



From: The Dean



We've recently gone through the process of Peer Review. After the Chapter had completed a lengthy self-evaluation questionnaire on matters of governance and finance and so on, three reviewers came from other cathedrals to mark our homework. Or rather, to bring an external perspective to bear, and help us refine our thinking about where we are heading as a cathedral. In spite of our natural wariness in advance, only to be expected given the amount of external scrutiny the cathedral has undergone in recent years, it was an encouraging experience. More of that, however, in a future *Cathedral News*. For now, I want to pick up on a comment made by all three reviewers. They came to us from Liverpool, Winchester, and Ely, and all expressed delight, and surprise, at the splendour of our cathedral: "We had no idea what a marvellous building it is!"

For me, their observations provoked two questions... Is it because we all take the building for granted? Or is it because we've failed to tell our story effectively? I suspect there is truth behind both these questions.

We all know how 'distance lends enchantment to the view'; and the converse is also clearly true. It is not that familiarity necessarily breeds contempt, but you cannot live in a perpetual state of wonderment. Sir Simon Jenkins, the author of all those books on beautiful houses and railway stations and churches and cathedrals, told of his visit to Exeter: "I came into the cathedral and sat in silence for half an hour, overwhelmed by the beauty of the place." I have the benefit of being in the cathedral every day, and will often speak of how our vaulted ceiling lifts my heart daily to heaven. But perhaps we would all benefit from more conscious looking - for wherever you turn, there is exquisite craftsmanship and profound beauty, which merits our focus and attention.

And then we clearly need to do more to sell the cathedral. In every direction. To the visitor on the Green - for our signage and entrance door give

no hint of the wonders within. To the people of Exeter and of Devon. We say, and believe, that this is their cathedral, and it is certainly Devon's best building, but too many have never set foot inside. And to people up and down our land. It's all very well my seeking to promote Exeter as 'America's favourite cathedral' but we need first to share our delights with our compatriots. We owe that to them and to us.

One of the aims of the Peer Review process is to make us alert to what we already know, and to help us discern what of that is important. Rediscovering what a precious building we have, and thinking afresh about how to share that good news with others, would be a very positive outcome from this enterprise.

Jonathan Greener

Thanks from Nigel Woolven

To underline the point made by Jonathan in his front page piece, we have received a most welcome message of thanks and appreciation. Nigel Woolven is a retired chartered surveyor, who cycled over 2000km on a journey encompassing 42 cathedrals from Truro to Carlisle between 1st April and 22nd June. He is raising money for New Life Church, which is working with ATG Ministries to drill bore wells in villages in the Telangana province of India, in order to provide fresh drinking water.

In his report of the tour Nigel wrote to donors, "*Exeter was my favourite cathedral. They went out of their way there to look after me.*"

In an email to the Dean, Nigel expanded somewhat, thanking members of staff and volunteers for their particular contribution:

"I am just writing to tell you briefly what an extraordinary time I experienced at Exeter Cathedral last week.

Joseph Patkai has been a complete superstar. He arranged a private tour for me with Mike Ashby whose knowledge of the Cathedral is quite extraordinary and who has set the bar very high indeed for future cathedrals. Joseph then arranged accommodation for me with Mike and Gilly Williams who took a great interest in my trip, fed and watered me and gave me a bed for the night. Joseph then arranged a session with Ann in the library archives, who went out of her way at very short notice, and Sam Garner was kind enough to take photos and try to help me raise my social media profile

So in summary I am absolutely delighted that the great people of Exeter Cathedral went out of their way in terms of friendship and time on my behalf. If anyone needs a definition of 'going the extra mile' they need look no further."

Many congratulations to Nigel on completing his tour and raising over £10,000.

News from the Company of Tapisers



Preparations are almost complete! Cabinets, boards and mannequins have been sourced from the college and businesses across the city, special lighting has been arranged, publicity has been rigorous and emails, too many to number, have been speeding through the atmosphere. Exeter Cathedral is ready to be the venue for The Royal School of Needlework's exhibition, *For Worship and Glory*, from 1st until 26th August.

There will be three distinct components to this event:

First, as an introduction, will be a display of ecclesiastical vestments from Exeter Cathedral's own collection – many of which

were made by the Company of Tapisers.

Secondly, the main exhibition from the RSN's collection will show some remarkable pieces of needlework from the last two centuries. One example is the intricate Victorian Angel (pictured) a work of great complexity and beauty.

Thirdly, Buckfast Abbey has agreed to loan us their Millennium Vestments which were completed in 2018 by the RSN to celebrate 1,000 years since the original foundation of Buckfast Abbey. This is the latest large project embroidered by the skilful needlewomen at the RSN and the pieces are quite magnificent.

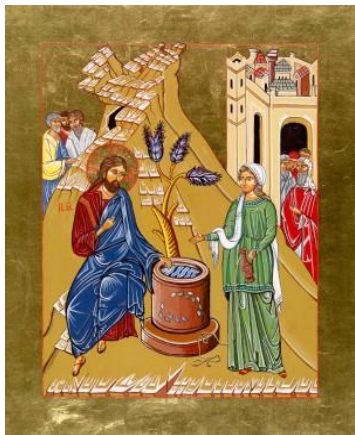
Please come and enjoy these stitched treasures – this is a rare opportunity to see so many prestigious pieces exhibited together.

