

THE PINNACLE

on the threshold



NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL TRUST ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL COMPLETION FUND
GPO Box 421, BRISBANE, Q 4001 • Phone: (07) 3835 2235 • Fax: (07) 3832 3173 • E-mail: stjohns@gil.com.au

Chairman's message

Those who look at the cathedral as they pass by in Ann Street cannot help but observe the progress which is occurring. Whether as a resident in the greater Brisbane community or as a member of the Anglican community, we should all be excited to see the progress and to recognise the vision of the completed West End. It will be a wonderful asset to the city, as well as an important focal point and inspiration for the work of the Diocese.

It is consequently a challenging as well as rewarding experience to be associated with an important fundraising endeavour, and I am honoured to have the opportunity of being a part of it. I commend the work which has been done before me by so many people associated with the fundraising: both those who have been involved in a leadership capacity, as well as the many supporters who have contributed in a very generous way.

I acknowledge the leadership of **Steven Wilson** who has chaired the Cathedral Completion Fundraising

Board for the last three years until last year. His leadership and commitment has been most significant in the progress made during his chairmanship.

I also acknowledge the contribution and commitment of **Sir Ian McFarlane** who served as a member of the Fundraising Board for 4 years. It is with regret we have accepted his resignation from the committee and on behalf of all, I say thank you to him for his most valuable commitment and support.

There are many people making generous contributions of time and money to the fundraising effort and it is a continuing challenge for us to give them the recognition that they should have. No doubt they will feel rewarded by the satisfaction of being involved.

Hopefully, the regular updates in *The Pinnacle* assist in keeping everyone informed of the progress being made towards our goal of completion.

John Allpass

Chairman, Cathedral Completion Fundraising Board.



John Allpass

Loaves & Fishes champion

Richard Braim, Executive Chef again for this year's Loaves & Fishes Luncheon, recently won the Best Hotel Restaurant Award 2000 for The Old England Hotel at Heidelberg. Congratulations Richard.

As Executive Chef at the award-winning hotel, Richard is our champion too as he comes specially from Victoria to manage the 'kitchen' for our luncheon. Moving to Heidelberg a couple of years ago has not prevented Richard from continuing the role he established eight years ago.

He continues to come back each year to see that fish & chips are delivered in their hundreds to each guest in no more than half an hour. His greatest triumph must have been the year Prime Minister John Howard attended and more than 550 guests received crispy hot fish & chips within 35 minutes.

Richard will be at the helm with his old Brisbane friends again returning to donate their time as cooks, for this the eighth Loaves and Fishes Luncheon thanks to the continuing sponsorship of **Nigel Carrall**, better known as **The Capt'n**.

Loaves & Fishes Luncheon, Wednesday 20 June 12.30pm.

Bookings Ph 3835 2235.

PromPraise 2001

Anglicare charity and welfare programs and the National Trust St John's Cathedral Completion Fund will share the proceeds from the second Brisbane PromPraise to be held in St John's Cathedral on Tuesday 5 June 2001 at 7.30pm.

Originally created for All Souls, Langham Place, London, and inspiring concert goers in Melbourne and Sydney, the ever-popular PromPraise concert will feature internationally acclaimed artists: gospel singer Venetta Fields, soprano Margaret Schindler, flautist Margaret Cotterell, and organist Christopher Wrench.

The vocal ensemble **Sixophany** will be joined by a 250 massesd voice choir from Anglican schools and parishes, conducted by **Emily Cox**.

The concert will be compered by Brisbane television personality, **Marie-Louise Theile**. True to the tradition of PromPraise, the audience will join the singing of well known hymns.

Come and enjoy the singing - hear Venetta Fields sing her famous arrangement of Amazing Grace and many other musical favourites.

Bookings at Anglicare Ph 3260 6461.

