



From The Reverend Canon Cate Edmonds: Non - Resident Residentiary Canon of Exeter Cathedral



The Dean and Cate after her Installation on 22nd October

Let me introduce myself. The title is confusing we have to admit, but I am licensed as a Residentiary Canon, and I am serving in a self-supporting capacity, so I will be continuing to live at my home in Lyme Regis. I have been in the Diocese since 2001, having been ordained in Winchester Diocese in 1994, where I served my curacy, before moving to Bath and Wells as Chaplain of Yeovil College and Assistant Priest in Yeovil. In 2001, we returned to our home city (both my husband and I having been born and brought up in Plymouth), to take up the post of Chaplain at the now Plymouth Marjon University.

In 2006, I moved from Plymouth to East Devon, as I became the Diocesan Chaplaincy in Education Adviser and Assistant Priest in the Otter Vale Mission Community; the post I retired from in 2017. Whilst in post, I was Rural Dean of

Ottery Deanery, and was made a Prebendary in 2016. More recently, I have represented the College of Canons on Cathedral Council.

Following my retirement, I was licensed as a self-supporting Minister to the Axe Valley Mission Community, and earlier this year was elected to become Rural Dean for the Honiton Deanery. Being asked to consider the role of Residentiary Canon was a great honour. I hope my experiences in this Diocese will be useful to the Chapter. My particular role will be to continue to develop relationships and links between the Cathedral and the wider Diocese; to be responsible for Patronage (clergy appointments to parishes for which the Chapter continue to have responsibility); and to be part of the ministry team of the Cathedral-all of which I am really looking forward to undertaking.

On a personal note, I am married to Paul, a retired Consulting Actuary; we have two adult children and two energetic sheep dogs. For relaxation I enjoy cooking, visiting the theatre, travel and supporting the England Cricket Team. I look forward to getting to know more of the Cathedral community over the next few months.

Cate Edmonds

Tales from the Foodbank: What a magnificent Harvest!

A huge thank you to everyone who brought gifts for the Foodbank to the Harvest Festival. We collected **86kg** of food - a wonderful response to the desperate need that many people are facing for all sorts of reasons. It is so good that the Cathedral joins with others to give help like this.

The next Cathedral Foodbank Collection will be at the 10 am Eucharist on **Sunday 24th November**, and that will be the last before Christmas. It will be a great help for hard-pressed parents. Thank you again and again.

Felicity Cawthra

25 Years of Girl Choristers at Exeter Cathedral

On Sunday 17th November 2019, there will be a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Girl Choristers at the Cathedral. We hope to welcome back many of those who contributed so much to the formation and development of the Girl Choristers, and many former choristers.

At 2pm in the Nave there will be a recital by girl choristers past and present. During Evensong at 4pm, there will be the first performance of a specially commissioned setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, *The Exeter Service*, by Nico Muhly. We hope that many of the Cathedral Community will be there to join in this special celebration.

The Wednesday Kitchen

We continue to feed over 50 homeless and vulnerably housed people each week, and are also taking food to the "safe-sleep night shelter", so we are as busy as ever! We have welcomed support from homelessness-outreach workers, and now have 3 of their staff attending the Wednesday Kitchen each week, which is wonderful, as they are able to meet with our guests, encouraging them to engage with the city's services. This partnership is extremely valuable. and we are delighted to report that, 3 weeks ago, one young man did engage with the outreach service and is now not only housed but in full-time employment!!!

As winter approaches and we also prepare our Christmas gifts, we have the following Wish List:

'Survival Frog Tact Bivvy' emergency sleeping bag from Amazon at £13.97 or other small/portable sleeping bags

Cinema vouchers

Small packs of tissues and wet-wipes

Socks, gloves, scarves, hats and underwear for men and for women - men prefer boxer-type and socks should be natural fibres to maintain foot health

Torches or head-torches

Rucksacks

Waterproofs

Boots

Dog food pouches or in small bags, plus dog poo bags

Juice and water cartons

Thermos flasks and mugs

Cereal bars

Roll-on or stick deodorant

Tracksuit trousers and sweatshirts.

Cheques payable to 'Exeter Cathedral' but marked "For Wednesday Kitchen account" and sent to Canon Mike.

Thank you from Penny and the WK team.

Penny Harris (penny@harris58.com)

You are invited.....

Dean Jonathan and Mrs Pamela Greener would like to invite you for a Christmas coffee and mince pies at the Deanery on Saturday the 14th of December from 10am – 11.30am. There is no need to reply, just turn up on the day.

From the Cathedral Bellringers

During October, the Cathedral bellringers striking team were once again busy taking part in competitions, but this time more locally. First came the South Devon 8-Bell Competition held at Moretonhampstead, in which we came away with the trophy; next was the South West 12-Bell Striking Competition, which is a recently established event, set up as a miniature local version of the National 12-Bell competition. This year, the team travelled to South Petherton in Somerset, and competing against teams from towers in Bristol, Wimborne, Truro and Chilcompton, we were delighted to be placed first. Finally, in the local Guild of Devonshire Ringers 6-Bell Inter-tower competition, we retained the cup once again.

