, now King Charles III, visited the national Finals, which were held at Lambeth Palace, to present the awards.

The following year, the Finals were cancelled as the venue in Worcester was under water(!) and, within weeks, the country was dealing with the reality of a global pandemic and the world was brought to a halt. By February 2021, the pandemic was still raging, so the 2020 finalists were invited to compete online by sending video recordings. These were reviewed by judges in an online Zoom session. By the time the 2022 Final came round, the situation was easing and we were all greatly relieved to be welcomed by the Chapel Royal at Hampton Court to enjoy one another's company in person once more.

Whilst we felt that the competition was back as before, the reality was that the number of dioceses entering candidates had fallen to just ten in 2022. This meant that, unless a youngster happened to live in one of these dioceses, it was difficult or impossible for them to enter the competition.

With the experience of the 2021 Final behind us, the Cranmer Committee now believes we should use this as an opportunity to broaden the accessibility of the Awards by accepting entries online where candidates are unable to join a local heat. Early conversations with local heat organisers have been generally very supportive of this proposal. We are in conversation with our judges to create a set of guidelines for online entries that will give online candidates the best opportunity to compete. We expect online entries will be submitted via our website, with online heats held in a similar way to the 2021 Finals. The winners from these heats will compete in person at the Finals, on an equal footing with candidates from local diocesan heats.

We hope this will prove to be a way of opening the competition to a much broader constituency. It should be said that none of this implies that local heats are not the preferred route for entries to the competition. We are enormously grateful to all those who organise local diocesan heats and, in an ideal world, would like to see more of them in the future.

There is much to do if we are to make the most of this opportunity. If you feel you might be able to help us prepare for this initiative, we should be glad to hear from you. Please contact the organiser of the Awards, Jo Clark, in first instance via [cranmer.awards@pbs.org.uk](mailto:cranmer.awards@pbs.org.uk). We hope online entries will be possible from 1st September this year and onwards.

Jon Riding  
Trustee of the PBS and Chairman, Cranmer Awards  
Committee.



*The former Prince of Wales with the 2019 candidates*



*Bethany McGreevy from the Isle of Man and Micah Smith representing the Dioceses of London and Southwark, winners of the 34th Cranmer Awards*



*Fi Rosen, PBS Trustee, helping candidates register for the 2023 Finals Day held in Liverpool*



## PBS Lenten Quiet Day

'Praying the Psalms with St Augustine of Hippo' was the theme of a PBS Quiet Day held at St James Garlickhythe in the City of London on 11th March. The guest speaker was the Ven. Dr Edward Dowler, Archdeacon of Hastings, who gave two fascinating talks on the Psalms and their important role in Christian formation; the second talk was followed by questions and a lively discussion.

The whole day was framed in the context of Prayer Book worship, with Matins to start and Sung Evensong to finish; Holy Communion was celebrated at midday. The day was structured to allow time for quiet prayer and reflection; there were also opportunities for fellowship and conversation away from the main part of the church. The majority of attendees came from London and the South Coast. However, some hardy individuals travelled from further afield, including one or two from the Northern province. It was particularly good to welcome non-members attracted by the theme of the day.

Special thanks go to the Revd Tim Handley and the people of St James for making 'Wren's lantern' available to us. It was a very special day indeed, and one which we hope to repeat in future years. This year's attendees have been invited to give feedback and suggest themes for the next Lenten Quiet Day, so please look out for details later this year.



## Correspondence

Reverend Sir,

When I moved from Houston, Texas to Seattle in January of last year, I had no idea how isolated I would find myself. I moved for family reasons, and had to leave a parish that I loved. At that time there was no clergy work available here in Seattle. I knew no one here outside of family. There was no church where I felt comfortable or familiar worshipping on Sunday morning, and I have very little contact with other clergy in this part of the world. It was also dark, gray, cold, and raining most of the time, unlike Houston at that time of the year. It was a very trying time for this native Texan, cradle Episcopalian, and priest.

I had been raised with the 1928 American BCP, but discovered the Church of England's Book of Common Prayer on a trip to England in the

summer of 1984, when I bought a travel-size copy of it, along with an Authorised Version of the Bible that included the Apocrypha. I have used them for my private prayers ever since, and I was surprised how I fell in love with the English Book of Common Prayer, of which I had heard much negative criticism from other Anglo-Catholics. I started using it regularly for the Daily Office last winter, and, trying to keep myself out of the spiritual dumps, I started looking for services online. I was pleased to discover the website of the Prayer Book Society, which had a listing of such services. I then discovered that you all had a Lenten series that one could access on line, so, despite some concern about the relevance of the topic, I signed up for it.

The Lenten programme could not have come at a better time for me, and was, in my spiritually low state, a lifeline. I appreciated the quality of the lectures and discussion, and felt much less isolated and disconnected from others who share our Anglican heritage. I joined the Prayer Book Society after the first session, and have since become an avid member and follower. I want to very much thank the leadership of the Society for putting together such fine programmes, publications and events. Here, in one of the most secularised cities in the world, it has certainly been an important help and support to me in my struggles as a Christian over the past year. I am, sir,  
Respectfully in Christ,  
The Revd Michael LaRue  
Seattle, Washington



# Seventeen

new Corporate Members



All Saints' Margaret Street, London



We are delighted to report that during the first quarter of 2023, the Prayer Book Society gained a further seventeen new Corporate Members. Six of these can be found in London; one is in the United States of America; and the others represent ten different dioceses of the Church of England. One of the new Corporate Members is a choir. We warmly welcome them all.

St Peter's, London Docks was established in 1856 as an Anglo-Catholic mission to the poor. It has remained faithful to that vision ever since. 'The worshipping and devotional life of St Peter's, London Docks, is firmly rooted in the Book of Common Prayer,' says the rector, the Revd Jonathan Beswick. 'The robust, faithful and simple rhythms and teaching of 1662 underpin both the Sunday liturgy and the monthly catechism classes of the parish. We also use the Prayer Book in our primary school ministry. We are a traditional parish with traditional beliefs, and the Prayer Book serves us well. The BCP is alive and well in Wapping!'

Founded in the year 952, St Dunstan and All Saints', Stepney is the mother church of London's East End. Located in Tower Hamlets, halfway between the City of London and Canary Wharf, St Dunstan's serves a socially and ethnically diverse borough with significant areas of social deprivation. The Book of Common Prayer is used alongside *Common Worship* for weekly services.

The beautiful church of St Leonard stands at the top of the steep main street of the Lancashire village of Downham, in a perfect and harmonious grouping with Downham Hall, the home of the Assheton family since before the accession of Queen Elizabeth I in 1558. The present Lord Clitheroe is Patron of the parish church, where all services are conducted according to the Book of Common Prayer, with Holy Communion twice monthly and Matins on all other Sundays.

All Saints', Margaret Street is a Grade I listed Victorian church in Fitzrovia, near Oxford Street, London. It is regarded as one of the foremost examples of High Victorian Gothic architecture in Britain and is famous for its sumptuous interior, Anglo-Catholic worship and choral tradition. All Saints' is a living house of prayer with daily services, including weekly Choral Evensong according to the Book of Common Prayer.

The tiny church of St Nicholas in the Bedfordshire hamlet of Hulcote was built around 1590, and a great part of the chancel is filled with a large, painted monument to its builder, Richard Chernock, who died in 1615. In 1875, it was suggested that the church be closed and, in 1879, the archdeacon noted that 'the church is now practically shut up, with knowledge and consent of the Bishop but not in legal form'. By 1899, the church was disused except for burials. St Nicholas was reopened in 1953 and today it offers twice-monthly Prayer Book services, including Matins, Holy Communion and Evensong.

St Timothy's Episcopal Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina is our first Corporate Member in the United States. Commenting on the decision to join the PBS, the Revd Steve Rice says, 'From the daily offering of Morning and Evening Prayer to the traditional celebration of the Eucharist, every aspect of St Timothy's Episcopal Church is shaped by the rhythm and spiritual riches of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. It is a privilege to support the work of the Prayer Book Society and to share the Society's wonderful resources with our parish.'

