



THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL *of the SAVOY*



Newsletter 2020

Welcome from the Chaplain



The Reverend Canon Thomas Woodhouse

There is a global reach to this newsletter as it travels the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, taking in, of course, the historic lands of the ancient inheritance that is The Duchy of Lancaster, but also as it journeys across the Commonwealth and beyond.

The words of John Ellerton capture the imagination and express well our common bonds: *As o'er each continent and island the dawn leads on another day, the voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strain of praise away.*

The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, with its very close ties to the Duchy of Lancaster and to the Royal Victorian Order, is a holy place where we pray regularly for all those involved in the Duchy's work and for those within the fellowship of the Royal Victorian Order. Among the many joys we experience in the Chapel is the celebration of baptisms and weddings for members of the Duchy staff and Royal Victorian Order, important life events often marked with the help of Philip Berg (Master of the Music), Justin Luke (Sub-Organist) and the Gentlemen and Choristers of the Chapel.

In his recent book, *The Table*, The Bishop of Liverpool, Paul Bayes, wants us to imagine the Christian Church as *'an open table of friends, stretching down every street and into every home. Anyone who wishes to sit at the table*

may do so, and there they will find themselves alongside the very One who made the table – a poor man, a carpenter. He will feed, serve and love every person, and ask them to feed, serve and love others.'

Should you find yourself in London come and say "hello". Thomas the Steward and Thomas the Chaplain enjoy welcoming visitors.

If you are staying over on a Sunday, visit your Chapel and worship with us at the 11am service, you will always receive a warm welcome and there will always be room at the table.

The newsletter is being compiled during October and November, just weeks after I joined the family of the Duchy of Lancaster, became Chaplain of the Royal Victorian Order and was embraced by the Chapels Royal!



The Reverend Canon Paul Wright and The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullaly DBE, Sub-Dean and Dean of the Chapels Royal

The Church is journeying towards its year's end and preparing for Advent, when once again we will start to retell the story of our salvation. There have been clear themes emerging: of faithfulness and obedience to Almighty God; of the challenge to proclaim the message of hope that is Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are bidden to be faithful and obedient, flowing out and engaging with the community and expressing, as best we can, God's love. We are to proclaim the Good News and to be persistent in prayer, always ending with the perfect prayer, *Thy will be done*. It is important



The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy

to remember that it is always God's will we seek to do. Those who practice Christian faith can sometimes expect too much, impose too many rules. Quickly things become more important than people. In The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy we point to the attractiveness of Jesus by placing people at the heart of our Christian witness.

Telling people they are welcome at the table is the thing that really matters.



Pictured left to right: Justin Luke (Sub-Organist), Philip Berg (Master of the Music), The Reverend Canon Thomas Woodhouse (Chaplain) and Thomas Leyland (Steward)

*The Private Chapel of Her Majesty The Queen in right of Her Duchy of Lancaster
Chapel of the Royal Victorian Order*

RVO Service at St George's Chapel, Windsor

Since 1978 a ceremonial service for members of the Royal Victorian Order has been held at St George's Windsor Castle. It was recognised then that The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy was too small to allow more than a fraction of the membership to attend, so by the Sovereign's command the service was held at Windsor and has been held there every four years.

This image shows the Knights and Dames Grand Cross of the Order who attended the service on 3 May 2019. The photograph was taken in the front yard of the Deanery before the service.

The Knights and Dames Grand Cross are attired in the red-edged blue mantle, lined with white, and wear the collar and badge of the Order.

The four officers of the Order wear mantles where the colours are reversed: white, with a lining of blue, edged with red.



Knights and Dames Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order in front of the Deanery at Windsor Castle

In the back row at the far left is Sir Michael Stevens (Secretary of the Order) who stands next to Lord Vestey (Master of the Horse 1999-2018) and in the same row at the far right is Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Seagrave (Registrar of the Order) who stands next to Sir Andrew Ford (Comptroller of the Lord Chamberlain's Office 2006-8).

In the front row at the far left is The Right Revd David Conner (Dean of Windsor) and at the far right, The Revd Canon Professor Peter Galloway (Chaplain of the Order). In the centre of the front row is Earl Peel (Chancellor of the Order), flanked by Sir William Heseltine (left, Private Secretary to The Queen 1986-90) and the Earl of Airlie (right, Lord Chamberlain 1984-97).

Retirement of The Reverend Canon Professor Peter Galloway

On 28 July a special service and reception took place in and around the Chapel to mark the retirement of The Revd Canon Professor Peter Galloway.

Peter was appointed Chaplain of The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, and the Royal Victorian Order in 2008. During his time in post his ministry saw him lead three RVO services at Windsor, and many marriages, baptisms and funerals for members of the Order and their families.

His final service booklet included a photograph of the dawn of a new day taken while he was on holiday in Suffolk and the following quote, which appears in the Chapel's King George VI memorial window:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.'