Bellringing is not always so successful. Two peal attempts by visiting bands here at the Cathedral in September and October have both sadly failed, which lots of people have asked me to try to explain. A peal contains no repeated changes, must last over 5,000 changes – with a change being one pull on the rope – and each bell must be rung continuously by the same person. Here at Exeter, any peal on our heavy twelve bells is going to last a minimum of four hours, so both a physical and mental challenge. Essentially, if one or more bells lose their place in the pattern – and consequently end up in the wrong sequence with the other bells – then this error needs to be put right quickly. For this, we have a conductor, and he or she will do their best to shout instructions at those involved. However, this is not always successful if too many people go wrong at once, and so inevitably the ringing is stopped. If this is early on in a peal, some bands will start again (this means going right back to the beginning) and hope to do better. However, in both recent Cathedral peal attempts, disaster struck about two hours in, by which time nobody had the will or the energy to start again!

With November now upon us, all ringers look to Remembrance Sunday, when the bells will be half-muffled and ring out in memory of all those who have lost their lives in conflict. Here at Exeter Cathedral, you will hear us ring half-muffled both before and after the Remembrance Service on Sunday 10th November; from outside, you will hear the handstroke strike and then a muffled backstroke echoing in response. It is always a moving and sombre day for us all, as the bells ring out across the city with their hauntingly beautiful voices. Finally, we will close the month ringing a quarter peal on Thursday 21st November, following the Solemn Eucharist for the Feast of Dedication.

Clare Griffiths, Secretary, Exeter Cathedral Bellringers

Oberammergau 2020 : Monday 18th-Friday 22nd May 2020

Once every ten year chance to be at the world-famous Passion Play!

The Pilgrimage to Munich and Oberammergau will be led by Bishop Martin and Mrs Elspeth Shaw: Monday 18th to Friday 22nd May 2020

The performance of the Passion Play is on Thursday 21st May, starting at 2.30pm, with an interval at 5.00pm, finishing at 10.30pm.

The play was first performed in 1634. In 1633, the residents of the village of Oberammergau vowed that, if God spared them from the bubonic plague ravaging the region, they would “for all time” produce a play every 10 years, depicting the life and death of Jesus. The town was spared! In 2010, there were 102 performances. Prior to our seeing the play, we shall be able to enjoy the picturesque village itself.

In the days before the play, we shall make a pilgrimage to Altötting, one of Germany’s best known shrines. The Herrenchiemsee Palace of Ludwig II is on the beautiful island of Lake Chiemsee, which we will visit by boat, with a guided tour of the Palace and what was the Augustinian Monastery.

The Hohenschwangau and Neuschwangstein Castles, which from photographs seem almost impossible, are much sought after attractions. We shall learn about King Ludwig II (1845-1886), who created the castles, his relationship to the composer Richard Wagner and his huge generosity to those who lived on his land. Was he good - or mad - or both?

Cost of the trip £1,229.

Enquiries and Booking Forms: Bishop Martin and Mrs Elspeth Shaw.
amartinshaw@gmail.com Tel: 01392 663511.

Or

Directly to Pax Travel: Pax Travel Ltd, 2nd Floor, 102 Blundell Street, London N7 9BL. Tel: 0207 485 3003.

Holy Ground: Sunday 10th November at 7pm

Professor Piers Ludlow

Piers invites us to consider what doesn’t hit the headlines: the silent but important role that religion has had in European integration.

Piers is Professor of International History at the London School of Economics. He is an expert on Western Europe since 1945, with particular expertise on the history of European integration process and the Western European approach to, and role in, the Cold War.



Focus:

The Reverend Canon Dr Mike Williams Canon Treasurer

Hon. Senior Research Fellow at the University of Exeter

'If there is anything more important than the will to succeed, it is that the will shall not falter.'

A quotation made by a Royal Marine Batman in September 2012.

It was a coincidence that I drafted this *Focus* in the Highlands of Scotland; a part of the United Kingdom that Canon Mike knows well, and where he enjoys walking in its mountains when staying with his sister. Here in Exeter Cathedral, we have been privileged to have had Mike's presence in our midst over the past three years. He is a man of considerable stature, highly intelligent, considered, thoughtful and caring towards those who are in differing troubles, encouraging with those who require it, so that they can be enabled to progress along their chosen pathways, and definitely not a 'Yes' man. When he says 'No!' he means it!

Life began in 1957, when he was born in Edinburgh. His father was a civil engineer, involved with large civil engineering projects like power plants or dams to store water and/or to provide electricity. His mother worked in the Finance Department of The Edinburgh Meat Market. As I've mentioned earlier, he has a younger sister.

He started his full-time education at a local Primary School, but in his third year, went from being top of the class to the bottom; the result from being the recipient of corporal punishment via a ruler or the strap. His parents removed him from that school to a Rudolf Steiner School, where he was under the care of one teacher for the next four years. He remained at this school until he had taken and passed his Higher Level Examinations in Biology, English, Mathematics and Physics. Leaving school, at eighteen, he joined the Royal Marines, and was commissioned on Day 1 at the premier Royal Marine Training Camp at Lympstone, near Exmouth. The week before my interview with him, he had been welcoming new young officers at the Camp, and is one of their mentors. Nowadays, the majority of new entrants are graduates, or have done something else since leaving school.

On his 20th birthday, he took command of thirty marines in West Belfast; this was during the time when 'The Troubles' were beginning to boil. Over the next seven years, Mike carried out five four-to-five month tours in Northern Ireland. He, also, spent time with the 45 Commando Unit based in Arbroath, Scotland, taking part in three month long exercises in Arctic Norway; this meant being completely self-sufficient, living in the mountains, having carried everything, including victuals, with them!

