WHAT’S ON AT your cathedral

SUMMER 2023
for latest events, services and news:
www.lichfield-cathedral.org
Welcome

Through this exciting project, we will:

RESTORE the badly-damaged Central Spire
REOPEN the space for guided Tower Tours
REVEAL a special exhibition about what the Central Spire means to the local community.

The first spire was built in the 1300s. It was almost completely destroyed during the English Civil War and restored during the 17th century restoration of the Cathedral.

CRAFTSMANSHIP
The project seeks to tell the story of the craftsmen who have worked on it over the last 800 years. Demonstrations from modern craftspeople will give insight into the traditional techniques used to restore part of this Grade 1 listed building.

BIODIVERSITY
The project incorporates our care for the grounds to give glory to God and contribute to the wellbeing of all. Wildflower meadows allow us to monitor native species. Careful planting increases biodiversity. Eco initiatives help us address the climate crisis.

YOUR STORY
We have a unique opportunity to explore:

Why people have been moved to keep the spire standing, why it has always been so important to the community, and what it means to people today.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
We will be bringing the story of the spire to life with drama, history and school projects. Want to be involved?

scan the qr code to register your interest.

Buckets and spades at the ready!

This summer sees the return of The Beach – quite possibly the most land-locked beach in the country, being some 72 miles from the sea.

Come for the day, bring a picnic, and enjoy the sand trickling through your toes. Join in with children and adults alike, making sandcastles, sunbathing, and simply enjoying relaxing in one another’s company. Life is tough at the moment, with worries about household bills and the cost of living. Child-like play is good for us grown-ups as well as the little ones. A summer holiday with “no more worries for a week (ok, an hour) or two”.

While you’re sunbathing, peer up to the clouds and watch the craftsmen making repairs to the central spire. The first central spire was built back in the 1300s but was badly damaged in the English Civil War of the 17th century and had to be restored again. Take a break from the sun and wander into the Cathedral to find the fine stained glass window which shows the restoration. And now the Central Spire needs repairing once again. The panels on the south side of the Cathedral Close will tell you all about this inspiring project.

Entry to the Cathedral is free – though we encourage a donation to help keep our doors open and to protect the Cathedral for future generations. But everyone is welcome, and there is much to see, including the Library and Legacy exhibition, and numerous children’s activities throughout the summer. And it’s always a joy to be a part of the Lichfield Festival, our stunning building providing the backdrop for a varied programme from a Gospel Choir to Shakespeare on the West Front.

Our services take place three times a day and everyone is welcome to join in. Take a look at the noticeboard or our website for the times of Evensong, when our Cathedral choir (and sometimes in the summer, visiting choirs) sing music from across the centuries. A moment to be still, to reflect, to ponder, to realise that whatever we’re facing, there is always hope.

And please know that you are always welcome at Lichfield Cathedral – your Cathedral.

Jan, Interim Dean of Lichfield

The Central Spire points our gaze towards God, the foundation of our faith and the inspiration for the construction of this ancient and sacred building.

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LIBRARY & LEGACY
The Story of Lichfield Cathedral Library and the Seymour Family
Saturday 22 April - Sunday 3 September
Admission free during usual opening hours

Discover the secret that makes Lichfield Cathedral Library different from other cathedral libraries and its link with the famous Seymour family.

The Cathedral Library, as we know it today, started in 1674 with a gift of over 400 books from William Seymour’s private collection. William’s fascinating books reflect the wide-ranging interests of a wealthy intellectual in the 17th century and are very different from the books normally found in a cathedral library.

Conservation of books and manuscripts in this exhibition has been supported by National Manuscripts Conservation Trust, the Leche Trust and the Idlewild Trust.

