



From the Canon Precentor

So, we have a new Bishop-elect! Dr Mike Harrison will bring to Devon experience of a similar diocese, with a significant rural and recreational economy. He arrives here at a time of opportunity for new growth following the Pandemic, and a time of challenge as the Church of England nationally finds its way through the implementation of Prayer of Love and Faith for same-sex couples, and responding to the Jay Report on the development of Safeguarding across the whole church. We will

of course hold him and his family in our prayers as he prepared to take up his ministry among us.

The next part of the appointment process is the College of Canons meeting to “elect” Bishop Mike on 20 June. It’s a process with ancient origins, when the Dean and Chapter would hold an election and customarily vote for the candidate preferred by the King. However, since the Appointment of Bishops Act 1533, it has been a formality where the monarch’s appointment must be chosen by the Greater Chapter. Since 1999, it is the College of Canons (which includes lay-members) who must “elect” the bishop. The College can challenge the appointment only if it believes correct and due process has not been followed. Following this, the Election must be Confirmed by the Archbishop of Canterbury as metropolitan bishop of this Archdiocese. It is usually held at the church St Mary le Bow in the City of London, as home of the Court of the Arches, but may be held at Church House Westminster.

Then we will prepare for the installation of the Bishop in the Autumn. There will of course be a certain amount of legal formality to this service: the Bishop will receive the Cure of Souls of the whole County and Diocese, with the Cathedral as the main church of his ministry. But, unlike the incumbent of a parish, he will not take possession of the Freehold of the Cathedral. Overwhelmingly the service will be an opportunity for us to welcome our new Bishop, and introduce him to this diocese and to civic representatives.

Historically, enthronements of bishops could be very elaborate affairs. In the fifteenth century, bishops of Lincoln would approach the cathedral barefooted and crawling on their knees. Clothing would be provided for the poor who would line the approach to the cathedral bowing to the bishop in gratitude. The Bishop would be greeted by Dean and Canons and led into the cathedral, where he would present a precious gift to the image of the Virgin Mary by the High Altar and then take up his seat.

Planning for the upcoming episcopal installation here will now begin in earnest.

Canon James Mustard



Welcome Bishop Mike!

On 4th June, the Dean wrote,

Here at Exeter Cathedral we are excited to have learned today that Bishop Mike Harrison is to be the next Bishop of Exeter. Coming from the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, where he is currently Suffragan Bishop of Dunwich, Bishop Mike brings a great deal of episcopal experience to the role – which will prove invaluable as he prepares to lead our diocese along the next phase of its pilgrim path.

“We shall be delighted to welcome him to the Cathedral, where he will in due course be installed into our amazing 14th century Bishop’s throne; and we much look forward to working with him

to serve the people of our county and diocese in the coming months and years.

We would like also to put on record our gratitude to Bishop Jackie, the Acting Bishop of Exeter, for working so hard during the vacancy to oversee and guide our diocese, and offer so much encouragement to us here at Exeter Cathedral.

Later in the day, it was very good to welcome Bishop Mike to Evensong, where he was introduced to a large congregation by Bishop Jackie.

Praying continuously

In his letters to the early churches St Paul urged his readers to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess 5.17) and to “persevere in prayer” (Romans 12.12).

So what does it mean to pray without ceasing? It might bring to mind spending the whole day on your knees focused on silence, somewhat impractical with jobs and families and meals to prepare. But this sets up a false dichotomy between praying and living.

Maybe a change of perspective would help, a *metanoia* if you like. Instead of viewing activity as the norm and prayer as something we need to fit in, see the prayer as the underlying state of being, a connection with God that is at least as constant and essential as breathing and a beating heart.

Everything comes from that connection with God and a state of rest. Imagine a door with a closing mechanism. For a time it is held open to allow people to pass through, then let go and it gently and automatically closes to its resting state. Or imagine the end of a long and busy day. You get home, shut the door, put the kettle on, sink into an armchair with a nice cup of tea and ah! You sigh deeply and feel your shoulders relax. Just so our awareness of our connection with God (note the awareness, not the connection itself) might be interrupted by activity as we go through our day, but whenever there is a pause we return to awareness.

Hold the door open for too long or never let it close, and the closing mechanism gets over-stretched or rusty. The muscle of returning to awareness needs to be strengthened with regular time set aside for prayer and deliberate practice of the presence of God.

