

Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Fifty First Annual Report



For the year ending 31st December 2017

**You are cordially invited to the 51st Annual Friends' AGM
and Evensong on Sunday 20th May 2018 at
Blackburn Cathedral**

The 51st Annual Friends' AGM and Evensong on Sunday the 20th May 2018 will be held in the Caedmon, the Cathedral Library, Blackburn Cathedral.

Programme for the afternoon

1.45 pm Gather in Caedmon

2.00 pm Annual General Meeting

Speaker: Rev Dr Rowena Pailing, Canon Missioner

3.00 pm Tour of Cathedral

4.00 pm Evensong

5.00 pm Afternoon Tea in Temple Gallery

Friends' Tea

You are warmly invited to join us for tea following the Annual General Meeting.

In order to make the necessary catering arrangements, please contact the Honorary Secretary if you wish to join us.

We would ask for a donation of £5.00 per head, collected on the afternoon.

Mrs Alison Givens
Honorary Secretary
Friends of Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Offices
Blackburn
BB1 5AA

Email : secretary@fobc.info
Mobile : 07982 821274

Subscriptions

(Due on the 1st January each year)

Individual members	£15.00
Joint members	£22.00
Individual life members	£150.00
Joint Life members	£220.00
Corporate members, including School, Parishes etc	£12.00

Annual General Meeting Agenda

1. Opening prayers
2. Welcome and apologies
3. Minutes of the 50th AGM 21st May 2017
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's report
6. Lunchtime Talk report
7. Accounts, Balance Sheet, Treasurer & Membership reports
8. Correspondence
9. Election of Officers, Council members, Trustees, Solicitor and Independent Examiner
10. Any other business

Summary of the minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral held in the Cathedral crypt on Sunday 21st May 2017 at 2.00 pm.

Present :

There were 21 members present at the meeting with 11 apologies for absence.

The Annual General Meeting opened with the Chair's welcome to members and particularly to Dean Peter Howell-Jones, President of the Friends.

Minutes of the 49th AGM held on Sunday 8th May 2016 were approved as a true and accurate record.

The Treasurer presented his report and Financial statements which had been independently inspected by Alistair Harris who stepped into the role at short notice, as our appointed examiner Colin Ovenden was unable complete the task through ill health. The accounts were approved by the meeting.

In respect of membership numbers have again fallen and we now have a total of 276.

The Chair thanked Judge Jeremy Duerden, who has retired after serving for a 10-years as FOBC Chairman; and Canon Stockton who is to retire as Chancellor in October. On behalf of The Friends she expressed gratitude to both for their loyalty and hard work.

Gratitude too to Gill Ireland, now the Bishop's representative, and to the Very Rev'd Philip North, Bishop of Burnley, for giving of his considerable time and unfailing support as Acting Dean.

Continued

The Chair set out the continuing objects of the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral, observing that the title *FRIENDS* means:--

- Building on our Christian roots,
- Loving our neighbours
- Giving of our time
- Offering support to those with whom we work alongside and to the local community at large
- Encouraging and contemplating a strong essence of Evangelism
- Bonding with Friends of Blackburn Cathedral Music, and embracing all elements of the life of the cathedral
- Promoting the health and welfare of the regenerating community in Blackburn with Darwen.

We haven't always connected as well as we should with parishes across the Diocese, she said. Yet, we mark and celebrate 50 highly successful years of The Friends. She also recognized that upwards of half FOBC Council Members are actively working in their own parishes, thus not cathedral-centred. This communication with the rest of the Diocese is invaluable, providing as it does a feed-back loop to Blackburn.

She thanked Val Edge for so ably organizing more than 160 volunteers to help with the Flower Festival; many of whom remain linked with the cathedral. And again thanked Karen Brooke and Lowri Cope for their wonderful work in bringing the Flower Festival to life.

Church House: The intention is to develop and convert Church House into apartments; the feasibility of this scheme presently being carefully considered. Restoration of the crypt is planned.

Continued

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FOBC are now taking part in Friends of Cathedrals nationally. Visits to Southwark next month and later to Ely mean FOBC gains opportunities to learn from others and the Cathedral gains a higher profile. As the Dean has said, it's an exciting future.

The Chair drew attention to the fine collection of books in this library, the result of lifetime gifts and of legacies, and which now grace the newly-built library bookshelves paid for by the Friends.

