

# The Virger

Autumn 2018  
Issue 300



**- C E G V -**  
**THE CONFERENCE GROUP PHOTO**  
**MONDAY THE 20<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST**  
**2018**

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[www.cofegv.org.uk](http://www.cofegv.org.uk)

The Official Magazine of the Church of England Guild of Vergers





Welcome to the Autumn 2018 edition of *The Virger*. Items for inclusion should be sent to the Communications Officer by the Deadline Date below.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY ARTICLES ETC... SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE MAY BE HELD OVER UNTIL THE NEXT EDITION TO AVOID DELAYS IN PRODUCTION! E-MAILED ARTICLES SHOULD BE SENT AS MICROSOFT WORD FILES ONLY & ANY PHOTOGRAPHS IN SHOULD BE JPEG FORMAT, TEXT & IMAGE FILES SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO E-MAILS SEPARATELY!**

**THE MAGAZINE IS UNDERGOING A COMPLETE REVAMP AND RELAUNCH. OVER THE COMING EDITIONS YOU WILL SEE CHANGES IN PRESENTATION AND FORMAT, ALSO IN THE WAY THINGS ARE REPORTED. THESE CHANGES WILL HELP IN PUBLICIZING THE WORK OF THE GUILD TO OUR WIDER AUDIENCE AS WELL AS OUR MEMBERSHIP. THIS IS AN EXCITING TIME FOR THE GUILD AS WE LOOK TO OUR FUTURE. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE THE BRIEF ARTICLE ON PAGE 7.**

**Marek J Barden, OLJ**  
**Saint Gregory's Vicarage, Filton Road, Horfield, Bristol BS7 0PD**  
**E-mail: CEGVCommsOff@gmail.com**

**PLEASE NOTE**

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT EDITION IS:**

**SATURDAY 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018**



**- C E G V -**  
**CANTUAR FESTIVAL LITE GROUP PHOTO**  
**MONDAY THE 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

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The views and opinions expressed in the articles and letters in this edition of *The Virger* should be taken as those of the author unless it is specifically indicated that the Central Council of the Church of England Guild of Vergers has given its endorsement.

The Central Council of the said Guild accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or otherwise of statements, or for any offence caused by any of the articles or letters published herein.



# NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S ROUND-UP



Normally the summer months are a time for relaxation, holidays and general down time. Well, not for me. On the 29<sup>th</sup> July I took part in my last service in the Temple Church as Verger.



On the 1<sup>st</sup> August, I got married to Ian, my partner of over 8 years

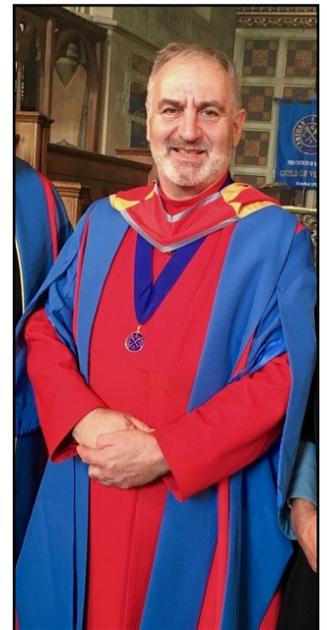
At this year's conference, I was awarded the highest accolade by the Guild and became a Fellow.

This year's Conference was as usual entertaining and maintained its usual high standard of fun, fellowship and talks. It was good to see a great contingent from across the pond. Let us hope that more will follow in future years.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August, I moved to Edinburgh to begin a new life in retirement. September will see me traveling South to be part of the Festival Lite in Sussex, where I hope to see more verger friends.

I hope that you manage to find some time for rest and recuperation before the Autumn arrives.