To paraphrase Thomas Merton, acquire too the agility and freedom of mind to find light and warmth and love for God everywhere you go and in all that you do. Learn how to pray in the streets or in the country, or when you are waiting for a train or in a supermarket queue. The Jesus Prayer that I wrote about last month is one way of practising God’s presence that sinks into the unconscious and becomes continual prayer.

We can learn to start each activity in God: “every time you begin a good work, you must pray to God most earnestly to bring it to perfection” (Rule of S. Benedict), and we can learn to pray while the hands and body are occupied, when cooking or cleaning or changing a nappy or hanging out the washing, and indeed to do everything for the love of God: “it is not necessary to have great things to do,” said Brother Lawrence. “I turn my little omelette in the pan for the love of God.” More on finding God in all things next month.

Clare Bryden

Explore Prayer on the Cathedral website – <https://bit.ly/exploreprayer2022>



Farewell to the Abseil...or Nearly!

When we started 31st May was the terminus ad quem set by JustGiving. However, now that money is still coming in they have reset to 30th June.

As with our Development Officer, for them there is no end while the funds are still arriving!

We cannot yet give a precise figure as to what we have raised, because we are not experienced in the ways of JustGiving. However I can safely say we have tipped the £80K point. As with mountaineering, there is always another peak! Once we know, I am sure the Dean or Jill Taylor will let you know.

I would like to share one or two special moments for me.



Having 2 of my granddaughters with me was thrilling, urging me up the stairs with the refrain “keep going grandma”, a chorus that spread down the line, until Dave Talbot at the top said “come on Grandma”. A vital service rendered by Cecily was to push my second foot over the parapet to the wobble board. No longer does my knee reach my chin.

One student recalled his great grandfather, who shored up the Cathedral after the bombing. The family are now in touch with Ellie of course. Afterwards, another student asked whom to approach about Confirmation, that was so thrilling.

Finally, the extraordinary support and superb engagement of all the Cathedral departments, made it a memorable day for us all. It was hard work all round. Thank you, thank you, thank you from me.

I did not have time to savour immediately as I had promised to have two “young French professionals” to stay the next week. This meant evacuating my bedroom by Tuesday. My grandson did the savouring for me, “Wow grandma! That gives me serious bragging rights”.

Anne Eyre



Two Exciting Fundraising Events for your Diary

There are two major events coming up for the Sound System Appeal-the Cathedral Community's contribution to the 2020s Development Appeal.

The Gondoliers

Sunday 7th July at 5pm at Halsdon Farm, Ide EX2 9TQ

One of Gilbert & Sullivan's best-loved operas, this staged, open-air production by the Illyria Players is an occasion not to be missed. The lovely garden at Halsdon Farm will be open at 4pm to give ample opportunity to enjoy the surroundings. Feel free to bring a picnic. Please bring your own chairs and do share cars if possible. There will be an opportunity to buy glasses of wine and soft drinks, and there will be a raffle.

Tickets are £22 available from Illyria.co.uk Tel: 0333 666 3366

An Evening with Alexander McCall-Smith

Friday 4th October at 7.30pm

A great opportunity to hear the celebrated author in a Q & A with the Dean, followed by questions from the audience, and a book-signing.

Tickets £15 to include a glass of wine.

Cathedral Community Committee (CCC) 14th May 2024

The CCC met on 14th May. We confirmed:

- 27th July: *Come and See Breakfast* with games on Cathedral Green
- 10th August: An Awayday for the CCC at Buckfast Abbey
- 8th September: Cathedral Community Party/Lunch to celebrate the start of the Choir Term, welcome new members of the Cathedral Community
- 16th October: Outing for the Cathedral Community to Stourhead by coach
- 16th November: The Dean's illustrated talk on his collection of icons

The Dean asked for preparatory work to be done to create a group of young professionals such as the party that had recently visited from the diocese of Bayeux/Lisieux. We must recruit a group of Eco Champions to help the Cathedral to the Eco Church Gold Award. There was a discussion on safeguarding and the forthcoming safeguarding audit.

Malcolm Joyce (1939 – 2024)

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Malcolm Joyce, who contributed greatly to the life of the Cathedral and was a great friend to many. We are grateful to Bishop Martin for this appreciation. Bishop Martin preached at Malcolm's funeral. He did not in fact drive the motorbike pictured below but he enjoyed sitting on it.