Winning awards will result in increased awareness of the Cathedral, and of people visiting in greater numbers. We want them to come and see what the Cathedral is able to offer

The meeting moved on to the election of officers and Council members and the following members were elected :

Chairman : Canon Andrea Titterington

Vice Chairman : Raymond Smith

Treasurer & Membership : Mr Tony Cope JP

Secretary : Mrs Alison Givens

Council Members for a period of 3 years :

Mr Lawrence Wood

Mr Jim Titterington

Honorary Auditor : To remain Vacant – but will ask Alistair Harris if he would undertake the role

Honorary Solicitor : Ms Kate Carlen

Bishop's Council Representative : Mrs Gill Ireland

Cathedral Chapter Representative : Rev Canon Dr Ian Stockton

A special edition of the official Flower Festival book of photographs was presented to Canon Stockton.

The AGM concluded at 3pm.

Chairman's Report

The **Friends of Blackburn Cathedral** (FOBC) is a registered charity with the aim of raising the Cathedral's profile by stimulating public interest, updating those who support the Cathedral on its life of worship and service, and maintaining and enhancing the fabric of the Cathedral in order for it to succeed in its mission. **In 2017 FOBC celebrated its 50th Anniversary.** During the 50 years of its existence FOBC has fulfilled these purposes in the context of momentous changes in the life of the Cathedral and society as a whole.

The 2016 **Flower Festival**, promoted by FOBC, continued to raise the profile of the Cathedral a year later. Due to the success of the festival in attracting people to Blackburn and Lancashire, the Flower Festival was one of four finalists for a **Lancashire Tourism Award**. In May 2017 the Flower Festival won the **"Buzz Award" from HIVE**, the Blackburn with Darwen business community, recognising the event's success in creating a "buzz" in the town. As with so many events an award is recognition for all the people who were involved in putting on such a huge event: sponsors, floral artists, 160 volunteer stewards and not least the thousands of visitors who ensured its success. The Flower Festival was an amazing achievement for the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral and a daunting undertaking, especially by Karen Brooke and Lowri Cope. Across four days of floral installations with music, a champagne preview, a black tie dinner for the business community and sponsors, a jazz night, and a classical music concert brought people together to experience a warm Christian welcome. Many people are still talking about the Festival and will for a long time to come.

The Flower Festival encapsulated the outreach and fellowship which characterises the Friends. The group is as much about people as it is about maintaining fabric and enabling projects.

Continued

In June a group of twenty-one, representing the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral, visited to Southwark Cathedral and Shakespeare's Theatre. The visit's aim was to develop our existing links with the Southwark Friends. It was also an opportunity to enjoy an evening at The Globe Theatre. Prior to the performance of *Romeo and Juliet*, the group enjoyed a tour of this 'faithful reconstruction' of the 1599 open air playhouse. Some members visited St Paul's Cathedral and were privileged to be given a tour by Joe Kennedy, a former Verger at Blackburn Cathedral, now based at St Paul's.

The Friends of Southwark Cathedral kindly hosted FOBC to a meal following a baptism and confirmation service. We shared ideas for future links amongst the Friends of our Cathedral communities.

Following the evening's performance, our weekend plans for a morning Eucharist service at Southwark Cathedral were abruptly altered as the shocking terrorist attacks on London Bridge and at Borough Market occurred as we left the theatre. We were deeply saddened to see some of the events unfold and acted quickly to show care and compassion towards each other. The Friends of Southwark Cathedral kept in contact with us despite the immediate effects on their Cathedral and community. As Manchester Cathedral experienced in the midst and aftermath of the attack on 22nd May at the Arena, our cathedrals are civic focal points for solace and help in times of trauma.

FOBC's ties with other Cathedral Friends' Groups were strengthened as three Council Members attended the national conference at Ely Cathedral in October.

Continued

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In 2017 FOBC paid for the installation of library shelves in Cathedral Court and continued to contribute to the weekly floral arrangements. The charity's logo was also re-designed

2017 was an occasion to celebrate FOBC's 50th Anniversary with a dinner featuring a talk by Penny Warden on her paintings, *The Journey*, with Sue Phillips, the artist of 'The Resurrection' floral creation for the Flower Festival based upon that painting in the series.

Sue Philip donated her display to the Cathedral and it can be seen near the entrance to the Temple Gallery.

Two Friends' receptions were also hosted: at the AGM in May and prior to the Advent Service in December.

