
ARC UK

	2022 Summer Projects	
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The tower at St. Andreas-Kirche, Dusseldorf, at the ARC European meeting 2022

A letter from the President, 2022

The past few years have impacted people's lives across the country to an immeasurable degree and we are all still attempting to rebuild after the trauma of the pandemic. 2022 presented us with many challenges. This was our first opportunity to send volunteers abroad on summer projects since 2019, and my first opportunity as the president to coordinate the training day in June. It was so refreshing to meet our volunteers face-to-face and share their enthusiasm for their upcoming projects (Mollie's spicy tomato pasta was also a highlight of the day!).

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It has become increasingly difficult over the years to establish a project within the UK, and this year we had to part ways with our Oxford project which has been a long-term project for us. While this was certainly a disappointment, we are keen to develop a new project in the UK and have been making some promising progress on securing a project in Wales for 2023 (fingers-crossed!). We have also welcomed two new Outreach Officers who are bringing new energy, ideas and creativity to the board. I have high hopes that with our renewed efforts we will be able to welcome international tour guides to the UK once again.

After taking on the role of president, I did not think I would be participating in another ARC project however this year had other plans for me. Our volunteer for the Amsterdam project had a last-minute commitment which meant they were unable to take up their place on a project and our waitlisted candidates were also unable to attend. In just over a week after this news, I found myself in Amsterdam on the last day of June. I am so grateful for the opportunity to take part in a project again and I met some amazing people who made the experience even more enjoyable and uplifting. Although this project was much quieter and smaller than my previous one, the sense of community was just as strong. I hope in 2023 we can offer more opportunities to ARC volunteers so that they can build lasting friendships and bring their light into churches and cathedrals across Europe.

2022 gifted me with another unexpected encounter. I attended an innovative summer school in Germany focussed on Digital Humanities. During our final dinner, it was revealed to me that the lecturer running the summer school was an ARC alumnus and her husband was a former president of ARC UK. I was once again reminded of how small the world really is. It was a delight to meet Anna and Nik and hear their memories of ARC in the historic town square of Göttingen.

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This experience prompted me to think about how ARC can rekindle its relationship with past volunteers, and I hope to develop an outreach project in the coming year not only to learn more about the history of ARC but to build upon our community.

We say goodbye this year to Mollie Cornell who has been an invaluable member of the team. She has provided me with much needed support and advice as I have grown into the role of President. Mollie was my first encounter with the ARC board. I still remember the interview I had with her in the Waterstones cafe on Gower Street when I applied for a summer project in 2019. She was a wonderful interviewer and made the entire process less daunting. Mollie had just started on her PhD when I first met her, and now she is at the final stage of finishing. I am sending her all the good writing vibes and I wish her the very best of luck in all her future endeavours.

Thank you to the ARC UK Board for all your hard work this year. It is always a pleasure to see you all and hear your ideas.

I look forward to working with you all in the coming year!

Arielle Jasiewicz-Gill
President 2022

Luxembourg

Sam Wilson

This Summer I was privileged to spend a month volunteering as a tour guide at the Kathedral Notre-Dame, Luxembourg City. It was originally completed in 1621 as the Church for the Jesuit College, it was dedicated as the Church of Our Lady (Notre-Dame) in 1844, and was elevated to be a Cathedral in 1870. The Cathedral was expanded between 1935 and 1938, adding new towers, a new chancel, as well as adding a crypt.



Since the 17th century the church has been the site of pilgrimage during the Octave of Our Lady Consoler of the Afflicted, with the statue processing from a local chapel to the church each year three weeks after Easter Sunday, until the chapel was destroyed in the French Revolution after which the Statue is permanently housed at the Cathedral. The pilgrimage is so popular with people from the Duchy of Luxembourg (Which includes parts of Belgium, France, and Germany), that the octave actually lasts 14 days rather than the usual 8!

