

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL REVEALED

25 August 2016

Well, we made our Heritage Lottery Fund Round One Submission by the deadline of 5 August: it was a lot of hard work for our small team of advisors, but since then I've recovered via a holiday in the campervan in N Wales, and am now well back into action. This will be considered by the East Midlands HLF Committee in September, and if all is well will be passed on to national Trustees for a decision in November. The way it works is that a Round One pass provides development funding to develop your ideas more fully over the next 18 months or so, for a Round Two application for the main funding, so if that is OK we will be ready to put the scheme into action forthwith.

We have just interviewed for a short-term Project Assistant, working with us initially to the end of the year, under a graduate employment bursary scheme run by the University of Leicester. All being well, the successful candidate starts on 12 September.

You may have spotted the formal Notices that have gone up, informing the world that we have received permission for archaeological investigations beneath the old Song School. I'm hoping we can get this complete in the next couple of months as it will tell us a lot about how we might be able to extend downwards, to create badly needed storage space in that area. There will inevitably be some disruption, 'back of house', but we'll aim to keep it to a minimum!

I'm very excited about another piece of work now being done for us by the Digital Archaeology Department of De Montfort University. It will show the development of buildings on our site over more than 1500 years, from Roman Leicester right up to the present, and then including what we hope to do next! We plan to have this ready by the end of September: as well as being a fascinating window into history it can provide a first glimpse for many of our plans for the future.

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