**John Kirby-Shearer**



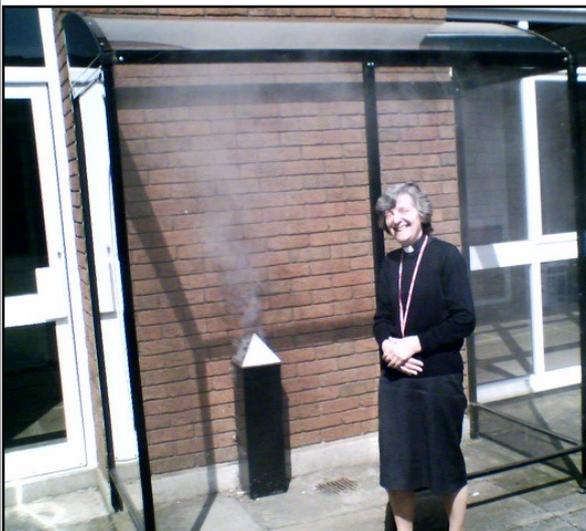
## THE SEARCH IS ON!

Canon Maureen Palmer, our National Chaplain, has indicated that at the end of Conference in 2020, her current term of office will come to an end.

A small group will be formed to undertake the selection process to find a new Chaplain.

Please uphold this group in your prayers as we advertise for and select our new spiritual leader.

The picture was taken at conference 2005, when we had white smoke on Canon Maureen's appointment as our Chaplain.





## NATIONAL CHAPLAIN'S LETTER



Dear friends, Greetings!

Holidays are now very nearly over for many of us and we look towards resuming a 'normal' life. This gives us an opportunity to assess what our holidays have done for us! The word 'holiday' is derived from the phrase 'holy day', and holy days were traditionally both holidays and a chance of healing. [Hospital also is derived from the same word.]

I hope for you the holidays have been an opportunity for rest and enrichment, for healing of the hurts of everyday life and a chance to re-assess priorities and commitments.

For some of us the holidays have been enriched by Conference – four days of renewing acquaintances, learning new skills, revelling in the beautiful countryside around Malvern, having food prepared for us and not having to do the washing up. Perhaps it has also been a time to enjoy a different style of worship.

In Hereford we have had quite a lot of visitors: some for the Three Choirs Festival, others just passing through and I have been aware of the number of people hurrying about who seemed preoccupied and anxious. Was it that they brought their everyday concerns with them, unable to let go of them and relax into enjoyment, to let their souls be enriched by beauty, or music or art or friendship that was on offer?

For yet others of us the holidays have been a welcome visit to the countryside or to the seaside with family – a time of relaxation and lots of ice-cream, the building of sand castles or dens and enjoying the company of our children or grandchildren in a way not normally possible.

Even under these circumstances it is hard to leave the anxieties behind. Yet others of us have stayed at home, not sure of the value of being away, not wanting to leave the garden to dry up in the sunshine and not wanting to let go our everyday life for fear that we might be challenged into something we really don't feel we want to do.

Holidays are not always the carefree days they purport to be. We can perhaps imagine Jesus saying to us 'Do not worry: I am with you'. We are only totally overwhelmed by worries if the worries are about ourselves; and of course, sometimes our worry is about our own well-being, our own relationship, our own finances. Worry about the friend who hasn't enough money to take a break, or the friend who is nursing a sick loved one, or the man sitting on the pavement hoping that one of the visitors will take pity on him and buy him a coffee are transient worries, but they turn us from ourselves and help us focus on the true meaning of holiday: 'the holy day which heals'.

Paul suggests to the Corinthians that the various parts of the body of Christ should worry about each other – to be deeply concerned to draw them into the family of Christ and to help shoulder their burden. This kind of worrying doesn't cause distraction: indeed it promotes a prayerful concern in which we commend our brothers and sisters to Christ, and as we commend them into the loving care of God, it helps us to concentrate better on the one important thing that our holiday should give us – the gift of love.

With very blessing and my love  
**Canon Maureen**



## PRAYER REQUESTS



If you know of someone for whom prayers would be of benefit or someone who has been prayed for and has recovered or shown improvement, please inform the NATIONAL CHAPLAIN or the NATIONAL WELFARE OFFICER.