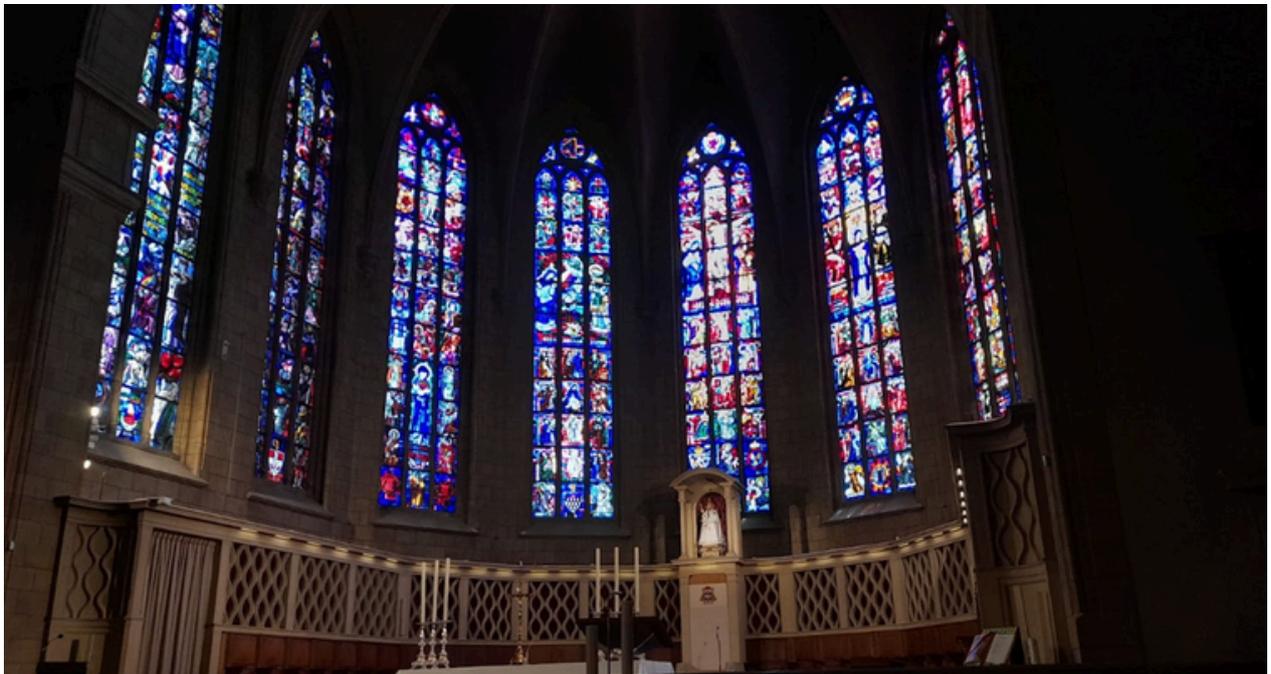
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Our Lady has 62 different dresses that can be put on the statue, so she has the right dress for every occasion! I had the privilege of being taken behind the scenes to see the Statue being changed from wearing a white dress (for a Diaconal Ordination) to a green dress (for Ordinary Time).

There are a few other highlights worth remarking on. The Cathedral has two organs, one symphonic organ, and one baroque organ which had free recitals every Wednesday lunchtime. There was lots of beautiful stained glass, including 19th century painted glass of the life of Our Lady, devotional windows to the rosary and titles of Our Lady in the Chancel behind the main altar, and stained glass of Christ and the Apostles in the crypt-chapel. The crypt is the burial place for all the bishops of the Cathedral since the expansion, and includes a Grand-Ducal crypt as the burial place for the Sovereign Grand-Dukes and Grand-Duchesses of Luxembourg and their consorts since the expansion was completed. The Sarcophagus of King John the Blind of Bohemia is also stored in the crypt, having been returned to Luxembourg by Germany in 1945.



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I was able to spend my free time exploring Luxembourg City, which is full of free museums, historic buildings, and beauty spots. I also went on day trips with the other guides, visiting the Roman city of Trier in Germany, and hiking in the beautiful hills of the Mullerthal region in the north of Luxembourg. The Sacristans of the cathedral took us to see lots of behind the scenes areas such as up the towers and the organ lofts, and our handler from the tourist office took us on trips around the country, visiting religious communities, historic cities and churches, as well as touring the countryside by car.

