



## CLARENCE HOUSE

Hereford Cathedral is, I believe, one of the masterpieces of this country's heritage, while also being a place that enriches our souls with its music. For this reason, we owe it to those who built and have cared for such a magnificent building over the past thousand years for the glory of God, to do all we can to ensure it is preserved and developed for future generations.

The Cathedral symbolizes the community, life and inheritance of not only its own county, but also of our national spirituality. It has been a source of great spiritual comfort to many through the darker periods of our history, as well as a focal point at times of celebration. Today, the Cathedral quietly continues to meet an increasing range of needs from those who visit, whether to see and learn of our history and music, or simply as a place of peace and quiet away from the rush of daily life.

Like many other ancient buildings, it needs constant repair; being built of red sandstone, it is perhaps more vulnerable than many. And hand in hand with the restoration work goes the development of the Cathedral's musical life and its involvement in the education of the wider community.

Much of the task of raising the necessary resources to support all of this activity falls to the Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust and, as Patron, I should like to commend its work to you. I send my best wishes for every possible success in its endeavours to ensure that the Cathedral can continue to play its positive role in the community that it serves.

Charles