



CLARENCE HOUSE  
LONDON SW1A 1BA

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## **PRESS PACK**

**A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF DIANA,  
PRINCESS OF WALES, THE GUARDS' CHAPEL, LONDON**

**FRIDAY 31ST AUGUST, 2007**

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## **The Guards' Chapel**

The Guards' Chapel is the spiritual home of the Household Division. The first Chapel was opened in 1838 thanks to the unflagging efforts of Dr. William Dakins, Chaplain to the Brigade. The original chapel was a plain rectangular building with a double tier of galleries on three sides to enable as many Guardsmen as possible to attend. Over the years the Chapel's decoration became more and more elaborate, as memorials were added to pay tribute to the faithful and gallant service of the members of the brigade. Sadly in 1944, the chapel was all but destroyed by a German bomb with the loss of 121 lives. Only the apse was left untouched and it has been incorporated into the new design.

### **Between 1939-1944**

The chapel was damaged several times between 1940 and 1944, mostly superficially but major damage was done in 1940 when the roof was badly burned by incendiary bombs, and again when a near miss blew out the stained glass windows. Most of the glass was recovered and eventually reconstructed.

### **Destruction of the Chapel**

During the morning service on Sunday 18th June 1944 at 11.10am the chapel was hit by a flying bomb which entered at the western end and exploded. It almost completely destroyed the chapel, leaving only the apse undamaged. 121 people, soldiers and civilians, were killed and many others injured. The six silver candlesticks and the cross still used for the normal services were in use at the time but were left untouched by the explosion, with all six candles left burning after the chapel had crashed in ruins.

### **Temporary Chapel**

Almost immediately proposals were put forward to enable worship to continue and on Christmas Day 1945 despite the severe restrictions on building work, the first service was held in a temporary chapel, constructed by joining the undamaged apse to a Romney Hut erected inside the ruined walls of the chapel. This was used continuously until 1962 while plans were made for complete rebuilding.

### **War Memorial Cloister and Cenotaph**

In 1956 the War Memorial Cloister for the Household Brigade, dedicated to all those who gave their lives in WWII, was built. The cloister was built to connect Birdcage Walk to the new chapel (then not yet designed). The cloister was the work of H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, at one time President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and who had been an officer in the Grenadier Guards. He was working on his own design for rebuilding the chapel when he died in 1959. The money for the memorial cloister was raised by all members of the Household Brigade and their friends.

### **Present Chapel**

Completed in 1963, the design of the new chapel is the work of architect Bruce George. It was designed to incorporate the apse from the original building and the War Memorial Cloister.

### **Memorial Books**

The cloister houses the seven regimental Rolls of Honour showing the names of all those who died whilst serving in the Household Brigade from 1939 to 1945. There is also a book showing those who were killed at the destruction of the chapel in 1944, and a Brigade of Guards memorial book started in 1919. The names of all those who died while serving in the Household Brigade and Division from 1945 onwards are now inscribed in a book of remembrance which stands by the side of the Cenotaph in the narthex. All the books are fine examples of modern calligraphy and bookbinding.

### **Readings**

Prince William, Prince Harry and their aunt Lady Sarah McCorquodale will give readings at the Thanksgiving Service.

1. A Reading by His Royal Highness Prince William of Wales
2. A Reading by His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Wales
3. A Reading by Lady Sarah McCorquodale

The Bishop of London will also give an address.

As soon as practicable, all three readings and The Bishop of London's address will be posted in full on [www.princeofwales.gov.uk](http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk) in the Document Downloads section of the Media Centre on the link below:

<http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/mediacentre/documentdownloads/>

## **Music**

The music during the service aims to reflect The Princess's tastes, and includes some of her favourite pieces such as Rachmaninov's "O Virgin Mother of God Rejoice" taken from The Vespers. The choir will sing this piece in its original Church Slavonic – just as The Princess used to listen to it. Other anthems include Mozart's motet "Ave verum corpus" and Faure's "In paradisum".