There has been a church on the site of the present church of All Saints', Northampton since Norman times. However, the church we see today was built after the Great Fire of Northampton in 1675. The portico is a copy of the Inigo Jones portico of Old St Paul's, London. A statue of Charles II adorns the parapet in thanksgiving for the King's contribution of 1000 tons of timber towards the rebuilding of the church. The three choirs of All Saints', which include many children and teenagers, sing at least three choral services each week, including Choral Evensong on weekdays, and special civic services. Oak Apple Day remains a popular occasion in Northampton.

The church of St Andrew serves the scattered population of the rural parish of Kirkandrews-on-Esk, once the centre of the historic and lawless Debateable Land of the English-Scottish border. The simplicity of the church's exterior gives no hint of the splendour of the interior. Originally built in 1776, it was remodelled in 1892-93 by the distinguished architect, Temple Moore, with the addition of a decorated and gilded Baroque screen, choir stalls, and a reredos containing a copy of Raphael's painting, 'The Transfiguration'. Regular Prayer Book services of Holy Communion, Matins and Evensong are offered at St Andrew's.

The building of All Saints', Notting Hill was begun in 1852 for the Revd Dr Samuel Walker, to designs by architect, William White, working with Sir George Gilbert Scott. The church was intended to be the centrepiece of the development now known as Colville and Powis squares,

Continued on page 16

## *St Timothy's Episcopal Church in Winston-Salem, North Carolina is our first Corporate Member in the United States*

### **Becoming a Corporate Member**

Is your PCC or organisation set to be the next Corporate Member of the Prayer Book Society?

For more details visit our website.

[www.pbs.org.uk](http://www.pbs.org.uk)



*Accession Day Service 2022, All Saints' Northampton*

Continued from page 15

as well as a memorial to Dr Walker's parents. Walker ran short of money and was eventually declared bankrupt. The building was left unfinished for several years, lacking a spire and remaining unfurnished, during which time it was nicknamed 'All-Sinners-in-the-Mud'! As part of its commitment to the Society's vision, All Saints' has recently begun a new regular Choral Evensong, which is attracting a fresh and growing congregation.

St Peter's, Chillesford in Suffolk was constructed in the fourteenth century, although an earlier church is believed to have stood on the site. It is one of only two churches in the country with a tower made of honey-coloured coralline crag, the other being at Wantisden, less than a mile away. The quarry from which the crag was extracted lies behind the church. The modern east window, designed by Suffolk-based artist, Surinder Warboys, and depicting the risen Christ ascending above meadows and fields, attracts visitors from a wide area. Regular services at Chillesford are taken from the Prayer Book and include one Holy Communion and one Evensong each month.

The present church of St Mary Abbots, Kensington was consecrated in 1872. However, the earliest mention of a church on the site is found in the Domesday Book, making it the site of the first and, until the nineteenth century, the *only* church in Kensington. Its spire is one of the tallest in London, Sir George Gilbert Scott having provided an exceptionally spacious stone-built tower, which holds a fine, heavy Victorian ring of ten bells. Four services are held in the cathedral-like setting of St Mary Abbots every Sunday, including an early celebration of Holy Communion, Choral Evensong and Choral Matins sung by a professional choir. The church also offers two weekday celebrations according to the BCP.

All Saints' Church has stood at the heart of the South Yorkshire community of Darton for generations. The Revd Emily Lawrence, Assistant Curate and Prayer Book enthusiast, says, 'We feel that our history and heritage are part of the rich tapestry of the life of the church, which we wish to preserve for future generations. The Book of Common Prayer continues to shape the lives of our congregation and visitors, and provides a richness and depth to our worship and witness.' At Darton, the Prayer Book is valued alongside contemporary forms of Eucharistic worship.

St James the Less is the ancient parish church in the northern part of Lancing, West Sussex. Under the leadership of a new associate vicar, the Revd Ian Edgar, daily Prayer Book services are held in the parish. Every day of the week, a small congregation gathers to pray the offices of Morning and Evening Prayer. The Litany is used on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and simple chants are being learned. 'The daily offering of prayer and praise using the Book of Common Prayer is the foundation of our life together at St James,' says Fr Ian, who also has responsibility for the ancient church at Coombes. Coombes Parish Church (dedication unknown) has served its tiny rural community for almost 1000 years. A monthly Prayer Book Communion is celebrated in this wonderfully atmospheric, candlelit building. From Easter to September there is also Evensong, often sung by a small folk group accompanied by an acoustic guitar.

Little St Mary's (or St Mary the Less), a medieval parish church in the heart of the ancient university city of Cambridge, boasts a large and growing congregation of all ages. There is excellent provision for students and families, and a very strong musical tradition. The choir draws its membership from across the city and university and, since the establishment of a top line of girl and boy choristers



## Valentine's Day in Manchester

in 2000, from schools across Cambridge. The Prayer Book is used for Choral Evensong and Holy Communion every Sunday alongside contemporary forms of worship in the modern Catholic tradition.

The East London Evensong Choir was founded in 2016 by its musical director, Jonathan Pease. The ELEC's vision is simple: to harness the wealth of musical talent in east London and to enable choral worship of the highest standard in London's East End, using the unique riches of the Book of Common Prayer. In September 2021, the choir entered into a partnership with All Saints, Poplar, leading a thriving service of Evensong on the second Sunday of each month. In January 2023, the choir entered into a second partnership with St Anne's, Hoxton, leading a monthly choral service there on a weekday evening. The choir joined the PBS as a Corporate Member in February 2023.

Stanton is a quiet Staffordshire village with a history of quarrying, lead mining and farming. Gilbert Sheldon (Archbishop of Canterbury 1563–77) was born at Hillock Farm in 1598 and the village hall is named after him. The church enjoys panoramic views of the Weaver Hills. Dedicated to St Mary, it was completed in 1848 and is a Grade II Listed Building in a good state of repair. The incumbent, the Revd Preb. Brian Leathers says, 'We have a traditional and enthusiastic congregation who appreciate the Prayer Book liturgy, especially our monthly Sung Evensong. Visitors to this part of Staffordshire would be made most welcome at St Mary's.'

Last, but by no means least, is the Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, founded in 1132. You can read about the Christian ethos of the Hospital and its commitment to the Book of Common Prayer elsewhere in this journal.

For further information about Corporate Membership, please visit the PBS website or make contact with Copyhold Farm. We welcome applications for Corporate Membership from any parish church or other institution where the Prayer Book is known and loved.

To mark Valentine's Day the Manchester Diocese Branch hosted a fantastically moving event at St Matthew's Crumpsall. The day, led by the Revd Daniel Valentine (appropriately named given the occasion), treated members of the congregation to the musical wonders of the HeartEdge Singers, students of St Martin's in the Field, interspersed with the Christian message of love. A usual, St Matthew's hearty fare followed with sandwiches, teas and homemade cakes, and then an equally sumptuous Choral Evensong.