FACES OF THE CATHEDRAL TOURS
22 May - 16 June (selected dates) 13:30
Our knowledgeable guides will lead you around the exterior of our wonderful cathedral building. Learn about the iconic three spires and amazing West Front with its array of statues. Take in the beautiful architecture and carvings. Discover its history and much more besides along the way.
Tickets £5 on the day
Not available as pre-booked tickets
Visit: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/tours

INSPired! Lichfield Chamber Choir’s 40th Anniversary Concert
Friday 9 June 20:00
An evening of music inspired by 17th century literature, performed by Lichfield Cathedral Chamber Choir to mark its 40th anniversary. The concert includes Finzi’s ‘Lo, the full, final sacrifice’, and Vaughan Williams’ ‘Five Mystical Songs’, and all proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Cathedral.
Bookings: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/chamberchoir

THE MUSIC OF JOHN RUTTER: Lichfield Cathedral Chorus with Youth Voices and Young Voices
Saturday 24 June 19:30
This programme proves to be a magical experience as the full Chorus together with all the young voices sing a repertoire of John Rutter’s choral music.
Bookings: www.lichfieldcathedralchorus.co.uk

ABBA BY CANDLELIGHT
Friday 23 June 19:30
Featuring the UK’s leading Abba tribute act, Abba Reunion, join us for this sing-along concert packed to the rafters with over 20 Abba hits. The concert features some of the most iconic pop songs of all time including Mamma Mia, Voulez Vous, Thank You for the Music, Dancing Queen and many, many more!
Bookings: www.concertsbycandlelight.co.uk

www.lichfield-cathedral.org/seymour
MEAT LOAF BY CANDLELIGHT
Friday 21 July & Saturday 22 July 19:30
Join us for an incredible night of Meat Loaf anthems, performed in the beautiful Lichfield Cathedral, by candlelight. Featuring a live cast of West End singers including stars of the West End production of ‘Bat Out of Hell’, accompanied by an incredible live rock band, experience the ultimate tribute to Meat Loaf as you have never heard before.
Bookings: www.concertsbycandlelight.co.uk

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL
Thursday 6 July
19:30 The London Community Gospel Choir
Friday 7 July
19:30 Nitin Sawhney
Saturday 8 July
14:00 & 16:00 Roald Dahl’s Revolting Rhymes - Little Red Riding Hood & The Three Little Pigs
19:30 Grimethorpe Colliery Band
Sunday 9 July
19:30 Rachel Podger (Violin) & Daniele Caminiti (Theorbo)

QUEEN BY CANDLELIGHT
Thursday 17 – Saturday 19 August 19:30
Featuring a live cast of West End singers, accompanied by an incredible live rock band, experience Queen as you have never heard them before. The concert will feature some of the most iconic songs of all time including Bohemian Rhapsody, It’s a Kind of Magic, We Are The Champions, Who Wants to Live Forever and many more!!
Bookings: www.concertsbycandlelight.co.uk

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES
Tuesday 5, 19 September, 3 & 17 October 19:30
Experience the power of our famous cathedral organ in the hands (and feet) of four talented musicians.
5 September Cathy Lamb
19 September Martyn Rawlins
3 October Peter Stevens
17 October Peter Dyke
Admission is £10 payable, preferably by card, on the door.

BUBLÉ BIG BAND BY CANDLELIGHT
Friday 8 September 19:30
Join us for an unforgettable night of Bublé’s best-loved hits performed by one of the UK’s leading Michael Bublé tributes and an incredible live big band. Featuring hit after hit including Everything, Cry Me A River and Me and Mrs Jones, let us Sway you to leave Home and join us for this uplifting sing-along show, guaranteed to leave you Feeling Good!
Bookings: www.concertsbycandlelight.co.uk

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS - A MONOLOGUE BY LESLEY SMITH
Wednesday 6 September 19:00
The story of Mary, Queen of Scots, is one of the most famous in British history. A dangerous claimant to the English throne, she was held prisoner at Tutbury Castle not far from Lichfield. Meet the tragic queen during her final imprisonment and share her hopes and fears as her dramatic tale approaches its bitter conclusion.
Bookings: www.lichfield-cathedral.org

MEAT LOAF BY CANDLELIGHT
Tuesday 13 July
19:30 Nitin Sawhney

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS - A MONOLOGUE BY LESLEY SMITH
Wednesday 13 September 13:30-16:00
Discover a whole host of volunteering opportunities for a wide variety of organisations around the region, chat with volunteers and find the volunteering opportunity for you.
In partnership with Support Staffordshire
JOIN US ON THE BEACH
Saturday 22 July - Sunday 3 September
The Beach is returning to Lichfield Cathedral by popular demand! We loved welcoming you, your friends and families to The Beach in 2022, and we’re excited to welcome you back this year! There will be sand, decking, deck chairs, children’s activities, refreshments and more for you and the whole family to enjoy.

Kick back and relax this summer at your Cathedral.