Special Events

Glimpses of J.L.Pearson 1817 ~ 1897

John Phillips R.I.B.A. (Royal Institute of British Architects), consultant architect to the Completion project and an authority on the work of Pearson, writes:

Spiritual splendour solidified in stone, is a very apt description of Brisbane's marvellous cathedral created in the medieval tradition but with masterly control and use of the old forms in a beautiful and original composition.

John Loughborough Pearson, the architect of St John's, was a reticent individual who preferred to let his works speak for themselves. His reserve was increased by the early death of his wife soon after his son Frank was born. In spite of his shyness he was always ready to give advice to the younger generation who remembered with affection the assistance of 'this stocky man with a phenomenal knowledge of the medieval gothic tradition'.

There is little written reference to his religious convictions apart from his period as a Sunday School teacher in Durham, where he was born, before he left at the age of 25 to establish his practice in London in 1843. He has, however, been reputed as being a devout believer in worship and prayer. His later

Remembering the laying of the Foundation Stone of St John's Cathedral in 1901, we continue a review of architect John Loughborough Pearson as begun in the last issue of The Pinnacle.

churches were connected with the Oxford Movement¹ and therefore it can be assumed he had leanings towards Anglo-Catholicism.

His reference to St Michael's Croydon, 'this is a place of real worship' and also his remark prior to his creation of the design of Truro Cathedral, that his business was, 'to bring people soonest to their knees', give an impression of a serious faith.

Excellence

Pearson was always keen on excellence and is reported to have said that he would rather build one church well than half a dozen indifferently. It is this excellence that we all find difficult to follow these days with the many advancements in technology, and we appreciate his insight into the work of the medieval masons which he

transformed into his own specific Victorian designs. I am sure he would have appreciated the use of fibre optics (a modern invention) for the lighting of the west porch as it is so aesthetically unobtrusive.

It is unfortunate that there is little reference to his views and even some RIBA members knew little of him and his work when he received the RIBA Gold Medal in June 1880.

His son Frank, who carried on the practice after Pearson's death, was mainly responsible for the detailing of the first section of St John's but has left little comment on his father's work.

Sustain and Abstain

In contrast, W.D.Caroe, one of Pearson's assistants, is reputed to have been fullsome in his praise of his mentor's work. He was the first of three generations of cathedral architects and was responsible for the design of Pearson's memorial in Westminster Abbey in 1897 on which is the inscription "Sustain and Abstain".

In trying to interpret this phrase I consider the 'sustain' could relate to his careful restorations which have been mentioned by Dean Grimshaw in his article in the last issue of *The Pinnacle*.

"Abstain" must refer to the restraint in many of his later creations where he allowed the good proportions of sections and elevations on a regular plan to be the dominant part of the design enlivened by small areas of more decorative work in porches, baptisteries, chapels etc.

After 50 years studying Pearson's work and 40 years professional connection with Truro Cathedral I feel that I have a reasonable experience of the variations of the detailing that he used which highlights his wonderful designs. He retained the freshness of medieval gothic architecture in England and France but made it his own; one is still continually finding the odd delightful detail or variation.

¹The movement (1833 - 45) within the Church of England, centred at Oxford, which aimed at restoring the High Church ideals of the 17th century. The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church.

Prolific Pearson

The list of Pearson's work, as promised in the last Pinnacle, is too vast to detail.

