



The Civic Service

at the beginning of the year of service of

Councillor Brian Taylor

as the worshipful

Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen



Sunday, 19 May 2024 at 12 noon



Mayor Cllr Brian Taylor
Mayoresses Nicola Parker, Louise Pemberton and Emma Taylor



Councillor Brian Taylor

Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen 2024 / 2025

Councillor Brian Taylor was born in Darwen in 1949 and has lived in the town ever since. He is the youngest of six children, and a former pupil of St John's CE Primary School and Spring Bank County Secondary School. After leaving school in 1964, he started work as a toolmaker – something he didn't really enjoy. Councillor Taylor made a move to the shop floor of Paragon Wallpapers in Darwen. He feels fortunate to have had an inspirational boss who saw something in him and encouraged him to attend further education. He went on to achieve an associate qualification from the Institute of Industrial Managers. Councillor Taylor's career took him to Crown Wallcoverings in Darwen where he worked for 33 years in production management. He then moved into a Court Administrator role with TV Licensing, as was also a representative for the Communication Workers Union. After 20 years in this role, Councillor Taylor retired in 2022 at the age of 72. 74 year old Councillor Taylor has been a Labour councillor on Blackburn with Darwen Council since 2010, first representing Sunnyhurst Ward and later Darwen West, after boundary changes. Over the last 14 years as a ward councillor, he has served as Assistant Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing, and Chair of The Place Scrutiny Committee. He has also championed Public Health and been involved in the annual Suicide Prevention Day events. In amongst his work and councillor commitments, Brian has found time to run the London Marathon twice, fundraising for the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). Councillor Taylor is married to Kathleen, his wife of 38 years. Between them, they have four children and five grandchildren. Councillor Taylor will be supported in his Mayoral role by his three daughters, Nicola, Emma and Louise, as joint Mayoresses.

Mayoress Nicola Parker

Nicola, the Mayor's eldest daughter, currently resides in Blackburn with Darwen, where she has spent most of childhood and adult life. As a dual-registered health and social care professional, with a BA Psychosocial Studies, BSc Nursing and an MA in Social Work, Nicola has dedicated her working life to supporting her community. Initially a Project Manager at a Children's Charity, Nicola led family engagement initiatives and developed comprehensive support services specifically focussed on addressing the needs for underserved families. Her career transitioned to adult social work in Blackburn with Darwen, where she specialised in care provision and legislative compliance. Later, Nicola re-qualified as a Registered Nurse specialising in surgical hepatic care, before joining the Complex Case Team at the East Lancashire Trust. In this role, she ensures safe patient discharges, conducts clinical assessments, and promotes collaborative practices among health professionals and families, demonstrating her commitment to

integrating health and social care to enhance vulnerable group outcomes. Nicola is also a devoted mother to Keir-Leigh and Harry, and lives with her partner, Dave. Together, they value family time and outdoor activities, reflecting Nicola's belief in the importance of balance and well-being.

Mayoress Louise Pemberton

Louise Pemberton was born in Blackburn and grew up in Darwen. Louise has carved a successful career rooted in her passion for Chemistry. She holds a BSc. Applied Chemistry and a Master of Business Administration from the London School of Business and Economics. Louise started her professional journey at Crown Paints, where she spent 6 years in their Development Laboratories. In 2011, Louise moved to Eastman Chemical Company, eventually taking up the role of Circular Solutions Project Leader. In this capacity, she is working on the development of a new Chemical Recycling Plant in France, illustrating her commitment to environmental sustainability. This pioneering project reflects her dedication in reducing plastic waste and repurposing materials through innovative technologies. Beyond her professional pursuits, Louise is a devoted mother to two children, Beaux and Arthur, and Roscoe, the family's cherished dog. Together with her husband Marc, the family enjoys a lively and loving home life, balancing professional commitments with family time and personal growth.

Mayoress Emma Taylor

Emma was born in Blackburn and like her sisters, attended St Joseph's RC Primary school in Darwen and then St Bede's RC High School in Blackburn where she first found a passion for foreign languages. After a period of study in both Belgium and Spain, Emma achieved a degree in French and Spanish through Lancaster University before following this up with a PGCE in order to pursue a career in education. Emma found that her passion lay with teaching children with additional needs and has worked at schools in Darwen and most recently Blackburn, having taught for eight years in a local SEND school until a recent move to a school in Preston. Life in the classroom has deepened Emma's sense of empathy, understanding and compassion towards others, which she believes will stand her in good stead for her duties as Mayoress. Outside of the classroom, Emma enjoys reading, exploring the beautiful countryside that surrounds Blackburn with Darwen and most importantly, spending time with her 2-year-old son Finn and her partner David. Emma is honoured to have been invited to share Mayoress duties with her sisters and to support her Father in his role as Mayor for 2024/25.