'The Foolishness of God' [1 Corinthians 1:25]

The Foolishness of God. Although a striking phrase used by St Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, 'The Foolishness of God' was the title of an important book from 1990, which challenged an over-prescriptive attitude to following the Way of Christ but pointing out that the Divine Presence, in as far as it is discernible to us does so by undermining assumptions, not least through foolishness! In Malcolm Joyce, in my experience of him, there were hints, glimpses of that divine foolishness. Although Malcolm was challenging and sometimes even alienating to live with, we need that voice.

This foolishness was not a crass exhibitionism in Malcolm. Nor was it an embarrassing buffoonery. There was a paradoxical seriousness in his foolishness. He allowed himself to be attracted and indeed guided by a variety of voices that resonated in him from sources far wider than Anglicanism or doctrinaire Christianity.

Maybe he was born with 'a silver spoon in his mouth' in that earning a living was never a priority for him. Yes, he was a Devon farmer for many years, but then decided he had enough of living in a large farm-house and instead moved to a caravan. Something of this abandonment of acquisition, came from the inspiration of the 13th century saint, St Francis of Assisi, whose life and teaching were emblematic of the Foolishness of God.



As with the best of foolishness there were in Malcolm distinct contradictions, which included the love of motorbikes and a lifestyle, not of luxury, but of sometimes indeterminate boundaries, which made him occasionally awkward for some.

Thus, it was appropriate that Malcolm's coffin was brought to Cyst St George for his funeral on a truly 'wondrous machine'. A charity called 'Torbay Bikers for Kids' offers an all-black motorbike, with attached trailer for those who find funerals stretching of their financial resources. This foolishness was not for cheap publicity, but

was a strange and confident smile, if not a laugh, accompanying his acceptance of his own death. In contrast, during the funeral his granddaughter read her own poem in honour of Malcolm.

My own experience of Malcolm was limited. Perhaps, after all, it's important to recognise that our experience of each other is bound to have its limitations anyway, no matter how familiar we may assume ourselves to be with each other. He was a member, like myself, of the Anglican Third Order of the Society of St Francis, an order of men and women who try to follow the Way of Christ through the inspiration of the life-style of St Francis and those who have done so down the centuries. That in itself is foolishness - not least in the failures in coming anywhere near to Francis' simplicity and foolishness. The beauty of the order is that 'tertiaries', as they are known, learn to smile at failure, as success in following Christ is probably illusory pomposity anyway. That's why confession is of fundamental importance to following the Way. Malcolm Joyce held to that dynamic with an individuality and flexibility that some found puzzling if not difficult. Indeed, there were those who were apprehensive of him, which may have been an inevitability of the kaleidoscopic life-style he lived.

In Exeter Cathedral, he was a member of the Pastoral Care Team, with the leadership of various members of the Cathedral Chapter. This enabled him to be a Eucharistic Minister, taking the Blessed Sacrament [laid aside from the Eucharistic Liturgy] to the sick or housebound, including Sister Giovanna who is the last remaining Franciscan sister of the Posbury St Francis convent.

Given this life, it may seem strange to some that Malcolm loved being a Lay Chaplain in the Cathedral, making himself available, in his cassock, regularly for visitors to the cathedral and leading prayers from the Nave Pulpit on the hour during his 'stint'. Wandering apparently aimlessly around the Cathedral, visitors would speak to him, mostly about not very much, but there were numerous occasions when the troubled and anxious would seek him out to pray with them in the St Gabriel's Chapel. This making himself available, included his participation in the Prayer for Healing group that meets weekly in the Cathedral. He loved the Cathedral, but lived in, perhaps, the 'between' places that left him unknown to many.

Malcolm's inner life was fed not only by Christian traditions of meditation and mysticism, but also by Buddhism. This 'foolishness', perhaps, opened him to influences of which some might be wary. He made several journeys to Nepal to take in its Buddhist culture. There, at his funeral, Malcolm's two daughters had invited a Buddhist Monk to speak of Malcolm's attraction to Buddhism as well as singing a chant about letting go of desires and anxieties to live solely for the present moment. The foolishness of living for the present moment, I and many

experienced in Malcolm, despite the incongruities of his life's story. Pilgrimage too was important to him, including cycling to Santiago de Compostela.

Not surprisingly, at the funeral we sang the metrical version of the St Francis prayer, which has this verse:

'Oh, Master grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console To be understood as to understand To be loved as to love with all my soul...'

