



# Keeping you connected

Newsletter

11<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## From the Executive Director

Dear colleagues and friends,

*Well, there are several things that I have had to adjust to moving to an entirely 'working from home' role and this week I am missing the cool calm of a cathedral in the heat. Undoubtedly, you'll be opening your doors to more people seeking cool and solace in your beautiful buildings over the summer. It's been marvelous to see the breadth of summer activity planned and the ever more creative ways of engaging with the community.*

*We are progressing with our THEOS research and the research team are contacting the case study cathedrals to progress their on-site research. This comes as we heard that Project Narthex has been extended by the Bishops and Cathedral's committee. I am confident that these two pieces of work are going to be powerful pieces of evidence that can simultaneously demonstrate both the impact and value of cathedrals, and the inherent flaws in the funding model. AEC are committed to advocacy for cathedrals, and I know that the funding model conversation is high on the list of concerns for many. We will be able to enter those conversations with evidence and data to support our position and our challenge.*

*I was interested to read through Historic England's research on how Heritage adds value to the local and national economy and builds a sense of identity. You may be interested to look at their work: <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/agenda/research-theme-value/>*

*We will take a summer break from the newsletter for the coming two weeks as myself and other colleagues take our summer holiday. I hope you all have chance for some rest and relaxation over the coming weeks and months.*

Warm wishes, Anna Pitt  
Executive Director, Association of English Cathedrals

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## This Week's Highlights

**Communications Support Project** - We held our monthly comms drop-in this week. The last one of summer. Topics included CoE summer campaign with Flora who joined us from Church House, a joint DC/Cathedral comms conference, summer in our cathedrals, VJ Day plans, and the comms opportunities for those twelve cathedrals involved in the Opus Anglicanum.

**Volunteer Awards** - huge thanks to Sheffield Cathedral this week who put on a lovely party and fabulous Choral Evensong celebrating volunteers when we visited with sponsor Nigel Williams from Newgate Finance to present a trophy to our worthy Volunteer of the Year winner, Christine Barker.

## Vacancies and Appointments

- Rochester Cathedral are looking to appoint a Principal Lay Clerk (Bass). This is a permanent part time position. Closing date 14 July 2025.  
<https://www.rochester cathedral.org/job-vacancy-input/principallayclerk>
- **Building & Estates Manager, Southwell Minster.** Full details of this new position can be found via the Minster's website. Closing date 23 July.  
<https://www.southwellminster.org/about-us/vacancies/>
- Durham Cathedral has vacancies for an Event Team Lead  
<https://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/more/jobs/events-team-lead> and Relief Events Assistant <https://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/more/jobs/relief-events-assistant>. Applications for both these positions close on 21 July.
- **Visitor Welcome Manager (Maternity Cover) at Gloucester Cathedral**  
[Visitor Welcome Manager \(Maternity Cover\) | Gloucester Cathedral](#)  
Closing date is 9am on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025
- Carlisle Cathedral are seeking to appoint to their new role of Development Director. Details can be found [HERE](#).

Don't forget, all of the job descriptions you share with us are uploaded to the CAFA website and can be accessed here: <https://cathedralcafa.org/request-login/>

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## Training & Conference Opportunities

The national CofE HR team have a consultation open on Safer Recruitment and People Management and responses are invited with a deadline of 1st August:

[Safer Recruitment and People Management](#)

## The Ecclesiological Society Annual Conference: The Twentieth-Century Cathedral, 4 October 2025

This year's conference looks at the phenomenon of the on-going building and designation of new cathedrals in the twentieth century by the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church. <https://www.ecclsoc.org.uk/events/annual-conference-twentieth-century-cathedral-sat-10042025-1000>

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## Interesting Reports & Information

The deadline for the National Churches Trust Survey has been extended to 13th July. The link to the survey can be found [here](#).

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## Don't Forget...

- The CAFA website is an excellent portal for the storage of bespoke and template policies, job descriptions and plans. Any number of colleagues from your cathedral can register for free: <https://cathedralcafa.org/request-login/>
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## Stay Connected

Have news to share in next week's edition? Let us know by Wednesday at midday. Contact: Anna Pitt – [anna.pitt@englishcathedrals.co.uk](mailto:anna.pitt@englishcathedrals.co.uk)

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