

LIFE IN LINCOLNSHIRE

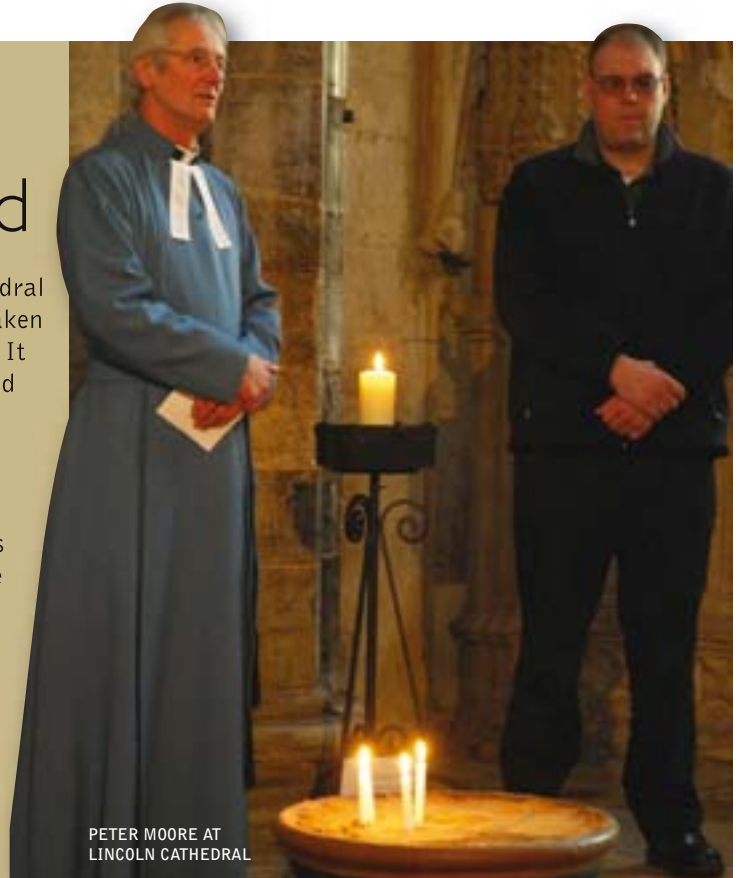
News from around the county

Vigil candle extinguished

A candle has been burning in Lincoln Cathedral since a Lincoln man, Peter Moore, was taken hostage in Iraq two and a half years ago. It has symbolised the prayers that have been offered daily for his release, prayers of the people of Lincolnshire and around the world.

The Dean of Lincoln, the Very Revd Philip Buckler, said: "We have been praying for Peter throughout his captivity, and today those prayers have been answered and our hopes fulfilled as he has come to Lincoln Cathedral and finally extinguished that candle himself. We wish him well and every blessing as he adjusts to life and freedom back home.

We are, of course, only too well aware of his fellow hostages who have not returned alive, and they and their families have also been in our prayers today."



PETER MOORE AT LINCOLN CATHEDRAL

Record producer wins prestigious award

The quiet Lincolnshire hamlet of Aswardby seems a long way from the glamour and glitz of French movie festival town, Cannes and the 2010 MIDEM International Classical Music Awards. However, here, deep in the Wolds, you will find state of the art East Lindsey business, The Sound Recording Company and high-flying producer and recording engineer Ken Blair. Blair's latest recording of one of the world's leading concert pianists, Nikolai Demidenko, has just been awarded the Special MIDEM Classical Music Chopin 2010 award for Best New Recording at the annual music industry bash in the south of France.

Blair, who started his recording company twenty years ago this year, began his career in the heady world of pop music, working with artists as diverse as Sting, Boy George and Eric Clapton. Since moving into the

arena of classical, jazz and acoustic music, Ken now travels all over the world to find superb acoustics in which to make his recordings. The latest prize winning Chopin album, released on the Onyx label, was recorded over two days in the shadow of the Alps in northern Italy, at the concert hall of grand piano makers, Fazioli. The master tapes were then brought back to Lincolnshire where Blair and Demidenko mixed and edited the album at The Sound Recording Company's studio in the Wolds.