That seeking was in the heart of Malcolm. For him as for me, it's of course a tall ask. Malcolm tried and I'll remember him for that, and perhaps even try myself.

'God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.'

Bishop Martin Shaw

News from The Company of Tapisers

We received a lovely visit from Ella Foster (the Cathedral's Content Creator) this month – her present project is to visit groups within the Cathedral and write a piece about their activities for social media.

Armed with her camera and lots of questions, Ella talked enthusiastically to our members and photographed some of our work. One question which she asked was: "Why did you become a Tapiser?" The answers were varied:

"I always admired the tapestry kneelers in the Cathedral and wanted to be part of such a creative group."

"It's very satisfying to add to the history of such a wonderful building."

"I learnt embroidery from my grandmother and thought it would be nice to use these skills again now that I am retired and have more free time."

"I was introduced to the Tapisers by my neighbour."

"I saw an article about the Tapisers in The Friends' Annual Report."

"The members are very welcoming so after my first visit I was keen to become a full member."

"I am not religious, but I love the Cathedral's history and all the amazing vestments."

Interesting! The variety of reasons reflects the variety of our members – so many different backgrounds and skills... and we all work together in harmony for the enrichment of life at Exeter Cathedral. Anyone who is keen to come and meet us and see the work that we do is most welcome.

Diana Symes Chairman of The Company of Tapisers



Exeter Cathedral Stone Auction

The online auction will take place from Monday 3 June until Sunday 15 September at 5pm

Give a home to a unique piece of Exeter Cathedral's history by taking part in our online stone auction, with Exeter-based auctioneers, Bearnese, Hampton & Littlewood.

The items on offer will include a range of beautiful carvings that have been removed from the Cathedral during essential conservation work, including handcrafted stonework from the 19th and 20th centuries as well as more modern carvings by the skilful Exeter Cathedral Stonemasons. This is a unique opportunity to give a home to modern grotesque heads carved from Beer limestone, fragments of Victorian pinnacles, tracery fragments and much more.

The online auction will take place from Monday 3 June until Sunday 15 September at 5pm, with in-person viewing opportunities at Exeter Cathedral from 10-15 September.

All proceeds from the auction will support our 2020s Development Appeal Project which is funding an ambitious project of building conservation, visitor experience improvements and community engagement activities, all designed to make sure we are here for generations to come and welcoming to all.

Cathedral Community Lunch



Thank you very much to everyone who attended the lunch on 2nd June and to all who prepared it. 48 people were present and there was a lovely relaxed atmosphere.



Remembering Patrick Phillips

In March we learned of the sudden death of Patrick who was a faithful member of the Cathedral Community. He was a regular worshipper at Sundays @ 6.30 where his thoughtful ministry as intercessor was much valued. In addition he was part of the welcome team at Holy Ground and its successor In Conversation With. He also made time to steward at numerous shows and events over many years. A natural contemplative, Patrick became drawn to a life shaped by his study of monasticism and experience of the religious life as a retreatant.

As a professional gardener Patrick's faith found practical expression in his love of nature. Latterly he put his gifts and skills to use at the Devon based InFocus (a charity which offers education and care and support for young people with visual impairment and complex needs). Helped by InFocus residents and supported by community volunteers, he transformed a former Christmas tree plantation in East Devon into a wonderful sensory garden, plant nursery and vegetable allotment.

Patrick's funeral took place at East Devon Crematorium on the 10th April. Family members, colleagues and friends filled the chapel to say their final farewells. We are grateful to Patrick's parents, Mike and Helen for allowing us to include this tribute which Mike gave.

The Revd Phil Wales, Cathedral Deacon

I should like to echo Phil's words of welcome to you all, and to say thank you for supporting our family today and for remembering Patrick.

Patrick was born in Chipping Sodbury 54 years ago. We lived just north of Bristol then and Patrick was still a baby when we moved to Exeter. From there we went to Chard, where both Patrick and Simon went to primary school and then later to Wellington School.

In school holidays he would join the National Trust Acorn Camps, which I think still operate today. Another interest of his was music, and Saturdays would see him and trombone at Taunton music school with a good crowd of youngsters under the able leadership of Mr Creswell. It was thanks to one of the masters at Wellington School that Patrick developed an interest in plants and horticulture; after a 2 year course at Cannington, he embarked on his gardening career with a

two-year apprenticeship at Cambridge Botanic Gardens. One of his first jobs was at Cothay Manor near Wellington, where new owners were intent on improving the extensive grounds there. In fact they made a very good job of it with a lot of input from an enthusiastic Patrick.

