



the Guild of St Martin

Supporting the work of
Leicester Cathedral since 2011

Patrons:

Jennifer, Lady Gretton, JP
Ms Ruth Ingman
Col. Robert Martin OBE DL
Mr Tim Pigott-Smith
Mr Resham Singh Sandhu MBE DL
Cllr Manjula Sood MBE
Mr Maurice Thompson

St Martins House
7 Peacock Lane
Leicester LE1 5PZ

0116 261 5344

guildofstmartin@leccofe.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

Spring 2015



The newly-landscaped Cathedral Gardens.

2014 has been the year of the builder. We have created Cathedral Gardens; developed clergy housing along St Martins East from the vacant buildings formerly used as Diocesan Offices; reordered the inside of the Cathedral and completed the first stage of a master reordering plan, creating the place for King Richard III's reinterment, and opening up the space to provide more seats, better functioning and more beauty in our Cathedral. It all begins to look and feel very much like a Cathedral Close as you would expect to find in a Cathedral City.

Headlines in the press sometimes speak about decreasing church attendance, but English cathedrals are holding their own and growing. We have rediscovered the importance of faith in times of austerity as people have sought solace and guidance about what might sustain us beyond the material. We have also sought to serve those who have little, especially through the Food Bank and care provision operating out of St Martins House.

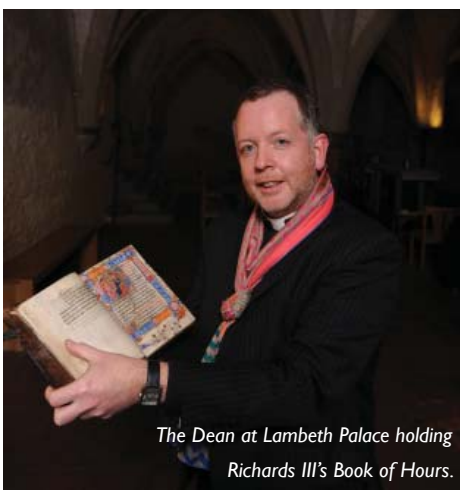
We now face further political change with an upcoming General Election. All parties predict further hard times, strained national and local government budgets. Can the Church, and cathedrals in particular, play a vital role in this?

Cathedrals historically were gathering places at the heart of communities. Can we again gather people of all sorts of disciplines and experience to address these matters? The former delineation between the public and private sector, between charity, faith and enterprise, will not help us. As institutions shrink or become constrained by budgets they will have a tendency to shrink from each other. New partnerships of new kinds are needed. I'm still amazed at times meeting people doing good work who simply have not met one another, or replicating work that doesn't need replication and often not building on synergies and expertise that can be shared.

Legacy is a significant strand of the work we have been doing for the reinterment of King Richard III, and beyond. There will be a cultural, educational and faith legacy. With increased footfall in city and county, there will be economic legacy. But what concerns me most is partnership legacy. Our city and county do not have a great track record of working together, usually to the detriment of the whole. Yet we have worked really well on this project – Church, City and County Councils and University.

As we build the Guild of St Martin I hope you will become part of that deeper legacy which means we will create a healthier, happier and more inclusive community which will be good for us and all the people of Leicester and Leicestershire.

The Very Revd David Monteith, Dean of Leicester



*The Dean at Lambeth Palace holding
Richards III's Book of Hours.*



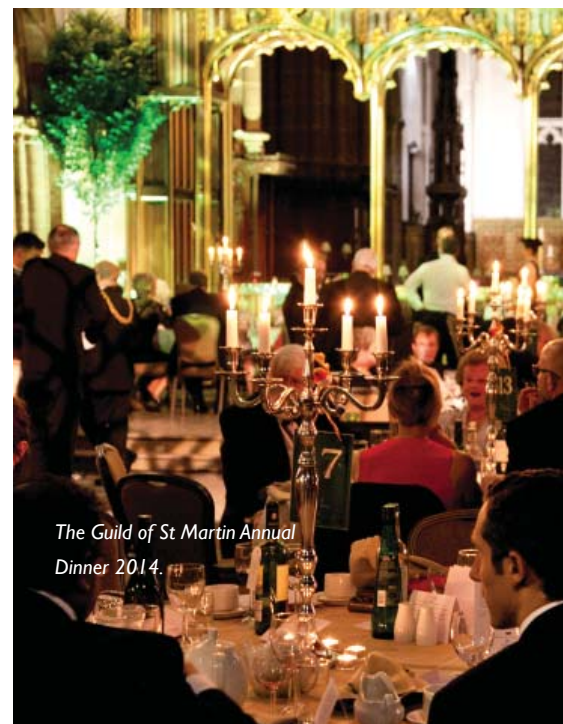
Paul Benney's painting Speaking in Tongues was exhibited in Leicester Cathedral and here shown from the live broadcast of Easter worship on BBC One television.