NEW: WELSPRING
Saturday 22 July - Sunday 5 November
‘Wellspring’ by Carolynn White is a new art installation for summer and autumn 2023, featuring the contributions of children and their families during our summer children’s activities. Part of Journey Through Creation in the autumn (see page 13).

CRAFT CLUB
Monday 24 July - Friday 1 September
Monday-Friday 10:00-12:00
Join us for fun-filled activities for children and big children alike. We’ll be crafting, learning and creating some fun elements that will be part of a large installation ‘Journey Through Creation’ in the Autumn.

WATER PLAY
Monday 24 July - Friday 1 September
Mondays & Fridays 10:00-12:00
Perfect for families with younger children, why not add the water element to your beach experience with dedicated times for water play outside the Cathedral. Splish, splash - don’t forget those spare clothes!

In good weather the Cathedral grounds are a great place to bring a picnic. There are benches, deck chairs and plenty of grassed areas to put down your own picnic blanket, and a refreshments stand.

With thanks to
The Friends of Lichfield Cathedral
The Kirby Laing Foundation
Hymns Ancient and Modern Charitable Trust
GERMAN WAR GRAVES COMMISSION EXHIBITION
Saturday 16 September - Sunday 19 November
Free during visitor opening hours
Cannock Chase is the final resting place for 4,971 German soldiers who fell and died in the United Kingdom during both World Wars. This exhibition traces the history of the cemetery and the reconciliation between Britons and Germans after 1945.

NICHOLAS ORME: GOING TO CHURCH IN MEDIEVAL LICHFIELD
Wednesday 27 September 18:00
What was it like to go to church in England five, six, or seven hundred years ago? The answer involves a surprising mixture of what we still do, and some practices that are quite unfamiliar and exotic to a modern churchgoer.

Tickets: www.lichfield-cathedral.org

GAIA by Luke Jerram
Friday 22 September - Sunday 5 November
Free during usual visitor hours
Contemplate our fragile blue planet from a different perspective, usually reserved for astronauts.

The artwork provides the opportunity to see our planet floating and rotating in three dimensions.

EVENING EVENTS
Tickets for special evening events
Adult £5, Child (3-16) £3, Under 3’s FREE
Come along for one of the special evening events to see GAIA and the Journey Through Creation installations when the Cathedral would usually be closed.

Tickets: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/gaia

GIFTs & souvenirs
Every purchase supports the work of Lichfield Cathedral.

Pop in to the Gift Shop for new items including:
• Cards
• Mindfulness colouring books
• Home-goods
• Candles
• Books
• & much more

Pick up our new loyalty card to earn a discount and free hot drink

VISITING CHORUS
Lichfield Cathedral welcomes choirs from the Diocese, all over the country and abroad to provide the music while the Cathedral Choir is on holiday.

Visiting choirs play a valuable and important part in the life of the Cathedral, enabling our choral tradition (which can be traced back to the year 1315) to continue throughout the year.

Saturday 10 June
Much Wenlock PC

Monday 17 July - Thursday 20 July
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Little Rock, ARK

Saturday 22 July - Sunday 23 July
Brotheron Singers

Monday 24 July - Thursday 27 July
St David’s Episcopal Church, Wayne, USA

Friday 28 July - Sunday 30 July
Thames Philharmonic Choir

Monday 31 July - Sunday 6 August
The Anglican Singers, New London, CT

Thursday 10 August - Sunday 13 August
Goring Chamber Choir

Monday 14 August - Sunday 20 August
Sussex Festival Singers

Saturday 26 August & Sunday 27 August
St Christopher Chorale

Saturday 2 September
St Marks Bilton, Rugby
**GAIA by Luke Jerram**
Friday 22 September - Sunday 5 November
Free during usual visitor hours

Contemplate our fragile blue planet from a different perspective, usually reserved for astronauts.

The artwork provides the opportunity to see our planet floating and rotating in three dimensions.

Internally lit, Gaia comes into its own during the evening, with a more profound sense of what it might be like to see Earth from space.

**EVENING EVENTS**
Friday 22 September - Sunday 29 October*
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 19:00-21:00
Monday 30 October - Sunday 5 November* 19:00-21:00
Adult £5, Child (3-16) £3, Under 3’s FREE

Come along for one of the special evening events to see Gaia and the Journey Through Creation installations when the Cathedral would usually be closed.