Diana Symes, Chairman of the Company of Tapisers

City Centre Chaplains

On 1st August at 7.30pm in St Stephen's Church, there will be the annual service of dedication of the Exeter City Centre Chaplains. Ruth Hawker will give a retiring testimony and the preacher will be the Dean of Exeter, the Very Revd Jonathan Greener.

The Retreat Association Icon



Exeter Cathedral is delighted to host this icon during August – from 7th to 28th – when it will be on display in the Lady Chapel. A gift to the Retreat Association from iconographer John Coleman, the icon depicts the story of the Woman at the Well. Jesus talks with her, accepts her for who she is, and invites her to drink of life-giving water.

The icon is a focus for our prayers and devotions, through which Jesus also offers us the water of life.

We will host a **Quiet Day** themed around the icon on **Saturday 10th August from 10am – 4pm.**

Based in the Chapter House, and with a combination of worship, short talks, and times for prayer – and with lunch provided. At a cost of £12, please book via the Cathedral website.

Come and Celebrate Summer in the Cathedral Café!



Visitors to the Cathedral Café will be treated to a variety of speciality scones throughout the summer this year.

The Café, which has been described by visitors as “a hidden gem”, will be serving an assortment of homemade scones that has already included a cherry bakewell scone and a chocolate orange scone served with orange marmalade.

Next Month: Please send material for the **September** edition by **Monday 26th August** to Heather Morgan (01392 877623, hmm53@tiscali.co.uk and Sheila Atkinson sm.a@blueyonder.co.uk. The other members of the editorial team are Rosemary Bethell, Jenny Ellis and Linda Driscoll.

From the Cathedral Bellringers

July has been a quiet month in comparison with June – with one special highlight, a half-muffled peal rung as part of the commemorations marking the death of Bishop Grandisson on 16 July 1369. Midweek peals are a rarity here at Exeter Cathedral, but this request came from our Canon Precentor, and of course we were only too happy to oblige. Half-muffled ringing is difficult to achieve well, with one half of the clapper being muffled by what is essentially a large leather glove. This creates the sombre voice and echo which is more often heard on Remembrance Sunday and is one of the most beautiful and evocative sounds. However, from within the ringing chamber, the muffled backstroke is difficult to distinguish, making good striking harder than usual to attain. So we were all particularly pleased to score this peal of Stedman Cinques in four hours and thirteen minutes, rung immediately prior to the Requiem Mass, and were also especially grateful for the four fans in the ringing chamber – peals on summer afternoons are never a comfortable experience on our heavy bells!

Later this August, there will be another full peal attempt, this time on Bank Holiday Monday. The band will be made up of ringers mainly from Worcester Cathedral, which boasts another heavy ring of twelve, so the team are well practised on demanding bells. Our tenor will be rung by Tom Childs, a young ringer from Worcester Cathedral who is currently challenging himself to ring peals on all the heavy bells around the country. He acquitted himself well in a practice quarter peal here earlier this year, so we wish him well on Monday 26th August as he rings the tenor behind to Stedman Cinques – do please make our visitors welcome and enjoy listening to the bells on a summer's afternoon.

Clare Griffiths, Secretary, Exeter Cathedral Bellringers

Tales from the Foodbank: Referral Agencies

Exeter Foodbank works in partnership with over 130 referral agencies, which include the Citizen's Advice Bureau, Exeter City Council Benefit Support Team, debt-relief agencies, health services, social services, housing providers and schools. The Foodbank helps to relieve pressure, created by immediate food poverty, whilst these specialist agencies ensure further support. In addition, the team of trained sign-posters are also on hand in food distribution sessions to point clients towards further help.

The next Cathedral Foodbank Collection will take place on **Sunday 25th August** at the 10 am service. Thank you.
Felicity Cawthra

Duty Chaplains

It is important this month that we remember and thank all the Cathedral Duty Chaplains, who serve diligently throughout the year. They provide a valuable ministry within the Cathedral, offering a welcoming presence in conjunction with the volunteer stewarding teams, saying prayers from the pulpit on the hour and, should people require it, provide a listening ear. It is the particular responsibility of the Chaplain to represent the pastoral and spiritual life of the Cathedral on a day-to-day basis. A combination of lay and ordained members of the Church, they are committed to promoting the Christian ethos and message to all our visitors. Often found wearing a green sash or a Chaplain's gong, they are a visible and important part of the volunteer community. If you are interested in becoming a Duty Chaplain, please contact Priest Vicar David Gunn-Johnson: david.gunn-johnson@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Joseph Patkai, Special Projects and Volunteers' Assistant

Devon Historic Churches Trust Ride/Stride & Deanery Prayer Walk Saturday 14th September

For over 20 years, the Cathedral has taken an active part in raising funds for the Devon Historic Churches Trust. We aim to continue this in 2019, and seek your help in keeping up this tradition! The 14th September is the date this year for the Trust's annual fund-raising event, which, as always, will also be the date for our Deanery Prayer Walk. On this day, David Smith, Chairman of our Deanery Synod, together with as many others as possible, will be leading a pilgrimage, which aims to visit, and pray in, as many churches in Christianity Deanery as possible. This walk will start at 7.50am at St Michael's, Mount Dinham and will end at lunchtime at St Leonard's. It will be shortened, this year, due to the Ordination of Deacons at the Cathedral at 3pm.