**Our prayers are asked for:**

*Blackburn, Chester & Manchester: Tony Hales, Freda Murphy, Patricia Platt & Margaret Scott*

*Chichester, Guildford & Portsmouth: Marilyn Lee*

*Gloucester, Hereford & Worcester: Joy Birkin*

*Ipswich: Marjorie Wakeling & Val Pizzey*

*Oxford: Gerry Knight & Jeanne Scott*

*Saint Albans: Peter Hudson*

*Somerset & Avon: Pat Dawes, Lionel & Mary Holway, & Trevor Llewellyn*

*York: George & Doreen Cook*

**And everyone not specifically mentioned who need love, counsel and the grace of our Lord**

**R.I.P**

*Leicester & Peterborough with Derby: Brian Chapman*

*London, Southwark & Chelmsford: Ken Allen*



## CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL – BOXGROVE PRIORY – ARUNDEL ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL SAINT NICHOLAS PARISH CHURCH (ARUNDEL) – LANCING COLLEGE CHAPEL

This year's Cantuar Festival started on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September with Evensong sung beautifully by the Lay Vicars of the Chichester Cathedral. Following dinner and an early night, we boarded the coach to Boxgrove Priory, a beautiful Priory Church dating back to 1123.



After leaving the Priory Church we went on to Arundel Cathedral, an impressive Roman Catholic Cathedral, which among other things to see featured silhouettes representing the 93 members of Arundel who did not return from the First World War (part of the 'There but not There' nationwide installation [www.therebutnotthere.org.uk](http://www.therebutnotthere.org.uk)).



We left there and walked down the road to the Anglican Parish Church of Saint Nicholas, where more silhouettes were visible, to have a look round and for The Reverend Thomas Cameron to lead us in midday prayers. Following lunch (our own choices) we boarded to the coach to Lancing College.

At Lancing College we were met and given a talk to by the Verger, Andrew Wynn-Mackenzie, who guided us around this large, (the largest in the UK), School Chapel. Following the tour we were led in Evening Prayer by Tom and The Reverend Canon Dr Maureen Palmer before boarding the coach back to Chichester.



I wish to pass on my grateful thanks to Tom, and the Branch, for organising this day, and heartily recommend to you all the Fellowship and Friendship that is shared at these events – join us next time. *(Please see inside the front cover for the Group Photo.)*

**Stephen Stokes**  
General Secretary



## THE SEARCH IS ON!



As our National Chairman has mentioned, at our last meeting the National Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Dr Maureen Palmer, indicated that she would not be looking to stand for re-election in 2020.

So, we are looking for a new National Chaplain.

We have been in contact with the Archbishop of Canterbury's Office to take advice on what they, as our Presidents, would like us to do and they have advised that it is felt, in today's climate, to ensure transparency along every step.

John will form a committee of about five persons, made up of a Full Member, a Fellow, and two independent Clergy. We will then be looking to place an advert in the Church Times to ask for applications.

Once applications have been received then the committee will meet to draw up a short-list and invite the successful candidates to an interview (or two) depending on the field.

It is hoped we will have a prospective candidate by early March in 2020 so that we can then present them to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and subject to their approval and successful DBS process we will invite the candidate to take up their role at Conference in 2020.

So, if you know of any Clergy who may be interested, please advise them of the forthcoming advert where a full job description and further information will be made available.

Please keep this committee and the Guild in your prayers and we start the search for our spiritual leader.

**Stephen Stokes**  
**General Secretary**



## THE DIPLOMA COURSE



The Central Council of the Guild, at the recommendation of General Synod, formulated a course to cover the work and ministry of the Verger. The course is formulated in four units set in two stages:

The first stage is the **Foundation** Unit, which comprises of sixteen assignments, covering preparation for worship, care of the building, record-keeping, and archives, care of the churchyard, and caring for the people of God.

The second stage comprises of the other three units:

The Verger as **Pastor** covers the individual's personal development, their relationship with the people and God, care for others, and for Church resources.

The Verger as **Historian** covers the history of church building, architecture, and the history of worship, including the Book of Common Prayer, and the Bible.

The Verger as **Administrator** covers communication, forms and registers, and the structures of the Church.

Students who complete the course successfully receive a diploma, an academic hood, and the right to use the post-nominal letters '**Dip.GV**'.

If you are interested in learning more about the Course, please contact the **Training Registrar: Susan Ansell** or the **Training Officer: Robert Beattie**.