**WELLSPRING**
Saturday 22 July - Sunday 5 November
‘Wellspring’ by Carolyn White is an art installation that is part of Journey Through Creation. It features the contributions of children and their families during our summer children’s activities (see page 9).

Representations of abundant water cascading and bursting from the Font, representing the well of living water talked about in the Bible.

Water represents new life, refreshment for the body and soul, and is central to the imagery used in the Bible.

* Subject to availability, some exclusions apply

**Friday 22 September - Sunday 5 November**

Come on a journey with us through the account of creation. Spaces will be transformed into mini-installations celebrating the Earth and the stages of its creation according to the Bible.

Installations will include artwork from children who have taken part in the children’s activities over the summer. There will be a garden space for relaxing, an aquarium, exhibits created by local students, and examples of how we can all play our part in taking care of our precious Earth.

Free during usual visitor hours

Special evening event tickets for Gaia include viewing of the Journey Through Creation work.

With thanks to The Kirby Laing Foundation
VISITING & TOURS

With over 1300 years of history there is plenty to discover at Lichfield Cathedral.

Our usual opening hours are:

**Monday-Saturday** 10:00-17:00
**Sunday** 12:00-17:00

HIGHLIGHTS TOURS
A 45-minute tour exploring the story of Lichfield Cathedral.
Enjoy a glimpse into the vast history of the Cathedral and experience just the beginning of Lichfield Cathedral’s story. Tours are led by our knowledgeable guides and are the perfect addition to your visit.

**Monday-Saturday** 11:00* & 14:00*
£5 per person, under 16s free

*subject to availability

NEW: FACES OF THE CATHEDRAL
A 60-minute tour exploring Lichfield Cathedral’s exterior spaces.
Our knowledgeable guides will lead you around the exterior of our wonderful cathedral building. Learn about the iconic three spires and amazing West Front with its array of statues.

22 May - 16 June 13:30* £5 per person, under 16s free

*see website for selected days: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/tours

LIBRARY TOURS
Approx. 90 minutes
Climb the spiral staircase to see one of the Cathedral’s best-loved treasures, the Library, for yourself and explore some of our fascinating collection.

In 2023 we investigate ‘Journeys and Exploration’, a chance to discover how our understanding of the world and local area has changed through the centuries. Take a journey from Staffordshire around the globe, delve into beautifully-illustrated map-books and charts, and uncover insights from James Cook’s voyages.

Tickets £18 per person
Booking is essential: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/tours

Daytime Tours 10:30
Saturday 27 May
Saturday 17 June
Saturday 29 July
Saturday 12 August
Saturday 16 September
Saturday 21 October

Candlelit Tours 19:30
Friday 26 May
Friday 16 June
Friday 28 July
Friday 11 August
Friday 15 September

DISCOVER YOUR CATHEDRAL
Approx. 60-90 minutes
A more in-depth, private tour taking you on a journey through 1300 years of history. Encounter stories of the Cathedral and learn more about the architectural features and monuments of this national treasure from one of our expert tour guides.

£10 per person (minimum 6 people required)

Book in advance: events@lichfield-cathedral.org

TAILOR-MADE TOURS
If your group has a particular interest, our specially-trained guides can provide an in-depth insight into the topic of your choice.

Please contact us for prices and availability.

To find out more and book your tour, please contact the box office team on events@lichfield-cathedral.org or call 01543 306148
DONATE TO YOUR CATHEDRAL
Did you know the average donation at Lichfield Cathedral is less than a cup of coffee? If you’d like to help us, here’s what you can do:
- Leave a donation at one of the donation points in the Cathedral
- Text SPIRES to 70191 to give £10
- Donate on our website: www.lichfield-cathedral.org/donate

PARTNER WITH YOUR CATHEDRAL
Our Corporate Partners provide expertise and support to the Cathedral. If you’re a business and you’d like to talk to us about working together please contact: development@lichfield-cathedral.org or call 01543 622460

VOLUNTEER AT YOUR CATHEDRAL
Our volunteers help to keep the Cathedral running smoothly and bring a wide range of skills with them. If you would like to know more about volunteering for us, please contact: volunteers@lichfield-cathedral.org or call 01543 622497

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHEDRAL
Keep in touch with the latest news and events at: www.lichfield-cathedral.org and social media channels.