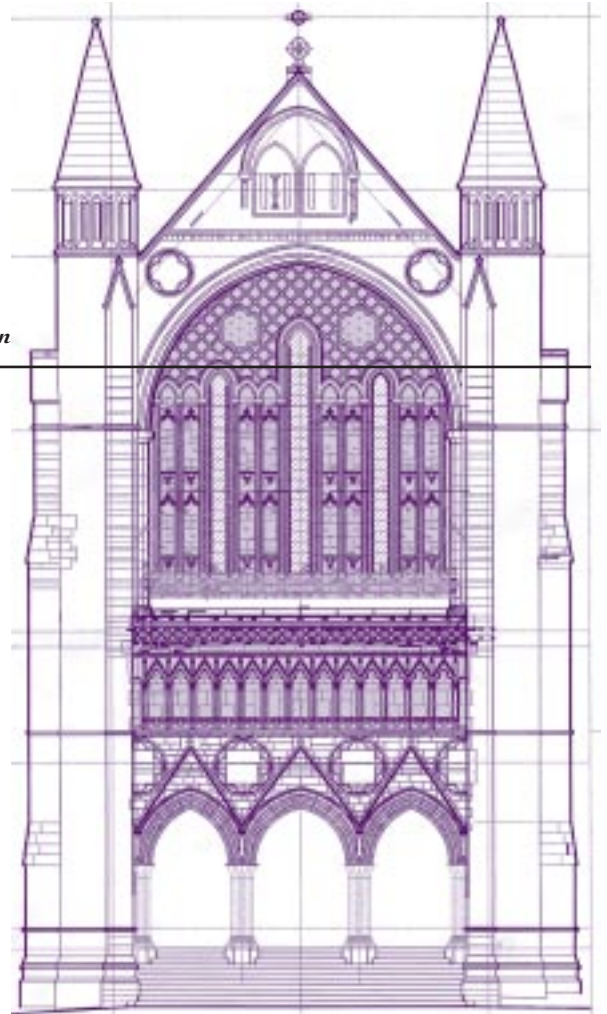
- ✦ John Phillips' list includes 122 churches and cathedrals in England, Scotland and Wales for which Pearson worked on restoration, and notes that his list is still incomplete.
- ✦ Of his 75 new cathedrals and churches, two were demolished after WW11 - St John, Red lion Square, Holburn and Holy Trinity, Westminster; two remain unfinished: St Mark, Barnet Vale, Barnet and St John's Cathedral, Brisbane.
- ✦ Of his two cathedrals, first stages of Truro completed in 1887 is regarded as his 'Magnum Opus'; the Great West End of St John's, Brisbane is due for completion in 2006 leaving only the Central tower to build.
- ✦ Pearson's first church to be built was St Anne's Chapel, Ellerker, East Riding.
- ✦ Among the cathedrals benefiting from Pearson's restoration advice are cathedrals at Canterbury, Chichester, Exeter, Gloucester, Lincoln, Leicester, Perth (Scotland), Peterborough, Rochester and Wakefield; other major churches include All Hallows by the Tower, Shrewsbury Abbey, Westminster Abbey, St George's Chapel (Windsor).
- ✦ Phillips notes that Pearson also designed schools and vicarages for some of the projects, but did not have many commissions for houses.