There followed over the years a good number of large private gardens in Berkshire and Somerset, which gave Patrick much 'hands on' experience. Seeking pastures new became a regular task, but Patrick was conscious that his qualifications did not meet many job requirements, so he took the very bold step of taking a degree course at Edinburgh University. Being no academic, he found this quite a challenge and was proud to obtain his BSc in Horticulture. This enabled him to obtain a management post at Askham Bryan near York, and later an estate manager position at a large hotel complex.

Patrick was always interested in eco horticulture and the many aspects of food production, but his work in recent years kept him nearer to our home for which we were thankful. He became a regular attendee at the Cathedral and became involved in a number of activities there. He was also a conscientious Samaritan, which is why we have chosen that charity for support today.

His last few years have been based at Ottery St Mary, and this allowed us to meet up regularly so he was able to enjoy his mother's cooking, and on occasion supply me with surplus plants for my allotment.

This means that we shall sorely miss his expertise in gardening matters and the kindness and generosity he has always shown. Farewell my son till we meet again.

Mike Phillips

Thank you from Christopher Hampton

Thank you to those who kindly donated to the Great West Run, which I took part in on the 26th May. As a result the three charities, Hospiscare, FORCE and Exeter Baby Bank will share a total of approximately £4,700. I am extremely grateful for your support.

The July edition of *Cathedral News*

We hope to publish the next edition of the *News* on Sunday 30th June 2024. The deadline for material is **Tuesday 25th June 2024**. Please send any contributions to hmm53@tiscali.co.uk or to any member of the editorial team; Heather Morgan, Rosemary Bethell, and Jenny Ellis.

What's on in June

Exeter Cathedral Stone Auction

The online auction will take place from Monday 3 June until Sunday 15 September at 5pm

Give a home to a unique piece of Exeter Cathedral's history by taking part in our online stone auction, with Exeter-based auctioneers, Bearnese, Hampton & Littlewood.

Find out more at bit.ly/ec-stone-auction.

In Conversation with... The Revd Professor Sue Gillingham

Sunday 9 June, 6:30pm with optional refreshments from 6pm

Join guest speaker, The Revd Professor Sue Gillingham, Canon Theologian at Exeter Cathedral, for an 'In Conversation With', as she considers 'Critical Imagination'.

Find out more at bit.ly/in-conversation-june.

St Boniface Awards 2024

Sunday 9 June at 4pm

Join us at Exeter Cathedral on Sunday 9 June for the St Boniface Awards ceremony 2024. All are welcome to attend.

Find out more at bit.ly/boniface-awards-2024.

The Book Market by Exeter City of Literature

Sunday 9 June, 11am-4pm on Cathedral Green

Discover a variety of independent bookshops from across Devon and explore crafts and book-themed merchandise from a range of independent businesses.

Find out more at bit.ly/book-market-exeter.

Art of the Book: The Anatomy of Books

Tuesday 11 June 2pm-3:30pm

THIS EVENT IS SOLD OUT.

The Civic Welcome of 'King Henry VIII' by the Lord Mayor of Exeter

Thursday 13 June, 12pm – 12:30pm at Exeter Guildhall and Exeter Cathedral

Witness a civic welcome of 'King Henry VIII' by the Lord Mayor of Exeter, starting from Exeter Guildhall to Exeter Cathedral.

Find out more at bit.ly/ec-henry-viii.

Henry VIII Concert: Exeter Cathedral Choir with His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts

Thursday 13 June, 7pm

Enjoy a concert of early Tudor music performed by Exeter Cathedral Choir directed by Timothy Noon, with His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts.

Book now at bit.ly/ec-henry-viii.

Exeter Independent Market: June

Saturday 15 June, 11am–4pm

Discover handmade crafts, clothes, accessories and more at the Exeter Independent Market on Cathedral Green.

Find out more at bit.ly/indie-market-june.

Bond by Candlelight

Thursday 20 June, 7:30pm–8:45pm

Join London Concertante on their Candlelight Concerts series at Exeter Cathedral for an unforgettable night of live classical music from the best Bond movies of all time.

Book now at bit.ly/bond-candlelight.

