



# **Friends of Bradford Cathedral**

**Newsletter  
Autumn 2017**

# Letter from the Chairman

Dear Friends

I started writing this on the Bank Holiday at the end of August – and for once, the weather has been really pleasant for the whole weekend. I hope you enjoyed it; indeed, I hope your summer has been both busy and interesting.

Your Committee has been busy over the summer and as always, I'm grateful for the work they do which enables our support of both the Cathedral itself and also the Cathedral staff. A part of what we do is plan for the future, and this year has seen a welcome development of this work. The Committee has been concerned to raise the profile of The Friends, particularly in the more local community, an aim completely in accordance with our Constitution.

The Treasurer and I have met with the Dean and with Amanda Anderson, the Cathedral's Director of Strategic Operations and Developments. Together, we have identified ways in which we might bring the role of the Friends into greater prominence. Amanda has also factored the Friends into her thinking and planning for the Cathedral in future projects. We are in the early stages of discussion about the development and refurbishment of the Parish Rooms and Amanda has spoken with the Committee in more detail about how the Friends might be involved. Watch this space!!

We have continued to plan events for this year and for 2018. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you can read the Report of our trip to Audley End and to St Paul's Cathedral. In October, we have our Annual Lunch, back by popular demand at The Rendezvous Hotel, Skipton.

Our Annual Cathedral Day will be on December 6th, which this year takes a slightly different form, picking up on the start of Advent. We have sponsored the final Wednesday @1 Organ Recital in the Cathedral on December 20th. You can read more about these events elsewhere in the Newsletter, and I look forward to seeing you at one or all of them! You will also be able to cast an eye on plans for next year: if you have ideas about what we might do, please let us know!

Earlier in this letter, I mentioned our Constitution. Inter alia, we are bidden “to bring together, in a common fellowship of loyalty and devotion, all those who care for the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, Bradford”. Can I encourage you to play your part in this intention? You are an important part of that fellowship: perhaps you can join us at an event, maybe even encouraging a friend to come with you and become a Friend themselves?

I look forward to seeing you and a friend very soon!

With warm good wishes and in Friendship

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Wajhr". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Chairman, Friends of Bradford Cathedral

## **The “London Trip”**

The Friends of Bradford Cathedral have recently visited Audley End House & Gardens in Essex on our way to the overnight stop near to Waltham Abbey.

On the next morning our excellent coach driver battled with the London traffic to reach St Paul’s Deanery by 10 am to meet the former Dean of Bradford, David Ison, for refreshments & reunion. This was followed by a guided tour of the Cathedral by a most knowledgeable guide. Later The Eucharist was led by the Dean himself.

After a rather rushed luncheon in the crypt some of us rejoined the guide for a short continuation of his tour before we returned to the coach for the long trip home to Bradford where we arrived just before 9 p.m.

Many thanks to a wonderful committee who organized this event & made it a very worthwhile and memorable occasion.

Rosamund M. Gray.

***Thank you to Rosamund – and to Barbara Towers for her account on the back page of a visit to St Stephen’s West Bowling.***

# Friends' Trip to London 4/5 September

## Monday 4th September

Boy, did we get up early! The coach was picking up nineteen intrepid souls from the Cathedral at 7.30, and everyone was on time.

Except the bus.

Fortunately, there was only a minor hold-up (otherwise your correspondent might have chewed her nails down to the elbows) before we were on our way down to Audley End. We had an uneventful trip in a new and very comfortable bus, driven by our old friend Ken, who has taken us to many places.

We arrived in time for lunch, before an interesting two or three hours wandering around a very pleasant house: many magnificent interiors, a Victorian service wing and nursery suite, a 17th century stable block, and all graced with some beautiful works of art. The buildings are set in colourful parterre gardens surrounding by impressive parkland (and a Ha-Ha!). (Incidentally, the gardens were designed by that well-known expert, Katie Bility Brown – well... we knew who we meant!)

