



The Chapels Royal of St Peter ad Vincula and St John the Evangelist HM Tower of London

Dear friends,

This week, I'm writing to inform you of major changes which will take in St Peter ad Vincula next year. Our final service in the chapel will be on Christmas Day and after that, St Peter's will close for approximately four months to allow for extensive renovations to be undertaken. To begin with, a new wheelchair access is to be constructed outside the west door and the door into the crypt will also be moved back to enable a slope to be created into the crypt for wheelchair access. In addition, there will be work undertaken in the crypt to create a new vault for the disposal of bones.

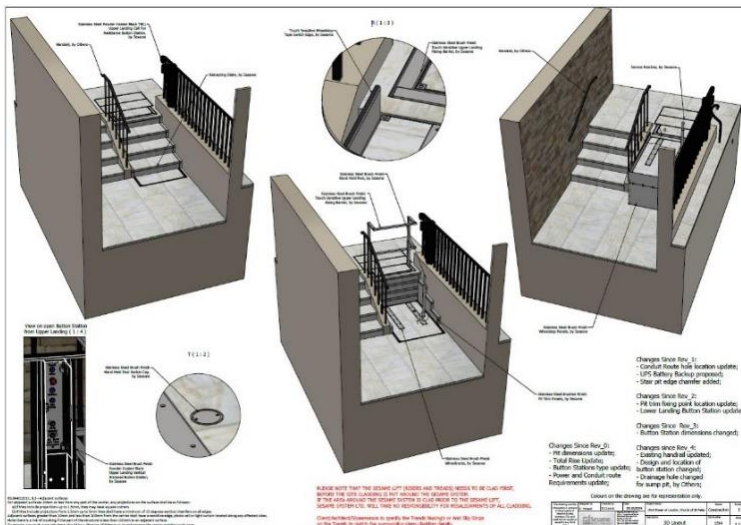
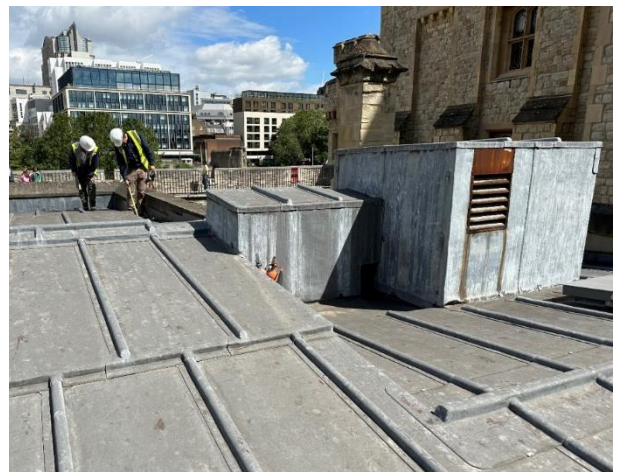


Illustration of proposed new lift at Chapel entrance



Window I East (full repair)

The East Window in the chapel is to be removed and restored. The chapel needs to be rewired and the damp in the south-west corner attended to. The tower (which was covered in scaffolding) will be recovered in scaffolding for new cladding to be added, and the roof of the chapel is to have repairs to the lead roofing, with the poor 1970s installation removed and replaced. Finally, this will also be an opportunity for much-needed work to be done on the chapel organ.



Chapel bell tower render & north aisle roof lead replacement / Removal of obsolete 1970s plantroom

All this work is to ensure that the chapel is fit for purpose, meets the standards required by health and safety, and will be a place set aside for the glory of God for very many years to come.

As a result of the closure of St Peter's, from January 2025 Sunday worship will be moved to The White Tower. Every week there will be a service of Holy Communion at 0930 and, from time to time, members of the choir will join us.

Just as in COVID times, music will be recorded by the choir and will be accessible from a link in the weekly Newsletter.

It is hoped that we shall return to St Peter's sometime in May. This Newsletter will provide regular updates about the works in progress.

To keep you all informed, this coming Sunday, in place of a sermon, I shall be talking in more detail about the various projects that will be taking place in the chapel throughout 2025.

With my best wishes, thoughts and prayers for you all, Roger.

Sunday Service Details for 24th November 2024
The Sunday next before Advent and Christ the King

0915 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

1100 Holy Communion St Peter ad Vincula

Readings:

Revelations 1: 4b-8.

John 18: 33-37.

Collect for Christ the King

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever, **Amen.**

Inside the Tower of London is back from 8pm, Thursday 21 November.



Series 7 of *Inside the Tower* starts as the Yeoman Body and Operations team prepare for the Constable's Dues. The show also follows the operational changes at the Tower, including welcoming new Yeoman Warders and a new Ravenmaster, before bidding a fond farewell to Deputy Governor Debbie Whittingham.

As ever, Joint Chief Curator Tracy Borman is on hand to delve into the histories of the Tower, with a visit to Hampton Court thrown in too.