Four hymns are included in the service, with tunes from Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England. They are "Be Thou My Vision" to the traditional Irish melody "Slane", "The Lord's My Shepherd" to the very well known Scottish tune "Crimond", "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" to the Welsh classic "Cwm Rhondda" and finally, as a rousing climax to the Service, "I Vow To Thee, My Country" to the English standard "Thaxted", The Princess's favourite hymn.

The music will be led by the choirs of the Guards' Chapel, the Chapel Royal and Eton College (Princes William's and Prince Harry's school), together with an Orchestra from the Royal Academy of Music, of which the Princess was President. The conductors will be Tim Horton, Organist and Director of Music at the Guards' Chapel and Andrew Gant, Organist, Choirmaster and Composer of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal. Both musicians have written music for the service: Tim Horton has composed a choral Amen to follow the Blessing and Andrew Gant has arranged Sir Edward Elgar's famous 'Nimrod' using the Agnus Dei text from the requiem mass.

The final anthem, sung by the Choir of the Guards' Chapel, is Sir Hubert Parry's setting of a poem by the 17th Century poet Henry Vaughan.

"My soul there is a country" is the first of a set of six Songs of Farewell, written right at the end of the composer's life. The style is both very English and richly expressive:

"My soul, there is a country far beyond the stars, where stands a winged sentry all skilful in the wars... If thou canst get but thither, there grows the flower of Peace, the Rose that cannot wither, thy fortress and thy ease.."

### **Music before and after the service**

The music before and after the service is largely provided by an orchestra from the Royal Academy of Music. After two organ pieces by JS Bach, played by Joseph Nolan, the Assistant Organist of HM Chapels Royal, the bulk of the music is English, and includes music by Warlock, Walton, Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Handel. The three pieces immediately before the service, Handel's "Largo", Bach's "Jesu joy of man's desiring", and the traditional Irish "Londonderry Air" were requested by the family.

## **Biographies**

**The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dr Richard Chartres, Bishop of London and Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal** (Taken from <http://www.london.anglican.org/BishopOfLondon>)

Richard John Carew Chartres became the 132nd Bishop of London in November 1995 and was enthroned at St Paul's on 26 January 1996. He was educated at Hertford Grammar School and studied history at Trinity College Cambridge. Before ordination he taught Ancient History at the International School in Seville.

He was ordained in 1973 and served as a curate in St Andrew's Bedford. In 1975 he was appointed Chaplain to Robert Runcie, then Bishop of St Albans, and from 1980-84 he served as the Archbishop's Chaplain at Lambeth and Canterbury.

He moved to St Stephen's Rochester Row in the Diocese of London in 1984. During eight years in the parish he also served as Director of Ordinands for the Central Area and as Gresham Professor of Divinity. He was consecrated Bishop of Stepney in 1992.

After his move to the see of London, he was appointed Dean of HM Chapels Royal in 1996 and a Privy Counsellor. This accounts for the curious fact that the Bishop of London is the only bishop who bears the title 'Right Honourable' in addition to the usual 'Right Reverend'. He is an ex officio member of the House of Lords.

He is an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple, Chairman of the Ecumenical "London Church Leaders", a director of Coexist Foundation - a charity promoting interfaith understanding - and is associated with numerous other London organisations.

He is also Chairman of the Church Buildings Division of the Church of England and deputises for the Archbishop of Canterbury as Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Church Commissioners. He is also responsible on behalf of the Archbishop for relations with the Orthodox Churches. He founded St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace and is currently the Chairman of the Trustees. His publications include "The History of Gresham College 1597-1997" (with David Vermont) and "Tree of Knowledge, Tree of Life" [2005] and many articles and essays especially on religion and the environment.

He is married to Caroline, a freelance writer, and they have four children – Alexander, Sophie, Louis and Clio.

## **The Reverend Patrick Irwin - Chaplain to the Household Division**

The Reverend Patrick Irwin is the Chaplain to the Household Division and will conduct the Thanksgiving Service in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Born in 1955, Padre Irwin attended St Edward's School, Oxford. He read Classics at Brasenose College, Oxford, for his first degree. After this he trained for the priesthood at the Episcopal Theological College in Edinburgh and studied Divinity in the University of Edinburgh. He spent a year in Trier, Germany where he lived in St Matthias's Monastery and studied at the Liturgical Institute.