Not many of us are likely to achieve the whole day, but a good place to start will be at the refreshment point in the Cathedral precincts. The Chapter House is occupied this year, but we will be warmly welcomed (probably about 10am) with tea/coffee or soft drinks in Cloister Garth, where a member of Chapter will lead us in prayer, and send us on our way with a blessing. The walk will then visit the remaining city centre churches, including the Orthodox Church, before moving on to St. Matthew's and St. Leonard's.

In past years, the Cathedral Community has sponsored this event very generously, and once again we will be hoping for the same support please. The sponsorship money raised is divided, with half going to the Devon Historic Churches Trust and the other half to the church chosen by the walker, which for us has been one of the Cathedral's building funds. Last year the money was

allocated to our stonemasons, and they received £250. They were extremely grateful. For the past two years, we have raised a total of over £500 – a tough call to repeat, but please be generous. We would, again, like to sponsor our stonemasons in recognition of all the work they are doing. Rumour has it that, this year, some members of Chapter are planning to go on a bike ride, although, due to the Ordination, the date is unlikely to be 10th September.

Sponsorship forms are now available, and we will be looking for support, especially during coffee time after the 10.00 Eucharist on a Sunday. If you wish to take an active part in fund raising but do not want to join this walk, you might have your own idea; such as using your bus pass (where possible!) to visit as many churches as possible and being sponsored for your effort. If you do not feel able to take an active part, please sponsor those of us who are. Most of all, make it a fun day. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Diane Coombes

Worship

Did you know that you can listen to our sermons, recorded at the Sunday Morning Choral Eucharist, via our website?

Did you know that we have an easy-to-use section on our website that will help you to explore prayer?

Further information about the above can be found at: www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/worship-music

News from the Social Events Team (SET)

Lunch 8th September

Canon Chris Palmer has asked me to chair a Cathedral Social Events Team (SET). The first event will be lunch at noon on 8th September, when the Cathedral congregations will entertain the parents of new choristers and welcome them to the cathedral family. All existing chorister parents and members of the choir will also be invited. Details to reserve a place at the lunch will be given in the weekly service sheet nearer the time. Meanwhile if anyone wants to offer help with the preparation and service of lunch please contact me on jgshayward@tiscali.co.uk The more of us that participate, the more that we will show our enthusiasm to those parents who give so much time to help make cathedral worship so special throughout the year.

James Hayward

The Next Meal

I guess most of us reading this won't worry too much about where we will find our next meal. But for many people in our society it is a very real anxiety, as we know from the massive use of food banks both locally and around the country. So on 28th June- Exeter Cathedral was delighted to host the launch of the 'Next Meal' - an online guide in the making, signposting people to where they can find free food in their own locality, wherever they are in the UK or Europe. Already rolled out in many parts of the country, this was Exeter's chance to welcome and publicise Next Meal's coverage of Devon and the South West.

GPS guidance to local free food

Brainchild of Martin Stone, Next Meal is a website which directs homeless people to nearby soup kitchens using GPS data. Martin, who lectures in Housing and Economics, has been manager of a soup kitchen in Muswell Hill, London, for over ten years, and it was there that he came up with the idea, when he realised that most of the homeless people he met had a smartphone.

Help for well-wishers too

As members of the public, we don't want to pass by those who ask for our help, but we are usually (and rightly) uncomfortable giving money to homeless people not knowing how it might be used. So the next time you come across someone on the streets who asks you for money, what you can give them instead, by looking up nextmeal.co.uk on your own phone, is information about locations of the nearest centres that provide food, and on which days of the week and times of day. For those who do not have smartphones, the Next Meal organisation also provides small cards with the website details on, which churches can order for their members to carry around, ready to give to someone they see in need. The Cathedral now has a stock of them on the Chaplains' and Stewards' desk and you are welcome to take a handful to give to those who might benefit. Next Meal kindly donated two mobile phone chargers to the Wednesday Kitchen, along with a good supply of Next Meal info cards for the Kitchen's guests.

High level backing and commendation

Comics Sean Lock and [Lee Mack](#), and actress [Naomie Harris](#), supported the launch, and Theresa May has awarded Martin Stone the 'Points of Light' award for the venture, a government award which recognises outstanding individual volunteers whose work is making a positive impact on a whole community.

And there's more help for the homeless out there...

Next Meal is just one of a number of recent technological initiatives to connect the homeless to local services. Streetlink is an app which tells the user - whether homeless person or concerned passerby - where the nearest night shelters and help centres are located.

Exeter's city-wide response to the problem of homelessness

There was a great turnout in the Chapter House for the southwest launch of Next Meal. On behalf of the Cathedral, I was delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor of Exeter - Councillor Peter Holland - and Mrs Jacky Holland, other members of Exeter City Council, and representatives from Exeter Food Action, St Petrock's, Julian House, Food Exeter, the Salvation Army, our own Wednesday Kitchen, Apple, Nexus, the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, nursing staff from the RD&E emergency department, Exeter College, and Exeter University. The Lord Mayor spoke inspirationally about a charity he'd been involved with in Plymouth some years earlier, which helped homeless people get back into work by arranging work experience and placements for them.