Welcome to today's service

and to all who have come to
represent the life and work
of
The Borough of
Blackburn with Darwen.

The service is led by
The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones
The Dean

The Preacher is
The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones

The Youth Choir
Directed by
Helen Davies

Organist
John Hosking
Organist in Residence

Blackburn and Darwen Band
Conducted by
Daniel Thomas
Musical Director

The prelude before the service

Information

Toilets including accessible toilets are accessed by the stairs or lift situated in the Temple Gallery, off the South Transept. Please ask a steward for directions.

One accessible toilet is available at Cathedral level in the South Porch to the left of the main doors when looking towards them. Please ask the Stewards for assistance. We have a **Changing Places** toilet in the crypt.

An induction loop is available in the Cathedral, for both speech and music, for those who are hard of hearing. Please turn your hearing aid to the appropriate setting. If you, or someone you are with would benefit from a large print Order of Service, please ask one of the Stewards.

The use of personal cameras, camcorders, videos and audio recording equipment is not permitted during the service without the written permission of the Dean.

Please switch off mobile phones and before the beginning of the service.

Advice about **posture** is given throughout the service. If you find it more comfortable to sit rather than stand or kneel, please do so.

We ask you to remain in your places both before and during the service.

The service is being live streamed and may be watched online at anytime.

The link is on the Cathedral website: www.blackburncathedral.com.

Order of Procession

Cross

Choir

Virger

Cathedral ministers

Virger

The Dean

Mace Bearer

Mayor and Mayoress of Blackburn with Darwen,

Chief Executive of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Leader of Blackburn and Darwen Council

The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress

Member of Parliament

The Gathering

Please stand as the ministers enter to sing

The Mace and Table

*During the hymn the mace is placed on the table,
acknowledging that all authority comes from God*

Praise my Soul



Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored,
forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
to our forebears in distress;
praise him still the same as ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him;
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

The Welcome

The Very Reverend Peter Howell-Jones, Dean of Blackburn, says

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ, who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

Please sit down

The Dean introduces the service

The Dean continues

We welcome today Councillor Brian Taylor
as our new Mayor,
and Nicola Parker, Louise Pemberton and Emma Taylor
as our new Mayoresses,
and wish God's blessing upon them,
and commend the citizens
of this Borough of Blackburn with Darwen
to God's care and keeping.

Let us pray.

There is a short silence

Lord of our life and God of our Salvation,
we ask your blessing
on all that is best about us,
and your forgiveness
for anything that has fallen short
of the greatness of the past
and the hopes of the present
and the higher calling of the things of the future.
Bless and guide those
who direct the affairs of this Borough,
sustain them in their work,
support them in their anxieties,
and strengthen them in their resolve
to seek and pursue the well-being of all the people.
Give them joy in their service,
due pride in their successes,
and the approval of a good conscience in all their endeavours.
And so work among us by your good and kindly Spirit
that our Borough may be renewed in beauty and order,
in happiness and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Psalm

The choir sings Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,
he maketh me to lie down in green pastures,
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil,
For you are with me, you will comfort me.
Surely goodness and mercy,
shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Howard Goodall (b. 1958)

The Old Testament Reading

(Isaiah 11.1-9)

Read by Councillor Brian Taylor

Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to sing

Hymn

Blaenwern



Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and sinless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise! Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The New Testament Reading

(1 Corinthians 12.4-13)

Read by Denise Park, Chief Executive Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Dean

There is a short silence for reflection after the sermon

Anthem

I will sing with the spirit,
alleluia, alleluia
and I will sing with the understanding also
alleluia, alleluia
and I will sing with the understanding also
alleluia, alleluia.

John Rutter (b. 1945)

The Prayers

Led by Councillor Phil Riley and Canon Jenny Gaffin

We pray for the Mayor and Mayoresses and all those who serve the Borough as councillors, officers and staff of the Unitary Authority, that they may use their responsibilities and skills to enrich the life of all its citizens and so promote the common good.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for all those who are working to improve the facilities of the Borough through the partnership and regeneration schemes; all who work in industry and commerce; all who create work and so realise our mutuality and interdependence.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for those who act to protect our common life through the maintenance of law, order and justice.
We remember the work of all the emergency services who come to the aid of those in need.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for those who are growing up within the life of this Borough, for those who seek to train, educate and nurture our children and young people; that they may go forward to lead happy and fulfilled lives.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for the work of the Community and Voluntary Associations and all who work tirelessly in support of young

people, those who are elderly, or infirm,
those who are disabled and all who are vulnerable.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for those in this Borough who are in need of love,
care, shelter, comfort and friendship. May those who counsel,
help and befriend them give them a true sense of worth,
and may sufficient resources be made available to the statutory
and voluntary bodies to sustain them in their needs.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for all places of worship in this Borough,
that local religious leaders and their communities
may pray and work together for the good of all people,
and for positive interfaith initiatives
which build trust and understanding.