In 1981, he moved to Cambridge where he was Curate of St Botolph's Church and a research student at Pembroke College. He was ordained Deacon in St Botolph's in 1981 and Priest in Ely Cathedral in 1982.

From 1984 to 1992, Padre Irwin became Chaplain of Brasenose College, Oxford. He also became College Lecturer in Theology, and a Fellow of the College.

Padre Irwin joined the Royal Army Chaplains' Department in 1992, and took on a number of Chaplaincy roles within the British Army, both in this country and in Germany:

1992 – 2 Field Regiment Royal Artillery in Münster, Germany  
1993 – The King's Royal Hussars in Münster  
1994 – The First Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment in Catterick  
1995 – The First Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment in Catterick  
1996 – 28 and 35 Engineer Regiments in Hameln, Germany  
1999 – The Royal Logistic Corps Training Centre in Deepcut  
2000 – Senior Chaplain, The Army Foundation College in Harrogate  
2001 – Senior Chaplain, 3 Infantry Brigade in Northern Ireland  
2004 – Senior Chaplain, 102 Logistic Brigade in Gütersloh  
2005 – Chaplain to the Household Division and Senior Chaplain London District.

The Reverend Patrick Irwin will leave his current position next month to become the British Chaplain at SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe) in Mons, Belgium, the Headquarters of Allied Command Operations (ACO), one of NATO's two strategic military commands.

## **The Welsh Guards**

Two of the Welsh Guards who acted as pallbearers at The Princess's funeral on 6th September 1997 will stand at the top of the chapel steps for the arrival of the senior members of the Royal Family who are arriving in cars. They are Senior NCO's in the Welsh Guards and their names are Colour Sergeant Carl Taylor and Lance Sergeant Chris Traherne.

### **History**

The Welsh Guards were established on 26th February 1915 by order of King George V, in order to complete the national complement of Foot Guards Regiments identified with the countries of the United Kingdom. Two days later, the Welsh Guards were able to mount their first King's Guard at Buckingham Palace on St David's Day, 1st March 1915.

The regiment played a significant role during World War I and was expanded to three battalions during World War II to enable the Guards to fight in all the campaigns in North West Europe as well as the Tunisian and Italian campaigns. Shortly after World War II, the 3rd Battalion was disbanded and the 2nd Battalion was placed in suspended animation.

Since 1915 the Regiment has been awarded 47 battle honours, of which 21 are borne on The Colours. In May 2006, the 1st Battalion was presented with new Colours by Her Majesty The Queen, and in June that year those colours were trooped at The Queen's Birthday Parade. The Regiment also has two recipients of the Victoria Cross, Lt The Honourable Christopher Furness and Sergeant Robert Bye. The Welsh Guards can be distinguished by their 'Leek' cap badge and the distinctive five buttons worn on their red tunics.

### **Duties**

As a Foot Guards Regiment in the Household Division, the Welsh Guards help to provide the Ceremonial guard for St James's and Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and The Tower of London. When undertaking ceremonial duties the Welsh Guards are based at Wellington Barracks in central London. When not conducting Ceremonial Duties, the Welsh Guards are a light role infantry battalion, based in Aldershot, Hampshire. In this role they train for and deploy on war-fighting, peace-keeping and peace support operations throughout the world. The 1st Battalion has recently completed tours of Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Northern Ireland.

The 1st Battalion Welsh Guards recruit from across Wales and is currently commanded by Lt Col R. Stanford MBE. Her Majesty The Queen is Colonel-in-Chief and His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales is Colonel of the Regiment.

## Guests

Among the approximately 500 guests attending the service will be many chosen to reflect The Princess's personal and working life. More than 30 members of the Royal Family will be present, along with 100 other family members, her godparents, 12 godchildren and all bridesmaids and page boys who attended the Princess's wedding in 1981. Former members of The Princess's staff, and over 110 representatives from her charities and other organisations with which she was associated, have also been invited to the service.

Notable figures in the guest list include The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, and former Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Sir John Major. Some of the well-known friends of The Princess attending the service include Sir Elton John, Sir Cliff Richard, Mario Testino, Bryan Adams, Wayne Sleep and Lord Attenborough.