Library & Archives In Focus: Travel Literature

Thursday 20 June, drop-in between 11am–1pm in the Library & Archives reading room

Join us for a Library & Archives In Focus event on Travel Literature found in our Cathedral Library.

Find out more at bit.ly/travel-literature-ec.

Pink Floyd by Candlelight

Friday 21 June, 7:30pm

Pink Floyd by Candlelight comes to Exeter Cathedral! Join us on the Dark Side of the Moon for the ultimate tribute to Pink Floyd on Friday 21 June.

Book now at bit.ly/pinkfloyd-ec.

The Beatles by Candlelight

Saturday 22 June, 7:30pm

Featuring a cast of West End Singers and epic live band, The Beatles by Candlelight comes to Exeter Cathedral on Saturday 22 June.

Book now at bit.ly/beatles-ec.

Exeter Armed Forces Day 2024

Saturday 22 June

As in previous years, the City Council will be marking Armed Forces Day a week before the national Armed Forces Day.

Find out more at bit.ly/Exe-Armed-Forces-Day-2024.



INEQE Independent Safeguarding Audit

Independent safeguarding audits were first commissioned by the Church of England in 2015 with a pilot scheme which was then rolled out across the national Church. The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, IICSA, commended these audits and one of

IICSA's 2020 recommendations (No 8) was that independent external auditing of the Church's safeguarding policies and procedures, as well as the effectiveness of safeguarding practice in dioceses, cathedrals and other Church organisations, should continue.

Consequently, INEQE Safeguarding Group was appointed by the Archbishops' Council to carry out a new round of independent external audits of Church of England dioceses and cathedrals, starting in January 2024. Several other South West dioceses and Cathedrals have already completed their audits and the process has now started in the Diocese of Exeter and the Cathedral.

The Audit Process:

The audits will be carried out in the diocese and cathedral at the same time, with an audit framework agreement to ensure consistency of approach. The purpose of the audits is to ensure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. INEQE have provided the Diocese of Exeter and the Cathedral with a series of in-depth questions (230 in total) concerning safeguarding practice across the diocese and Diocesan and Cathedral staff are now in the process of responding to the questions.

Additionally, INEQE are also seeking to engage with parishioners, church and cathedral volunteers and staff, members of the parish and Cathedral community, and diocesan and cathedral staff through online surveys which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus. INEQE will also speak with children and vulnerable adults in each diocese (including victims and survivors of abuse).

When the audit is complete INEQE will produce a report with recommendations for the Diocese and cathedral, and both will be made available publicly.

How you can help:

INEQE would like to hear from as many people as possible, so we encourage you to complete the relevant survey/s for your role in the Diocese of Exeter. The

surveys are anonymous and confidential in that your identity will not be sought or identified. The results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England or Diocese of Exeter. Therefore, you are encouraged to be open and honest with your responses.

The online surveys are now live and will close at 11.30 pm on Tuesday 2nd July 2024. You can access them at: <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/exeter/>

Please also encourage others to do the same. To assist with this, INEQE have provided a useful poster which you will find in the Cathedral to advertise the Audit and encourage as many people as possible to respond. The poster can be downloaded at: bit.ly/exeter-ineqe-poster

Should you wish to share any further information or if you would be interested in participating in a focus group you can contact the INEQE Audit team at: ineqe.com/churchofengland/exeter/#contact

You can find further information about INEQE and the Church of England Independent Safeguarding Audits at:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-news-releases/next-round-independent-safeguarding-audits>

The Dean and Chapter of Exeter are committed to the protection and safeguarding of all children and adults at risk of abuse and recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We look forward to working with INEQE throughout the process of the Audit.

In Conversation With.....The Revd Professor Sue Gillingham
Sunday 9th June at 6.30pm
Refreshments served from 6pm

Professor Gillingham, one of the Canons Theologian of the Cathedral will speak about "Critical Imagination", a term she frequently uses in her work, and what these words might mean for Biblical study and Christian Ministry

In Conversation With....Dr Christopher Murray
Sunday 14th July at 6.30pm
Refreshments from 6.30pm

Dr Murray will speak on the topic: Recognising God's hand in your life.

General Election: Message from our Archbishops

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York are urging people to set time aside to reflect during this campaign period and pray for both our nation and our world. Commenting after the General Election was announced last Thursday, they said “The coming General Election is a critical moment in the life of our nation, which will shape our future by electing those who will make decisions affecting generations to come.