## THE GUILD SHOP



The Guild Shop has Guild branded articles available to Fellows, Full and Associate Members. (Non-Members are invited to make contact with the General Secretary about joining the Guild: [CEGVGenSec@gmail.com](mailto:CEGVGenSec@gmail.com))

These will add a little something to every Verger's uniform, whether it's a Guild Fleece or a Guild Gown Badge to spice up your official Vergers robes. The Shop has something for you. For more information on the shops products, to order a catalogue or place an order contact:

**The Shop Manager - Mrs Angela Hamilton - 21 Saffron Garth, Patrington, Hull, Yorkshire HU12 0RF**

or e-mail direct: [CEGVGuildShop@gmail.com](mailto:CEGVGuildShop@gmail.com)

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## Looking to the Future

As you are all aware the Virger Magazine has, over the years, often been revamped to keep us up to date with how we are perceived as a professional organisation.

Our magazine is seen by many more people than just our membership, we send each Diocesan Bishop a copy and many magazines are given to Churches and their Incumbents.

This is, essentially, how the outside world sees us.

We feel that it is time to give the magazine a makeover, it has been noted that on occasions we have had 3 or more articles about the same funeral of one of our former members, and while it is right and fitting that members should be remembered, more than one article may not be the best way forward.

Also, it has been noted that Branches has tended to be retrospective. We would like to change this to become more forward thinking.

It is often said 'A picture paints a thousand words', and this is the direction that we would like to move towards, rather than one picture and 1000 words, we would like more pictures and 100 words. When it comes to reporting events that have happened, a selection of pictures with brief descriptive captions is what we seek, and for forthcoming events a longer article will be fine, accompanied again by a selection of pictures of where you are going etc...

We wish to sectionalise the magazine, in the same way when reading newspapers, we have local, global, fashion etc, we would like to have the following headings:

- Training – Helpful advice on training, what is offered
- Events – What National events are taking place
- Membership – perhaps a day in the life of a member
- Overseas Membership – what is happening overseas with our members
- Branches – what our Branches are doing and will be doing, that is of interest to others
- National Diary – what is going on across the country that other members might be able to join you on (a visit to a historic house etc...)

This is not an overnight change and we acknowledge that this will probably take about a year to accomplish.

As always, as editor, I retain the right to shorten articles to enable them to fit into the magazine, I look forward to working with you all in this new direction.

**Marek J Barden, OLJ**  
**Communications Officer**

<p><b>Badges!</b> <i>Because Recognition Is everything</i></p> <p>Guild Personalised, Woven, Enamel, Embroidered, Button, Photo ID Security</p> <p>Rubber stamps Key fobs, Pens, Mousemats Desk and Door nameplates All produced to your own specifications By Recognition Express, Yorkshire</p>  <p>ALL AVAILABLE FROM THE GUILD SHOP</p>	 <p><b>J &amp; M SEWING SERVICE LTD</b> <i>High Quality Church Robes - Made in England and individually manufactured to order in our Workshop in Newcastle-upon-Tyne</i></p>  <p>CASSOCKS + SURPLICES    STOLES &amp; VESTMENTS ALBS + COTTAS            CHOIR ROBES CLERICAL BLOUSES       VERGERS ROBES CLERICAL SHIRTS         BANNER &amp; FRONTALS</p> <p><b>you name it, we probably make it.</b></p> <p>OUR MOTTO ... "THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR COURTESY!"</p> <p>Order on-line at <a href="http://www.jandmsewing.com">www.jandmsewing.com</a> or ask for our free Catalogue Tel: 0191 232 9589 Fax: 0191 230 1215 email: <a href="mailto:jandmsewing@btconnect.com">jandmsewing@btconnect.com</a></p> <p><small>Established by Joyce Davison &amp; Maureen Waterston in 1980</small></p>
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## AN OVERSEAS REACTION TO CONFERENCE 2018



My time spent at the Annual Training Conference in West Malvern was simply amazing. It was wonderful to see my UK friends again and also to make new friends.

What I learned at Conference this year was extensive and something I will never forget. It was very enjoyable not only to attend the many services, but also to participate in some of them as a Verger, Server, Lector and Chorister.

