

Former Chorister of Blackburn Cathedral, Chris Hunwick

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Chris Hunwick, who was a Prefect in our cathedral choir 24 years ago, has the most fascinating 'job' as Archivist to the Duke of Northumberland in Alnwick Castle – which is second in size only to Windsor Castle.

It's had a proud history for 1,000 years – its latest claim to fame is that it was the site for several editions of the *Harry Potter* films!



But in Chris's latest TV appearance (in *Tales from Northumberland* – shown on ITV on Dec. 1st) his interviewer, Robson Green, asked him about another Harry: *Harry Hotspur*.



'Harry Hotspur,' said Chris, 'was the eldest son of the first Earl of Northumberland – born in 1364. He was a brave fighter and led a successful battle against the marauding Scots when he was only about 13!'

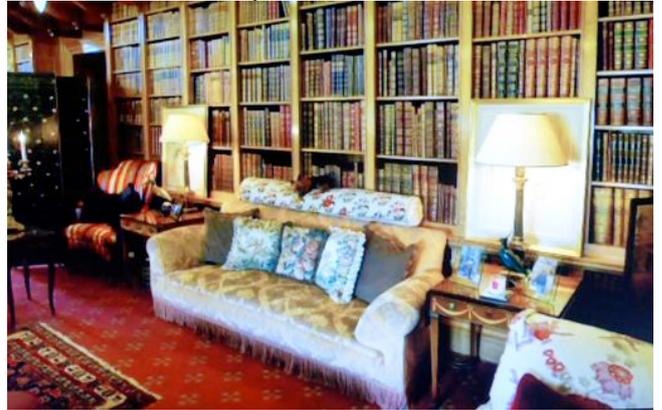


He's featured in Shakespeare's *Henry VI part 1*, and he's become so famous for his bravery that you can see streets named after him...

... and the football club *Tottenham Hotspur* is also named after him.



Chris is responsible for some 60,000 documents, priceless books and irreplaceable artifacts in Alnwick Castle. 'It's not a job for life,' said Chris, 'it's a job for three lives!'



The marvellous Gardens of Alnwick Castle were also featured in that programme – designed by the present Duchess of Northumberland at a cost of £40m! They've become a great tourist attraction.



Alnwick's town library was also featured in this fascinating programme. It is the largest second-hand bookshop in the country and was founded only 20 years ago in Alnwick's disused train station.



It's certainly worth a visit when you visit the castle – for not only do toy trains run along tracks above the bookshelves, but it was there that the famous poster *KEEP CALM* was found – and which (in various versions) has now encircled the world!

And whilst you're up there don't miss the **1,300 ft long Northumberland Lady of the North.**

It's the largest land sculpture of the female form in the world!

Princess Anne opened it in 2012. **Wow!**