In discussion at the launch, it was clear that everyone had a strong desire not just to help in times of crisis, but to put in place a city-wide Plan. This involves all the agencies represented, and more, to lift people out of homelessness and set them on the path to better health, a home to live in, the opportunity for training and work, help to restore broken relationships, and so to regain their sense of worth and purpose. Canon Chris Palmer represents the Cathedral in discussions with the Exeter Homelessness Partnership. The Partnership has recently taken a big step forward in agreeing to employ someone to pull all the city's resources together in order to bring about positive change.

Martin Stone's passion is to see more of this joined-up thinking in every part of the country, and ultimately for there to be a national strategy that works. He clearly has a significant role as an inspirer, catalyst, and encourager in bringing about change. In my conversation with him over coffee earlier that week, he shared that he suspects his next major work will be to come alongside schools to inspire them to help young people develop the resilience that will enable them to withstand the knocks of life. Only that way can we hope to stem the flow of people who might otherwise spiral downwards to the streets in times of significant adversity. A vast new task indeed!

Canon Becky Totterdell, St Peter Canon



The Friends of Exeter Cathedral

We have one event in August, a talk entitled *Exeter and the European Medieval Sculptural Tradition* by Jason Arkles at 2.30pm on Thursday 15th August 2019 in the Chapter House.

In this lively talk, art historian Jason Arkles will connect the Image Screen at Exeter Cathedral to the wider world of sculpture across Europe, detailing the similarities and contrasts between the figurative traditions still visible at Exeter and the sculpture of pre-Renaissance Florence.

Jason Arkles is an American sculptor, art historian, podcaster and author living in Florence where he operates a studio and works on commission, specializing in portraiture in marble, but also producing figures and monuments in various media. As an educator, he holds a position in the History of Art Department at the British Institute of Florence, and lectures for several institutions and studio in Florence. In 2015, Jason assembled his lectures and research into a podcast called *The Sculptor's Funeral*. The podcast discusses significant events, artists, and sculpture in art history, and discusses current events relevant to sculptors. As a result of the popularity of the podcast, Jason has given workshops, lecture tours and other educational programmes, in ateliers and institutions around the world. The talk will be followed by tea and cakes. Tickets cost £11 for Friends and £15 for non-members.

In September, as part of The Friends 90th anniversary celebrations, we will be delighted and honoured to welcome Sir Antony Acland KG on the evening of Tuesday 17th September, when we will learn about his life and career as a diplomat.

Sir Antony is a member of one of Devon's historic families. His career with the Foreign Office lasted over 40 years, and included being Head of the Arabic Department, Principal Private Secretary to two Foreign Secretaries – Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Jim Callaghan – along with postings in the Middle East, New York and Geneva. He was HM Ambassador to Luxembourg, then Spain, and subsequently Head of the Diplomatic Service during the Falklands War. He completed his career as HM Ambassador to the United States during the Presidencies of Ronald Reagan and George Bush Snr. He was Chancellor of the Royal Victorian Order and was given the rare honour by HM The Queen of being appointed a Knight of the Garter.

Since retiring in 1991, he has been Provost of Eton College, and one of the founders of the Rothermere American Institute created at Oxford University to promote greater understanding of the United States. He and his wife Jennifer live on Exmoor, where they are still actively involved locally, as well as keeping in contact with their large combined family of seven children and many grandchildren.

This meeting will be held in the Quire Presbytery commencing at 7pm followed by a champagne and canapé reception in the Crossing.

The full price of tickets is £39 per person. Friends and their guests may purchase tickets at the discounted price of £35 but early booking is advised.

Tickets for both events are available from The Friends Office, The West Wing, The Palace, Exeter EX1 1HY. Office hours 09.00-13.00 Mon to Thurs. Email: friends@exeter-cathedral.org.uk Telephone: (01392) 423931

Pete Privett, Office Manager, the Friends of Exeter Cathedral

Cathedral Community Committee (CCC)

The next meeting of the CCC is on 6th August. The main item of business will be to consider how the wider Cathedral Community can assist Chapter to implement the recommendations of the SCIE safeguarding audit. Please send any other suggestions for the agenda to me at hmm53@tiscali.co.uk

Heather Morgan, Chairman CCC

News from the Wednesday Kitchen

As Canon Becky Totterdell has described earlier in this *News*, last month a launch party was held in the Chapter House to highlight services available to people without homes. Please make a note of the website so that you can share it with people in need. Nextmeal.co.uk

The Wednesday Kitchen continues to be in need of home-made cakes, which can be left in the Chapter House on Wednesdays. If you would like your tin returned, please label it and we will leave it in the Chapter House for collection. If you can make a cake, even if it just once per month, please let Helen Taverner know: Helen@tavernersfarm.co.uk If you would like to volunteer, especially if you have the capability to cook 50 baked potatoes occasionally, please contact Helen or Penny penny@harris58.com

Penny Harris, Wednesday Kitchen Co-ordinator

The Cathedral Flower Arrangers



The past month saw us busy with shells and fishing ropes! St Peter's Day traditionally has a sea-themed arrangement at the West end to mark Friends Day. We added shells and rope balls to all the arrangements inside the Cathedral without having to change the flowers. We had a week when we needed to take out the "getting very sad" arrangements in the pillars, and I wonder if you noticed that we used fresh foliage and orange silk flowers just for that week?