'I became an expert in cross-country ski-ing! And I really enjoyed it! You can only exist as a team. You cannot be an individual; you are part of a team. You follow because of respect; officers and men train together.'

Today, since 2018, there are women in the Royal Marines.

I wondered what had been his worst experience.

'During the IRA hunger strikes. Over twenty separate terrorist attacks on the Unit. I had one long weekend off in four and a half months. It was a professional challenge to get back to 'normal' life in the UK towns. I've never stopped being alert, and would still go into The Royal Marines! It laid the foundations for all the work I've done since!'

In 1976, Mike met Gilly at a Halloween Party in the Officers' Mess at Lymstone. She was a student nurse at the RD&E Hospital. They married in 1980, and I recall Mike telling us from the pulpit during one of his sermons that:-

'Three weeks after our wedding, I was off taking part in the Tall Ships Race from Antigua via Colombia in South America, being becalmed for a couple of days off Cuba, finishing in Norfolk, Virginia, USA! Gilly was not exactly happy about it, but I think I've been forgiven!'

But a year after their wedding, Mike was away again; this time for very different reasons. This time, it was on one of the five-month tours in Northern Ireland during the IRA hunger strike, and the three months in Arctic Norway.

'Gilly told me that the soundtrack introducing News Bulletins whilst I was in Ireland always made her experience huge anxieties. But military wives are very good at supporting each other, and we had joined the Baptist Church in Arbroath, where they provided her, and me, with much support and encouragement.'

In 1983, Mike left the Royal Marines, to study Theology at the University of Exeter, and they joined South Street Baptist Church. When they bought a house in Christow, they started to attend the Anglican Church there.

'I was stretched physically in the Marines, but not intellectually! I joined the National Health Service, studied for, and graduated under the NHS Management Training Scheme, and became the first ever to be appointed a Surgical Unit Manager at the RD&E Hospital. Four years later, we moved to Cuddesdon'

Theological College where, for two years, I studied to become a priest, and added a Post Graduate Certificate in Theology (Oxford) to my BA Theology (Exeter).

I enjoyed it! It was a good community with a cross-section of married and single students. In 1992, we left for Herefordshire where I was ordained, and did a year-long curacy, before returning to Exeter where I'd been appointed the Director of Strategic Planning, and later became the Director of Operations. Four years later, we were back in Oxford, with me now the Chief Executive of the Radcliffe Infirmary, and working as a self-supporting Priest. But, because of the merger of hospitals, my job became obsolete and I became a full-time vicar at Shipton-under-Wychwood. The Bishop wanted me to help with training clergy, so I became a Rural Dean, eventually building up a team, and with three other clergy/leaders set up residential week-long study sessions for all incumbents on Servant Leadership covering an area which included Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. I helped found a charity for bereaved children in Oxfordshire, which is still going today. I LIKE A MIXED DIET!

But, the NHS wanted him back! So, in 2002, after four years as a vicar, he became the Director of the Thames Valley Strategic Health Authority, and took on the task of turning around the financial and operational problems at the combined Oxford Radcliffe Trust; that is as CEO of four hospitals and over ten thousand staff.

Moving on to 2005, Mike became a national trustee of the Royal British Legion, and Mike, Gilly and their family moved back to Devon, when Mike was appointed Chief Executive at Musgrove Park Hospital in Taunton. However, two years later Mike suffered a return of a nasty bacterial infection that had afflicted him whilst in the Marines. It returned with a vengeance causing a cardiac infection, which led to him being medically discharged from his appointment with the NHS in 2008.

As you will, I am certain, acknowledge, a man of this calibre, finding himself in such a situation, will find something else to do! He decided to embark upon a Ph.D, studying systems theory and patient safety in hospitals (The Quality and Safety of Care). He also kept his hand in with the NHS as a non-executive Director of Plymouth Hospitals. Alongside all of those responsibilities he had been, since 2005, a self-supporting Assistant Priest at Topsham, only relinquishing that responsibility when they moved to live in Budleigh Salterton. Retiring from the University in 2016, with the Visitation completed, in the November the Bishop of Exeter installed him as a Residentiary Canon at the Cathedral, and in March 2017, Acting Dean and Chair of the Chapter.

'We're now back on the right lines financially. I'm Vice Chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance. I'm supposed to be relaxing! But I enjoy coaching clergy and their teams, enabling them to learn to run a team.'

How does this man relax? He plays golf at Budleigh, goes on ten to twenty-mile bicycle rides; takes their dog for walks, and loves walking in mountains. He enjoys reading political biographies, an example being that of Clement Attlee, a former labour Prime Minister, and books on philosophy. He's a keen watcher of sports on TV, especially cricket and rugby. Recently, he and Gilly enjoyed the performance of *Educating Rita* at The Northcott Theatre.

'I love music, but I don't understand it. I particularly like monastic choral music, and music played by bands, especially those of recorders or bagpipes. My favourite hymn is 'Lord of all Hopefulness.'

Before I asked my final question, Mike asked that I include the following:-

'I must say that I doubt that I would have achieved any of that which you've written about here without the unstinting love, encouragement, and support I've received from my wife, Gilly.'

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the loving support and guidance given to me and Gilly by Bishop Martin Shaw, and his wife Elspeth during my time as Acting Dean; a true friendship and total trust.'