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And he led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

M. L. Haskins (1875-1957)



Guests and members of the congregation at the reception



A cake was specially commissioned to mark the occasion



Peter has been invested as a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order



King George VI memorial window, The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy



Photograph of the dawn of a new day taken by Peter on holiday in Suffolk

Chair of Chapel Council



The Duchy's Chief Finance Officer and member of Council Mr Chris Adcock LVO has taken over as Chairman of the Chapel Council following the retirement of the

former Duchy Solicitor Mr Tim Crow.

Chris originally joined the Duchy team in 2003 and was appointed to Council in 2007. He also chairs the London Panel of the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund which considers applications for funding from local organisations based outside of the County Palatine.

New Duchy Solicitor Appointed

Mr Hugh Bruce-Watt, has been appointed as the new Solicitor for the Affairs of the Duchy of Lancaster.

A commercial property specialist and Governor of

Fettes College in Edinburgh, Hugh will provide senior counsel and legal advice to all members of the Duchy team, including the Chaplain, as required.



A Warm Welcome to the Woodhouse Family



Woodhouse family pictured left to right: Anne, Thomas, Alice, Kate, Charlotte and Beatrice

We welcome the new Chaplain to the wider Duchy team and wish him and his family well in his new ministry. The Reverend Canon Thomas Woodhouse was previously based in the dioceses of Gloucester and Salisbury, most recently in Dorchester, the county town of Dorset. Between 2005 and 2014 he was Vicar of Royal Wootton Bassett, a period when repatriations from Iraq and Afghanistan put the town firmly in the spotlight.

In his new role Thomas will assume pastoral responsibility for the congregation and all those who make The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy their spiritual home.

The Chapel has belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster as part of its historic Savoy Estate since it was built in 1512. It is the last surviving building of a hospital founded by Henry VII for the poor, needy and homeless. In 2016, the Duchy agreed to the incorporation of the management of ecclesiastical matters at the Chapel into the Ecclesiastical Household.

This arrangement mirrors the relationship between the Historic Royal Palaces and the Chapels at the Tower of London and Hampton Court Palace, bringing all Her Majesty's Chapels in London under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Dean.

New Landmark for Savoy



Artist's impression of the newly refurbished building on the Strand

The refurbishment of a 1920s building on the Strand opens up exciting new possibilities for the Chapel. Once completed, the project will deliver a new landmark building which connects the Duchy's historic Savoy estate and the River Thames with the busy commercial area of the Strand.

Two new storeys are to be added to the front of the property and three to the rear overlooking the Chapel and the Savoy Steps.

The Chaplain recently visited the project with the Duchy's Head of Urban and believes that the completed scheme will encourage more residents, workers and tourists to visit the Chapel as a place of quiet sanctuary.



The Chaplain with Duchy Head of Urban and members of the project team



The Chapel is a place of quiet sanctuary in the heart of the city

He said: "This is the largest refurbishment project ever undertaken by the Duchy and great care has been taken to respect and improve historic linkages between the river, the Strand and the Chapel itself. We now need to think about how we welcome new visitors into the Chapel and to make it an integral part of the community's life."

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh GCVO

A new stall plate has been commissioned and installed at the Chapel for His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh GCVO.

HRH The Duke received the honour in 2017 in celebration of His 70th wedding anniversary.



Lancaster Castle Restored and Re-Opened

Following a two-year conservation and restoration project, the Duchy has now re-opened Lancaster Castle to the visiting public. The restoration works have revealed more of the Castle's historic buildings and opened up a cloister walk and open courtyard which have remained neglected and unused for over 50 years.



Lancaster Castle restored and re-opened

History of the Chapel Plate

This picture shows the Chapel's Plate, a set made up of the altar cross, four candlesticks, two vases and a large alms dish. This was formally presented by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1946 (pictured right) to mark the inauguration of the Chapel as the home of the Royal Victorian Order.

The set was designed by Reginald Morier Yorke Gleadowe (1888–1944), Slade Professor



Commemorative window, Cathedral Church of St John the Devine, New York, USA

Visitors to the Castle will now have open access to the historic Male Felons and King's Evidence Towers, an uninterrupted view of the famous Well Tower where the Lancashire Witches were incarcerated in 1612, a new



The Chapel's Plate and Royal Victorian Order altar frontal

of Fine Art at the University of Oxford, and each piece is engraved with the star of a GCVO. A number of Royal donors are recorded as having funded the original commission.



During World War II the Plate was held for safe lodgings in the Cathedral Church of St John the Devine in New York and a window set into the west wall (pictured left) records this act of hospitality.

The set was replaced by replicas in 1958 but the original pieces were returned to the Chapel in 2008 by command of Her Majesty The Queen.

The picture at the top also shows the Chapel's dark blue silk Royal Victorian Order altar frontal made by the Royal School of Needlework in 1938.

gallery space and a light and airy Visitor Café. The new purpose-built teaching suite created on site is to be let to Lancaster University and is expected to be fully operational from January 2020.



The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy

Putting People at the Heart of our Christian Witness

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