

Bells ring out for cathedral centenary

Clare Usher, Daily Post 20.07.2004

PEALS of jubilant bells rang out yesterday as hundreds of people gathered to mark the 100th anniversary of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral.

The Earl and Countess of Wessex were among the guests who took part in the service, alongside council chief executive Sir David Henshaw and Merseyside Chief Constable Norman Bettison.

Mayors from all over Merseyside processed through the cathedral as well as people who had a part in the history of the building, or whose ancestors were instrumental in its creation.

Choir boys and girls sat excitedly and older members of the congregation had got out their best hats for the occasion.

Television screens both around the cathedral for view of the service.

Welcoming them all the Hoare, said: "We are years, to the very hour, stone in 1904 to express magnificent building space for our worship of Christian story.

"We are celebrating not stone and timber, bricks importantly we are people who worked to bring this cathedral into being, in many cases at great personal cost.

"We celebrate the contribution each one of them has made, or is making now, using the rich variety of gifts that God has given them."

Representatives of the Merseyside Council of Faiths led the ecumenical procession, followed by a procession of visitors and then the rest of the diocese and the College of Canons.

Special guests included members of the Mothers' Union,, the organisation which originally donated the foundation stone for the cathedral, and Richard, the son of the architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, and Giles, son of architect Frederick Thomas.

Descendents of people who worked for the building firm, Messrs Morrison and Son Ltd, were at the cathedral to celebrate plus Patricia Burstall, the great granddaughter



large and small were dotted those who did not have the best

Dean, the Right Reverend Rupert coming together exactly 100 after the laying of the foundation our gratitude for a truly which provides the awe-inspiring God and the telling of the

only this glorious structure of and concrete, even more celebrating the lives of all those

of the choirmaster who conducted 1,000 people on the first Sunday in the cathedral, Frederick Burstall.

The Very Reverend Ken Riley, Dean of Manchester and canon residentiary of Liverpool Cathedral 1983-1993, delivered a sermon which reflected on his

time at the cathedral. He said: "Things don't seem to have changed much! Only in Liverpool cathedral do you get to page 12 in the order of service and find you've just got to the Welcome!

He added: "Don't get locked in the past. Services like this can give the church a bad name - we always seem to be looking back.

"Nostalgia has no place in the Christian religion, but history has.

"Canon Charles Raven spoke of a creative adventure. At Liverpool, the venture of faith which has enabled the building of a new cathedral on so grand a scale has aroused a keen sense of expectancy."

BISHOP Francis James Chavasse, second Bishop of Liverpool said on June 14, 1904: "It is my earnest desire that the new Cathedral of Liverpool shall be built by all, that it shall be the Church of the people, where rich and poor meet to worship God and where the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is fully preached.

"It must be the best that we can give, and its walls and towers rising high above our city must be a silent but majestic witness to God and the Unseen."