



The College of
St Barnabas

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St Barnabas Bulletin - New Year 2016

A very big Thank You!

The 2015 appeal led by the Archbishop of York has raised an astonishing £150,000!

Archbishop Sentamu was so moved by the need to supplement inadequate social funding for our less well-off residents that he wrote to our supporters to ask for help. Now we can thank you for a wonderfully successful response to his letter.



“These are people who have given their lives in the service of the Gospel, often in difficult circumstances but all with distinction,” he wrote. “I appeal to you personally to give as generously as you can to help us care for these needy and frail people. Their generosity of spirit has meant that they have not been able to amass the resources they need to fund their care. It is now our turn to help them.”

“The response has been amazing,” said College Chairman, Sir Paul Britton. “We are immensely grateful to everyone who has understood the needs we face and given so generously. The Warden and I were glad to have the opportunity to thank the Archbishop personally.” (see above). “His support for our work as a Patron of the College is invaluable and this wonderful outcome shows how much it means to our supporters.”

Caring for retired Anglican Clergy

Characters from the College: Canon Robin Osborne

By Cliff Caswell



Reflecting on the six decades since he was ordained, Canon Robin Osborne is the first to admit that the world in which his ministry began is very different from today.

But his life as a priest continues with the same drive and passion as when he was ordained in 1955. “Yes, life has changed – and ministry and our experiences as priests have changed with it. But we are a living community, and if you stay alert and open to change, you will be fine.”

Father Robin has been a lynchpin of communities throughout his ministry. Having completed two years of national service in the Royal Air Force, he had seemed destined for a career in industry but he instead found his sense of vocation attracting him to the Community of the Resurrection in Mirfield, West Yorkshire. “I will always be attached to the community and it was there that my call become stronger,” he reflects. “From there, I went straight into parish life. My first parish after being ordained was in Wellingborough, where I spent four years as a curate before moving to Hertfordshire.”

In 1982 the call took him further west. When his bishop moved to Cornwall, Father Robin found his ministry following suit. He worked in Penzance before moving to Truro Cathedral as Canon Treasurer, where he was to spend six fulfilling years.

“I will always remember one experience there: on Maundy Thursday in 1994 the Queen came to distribute the Maundy money,” he recalls. “It was wonderful to see over 130 people coming forward to receive it – and our traditions working in the way that they had for so long.”

Although he retired from full-time ministry in 1994, it did not spell the end of his service as a priest. An eloquent speaker, he is widely respected for his extensive experience and easy-going manner. He settled for a decade in Wells, Somerset, assisting with life in his parish, before embracing new challenges in Surrey after deciding to move to the College of St Barnabas. As well as preaching in many local and more distant churches, he has committed himself to the spiritual, social and cultural life of the College. In particular, he has served the community as a distinguished Sub-Warden, deputising for the Warden and helping to care for the residents who now form his family.

“When I read an article about the College I was immediately sure that it was the place for me,” he concluded. “One of my best experiences as a priest has been to be part of different communities. This continues to be true at the College and it is this that makes my life here so rewarding.”

A record score at our Charity Golf Day

By Paul Wilkin

This year our hosts, Chartham Park Golf and Country Club, set us a challenge.



If we wanted to continue to have a 'shot gun start' - when all start playing at the same time with each team beginning from a different hole - then we had to have 70 golfers. That meant we needed 18 teams of 4 players.

Over the last few years we had averaged around 15 teams. Thanks to the hard work of the office staff, more new players were recruited to join many of our regular supporters, making 19 teams in all. As a result, our fourteenth annual golf day was our most successful to date: the largest number of teams and the most money raised making £3,668 profit for the College. We were extremely grateful for all 29 raffle prizes, which were all donated.



For the first time in this competition we had a '**Hole in One**' on the third hole by Bogdan Nowakowski (*left*), which also, rather obviously, qualified him to win the 'nearest to the pin' prize.

We are delighted that each year a Council Member presents the prizes and some even manage to play! This year Mr Keith Luckhoo made the presentations. We are equally grateful to our sponsor: Alex Jones Funeral Directors sponsor the first team prize, the St Barnabas Plate; Barclays Bank plc sponsor the 1st Hole and the raffle on a £1 for £1 basis; C Brewer and Sons Ltd sponsor the 18th hole.

The wining lady was Pat Whitty, the winner of the St Barnabas Cup was Steve Parrish and the team who won the St Barnabas Plate were named 'I will Play a Provisional'! (*see right*)

Next Year

Our next Charity Golf Day will be held on **Friday, 9th September 2016**. If you would like to be involved, further details can be obtained from the College Bursar, Paul Wilkin.



Archbishop of Canterbury and Dean of Southwark to visit the College - Don't miss these dates!



The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Reverend Justin Welby, will be the preacher at our 2016 Patronal Festival on Thursday 9th June.

Provided his international commitments permit, the Archbishop, who is a Patron of the College, will give the address at the service of Evensong which will begin at 2.30 p.m., and will stay to meet guests during the Garden Party which follows.

The Garden Party is offered as a gift from the College to our friends and supporters. We expect the attendance at both the service and the Garden Party to be high and places are limited.

You are welcome to attend but are asked to contact the Festival Office at the College as soon as possible to reserve a place. Please mark the envelope "Archbishop's Visit".

The following evening, Friday 10th June, the College will hold the annual Festival Dinner at which the speaker will be **The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn**, Dean of Southwark.

Well known as a humorous and entertaining speaker, Dean Andrew has been a President of the College since 2011.

Cocktails will be served on the lawns from 7 p.m. before the superb five course meal begins at 7.30 pm. During the evening there will also be an auction of spectacular lots sponsored to support the College.

Tickets for the Dinner sell out quickly. Guests are welcome to book individual places at £60 each or to reserve a table for ten with one place free of charge.

Please write to the Festival Office at the College, marking the envelope "Festival Dinner".



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