The Secret Garden Revealed - The Guild of St Martin Annual Dinner 2014

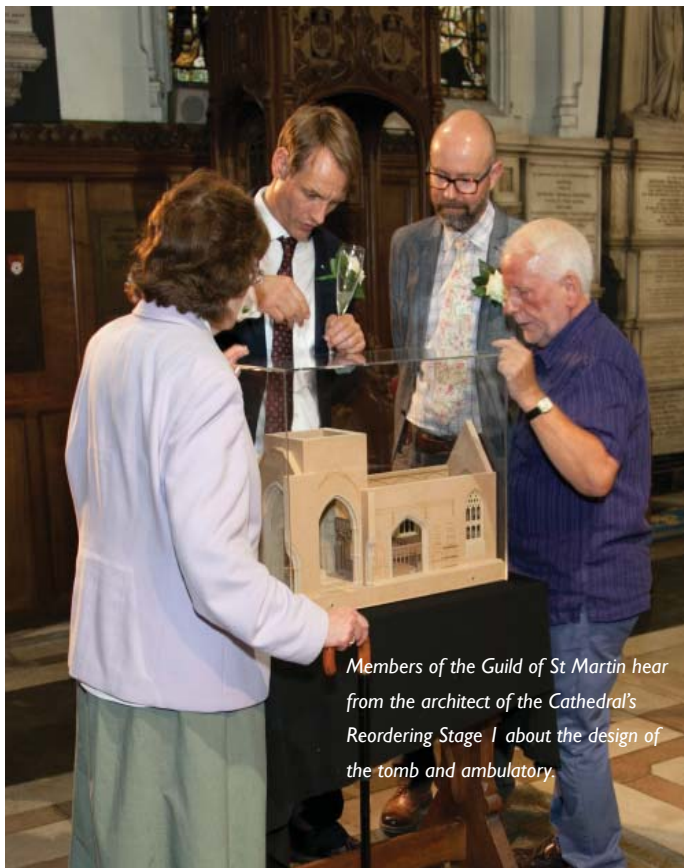
It was a beautiful evening at the end of a hot day when 200 guests made their way to Cathedral Gardens for a special drinks reception. The builders had been working hard to clear and tidy the Gardens for their first public viewing and there had been an equal amount of activity taking place inside the Cathedral, transforming the interior into a Secret Garden for the night. The inspiration for the dinner came from the book written by Frances Hodgson Burnet, which felt appropriate given that the public opening of Cathedral Gardens was imminent. The Dinner sold to capacity and, with the support of sponsors Brewin Dolphin Leicester and Coles Nurseries, raised a remarkable £6,313 for the work of Leicester Cathedral.



St Martins Six, formed from the Leicester Cathedral Youth Choir, performing at the Guild of St Martin Annual Dinner 2014.



The Guild of St Martin Annual Dinner 2014.



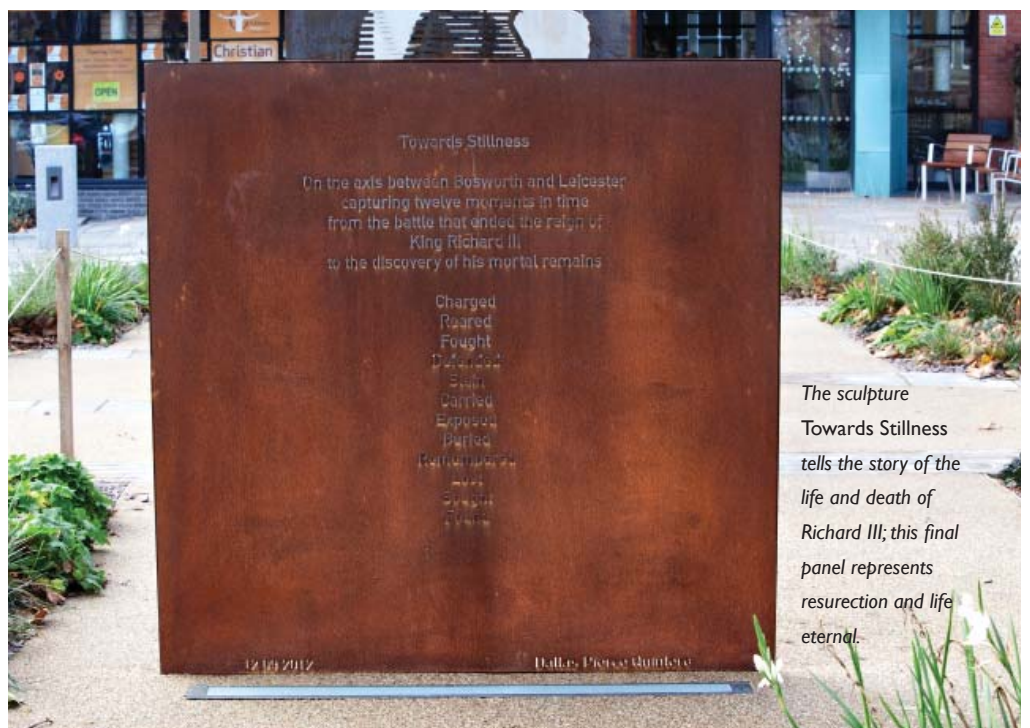
Members of the Guild of St Martin hear from the architect of the Cathedral's Reordering Stage 1 about the design of the tomb and ambulatory.