Pearson

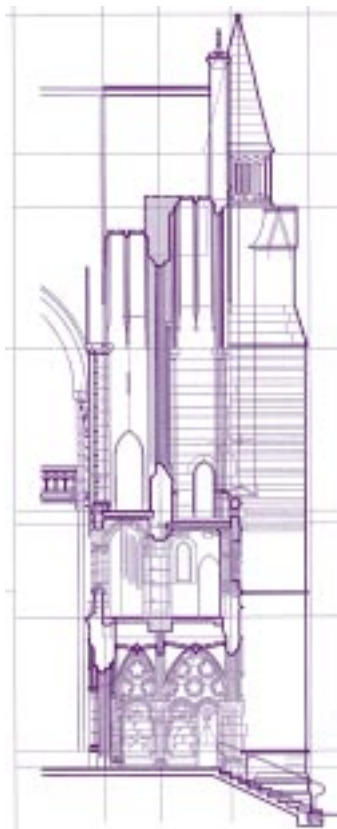
News from on site

- ✦ West Façade on schedule for completion this year
- ✦ An increase in the rate of building over the past few months is the result of a major injection of funds.
- ✦ \$3million from the Commonwealth Government, including the \$1m from the Centenary of Federation Fund, is all to be spent on completing the West Façade by the end of 2001.
- ✦ **Peter Dare**, Master Mason, reports the number of people currently employed on the project is 31. This includes 14 masons and labourers at the Helidon Quarry and the remainder on the building site. Two of these masons have come from Sydney to work specially on the two turrets of the West Façade.
- ✦ To keep up with the demand of stone, **Comerford Sandstone** has been employed to cut sandstone for the tower walls; at Nerangba and Nudgee, **T.Rafter & Son** are cutting the circular Vulcanic building blocks - sometimes referred to as Porphyry or Tuff, to build the circular outside walls of the turret staircases.
- ✦ Of the 3 lancets in the West Window, the two outside ones are complete, and the centre lancet has 1 metre to go.
- ✦ The Millennium Window, designed by **Scott Maxwell**, is near completion in the workshop of **Warwick Blair**, ready to be installed before October 2001.
- ✦ Inside the West Façade, the arches are now on independent columns.
- ✦ **Ray Vickers**, the architectural draughtsman, is drawing the wooden roof beams from Pearson's original roof design.
- ✦ All is on schedule to finish the West Façade by 31 December this year.

Completion progress to date



Ann St elevation



Looking south (to Wharf St)

Two of the eight base niches separating the West Window lancets. Another eight niches are above them, making sixteen altogether which one-day could house statues in the medieval tradition.

News from on site



Some of the Helidon Quarry crew, L to R: Barry Maher, Colin Russell, Justin Bondzulich and Adam Jeffard.

Tracking the History of West End completion

Looking back

1988 FUNDRAISING BEGAN

\$10.3million was raised in this
first stage of fundraising

1997 THE FINAL DRIVE CAMPAIGN BEGAN

A new campaign began after the project
was re-costed at this time

New Target as at February 1997 \$25million
raised \$14.2million
still to raise \$10.8million

FUNDRAISING IS ON TARGET TO COMPLETE THE WEST END OF ST JOHN'S BY 2006.
THANKS TO OUR EVER-GROWING NUMBERS OF DONORS

Celebrating our centenary

It is indeed good news to learn that we now have sufficient money to complete the western façade of the cathedral, thanks to a generous \$3million contribution made by the Commonwealth.

It is a fitting time to receive a Federation grant as part of this contribution, bearing in mind that 100 years ago, after he had opened the first Commonwealth Parliament in Melbourne, the Duke of Cornwall and York laid the foundation stone of St John's Cathedral.

As you will see on this page, it is our intention next May to celebrate that important event at a date to be announced which is convenient to the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard, who has expressed a firm desire to unveil the Federation Stone. We would hope to have a good congregation of friends and supporters present on this important occasion.

These important celebrations of our history provide a sense of continuity with the past which equips us better to understand the present and so anticipate and shape our future.

It is in this spirit that St John's is joining the national Centenary of Federation celebrations so that together we can shape our nation's future with responsibility and confidence in God.

Peter Hollingworth
Archbishop of Brisbane

Archbishop

Centenary Celebrations

The Centenary of the Laying of the foundation Stone of St John's Cathedral by the Duke of Cornwall & York on the 22 May 1901, will be celebrated by the Cathedral community with special events.

† A major exhibition will be mounted by the Diocesan Archives, the most comprehensive Anglican archives in Australia, opening on Friday 18 May. Curators, Glenda Murrell, Diocesan Archivist, and Ken Addison, are focussing on a century of construction and the great occasion of the Duke's visit in 1901 which began the story.

This exhibition will be opened by the Chief Justice, Justice Paul DeJersy.

† West End drawings by artist Glen Gillard, will form an accompanying exhibition for 3 weeks. Glen has been visiting the building site since its beginnings in 1989 and recording building progress with all the beauty of gothic arches and hand-finished stone. These drawings will be for sale, with commission to benefit the Cathedral Completion and the maintenance of St John's.

† Centenary Eucharist on Sunday 20 May at 9.30am will include a procession to historical sites in the

cathedral as well as the use of music which was used on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation Stone.

† Royal Historical Society Lecture on Tuesday 22 May at 7.30pm in St John's will include papers on Bishop Webber (the founding bishop), the Visit of the Duke of Cornwall and York to Brisbane in 1901 and a review of St John's cathedral history over the last 25 years.

