



From: The Dean

The weekend of 22nd and 23rd June was very special here in Exeter.

On the 22nd, we hosted the final of the National Twelve Bell Striking Contest - the world cup for bell ringers - with 10 teams of ringers from all over the country competing for the ultimate prize. It was a fantastic day. 1000 people turned up. The sun was shining. The Bishop's Garden, where most of the eating and drinking took place, was looking glorious. This was Exeter at its best, and our visitors clearly had a great time.

At 6 pm, we gathered in the Cathedral for the results. These were announced in reverse order, with each team being identified by a code letter instead of their name, so as not to influence the Judges in their decision-making by knowing any team's identity. We slowly counted down from 10 to 9 to 8 and so on. And then there were just two left. The audience knew that the two teams were Birmingham (winner in 8 years out of the past 9) and us, Exeter, the home team.



In second place cameBirmingham, and the Cathedral erupted.

There were certainly a lot of Exeter supporters in town; a wonderful emotional end to a magnificent day.

And here is Matt Hilling, the Ringing Master, with the trophy.

We are deeply indebted to the Bishop for the loan of his garden, to Claire Griffiths, the Tower Secretary, and all the volunteers for their immense hard work and attention to detail, and to Matt Hilling, our Ringing Master, and the band for bagging the trophy.



The next morning, we celebrated Bishop Martin Shaw's 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. He presided at the 10 o'clock Eucharist, with a large congregation, and preached with more gusto even than normal.

+Martin was ordained in Glasgow in 1969: Harold Wilson was Prime Minister, this was the year of the first Jumbo Jet flight, and the year that witnessed Neil Armstrong's 'giant step for mankind'. It was a long time ago. And for all the intervening period, the Church has been blessed by +Martin's enthusiasm, music, energy, commitment and his deep quest for God. A particularly moving moment came during Holy Communion, when Madeleine Shaw took to the organ loft and joined the choir in a spectacular rendition of Mozart's *Laudate Dominum*. And after coffee and cake came a delicious hog roast in the Cloister Garden, followed by ice cream from the Orange Elephant. We in Exeter are fortunate to have the Shaws in our midst, and it was great to be able to celebrate 50 years of priestly (and episcopal) ministry with +Martin, Elspeth and all the family.

Jonathan Greener

News from the Company of Tapisers:

Exeter Cathedral is privileged to host a prestigious embroidery exhibition from the collection of The Royal School of Needlework. Entitled 'For Worship and Glory', it will be in the North and South Quire Aisles from Thursday 1st August until Monday 26th August 2019 during normal Cathedral opening times.

The pieces of ecclesiastical embroidery, dating from the late 19th century through to the 21st century, will feature on vestments, altar linen, church samplers... Here are two photographs to whet your appetite!



First, the image used for advertising this exhibition comes from a set of twelve panels called *The Litany of Loreto*. These scenes all praise the various attributes of the Virgin Mary. The scenes are stitched with great skill and delicacy: 'pre-Raphaelite' hair, embroidered robes and a sense of drama. The remarkable stitching uses a limited palette of sepia, brown, grey and white and significant goldwork.

Secondly, a framed Angel Head with a halo couched in gold thread, silk shading for the serene face, and deeply folded garments.

In addition, placed beneath the Pulpitum, will be a display of some of the stitched treasures here at Exeter Cathedral – some old and some new. You may recognise some of them! We want to show how these pieces of needlework fit into the long tradition of ecclesiastical embroidery.

Do come and see this exhibition for yourself – and bring friends, family, and neighbours, too. You will be amazed at the precision and beauty of the work – and humbled by the dedication, care and love of the embroiderers who created them.

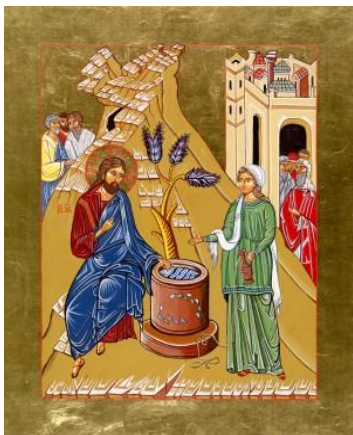


Gift for Notre Dame

In response to the devastating fire at Notre Dame in April the Company of Tapisers decided they would like to show their solidarity for the stricken Cathedral Community in Paris. This white and gold celebratory stole is the result: with a lily, to represent Notre Dame, and the crossed keys and sword, for Exeter Cathedral. This will be presented as a gift of friendship from the Exeter Cathedral Community.

Diana Symes, Chairman of the Company of Tapisers

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.