When I asked my final question, concerning the best and worst aspects to the Cathedral, he replied:-

'The best? It's the people, and especially our staff, who give a huge amount towards the running of the place. The worst aspect is the ability we have for making mountains out of mole hills; but that is true for most of the Church of England!'

Thank you, Mike. It is a privilege to have had the opportunity to talk with and write about you. We have much to ponder upon.

Rosemary Bethell

Publication Dates and Deadline for December

Please send material for the **December** edition by **Saturday 30th November** 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, and Jenny Ellis. This may seem rather a late deadline, but we are publishing the December edition on 8th December, and the January edition on 5th January to avoid the beginning of Advent, and Christmas, which are very busy times in the Cathedral Office.

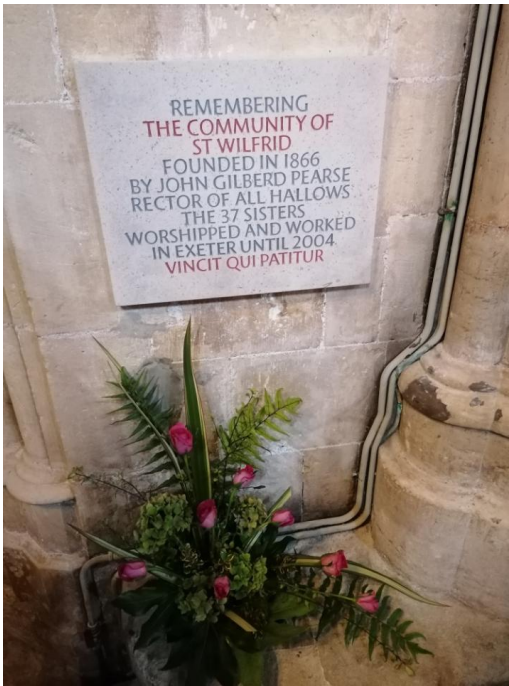


The Friends of Exeter Cathedral

We have one Friends' event remaining this year, which is a presentation by Yvette Staelens entitled 'Folk Carols of the West' and will take place on Wednesday 11th December at 2.30pm in the Chapter House. This is a change to the date of 19th November published in our mailing to members earlier in the year, owing to speaker availability. Please contact our office for more information, or to enquire about place availability, 01392 423931, Mon – Thurs, 9am – 1pm.

Pete Privett, Office Manager, Friends of Exeter Cathedral

The Sisters of the Order of St Wilfrid



This plaque remembering the Sisters of the Order of St Wilfrid, was dedicated by the Dean at Evensong on 8th October.

Members of the Trustees were present to witness this special event. The Order of St Wilfrid is notable, because it was the first religious community to be founded in Exeter (in 1866) since the Reformation.

The Cathedral Choir led the service, and sang the anthem 'The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God' by Charles Villiers Stanford, words from The Wisdom of Solomon, Chapter 3.

It was a fitting service to remember the devotion of the Sisters, who worked tirelessly for the welfare of so many in the city.

The Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Bright yellows and oranges have been the colours this month and the flowers provided have been lovely to arrange. The heating has gone on in the Cathedral and that tends to cause a few problems, as one or two placements are very near the radiators. We have a great watering team every week, so we hope to keep on top of this. We also have a lovely silk arrangement in memory of Trafalgar Day which Leila did for us. Sadly, it had to go in the side chapel this year, instead of the Nave, for the Trafalgar Day Sunday service.

Preparations are hotting up now for the serious business at this end of the year. Two in-house workshops are planned to prepare for the Advent “still life” and the “angels” education exhibition, and another to prepare arrangements to sell during the November Fair.

The list for anyone wanting to make their own Christmas wreath/table centre in a Workshop. with our support, is open in the Visitors office. It is on Wednesday 11th December 2019 from 9.30am to 1pm. Beginners more than welcome! Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available throughout the morning in the Chapter House. Everything provided at the cost of £35. Last year we were oversubscribed so early booking is recommended.

Flick Evans, Exeter Cathedral Flower Arrangers

From the Company of Tapisers: Whitework

I wonder how many people look at the Altar Linen which is used for every Eucharist service? These cloths are finely embroidered using white silk threads on white linen. It is the most exacting embroidery, and needs very good eyesight. All the cloths have to be hemmed – to precise specifications – and then crosses embroidered in specific positions.

Purificators, the ‘napkins’ used to wipe the chalices, must be folded in threes – and their crosses have to be placed in exactly the right place accordingly. Altar cloths and Credence table cloths have crosses in each of the four corners and one in the centre. Make a point of looking at our altar linen – and you will appreciate the skills of our whiteworkers, led so ably by Celia Perry.

Diana Symes, Chairman of The Company of

Town Hall Meeting 4th December 11.30am-1.30pm

Bishop Robert will be the special guest speaker at the next Town Hall meeting Please send questions in advance to Tina Robbens (tina.robbens@exeter-cathedral.org.uk) so that Bishop Robert can prepare and make best use of the time available. You will be able to ask your question on the day. All staff and volunteers should have received an invitation by now. Please reply to the leader of your volunteer group.



PASTORAL LETTER

October 2019

Dear Friends in Christ

Bishop Nick, Bishop Jackie and I are writing to you at a crucial moment in the story of our nation. Though there have been detailed negotiations about our future relationship with the EU this week, the political landscape is constantly shifting and we still don't know exactly how things will play out. What is certain is that we will need to find new ways of relating to our neighbouring countries in Europe.