A small charge for this evening will include tea, coffee, and a glass of wine.

Come celebrate this important milestone in our history.

Prime Minister's Visit

The Hon John Howard, Prime Minister, will celebrate our Centenary of laying the Foundation Stone by attending a special lunch-time Service in St John's during the centenary week at a time to be announced.

He will unveil a plaque commemorating the Commonwealth Government gift which has been made as part of the national Centenary of Federation celebrations. This gift enables the West Façade to be completed on schedule this year.

On the brink of something wonderful

There is a delightful moment in Nikos Kazantzakis's novel, *Zorba the Greek*, where Zorba accidentally kicks a stone and watches it as it rolls down a slope. He stops for a moment in wonderment and then with great joy says, "Did you see that, on the slopes stones come to life again."

I have been contemplating the way our stones come rolling down to us at St John's from the quarry at Helidon. There they are quarried from the depths of the earth, they are cut and moulded, and by the time they reach Ann Street they are "alive" and ready to be fixed into the "living building" of our cathedral. What a joy it is when we see that a pillar has arisen, that an arch has come to life, that a window is about to shed light.

Easter is not far away. Christians everywhere are preparing to celebrate the wonderment of Christ rising from the depths of suffering to be revealed in his bright risen glory. His followers are always on the brink of something new and wonderful.

The completion of the West Façade is not far away. Hidden from view at present for purposes of safety, soon all will be revealed. Meanwhile our unfolding story is told on some new notices in Ann Street sketched by Glen Gillard. Many stop and look and enter.

We wait in wonderment at the skill of our workers and in gratitude to our many donors for the revealing of a significant stage in our continuing story.

We wish you a Happy Easter of wonderment and fulfillment.

David Thomas
Dean of Brisbane

Dean

History at a glance



See for yourself a picture of our building history next time you pass the completion site facing Ann St.

Gift towards completion



Artist Raoul Mellish with his painting, *Avignon Summer*.
Photo courtesy Quest Newspapers.

Leading Brisbane artist **Raoul Mellish** has donated one of his much sought-after paintings from his private collection, to the St John's Cathedral Completion Fund.

The painting, *Avignon Summer*, is valued at \$4,000 and depicts Avignon in Provence overlooking the Rhone River.

Mr Mellish said that he is always inspired by the beauty and grandness of St John's architecture. He admits to having a particular fondness for the French influences in its Gothic Revival style.

Development Manager, **Peta Nagle**, believes this gift indicates the growing level of interest in St John's from a great variety of people who are beginning to realise what an important heritage building this cathedral is for Australia.

*The heavens praise the glory of the Almighty;
The cathedrals add the glory of mankind.
They offer Man a spectacle of magnificence,
both comforting and inspiring;
the spectacle of ourselves, the image of our soul,
elevated to eternity.*
August Rodin

Busy year for cathedral visitors

The number of visitors coming to the cathedral during 2000 was 15,575. Of these, 2,321 were school children from 24 schools. 1,783 people came in community groups and 29 parishes either made a pilgrimage with the whole parish represented, or were present as a one group in the parish.

Church & community group tours are asked to contribute \$2 per person of which \$1 is for cathedral completion and \$1 for cathedral maintenance.

Hard hats in a good cause

The Premier, the Hon Peter Beattie, visited the building site in December to present the latest instalment of the \$2.5million being given by the State Government over several years. The Archbishop, left, is pictured with the Dean, centre, and Mr Beattie. The Premier was pleased to see the tremendous progress made since his previous visit and looks forward to future visits.



TOWER CLUB

Welcome to new members: Ms Pat Slater, Ms Margaret McNickle, Ms Kathryn Houston, Mrs Dorothy Doughan, Mr John Carr.

A special morning tea on the site will be held for members to meet each other and view building progress on Friday 6 April at 10am.