From the Cathedral Bellringers

Well! Exeter Cathedral bellringers are now the proud winners of the National Twelve Bell Striking Contest! After all the months of planning, and all the dedicated practices by our focussed team of ringers, it remains a wonderful sensation, as well as an incredible surprise, that the competition culminated in such success – our team are still on cloud nine.

The day itself could not have been more perfect, as can be seen from the photo below. From the moment I woke to clear blue skies I knew that it was going to be the occasion which we had all dreamed of during the long committee meetings, and detailed planning. Nevertheless, everything still needed to fit into place like clockwork for the day to run smoothly, and without an energetic and committed team of volunteers we would never have succeeded.



Early on Saturday morning saw the Cloister Garden busy with teams erecting gazebos and lighting barbecues, portable toilets were delivered, and then the focus turned to the Palace Gardens where there were more gazebos to erect and beer to be delivered. It was a frenetic couple of hours, and even busier once our first visitors started to arrive for breakfast. Timing was of the essence, and sharp on 11am the

Nave was filled with enthusiastic ringers waiting for the draw; Bishop Robert and Dean Jonathan led the welcome with warmth and humour, which included drawing the team names from a mitre! And then it was time for the ten competing teams to start ringing...

Exeter were drawn to ring fourth – a perfect position, as there is nothing more demanding than ringing first, nor soul destroying than having to wait until last. Under the sunshine, the Cloister Gardens were filled with people listening to the bells, and the Palace Gardens opened, to the rapturous admiration of everyone who came, for the herbaceous borders and roses could not have looked lovelier set against the backdrop of the Cathedral. The marquee hummed with activity, and the lawns were filled with people chatting and relaxing – a truly stunning image and one which our visitors will long remember.

The Cathedral was alive with the sound of bells from our mini-rings, the scent of flowers filled the air, and visitors enjoyed the displays and stands, and later on the Quire filled with people for an enthusiastic Choral Evensong to end the day. Excitement built even further as the judges returned to the Cathedral Nave to present their results; with the teams judged anonymously and announced in reverse order, the tension was palpable. And of course the Cathedral erupted when Exeter were announced as winners, with a score of 85%, a clear margin ahead of trophy holders Birmingham at 82%. A fantastic result for our team on their home bells, and the Dean was thrilled to present the trophy to our ringing master, Matt Hilling. The day wound down with more socialising in the Palace Gardens until the sunlight faded. A wonderful and glorious day, crowned with the perfect result. And here is the victorious Exeter team.



We did credit to our supplies – all beer was drunk (with sales amounting to over £6,000), all food was eaten, and everyone reported that the day had been an incredible success, with some 900 people passing through. Exeter Cathedral can be rightly proud to have hosted the National Twelve Bell Final, it is rare to have days when the Cathedral can be showcased to such a wide audience, including a live broadcast on the internet! The Palace Gardens added that special wow factor to the day, one which will, I suspect, trump all successive hosts. The welcome from all our volunteers was fundamental to the success, and for myself personally, the help from all the Cathedral staff and volunteers both on the day, and during the busy days beforehand when we were setting up, was both incredible and invaluable; team work in every sense.

Thank you to all involved for your support and enthusiasm – Exeter Cathedral hosted a day to be proud of, and we are all just so delighted that the event was a success and of course that we are holders of the Taylor Trophy! News will return to normal next month when we have all recovered.....

Clare Griffiths, Exeter Cathedral Bellringers Secretary

Tales from the Foodbank: Causes of Foodbank Use

Aside from the problems of benefits and low income, other causes of food bank use include debt (6.75%), homelessness (5.1%), unemployment (5.03%), and even lack of a school meal for children during holidays (0.84%).

The next Cathedral Foodbank Collection will take place on **Sunday 28th July** at the 10 am service.

The summer school holidays are looming so please keep up your generous giving. Thank you very much.

Felicity Cawthra

News from Sheldon

It's July so it must be time for more magical nights out under the stars in the Sheldon Open Air Theatre!

Wed 24th– The **Take That** Experience – a great all-singing all-dancing tribute to the ultimate boy band.

Fri 26th– **Pure Queen** – a really charismatic Freddie Mercury with a great band – serious rhapsody!

Sat 27th **Abba's Angels** – sing and dance along to all your favourite anthems (and we love it when you dress up in costume too!)

Wed 31st – **Joy the Lips** need no introduction as they come back yet again – you just can't get enough of the nation's funkiest 10 piece band!