“It is a time for us all – people of all faiths and of none - to ask important questions about what kind of country we want to be.

“We are facing epic challenges both in our country and our world: from questions of war and peace to poverty and injustice, and the very future of the Earth God has given us.

“Faced with such huge questions, our instinct as Christians is to turn to God in prayer and so we want to put prayer at the very heart of this campaign.

“We are therefore inviting everyone who is willing to dedicate the next few weeks as a time not just to think about the big questions, but to pray for our nation and our world. And we want to invite everyone to think about how we all can play our part both as voters and, more broadly, as citizens.

“We would add a plea that no matter how big the issues at stake over the next few weeks, this will be a time marked by respect for one another, for good grace and a commitment to truth and integrity.

“It is our prayer that, even in the heat of the debate, we will treat each other with respect and kindness.”

Save the Date

On **Monday 7th October** the second Posbury St Francis Trust Lecture in association with the Exeter Centre for Ethics and Practical Theology, will be given by Dr Bethany Solleredar, Lecturer in Science and Religion at The University of Edinburgh. The lecture will take place at Exeter University and will start at 7 p.m. when Dr Solleredar speak on the subject of “Radical Hope: the roots of courage in inevitable climate change”.

And Save Another Date

We are arranging an outing by coach to the Stourhead, a National Trust house and garden. The provisional date is **Wednesday 16th October**. Please book the date. We want to fill the coach!

Saint of the Month for June: Richard Baxter

Puritan Divine, 1615-1691 – Commemorated on 14th June

When I was looking at the Church calendar for June this name caught my eye as being vaguely familiar. It took a little while for me to remember that I had studied him when doing a course at University on Church and State 1660-1688; on my bookshelves I discovered I still had a copy of “The Autobiography of Richard Baxter”, purchased on 28 April 1976!

Baxter’s life and career reflected many of the debates about theology and politics raging during those years. He was born in Shropshire and his early education was probably delivered by local clergy before he moved to the free school at Wroxeter and then to study with the Chaplain to the Council of Wales and The Marches. After a brief spell in London he returned home and started to study theology. His reading encompassed a range of Christian thinkers from the Orthodox Church of England such as Richard Hooker, to different nonconformist writers. This led to a special interest in the controversy relating to Nonconformity and the Church of England and a rejection of episcopacy in its then current form.

He was ordained in 1639/40 but his parish duties were interrupted by the Civil War when he found himself ministering to various parts of the Parliamentary army. He was no republican though and argued in favour of constitutional government. He also wrote a number of theological works which attracted controversy and a “Reformed Liturgy”.

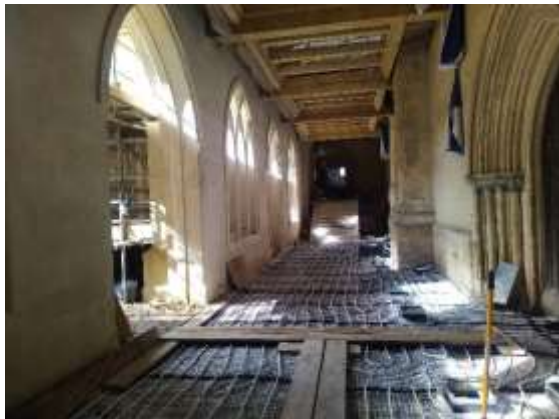
Against that background it is somewhat surprising that , on the Restoration of Charles II, Baxter was made a Royal Chaplain and offered the post of Bishop of Hereford. However, his refusal to conform to all the teachings and rites of the Church of England meant he had to refuse this offer and he was subsequently banned from serving as a priest. He continued to study and write, attracting persecution on more than one occasion, including an appearance before Chief Justice Jeffreys.

During his lifetime, Baxter wrote over 130 books. He was an advocate for Christian unity and wanted to see a form of national church; but in his theology he had the capacity to upset those on all wings of the church and regularly led him into conflict with “ almost all the contending parties in church and state”.

His writings influenced subsequent theologians and writers; indeed one of his works is mentioned in “ The Mill on the Floss” by George Eliot and the German sociologist, Max Weber, used Baxter when writing “ The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism”.