## Tuesday 5th September

Another really good day, packed just as full but not starting quite as early as yesterday! After a good breakfast, we set off from Waltham Abbey to the City of London and Number 9, Amen Court, home of Dean David Ison. We enjoyed coffee and biscuits with him and Hilary and it was great to see them looking so well. We were collected from there by our guide for the rest of the visit, Peter.

He did a brilliant job! Those of you familiar with St Paul's will sympathise with him. We had only an hour and a half before lunch, but it was filled for us with history, anecdote and a wealth of information,



Audley End  
Bell-pull



all delivered in a fascinating, humorous and authoritative way. When it became obvious that we didn't have time to go down to the crypt, Peter volunteered to come back after lunch and resume the tour. And needless to state, we accepted with alacrity!

So, after a very acceptable lunch in the Wren Pantry (where else?), we were able to see the Crypt, where the great Sir Christopher Wren lies buried, together with members of his family. There are many other famous names commemorated there, too, Admiral Lord Nelson, Wellington and Sir Winston Churchill among them. Interestingly, Churchill's tombstone lies under the memorial gates, so that no-one can walk over him!

One member of our group has been honoured by the Queen with an OBE; it was a real joy to see the area of the Crypt which was known as St Faith's Chapel, but is now also designated as the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire. It is a very peaceful worship space, used also for baptisms and weddings by those with some connection.

And so, somewhat footsore but with some amazing memories, we made our way back upstairs and out of the Cathedral to meet up once more with Ken and our bus. The journey home (though beset by some very heavy rain!) was accomplished without a problem and we arrived back at the Cathedral to make our separate ways home and into our own beds. It were a right good do!!

## **Persuade a friend to become a Friend!**

We are always keen to welcome new members – and the more Friends that we have, the more we can do! Pick up a leaflet in the Cathedral or download one from the website at <http://bradfordcathedralfriends.org.uk/docstore/FriendsLeaflet.pdf>



**The Friends of Bradford Cathedral Annual Lunch**  
**Sunday 15th October 2017**

Following our excellent lunch last year, it was a unanimous decision to return to the **Rendezvous Hotel** just outside **Skipton** for this year's Annual Lunch

*The hotel is on the A6131 between Kildwick and Skipton (from Bradford, avoid the Skipton by-pass; it's obvious on the right beyond Aldi – and there is plenty of parking!*

**We will gather at the hotel at 12.30 for 1.00pm.**

The Rendezvous are offering a two-course option at £16.00 and three courses at £20.00

Please choose from the menu opposite and tear out that page

Your menu choice and payment needs to be sent to

Sandra Howard at the Cathedral Office  
**by Sunday, 1st October.**

Cheques should be made out to **"The Friends of Bradford Cathedral"**

**Sandra Howard**  
The Cathedral Office, 1 Stott Hill, Bradford,  
West Yorkshire, BD1 4EH

Tel: 01274 777723

sandra.howard@bradfordcathedral.org

## The Friends Annual Lunch 2017

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Telephone .....

Email Address .....

Number of Places ..... Payment Enclosed £ .....

Any special dietary requirement .....

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### Menu – please mark your choice

#### Starter

- ..... Tomato and Basil Soup
- ..... Assiette of Melon & Tropical Fruits  
Finished with Raspberry Sorbet
- ..... Chicken Liver Parfait  
Served with Red Onion Marmalade & Toast

#### Main course

- ..... Honey Baked Joint of Gammon Served with Roast Potatoes  
& A Rich Gravy
- ..... Supreme of Chicken  
With White Wine & Mushroom Sauce
- ..... Mediterranean Vegetable Tartlet  
Topped with Melted Goats Cheese

#### Dessert

- ..... Traditional Apple Pie Served with Custard
- ..... Raspberry Crème Brulee
- ..... Lemon Tart with Fresh Cream

*Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea with Chocolate Mints are included*

# Looking ahead

## **... for the remainder of 2017**

Our next event is the Annual Lunch, on Sunday October 15th at the Rendezvous Hotel, Keighley Road, Skipton, BD23 2TA. We sit down at 1.00pm, so please arrive between 12.30 and 1.00 and enjoy a drink and a chat. This venue proved very popular last year and will book up very quickly, I guess. The hotel has kept prices at last year's level: £16.00 for two courses and £20.00 for three courses. Tea and coffee are included in the price. Details of this are elsewhere in the Newsletter. Please let me have your booking form and choices, together with a cheque, made payable to The Friends of Bradford Cathedral, by Wednesday, 4th October.