An intimate family-friendly venue running events with a festival-style flavour staffed by volunteers in the grounds of your local retreat centre, we know how to party as well as how to do the serious stuff! Bring your friends for a great night out, and support Sheldon at the same time.

www.sheldontheatre.co.uk 01647-253916.

An Invitation: Thursday 25th July

Prebendary Henry Pryse, Rector of St James, Exeter, has invited members of the Cathedral Community to join their celebrations on the Feast of St James. Canon Chris Palmer will preach at the Festival Eucharist at 7pm and there will be a barbecue after the service. RSVP to stjamesparishexeter@gmail.com

News from the Wednesday Kitchen

"You serve the best food of the week". Our guests absolutely love the hot baked potatoes, beans, cheese and freshly-made coleslaw - thank you to Sheila Miles who started this menu over 10 years ago. We also have to thank those of you who have already responded to our request for cake-baking, and you won't be surprised to hear that we serve *"the best cakes of the week"* too! The vast majority of our guests are hugely grateful for our service, and mostly respectful. They appreciate the fact that our team treat them with respect, dignity and kindness; that our food is fresh and nutritious and that clothing is clean and of good quality, because they are, so often, at the receiving end of left-overs and grubby jumble! So, our thanks to those of you who donate clean wearable clothing.

Our requests for the next few months are as follows:

Cakes - please keep them coming as Helen Taverner likes to keep some frozen for lean times.

Men's boxer shorts, socks, t-shirts, sweatshirts, tracksuit trousers and jeans.

Ladies' underwear, socks, t-shirts, strap tops, shorts, leggings and jeans.

Toiletries - deodorant, wet-wipes, toothbrushes, combs, towels.

Sleeping bags, blankets, pop-up tents, rucksacks and small over-night bags.

The Wednesday Kitchen evening always begins with a reading and/or a prayer so I thought we could share a brief one with you.

[Lord] You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. Isaiah 25:4

This verse encapsulates the purpose of Wednesday Kitchen (a refuge, restoration and resting place, if only for an hour or so each week) and our delight that it is something that Exeter Cathedral can provide from its Chapter House.

Penny Harris, Wednesday Kitchen Co-ordinator

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



The Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Last month saw two very special celebrations in the Cathedral. The first was the National Bell Ringing competition on Saturday 22nd June. We used small, silver bells in the arrangements through the Cathedral to show how welcome all our guests and competitors were to our lovely building. Well done to the Exeter team.

The following day was the celebration of Bishop Martin Shaw's 50th anniversary of his ordination. The flowers reflected this in their colours and we added two pedestals to the Nave, and the pulpit, at the request of Elspeth. This is the pedestal next to the Lectern.

The flower arrangers are particularly fond of Martin as we worked very closely with him when he was acting Precentor and he gave us so much support and caring love.

Flick Evans, Exeter Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Congratulations!

On 14th July, the Reverend Elsie Howell, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of her ordination as a minister in the Baptist Church. To mark the occasion, she will preach at Evensong at 4pm on that day. Elsie is a much-loved and active member of the Cathedral Community. We send her our prayers and congratulations on this important anniversary.

Bishop John Grandisson

Bishop John Grandisson died on 16th July 1369. On 16th July, there will be a Requiem Mass at which the preacher will be Bishop Robert. The music will be Fauré's *Requiem* sung by the choir of Christchurch, Cranbrook, Illinois. The Pall (large fabric drape) which covered Grandisson's coffin at his funeral will be on display in the Cathedral and will feature in this service. This service launches a year of events marking the life and architectural, musical, educational and cultural legacies of Exeter's longest serving Bishop, John de Grandisson, Bishop of Exeter from 1327-1369.

Our visit to Liverpool for the Cathedral Choristers of Great Britain Concert on 13th June



From Natalie...

A few months ago, I found out that I was going to be representing Exeter Cathedral at the Diamond Fund for Choristers Concert in Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral.

We had two rehearsals: a rehearsal on Thursday night, in the Crypt Hall of the Metropolitan (Catholic) Cathedral where Mr Noon used to be Director of Music. During this rehearsal, we learned a completely new piece of music by Richard Shepherd which was written just for this concert. The second rehearsal was on the day of the concert in the Anglican Cathedral. It was astounding. The Cathedral is at least twice the size of Exeter Cathedral. If you sang a high note, it would echo for about 10 seconds. In the cathedral, there was also an exhibition including Gaia, a huge light-up world, suspended from the ceiling.

Before the actual concert itself, all the choristers (nearly 100 of us, representing around 42 cathedrals) met for a warm up and then a few of us, including me, were selected to meet the guest of honour, The Duchess of Gloucester. She asked us where we were from and which pieces of music we liked, then the concert began.