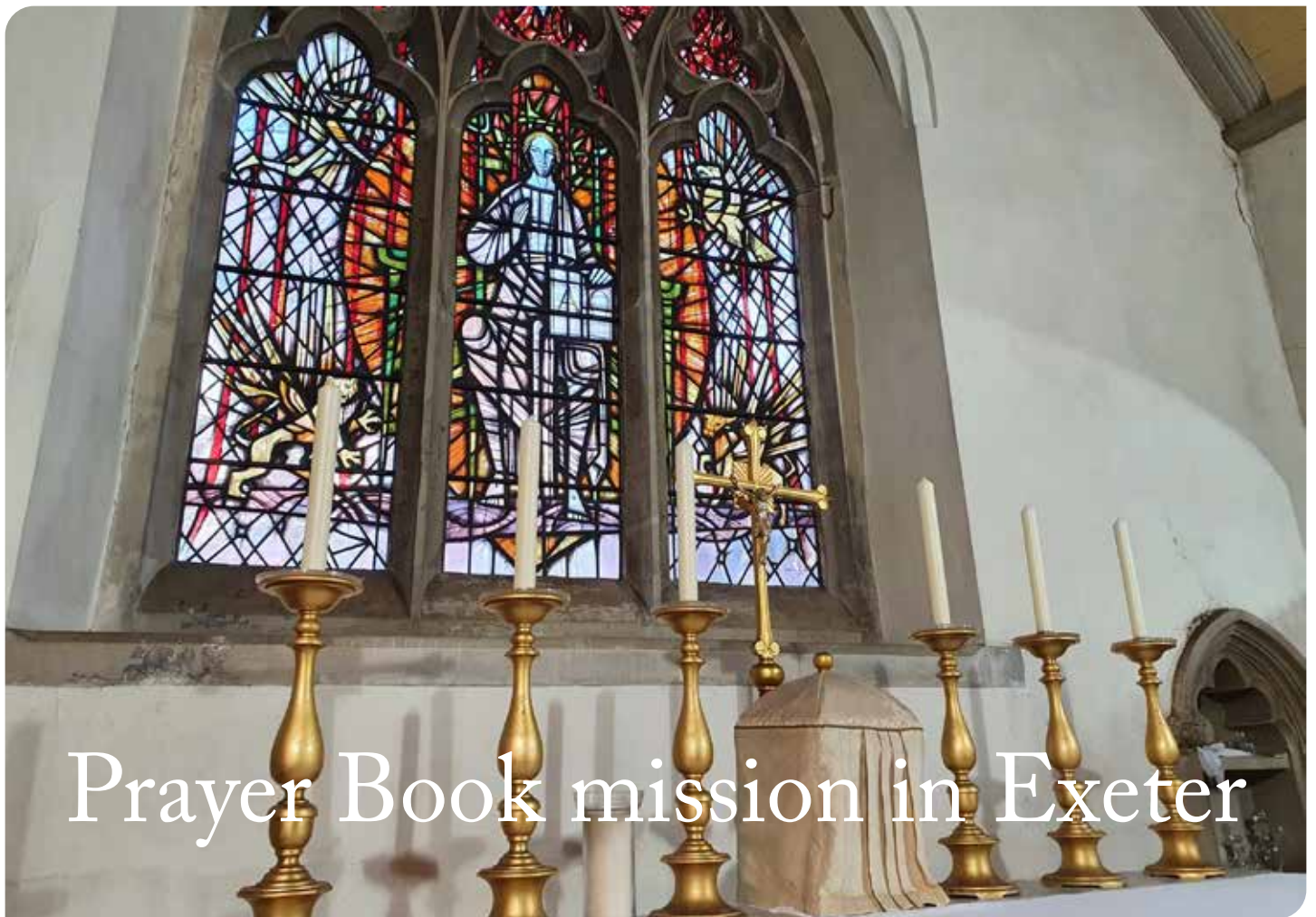


## PBS Annual Conference

*Lively Sacrifice:  
The Prayer Book and the Vocation to Holiness*

Liverpool Hope University  
Thursday 17th - Saturday 19th August

[www.pbs.org.uk/events](http://www.pbs.org.uk/events)  
for details



# Prayer Book mission in Exeter

St Mary Steps is one of the oldest churches in the city of Exeter, dating back to medieval times. A flight of stone steps leads from the entrance to the nave and continues up through the tower to the clock mechanism and bells—which may be one explanation for the church’s unusual dedication.

The building has a long and varied history: an original twelfth-century structure was rebuilt in the fifteenth century, though retaining the font from the original church, which is one of its greatest treasures. It did not escape the ravages of the sixteenth century, with the tabernacle and thirteen pictures being removed from the church and burned in September 1559. One hundred years later, it was one of thirteen Exeter churches ordered to be announced for sale by the public crier. On 14th September 1658, the church was sold for £100, although it was eventually taken back by parishioners and returned to worship.

*It will not surprise readers to learn that the regular congregation soon adjusted to the changes in language and structure, and warmly embraced the beauty of the Prayer Book liturgy*

St Mary Steps has been a centre of Anglo-Catholic devotion in Exeter for years: the parish website joyfully proclaims it to be *a church to delight romantics and traditionalists*. The liturgy had previously been celebrated according to *The English Missal* but in recent years had used various forms of the modern rite, although in traditional

language. In Advent 2022, a new phase began in the long history of the parish, when the rector and PCC made the bold decision to restore the 1662 Book of Common Prayer for the principal Sunday service.

It will not surprise readers to learn that the regular congregation soon adjusted to the changes in language and structure, and warmly embraced the beauty of the Prayer Book liturgy. St Mary Steps now joyfully and confidently offers something that no other church in the city of Exeter offers: sung Eucharistic worship according to the Book of Common Prayer every Sunday morning. Faithful to the parish’s longstanding tradition, the service is enriched with customary Anglo-Catholic ceremonial; however, there is no deviation from the Prayer Book text. The musical setting is Merbecke.

Commenting on the decision to restore Prayer Book worship, the Revd Ben Rabjohns says, ‘St Mary Steps



is proud of its Anglo-Catholic heritage. Using the Prayer Book liturgy Sunday by Sunday connects us with those gone before us who have used the very same prayers in this place over hundreds of years. We firmly believe that the BCP has something valuable to offer to people of all ages in our contemporary society; there is plenty of evidence of its missional potential, and we hope our congregation will grow in numbers and in spiritual depth through its regular use here.'

Please do pray for God's blessing on this exciting new initiative in Exeter, and if you are ever in the area, do please join the regular congregation for worship. You will be made most welcome.

Use of the Book of Common Prayer for principal Sunday services, and not just for early morning Communion and the occasional Evensong, is key to the Prayer Book reclaiming its place at the heart of the Church of England. The Trustees would be delighted to hear from any priests or PCCs wishing to explore greater use of the Prayer Book in their parishes.

## A Prayer Book retreat

In the last week in April, seventeen participants from all over England attended a traditional, silent, conducted retreat at Parcevall Hall in the Yorkshire Dales.

The retreat was sponsored by the Anglican Association (a forerunner of the PBS). The conductor, Canon Andy Hawes, gave addresses exploring the resurrection appearances of Jesus. All the worship during the retreat was according to the Book of Common Prayer, with Scripture readings from the Authorised Version. The addresses were supplemented by music chosen by Canon Hawes' composer brother, Patrick. The weather was kind; it was a glorious and happy time.

Next year's retreat is scheduled for 22nd to 26th April. Any enquiries to Canon Hawes on 01778 590035.

## PBS 50th Anniversary



St Margaret's Church Westminster  
Saturday 7th October

[www.pbs.org.uk/events](http://www.pbs.org.uk/events) for details

## BOOKS FOR CHURCHWARDENS

and others involved in the maintenance of churches  
and the organization of parishes

We supply a wide range of books useful for  
parish management, including

### THE CHURCHWARDEN'S YEARBOOK 2023

The diary and reference book which gives  
liturgical colours, lectionary readings (BCP and  
Common Worship), and details for all Sundays,  
Principal Feasts, Holy Days and Festivals, with  
much other information for churchwardens.

For a brochure and further details contact

Churchwarden Publications Ltd  
PO Box 420 Warminster BA12 9XB

Tel: 01985 840189 Email: [enquiries@churchwardenbooks.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@churchwardenbooks.co.uk)  
[www.churchwardenbooks.co.uk](http://www.churchwardenbooks.co.uk)

Clergy  
Support  
Trust

## Apply for a Health grant



If you are part of a clergy household and living  
with a health condition, we may be able to help.

From occupational therapy assessments to mobility  
aids and physical therapies, it's our privilege to  
support serving and retired clergy and their families.

Apply online or call us in confidence

[www.clergysupport.org.uk/prayer-book](http://www.clergysupport.org.uk/prayer-book)  
0800 389 5192

1 Dean Trench Street, London, SW1P 3HB

Charity registered in England and Wales #207736



# Prayer Book shapes community life at the Hospital of St Cross

Nestling in the water meadows alongside the River Itchen, the ancient Hospital of St Cross, Winchester, is renowned for the tranquillity of its setting and the beauty of its architecture. Founded in 1132 by Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester, grandson of William the Conqueror and younger brother to King Stephen, to offer a home and care to the poorest of the poor, the Hospital is England's oldest almshouse in continuous use.

The Hospital was founded to support thirteen poor men, so frail that they were unable to work, and to feed 100 men at the gates each day. The thirteen men became the Brothers of St Cross. Then, as now, they were not monks. St Cross is not a monastery but a secular foundation. Medieval St Cross was endowed with land, mills and farms, providing food and drink for a large number of people. However, the water was unfit for drinking, so copious amounts of ale and beer were needed. In the fifteenth century, Cardinal Beaufort created the Order of Noble Poverty, adding the Almshouse to the existing Hospital buildings and giving St Cross the look that it has today.