We made a silk pedestal for Bishop Grandisson's Requiem, and a sheaf of lilies for the Dean to lay on the altar of the Chapel of St Radegund at the West End of the Cathedral, where Bishop Grandisson is buried.

We are hoping that our arrangements through the school holidays and the Royal School of Needlework exhibition will make sure our many visitors enjoy our beautiful Cathedral, and go away prepared to spread the news. This is especially so as the Dean wants "to make Exeter every American's favourite Cathedral", and we will try to play our part in that.

Flick Evans, Exeter Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Holy Ground Sunday 8th September at 7pm

Climate Emergency: Protesting for change

Professor Tim Gorrige and Jess Nicholls.



Tim Gorrige is Emeritus Professor at the University of Exeter. He has previously taught theology in South India and Oxford. His recent books include *The Common Good and the Global Emergency*, *Earthly Visions: Theology and the Challenges of Art*, and *The World Made Otherwise*.

Jess Nicholls is part of the Fridays For Future: Exeter, a youth-led climate activist group operating within and around Exeter, supported by Extinction Rebellion Exeter and part of the wider Youth Strike movement, standing with Greta Thunberg.



And looking ahead... at Holy Ground on 13th October we welcome Andy Robertson to speak about Video-Game Spirituality and on 10th November Professor Piers Ludlow to speak about the role of religion in European Integration.

Outing to St Paul's Cathedral

This outing on the 1st and 2nd June was the swansong of the Cathedral Fellowship Committee, and was the result of a very generous invitation from David and Hilary Ison to visit St Paul's and join them for an evening meal at the Deanery.

A total of 16 people joined this outing. Eight travelled in a hired minibus with accommodation at a local Premier Inn, others made their own arrangements so as to stay with family etc. Our meeting point was 2.30pm on Saturday, at the foot of St Paul's Cathedral where we were met by David. Our first bonus was that David conducted the tour of the Cathedral himself. In addition to a very informative talk this also gave David an opportunity for his own personal reflections on the complexities of life at St Paul's – a city Cathedral set in the heart of the great capital with its business and financial dealings. We learned that St Paul's was the first Protestant Cathedral to be built following the Reformation. To illustrate this, one of the great carvings above the west door was of a Bible – a real Protestant statement! David did a marvellous job of projecting his voice above the myriad of visitors and the unique acoustic of the dome. This was not helped when the organist started to practise for Evensong! Nonetheless, we were able to experience the whole ground floor of the building including the crypt, with a special visit to Nelson's tomb. Sadly the Whispering Gallery is closed at present to review safety measures.

Following a welcome cup of tea in a quieter part of the crypt, we proceeded to our reserved seats in the Quire. Here came our second 'bonus' when we learned that Keith and Viola Jones had been invited to join us. We were warmly welcomed to the Service and enjoyed the traditional Choral Evensong.

Following Evensong, we made our way to the Deanery in Amen Court – such a lovely name! Here Hilary greeted us, and, with David, served us with wine and nibbles with an invitation to sit in their lovely sitting room. Shortly after David had said Grace, we were invited to a sumptuous feast seated either in their dining room or their beautiful kitchen, with a suggestion to swap for the sweets course. David became a superb 'waiter' taking orders for tea/coffee/decaff etc. There was much chatter and reminiscing. It was really heartening to learn how Exeter still held a very dear place in the hearts of both the Ison and Jones families. It was such a happy reunion, and we were all deeply grateful to David and Hilary for making this possible.

On Sunday, after a leisurely breakfast we made our way back to the Cathedral for the Sung Eucharist at 11.30. We again had reserved seats, to which we were shown by the Wandsmen, who were dressed in tail coats! The service took place under the dome, and the setting to the Mass was by Langlais – a familiar setting for us but made very interesting by the acoustics of St Paul's dome! After making our farewells, we had a quick lunch in the crypt, then those on the minibus had, with Flick Evans' skills on the internet, booked a trip on the Thames. We travelled by taxis from St Paul's to Westminster Pier, then made the return trip to Greenwich by boat, with a very informative commentary. Our attention was particularly drawn to HMS Belfast, and it was from her that the gun shots were fired a few days after our visit to commemorate the D Day landings. The weather was perfect and the cruise made an excellent end to our London visit. Having circumnavigated the grid-locked streets of London our skilful driver got us back to Exeter by 9.30 pm. This was a very happy and successful swansong for the Fellowship Committee. Thank you to all who joined us.

Diane Coombes

Congratulations and Good Luck to Matt and Anna



Many congratulations to Matthew Hoskins who has been awarded a distinction, after two years studying for the Cathedrals Workshops Fellowship (CWF) Foundation degree (Arts) in Applied Historic Building Conservation and Repair.

This has taken a great deal of effort and commitment, and both his fellow stonemasons and the

wider Cathedral Community are very proud of his achievement.

We wish Anna Steinmetzer (pictured here with Matt) all the best as she embarks on the same course in September.

