

Physical Works

Mark Hosea, Project Director



The Canterbury Journey is now 18 months into the capital works and it's exciting to be able to see some real progress with the project.

Landscaping

Phase 1 of the landscaping works has begun with the uneven cobbles being replaced with a beautiful smooth York stone. This will give coherence to the south and west Precincts and provide a much more comfortable surface to walk on, and for those in wheelchairs and prams.

Unexpectedly, a large concrete slab was discovered under the original paving. The team are cuttting trenches through the slab for service pipes to save having to remove the whole slab.



Above: View of landscaping in June 2018 Right: View of the new roof

Nave Roof

At the end of May 2018 the temporary roof was pulled back to reveal the newly leaded roof - it looks pretty spectacular!

The Nave roof is being repaired after it was found to be worn thin and leaking. Coniston and sub-contractors Dolmens and Full Metal Jacket together with the Cathedral stonemasons and carpenters have spent the past year repairing the timber, metal and stonework.

Approximately 56 metric tonnes of lead was taken off the roof, recycled and relaid.

Next temporary roofs will be constructed over the Nave aisles to allow for further work.



Gargoyles return!

The first of eight newly carved stone gargoyles was installed on the building on 1 May 2018.

Cathedral stonemasons Steve Manuel and Ian Gartside were tasked with designing and handcrafting the gargoyles.

Steve said: "Ian and I are carving four each and they're all different. Our brief was to use the lion bosses on the Nave ceiling as a starting point and then we could have a bit of 'artistic licence' with the designs to give them a twist and use our creative skills.

"I've made much smaller things featuring lions but nothing of this size so it's good to have something you can get your teeth into.

"We designed each gargoyle in clay first so they can be reviewed by the Cathedral's planning bodies before we cast them in plaster and then carve them from a single block of Caen stone. The whole process can take up to two months for each one so it's great to see them finally going up.

Gargoyles are intricately carved drain openings that direct water away from the building. They usually depict heads of animals, mythical beasts and people, not to be confused with grotesques which serve no purpose other than for aesthetics.





Left: Ian carving one of his gargoyles. Right: The first to be installed on the Cathedral.

Learning for All

Jan Leandro
Head of Learning & Participation



The last quarter has largely focused on supporting Chapter with the development of an unprecedented visual arts programme including 'Suspended', 'Under an Equal Sky', the Festival of Ideas, the Artist in Residence and the Canterbury War Horse plans converging.

Running alongside this has been the fine tuning of the interpretation work.

We are now carrying out conservation assessments of objects for display, finalising the narrative which threads together the spaces in a coherent manner, writing the scripts for the display cases and working on case layouts.

The new interpretation spaces include the Water Tower and Library Corrider, Crypt Treasury, Library Undercroft and the new Welcome Centre and Viewing Gallery and are due to be complete in 2019.

We have also begun in earnest on the digital media guide, which commenced with a series of presentations by five digital media production companies. These presentations have been useful in helping to inform the brief for tender.

The Learning & Particiaption team and volunteers continue to learn more about the Cathedral's collections through facilitated academic and specialist research visits and study days.

These sessions are providing valuable insights and better understanding of the collections which is being fed into the interpretation and digitisation plans.

Community engagement work is building upon the foundations laid during the development phase with the Community Engagement Manager forging new links and maintaining existing community partnerships.

Exhibitions Everywhere!

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One, Chapter has curated an unprecedented visual arts programme to highlight the horror and impact of war, the displacement of people and the Cathedral's history as a place of refuge.

Suspended (24/02-16/05) was the first of three major exhibitions being staged in the Cathedral in 2018 and used clothes discarded by refugees when they arrived on the beaches of Lesbos and in the camps of Calais to reflect how they are suspended between a past to which they cannot return, and a future they cannot enter.

Under an Equal Sky (26/5-11/11) is a series of installations by international artists Philip Baldwin and Monica Guggisberg reflecting on themes of war and remembrance, migration and refugees.