Jenny Ellis

Writing a New Chapter: The 2020s Development Appeal Project Update



Work on the Friends Cloister Gallery is progressing with the ground floor underfloor heating installed and a Limecrete slab formed on top. The Purbeck stone of the floor is now being set out. The underfloor heating extends throughout the Cloister, joining up with the system recently installed in the Chapter House and extends all the way into what will become the new Cathedral Shop (*below left*).



The exhibition space is also progressing on the first floor, with the frame of the special exhibition area formed. This area will feature our most significant treasures including the Exeter Book of Saxon riddles, Exon Domesday and an original Wax Votive. The temperature, humidity and light levels of this area will be closely controlled to preserve the treasures.

We're at an exciting stage now as the next phase of works in the East End start up. This will involve the renewal of the heating, lighting and sound to better support services and events together with a new interpretation scheme to engage audiences. The work includes conservation work to existing fabric, reordering of the former vestries and old shop to form storage, along with the installation of new WCs. In preparation for this phase, our Stonemasons are completing work on the Pinnacles on south of the Quire and we've replaced and relocated two of the fire alarm system panels.

Kit Reynolds Project Manager & Amy Haynes Marketing & Communications Executive

News from the Cathedral Flower Arrangers

We now know where our temporary home is to be – on the deep step opposite the old shop doorway. Not far from home! This will be until we need to move to the North side when they dig up the south quire aisle. Months ahead yet.

This means we will not be arranging in the Lady Chapel as it will have all the stored items that the Virgers have nowhere large enough to tuck away safely. The Blessed Sacrament will now be in St John the Baptist Chapel, so we will have an arrangement in there instead of St Gabriel's. All our other arrangements will remain as they are and we hope to continue arranging regularly as we always have done. Silks of course for the next few months

We have been delighted to welcome our five new arrangers in and see just how talented they all are. We are very lucky to have them so our offerings will continue to be of a very high standard. We do continue to look for any others who might like to join us in the privilege of arranging flowers here.

We have already arranged for one wedding, and another this coming weekend (8th) and have all enjoyed the challenge. As Jake and Jess are members of the congregation, I feel sure you will get to see photos in time – and it will be our wedding favourite of white flowers with green foliage.

Please continue supporting us, our ladies are having to work extra hard at the moment with all that is going on and we really appreciate any comments or criticism. It all helps to keep our standards high, and our contribution to this wonderful building as meaningful to us all.

Flick Evans, Chair ECFA

Renate Helmsley RIP

The funeral of Renate Helmsley will be on Wednesday 26th June at 1pm in the Quire. All are welcome. Renate was a much loved and respected member of the Cathedral Community and a good friend to so many. She will be greatly missed. We will include a tribute to her remarkable life and to the immense contribution she made to the life of the Cathedral in next month's edition.

Best wishes to Jake and Jess

Our warmest love and good wishes to Jake Hibberd and Jess Fawell, who are to be married in the Cathedral on 8th June. We hope to have some photographs of the occasion in the July *Cathedral News*.



The Friends of Exeter Cathedral

Friends' Day falls on Friday 28th June this year and details have been sent to members but there are some open events that may be of interest to non-members, as follows;

Meet the Masons The stonemasons will be on hand, either inside or outside the Cathedral, depending on the weather, between 1pm and 4pm to demonstrate their skills and show examples of their work.

Music Recital at 2pm

Arranged by Timothy Noon (Director of Music) Please sit in the Nave for this recital No booking required.

Festival Evensong in the Nave at 5.30pm

Departed Friends will be commemorated at this service.

Bereavement Support

We are grateful to Sally Hulin and Canon Deborah Parsons for the following information. This is only a brief summary. For more information follow the links.

Sunday 23rd June 12.30pm-2pm Death Café, followed at 2.30pm by Bereavement Support Group at Exeter Library, Castle Street Exeter EX6 3PQ

Exeter Death Café is an opportunity to share thoughts, listen to others and overcome the last taboo in a positive and life-affirming environment. No booking required. The Bereavement Support Group enables the opportunity for those who have been bereaved to talk about their grief and their experience. Booking is required. Contact alizoun@alid.co.uk

**15th & 22nd June 10am-2pm at the Natural Health Centre, Totnes TQ9 5DW
Becoming Death Aware Workshop**

Sarah and Aly, who are both End of Life Doulas, will welcome people to a safe place to explore death and dying, including holistic end of life care. A donation of £20 is requested. To book:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dyingwithgrace/1265442>