Chris Sampson, Clerk of Works

And Congratulations to Luke

Congratulations and all good wishes to Luke Stevenson who has been appointed Custos of the Cathedral. He will take up his post on 1st August.

From the Head of Education

Look out for all our planned Summer Children and Family Events Programme this season – something for everyone! Booking essential.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/news-events/what-is-on/category/children-families/>

Mini-Door Hunter Trail - Back by popular demand from last summer. Grab a question a map / sheet from the Welcome Desk for £2.50 each then follow the trail and discover our newly made and wonderfully decorated doors with an answer behind each one waiting to be discovered. Take your quiz sheet to the shop afterwards to pick up a fun prize. Wednesday 24th July – Friday 6th Sept.



Angel Exhibition



In December the Education Dept. is planning an **Exhibition of Angels** where local schools, colleges and some businesses are invited to make an angel out of any medium, bring it along at the end of November to be displayed in the Cathedral until early January. There will be a few events that will accompany the exhibition. It would be really great if other departments or groups of the Cathedral contribute. For example, the library & archives, café, and stonemasons will offer an angel. It would be lovely if anyone else

wants to get creative and be involved - maybe the Sunday Coffee folk, Mothers Union, Cloister Club etc. Let me know if you want more information or inspiration. It would be great for the visitors to see the different groups or clubs that make up our Cathedral. The angel can be just a wing or a halo, or a whole host of angels. Pop in and see me in No 1 or drop me an email. education@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Lisa Gordon, Head of Education

Job Vacancies at the Cathedral

We are looking to fill the following positions: HR Officer, Group Bookings Administrator and Events Co-ordinator. If you or somebody you know fits the bill, please see the 'vacancies' section on the Cathedral website www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/about-us/vacancies/

Requiem Mass for Bishop John de Grandisson



Bishop Robert censes the altar during the service

Thank you to all you attended this service on 16th July. It was a historic event which was both dignified and moving, most particularly the procession to the Chapel of St Radegund, where Bishop Grandisson is buried. The Bishop of Exeter censed the altar, before the Dean placed flowers there. Thank you to the choirs of Christ Church, Cranbrook, Michigan, USA and Exeter University Chapel Choir for their singing of Fauré's *Requiem*, and to the latter for the beautiful motet *Salve Regina* by Herbert Howells, with which the service ended.

A New Tour: Stones and Bones

The Cathedral Visitor Services department has introduced an exciting new tour that delves into the history of the Cathedral Green. The tour explores the fascinating surrounds of the Cathedral, tracing some of its history from Roman times to the present day. The tour starts on Monday 29th July and will run every Monday throughout the summer, booking is essential.

Cost £14 for Adults, Children Free

Time: 11:30am

Duration: Approx. 90mins

Schools Pilgrimage Days at the Cathedral



Over three days at the end of June the Cathedral Education Department held 'Pilgrimage Days' for Primary School children in Devon. These events were designed for those children who would be leaving their schools at the end of the Summer term and moving on to new schools for their Secondary education. Perhaps this will be their own Pilgrimage, moving on through new experiences?

Lisa Gordon, our Cathedral Education Officer, had great support from her team of Education Guides, staff from the Diocese Office, Cathedral staff and clergy, organists, and volunteers from the parishes. The administration of these days was a tour-de-force by Lisa.

The children, and their school teachers, started the day with a short introduction and a service in the Quire. Children and staff then set off in groups, which mixed children from different schools where possible, to take part in two workshops during the morning. The support

from Heritage organisations in Exeter was invaluable including the Devon and Exeter Institution (who used their collection of rare books about travel to discuss ideas of pilgrimage) and St Nicholas Priory where the children learned about Benedictine monastic life. Within the Cathedral there were exciting workshops in the Library and Archives (how amazing that books were written by hand on animal skins!), Orienteering around the Cathedral Close, tours in costume to experience the visit of a Medieval pilgrim to our Cathedral, brass rubbing and Shrinkies (always popular!). In the photograph, we see the Pilgrims outside the Chapel of St Gabriel.

After lunch in the Cloisters and on the Green (luckily the weather remained fine) everyone returned to the Quire for 'Closing Worship'. A resounding chorus of 'Shine, Jesus, Shine' sent them all on their way having learned new things and met new people. In other words, just what we would all hope for from a Pilgrimage. The final word must go to a teacher who said to Lisa, 'Next year, let us know the dates and we will be Number One with the application forms for our school to enrol on a Pilgrimage Day again'.

Lindsay Roderick, Education Guide

Focus: The Very Reverend Jonathan Greener, Dean of Exeter



*'Along the sculptures of the western wall
I watched the moonlight creeping:
It moved as if it hardly moved at all,
Inch by inch, thinly peeping
Round the pious figures of free stone
brought,
And poised there, when the universe
was wrought,
To serve its centre, Earth, in mankind's
thought.'*

From *A Cathedral's Facade at Midnight*
by Thomas Hardy

Having found this poem, I wondered if there had been many nights, during the last two years, when Jonathan may have witnessed such a sight whilst walking home from the Cathedral. It would certainly now be a little different, because the West Front is electronically flood-lit and looks

stunning in the depth of night; but, maybe not so 'magical'. However, those lights today provide a much needed security blanket.