The many charities being represented at the service will include the following:

British Muslim Forum

Elton John Aids Foundation

Faculty of Dental Surgeons for the Royal College of Surgeons of England

Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Chicken Shed Theatre Company

The Albany

DrugScope

The Guinness Trust

Headway - The Brain Injury Association

Home Start UK

The Douglas Bader Foundation

The Lord Mayor's Parlour

Wellbeing of Women

Gloucestershire County Cricket Club

Crusaid

Newport International Competition for Young Pianists

Harefield Hospital

The Chester Summer Music Festival

Royal Academy of Music

Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland



Huntington's Disease Association  
The British Red Cross Society  
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children  
The Light Dragoons  
RAF Club  
Turning Point  
St Matthew Housing  
The Benesh Institute  
International Spinal Research Trust  
Northern Ireland Pre-School Playgroups Association  
Chester Childbirth Appeal  
The Meningitis Trust  
Sound Seekers  
The American Friends of Covent Garden  
The Passage  
Scottish Pre-School Play Association  
Hillsborough Family Support Group  
British Youth Opera  
Buckinghamshire Hospitals NHS Trust  
Pied Piper Appeal  
Parkinson's Disease Society  
Freshfield Service  
Refuge  
Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth  
Wales Pre-school Playgroup Association  
Welsh Bowling Association  
National Children's Orchestra  
Help the Aged  
Bradford City Football Club  
Childline (LSE)  
London Symphony Chorus  
The Children's Hospice in Wales  
Centrepoint



**CLARENCE HOUSE  
LONDON SW1A 1BA**

24th August, 2007

**UNDER STRICT BROADCAST, PUBLICATION AND TAPING  
EMBARGO UNTIL: 00.01 Sunday 26th, August 2007**

**PRINCES TO LEAD SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR DIANA,  
PRINCESS OF WALES**

Prince William and Prince Harry will both give readings at the Thanksgiving Service for their mother, Diana, Princess of Wales, on Friday 31st August 2007.

The Princess's eldest sister, Lady Sarah McCorquodale, will also give a reading at the hour-long service being held at 12 noon in the Guards' Chapel at London's Wellington Barracks.

The service, to be conducted by the Reverend Patrick Irwin, Chaplain to the Household Division, will include two prayers specially written for the occasion by Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, as well as an address by the Bishop of London, The Rt. Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dr. Richard Chartres.

The arrangements for the service have been overseen personally by Prince William and Prince Harry, together with the Princess's brother, Earl Spencer, and her two sisters, Lady Sarah McCorquodale and Lady Jane Fellowes.

The two Princes chose the Guards' Chapel for the service because as Household Cavalry officers it is their regimental chapel.

The music during the service aims to reflect the Princess's tastes, and includes some of her favourite pieces such as Rachmaninov's "O Virgin Mother of God rejoice" taken from The Vespers. The choir will sing this piece in its original Church Slavonic – just as the Princess used to listen to it. Other anthems include Mozart's motet "Ave verum corpus" and Faure's "In paradisum".

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The music will be led by the choirs of the Guards’ Chapel, the Chapel Royal and Eton College (Princes William’s and Prince Harry’s school), together with an Orchestra from the Royal Academy of Music, of which the Princess was President. The conductors will be Tim Horton, Organist and Director of Music at the Guards’ Chapel and Andrew Gant, Organist, Choirmaster and Composer of Her Majesty’s Chapel Royal. Both musicians have written music for the service: Tim Horton has composed a choral Amen to follow the Blessing and Andrew Gant has arranged Sir Edward Elgar’s famous ‘Nimrod’ using the Agnus Dei text from the requiem mass.

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The many charities being represented at the service will include the Landmine Survivors Network, Help the Aged, the Trust for Sick Children in Wales, The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Centrepont, the British Lung Foundation and the National Aids Trust, as well as organisations such as Eureka! The Museum for Children, and the National Children’s Orchestra.

The flower arrangements, which will include growing English garden roses, go to several of the Princess’s favourite charities after the service, and rosemary for remembrance, have been organised by the Spencer family.

The Service of Thanksgiving is being broadcast live on BBC and ITV.