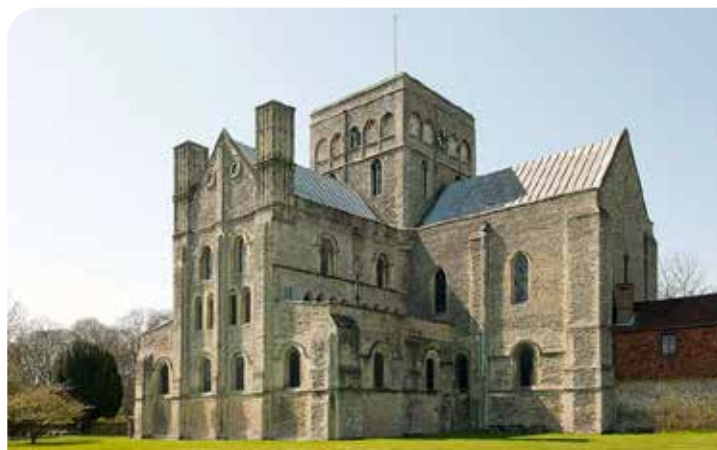
Today, the Hospital provides accommodation for twenty-five elderly gentlemen, known as 'The Brothers', under the care of 'The Master'. They belong to either of the two charitable foundations: those belonging to the Order of the Hospital of St Cross wear black trencher hats and black robes, with a silver badge in the shape of a cross potent; those belonging to the Order of Noble Poverty wear claret trencher hats and claret robes, with a silver cardinal's badge in memory of Cardinal Beaufort. They are often referred to as the 'Black Brothers' and the 'Red Brothers'. The Scheme which governs the administration of the

Hospital states that Brothers must normally be over state retirement age and no longer employed, and that preference should be given to those of low or limited income.

Prayer plays a central part in the life of the community at St Cross; every morning, the Master and the Brothers begin their day with Matins in the Chapel of St Cross. 'The Book of Common Prayer gives rhythm to our life together; from the Gowning of a new Brother to his funeral, we are embraced by the profound beauty of its liturgy and the endless depth of its theology,' says the Revd Dominik Chmielewski, who was appointed Master of St Cross in December 2022. 'The Book of Common Prayer has formed our worship at St Cross since the time of the English Reformation, and it will continue to guide us in the centuries to come.'

When a new Master is installed, the Senior Brother of the Hospital, on behalf of the whole community, presents him with a copy of the Prayer Book, with the words: 'Lead us in prayer'. During the Gowning ceremony, when a new Brother is admitted and he takes his oaths and declarations, he is given a gown, black or red, depending on the Order he is joining, and a copy of the Book of Common Prayer to signify the importance of prayer in the life of the community and the Brothers' commitment to upholding the Anglican Tradition.

'Life at St Cross in the community of Brothers, surrounded by the medieval buildings and immersed in the ancient



traditions, feels almost monastic, especially because of the peace and tranquillity of the setting. But at the same time, the life here gives all the Brothers great independence, allowing them to continue their interests and hobbies, and offering new ways of involvement. St Cross combines the best of those two worlds,' adds Dominik, Rector of the Parish of St Faith as well as Master of St Cross. The Hospital chapel acts as a parish church to the local community and many of the Brothers are actively involved in parish life. Every Sunday, there is a celebration of Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer, as well as twice-monthly Choral Matins sung by a large and enthusiastic parish choir.

The Master extends a warm welcome to visitors and prospective Brothers: 'We'd love you to come and visit and experience the unique beauty of this ancient house. Perhaps it's a place where you will one day come and be part of our community.'

Further information can be found at [www.hospitalofstcross.co.uk](http://www.hospitalofstcross.co.uk).

# Making the most of social media

Every day, millions of people go online and engage with social media channels. You'll have heard the names: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Snapchat. The list goes on.

But are you or your PBS Branch using social media to promote the Prayer Book Society? If not, you should be, especially if you want to inspire the next generation in the beauty and majesty of the Book of Common Prayer.

The power of social media is that it can reach an audience much larger than those who choose to 'follow' you as a single user. I hope this short article will inspire you to try it and will offer some simple tips and tricks to help you make it worth your time and effort.

## Where to start

If this is all new to you, then initially try EITHER Facebook or Twitter. Facebook allows longer posts (more words) and you can add photos to support the story. It's important to say that ALL social media posts should have at least one photograph. Text-only posts on any channel are generally ignored. Twitter is a 'headline-only' channel, which gives you 240 characters to use.

If you are new to social media, sign up for a channel and 'observe' it for a while. When you are familiar with the language and techniques of your favoured option, take the plunge and try a few posts.

## Be social and engage

One of the best and most valuable aspects of using social media is the level of direct interaction you get with people who follow you or might be interested in your posts. It's called social media for a reason: it's about a conversation, in public. So, when you get responses to your posts, reply. Direct engagement is genuinely rewarding and can lead to new members.

## Use a human voice

Find a 'voice' or style that suits your Branch and stick to it. As a general rule, social media is more 'chatty' and less formal than traditional written communications.

## Hashtags and @

These tools work well for broadening the number of users you reach. Using the @ of your local diocese when promoting

events (e.g. @cofebirmingham, @dioceseoflondon) means that all those who follow the diocese's communication streams will also see your post. This works on both Facebook and Twitter.

Hashtags (e.g. #Easter #Coronation) are conversation streams that you might also be able to capitalise on. Adding a '#' to the beginning of an unbroken word or phrase creates a hashtag. When you use a hashtag, it becomes linked to all the other posts that include it. Including hashtags (#BCP, #PBS) gives your post context and allows people to easily follow topics that they are interested in.

## Share

There is nothing more flattering than having something you've written shared more widely. When you hear the phrase, 'it went viral', this means millions have shared and reshared a particular post. Look for the posts of neighbouring PBS Branches and share those (if appropriate). Look at the Prayer Book Society's national channels too and share those. And don't forget to thank the user who shares your latest post.

## Nine rules for social media

- Don't rush in.
  - Remember posts are transient yet permanent.
  - Always use a photo/video.
  - Be a good ambassador for the PBS.
  - @ # and sharing are tools to be used regularly.
  - Don't hide behind anonymity.
  - Be aware of public/private life boundaries.
  - Respect confidentiality.
  - Be mindful of your own security.
- (Amended from a list from the Diocese of Bath & Wells)

The Archbishop of York (@CottrellStephen) once tweeted, 'I like Twitter because the best things come in small parcels. A sonnet. A psalm. A haiku. A string quartet. A glass of Rioja.'

You don't have to turn on a computer to be part of social media. Most people access it in breaks in their daily schedule, using a phone or other mobile device.

So, is this the time for you and your Branch to begin to explore and use this important communications tool? I hope so.

Nick Clarke  
PBS Communications Consultant.



# Prayer Book leads to growth in Lincoln parish

Paul Noble

Over the last two or three years, one of the factors that has been identified as bringing about Church growth has been the opportunities provided by the use of good music in worship. Only a small number of churches these days can depend on having a surpliced choir in the chancel, as was once the norm. In trying to spur into growth a city centre church that had been under threat of closure, or even an HTB takeover, we identified two key elements for future development—good liturgy and good music.

We wanted to offer Sunday worship in addition to our main Sung Eucharist, which uses modern language, albeit in a traditional way (eastward-facing celebration, traditional hymns etc). Being a traditionally minded parish community, 'Café Church' and similar initiatives simply would not work in our context on a Sunday afternoon; but the one service we felt we should be offering was Choral Evensong.



Though there are modern versions of Evening Prayer available, for this parish it could only mean picking up BCP Evensong. All Saints' hadn't offered Evensong for thirty years or more, but we were mindful of successful reintroductions elsewhere in the country and we knew that this service would provide the only proper and correct Church of England alternative. It would definitely need good singing to make it a worthy act of worship and attractive not just to those nostalgic for the past but to new generations tired of contemporary forms of worship, all looking for something timeless and with a long devotional history.

A bid to the Diocese's newly launched 'Transformation Fund' in early 2020 was not wholly successful. A grant was made but the grants' ceiling had not at that stage been

raised to the level of funding required for our project. We wished to appoint a 0.5 music minister, who would be tasked with leading community and school projects and recruiting a cohort of young students as choral scholars. These scholars would be offered annual bursaries in return for their commitment to sing on a specified number of Sundays and Solemnities. The additional worship would be what had once been the normal Sunday evening worship in our churches—Evensong and sermon.