The Friends of Blackburn Cathedral will continue to enthusiastically support the Cathedral's life in 2018.

Thank you for your continued support.

Canon Andrea Titterington
Chairman

Lunchtime Talks

In 2017 **Lunchtime Talks** continued to be held on topics as varied as Isle of Man Packet Steamers in WWII and current issues in Palestine.

Should you be interested in our future events please look at our website to see the Talks and planned Events on the respective pages or write to :

The Friends of Blackburn Cathedral
Lunches
Cathedral Offices,
Blackburn Cathedral,
Blackburn.
BB1 5AA

Email: secretary@fobc.info

You can also reserve your place through the bookings page on our website :
www.fobc.info

Please join us and bring along your friends.

Maureen Wood

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Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Income and Expenditure Account 2017

A Charity to support Blackburn Anglican Cathedral

Registered with the Charity Commission - Number : 1047234

Financial Statement For the period up to 31st December 2017

Receipts & Payments Account		£	£	Last Year 2016
1. ORDINARY ACTIVITIES				
RECEIPTS				
Subscriptions	Annual	898.00		868.00
	Corporate	264.00		252.00
	Life	150.00		440.00
	Sub Total		1,312.00	1,560.00
Donations		1,229.50		1,620.50
Gift Aid		0.00		2,559.11
Legacy Donations		7,152.47		0.00
Sundry Income		2,003.00		90.03
AGM		85.00		125.00
Lunches		815.60		1,107.40
London Trip		1,269.00		0.00
Interest on Deposit Account		66.40		110.83
50 th Anniversary Dinner		2,336.00		
	Sub Total		14,986.97	5,612.87
Total Receipts from Ordinary Activities			16,298.97	7,172.87
PAYMENTS				
50 th Anniversary Dinner		2,108.29		0.00
Promotional		0.00		660.00
Administration		792.84		846.09
London Trip		1,113.00		0.00
AGM Expenses		0.00		0.00
Lunches		632.42		585.75
Cathedral Flowers		536.00		0.00
National Conference		511.00		0.00
Sundry Expenses		1,348.56		475.54
Total Payments			7,042.11	2,566.38
Balance of : Net Receipts/(Payments) Ordinary Activities			9,256.86	4,606.49

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2. FLOWER FESTIVAL

Receipts

Total Flower Festival Income	1,227.89	86,627.74
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Expenses

Total Flower Festival Expenses	270.00	75,923.32
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Balance of : Net Receipts/(Payments) Flower Festival	957.89	10,704.42
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3. SPECIAL FUNDRAISING

Friends Fountain Appeal	0.00	100.00
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TOTAL Receipts/(Payments)	10,214.75	15,410.91
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Balance Sheet				£	£
Investment Assets :	Cost	Deprn.	N.B.V.		
Display Boards	1,100.00	1,100.00	0.00		0.00
Flower Festival	500.00	500.00	0.00		0.00
F Festival Container	2,322.00	0.00	2,322.00		2,322.00
F Festival "Urns"	2,250.00	2249.00	1.00		1.00
Total Investment Assets					2,323.00
Current Assets :					
Cash at Bank : 31 st December 2017					
Nat West Current Account – Unrestricted				(791.74)	
– Restricted				2,123.11	
– Legacy Donations				0.00	
– Owing to Cathedral				1,074.00	2,405.37
CCLA Deposit Account – Unrestricted				1,500.22	
– Restricted Flower Festival				14,000.00	
– Restricted Cathedral Development				0.00	
– Legacy Donations				8,752.47	24,252.69
PayPal Flower Festival Account					1.00
Total Assets					28,982.06
Represented by : Opening Balances : 1st January 2017					
Fixed Assets					2,323.00
Current Assets	Nat West Current Account – Unrestricted			426.6	
	– Restricted			1,165.11	
					1,591.71
	CCLA Deposit Account – Unrestricted			5,086.29	
	– Restricted – Flower Festival			14,000.00	
	– Legacy Donations			7,000.00	
					26,086.29
	PayPal Flower Festival Account				1.11
Add : Net Receipts/(Payments)					10,214.75
Less : Grants to the Cathedral					11,234.80
TOTAL RESERVES					28,982.06

Treasurer and Membership Report

Accounts

2017 was, once again, an excellent year for the Friends with a surplus for the year of £10,214.75.