The concert included *Zadok the Priest*, by Handel, *I was glad*, by Parry as well as a new piece called *How lovely are thy dwellings* by Shepherd and *The Lord bless you and keep you* and *A Gaelic blessing* by Rutter. As we were in Liverpool, we also sang a Beatles song *Yesterday* and *You'll Never Walk Alone*. Richard Shepherd and John Rutter were sitting on the very front row, and John Rutter was the guest speaker and gave a talk during the concert. It was quite an experience to sing their music right in front of them.

I don't think I will ever get another experience like this and it was absolutely fantastic!

And from Alice...

For the first rehearsal, we were in the Crypt of Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, which was stunning. This was a great opportunity to meet people who had the same lifestyle as me. We split into Decani and Cantoris (upper and lower voices) and we rehearsed some amazing music, including a world premiere and the Beatles' famous *Yesterday*. Our first rehearsal on Wednesday evening was with all 87 Choristers from around Britain.

Our second rehearsal was on Thursday morning, where we found our places on the stage in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. Again we rehearsed our music, which was so much fun.

After the Concert, I met with John Rutter and got his signature which was amazing. It was an amazing experience. I recommend this to anyone offered it. I met three people: one from Chelmsford, one from the Isle of Man, and one from Worcestershire, and I have stayed in touch with all of them.

In 2016, the Friends of Cathedral Music launched the Diamond Fund for Choristers, to support Cathedral choristers across the UK. The concert in Liverpool Cathedral, which Natalie and Alice enjoyed so much, was an event organised by the Diamond Fund for Choristers to promote Cathedral music, to raise funds and to give choristers from many Cathedrals the opportunity to sing together. For more information please see the Friends of Cathedral Music website at <https://fcm.org.uk>

Next Month: Please send material for the **August** edition by **Monday 22nd July** 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.

An Update from the Clerk of Works

A special mention to our stonemasons - Matt Hoskins who for the last two years been following the University of Gloucestershire Cathedrals' Workshop Fellowship Foundation Degree (Arts) in Applied Historic Building Conservation and Repair. He has successfully completed the course, and will graduate at a presentation in Gloucester Cathedral in September. He will join Owen Whitfield, who has already completed this course. Anna Steinmetzer will join the next cohort in September.

For those who don't already know, we have a new member of the team who joined us in May. Cristian Nicchitta, who is our advanced apprentice, has recently achieved his NVQ2 in stonemasonry from Weymouth College, and will be going on to his NVQ3 in September. We must give special mention because he has recently won the "Boss Stone" carving competition for stonemasonry students held at the College, a real achievement. *(See photo opposite).*



We have now received the latest quinquennial inspection report from the architect detailing the condition of the fabric. There are still an awful lot of items to address, despite our considerable achievements in dealing with the highlighted items from the review in 2013.

Work continues at the South Quire clerestory which will be our on-going major project, as we track around all the upper bays on the south side before moving to the north side. We are doing this along with completing a second phase of investigative and holding repair work to the north porch. There are a lot of medieval paint fragments concealed behind the black sulphate deposits, which will require particular care to conserve the detail.

We also have carried out the five yearly inspection of the image screen, with a view to carry out the required work next year, hopefully.

Chris Sampson, Clerk of Works

Congratulations...

We send our love and congratulations to Anna and Tom Nightingale on the birth of Tabitha Nancy Jane on 23rd June, and to Martha, who, at the age of 20 months, is very proud to have a sister.

Holy Ground

Sunday 21st July, 7pm

'Where are the Songs of Justice' with John Bell, of the Iona Community



John Bell is a preacher, hymnwriter, composer, lecturer and broadcaster, who spends much of the year travelling, mostly in the Americas and Europe. He is an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland. John has produced many collections of liturgy, scripts, sermons and reflections, original hymns and songs – many of which are sung regularly in churches around the world. And we look forward to singing with him when he visits Exeter Cathedral.

The Iona Community is an ecumenical Christian community of women and men who seek to live out the Gospel in a way that is radical, inclusive and relevant to life in the 21st century. A semi-autonomous project of the Iona Community, the Wild Goose Resource Group, through which John works, is about liturgy and worship, music, prayer, politics, diversity, devotion, participation, perception, curiosity and creativity, with a particular emphasis towards the training of the laity.

Devon Faith and Belief Forum:

Annual Public Meeting

Religious Diversity: facing up to difference, learning from division

The Guildhall, Exeter

Thursday 11th July 2019; 6-7.30pm

Admission free. To book a place, go to DFBF website.