There are also deep divisions in our nation. Whichever way you voted in the 2016 referendum, what cannot be denied is how profoundly unsettling and politically divisive the current situation is for many people. How should we as Christians respond and pray in this turmoil?

Our role as church leaders in this situation is not to take sides. Last month the Bishops of the Church of England made a public statement about Brexit (<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/bishops-issue-open-letter-brexite>) calling amongst other things for a renewal of respect in public discourse. The current culture of recrimination, scapegoating, and of blaming and shaming is damaging our national life.

The Church of England must continue to be the Church for everyone. There are leavers and remainers in every congregation in Devon, but as Christians we are united by our shared responsibility to work for the common good and to promote a culture of mutual respect. We also have a responsibility to speak out for the most vulnerable in our communities and to help them as best we can. Are there practical things we can do by way of support? As a Diocese, we have an incredible network of parishes,

schools and chaplaincies across Devon. If we work together, we can make a difference.

Food Banks

At this time of enormous uncertainty, it is likely that foodbanks will come under additional strain. In the event that we leave the EU without a deal, it is possible that there may be temporary shortages of some foods. Prices may also rise and foodbank usage may go up. So please think about giving extra support to the food banks in your area. Ensure that stocks are high and that your local centre is staffed by enough volunteers.

I was a stranger and you welcomed me

In his parable of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25), Jesus praises those who welcome the stranger, who feed the hungry and clothe the destitute. This is a moment in our nation's life for friendship and generous hospitality, and above all for welcoming the stranger in our midst. As the uncertainty continues, levels of fear may rise. Now is the time to reach out hands of friendship to any EU nationals in our neighbourhoods, including groups of migrant or seasonal workers on our farms.

Supporting our Farming Community

The farming community in Devon is coming under increasing pressure with the uncertainty surrounding Brexit. None of us know exactly what will happen in the event of a no-deal Brexit, but many fear that farming will be badly affected by inflated tariffs and uncertain support mechanisms. It is highly likely that our beef and sheep farmers will be particularly badly hit if the Government does not step in to support. And, of course, it is not only farmers who will be affected, but their workers, contractors and suppliers, and all the inter-related businesses in the rural economy.

The resources listed below may be of use to you in supporting and signposting people in your locality. We all need to watch out for the lonely, the anxious and the vulnerable. The Farming Community Network has prepared a comprehensive list of support in Devon:

<http://www.devonchurchesruralforum.org.uk/rural-issues/mental-health/mental-health-organisations-and-resources.php>

This link has details of some of the organisations specifically geared to supporting farmers and their families:

<http://www.devonchurchesruralforum.org.uk/farming/food-farming-and-related-organisations/>

In Devon, we are fortunate in having a number of Livestock Market Chaplaincy Teams. These are ecumenical and coordinated by Andy Jerrard: andy.jerrard@tiscali.co.uk. Being present where the farming community gathers is important. A familiar face helps renew confidence when things feel fragile. Please pray for their work.

We also have a superb Farming Community Network Team which comes alongside farming families to support them confidentially. If you or members of your congregation(s) would value their support or advice, then contact Joanne Jones joannejones.farmer@gmail.com or Colin Smallacombe candasmallacombe@gmail.com

Supporting our Fishing Community

There is also uncertainty facing Devon's fishing community, where traditionally wages are low and the work dangerous. Questions remain over what changes there might be to fishing quotas, the export of fish into Europe and the rules about who can access the fishing grounds surrounding Devon's coastline.

Finally, although we are circulating this letter to the clergy and readers of the Diocese, we very much hope that this letter is shared as widely as possible. You may wish to include it in your parish magazine or newsheet or read all or part of it aloud in church on Sunday. One thing we can all do is to pray for the unity and reconciliation of our nation, for our politicians and community leaders, for journalists and all who shape public opinion. Let us pray that, strengthened by the Spirit of unity and truth, we embrace positively whatever the next chapter holds for our nation and walk together in love, compassion and hope.

**God of hope, in these times of change,
unite our nation and guide our leaders with your wisdom.
Give us courage to overcome our fears,
and help us to build a future in which all may prosper and share;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+ Robert Exon

+Nicholas Plymouth

+Jacqueline Crediton

Education Events in November



Talk by Ian Morter:

Signs and Symbols of Exeter Cathedral Explained

Wednesday 13th November 12.30pm

Chapter House £5

Wednesday 20th November from 11am – 5pm

Being Human Festival

A Day Discovering the Secrets of the Cathedral

NB. Students £5 for all activities with Student Card

Being Human is back! From trawling for treasures in archives to discovering secret lives and overlooked histories, the annual Being Human festival is limbering up for November 2019. Join us for a day of activities in this majestic building, built by the medieval mortal.



Cracking the Graffiti Code

This 50 minute floor tour shows you some of the hidden gems that graffiti makers have been crafting over the centuries. Do they have meaning, how can we tell the age of markings? Bring your own torch for a closer look with Exeter University expert Crystal Hollis £5.00 Limited spaces so booking essential. 2.30pm and 3.30pm.

Manuscripts, Imaginalia and More

The Library and archivists of Exeter Cathedral will be showing a bespoke display of doodles, marginalia, medical and animal related manuscripts. Mandy Kingdom will talk you through a 'Care in the Cathedral' display highlighting some human remains from the cathedral green with artefacts, replicas and models.