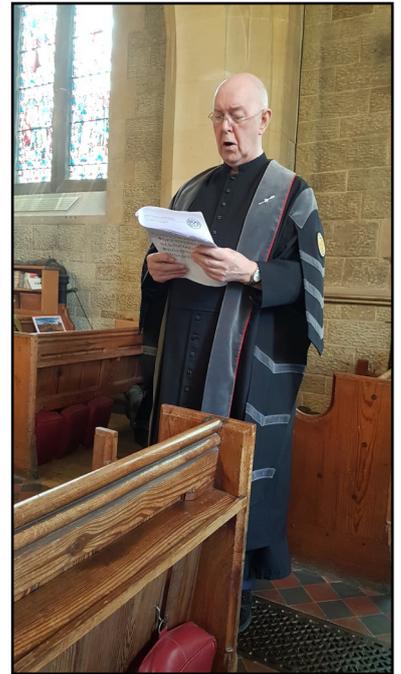
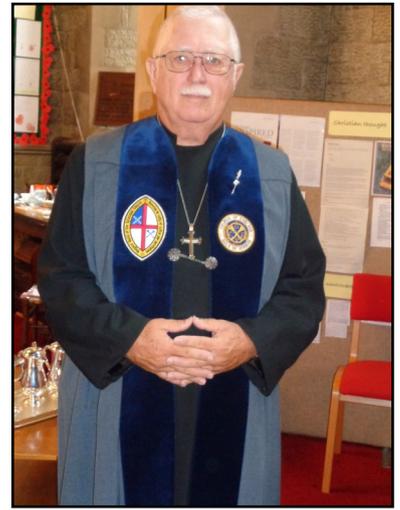
I do appreciate how so many of the UK Vergers welcomed me with open arms like we were old friends. The entire experience has me looking to do this again year after year after year.

**Scott Crowell**  
**VGEC**



# THE 2018 CONFERENCE PICTURE GALLERY







**VISIT THE GUILD'S FACEBOOK TO VIEW THE FULL CONFERENCE PHOTO ALBUM.**

**WITH THANKS TO OUR THREE PHOTOGRAPHERS: JAMES ARMSTRONG, PHILIP DUNNE & STEPHEN HAUDE.**





## GLoucester, Hereford & Worcester

We are delighted to recall the news of a former National Officer and Custos of Worcester Cathedral, Raymond Fowler, upon his visit to Saint George's Chapel, Windsor, when he was chosen to receive the Royal Maundy from the Her Majesty the Queen earlier this year.

"The service," says Raymond, "went surprisingly quickly considering that the Queen had to walk up and down the aisles giving the purses to 184 people altogether. The Chapel Choir was augmented by choirs from the Chapels Royal and directed by a former Worcester voluntary chorister, James Vivian.

Following the service, we were conveyed to the Castle where a reception was held in Saint George's Hall. The Military Knights attended and I was able to speak about the late Richard Moore, Military Knight and one time Custos at Worcester. It was a most memorable day in my life."

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 2 p.m. we have arranged a Branch visit to the famous organ builders, Nicholson's in Malvern. A rare chance to see how organs are built and played.

**Philip A M Dunne**  
**Branch Correspondent**

## LEICESTER & PETERBOROUGH WITH DERBY

### SUMMER MEETINGS



**SAINT PHILIP & SAINT JAMES - THE CHANCEL**

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, seven members of the Branch along with some singing friends met at the Church of Saint Philip & Saint James, Groby, Leicestershire, for a Pentecost Evening Service with Hymns.

We were welcomed by the Rector, the Reverend Dr Ed Brampton.

Following the service we enjoyed refreshments served by one of the Church Events Committee, who was thanked along with all those who had taken part in the service, the Rector, Branch Chaplain, Verger, Organist and those who sang in the Choir, also the Bell Ringers.



**SAINT MARY'S - THE CHANCEL**

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June, ten members of the Branch, along with friends met at the Church of Saint Mary, Anstey, Leicestershire, for a service of Evensong with Hymns and Sermon, led by the Rector, the Reverend David McDonough. Following the service we had the usual refreshments, and we thanked the ladies for preparing and serving these, along with the Rector, Verger and Organist.