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, Under an Equal Sky will take the viewer on a journey that begins with 100 glass amphorae suspended in the shape of a ship in the Cathedral's Nave and ends with a glass wall of multi-coloured vessels.

Remember Me?! (20/10-11/11) Canterbury Cathedral's Artist in Residence, Dawn Cole, will be exhibiting her work in the Cathedral's Chapter House and running a series of free artist's talks and creative workshops. Dawn has interpreted the Cathedral's archival material held within its historic collections to create an installation to commemorate the Centenary of

the Armistice.





Top: Suspended hanging in the Nave. Bottom: Detail from Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow by Baldwin - Guggisberg. image credit: Alex Ramsay.

Communications

Kat Skeates, Communications Officer



Becket2020

The Becket2020 microsite has been an ongoing project with Jonathan Hollander in the Information Technologoy (IT) dept and is now finished and live.

The website is a platform for partner organisations to load their events and resources so it's all in one place for the public to find and use.

During 2020, the Cathedral is planning to put on an exhibition, academic conference and a whole host of other events as part of the wider programme that is being planned by partners across the country.

Take a look at the website at www.becket2020.org



Gregory Gargoyle

The Journey team has been working with urban artist, Greg Stobbs, to create a new gargoyle mascot character.

Named Gregory Gargoyle, he will be used on activity trails, learning resources and in the new digital media guide.

Greg is still in the initial stages of his designs, which are inspired by creations made by visitors during February half term activities - see page 6.

The final design is due to be revealed at the Gargoyle Picnic in the late summer.

Below: Sneak peek at ideas from Greg



Meet the Team

Phil Bartholomew

This time we're finding out more about Phil Bartholomew.

What's your role?

I'm the Project Accountant for the Dean & Chapter of Canterbury and The Canterbury Journey Project. I perform financial functions in relation to the collection; accuracy; recording; analysis and presentation of data for The Canterbury Journey Project to internal and external stakeholders. I also work with the finance department to help create and deliver on the Cathedral Business Plan to ensure the financial sustainability of the Cathedral moving forward.

What did you do before coming to the Cathedral?

My early career was in retail, then a time within Leisure (Cinema Manager) while training to be an Accountant. More recently before working for the Cathedral, I worked within public sector finance.

What's your favourite part of the Cathedral?



To be honest I have not got a favourite part of Cathedral as I enjoy all aspects of the Cathedral from the building to the grounds, but not forgetting the wonderful history the building has.

What do you do to chill out in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my girlfriend and her children, going for walks, picnics and enjoying places such as Canterbury Cathedral, Dover Castle, Rye and loads of others. I also love going to the gym....

How do you take your tea? I'm not a tea drinker, cold drinks or strong black coffee for me.

Community Engagement

Liam O'Driscoll, Community Engagement Manager

Half term fun: Gargoyles

The February half term brought the busiest and most successful community engagement activity of the project so far.

The Learning & Participation team worked with urban artist Greg Stobbs to produce a series of creative activities that were run throughout the week centered around gargoyles.

The activities included making clay models, pulling faces in a mirror and drawing them, and making gargoyle stickers to take home.

The designs visitors created were used by Greg as inspiration for the new Gargoyle character he is creating for the Cathedral.

Community Partners

Strange Cargo is a community arts organisation based in Folkestone, Shepway, and has strong links with local schools, community groups and local organisations. This partnership allows us to reach the Cathedral's target audiences





Visitors enjoy creating gargoyles during Febraury half term activities.

by linking our learning and engagement programmes which has included Loan Box user testing with schools, creating large-scale Cathedral inspired art installations for the Cheriton Light Festival and community drop-in sessions at Cheriton Library.

International Women's Day International Women's Day is celebrated around the world on 8 March and Canterbury Cathedral took part by enlisting the help of Christ Church student and volunteer, Victoria, to create a visitor booklet about the women connected to the Cathedral.

Victoria, together with University of Kent student and volunteer Alex, then gave a free talk in the Archives which was already fully booked, but then had even more people arriving on the door!

Victoria spoke about the women connected to the Cathedral itself, while Alex spoke about those in Canterbury such as the suffragettes and VAD nurses.