Medieval Menageries Lecturer Naomi Sykes from Exeter University has developed an Ancient Animals App Down load at <https://www.natural-apptitude.co.uk/project/ancient-animals/> Naomi is in the process of adding the animals of Exeter Cathedral to the App. Download the app and join the hunt for animal statues, carvings, paintings and other representations around the cathedral. Log the animals that have not yet been listed by using the App. Our specialists will be on hand to show you what to do and where to look!

Cathedral Evening Tours

Join our candlelight tour of the Cathedral to hear about a shocking murder that happened in Cathedral Close during the 13th century. Following on from the super success of night time tours in the past few years, we will present a new subject from our history, possibly the most exciting yet! Refreshments will be offered on arrival and then we will walk you around the darkened Cathedral to meet the characters who were involved in this dramatic event. Music and incense set the mood for this medieval tale, as we hear the story from those who were there. Book early to be sure of a ticket - as there are limited tickets for each session! See the Cathedral building at its best by candlelight. 6.30pm £20 (20max).

**Friday 8th November, Sat 30th November, Friday 6th December,
Thursday 12th December, Friday 10th January 2020, Saturday 11th January**

Saturday 30th November Family Day

Angel Day Exhibition Launch with family friendly angel crafts 1.30 – 3.30pm

To kick start our exhibition we are holding session of angel crafts for all ages. Be the first to see what local school have created. Cathedral entry will be free, small charge for crafts-all in the Nave.

Christingle Service 4pm in the Nave

Christingles are made from an orange decorated with red tape, sweets and a candle. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story:

- The orange represents the world
- The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

For 50 years now, Christingle has enabled the Children's Society to play a vital role in supporting vulnerable young people. And since Christingle first began, the money raised from donations at services has helped over one million children get the one-to-one care and support that they so urgently need. The money you raise through the Cathedral's Christingle service will help the charity's project workers be there for the next 50 years, and help thousands more children.

Lisa Gordon, Head of Education

Christmas Shoeboxes

As in previous years, the Mothers' Union will be heading up a collection of Christmas shoeboxes for disadvantaged children and elderly folk in Eastern Europe. The charity we use – International Aid Trust – sends boxes for 4 different age groups of children 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 and 15+, as well as for pensioners. They all go to really needy people – the pensioner ones go to people who are lonely and forgotten, and are often the only gifts that these people receive; this category of boxes are the ones that are always in short supply.

If you feel able to support this very worthy venture by filling a shoebox, a suggested list of contents is given below. We would be very grateful for as many boxes as possible, to help show the love of God at Christmas to some of his most desperate people.

You do not have to put every item into your box, but a mixture of types of items (e.g. something(s) from each of the different categories listed below) always makes for a lovely box. If at all possible, please make sure your box is lovely and full, with new or 'as new' items.

You are also asked to wrap both the box and the lid in Christmassy paper, but to wrap them **separately** – the boxes have to be opened and the items checked by the charity. For this reason also, please do not wrap the individual items inside the box. When completed, please bring your box(es) into the Cathedral, by **Sunday November 10th** (earlier if possible). A voluntary donation of £1 per box, towards the cost of transporting the boxes to their destination, would also be appreciated by the Charity. We hope that, as previously, all the filled boxes will be blessed in the Cathedral and then go off on their journey at the beginning of Advent.

Over the years we have sent several hundred boxes from the Cathedral Community, which has been a fantastic effort. Our 'record' send is 104 boxes at any one time. It would be lovely to match – or even beat – that number, this year.

For **pensioner shoeboxes** please choose a mixed selection from the following list:

Stationery:

notepad, pencils, pens, rubber, ruler, scissors, sellotape, pencil sharpener, greeting card, photo of donor

Foods/Sweets:

Packet/tubes of sweets, biscuits, dried fruit, pasta/rice, instant soup, sachets of hot drinks (e.g. Horlicks). *No chocolate this year please.*

Toiletries:

aerosol deodorant, comb, hairbrush, mirror, shampoo, soap, sponge/flannel, talc, toothbrush/paste, wash bag, tissues, nail clippers/nail file

New Clothes/Misc:

baseball cap, warm hat/gloves, body warmer, T shirt, shorts, socks/tights/underwear, headscarf, sewing kit (including needle/thread)

If you wish for further details of the scheme, please contact Chryssa Turner:

crst0915@yahoo.co.uk or on 01392 202330.

Thank you in advance for your support of this venture, which we consider to be an important part of our Christian work.

Chryssa Turner

Sunday 13th October: A Busy Day

Sunday 13th October was an eventful and most enjoyable day. The rare delight of Choral Mattins was followed at 12 noon by an informal lunch for students organised by the Cathedral Community Committee. 14 students were hosted by clergy and lay members of the Cathedral Community, and feasted on baked potatoes, salads and traybakes. Many thanks to all who made this possible.

At 4pm, there was a Choral Eucharist with Baptism and Confirmation at which Bishop Nick presided, who is seen below with the candidates, and with Canon Chris Palmer and the Reverend Canon Professor Morwenna Ludlow.



General Synod 5th – 9th July

General Synod met in York in July with a very full agenda. All the papers can be found on the General Synod Website just click on to General Synod Agendas/papers July 2019.