Jonathan was born, in 1961, in leafy Surrey; his father owned and managed a factory in Crawley that made hearing-aids; introducing the first *behind-the-ear* models for the NHS and supplying 10% of the world's hearing aids to 62+ countries. He has a younger sister, and his father still lives in Surrey. Tragically, at an early age Jonathan's mother developed Alzheimer's Disease, and died from it in 1996.

He loved school, and especially so when at St. Luke's Primary School. He joined the Cubs and Crusaders at the local Baptist Church, and attended Evensong in the parish church. Having passed his 11+, he went on to Reigate Grammar School, which is now an independent school.

'I took my O's and A's; but I'm better at thinking off the cuff! So I swotted at the last minute! Thankfully, I passed! I got a place at Trinity College, Cambridge to study Theology, where I concentrated on the New Testament.'

Here, Jonathan came into contact with the Bishop John Robinson, who wrote a well-known book entitled *Honest to God*.

'I was a linguist rather than a theologian! He had a big impact upon me. There were, also Saturday Open Christian Discussion Groups (and this included lunch!) led by the now Archdeacon of Barnstaple, Mark Butchers. All of these experiences enabled my growth in Christian life.'

Three years later, he left with his degree in the bag to work as the Sales & Export Manager for A&M Hearing Company, his father's firm in Crawley. This involved a lot of travelling to those many countries who were buying and distributing their hearing-aids. Alongside this, Jonathan helped to run the Junior Church, the Youth Group at St. Mark's Church in Reigate.

Where and when did his road towards ordination begin?

'We had a Father Augustine Hoey CR, a very strong individual, come to organise and run a two-week mission. We had many talks together; he made me say my prayers in front of everyone! He more or less 'frog-marched' me towards ordination! But, that wasn't so easy, because there was acceleration and deterioration in my mother's mental and physical condition.'

In 1987, Jonathan commenced his ordination training at the Anglo Catholic Theological College of the Resurrection, in Mirfield, Yorkshire, a college for men and women.

'It has some beautiful buildings! But the first term was hell! It was so very regimented, and you had the choice of either fitting in or leaving! I was there for just two years, because I'd already got my Degree in Theology. I returned to the Diocese of Southwark.'

It was a bit of a change in landscape..... Yorkshire to the Elephant & Castle in London! Where he was appointed as Curate to a 'saintly vicar'.

'I lived at the top of a Tower Block, with bars on the windows! There were fifteen muggings in the first month, and five murders in three years! We worshipped in a Church Hall, the congregations were made up from 20+ differing nationalities, and they were wonderfully kind and generous people. They looked after me very well when I became ill. I stayed for three years, leaving after we had completed the new church buildings, which were officially opened by the late Diana, Princess of Wales.'

He had decided to move following a retreat.

'There I was encouraged to "Go, sell everything and come follow me!" But, I said "No, Lord- but if that's what you want, help me to get used to the idea!" I arrived

home to discover a letter waiting for me from the Diocese of Truro! So I found myself moving to Cornwall as Chaplain to Bishop Michael Ball, who was a fantastic Diocesan Bishop. He was a very attentive correspondent, and managed, unlike many other bishops, to raise 99% of the parish share from across the Diocese! When he retired, I thought I would become a monk. But, before taking that final decision, I realised that I needed to talk it all through with a very good and close friend. But, that didn't happen.....an absolute tragedy occurred. He was murdered.

Somehow, he'd made the choice for me, and I went to Brighton as the Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd!

Jonathan described his time there as:-

'I had a great time! It was ultimate suburbia! The congregation was made up of mainly professional people, whose faith was very much a part of their daily life. After seven years, I began asking myself "Do I go or stay, I'm forty-two?"

I went on a visit to a monastery in Boston, USA and fell in love with the place. I decided to test my vocation there, and came home to start the immigration processes when I received a telephone call from the Bishop of Wakefield inviting me to become the Archdeacon of Pontefract!

I wondered what made him change his mind.

'I had spoken to a long-time Romanian friend, about what I was planning, and his response was "Think about it! Rowan Williams, the new Archbishop, won't be able to do much for the Church of England if all the priests go to America to save their own soul!" So, I went to Yorkshire instead!

This friendship had been forged over the years during Jonathan's fifteen trips to Romania; the first being in 1991 shortly after the ending of Communism, and whilst he was at Mirfield.

'It was so very grey; the clothing, the queues for food in the shops, no petrol nor diesel! But, the people were so kind and generous...sacrificial in their generosity! Their worship was wonderful. Then I was appointed Secretary to Archbishop George Carey's Romanian Liaison Group, which organised exchanges between students and clergy. The Romanian Church is an integral part of life for most Romanians and they are the most Anglican-friendly of all Orthodox churches. The countryside is beautiful and it was, and is, an important part of my life. Romania, of course, helped to foster my interest in religious icons.'

Then Cupid shot an arrow!

At a meeting of the Bishop's Council, a lady called Pamela sat down next to him! The rest is history, and they were married in Wakefield Cathedral on 2006.

'Pamela composed all the music, we had brass bands and opera singers, a marquee and lots of food and wine!'