Alex said: "I am grateful for the opportunity and the trust you all placed in me, and it has really boosted my public speaking confidence. I have already given the talk again on Campus last week, and it will be part of the University's Summer School programme. It all went very smoothly and sets a good precedent for future talks. I loved being able to say that I worked in the Archives, and thoroughly enjoyed my time there." As part of the event we had a board set up in the Nave where visitors could add post-its of the women who inspire them.

Names included Michelle Obama, the Parkhursts, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Aphra Behn, Whitney Houston and Malala Yousafza to name a few. Many people listed their mother as a woman who inspired them.

Including social media, the Cathedral engaged over 31,000 people with International Women's Day which is something we're really proud of.

It was a hugely successful and interesting day and Canterbury is full of fascinating figures. Next year will be bigger and better. Watch this space and get in touch with me if you have any ideas or would like to get involved.



Volunteering

volunteer hours given
Jan-Mar 2018

New appointments:

A series of new volunteers have been recruited for Community Engagement and Collections roles.

Eight MA ad PhD students from the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies at University of Kent will conduct research projects to support interpretation of the new physical displays in the Crypt Treasury and the associated digital media guide.

On-going projects:

While Nikki and Peter have finished their Black Prince research and are now tidying up the details, Colin's church plate investigations and Robert's inventory translations continue.

Rachel is learning the condition reporting process with Evie, who is now the senior volunteer on the Church Plate condition reporting project.

Alison, Pat and Linda continue their work condition reporting on the church vestments and textiles, supported by Sophie, our Collections Intern, who is bringing their work together into a mapping document and practical guides to church vestments.

Rose continues her mapping of the past archaeological excavations at the Cathedral.

Jason is looking into the Cloister heraldry shields and the history of Tenison's Throne canopy, sections of which are currently on loan to Fairfax House in York.

See photos of Jason's Cloister research on his instagram account @jason_chipperfield or following #cloistersheraldry.



















Some of Jason's images on his Instagram

Collections

Sarah Turner, Collections Manager



Digital Media & Cataloguing

We are currently reviewing collections management systems and how they work with the larger digital asset management systems, to ensure that we have the groundwork in place to offer better digital access to the Cathedral's collections.

The Inventory Working Group, made up of Collections Managers from various Cathedrals and CFCE representatives, is developing new approaches to Cathedral inventories of historic collections. The aim is to help make the process of compiling and maintaining an Inventory as easy and useful as possible for all cathedrals, and to enable, equip and empower cathedrals with the resources to go beyond the minimum standards.

Cathedral items on loan

We're so pleased that so many items from the Cathedral's historic collections are on loan to other institutions for exhibitions.

A section of a bifolium by St

Augustine of Hippo went to the Turner Contemprary for their exhibition, 'Journeys with the Wasteland' which ran 3 February to 7 May 2018.

Sections of Tenison's Throne canopy, said to be carved by Grinling Gibbons, went to Fairfax House in York as part of 'From Journeyman to King's Carver: The Genius of Grinling Gibbons' - open until 14 September 2018.

The Cathedral's Medieval bestiary (book of animals), alongside three other books about animals are going on loan to the Turner Contemporary, Margate for their summer show, 'Animals and Us', open 25 May - 30 September 2018.



Detail from a Bestiary on loan at the Turner Contemporary

Things to come...

Here is what will be taking place over the next few months of The Canterbury Journey...

- Phase 1 of the landscaping works is continuing in the South Precincts
- The re-roofing works on the Nave aisles will continue.
- Construction of the Welcome Centre and Community Space construction will begin.
- Crypt Treasury exhibition space work begins.
- Object selection and interpretation script writing is ongoing.
- Gregory the Gargoyle character goes live.
- Student Continuing Professional Development and volunteer research projects continue.
- Outreach and community engagement activities can be found in the What's On guide - the next issue is out at the end of June.

As more work gets underway, your continued support is hugely appreciated. If you have questions about The Canterbury Journey and want to find out more, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

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