We are delighted to have been given tickets by Bingley Little Theatre again: BLT's generosity means that we make a little money and get to see good amateur dramatics as well. What's not to like? December's production is Harold Brighouse's comedy "Hobson's Choice": set in 1880s Salford, it is described as a family battle of wits! Tickets are for the performance on Monday, December 4th at 7.30 and cost £8.00: please contact Barbara Walker on 0113 255 2608.

## **"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near"**

Our Cathedral Day on December 6th takes a slightly different form this year. We begin in the same way, by participating in the service of Holy Communion which will take place in St. Aidan's chapel at 10.15. That will be the first part of a rather more reflective day, led for us by the Revd. Paul Booth. We shall have lunch (cost £4) in the Cathedral and listen to an Organ Recital by Jon Payne (Assistant Director of Music). The previous Sunday we shall have begun our observation of Advent, that period of preparation and waiting before Christmas. Waiting can be a tedious old business! But we have an opportunity today to explore a little of what "Advent waiting" might be about, in the beautiful surroundings of the Cathedral. Advent waiting is really about paying attention to God, the One who promises to be ever-present, and during the day, Paul will help us explore this, using a variety of practical resources.



You are most welcome to come and go as you wish during the day, though obviously, we look forward to spending a day together thinking a little more deeply about waiting. Do please put the date in your diary and make a real effort to come and take a day out of the busyness.

Our final event for this year is the last in this year's series of Lunchtime Organ Recitals, which is sponsored by The Friends. We have a chance to hear Jon Payne again, together with Alex Berry, the Cathedral's Director of Music. I am told that it will be a lot of fun, so again please put the date in your diary and come to support both the Cathedral's Music Department and the Friends.

### **... and for 2018**

We have one fixed date already for next year; after the muddle over this year's AGM, I promise that we shall not change this coming date! The AGM will be on Sunday May 13 2018 at 2.00pm in the Cathedral, followed by refreshments.

We have been invited to visit Lincoln Cathedral next year. The invitation comes from John G Campbell, presently Dean's Verger at Lincoln, who was a verger at Bradford Cathedral from 1978 to 1983. We shall also hope to meet up with the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral while we are there.

Many of you will know that Revd Cat Thatcher, Curate at the Cathedral until June this year, is now Vicar of St. Mary's, Oxenhope. Guess where we are planning our 2018 Parish Visit?!

We shall also have our Annual Lunch and another Cathedral Day – and we have plans for another evening's fundraiser ... more of this next time, I hope!

If there are things you would like to see the Committee arrange, then please let us know and, as always, you are welcome to join us in our planning. Sandra always has lovely biscuits for our meetings!

#### **Contact the Friends!**

jill@woodchipcomputers.co.uk 01535 634526

**[www.bradfordcathedralfriends.org.uk](http://www.bradfordcathedralfriends.org.uk)**

## Stitching the Cathedral

I'm delighted to report that this project, now almost two years old, continues to thrive ! A group meets regularly every two weeks in the Cathedral and we have made a lot of progress. There are something over forty folk who have stitched: a couple of weeks ago, we welcomed a Serbian monk priest who was visiting the Cathedral! He was made very welcome and was pleased to add his stitches.



Clearly, we don't have forty-plus people every time! We usually end up with perhaps 12 or 16 men and women (mostly women!) from a wide variety of backgrounds and beliefs. One thing we would like to do is involve groups of folk who might enjoy a visit from us. Do you have a Women's Fellowship, a Mothers' Union or a Wives' Group, a Men's Breakfast Group, a group learning English as a second language ....? It most certainly doesn't need to be a "churchy" group! We'd love to come and talk about what we're doing and for you to do some stitching.

