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Cathedrals for the Curious: An Introduction to Cathedrals, Minsters and Abbeys in Britain, Geoffrey Lord, Unknown Publisher, 2011, 095704450X, 9780957044500, . .

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Cathedrals, and Minsters and Abbeys, really are for the Curious among us. They are past and present: usually the greatest and most beautiful of public buildings and extraordinary testaments to Christianity, perhaps one of the most tangible symbols of our civilisation. Challenging, aweinspiring structures and attractive with so many curious features, Cathedrals especially are major centres of Christian worship and ecumenical activity, and where many gather for times of great rejoicing or mourning. The definition of a person as 'curious' is - 'eager to learn, inquisitive'; and of an object - 'strange, surprising and even odd'. It is fact that the many artefacts - the products of human art and workmanship - in church buildings appear strange, surprising and even odd to many visitors who are naturally inquisitive and eager to learn. Cathedrals for the Curious seeks to assist the many who visit and have little idea of the complexities of the buildings. In a clear, straightforward manner and in alphabetical order from 'Abacus' to 'West Front' the crucial and distinguishing features that make the Cathedral are described. Cathedrals for the Curious seeks to encourage many to visit and explore, to participate if possible, and certainly to relax and enjoy the beauty and the challenge of each building and its activity.

"I just received a copy of 'Cathedrals for the Curious', a wonderful new book by Geoffrey Lord, and I thought it deserved mention here. The book is an alphabetical guide to the 'curiosities' of British cathedrals, covering architectural details and oddities. If you've ever wondered what reredos is, or found yourself bewildered by overly obtuse guidebooks, this is the book for you". David Ross Editor .

"This lovely book describes the many fascinating features of Britain's cathedrals.Â It is full of information and anecdotes, a great book to bring along on excursions and certainly a great resource for those who are curious about these magnificent buildings".Â Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council

The definition of a person as "curious"™ is - "eager to learn, inquisitive"™; and of an object - "strange, surprising and even odd"™. It is fact that the many artefacts - the products of human art and workmanship - in church buildings appear strange, surprising and even odd to many visitors who are naturally inquisitive and eager to learn.

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Review:Scottish Field April 2012: ".....An alphabetical guide to the curiosities of Britain's cathedrals, this book covers almost every detail and oddity surrounding some of the most beautiful public buildings in the country. Whilst packed with detail, 'Cathedrals!' should not be mistaken for a guide book, but it is ideal for dipping into, next time you're visiting one of these magnificent buildings".

Founded as a result of the Attenborough Report to ensure adequate provision of access for disabled people to arts premises and to provide arts activities in hospitals and residential care homes in Edinburgh and the Lothians, and to encourage development in other cities especially in London and Manchester.

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