For the unity of your kingdom,
hear us and help us.

We pray for Charles our King,
that you may pour upon him abundant gifts
to help him fulfil the promises made at his coronation:
that he will have the grace, wisdom, and strength
to live a life of service to you and to his people:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for Queen Camilla, William Prince of Wales,
the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family;
that they may love and support the King
as he bears the burden of his office:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We continue praying in silence as the choir sings

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
be thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Rob tu mo bhoile, a Comdi cride, Irish, c 8th century tr Mary Byrne (1880-1931)
versified, Eleanor Hull (1860-1935). Music by Bob Chilcott (b.1955)*

The Dean says

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit, as we join our
prayers with those of the Church Universal, let us pray in
confidence, each in our own language, as our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ...	Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ...	Padre nosso, que estais nos céus...
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ...	Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ...	الذي في السموات،
Têve Mūsū, kuris esi danguje! ...	Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri	Ár nAthair, atá ar neamh

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please stand to sing the final hymn during which a collection is taken for the work and ministry of the Cathedral and the Mace Bearer collects the mace from the table

Hymn JERUSALEM

And did those feet in ancient time
walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy lamb of God
on England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
till we have built Jerusalem
in England's green and pleasant land.

William Blake (1757-1827)

*Music by Charles Hastings Hubert Parry (1848-1918),
arranged by Compilers of New English Hymnal, 1986.*

Please remain standing

The Blessing

The Dean says

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest,
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people,
unity, peace and concord,
and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

God save our gracious King,
long live our noble King,
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us;
God save the King!

Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour,
long may he reign;
may he defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the King!

The Organ Voluntary

Rhapsody on Veni Creator Spiritus

Graham Twist (b. 1958)

This organ work receives its premiere today and is the winning entry in the Senior category of Blackburn Cathedral's second organ composition competition.

*Please remain standing as the procession leaves
and then please follow the directions of the wardens.*

Virger

Residentiary Canons

Virger

The Dean

Mace Bearer

Mayor and Mayoress of Blackburn with Darwen,

Chief Executive of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Leader of Blackburn and Darwen Council

The Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress

Member of Parliament

The Choir

If you are organising an event and would like to invite the Mayor to attend, or if your organisation requires further information about the charities, or if you can offer any assistance in fund raising, please contact the Mayor's Office who will be happy to help.

The Mayor's Office
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Town Hall, Blackburn BB1 7DY

mayorsparlour@blackburn.gov.uk

Tel: 01254 585229

The Mayor's Charities 2024/2025

Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY). Every week in the UK at least 12 young people die of undiagnosed heart conditions. Since its formation in 1995, Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) has been working to reduce the frequency of young sudden cardiac death (YSCD). CRY supports young people diagnosed with potentially life-threatening cardiac conditions and offers bereavement support to families affected by YSCD. CRY promotes and develops heart screening programmes and funds medical research. CRY publishes and distributes medical information written by leading cardiologists for the general public. CRY funds specialist referral, screening and cardiac pathology services at leading UK hospitals.

Papyrus. Papyrus is the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide - the biggest cause of death in people under 35. They provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person through the helpline, HOPELINEUK. PAPYRUS has been a long standing member of the government advisory groups in England and Wales on suicide prevention matters.

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*Those walking in Procession
are asked to re-assemble in the Cathedral Grounds.*

The Order of Procession

Police Officers
Blackburn and Darwen Band
Mace Bearer
The Mayor and Mayoresses
The Chief Executive
Leader of the Council
Lancashire Police Inspector for East Division
The Deputy Mayor & Mayoress
Mayor's Chaplain
Member of Parliament
Borough Magistrates
Borough Councillors
Past Mayors of the Borough
The Mayor's Family & Guests
The Deputy Mayor's Family & Guests
Council Officers
Parish Councillors
Chamber of Trade
Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Royal British Legion (Blackburn Branch)
Royal British Legion (Darwen Branch)
Sea Cadets Corps
Scouts' Association
Guides' Association
UNISON
Blackburn College
Representatives of Secondary Schools in the Borough
Community Associations
Voluntary Organisations

Members of the Community