If you are interested, or you know someone who might be, then the person to contact initially is Gill Davis, the Cathedral's Education and Visitor Officer ([gillian.davis@bradfordcathedral.org](mailto:gillian.davis@bradfordcathedral.org)). We really do look forward to hearing from you.



## Subscription Increase 2018

At the last Friends AGM I informed the meeting that the committee had agreed to raise the membership fees as from 1st January 2018.

The fees have not changed for many years and our postage and printing costs are constantly rising. Whilst many members have now opted to have their newsletters sent to them by email, there are still about half our members who require mail postings. We send out at least three and sometimes four separate mailings in the year so the costs quickly add up. In addition we will continue to support Bradford Cathedral in as many of its ventures as possible. Recently we have paid for a new sound desk, for the restoration of the World War 1 altar frontal now on display in the Chapter House, supported the Organ Fund and the State Gate; and also paid for the new trees in the Cathedral Close following the alterations last year.

We have only been able to do this through your generous subscriptions and donations. We would like to continue doing this and offer more if possible to the Cathedral when we have sufficient funds. On behalf of the Friends of Bradford Cathedral, the committee has decided to support one or two larger ventures at Bradford Cathedral in the near future which will require further fundraising.

The new minimum subscription will be £15 for one person and £20 for two people living at the same address. For PCCs who wish to register as members, the subscription will be £15. Life Membership will be a minimum donation of £150.

I will be sending out letters to all members in the next few weeks with a request that you return your form and standing order change to me by December at the latest.

If you have any queries about this please get in touch by phone 0113 2574403 or email me at: [monica@monicaslocombe.com](mailto:monica@monicaslocombe.com).

Monica Slocombe  
Treasurer

*Ed. Note: as a part of this decision, I did some research into what other Friends' Organisations charge: even with the new charges, we are by no means the most expensive. You get good Yorkshire value for money here!*

## **Visit to St. Stephen's Church, West Bowling.**

St. Stephen's Church was built in 1860 – a very large Church with wonderful stained glass windows. Today it is a Community Centre and Sarah Hinton, wife of the vicar, Jimmy Hinton, is the Project Manager of SHINE - a community organization that reaches out to the socially excluded.

We were welcomed by Sarah and she told us about all the projects going on. There are computers with job finding resources, a Refugee group, exercise classes, a family group, 3 sessions of Youth groups, first aid courses, how to manage one's finances – and Gambling Anonymous. A Creative Arts lady comes in – and there's a new project called "Pop up Farm", bringing lots of animals into the centre. They also work closely with local schools.

It is a very challenging area. The church has had some funding but needs much more. Different areas have been partitioned off for offices etc. and the main altar area which had dry rot has now been treated and the boards with World War 1 names on re-polished. The main building has no heating. Npower is willing to put in under floor heating but circumstances have stopped this at the moment.

When the Hintons came 12 years ago the congregation was 3 or 4 Now its 50 to 60. A lot of hard work is being done and it was quite an eye opener to hear of all these projects still in hand. Well worth a visit!

### **A Prayer for The Friends of Bradford Cathedral**

**God, our heavenly Father,  
we thank you for the presence and witness over many centuries of the  
Cathedral Church of St Peter, Bradford.**

**Give your grace and wisdom to those who serve and minister there  
to the congregation, the diocese, the city,  
and everyone who enters its walls day by day.**

**Bless all Friends of the Cathedral in our fellowship  
with the living Lord Jesus.**

**Inspire us by your Holy Spirit as we work and provide together  
in helping the building to speak of your harmony, truth and beauty.**

**May we ourselves, in word and act, tell the wonder of your power,  
to save and to transform,**

**that others shall be led into the experience and joy  
of belonging to the Friends of your Kingdom.**

**This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**