The company has won many other awards in the UK and abroad including a prestigious Gramophone Award. Projects for 2010 include an album with top jazz trumpeter Steve Waterman and his band plus a recording of Baroque keyboard music in the USA.

KEN BLAIR, ENGINEER AND PRODUCER



Gift to cathedral

The Timber & Lead workers at Lincoln Cathedral were delighted to receive a wonderful gift of a mid-nineteenth century wooden box of joinery tools. Mr J E Page from Bourne, read an article which highlighted the craft skills that are used in abundance within the Lincoln Cathedral Works Department.

Mr Page decided to donate his great-grandfather's tools to the Works Department and said that it has given him great pleasure to present the small set of tools to a member of the next generation. He originally thought they belonged to his grandfather, but upon inspection of the initials carved into the top of the box, he realised that they in fact belonged to a generation before that.

All carpentry/joinery work that is undertaken at the cathedral is bespoke and carried out to the highest standards. Carol Heidschuster, Works Manager, said how delighted she was to accept Mr Page's kind offer and confirmed that the Joinery Team will make great use of the gouges and associated tools and how they will give the Department the opportunity to extend the continued training to both the in-house team and to the increasing range of UK based and international students who come to the cathedral on work placements. Carol thought it fitting that the tools will be used to pass skills from one generation to the next and remarked on how thankful she was for the constant support of the Lincolnshire people.



ALLAN TOYNE, MRS PAGE, MR J E PAGE, TONY GREENSMITH, GARY CROFT

CANON REV ALAN ROBSON RECEIVES HIS AWARD FROM CLARISSA DICKSON-WRIGHT

Local Reverend is National 'Hero'

The fifth annual Countryside Alliance Awards were launched in September and attracted a record 2,500 nominations from across Britain. Regional winners were declared in December and those winners went forward to the grand final, judged by Countryside Alliance Chief Executive Simon Hart along with Clarissa Dickson Wright, Farmers Guardian Editor Emma Penny, Daily Telegraph commentator Charlie Brooks and British Food Fortnight Director Alexia Robinson. Simon Hart announced the winners at a packed reception which was attended by all regional winners, keen to add a British title to their regional one.

The Rural Hero of 2009 was awarded to Canon Rev Alan Robson of Market Rasen. Simon says: "This year's Rural Hero is someone for whom serving the

countryside isn't so much a job as a calling, having been Lincolnshire's Agricultural Chaplain for the past ten years. He formed the Lincolnshire Farmer Support Group, which is run by a group of volunteers with a wide understanding of farming issues and offers a confidential telephone helpline. As well as this, Reverend Canon Alan Robson works with local groups to support the migrant worker population which contributes significantly to the area. Alan's most recent achievement is the Epic Project, a centre for innovation to explore new technologies and responses to global warming. The centre was his brainchild and through his determination the £6.2 million building which was opened last summer. Alan Robson is a heroic character with a passion for agriculture, food production and pastoral care."

Tanzania Calling

Jodie Chafer (16), a student at John Leggott College in Scunthorpe is hoping to raise £3,000 in order to complete a school project in Tanzania. The college has had a long-standing relationship with two schools in Nkoranga (both primary and secondary) and fundraising balls and events have already seen money help improve the state of the classrooms, although much is still left to do. Jodie has been selected to go to Africa to help

on the project along with several other students at the college and is in the process of raising £3,000 to enable her to go.

For Jodie this is a trip of a lifetime and two local businesses have been extremely generous in sponsoring the student but Jodie still needs to find £1000 in order to fulfil her dream of helping the schools. If anyone can help and would like to donate email jo_leigh123@hotmail.co.uk



TANZANIA CALLING