



## Reclaiming the Tutbury Hoard

Following the popular 'Ruin and Rebellion' exhibition at the British Museum which ended last year, The Duchy has reclaimed part of the Tutbury Hoard. Discovered on Duchy land in Staffordshire in 1831, the Hoard is thought to have been part of a much bigger haul of 360,000 silver coins buried by Thomas Earl of Lancaster as he fled Tutbury Castle, following his rebellion against Edward II in 1322.

Five hundred years later, the Hoard was uncovered from the bed of the River Dove by labourers adjusting the flow of the millstream. However, when news of the discovery got out, many of the coins disappeared, despite a public notice claiming the treasure as the property of the Crown.

Now, The Duchy has purchased twenty-six of the original coins to protect and preserve them for future generations



Dame Lorna Muirhead bands over the cheque to the Very Reverend Justin Welby

## Welcome boost for the Liverpool Cathedral organ appeal

Liverpool Cathedral has one of the greatest church organs in the world, with over 10,900 pipes. So, when the instrument required renovation work totalling £900,000, we were pleased to be able to support the Cathedral's fund-raising appeal with a donation from the Benevolent Fund.

Brought to our attention by the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, Dame Lorna Muirhead, the appeal is part of an ongoing programme of fund-raising activity for the next few years. The aim is to ensure that the organ is fully restored in time for its 90th anniversary recital in October 2016.

The cheque was presented by the Lord Lieutenant to the Very Reverend Justin Welby, Dean of Liverpool Cathedral in October last year.



Equine rehabilitation

## Up and running

We had the pleasure of working with Tim and Isla Bennett last year to help open a unique rehabilitation centre for injured horses. The 'Bennett Equine Sports Rehabilitation Centre' at Woodhouse Farm in Tutbury offers the latest technology and equipment to treat horses and improve fitness, including an 'aqua' treadmill.

"We are very proud to have launched Bennett Equine, which is the culmination of over five years of planning," said Tim Bennett. "The centre offers an extensive range of facilities and treatments, ensuring we can provide an outstanding level of care for horses in recuperation. With the ongoing support of The Duchy, our aim is to continue to develop the site and create a centre of excellence which caters for horse owners across the region."



## A fond farewell to Helen Owen

In December, our Accounts Manager Helen Owen retired from The Duchy team after 13 years' loyal service. Helen joined us back in 1997 after spending most of her working life in the property industry, both in the UK and in Malta.

During her time with The Duchy, Helen was responsible for our purchase ledger, rent management, credit control, payroll and systems support, and so probably had contact at one time or another with a broad cross-section of our

tenants and partners. We know that everyone would like to join with us in wishing her a very happy and fulfilling retirement.

To succeed Helen, we have recruited Marilou Pickett, who joined us last December. Marilou has extensive experience of working in the property sector, including work with various consultancies and asset management companies.

We are delighted to welcome her to the team and look forward to working with her in the years ahead.



# DUCHY of LANCASTER

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## NEWS

# A positive start to the year

2011 is now well underway, with a number of projects coming to the fore, including our first ever affordable housing scheme at Dunsop Bridge and a new proposal for the refurbishment of North Planks Farm on the Myerscough Estate into purpose-built office accommodation for start-up and incubator businesses.

We have also recently completed an excellent scheme at Hanbury Grange on our Needwood Estate, working with local architects to transform a number of historic but redundant barns into four exclusive live-work residences.

Meanwhile, our largest development project at Crewe Hall Farm is now two thirds let, encouraging us to extend the scheme to include the adjoining farmhouse building.

Elsewhere, we continue to do our best to support rural entrepreneurship, sending no fewer than three young estate farmers to the Oxford Farming Conference as Duchy Scholars this year. On a different tack, The Duchy is providing a base for 'Bowland wool ambassador' Rosemary Johnson to start her



Hanbury Grange: exclusive luxury homes from redundant barns

new business at Root Hill Estate Yard, bringing knitwear and quilting to the Whitewell Estate.

After a great deal of hard work by the project team, we have finalised the vision for the extension of Cloughton village. An outline planning application has been submitted to the local authority and we hope that they will share our belief that rural villages require a different approach to speculative or piecemeal development which may not deliver the community benefits that we are offering.

2012 is of course the

Diamond Jubilee year and we have launched a series of initiatives to help us to celebrate the event. These include a schools competition for Lancashire, designed to strengthen links between the next generation of Lancastrians and the Sovereign as Duke of Lancaster, and the design and production of a brand new stained glass window for The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy.

Four experienced artists have been shortlisted and have submitted designs for consideration. Details of the winner – and the winning design – will be included in a future newsletter.

The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy gave us some of our most memorable moments at the end of 2010, including a private service for the Royal Victorian Order and the Duchy Carol Service, which is a firm favourite with staff and invited guests. Our thanks, once again, to the Chaplain, The Reverend Professor Peter Galloway, Verger

Philip Chancellor and Master of the Music, Philip Berg.

But the final word goes to our tenants. Over the last 12 months, we have been impressed and encouraged by the energy and entrepreneurial flair with which many of you run your businesses, particularly in the current economic climate. We will continue to work with you to help where appropriate and wish you all every success with your business endeavours for the coming year.



Paul Clarke, CEO and Clerk of the Council

## Dunsop Bridge update

We are delighted to report that our first affordable housing scheme has been given planning approval. Twelve traditionally styled homes in the heart of Dunsop Bridge will be built in two phases and are expected to be completed by 2012. Working with a local Registered Social Landlord under the auspices of The Duke of Lancaster Housing Trust, the scheme is designed to provide high quality residential accommodation for local residents and those who may have been forced out of the village due to a lack of affordable properties.