By October 2021, the Diocese had rejigged its grants and All Saints, Monks Road, Lincoln was the first parish in the Diocese to receive a grant over three years at the maximum level of funding now available. By February 2022, we had appointed an excellently qualified candidate as music outreach minister to start work after Easter, and recruited for him six choral scholars for the remainder of the academic year.

The choral scholars immediately proved to be an asset to our worship and they quickly became part of our worshipping family. All Saints' started to be known for the quality of the worship offered. The diocesan targets for church growth were already met for the first year by the time an archdeacon visited for the first evaluation in early summer 2022. In 2022, the usual morning Eucharist was already gathering an attendance of up to 40 people; one year on, the usual Sunday attendance is approaching 50. Not enormous, but a few years ago when things were at their leanest, the congregation struggled to get into double figures.

Then it was time to launch the second service. So, last July, the BCPs were dusted down and the music outreach minister recruited a volunteer 'Come and sing Evensong' choir, which started with sixteen singers for Choral Evensong, sermon and devotions. That service now takes place once a month and the singers alone can number up to twenty-five. From September, a second monthly Choral Evensong was added, with the choral scholars singing. This service is introducing a young cohort of student singers to Prayer Book worship, which they may not have previously experienced in a parish church.

The result is that a parish church, which faced almost inevitable closure, now has a growing congregation and a positive future. On those Sundays with two services, we are getting around 80 people into church, and with an overall younger age profile than other city churches. There are other churches in Lincoln that offer lively worship with praise bands and large screens, and they have a valuable outreach ministry to people of different backgrounds and ages. There is, however, a desire among others for worship that is reverent, dignified and traditional in style and—as we have



found from BCP Evensong—also in language.

It has to be said we were given a hefty grant by the Diocese, who recognised the significance of this project for churches of our tradition, but we were still left to look for other sources of funding, combined with our own fundraising efforts to make up the shortfall and to make provision for when the three years are up. A generous grant given by one of the Church of England's devotional societies has made it possible for us to see this through. We have further targets to achieve for congregational growth and numbers of children and adults to be reached. What cannot be evaluated, though, and what is more important, is how many don't just *attend* worship but come to find Christ. Good liturgy, good music and beautiful language cannot be ends in themselves. They are tools—superb and wonderful tools—in our mission to proclaim Christ Jesus and to bring men and women, young and old, to living faith in Him.

The Revd Canon Paul Noble SSC, Vicar of All Saints, Lincoln.



# BCP PRAYER BOOKS

WITH NEW ROYAL PRAYERS

New printing of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer with alterations arising from the accession of King Charles III

Available from the Prayer Book Society or direct from Cambridge

Tel: 01223 326050



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

[www.cambridge.org/bibles](http://www.cambridge.org/bibles)





## Blackburn

Members of the Blackburn Branch gathered for their 35th Annual Festival on Saturday, 22nd April—and what a wonderful day of celebration it turned out to be. Friends from neighbouring dioceses joined the Lancashire home-team for a truly beautiful celebration of Choral Matins in Blackburn Cathedral. This was followed by an excellent lunch and good conversation in the cathedral café.

The Annual Meeting of Members took place in the afternoon, when PBS Chairman, Bradley Smith addressed the Branch and shared some of the Society's current good-news stories. The Festival concluded with Choral Evensong. An outstanding local choir, The Octavius Singers, sang both services, with the music being chosen by PBS Vice-President, Neil Inkley. The introit at Matins was Neil's own text, 'We pray thee, hear us from above, using the liturgy that we love', set to music by Robin Stopford (full text below).

Among the guests at this special day of celebration was 98-year-old Arthur Moss, first recipient of the Kilmister Award for distinguished voluntary service to the PBS, who made the heroic journey from Carlisle to join his Blackburn friends for worship and fellowship. He is pictured here with 18-year-old Cranmer Awards finalist, Anna Putland, who read the second lesson at Matins. Arthur was 80 years of age when Anna was born, but they both love the Prayer Book and find in it a faithful guide and inspiration for the Christian life. Branch members would be delighted to see friends from near and far at next year's celebration.



*We pray thee, hear us from above,  
using the liturgy that we love.*

*Acknowledging sin and seeking grace  
to lead us into thy heavenly peace.*

*With time-honoured phrase which engraves on our mind  
and rhythm and beauty of breath-taking kind.*

*We thank thee for that liturgical store  
which sustains and refreshes us evermore.*

*With sense of continuity and glory to thee,  
we offer our worship and praise thankfully.*

*O Lord, open thou our lips  
and our mouths shall shew forth thy praise.*

# News from

## Chichester West

The 2023 Branch calendar began with a special tour of Chichester Cathedral organised by Branch member, Peter Green. The highlight of the tour was a visit to the cathedral library, where members learned about the textual differences between the early editions of the BCP, and were able to handle some very ancient and precious Prayer Books and Bibles. Choral Evensong followed during which the Canon Treasurer led prayers for the work of the Society. A drinks reception at St Olav's Bookshop rounded off an enjoyable day.

In March, we held a 'Come-and-Sing' Matins at St George's, Donnington, one of Chichester's most beautiful country churches. Dr Alan Thurlow (Master of the Choristers, Chichester Cathedral 1980–2008) led a congregational rehearsal and shared some interesting information about the church and its organ before the service proper. The former Dean of Westminster preached a moving sermon on the Annunciation, and local parishioners provided coffee and cakes. It was a splendid morning, particularly appreciated by those unable to attend Matins in their own parishes, and one which we hope to repeat in the future.

Our April meeting was held at St Mary's, Apuldram where, once again, the local congregation provided tea and cakes before Evensong conducted by the Revd Jessica Reid, who also gave the sermon. Our visits to small country churches where the Prayer Book remains at the heart of parish life are not only enjoyed by members but are also a great encouragement to the local congregations. We look forward to similar visits over the summer months. Non-members and friends from neighbouring Branches are most welcome to join us.

Please note that the Summer tea and Evensong planned for 24th June at Wiggonholt has been postponed. Instead, we are warmly invited to join the congregation of St Peter's, Terwick for their Patronal Festival Evensong on Sunday, 25th June at 6p.m. This will be an opportunity to see the redecorated church and hear the new organ. Refreshments will be served after the service.

29th July—3p.m. Tea and a talk followed by 4.30p.m.

Evensong at St Andrew's, Didling.

26th August—4.30p.m. Patronal Festival Evensong at St Bartholomew's, Egdean, followed by drinks.

16th September—11a.m. Branch Festival at Chichester Cathedral beginning with Choral Communion at 11a.m.

### Photos right

*Members inspecting exhibits at Chichester Cathedral library  
Interior, St George's Donnington  
Exterior, St Mary's Apuldram*

# the Branches



## Exeter

Members of the Branch were shocked by the unexpected death of the Chairman, Preb. Paul Hancock on 9th February.

His funeral took place at Plympton St Maurice Church on Thursday, 9th March, and the church was full to capacity. We wish to record our thanks for all the hard work he put in and the inspirational leadership that he gave.

Preb. Paul Hancock was due to lead a Lent Quiet Day on Wednesday, 22nd March, but instead this was led by our Vice-Chairman, Christine Channon, a reader. We thank Mrs Marigold Seager-Berry for again hosting this event. A donation of £60 was made to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

We are pleased to announce that the new Branch Chairman is the Ven. David Gunn-Johnson, formerly Archdeacon of Barnstaple, who is looking forward to meeting members at the Annual General Meeting. This takes place at 2.30p.m. on Saturday, 1st July at the Wickham Hall, Bovey Tracey, and will be addressed by the National Chairman, Bradley Smith.

## York

The recently relaunched York Branch of the Prayer Book Society met for the second time on Saturday, 18th February.

The meeting took the form of a day out in Hull, starting in the chapel of the historic Hull Charterhouse, where Communion at 10a.m. was followed by Matins, Litany and sermon at 11 o'clock. The Revd James Kenny, Branch Co-ordinator, celebrated the Communion service and preached the sermon, and the Revd Will Ellis officiated at Matins. The organist was David Norman, with both services being congregationally sung—the Communion to Merbecke.