Legislative Business. This is the prime function of Synod which is the one legislative body outside Parliament. The way it addresses and considered legislative business is....."to seek to understand God's will for the Church of England and to engage representatives of all God's people in that task...." It is **not** about the attempt to impose one Group's view on others, though sadly it can feel like that at times. The raft of Legislative business this time included Amending Canons 39, 40 and 41. Amending Canon 39 enables more flexible arrangements for the required number of services in a multi benefice, or in our case groups of churches/parishes in a Mission Community; 40, Miscellaneous Provisions (always worth a careful read), referred to Religious Communities, Church Representation, Faculties, and Patronage, (including avoiding delays in the appointing of an incumbent); and 41, about the keeping of Parish Registers electronically. The Draft Cathedrals Measure and the Draft Diocesan Boards of Education Measure received their first hearing, and both have been referred to their respective Revision Committees; any member of Synod is able to send in their views, and may be invited to address the appropriate Revision Committee. There was a long and somewhat measured debate on moving towards unity with the Methodist Church, which resulted in a helpful amendment to proceed slowly given some of the concerns expressed (from both 'sides') about the interchangeability of ministries.

Financial Business. There was a pretty full attendance to hear a Presentation from the Triennium Funding Working Group. The First Church Estates Commissioner announced that the Commissioners could distribute an extra £155 million (subject to market performance of the fund) over the next three years. Most of this extra money would be granted to the Archbishops' Council (AC) and the ACs finance Director, John Spence reported on how the money would be spent including

- Grants focused on areas of poverty
- Strategic Development Funding (from which Exeter Diocese has benefitted with our Resource Churches)
- Meeting the full costs, including maintenance, of all extra ordinands up to 2025 and assistant curates for the next four triennia
- Funding for the Digital team at Church House Westminster (who will have trained 2000 churches in social-media and internet use by end 2019)
- Funding for up to 10 Dioceses for long term restructuring

Other Presentations and debates included

- A Covenant for Clergy Wellbeing, (overwhelmingly carried)
- A follow up to Setting God's People Free stating culture shift has started but will take time
- A debate responding to the rise in serious youth violence, hampered somewhat, in my view, from some time consuming and unhelpful amendments
- A Presentation on Mission Shaped Church 15 years on, i.e. the growth and development of Fresh Expressions
- A Diocesan Synod Motion (Southwark) on helping refugees to find the right jobs
- A Diocesan Synod Motion (Rochester) on "Anna Chaplaincy", a large part of their ministry being pastoral care to elderly people living with dementia
- A Presidential Address from the Archbishop of York suggesting some solutions to the Church of England's internal disagreements
- An address from the first non-British Worldwide President of the Mothers' Union, Sheran Harper
- An Address from Canon Joseph Bila, Vice Chancellor of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan University
- An Address from the Rt Revd Elof Westergaard, Bishop of Ribe, from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark
- Living in Love and faith - an opportunity to learn about the progress being made and to participate in a practical session using the Pastoral Principles resource
- A Presentation on safeguarding
- Questions - so many that there were two sessions, with one focused on safeguarding
- Fringe meetings - lots to choose from and an important part of Synod

As usual the whole of Synod was underpinned by worship and prayer, including the continuous praying presence. At the Sunday morning Eucharist in York Minster I had the honour and privilege of being invited to prepare and lead the intercessions.

There are to be elections for a new general Synod in 2020. Do please think and pray about whether this could be a form of service you feel called to. I shall not be standing for election again and will be very pleased to discuss what's involved with anyone interested. My email is anne@anneforeman.co.uk

Anne Foreman, (anne@anneforeman.co.uk), August 2019

Ed. This is part of Anne's report to the Cathedral Community Committee.

Devon Interfaith Forum 4 Youth

A Day of Building Bridges and Valuing Visions

Sunday 17th November 2019 11am – 4pm

at Lupton House and its gorgeous grounds in Brixham...

* A **call out** to all young people interested in making a difference and **fighting back** against bigotry, racism and prejudice

* A day of activities, workshops, visioning and planning for the future of a revived **Interfaith Youth Project** in the Devon area

* **Free** to attend, and **Free** Vegetarian Buffet Lunch

Please contact Marc at interfaithyouthproject@gmail.com for more info, and to reserve your place!

Work on the South Transept Window

Our thanks to Canon Mike Williams for this photo from an unusual viewpoint.



What can I do about the Climate Emergency?

After excellent impassioned talks from Jess Nicholls and Tim Gorringe at September's Holy Ground, the plaintive question went up: "So what can I do?" Well, continuing to fiddle while the Earth burns or recycling a bit just won't do. This is our life-support system we're destroying. Loving God does not mean trashing the glorious gift that is our home. Loving our neighbour does not mean destroying their life-support system too.

So what can I/you/we do? Here are two things to start you off.

1. Calculate your environmental footprint. How many planets does it take to resource your lifestyle? WWF has a simple questionnaire at footprint.wwf.org.uk. Repeat annually. Celebrate progress in achieving the target!

2. Do nothing! Take a Sabbath. Much of our activity and spending leads to carbon emissions. So slow down and stop. Stop flying unless it's absolutely necessary. The carbon footprint of a single passenger on a return flight from Exeter to Naples is 0.3 tonnes, the same as the average Tanzanian's total annual carbon footprint. Heathrow to New York return is 0.7 tonnes. Each person's annual sustainable carbon budget is less than 1.2 tonnes.