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Amsterdam

Arielle Jasiewicz-Gill



The Nave of De Krijtberg

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Before this summer, I had never been to Amsterdam. I have always been intrigued by the city not only by its current vibrant culture but also by its mediaeval past. The Netherlands has been on my mind over the past year as I commenced my PhD studies. I am researching mediaeval prayer books used in England and the Netherlands was a primary exporter of these manuscripts for the English market in the fifteenth century. Therefore, when the opportunity was presented to take part in an ARC project in Amsterdam, I jumped at the chance.

I arrived late in the evening to the city on the last day of June and was welcomed to De Krijtberg the next day, where I would be giving tours alongside three other European volunteers. The church had an interesting history and was once one of Amsterdam's many hidden churches during the period of catholic suppression in the Netherlands. De Krijtberg is certainly not hidden now; its tall gothic steeples make quite the statement against the leaning canal houses.

The interior of the church was a wonder for a medievalist. Although built in the 1880s, De Krijtberg is decorated in a neo-gothic style so successfully that many visitors we spoke to were fooled into thinking the church was mediaeval in origin. In stark contrast to the grey stone of mediaeval cathedrals I have visited in the UK, every wall in De Krijtberg was painted which took me a while for my eyes to become accustomed to. Despite not being a cathedral, De Krijtberg had many international visitors each day when we opened the church between 13:00 and 18:00. It was a pleasure to welcome visitors and share the history of the church who had a wide range of interests.

Our accommodation was near the Rijksmuseum and it was always a pleasure to walk under the museum passage to get to the church in the mornings. In the evenings, we shared the responsibility of food shopping and cooking together as a group.

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I am most grateful to the volunteer from ARC Germany who introduced me to the wonders of smoked tofu. We also had the opportunity to cook for the host pastor one night and I shared a British classic - Eton Mess - with everyone. To their surprise, everyone rather liked the pudding, despite its rustic appearance.



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One particular highlight of the project was visiting the former hidden catholic church now known as Our Lord in the Attic Museum. We were joined by the Jesuit priest who hosted the project at De Krijtberg and had a particular fondness for the museum. I will say that the visit was somewhat dampened by the fact that they were tuning the organ on the morning of our tour, however, I would highly recommend this museum if you are ever in the city.

Munster

Peter York

It was wonderful to be able to spend my summer in Munster giving tours of such an historic cathedral. The building itself had a number of select highlights, my personal favourites including the sixteenth century astronomical clock showing the movements of various planets and celestial bodies (as well as the time) Equally important was the tomb of Cardinal Von Galen the wartime bishop of Munster who criticised the Nazi's euthanasia policy and his stand against the Nazi's helped make it a privilege for me to volunteer in Munster, in his cathedral.

The welcome we received was excellent, the people were very friendly and it was humbling when at dinner they spoke in English, not German, in order that we could understand what they were saying. Equally wonderful was having an ensuite with an excellent view of the cathedral and having a three course dinner every day. One of my abiding memories looking back on the experience however, will be the many times the air was filled with the peels of church bells adding their voice to a picturesque city.

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Select Dinner Menu Munster 5th-15th August 2022

Starter	Main	Dessert
Salad	Vegetarian spag bol	Stewed apples and ice cream
Salad/Aparagus Soup	Chicken, potatoes, aubergine, tomato, cauliflower	Stewed cherries and ice cream
Salad	Asian style chicken and noodles	Apricot mousse
Salad	Gnocci, vegi nuggets and vegetables	Nut blancmange
Salad	Kebabs, potato wedges	Fruit Salad
Salad	Pizza	Semolina pudding and strawberry sauce
Salad	Lasagne	Semolina pudding with peaches
Salad	Pulled Pork potato wedges	Peach mousse with tinned peaches
Salad	Chicken, mushrooms, rice	Trifle
Salad	Cordon-bleu, dauphinoise potatoes, peas	Angle Delight

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Thank you for Reading!
