

# **The Honorary Graduate: The Very Revd Dr David Hoyle**

## **The Orator: Professor Steve West**

### **David Hoyle is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters**

David was installed as Dean of Westminster, just under two weeks ago. From May 2010 until September this year he was Dean in this Cathedral, in Bristol. As Dean of Westminster, he has oversight of Westminster Abbey, the burial place of so many English kings and queens and the setting for great, national occasions. In a year's time he will be involved in the centenary celebrations marking the burial of the unknown warrior.

Born in Lancashire, David moved to Hertfordshire as a child and was educated at Watford Grammar School. Before ordination as a priest, he studied history and then theology at Cambridge (at Corpus Christi College) and stayed on to complete a doctorate in history. The thesis subsequently became a book on religion in Cambridge on the eve of the English Civil War.

Post ordination, he worked as Dean of Magdalene College, Cambridge, as a Vicar in North London (where he was also Director of Post Ordination Training) and as Director of Ministry in the Diocese of Gloucester and Canon of Gloucester Cathedral, before moving to Bristol. He has served on national committees for the Church of England and has taught on ministerial training schemes. He has written a number of articles and reviews, *The Pattern of our Calling* was published in 2017 and *A Year of Grace* came out this year. He Chairs the College of Deans of the English Cathedrals.

In Bristol, he was host for UWE graduations and worked closely with the UWE Chaplain. He served on a number of city trusts and took a particular interest in the provision the city makes for the elderly. As Dean, he was involved in the conversation about the continuing legacy of the transatlantic slave trade and was here when Occupy took over College Green.

The Honorary Degree is awarded in recognition of David's Services to the Bristol community.