## Spotlight on...

### Chris Adcock

Chris Adcock was appointed Chief Finance Officer of The Duchy of Lancaster in 2003 and appointed to the Council in 2007. Having graduated from Oxford in 1984 with an MA in Engineering Science, he decided to join Ernst & Young in London and subsequently qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1987.

During his career, Chris has held a range of senior positions across both product and service driven organisations, the last being within Reliance Security Group plc as Group Financial Controller and then Finance Director of the Group's facilities management company.

His responsibilities at The Duchy include overall financial control and risk management, the preparation of the financial statements and reports, and the management of pensions, personnel and IT systems. Responsible for a financial portfolio of around £50m, Chris is also a Trustee of The Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund.

Chris spent a great deal of his youth overseas, including spells in Germany, Ireland, Iraq, Oman and India, before returning permanently to the UK at the start of his career. Married with two children, he now lives near Reading in Berkshire and lists his hobbies as golf, tennis and running.

An active fundraiser for Cancer Research, two of Chris' most notable achievements to date have been completing the London Marathon in 2006 and the undertaking of the challenging coast-to-coast cycle ride in 2010, which runs from Cumbria to Newcastle.



## Dinner at the Yorkshire survey

Six members of The Duchy Council joined 75 tenants from across the Yorkshire Survey at our annual Tenants Dinner, which took place in October 2010 at the Forest & Vale Hotel in Pickering.

There was a lively atmosphere as guests tucked into a sumptuous selection of locally-sourced food, including venison from The Duchy's Pickering Woods, which was provided thanks to one of our tenants.

The evening provided an opportunity for guests to reflect on past events and successes across the Estate. After dinner, Joe Green, who runs Town Farm in Cloughton gave an excellent speech, including memories of the Royal visit to Scarborough and his experience of meeting The Queen.

Guests also bid farewell to David Steel from Smiths Gore who will be changing his role to cover the Lancashire Survey and

congratulated Faye Gonzalez who will be taking over as Smiths Gore's asset manager in Yorkshire.

The following day, members of The Duchy Council completed their visit to Yorkshire with a tour of the Pickering Estate including Newbridge Quarry, Pickering woods, West Blansby Farm, Manor Farm and Lowther House.

Thank you to all of our Yorkshire tenants for a very enjoyable evening!

## Supporting our next generation of farmers

The annual Oxford Farming Conference took place from 4th-6th January 2011 with this year's event playing host to three young Duchy Scholars: Rupert Major and Matthew Smith from the Needwood Survey and Mark Verity from Lancashire.

Rupert is a third-generation Duchy farmer and manages a 570-acre dairy business with his parents. One of the innovations he has introduced is a new milk production system based on

a method he saw used in New Zealand. Matthew, who is also a third-generation Duchy farmer, helps to manage the family's 358-acre dairy farm. Matthew has recently returned from America and a study tour of large-scale dairy farms and contemporary farming practice.

After completing a Higher National Diploma in Agriculture, Mark Verity worked on dairy farms in New Zealand before returning to the UK. Mark lives on our Whitewell Estate in Lancashire

and has gradually taken over responsibility for the day-to-day management of the farm from his father, including grassland management, animal health, welfare, breeding, feed and nutrition management.

The three Scholars found this year's Conference enlightening and a valuable networking opportunity. "It gave a very good overview of the political issues affecting the industry, particularly the CAP and the challenge ahead in feeding an ever-growing world population," said Rupert. "It highlighted the need for more research and development and the difficult balance to be struck between protecting the environment and ensuring appropriate levels of food production. It was a fantastic opportunity for us to meet and talk to positive people in a beautiful historic setting."

This is the second time that The Duchy has sponsored a number of Scholars attending the Conference, which it hopes will become an annual fixture for our younger generation of tenants.



Rupert Major and Matthew Smith from our Needwood Survey

## New home for Bowland wool ambassador

We were delighted to lend a helping hand to 'Bowland wool ambassador' and craftswoman Rosemary Johnson at the end of last year, by providing a temporary home at our prestigious Root Hill Estate Yard in Dunsop Bridge.

Rosemary is passionate about reviving the local wool industry and the traditional crafts associated with it. She hopes that her new business 'Quilting Mellons' will help local sheep-farmers by promoting the use of Bowland wool, raising awareness of its potential uses and thereby maximising its value. Her long-term vision is to create a national centre of excellence and a base for workshops, exhibitions and expert demonstrations.

This is a classic example of the sort of environmentally friendly, rurally focused businesses that The Duchy seeks to encourage nationwide.



## As seen on TV...

Our very own Tutbury Castle and curator Lesley Smith have been on national television this month, appearing on both ITV's This Morning and BBC's The One Show. With the Castle interior as the historic and atmospheric backdrop, Lesley and fellow historian Ruth Goodman reviewed the surprising cleanliness of the Tudors, including a 26-hour bath pioneered by Sir Francis Bacon, wooden combs and toothpaste made from salt and sage. For more information on Tutbury please visit the website [www.tutburycastle.co.uk](http://www.tutburycastle.co.uk).



Mark Verity lives and farms on our Whitewell estate in Lancashire

## Lord Shuttleworth honoured

I am sure that all our tenants, friends and colleagues would like to join me in congratulating Lord Shuttleworth, Chairman of The Duchy Council, on his inclusion in the New Year's Honours list.

Lord Shuttleworth is made Knight Commander of the Victorian Order (KCVO), an Honour bestowed at the personal behest of the Sovereign for services rendered to the Monarch or members of the Royal Family.