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, ten members the Branch met at the Church of All Saints, Paston, Peterborough, for a service of Holy Communion.

During the service we had a short ceremony to admit a new member of the Branch to the Guild. Following the service we were served refreshments by the Vergers of the Church, and we thanked them along with the Rector and the Readers.

**Marjorie Thomas, Dip GV**  
**Branch Chairman & Correspondent**



## SAVE THE DATE - CANTUAR PROVINCE FESTIVAL 2019



**THE LEICESTER & PETERBOROUGH WITH DERBY BRANCH WILL BE HOSTING THE CANTUAR PROVINCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN LEICESTER ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2019.**

**IT WILL INCLUDE LEICESTER CATHEDRAL, THE CHURCH OF SAINT NICHOLAS AND THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY DE CASTRO. A FULL PROGRAMME AND BOOKING FORM WILL BE COMING SOON.**

**WATCH THIS SPACE!**

## OXFORD BRANCH



During this year's summer heat wave the interior coolness of Eton College was a welcome relief. By kind permission of the Provost, The Lord Waldegrave of North Hill, PC, MA, and other members of the Governing Body and Staff, and our host (and Branch Member) Simon Shergold, Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July saw an assembly of 30, comprising members of Oxford & Saint Alban's Branches, Irene Money, MBE, Dip. GV – the National Welfare Officer, and families and friends, meet in the Prayer Room, for refreshments, introductions and welcome from the College Conduct, the Reverend Stephen Gray, MA.

There then followed a service of Holy Communion in the main College Chapel, the Oxford Branch Chaplain, the Reverend Peter Viney celebrated, and was assisted by Father Andrew Ferrar, Saint Alban's Branch Chaplain, and the Reverend Michael Wilcockson, a member of the College and recently ordained a Deacon at the June Ordinations in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford (at which members of this Branch were present).

At the beginning of the service, three new members were admitted to the Guild – David and Thelma French - Full and Associate, both of Saint Michael's Church, Warfield, and Lynnette Derry - Full, of Saint John the Baptist Church, Burford.

We were privileged to have the College Organist, Mr David Goode, BA, MPhil, FRCO, accompany the service. There then followed the group photograph, taken on the North Door steps.

Simon gave a brief history of the College, the foundations having been laid by King Henry VI, in 1440; the reason for this Chapel being elevated as it is, was to prevent flooding (from the nearby River Thames). There is so much to see and to admire in this beautiful structure – paintings, tapestries, statues, stained glass and items of furniture, such as the 15<sup>th</sup> century lectern with its double reading desk, thereby allowing it to be rotated for ease of displaying the readings separately.



To continue the regal connection, lunch was taken at the Henry VI pub just down the main High Street in Eton, and the weather being what it was, we were able to sit outside, under cover or in the open. This proved to be the right decision as we were fortunate to be able to watch the fly pass to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the R.A.F., which flew over Buckingham Palace, a wonderful bonus!

Upon return to the College, we had been granted access to the Verey Gallery wherein a special exhibition had been created entitled 'In Memoriam, a Great War Remembrance at Eton', which proved to be a sombre and very poignant reminder of the sacrifice made by so many of those who had studied and worked at Eton.

Just time to return to the Prayer Room for afternoon refreshments, to give thanks where it was due and to acknowledge the pleasure and fellowship that we had been able to share, on this 'Mini Festival' occasion.

**Molly Payne**  
**Oxford Branch Vice Chair**



## CONGRATULATIONS



### ROY TRICKER, BEM



Roy was born in Essex, his early childhood was spent in Herefordshire, the family moved to Suffolk when Roy was 10 years old. Although Roy – in his own words – has been a Church crawler since the age of 4.

Roy was a teacher for 23 years of his life and Head of R.E. in Ipswich for 18 years. The next 11 years he spent as the South East Regional Field Officer with the Churches Conservation Trust and has written of 244 Church Guide Books.

He has been a licensed Reader in the Anglian Church since 1970 and also a Lay Canon of Saint Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury.

