



WINCHESTER
CATHEDRAL



CARVING OUT THE FUTURE

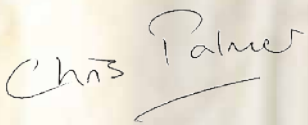
Photograph by Russell Sach

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Winchester Cathedral faced certain disaster. Its foundations, built on waterlogged ground, were failing. Between 1906 and 1912, diver William Walker undertook one of the greatest, and most dangerous, civil engineering feats of all time by laying new foundations one bag of concrete at a time to save the south and east sides of this remarkable building.

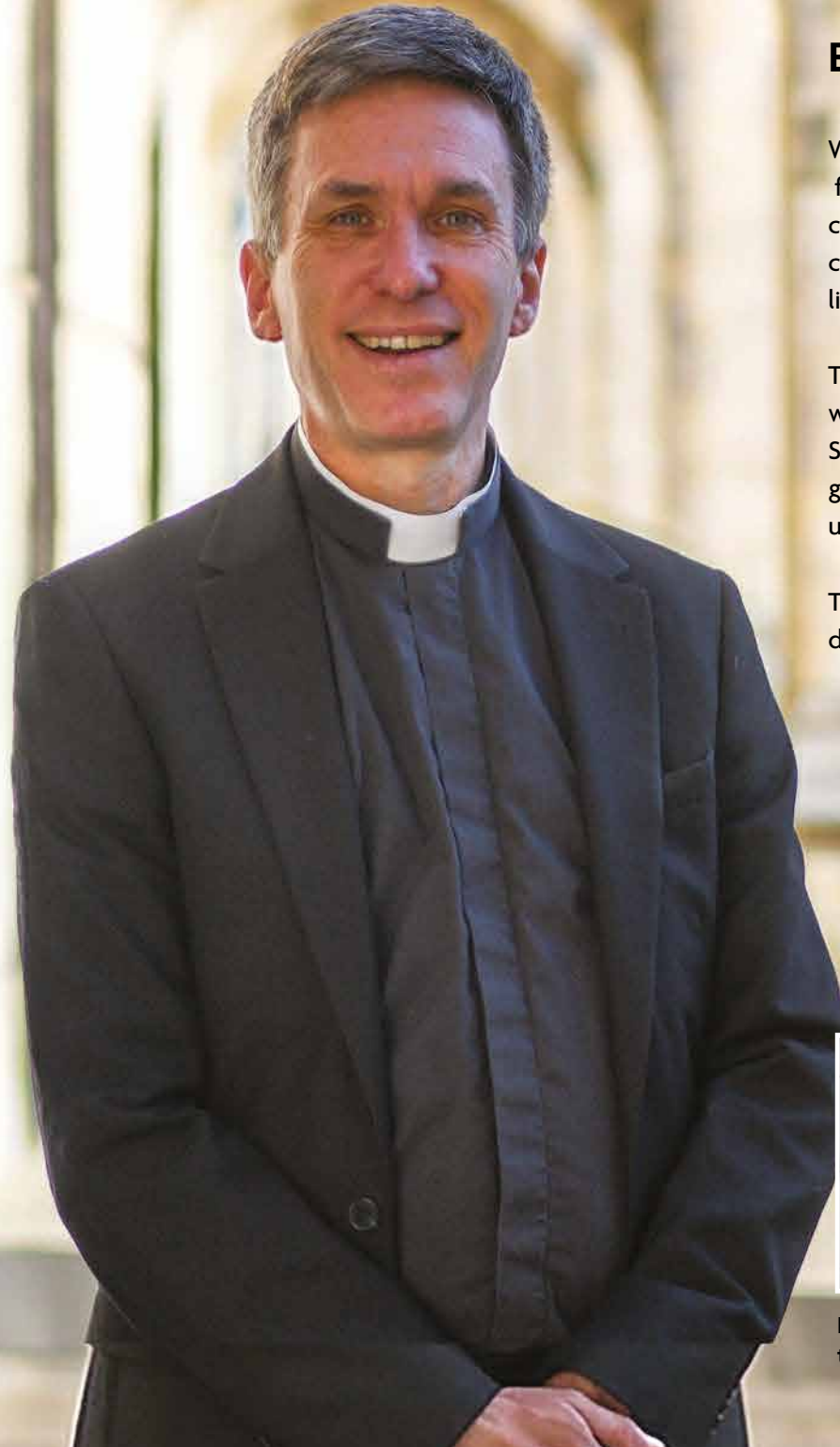
Walker's story is a powerful reminder that behind every great historic building are unsung individuals whose skill and courage make their survival possible. Today our beloved Cathedral is once again facing serious deterioration from centuries of weathering, changing temperatures and modern pollution, worsened by unsuitable earlier repairs using hard cement mortar.

Despite its 1,000 turbulent years of history, the next few years represent the greatest danger to the Cathedral's fabric. We must act now to conserve and restore the South side of the Cathedral which includes Curle's Passage, the historic pedestrian route linking the Outer to the Inner Close, and embark on a decade-long programme of specialist care, painstakingly undertaken by a small team of heritage craftspeople.