Sources: icao.int/environmental-protection/CarbonOffset/ and nature.com/articles/d41586-019-00325-4

Cycle or walk instead of driving. Stop and smell the roses. Spend time with your family and/or explore your own neighbourhood instead. Stand and stare. Stop shopping for new stuff: buy second-hand clothes and support charity; join a library; share tools and gadgets within your local community – there are loads of websites that help you connect. Buying less means you need to earn less, so perhaps you could work a bit less too. Repeat.

Clare Bryden

Exeter: World City of Literature

Exeter has been awarded *World City of Literature* status, making it part of the UNESCO Creative Cities network. The Cathedral's Library and Archive was a cornerstone of the bid, a tribute to the significance of our many treasures, not least *The Exeter Book*. This is a very exciting development for the city and for the Cathedral, as we join the community of 246 creative cities worldwide. Improving literacy, and well-being generally, was an important focus of the bid. Congratulations to all other organisations involved in the bidding process: Exeter City Council, Exeter Culture, Libraries Unlimited, Exeter Canal and Quay Trust and Literature Works, Devon County Council and the University of Exeter. Thanks also to Canon James Mustard who led for the Cathedral in this successful partnership.

Cathedral Community Committee (CCC) Meeting 24th October

At the meeting of the CCC on 24th October, the main items of business were

- **Outward Giving.** The Easter and Harvest appeals had revealed the practical and other demands of the new system of outward giving. We agreed that this work needs a passionate leader supported by a dedicated team.
- We strongly supported the decision to have entry by donation as a Christmas present to visitors from 16th November to 5th January, and offered practical support in the form of additional shifts within our respective volunteer roles e.g. stewards, duty chaplains etc. A postcard to be given out at all Christmas services inviting people to come to the Cathedral at other times during the year was warmly welcomed.
- The CCC Awayday to discuss the Year of Invitation and Welcome and the revised Cathedral Mission and Values Statement will be at Mill House, Tiverton on Saturday 11th January.
- In response to an initiative of the CCC, a draft proposal for a new Justice and Peace Chapel will be circulated imminently to the CCC for comment before it goes to Chapter for decision.
- Thanks were expressed to all who had contributed in any way to the success of the lunch for students. We were reminded about the forthcoming Harvest Lunch organised by SET.
- **Worship.** We discussed the action taken in response to the Worship Survey. There was support for regular Bible Study groups, the closer involvement of the youth choir *Schola Exe* with the Cathedral was warmly welcomed. Canon Chris Palmer invited suggestions for the Lent groups/courses. It was noted that while many people struggled to stand for certain parts of services, others much preferred to stand rather than sit e.g. during the Litany in Procession, and that it would be helpful for the rubric in orders of service to reflect this. More intercessors have been recruited and the need for training was noted. Canon Mustard was encouraged to repeat his presentation on the Psalms, given at a recent meeting of the Deanery Synod, for the benefit of the Cathedral Community. We agreed that Worship would be a standing item on future agendas.
- **Reports.** We received reports of General Synod in July, Diocesan Synod on 19th October and Deanery Synod on 22nd October. We were delighted to hear of the award of the St Boniface Medal to Malcolm Pomeroy for service to the church in this Diocese-an honour that is richly deserved.

Heather Morgan, Chair of the CCC

From the Dean at Choral Eucharist on 27th October

For the Christmas period, we are suspending entrance charges, and instead introducing entry by donation. I want you to listen to my wording carefully. This is a suspension of entrance charges, our Christmas present to the people of Exeter, the people of Devon, and all our visitors. Groups will still need to book and pay an entrance charge.

So from 16th November, when the Christmas Market opens, until 5 January, visitors will not be asked to pay, but they will be encouraged to make a donation towards the life and work of the Cathedral. We hope this will bring more people through our doors, and we shall certainly monitor the numbers. And we hope our visitors will be generous, since we rely on the income from visitors to balance our books and keep the Cathedral going. People won't be able to come in all day every day, since, as you know, in the run up to Christmas we have many more events and services than during the rest of the year. And we are planning to open on one or two evenings, to encourage evening visitors to the market to come in and experience the Cathedral at night.

Two more things. We shall need some extra help to make this a success - so if you're already a volunteer and able to offer some time, or if you'd like to volunteer to support this initiative, for instance by being out in the market and inviting people in, please contact the visitor and volunteers' office.

And finally, please let me emphasise that Exeter Cathedral is not giving up charging. Simply put this is our Christmas gift. As someone in the office said to me, we've been through the pain of introducing charging once and don't want to do that again. **Jonathan Greener**

More Highlights from the Diary

11 th	10.55am	Armistice Commemoration-The Field of Remembrance
	2.30pm	Contemplative Prayer Group-St John the Baptist Chapel
13 th	3.30pm	Evensong broadcast live on BBC Radio 3
14 th	9.15am	Chapter Meeting
16 th		Christmas Market opens
21 st		Feast of Dedication of the Cathedral attended by the College of Canons 12 noon Solemn Eucharist; 5.30pm Choral Evensong & Procession
22 nd	7.15pm	Exeter Cathedral School Autumn Concert
25 th	10.30am	Fabric Advisory Committee
28 th	2pm	Cathedral Council Meeting
30 th		Be a Chorister for a Day; 4pm Christingle Service
1 st Dec		<i>Advent Sunday</i> ; 6pm Advent Procession