It sounds like a 'proper do' as they say here in Devon, and a monumental leap to make from the, one time possibility of becoming a monk, to marriage. Wow! Four years later on, this Archdeacon was installed as the Dean of Wakefield Cathedral, where he became the OC (Officer Commanding) of the £7.5 million re-ordering and re-furbishing of the 15th century cathedral. This, as you can imagine, was a massive task. When all was completed, Jonathan felt, and also believed that he still had the energy for another job!

'I am a Southerner! And saw the vacancy at Exeter. I knew the Bishop, who was Chaplain during my Trinity days, and he was a referee for my ordination. Pamela had ceased practising as an accountant in 2016, and we would be in the SW, adjacent to her home county, so I applied!

It's a lovely place to work in and around, the people are so supportive and enthusiastic. But, the building project is bigger than I expected!

How does this man relax?

'I like cooking as well as eating! Especially sausages, spaghetti in tomato sauce and roast beef! I enjoy photographing street portraiture/scenes, with or without permission. We enjoy going to the theatre and good music of course. We love our caravan holidays, especially when in Cornwall, as well as travelling overseas ...Athens, Istanbul, Venice, the Holy Land, as well as Cuba, and Spain.

I try to keep fit, and have a personal trainer; but I HATE the gym!

Like many of the men and women who have been in a Focus, Jonathan is a fan of Agatha Christie, but also has an interest in serious books/manuals on Management, where he says he hopefully will learn the importance of distinguishing the differences between worrying about things that matter, rather than about a lot of other things!

As always, I asked him about the best and worst aspects of life in the Cathedral. His reply was swift.

'The best are, the people, and the beauty of vaulted ceiling. The worst is the sound system, which is embarrassing; and the lighting ugly and ineffectual!'

Thank you Jonathan, it has been a joy and privilege to spend time with you.

Rosemary Bethell

Farewell and Thank you

Our thanks to the musicians who left us at the end of the summer term: Choristers Charlotte, Felicity, Hector, Isabelle, Oscar, Rowan and Theodore are moving to new schools.

Choral Scholar Emily Harrison is to be a Lay Clerk at Bristol Cathedral, and Organ Scholar Hamish Fraser is to be Organ Scholar of New College Oxford, where he will study Classics.

We send our prayers and best wishes for the future to them all.

25th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood

On 30th June 2019, there was Choral Eucharist to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood. Bishop Jackie presided and offered a reflection. The sermon was shared between the Revd Jane Wilson, the Revd Hannah Alderson, (Lazenby Chaplain in the University of Exeter), and the Revd Helen Drever (Assistant Curate, Crediton Mission Community) who spoke about the ordained ministry of women in the past, the present and the future. After the service, there was a group photograph with Bishop Robert and Bishop Jackie, followed by a cream tea.



Summer Music Series (full details on the Cathedral website)

- 1st August at 2pm** Joel Munday (violin) and Julian Trevelyan (piano)
8th August at 7pm Richard Lester (organ)
15th August at 2pm Marius Carl Rudnick, Cathy Davies and Cameron Davies
22nd August at 2pm William Peart (organ)
29th August at 7pm Tim Noon (organ)

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Tim playing some classics in the organ repertoire including Dupré's *Prelude and Fugue in G minor* and William Walton's *Orb and Sceptre*. It would be good to have a large audience to support one of the "home team".

Summer Activities for Children and Families

- Tuesday 30th July - **Drop-In Craft Session**
Tuesday 6th August - **Tudor Time Travel Workshop**
Wednesday 7th August - **Medieval Mini-Models and Castle Walls Workshop**
Thursday 8th August - **Textile Crafting Session**
Tuesday 13th August - **WWII and Planes**
Wednesday 14th August - **Play Day**
Friday 16th August - **Textile Crafting Session**
Tuesday 20th August - **Urban Forest Skills - Knife Skills**
Wednesday 21st August - **Urban Forest Skills - Fire Skills**
Thursday 22nd August - **Urban Forest Skills - Den Building**
Tuesday 27th August - **Tie-Dye Techniques Workshop**
Wednesday 28th August - **Medieval Mini-Models and Castle Walls Workshop**
Thursday 29th August - **Tudor Time Travel Workshop**
Tuesday 3rd September - **Felting Workshop**
Wednesday 4th September - **Drop-In Crafts**

Please see the Cathedral website for further details. Booking essential.

Date for the diary: Harvest Lunch 27th October

On the morning of Sunday 27th October, the Cathedral Community will celebrate Harvest Festival. This will be followed by a Harvest Lunch organised by the Social Events Team. Further details in later editions of the *News*, the Cathedral Website and the Weekly Sheet.

The Cathedral Shop



Our shop is hidden away in the heart of the Cathedral. We offer a range of bespoke souvenirs, unusual gifts, greetings cards and locally produced goods.

Monday to Saturday 09.00 – 17.00

Sunday: 11.30 – 17.00

exeter-cathedral.org.uk/shop

A Prayer for the Cathedral Community

This is the prayer that accompanies the Cathedral Rule of Life, which is commended for regular use by the whole Cathedral community, whether or not we have signed up to follow the Rule of Life:

**God of life,
present in each moment of our day,
in each person we meet,
in each task we undertake,
in each path we walk,
receive our commitment to journey with you
and with your people,
and strengthen us in our inner beings to be
faithful to your call;
through Jesus, our companion and guide.
Amen.**