Guest speaker: Clive Lawton OBE

Clive Lawton OBE is a British-Jewish educator, broadcaster and writer. He has published a number of highly acclaimed books, worked as a schools chief examiner, a high school head and lecturer in Jewish Education at SOAS.



Rule of Life

Over 40 people have indicated their commitment to the Cathedral's Rule of Life. And it has been great to have conversations with some of these about how we might integrate this rule into our daily living.

We'd love others also to adopt this rule as a sign of their Christian discipleship. If you haven't yet picked up the *A Rule of Life* booklet, do get one from the Cathedral Community table on a Sunday or download it from the website.

We are inviting all those who have signed up for this Rule of Life, to gather together on **Tuesday 16th July at 7pm in the Pearson Room**. This will be an opportunity to pray and learn together and discuss how we express this Rule of Life in community, not just as individuals. This gathering will follow the Requiem Mass for Bishop John Grandisson, so do come to both events for a most interesting evening.

This is the prayer to accompany living this Rule of Life and I commend it to our whole community:

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.

As those who share in community at Exeter Cathedral, we commit ourselves to

- worship with others, pray daily, and read the scriptures regularly
- grow in faith and love for God, and discern where God is calling us
- give of our time, energy, skills, and resources in service of one another and the world
- care for ourselves as beloved children of God and be accountable for living this rule of life

Canon Chris Palmer

From the Head of Education

Do you know a teenager who might like to help with Family & Children Activities this summer and gain a bit of work experience? Our Education Department is looking for help with Crafts Days and Forest School days. All the event information is on the web or in the current 'What's On' magazine.

Drop Lisa a line on education@exeter-cathedral.org.uk or call 01392 345887.

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

<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 and 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. Friday 26th July – Friday 6th Sept.

Lisa Gordon, Head of Education

Summer Music Series (full details on the Cathedral website)

4th July at 2pm – Organ Recital by Hamish Fraser

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Hamish, our highly talented organ scholar, who leaves Exeter at the end of term, before taking up a place as organ scholar at New College, Oxford in the autumn. His programme will include music by Bach, and the first movement of Elgar's majestic *Organ Sonata*.

11th July at 7pm – Organ Recital by Jérôme Faucheur

Jérôme was Titular Professor of Organ at the schools of Music of Hazebrouck and Comines, until his retirement in July 2017. Since 1970, he is the titular organist of an important parish near Lille, in the church of Bondues. He has given recitals in Europe, the USA, Canada, Asia and Australia. His programme will include music by Bach, Duruflé, and Whitlock.

18th July at 7pm – Pamela, Proms and Pimms

Pamela Greener, who needs no introduction to the Cathedral Community, is famed for her witty ditties. She has teamed up with University of Exeter Chapel Choir to bring you an evening of classic 'last night of the Proms' tunes and hilarious songs over a glass of Pimms. Bring your Union Jack flags!

25th July at 2pm – Organ Recital by Jed Hughes

Jed already has a distinguished record of awards for organ playing and conducting. In September Jed will take up a place at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire of Music to study with Henry Fairs. His programme will include music by Bach, Reger and the *Prelude and Fugue on BACH* by Franz Liszt.

What's on in July?

These are some highlights from the Cathedral Diary for July, please see the "What's On" leaflet and the Cathedral website for further details.

- 3rd 5.30pm Evensong and Farewell to the Archdeacon of Exeter
- 4th-6th Exeter Craft Fair on Cathedral Green
2pm Organ Recital by Hamish Fraser
- 6th 7.30pm Concert: *The Dream of Gerontius*
Exeter Symphony Orchestra, singers from many local choirs and choral societies, & soloists Madeleine Shaw, Thomas Hobbs and Tim Murfin
- 7th **10.30am** Orchestral Eucharist: Mozart "*Coronation*" Mass
Exeter Cathedral Choir and Orchestra
- 8th 2.30pm Contemplative Prayer Group in St John the Baptist Chapel
- 10th 5.30pm Valedictory Evensong (end of term) for the Cathedral Choir
- 11th Exeter Cathedral School Speech Day
9.15am Chapter Meeting
7pm Organ Recital by Jérôme Faucheur
- 13th 7.30pm Concert by Exeter Festival Chorus
- 16th 650th Anniversary of the death of Bishop John Grandisson
1.30pm Half Muffled Full Peal of Bells; 5.30pm Requiem Mass
- 18th 7pm *Pamela, Pimms and Proms* (see page 15 for details)
- 22nd *Mary Magdalene*
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist
- 25th *James the Apostle*
2pm Organ Recital by Jed Hughes
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist
- 26th 7pm Concert by the Amadeus Orchestra