Tower Club members make a gift of \$10,000 or more over 4 years, others make a single gift, or make a bequest and be honoured in their lifetime.

Enquiries: Peta Nagle Ph 5855 2224.

Diary Dates

6 April	Tower Club Members Morning Tea
20 May	Centenary Festival Eucharist 9.30am
20 May	Centenary Service
22 May	Centenary Lecture: Royal Historical Society
20 June	8th Annual Loaves & Fishes Luncheon
13 Sept	Company of St John the Evangelist Annual gathering at Bishopsbourne
26 Oct	Annual Dedication Festival Dinner
28 Oct	Annual Donors' Thanksgiving Service, for all donors

Bring your friends to visit the cathedral

Make a Group Booking
Cost \$2 per person (shared between completion & maintenance)

Make a Parish Pilgrimage
† Inspect the building site (weekends only)
† Tour the existing cathedral
Tea & Coffee provided (you bring eats)
† Attend Evensong
- you provide readers
Cost \$2 per person - (see above)

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon with a difference

Bookings: Katie Williams Pk 3835 2248

St John's Cathedral is open for visitors

† 9.30am - 4.30pm Daily.
Free tours for individuals
† 10am & 2pm Mon - Sat
† 2pm Sun only

Invite a speaker to visit your parish or group and hear the Cathedral Completion story at first hand.

Bookings: Peta Nagle, Development Fundraising Manager Pk 3835 2224

Easter in St John's Cathedral

Enquiries: Pk 3835 2231

Good Friday 13 April

9.30am The Liturgy of the Cross
Cathedral Choir
Preacher: The Very Rev'd Arthur Grimshaw
Dean Emeritus
12noon Three Hours Devotion to The Preaching of the Cross
Preacher: The Dean
6pm A meditation in Music
Canticum Choir Directed by Emily Cox

Holy Saturday 14 April

7am Morning Prayer
5.30pm Evensong
Cathedral Choir
7.30pm Easter Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter
Cathedral Chamber Choir

Easter Day 15 April

6.30am Holy Communion
Preacher: The Rev'd John Simpson
7.30am Holy Communion
Preacher: The Precentor
9.30am Sung Eucharist
Cathedral Choir
Preacher: The Dean
5.00pm Holy Communion
Preacher: The Rev'd Jack Phillips
6.00pm Evensong, Cathedral Choir

YOUR BEQUEST LIVES ON IN ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

Remember St John's Cathedral Completion Fund in your will

Please tell us about your bequest so that we can honour you in your lifetime

BEQUEATH

- a direct cash gift
- property, jewellery, furniture, art works, which can be sold
- the residue of estate after particular bequests have been made

For a complimentary Wills Booklet, or a confidential discussion, please contact

Peta Nagle: Ph 07 3835 2224

Fundraising Development Manager

Something you no longer use?

CATHEDRAL THRIFT SHOP

23A Station Rd, Indooroopilly next to Horseland

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri
9.30am - 3pm
Thurs 9.30am - 5pm

Leave goods at cathedral or
Ph 3397 1878

Pick-up can be arranged
Proceeds for Cathedral
Completion

The Cathedral Shop

A wide range of souvenirs & Gifts

Open Wed 10am - 2pm
Sundays after morning Services

Situated at the end of St Martin's House next to the cathedral

Souvenir Shop in cathedral
Mon - Fri 10am - 2pm

Keeping the West End Moving

Tax Deductibility is available on all gifts made to **The National Trust St John's Cathedral Completion Fund***.

Please accept my gift of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ P/Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Return to: St John's Cathedral Completion Fund
GPO Box 421, Brisbane, QLD 4001

Enquiries: Peta Nagle Ph 07 3835 2224

I enclose a cheque made out to the above*

OR Please debit my Credit Account

Visa Mastercard Bankcard Amex Diners

Name: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name on Card: _____

I would like information on: THE GREAT 3,000 THE TOWER CLUB COMPANY OF ST JOHN DEFERRED GIVING