After the morning's services, folk retired to the Minerva for lunch before having time to explore Hull. Most attendees looked round the Streetlife Museum and then the Hull and East Riding Museum.

The final item on the agenda was Choral Evensong at Hull Minster (Holy Trinity). A large choir sang the service to Walmisley in D minor, and the anthem was Haydn's *Insanae et Vanae Curae*.

All in all, an excellent day of worship and fellowship. Further meetings of the York Branch will be announced in due course.

---

## Other events

### Ely Branch Meeting

Thursday, 13th July

St Botolph's, Cambridge at 6p.m.

'Lighten our Darkness: the Prayer Book as Comfort and Guide'  
Speaker: The Revd Fergus Butler-Gallie

Further details from Dr George Owers—

[georgeowers@gmail.com](mailto:georgeowers@gmail.com) or 07833 012979



## Truro Commemoration of Thomas Cranmer

On Wednesday, 22nd March, the Truro Branch of the Prayer Book Society, in conjunction with the Interim Dean and choir of Truro Cathedral, held its annual event to commemorate the martyrdom of Thomas Cranmer.

Members and friends of the PBS gathered in the Old Cathedral School, adjacent to Truro Cathedral, for tea, before listening to an authoritative presentation by the Revd Professor Andrew Lewis.

Speaking to the title, 'The Prayer Book Revolt and its Effect on the Cornish Language', Professor Lewis guided his audience through the chronology of the rebellion, set against the timing of the introduction of the first edition of the Book of Common Prayer and the wider political climate and tensions with the monarchy prevalent at the time.

He concluded that, although the imposition of the Prayer Book in English—to replace traditional Cornish language services—certainly played a significant role, the rebellion was probably the consequence of several other cumulative cultural and societal factors affecting the South West in 1549.

After this presentation, Branch members joined a wider congregation in the cathedral for a Sung BCP Holy Communion led by the choir under the direction of Christopher Gray. The celebrant and preacher was Father Simon Robinson, Interim Dean.

In his sermon, Father Simon referred to the miracle of the loaves and fishes (John 6:1–14) and its echo in the act of Holy Communion. He pointed out that both involve four consecutive and consequential actions: taking; blessing; breaking; giving. And there is always enough bread for everyone. We are obliged to reflect this allegory of God's love and non-judgemental generosity in our everyday lives and interaction with other people.

The introit was 'O Lord increase our faith', by Henry Loosemore (1607–1670), and the anthem was 'Hear my prayer' by Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847). The choir sang the *Sanctus* from the 'Communion setting in C' by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924).



*PBS members and friends listening intently to Professor Lewis*



*PBS members in the lay canon and choir stalls for the service*

## Edith Matthias Prayer Book Trust

Neil Inkley, now aged 91, has decided to retire as Convenor of the Trustees of the Edith Matthias Prayer Book Trust. He has held this role for twenty-three years since the inception of the Trust in 2000. Iain Milne has been appointed to succeed him. The other two original Trustees were Professor the Revd Raymond Thompson and Geoff Wood (onetime Manchester Hon. Sec.), who were succeeded respectively by Jonathan Baldwin and the Revd Dr Mark Hart, who both remain in office.

The Trust Fund was Miss Edith Matthias's millennium gift to the

Society for the purpose of enabling cash-strapped parishes and the like in the Church of England to obtain BCPs in order to maintain or reintroduce Prayer Book worship. Neil Inkley has commented that this has to be one of the most direct manifestations of PBS outreach in the pursuit of its goals.

Applicants for grants are usually asked to make a contribution towards the cost of their books, according to their financial resources; the Trustees believe this helps to cement a commitment to use the books and not to leave them languishing in cupboards.

Over the twenty-three years of its operation so far, the fund has made 165 grants. This has almost consumed the initial benefaction but a new source of funding has been established to maintain the essential work of the Matthias Trust.

Application forms remain available upon request to Copyhold Farm, or they may be downloaded from the PBS website. There will be no change in procedures except that applications should no longer be sent to Neil but to Iain Milne at [iain.milne@pbs.org.uk](mailto:iain.milne@pbs.org.uk) or made by post to Copyhold Farm.

*Before...*



*... and after*



*Before...*



*... and after*



## BOOK CONSERVATION

1662? 1928? Is your favourite copy of the BCP looking the worse for wear?  
After a few decades we all begin to look a bit rough around the edges...

And so do our beloved books; prayer books, bibles, dictionaries, cookery books,  
photo albums, visitor/address books, even parish registers.

Well-used, well-thumbed, well-travelled and well-loved, don't they deserve  
a new lease of life so they can continue to give pleasure and use for years to come?

Contact Susie Gibbs on

0757 234 1180 or [susiegibbs21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:susiegibbs21@yahoo.co.uk)

*Before...*



*... and after*



*Before...*



*... and after*



## ST GEORGE'S HEADSTONE, HARROW

PINNER VIEW, HA1 4RJ

DIOCESE OF LONDON, UNDER THE EPISCOPAL CARE OF BISHOP ROBERT LADDS

[www.stgeorgeheadstone.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgeheadstone.org.uk)

### SERVICES

#### Sunday

11am Holy Communion

6pm Evening Prayer

#### Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion

All regular services according to the Book of Common Prayer.  
Our professional/scholarship octet helps lead the Sunday morning  
service; the 1915 three-manual organ by Frederick Rothwell is on  
the British Institute of Organ Studies' register of historic  
instruments of importance to the national heritage. The church  
has a fine interior with glass and furnishings by Martin Travers  
and associates. Visitors most welcome.

#### Contact

The Revd Stephen Keeble

The Vicarage, 96 Pinner View, Harrow HA1 4RJ

020 8427 1253

[st.georgeheadstone@ntlworld.com](mailto:st.georgeheadstone@ntlworld.com)





## Study Booklet Series

- S001 The Psalms in Christian Worship by *Paul Bradshaw*  
S002 A General Bibliography of Christian Liturgy & Worship  
and Church Music by *Roger Wilkes and Hugh Benham*  
S003 The Eucharist as Meal by *Revd Tom Creagh-Fuller*  
S004 The Biblical Foundations of Christian Worship  
by *Revd Canon Arthur Dobb*  
S005 Ralph Vaughan Williams: the Hymn Tunes and Solo  
Organ Music by *Hugh Benham*  
S006 Carols of the British Isles by *Revd Canon Alan Luff*  
S007 Introducing The Book of Common Prayer  
by *Revd Canon Arthur Dobb*

Available now is a booklet entitled **Introducing The Book of Common Prayer**. Originally written in the 1990s by the Revd Canon Arthur Dobb, largely to assist candidates for Guild examinations, this guide will be of interest to anyone who loves The Book of Common Prayer. It is a thorough revision, by Hugh Benham and Roger Wilkes, with additional material about the projected 1928 Book, but without detailed reference to more recent forms of Anglican liturgy.

All booklets are available from

[gcm.org.uk/guild-publications-shop](http://gcm.org.uk/guild-publications-shop)

All general enquiries to the Administrator: Dr Elizabeth Stratford,  
Cathedral House, Parsons Hill, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9AY  
email: [administrator@gcm.org.uk](mailto:administrator@gcm.org.uk)  
[www.gcm.org.uk](http://www.gcm.org.uk)

# The Guild of Church Musicians

Founded 1888

Patrons: The Archbishop of Canterbury  
The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster  
President: Dame Mary Archer DBE  
Warden: Fr Peter Allan CR



## PASTIMES OLD TOYS WANTED

### Antique and collector toys Bought and sold

Die-cast and tin plate vehicles  
(Dinky, Schuco etc) -  
Preferably pre 1970  
All types of trains and rolling stock,  
Clockwork and electric, Meccano,  
Boats and steam models.

Metal and plastic figures  
(Britains etc) from mint/boxed  
to playworn

Either drop in or call to  
arrange a visit  
PASTIMES, 3 Westbury Road,  
Sherborne, Dorset.  
01935 816072  
Mobile 07527 074343  
E mail [info@pastimes-toys.co.uk](mailto:info@pastimes-toys.co.uk)

## MADE TO MEASURE

Men's Trousers and Plus Twos in  
classic \British cloths Corduroy,  
Moleskin & Winter Tweeds,  
handcut and individually made  
to your specifications.

Delivery 7 days.  
Brochure and cloth samples.