Poem of the week

William Cullen Bryant (1794 -1878) was born in Cummington, Massachusetts, and was an American nature poet and journalist, who also wrote essays and articles championing the rights of workers and immigrants. He was editor for 50 years of the New York Evening Post. His poetry was hugely popular, rivalling that of Longfellow and Thoreau, and school children were often required to recite his poems from memory.

This week's poem, *November*, written in 1824, shares the same title as Thomas Hood's poem from last week, but is altogether more emotional. More than just a simple description of nature in late autumn, its words convey the beauty and pain of change and of endings, but also the possibility of hope.

November

Yet one smile more, departing, distant sun!
One mellow smile through the soft vapory air,
Ere, o'er the frozen earth, the loud winds run,
Or snows are sifted o'er the meadows bare.
One smile on the brown hills and naked trees,
And the dark rocks whose summer wreaths are cast,
And the blue gentian flower, that, in the breeze,
Nods lonely, of her beauteous race the last.
Yet a few sunny days, in which the bee
Shall murmur by the hedge that skirts the way,
The cricket chirp upon the russet lea,
And man delight to linger in thy ray.
Yet one rich smile, and we will try to bear
The piercing winter frost, and winds, and darkened air.

William Cullen Bryant 1794 - 1878

Jigsaw

Shire horses in the Tower of London moat.

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=34fdf9a9b2a4>



Prayers

Please continue to remember those on our sick list, some of whom are very ill, amongst whom we name: Stanley, John, Barbara, Mark, Rob, and Kofi.

RIP

Ann Kneely and Shirley Reece

Please continue to pray for Ukraine and the countries of the Middle East:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.

This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of peace. Amen.

With best wishes to all, Roger.



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Donations to the Chapel

We are always grateful for financial contributions to help us in our work. If you would like to support the Chapels Royal, HM Tower of London by setting up a Standing Order, making a one-off donation to Chapel Funds or setting up a Direct Debit, this is how to do it.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

STANDING ORDER. This is our preferred method because it ensures that we get maximum benefit from your contributions in the timeliest manner. If you would like to set up a Standing Order, you should be able to do this online with your bank, using the following details:

Bank name: **CAF Bank plc**

Sort code: **40-52-40**

Account number: **00027597**

Account name: **The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation**

Reference: *[your initials and surname]*.

If you prefer to set up the Standing Order by hard copy, please complete the Standing Order form below and send it to your bank.

In either case, please be sure to complete the Gift Aid Form below if you are an eligible UK taxpayer, as this increases the amount of your donation by 25% at no additional cost to you. Please send the completed Gift Aid Form to the address on the form: *The Chapel Administrator, 1 Tower Green, Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB* or scan it and send it as an e-mail attachment to: TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk.

ONE-OFF DONATION. You can make a one-off donation online by clicking on [this link](#) or pointing the camera of your phone or tablet at this QR Code



and following the link which then pops up. If you are eligible for Gift Aid, please tick the relevant box and provide the required details on the CAF Bank online form. These two links are also available on our website [here](#).

DIRECT DEBIT. It is also possible to use the links above to set up a Direct Debit if that is what you prefer.

If you are an eligible UK taxpayer using the CAF Bank website via the links above to make either a one-off donation or to set up a Direct Debit, please remember to tick the Gift Aid box on the CAF site form. This method of Gift Aid payment does entail some delay in our receiving the benefit – hence our preference for Standing Orders. Gift Aid is available only to eligible UK taxpayers.

If you would also like to give to the Music Fund known as the Chapel Music Friends, please click [here](#).

Please note that Standing Orders and Direct Debits can be set up only from accounts with banks in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. One-off payments may be made from anywhere in the world, using the card or PayPal options on the CAF Bank website from the links above.

Please see below for the Standing Order and Gift Aid forms.

Thank you again for your generosity.

The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation



Standing Order

Standing Order

If you have an online banking facility, you should be able to use that to set up a Standing Order with the information in the box below. If not, please complete the form and send it to your bank.

To: The Manager, _____ [*Name of your bank*] [*Address of bank*] [*Address of bank*] [*Sort code*] _____ [*Account No.*] _____ of

Please remit £ _____ to the account detailed below commencing on

_____ [*date*] and monthly / annually [*delete one*] until further notice.

[*Signature*] _____ [*Date of signing*] _____

Use the information below to set up online, or return the completed form to your bank.

Please remit to: CAF Bank plc	Sort code	40-52-40
	Account number	00027597
	Account name	The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation
	Reference	[<i>your initials and surname</i>]

The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation



Gift Aid

Charity Gift Aid Declaration – Multiple donations

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is required to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below.

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any donation I make in the future or have made in the last four years to The HM Tower of London Chapels Royal Foundation.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in the tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *If this does not apply, please strike through and continue with the rest of this form.*

My details: Title ___ First name or initials _____

Surname ___ Home Address _____
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Please notify the charity if you:

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If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment Tax Return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Please post, or return to:

The Chapel Administrator, 1 Tower Green, Tower of London, London, EC3N 4AB.

or send as an e-mail attachment to:

TowerofLondonChapelAdministrator@hrp.org.uk

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