

A look around Truro Cathedral

Thursday 4th August 2016

At the end of the second week of our visit to Cornwall, Magda and I spent the morning at **Truro Cathedral**.

The Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Truro is an Anglican cathedral built between 1880 and 1910 to a Gothic Revival design by **John Loughborough Pearson** on the site of the parish church of St Mary. It is one of only three cathedrals in the United Kingdom with three spires (Lichfield is another) - and was at the time the first cathedral to be built in England for 600 years.



Truro Cathedral – the first to be built for 600 years.



A view up the nave to the High Altar - and the Gothic arches of Truro Cathedral.



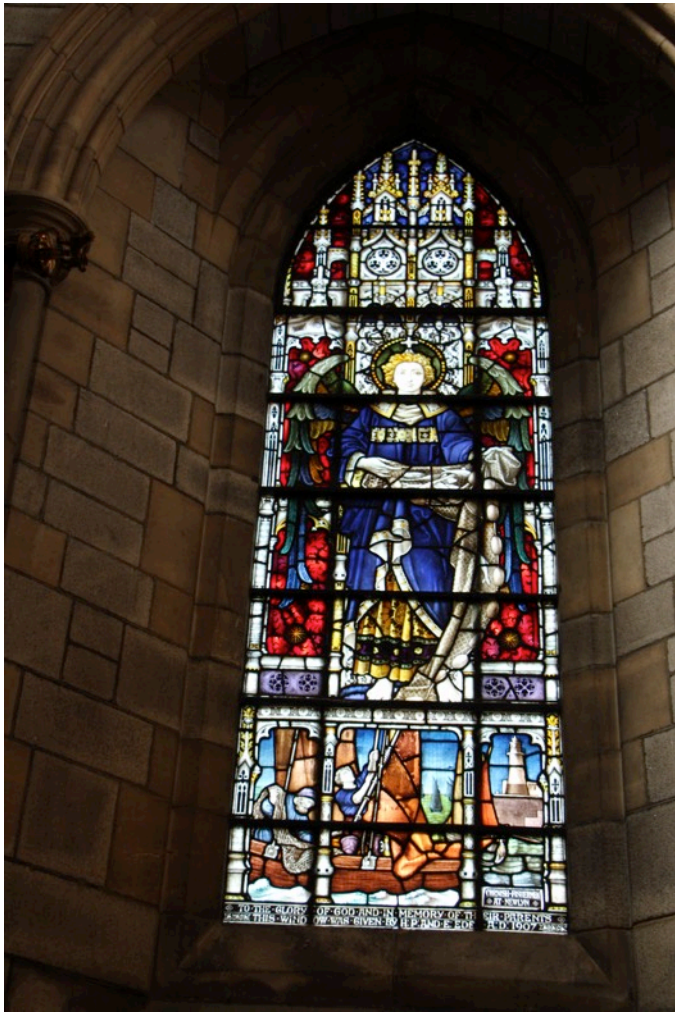
The Boer War memorial at the west end of the South Aisle commemorates lives lost by the Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry in that campaign.



The Wesley window commemorates the work of John and Charles Wesley who were leaders of the Methodist movement who visited Cornwall regularly. Both John and Charles were ordained Anglican priests but their style, that focused on individual conversion, was not approved by the Establishment and they were forced to preach not in churches but in the open air.



This Pieta was carved by Breton monks in the 14th century from Caen granite and was a gift to the Cathedral. Note the carved tears on Mary's face.



The window depicts a scene from Newlyn Harbour near Penzance - and above it the Guardian Angel of fishermen.



The elaborate marble font with wooden cover in the Baptistry.



The Quire. The choir stalls are made of Burmese teak, with rows of small carved figures of Celtic Saints just above head height, below the canopies.



The High Altar at Truro Cathedral. Behind it is a superb reredos whose theme is sacrifice, showing Christ both as crucified and then, above, glorified.



View of the 'Father' Willis organ pipes built in 1887, which is widely regarded as one of the finest instruments in the country. It was shipped to the cathedral by sea from London.



George Tinworth's terracotta frieze 'The Way of the Cross'. Simon the Cyrenian is forced to help carry the Cross. The sculptor rose from poverty to become one of the foremost sculptors of his day. He undertook public commissions and did commercial work for Royal Doulton.



The 17th century memorial to John and Phillipa Robartes. John was a successful local tin merchant and Mayor of Truro. The figure of death was often used on memorials to remind people of their mortality.



Looking up to the central tower and rose window of Truro Cathedral.



'Cornubia – The Land of Saints' by John Miller. The coming of the Celtic saints from Ireland, Wales and Brittany, bringing the light of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit to Cornwall. The Celtic Crosses on the painting refer to the parish churches of Cornwall.



The beautiful cathedral restaurant where we had lunch.



A delightful display of floral baskets outside the cathedral.



The spires of the cathedral rise above the streets of Truro.

Martin and Magda Jones

August 2016

Information sourced from:

A Short Guide to Truro Cathedral.