Spencer's Trousers,  
Friendly Works,  
Burnley Road, Sowerby Bridge,  
W. Yorks HX6 2TL  
Tel: 01422 833 020  
[www.spencers-trousers.com](http://www.spencers-trousers.com)

## I want to see what my money can do

I want new ways to protect and grow my wealth, so I need a wealth manager that can build me a robust plan. One who'll protect me from unnecessary risks, and explore new opportunities, that enable me to do even more with my financial future.

I can be more with Charles Stanley. Can you?



**CHARLES STANLEY**  
Wealth Managers

**Call Investment Manager, Katie Presland on 01892 884 999, now**

Investment involves risk. Charles Stanley & Co. Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

**St Olav Christian Bookshop**  
CHICHESTER

FOR A WIDE SELECTION OF BOOKS, MUSIC, GIFTS AND CHURCH SUPPLIES

St Olave's Church, North Street  
Chichester, PO19 1LQ  
01243 782 790

mail@stolavchristianbookshop.uk  
www.stolavchristianbookshop.uk

Monday-Saturday  
9:30am-5:00pm

# HUGE CHOICE

## ALL MAKES & MODELS SUPPLIED

**Every vehicle comes complete with service, history check, warranty, MOT, road tax and valet**

- Over 35 years experience
- Honest, ethical and reliable
- Part exchange welcome
- NO HIDDEN COSTS!



*A tailor-made service supplying vehicles ONLY to Clergy, Church Members and Charities*

**FREE**  
NATIONWIDE  
DELIVERY!  
**99%**  
CUSTOMER  
SATISFACTION!

**PRIORY**  
AUTOMOTIVE  
Tel 0114 255 9696  
www.prioryautomotive.com



# Branches

## BATH & WELLS:

Mr Matthew Butler  
Top Floor Flat 2 Henrietta St,  
Bath BA2 6LL  
T: 07985-956262  
E: matthew\_john\_butler@  
hotmail.com

## BIRMINGHAM:

The Revd Matthew Tomlinson,  
St Augustine's Vicarage,  
44 Vernon Rd, Birmingham B16 9SH  
T: 0121 454 0127  
E: matthewtomlinson@me.com

## BLACKBURN:

Mr Christopher Norton  
26 Handsworth Rd, Blackpool  
FY1 2RQ  
T: 01253 623338  
E: cjnblackpool@btinternet.com

## BRISTOL:

Mr Roger Tucker  
18 Springfield Grove, Westbury  
Park, Bristol BS6 7XQ  
T: 0117 9248629  
E: rogertucker@live.co.uk

## CANTERBURY:

Mr Derek Tee  
111 Rough Common Road,  
Canterbury CT2 9DA  
T: 01227 463903  
E: derekmrtee@gmail.com

## CHELMSFORD:

Mrs Anna Joyce  
2 Albert Gardens, Coggeshall  
Colchester CO6 1UA  
T: 01376 563584  
E: annajoyce163@gmail.com

## CHESTER:

Mr J. Baldwin  
Rosalie Farm, Church Minshull,  
Nantwich CW5 6EF  
T: 01270 528487  
E: mds187@aol.com

## CHICHESTER EAST:

Mrs Valerie Mighall  
The Haven, Station Rd, Crowhurst,  
Battle, East Sussex, TN33 9DB  
T: 01424 830247  
E: vmighall@yahoo.com

## CHICHESTER WEST:

Mr Bradley Smith  
The Little Yard,  
Barnham Court Farm,  
Church Lane, Barnham,  
West Sussex PO22 0BP  
M: 07931527724  
E: bradley.smith4@gmail.com

## COVENTRY:

Mr David East  
509 Earlsdon Park Village  
Albany Road  
Coventry CV5 6NA  
T: 024 7650 4339  
E: demeasts@hotmail.com

## DERBY:

Mrs Sarah Johnson (Secretary)  
Walton Rectory, Station Lane  
Walton-on-Trent DE12 8NA  
M: 07825 241879  
E: slistuk@yahoo.co.uk

## DURHAM & NEWCASTLE:

Mrs Rosemary Hall  
23 Beatty Avenue,  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 3QN  
T: 0191 285 7534  
E: hallrosemary36@gmail.com

## ELY:

Dr George Owers  
30 Mortlock Avenue  
Cambridge CB4 1TE  
T: 07833 012979  
E: georgeowers@gmail.com

## EXETER:

Mr Peter Gaston  
73 West Cliff Park Drive,  
Dawlish EX7 9EL  
T: 01626 439160  
E: petergaston1951@icloud.com

## GLOUCESTER:

Mrs S.M. Emson  
38 Gloucester Road, Stratton,  
Cirencester GL7 2JY  
T: 01285 654591  
E: susanemson@gmail.com

## GUILDFORD:

Michael Hardman  
30 Woodcote Close  
Epsom KT18 7QJ  
T: 01372 720819  
michaelhardman@btinternet.com

## HEREFORD:

Mr Noel Manns  
Llangrove House, Near Ross on  
Wye,  
Herefordshire HR9 6HA  
T: 01989 770297

## IRELAND:

Mr Owen Wilson  
Church View, 5 The Flagstones,  
Bellanaleck, Enniskillen,  
Co. Fermanagh, BT92 2ED  
T: 028 6634 9602  
E: owenwilson@btinternet.com

## LEEDS:

Mr M J Keeton  
12 Stillwell Grove Sandal,  
Wakefield, WF2 6RN  
T: 01924 252984  
E: mike@mkeeton.plus.com

## LEICESTER:

Mrs R. Packe-Drury-Lowe  
35 Green Lane, Seagrave,  
Loughborough LE12 7LU  
T: 01509 815262  
E: ritaphillips@gmail.com

## LICHFIELD

The Revd Stephen Anderson,  
Horton Vicarage,  
Horton, Leek. ST13 8PHR  
T: 07889 003588  
E: fr.stephen.anderson@gmail.com

## LIVERPOOL

The Revd Nicholas Johnson  
The Vicarage, Yates Street  
Oldham OL1 4AR  
T: 0151 228 2023  
E: father.nicholas@icloud.com

## LONDON & SOUTHWARK:

Mr Paul Meitner  
c/o the PBS office, Copyhold Farm  
T: 020 7589 9193  
E: paul@meitner.co.uk

## MANCHESTER

Joshua Gaskell,  
10 All Saints' Road  
Heaton Norris SK4 1QA  
T: 07523 179434  
E: manchesterpbs@gmail.com

## NORWICH:

Mrs Allison Wilson  
Hamblyn House, The Street,  
Rickinghall, Diss IP22 1BN  
T: 01379 897094

## OXFORD:

Mr J. B. Dearing  
27 Sherman Rd, Reading RG1 2PJ  
T: 0118 958 0377  
E: john@jbdearing.co.uk

## PETERBOROUGH:

Mr David Way  
The Manor House Hamerton,  
Huntingdon, PE28 5QN  
T: 01832-293560  
E: davidjohnway52@gmail.com

## ROCHESTER:

Mr G. & Mrs J. Comer  
27 Long Meadow, Riverhead,  
Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2QY  
T: 01732 461462  
E: joannacomer@btinternet.com

## ST ALBANS:

Dr Matthew A. Clarke  
12 Kilby Road, Stevenage SG1 2LT  
T: 07866 430604  
E: austin81clarke@gmail.com

## SALISBURY:

Mrs Lucy Pearson  
10 Briar Close, Wyke, Gillingham,  
SP8 4SS T  
T: 01747 825392  
E: lucypearson@waitrose.com

## SHEFFIELD:

Dr Rosemary Littlewood  
Railway House, Hazlehead,  
Sheffield S36 4HJ  
T: 01226 764092  
E: rowood@waitrose.com

## SOUTHWARK:

Please see London & Southwark

## SOUTHWELL & NOTTINGHAM:

Mr A.F. Sunman  
1 Lunn Lane, South Collingham,  
Newark NG23 7LP  
T: 01636 893975  
E: adriansunman@yahoo.com

## TRURO:

Mrs Kerstin Lewis  
Moorgate, Advent, Camelford,  
Cornwall, PL32 9QH  
T: 01840 211161  
E: kerstinlewis@hotmail.com

## WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH

Mrs Charlotte Appleby  
Shrubs Hill, Itchen Abbas,  
Winchester, SO21 1AT  
E: shrubshill@gmail.com

## WORCESTER

Mr Julian Norbury  
Sherridge, Sherridge Road  
Leigh Sinton WR13 5DB  
T: 07758 578664  
E: julian@fnre.co.uk

## YORK:

The Revd James Kenny  
E: rev.jakenny@gmail.com

## NORTH WALES:

Michael Tree  
Nant-Iago, Llanfair Waterdine,  
Knighton, Powys LD7 1TS  
Tel: 01547 428214

## OVERSEAS MEMBERS:

Mrs Sally Tipping  
Old Orchard, Burgmanns Hill,  
Lymptstone, Exmouth EX8 5HN  
T: 01395 267835  
E: tippingssc@gmail.com

# Media and Society contacts

**Editor: The Revd Canon Andrew Hawes**

Address for correspondence: The Prayer Book Society,  
The Studio, Copyhold Farm, Goring Heath, Reading RG8 7RT  
T: 0118 984 2582  
E: [pbs.admin@pbs.org.uk](mailto:pbs.admin@pbs.org.uk)  
W: [www.pbs.org.uk](http://www.pbs.org.uk)

All contributions, including articles, letters for publication, Branch news and notices of forthcoming events, should be sent to The Prayer Book Today at the above address, or by email to [tpbt@pbs.org.uk](mailto:tpbt@pbs.org.uk). Submission by email is preferred whenever possible. Electronic submission in editable format (such as Word or RTF) saves the Editor a considerable amount of work. We reserve the right to edit or amend contributions.

Advertising Manager: Sarah Tripp  
Please contact via the Prayer Book Society office at Copyhold Farm  
[adverts@pbs.org.uk](mailto:adverts@pbs.org.uk)

Layout and design Clarke PR & Media

Media: Please direct any media enquiries to our PR consultants,  
Clarke PR & Media

T: 07779 780030

E: [media@pbs.org.uk](mailto:media@pbs.org.uk)

The Prayer Book Society's child protection policy is available on its website [www.pbs.org.uk](http://www.pbs.org.uk)

© The Prayer Book Society 2023. Individual articles are © the authors. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the prior permission in writing of the Editor, or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate reprographics rights organisation.

---

**The deadline for contributions for the next edition is :**

Friday 18 August 2023

**Publication date:**

Friday 13 October 2023

---

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Prayer Book Society, please visit our website or contact the office at Copyhold Farm for an application form.

The Prayer Book Society, like the Church of England, is a broad church which embraces a wide breadth of opinion and churchmanship. Views expressed in the *The Prayer Book Today* are those of their individual authors, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Society or of the Editor. The inclusion of any advertisement in the *The Prayer Book Today* does not imply that the Society endorses the advertiser, its products or its services.

A Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England  
No. 4786973 Registered Charity No. 1099295  
Isle of Man Registered Charity No. 952  
Registered office:  
The Studio, Copyhold Farm, Goring Heath, Reading RG8 7RT

**Ecclesiastical Patron:**

The Rt Revd and Rt Hon. The Lord Chartres, GCVO, PC

**President:**

Lord Cormack, DL, FSA

**Vice-Presidents:**

The Revd Dr Roger Beckwith

Miss Prudence Dailey

The Rt Hon. The Lord Field of Birkenhead CH PC DL

Professor Roger Homan

The Rt Hon. Lord Hurd of Westwell, CH, CBE, PC

Neil Inkley

David Richardson

**Board of Trustees:**

Bradley Smith - Chairman

Mrs Fi Rosen - Company Secretary

Paul Meitner - Deputy Chairman and Treasurer

The Revd Dr Stephen Edmonds

The Revd Adam Gaunt

The Revd Christopher Hancock

The Revd Dr Tess Kuin Lawton

Iain Milne

The Revd Dr Daniel Newman

Jon Riding

The Revd Canon Rebecca Swyer

**Prayer Book Churches and Clergy Co-ordinator: John Service**

T: 07557 665609

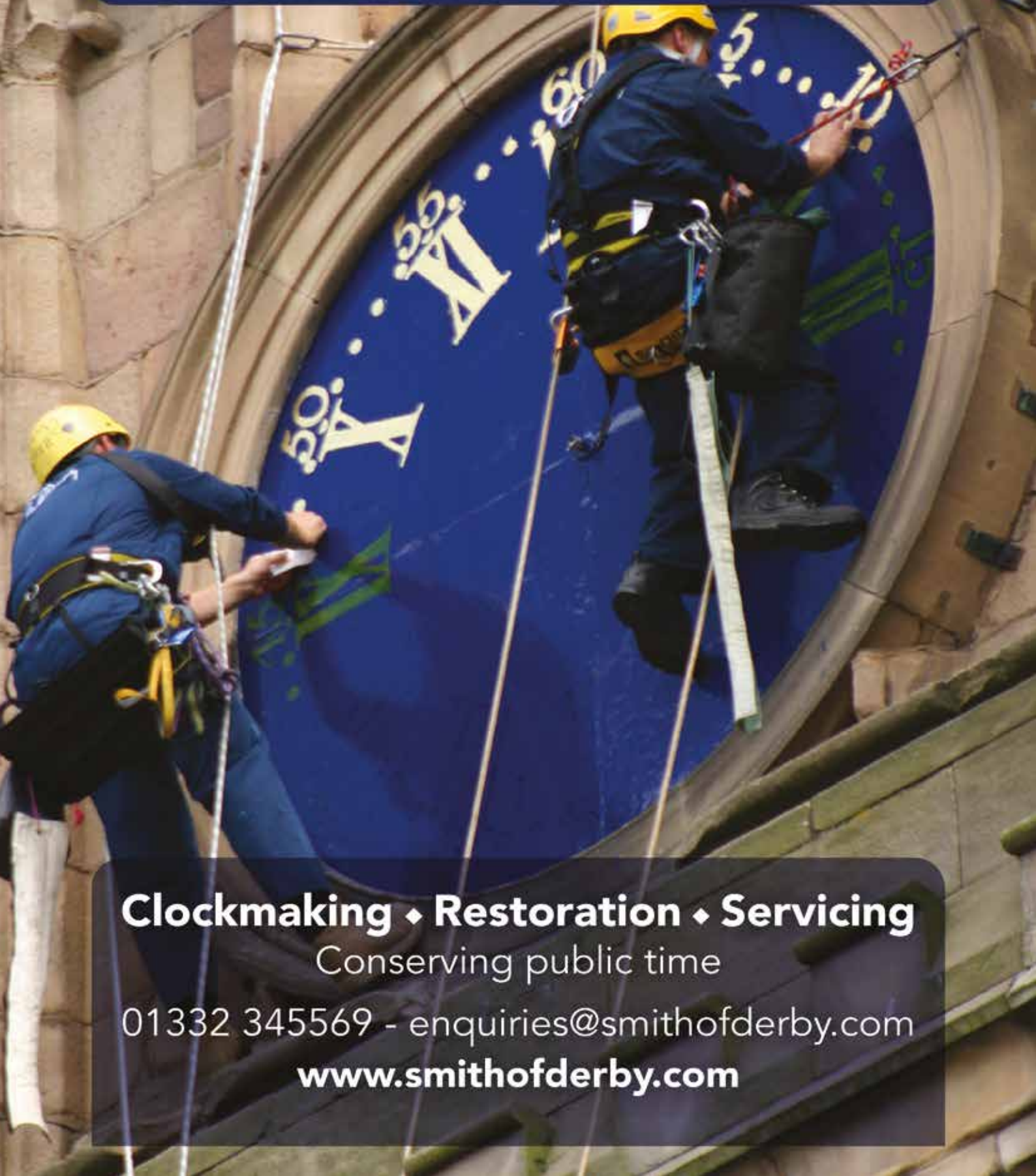
E: [john.service@pbs.org.uk](mailto:john.service@pbs.org.uk)

THE  
PRAYER  
BOOK  
SOCIETY



# SMITH OF DERBY

CLOCKMAKERS ♦ EST. 1856



**Clockmaking ♦ Restoration ♦ Servicing**

Conserving public time

01332 345569 - [enquiries@smithofderby.com](mailto:enquiries@smithofderby.com)

[www.smithofderby.com](http://www.smithofderby.com)