

Project Update 10 – November 2014

Capital Works

The project has been somewhat beset with unexpected discoveries.

- **Discovery of Asbestos in the Crypt floor ducts and behind the Library fittings** - The work to remove the asbestos was completed during the last week of October. However, now the asbestos has been removed, the rest of the work is back in full swing with work going on to remove the current floor in the Crypt and stripping back the library roof so the sounds of drills, whilst a little intrusive is a rather welcome sound.
- **Discovery of a Norman doorway** - More significant has been the discovery of the Norman doorway under the Kent steps just where the new lift was expected to go. Further conversations between English Heritage, FAC and the Archaeologist have determined that the doorway is of considerable significance and that alternative locations for the lift must be explored. The only genuine alternative location for the lift is outside the South door but within the new porch. However the structural feasibility of this needs to be assessed as the nature of the foundations in that area is not known and given that was the wall with a gentle lean into the Garth it is not clear whether putting the lift here is structurally possible.

Activity Plan

- **Textus Roffensis** - A major milestone has been reached with the formal launch of the Textus Roffensis on-line on 5th November at an event sponsored by the Kent Law Society and Adept IT. It was attended by over 150 people. Two key documents can be viewed online at:

Textus Roffensis: <http://enriqueta.man.ac.uk/luna/servlet/s/3t00c6>

Custumale Roffense: <http://enriqueta.man.ac.uk/luna/servlet/s/k4o00t>

- **Exhibitions and outreach** - This is progressing both in terms of finalising the design of the space and researching the object list.
- The plans for the exhibition involving the Faversham Magna Carta are also being developed and this is an area where the Community Consultation Forum is actively involved in helping to develop ideas for this.

Hidden Treasures: *Fresh Expressions*

- The design for the glazed screens has been approved by the Fabric Advisory Committee and is awaiting approval from Chapter and then the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England. The design is based on the River Medway with key place names entered and designs from the workshops used within the “banks” of the river.

Creation of library catalogue - Discussions with the University of Kent to create and host the new library catalogue are well advanced although we are still waiting for a draft Service Level Agreement from them. The building of this relationship is important for the long term with benefits for both the Cathedral and the University and it will extend beyond the catalogue to further research into the collection.

Training and development

- Peer to Peer training with volunteers sharing experience has commenced with an initial meeting with those wishing to participate. It was identified that we have a group of individuals keen to increase their skill set within the Cathedral Volunteer family therefore this project has an emphasis on knowledge sharing from in house speakers.
- Placement of a young offender for four weeks has been completed and worked well.
- My Guide - Training facilitated by The Guide Dog Association Cassandra Moss.
- Church Hierarchy - Training facilitated by Canon Philip Hesketh.
- Benedictine Traditions - Training facilitated by Helen Bradshaw and Susan Gray.
- Cathedral Glass - Training facilitated by Lyndall Hacker.
- Oral History - Facilitator Mr Rib Davis. A full day training course hosted in the Council Room learning techniques to interview, edit and archive sound recordings. It is now hoped that volunteers will be able to visit members of the congregation and record memories of those who knew Canon Gripper. This will enable the volunteers to develop a spotlight session in the future.

Edwina Bell
Project Director
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