'Stone by Stone', although vital to our future, is not something we can undertake without help. I warmly invite you to be a cornerstone of this project and leave your mark on this remarkable building for generations to come.



The Very Reverend Christopher Palmer
Dean of Winchester



Every gift builds

Winchester Cathedral has watched over our city for more than 900 years. It has always been and continues to be a place of prayer, memory, celebration and shelter – a constant in changing lives and changing times.

Today that inheritance is at risk. The ravages of weather and time have taken their toll on the South Nave Aisle, threatening the gargoyles, grotesques and stained glass that generations before us worked so hard to construct and protect.

This is our moment to chip in so that our history doesn't crumble.



Before and after photographs of restored stone tracery in the South Nave Aisle



"Winchester Cathedral, built in the floodplain of the river Itchen, the site of St Swithun's shrine, the saint most closely associated with our weather, links water to light in its magnificent stone tracery. This restoration programme is vital to preserve its history and continue its unfolding legacy."

Antony Gormley CH OBE RA
British sculptor and installation artist

Photo by Russell Sach



"It's a great honour to look after and conserve the intricate and exquisite Cathedral. Often our work is unseen but vital. This project will keep the stone masons here at Winchester busy for many years, testing our skills to the full."

Ross Lovett
Head Stonemason

Enduring, but not everlasting

Wind, rain, pollution and changing temperatures slowly wear away even the hardest masonry. Over centuries, repairs have been made using the knowledge and materials of their time, some successful, others less so.

Our most recent specialist inspection revealed extensive instances of windows bowed, mortar weakened and carved details softened. Throughout the South Nave Aisle, urgent masonry repairs are required to hood mouldings, jambs, cills and mullions. At the same time exquisite stained-glass panels and the interlocking metal bars that support them need essential remedial and restoration work by specialist contractors to prevent them from being lost forever.

A long-term, carefully planned strategy is in place to conserve the South Nave Aisle *Stone by Stone*, progressing from west to east. This approach allows each section of stonework and glazing to receive the detailed attention it requires. It will take a combination of painstaking commitment by a small team of heritage craftspeople and a significant sum of money if we are to succeed – and succeed we must in order to protect Winchester Cathedral for another thousand years.





In recognition of your contribution, you will receive

As a token of our gratitude, we are offering special recognition to those who sponsor a stone at varying levels tailored to the donation received.

Your generosity at giving at a higher level will open doors to unique opportunities and experiences such as climbing the scaffold, visiting the masons' workshop or having your initials carved on the rear face of a stone.

Sponsor a Stone

This is your chance to leave a lasting mark.

Chip in to power the vital investigations, skills and materials that make conservation possible or Sponsor a Stone to support the carving and conservation of individual stones.

In appreciation of your contribution to the Stone by Stone campaign, we are pleased to offer the following:

£500 Supports cleaning and repair of a single stone.

You'll receive: An invitation to a special tour and talk.

***£1,000 Funds a replacement stone and decorative repairs.**

You'll receive: An invitation to a special tour and talk. Plus, your chosen initials will be carved on the back of a replacement stone introduced during the conservation and a digital photograph of the completed carving.

£2,000 Supports major conservation within a bay.

You'll receive: All of the above, plus a scaffold climb to view the work up close.

£5,000 Funds major masonry and stained-glass conservation.

You'll receive: All of the above, plus a visit to the stonemasons' workshop.

£10,000 Supports full bay conservation and craft skills.

You'll receive: All of the above, plus a private reception for up to 10 guests, including a tour, scaffold climb and workshop visit.

**Carved initials are limited to four characters per stone.*

Honouring those who have left their mark

Recently the initials of the late Reverend Canon Gary Philbrick, a man whose generosity and love left a lasting mark on his family and all who knew him, were carved into the rear face of a replacement stone in the Cathedral's South Nave Aisle wall.



This tribute was made possible through Gary's generous bequest to the cathedral, a gift reflecting his deep connection to the place he loved.

For his son, Craig, the tribute was profoundly touching:

“Our family felt truly honoured to receive a tribute in Dad's memory at Winchester Cathedral,” he said. “To know that Dad will be remembered here, in a place he loved so much, is deeply moving for all of us. This stone is more than a memory of Dad, it's a reminder of the love, kindness, and welcome he gave that shaped my life. It's a legacy worth honouring.”

The stone stands as a lasting reminder of Gary's legacy, as a bedrock of the Cathedral community.

The decade-long Stone by Stone project provides unprecedented opportunities for individuals, families, friends or businesses to commemorate loved ones or colleagues, celebrate special occasions, or mark a significant milestone or life event by having initials carved in a stone of their own.



Would you like to know more?

Please scan the QR code with your Smartphone or visit www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/stone-by-stone

Alternatively, why not drop us a line at fundraising@winchester-cathedral.org.uk or speak to a member of the Development Team on **01962 857231**.

However you choose to give, you'll be helping safeguard this cherished place so it can continue to welcome, inspire, and uplift all who walk through its doors, now and into the future.

Thank you for your support.

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Contact the Development Team,
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Charity number: 1202915