Whilst our ordinary activities showed a modest fall in revenue from subscriptions and donations, two very generous Legacy donations helped to make 2017 one of our best for many years.

This enabled us to make a contribution to the Cathedral of £11,234.80, made up of £6,874.80 for the bookcases in the Library, £960.00 towards staff costs from the 2016 Flower Festival, a further £400.00 towards the Cathedral flowers, this in addition to the £536.00 reported in our accounts and £3,000.00 to the Cathedral Appeal for matched funding towards the redevelopment of the Cathedral Crypt.

Our Cash reserves are £26,659.06 which saw a slight fall from the previous year with fixed assets of £2,323.00, bringing our total assets to £28,982.06. However it should be noted we hold £1,074.00 paid to us late December in error, which has now been forwarded on to the Cathedral and will be shown as a distribution in 2018.

Time constraints have meant that I have been unable to submit the Gift Aid claim for 2016 to HMRC, but I should have been able to compile the submission together with the 2017 claim by the time of the AGM.

I am grateful to Mr Alistair Harris who was once again able to independently examine our accounts for the year which, following this AGM, will be reported to the Charity Commission.

Continued

Membership

At the end of the year (Figures for 2017 are in brackets) we had a total of 272 members broken down as follows :

Joint Life 67 (70), Single Life 91 (93), Joint Annual 29 (30), Single Annual 49 (47) and Corporate 36 (36), making a total of 272, down from the previous years' 276. This includes the members who have only part paid their subscriptions.

We welcome new members who have joined in the last 12 months, Krystna Adams, Adrian Wilson, M & G Chew, Joan Dorich, Heather Ellis and Bishop Philip North.

Sadly we saw a few of our members pass away including but not limited to our former Independent Examiner Colin Ovenden, Mr Nick Ford, Mrs E Cort, Mr R E Coutts, Mrs M Nowell, Miss E Parry, Miss A G Taylor, and Canon A D Walkden. May they Rest in Peace and we thank them for their support to the Friends over many years.

I apologise if I have missed anyone who passed away in 2017 whom I haven't mentioned here.

I thank all the members for their continued support and look forward to working with the Council members through 2018 should I be re-elected.

Tony Cope
Treasurer

List of Officers

Patrons:	The Rt Rev Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn. The Rt Rev Nicholas Reade, The Lord Bishop of Blackburn, Emeritus. The Rt Rev Alan Chesters, The Lord Bishop Emeritus.
President:	The Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones, The Dean of Blackburn.
Vice President:	David Frayne, The Dean Emeritus.

Officers (Trustees)

Chairman	Canon Andrea Titterington (T)
Vice Chairman	Mr Raymond Smith (T)
Secretary	Mrs Alison Givens (T)
Treasurer and Membership Secretary	Mr Anthony Cope JP (T)

Council Members

Retire 2018 :	Retire 2019 :
Canon Val Edge	Mrs Lowri Cope (T)
Mr Peter Mather	Miss Felicity Ackroyd
Mrs Karen Brooke	Mr David Thornton (T)
	Mrs Maureen Wood (T)

Retire 2020 :
Mr Lawrence Wood
Mr Jim Titterington

Bishop's Council Representative :	Mrs Gill Ireland
Cathedral Chapter Representative :	The Very Rev Peter Howell-Jones
Independent Examiner :	Mr Alistair Harris
Honorary Solicitor :	Mrs Kate Carlen

Useful Contact Information :

Website :

www.fobc.info

or

www.blackburncathedral.co.uk

Chairman :

Canon Andrea Titterington

e-mail : chairman@fobc.info

Telephone : 01254 600894

Mobile : 07774 192516

Honorary Secretary :

Mrs Alison Givens

e-mail : secretary@fobc.info

Telephone : 07982 821274

Treasurer & Membership :

Mr Tony Cope JP

e-mail : treasurer@fobc.info

The Prayer of the Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Heavenly Father,
We give thanks for the daily
Worship and witness of our Cathedral Church;
For the faith of those past and present
Whom you have blessed
through prayer and fellowship
and in bread and wine.
We ask that you will
guide and bless us, our Bishop
and the people of this Diocese
that we may grow in faith and love to
become a holy people.
So enliven us by your Spirit
that we may bear your healing love
to those who are full of joy and faith
as well as to those who are bewildered and broken.
And as we remember how Mary bore your blessed Son
into the world
so may we make Him known to others
for the fulfilment of our lives
and the healing of the nations.

Amen