Roy was awarded the British Empire Medal for Services to Heritage in the New Year's Honours List. The medal was presented to Roy by Clare Fitzroy, Countess of Euston, the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk.

**Jean Cobb**  
**Ipswich Branch Correspondent**



## A CONVERGENCE OR TWO OF VERGERS



As the 2018 CEGV Training Conference draws, at the time of writing, to an end, plans are coming together for the VGEC's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, scheduled for a return visit to Denver in October.

President Scott Smith writes; *"I would say, "The Annual Conference of the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church is one of the most highly anticipated events of the year. Each year we highlight various aspects of the job and ministry of the Verger. This year we will gather in Denver for the second time in our thirty-year history, We will be attending services and workshops at the Cathedral of Saint John in the Wilderness, in the Diocese of Colorado - The Barry Bowman Chapter are serving as host committee for this year's Conference under the leadership of Co-Chairs David Barr and Steve Tillman."*

The theme of this years CEGV Training Conference, **Communication**, tackled the issue of communication on many levels, ancient & modern, giving equal gravitas to the spoken word, press/media and social media to a thought provoking presentation '**Communication with God**', through; psalms, prayer and poetry. A melange of external speakers was complemented by and with an in-house team, Canon Maureen Palmer, Guild Chaplain, and Father Tom Cameron, who magisterially set the thought provoking session which is essence is what we are about, '**Communication with God**', and in turn letting Him communicate with us, not least though silence.

Two Guilds, though separated by distance, tradition and culture, have a bonding commonality in that we share our membership, we were blessed by having five US VGEC members join us at West Malvern for our Conference, for me rekindling friendships forged in Nashville in 2013 and beyond, for others establishing new bonds. In October four members of the UK's CEGV will travel to Denver to join in the fellowship on offer at the Denver Conference.

James Armstrong, a past Chairman, and I have both had the privilege of being Keynote Speakers across the pond, communicating the message of the commonality of our mission in serving in the differing yet similar roles within the Anglican and Episcopal Churches, there has been a constant flow of support, physically and spiritually, between our two Guilds and Conferences and members of both Guilds are encouraged and welcome to join in with each-others activities and events, do investigate our respective websites for information.



**FOUNDER MEMBERS OF THE VGEC GATHER IN NASHVILLE**



**2013 - OVERSEAS LIAISON OFFICER DELIVERS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT THE VGEC 25TH ANNIVERSARY**



**CHAIRMAN, JAMES ARMSTRONG, ENTERTAINS THE 2015 VGEC CONFERENCE**



**LEONARD (SCOTTIE) VICKIE, SCOTT, BARRY AND MARTHA JOIN THE OVERSEAS LIAISON OFFICER ON THE STEPS OF ELIM CONFERENCE CENTRE,, WEST MALVERN**

Watch out for cameos and comments of Scott, Leonard, Vicky, Barry, Martha, our American Guests at this year's Training Conference in future editions of The Virger. For further information regarding reciprocal membership of the Church of England Guild of Vergers and the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church, please contact: **John Campbell, Overseas Liaison Officer, CEGV** via e-mail: [deansverger@aol.com](mailto:deansverger@aol.com).

**John Campbell, BEM, FBGU, FCEGV, Overseas Liaison Officer**

**CHRISTINA MARGARET LAWRENCE**

**1948 - 2018**



Members of the Canterbury with Rochester Branch were sad to learn of the death in June of our friend Tina Lawrence, Verger at the Church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul, Tonbridge, Kent.

Tina joined the team of vergers at Saint Peter & Saint Paul under the guidance and the watchful eye of the then Head Verger, Ian McConnell, until his untimely death in August 2008. Ian was a keen member of the Guild and naturally Tina was encouraged to join, which she duly did in 2006; the following year she became the Branch Secretary of the Rochester and East Chichester Branch, a post she held until the Branch amalgamated with the sister Branch in Canterbury recently.

