

# MP gives his support to cathedral carol service

**CHRIS ELLIOTT**  
 Chief reporter

HEALTH Secretary Andrew Lansley has given his personal backing to a major Christmas charity event in Cambridgeshire.

The MP for South Cambridgeshire will join concertgoers at the Festival of Carols, to be held at Ely Cathedral on Friday, December 10.

The event, which is also being backed by the *News*, is partly in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support and marks the start of the charity's centenary celebrations – it will be 100 years old in 2011.

Choristers from The King's School in Ely will be performing traditional carols and specially devised choral pieces, and the audience will also hear a selection of festive readings and poems, read by local personalities including Amanda Goodman from *BBC Look East*, and Mark Peters, *Breakfast Show* presenter on Star Radio.

Mr Lansley will also do a reading at the concert.

Elsbeth Potter, area fundraising manager for Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "We're very grateful that so many busy people have given their time to help make this wonderful concert happen."

"With such hectic schedules we really appreciate the special effort made by Andrew, Amanda and Mark to join us on the night, and so help us to reach more people affected by cancer and improve more lives far into the future."

"We're inviting everyone to book their tickets and come along and enjoy a fantastic evening."

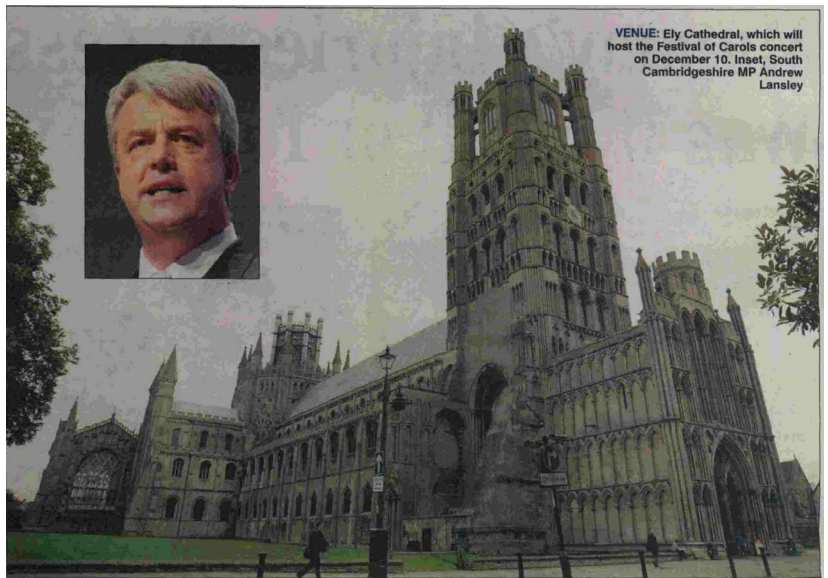
Cambridgeshire Freemasons are organising the carol performance, which is being sponsored by several local businesses – PricewaterhouseCoopers, Rathbones, Eversheds, Bidwells, and Barclays Corporate, as well as Cambridge Newspapers.

All proceeds from the event will be split between Macmillan Cancer Support and the Ely Cathedral Trust.

A small number of "premium tickets" are available, allowing guests to experience the festivities from the cathedral's Octagon and enjoy champagne receptions in the Lady Chapel both before and during the concert.

Tickets are priced from £10 and are available from the box office by ringing (01353) 660349 or visiting the website [www.elycathedral.org](http://www.elycathedral.org).

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