The Guild of St Martin Spring 2015

Harpist Saraya Vermeulen at the Guild of St Martin Annual Dinner 2014 'The Secret Garden'.

The interior was spectacular with beautiful tall trees, numerous shrubs and flowers, and ivy from Launde Abbey and Leicestershire gardens and parks wound its way over the building. Birdsong was in the air as a nod to the book the dinner took its name from, and a robin graced every table. Entertainment was provided by a group of young singers from Leicester Cathedral Choir, the St Martins Six. The Dean and Bishop spoke and guests were left feeling inspired at all that has been achieved in the last year and by the hopes and aspirations of what is to come. Do reserve your ticket early for this year's dinner - please see the last page for further details or email richard.paterson@leccofe.org for a booking form.



The sculpture Towards Stillness tells the story of the life and death of Richard III; this final panel represents resurrection and life eternal.

A musical note from Cathedral Organist and Assistant Director of Music Mr Simon Headley

At the time of writing we are soon to enter the intensive but exciting period leading up to the Services for the Reinterment of King Richard III - the result of much thought, discussion, preparation and planning. Holy Week and Easter will then be upon us. Directly after Easter we will welcome 14 new members to the choir, successful out of nearly 40 singers that we auditioned in January - there is much to be grateful to God for! Here are three reflections on the work of the choir, each beginning with the letter 'R'.

Recording - one of the biggest highlights for our choristers in the past year was the visit of BBC One to broadcast the Easter Day Eucharist live: music included Schubert's Mass in G accompanied by the Graff Orchestra of England. The BBC also recorded material for *Songs of Praise*: some items specifically for the programme broadcast on Pentecost Sunday, along with other items for use throughout the year. Away from the Cathedral, children from each of our *Diosing!* schools recorded a Musical Advent Calendar compiled onto CD, and a different song was broadcast each day on Radio Leicester.



Dr Christopher Ouvry-Johns,
Director of Music.

Residential - August saw choristers and young Songmen take up residence on the Isle of Man for a week of intensive training, singing and fun. This August the choir will spend a week singing in Worcester Cathedral, after which plans are in hand to record a new Cathedral Choir CD.

Relationships - Each year, we meet with the Cathedral Choirs of Derby, Coventry and Southwell for the Midlands Four Choirs' Festival, rotating between each Cathedral/Minster in turn. Last September, the Girls met in Derby and more recently the boys and men sang here in Leicester around the anniversary of the Accession, with music following a Royal theme. In May, we were joined by the St Peter's Singers from Leeds who sang alongside the Cathedral Choir. This year, we will travel to Leeds to join with them and sing in Leeds Minster. Closer to home, the Cathedral Choir has been out and about in the Diocese to Asfordby and Wistow to sing Evensong. These visits are all valuable experiences for our choristers in so many ways, and it is good to see relationships develop.

Fundraising in 2014

2014 was a year of transformation. Tasked with raising £2.54m before March 2015 to reinter King Richard III meant managing a major appeal in a short period of time. Under the direction of Dr Christine Stokes, an experienced fundraiser with a particular interest in heritage and a doctorate in medieval history, a strategy was developed with the Bishop and Dean at the helm, underpinned by a narrative that drew on the past - events at the Battle of Bosworth 500 years ago - and connects us to the present day, giving us a strategy rooted in history. The narrative was a springboard for introductions and engagement with individuals, trusts, foundations, businesses and the community. Richard's story is a story for all - Leicester, Leicestershire, England and beyond. The reinterment was broadcast live on Channel 4, and the eyes of the world fell on Leicester - we hope you were able to see some of the televised coverage.

Thank you to all our Guild members for their support in the last year. Membership income from the Guild of St Martin is a very important revenue stream that enables the mission and ministry of Leicester Cathedral in a myriad of ways. We receive no government funding but are open 365 days of the year, and the cost of heating, maintaining and staffing a building of this size is considerable. Your membership helps us to cover these costs.

We are particularly grateful to the following companies for their continued support through the Community and Social Responsibility programmes: Brewin Dolphin, Clements Retail, Coles Nurseries, Cummins Solicitors, Haley Sharpe Design, Highcross, Jon Holmes Media, Leicester City Football Club and Norman & Underwood.

We have come far since the Guild's inception in 2011, which Elizabeth Amias was instrumental in setting up. Elizabeth has recently moved to pastures new - our heartfelt thanks go to her for all that she achieved whilst here and we wish her well in her next steps.

Diary Dates ...

The Annual Guild of St Martin Annual Dinner - Kings and Queens.
Thursday 11 June 2015, 6.30pm - Leicester Cathedral

An evening of royal quality with food by Lucy Cufflin and music from the Leicester Cathedral music department.

To reserve your ticket please email richard.paterson@leccofe.org or call 0116 261 5357.

Organ Recitals

14 July, 7.30pm: Dr Christopher Ouvry-Johns, Director of Music

25 August, 7.30pm Simon Headley, Cathedral Organist and Assistant Director of Music

Both will be followed by a private reception with the Dean.

Christmas Carol Service. 22 December, time tba

followed by a private reception with the Dean.