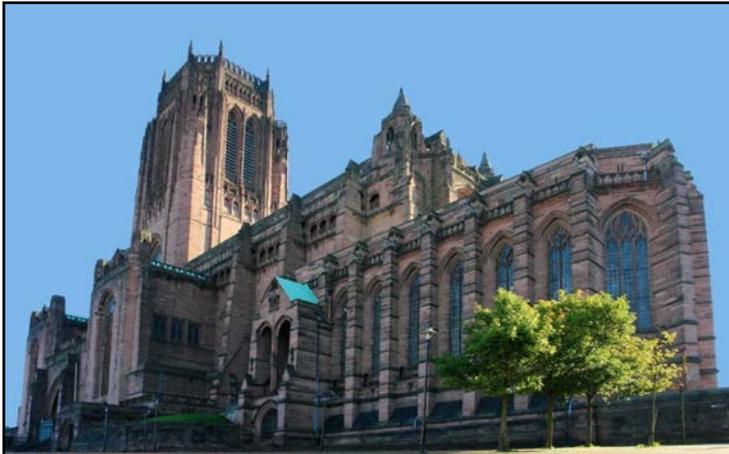
Although officially retired, Tina continued to offer her services as Verger, and as an ever present support to the Vicar, Canon Mark Brown.

It was my privilege to join Jenny Macpherson, former Rochester & East Chichester Branch Chaplain, and Kelvin Webster, from the neighbouring Parish of Saint Stephen's, Tonbridge, at the service of thanksgiving for Tina's life held in the Parish Church on the 17<sup>th</sup> July. Tina was born and brought up in Tonbridge, and the packed church was testimony to the wide circle of friends and family to whom she meant so much. So many were blessed by knowing her, and will miss her dearly.

**Chris Crooks, FCEGV  
Canterbury Cathedral**

**SAVE THE DATE - YORK PROVINCE FESTIVAL 2019**

**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> & FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2019**



**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**~ Liverpool Cathedral ~**

**Eucharist, Guided Tours,  
Choral Evensong & Dinner**

**(PLEASE NOTE ~  
YOU WILL NEED TO BRING YOUR ROBES!)**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Coach to**

**~ Chester Cathedral ~**

**(NO ROBES NEEDED FOR THIS BIT ~  
LEFT AT LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL)**

**Guided Tour, etc...  
Then return to Liverpool and depart**



**FULL DETAILS & BOOKING FORM COMING SOON!**



## NATIONAL CONTACTS



### NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

Mr John Shearer, MA, Dip GV (Honoris), FCEGV  
E-mail: CEGVNatChair@gmail.com

### TRAINING OFFICER

Mr Robert Beattie, MA  
E-mail: CEGVTrainOff@gmail.com

### GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr Stephen Stokes, Dip GV Hons  
E-mail: CEGVGenSec@gmail.com

### TRAINING REGISTRAR

Mrs Susan Ansell, Dip GV  
E-Mail: CEGVTrainReg@gmail.com

### NATIONAL TREASURER

Dr Andrew Page, MA, DPhil, FCEGV  
E-mail: CEGVNatTreas@gmail.com

### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Mr Marek J Barden, OLJ  
E-mail: CEGVCommsOff@gmail.com

### NATIONAL CHAPLAIN

Canon Maureen Palmer, BSc, PhD, Dip Theol (Oxon), FCEGV  
E-mail: CEGVNatChap@gmail.com

### WELFARE OFFICER

Mrs Irene Money, MBE, Dip GV  
E-mail: CEGVWelfare@gmail.com

### LIAISON OFFICER

Mrs Denise Mead  
E-mail: CEGVLiaison@gmail.com

### OVERSEAS LIAISON OFFICER

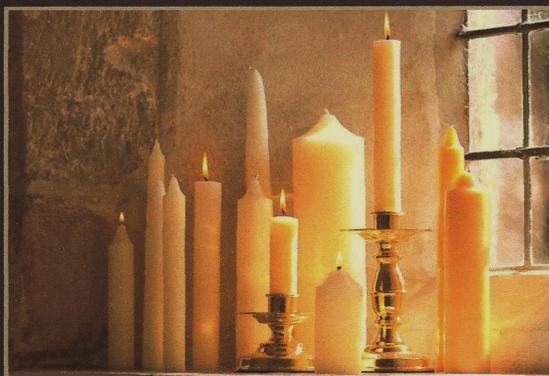
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