

Blackburn Cathedral Music & More online Supplement No. 3

December 2012

Cathedral Outreach Worker

Canon Ian Stockton, our Canon Chancellor, gave an informal but hearty welcome to **Gill Taylor**, the Cathedral and Youth Zone Outreach Worker, at coffee hour in the crypt in December.



Gill, who lives in Pendle, told us that she is on a six-month pilot project to work with and to engage with the young people who hang around in the Cathedral Quarter.

The number of young people who congregate near the cathedral has been a growing challenge, for older people sometimes fear to go near them, so Gill Taylor's ministry is most welcome.

She said, *'Say hello to me on Sundays at worship – and dare to come with me as I try to interact with these young people.'*

Contact Gill at gill.taylor@blackburnyz.org

Blackburn Chorister invited to Downing Street!



Our own **Louisa Stirland**, *BBC 2 Young Chorister of the Year*, and the boy Young Chorister of the Year, Isaac Waddington from Portsmouth Cathedral, were the musical guests at the Downing Street annual Christmas Party hosted at Number 10 by the Prime Minister and Mrs. Cameron.

The party was for 45 children with life-limiting or terminal conditions who had been nominated by five charities from across the country.

David Cameron introduced the two soloists to the invited guests, and Louisa and Isaac sang their own unaccompanied arrangements of *In the Bleak Midwinter* and *Silent Night*.

Afterwards the Prime Minister told Louisa that she had an exceptional voice, and he signed an autograph for her.

After they had sung, a distinguished guest said that Louisa 'had talent in spades', and another said that they were 'amazed at the maturity' she had shown. They went on to say that if she continues to work hard she will go far.

The 45 children were treated to cakes, drinks & sweets and were entertained by dancers and magicians, both in the street itself and in the State Rooms, which were dressed to look especially festive for the occasion.

No photographs were allowed inside No. 10, so Louisa had to make do with this one taken outside that famous front door!

Well done, Louisa. We're so proud of you!

See more about Louisa on the front cover and on pages 27 & 30 of the February 2013 edition of *Blackburn Cathedral's Music and More*.

see Blog.Bertalot.org / Newsletters



Canon Stockton 'stalls' in Blackburn's MALL

One Saturday morning just before Christmas, our Canon Chancellor volunteered to set up a stall of cathedral literature and leaflets in The Mall – publicity for concerts, for talks, for workshops, and even a few of the remaining issues of *Music & More 2012 No 3*.



Although there weren't queues of folk eagerly seeking the information available (even though it was all free), Canon Ian was able to chat to a number of Blackburn customers – some of whom had never been into our cathedral. (It's only 50 metres across the road – and entrance is free, too!)

The green sign over Canon Ian referred, not to the cathedral's Christian outreach (although it was certainly apposite) but to the attractive ornaments which were on sale in the next stall.

CHRISTMAS AT BLACKBURN: Choristers' party and NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS: M&M Supplements Nos. 4 & 5. Take a look right now!