



Friends of Bradford Cathedral

**Newsletter
Spring 2016**

Letter from the Chairman

Dear Friends

As I write this, the England cricket team is in the ascendancy at Headingley and the sun is shining! Long may it continue.

First: an apology. It seems that some of you who receive your mailings through the post have fallen off the list. (I realise you may not be reading this if that's the case!) If you know of someone in this predicament, do please contact me as soon as possible.

Can I take this opportunity to encourage you to help the Friends by using email as your preferred means of receiving information? The cost of sending out 60+ lots of paperwork by post is becoming a real worry, as I'm sure you understand. The cost of postage, paper, labels and envelopes is not insignificant; in addition, it takes quite a time to print and collate the papers, put them in the envelopes and get the labels on. I can guarantee that we will not divulge any information we hold: it will be completely safe. To those of you who allow us to use email, our heartfelt thanks. If you are able to switch to email, do please contact me – thank you.

You will have read in the AGM literature of the projects the Friends have supported during the year. Please come and pay us a visit – both the Close and the Cathedral are looking particularly fine, especially now that this phase of the outside work has been completed. In addition, as we await the appointment of a Canon Precentor, our hard-pressed Cathedral staff will appreciate your support and your prayers.

Elsewhere in the Newsletter you will find reports of our activities and plans for the rest of the year. Do please try to support us in person if you can – we love to meet you. In the meantime, may I wish you good weather and a pleasant summer enjoying our beautiful countryside: God's own county!

With all good wishes



Chairman, Friends of Bradford Cathedral

Stop Press!
We're delighted to see that
Revd Canon Paul Maybury,
will soon move from Cyprus
to become Canon Precentor
at the Cathedral.

A Service of Commemoration to the Fallen

Saturday 9th July 2016 at 3.00pm

On the morning of 1st July 1916 2000 young men from Bradford left their trenches in Northern France to advance across No Man's Land.

It was the first hour of the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

By the end of that hour, 1770 of these men had either been killed or injured and no ground had been gained. This remains the most disastrous day ever experienced by the British Army.

The Battle of the Somme continued until 18th November by which time more than a million men had been wounded or killed.

The Dean has invited the Friends to join him as he leads a special service of Remembrance for all those whose lives were changed for ever at the Battle of the Somme and for all who continue to be affected by war.

The preacher will be Bishop Toby and all are welcome to join invited civic guests, the Royal British Legion, the med and cadet forces and families of those who died.

Music will include Parry's *My Soul, there is a country*, Elgar's *Nimrod* and *For the Fallen* by Douglas Guest

Working together

When the idea of the new, very large Diocese was in its early days, I contacted Bishop Nick to ask him how he viewed the future of the three organisations of Friends at Bradford, Ripon and Wakefield. The Bishop was very clear that each Cathedral would remain as important and as vital a part of the structure and mission of the new Diocese of Leeds as each had been in their historic Dioceses. Accordingly, your Committee and the Committee of the Friends of Ripon Cathedral have begun to meet together to see how we might together promote our Cathedrals and their joint – though very different – mission. Your Committee has spent a very fulfilling day in Ripon with their Committee and we have invited both the other Committees to visit us for the day in September. It's early days yet, but we are up and running!

Ripon Cathedral Revealed

“Beauty, bell-ringing, a buzz of conversation and busyness; ancient stories – modern Christianity blending with centuries of history; colour, shape, light, togetherness and community. At the centre of the building, the nave altar: calm, tranquil, the heart of what we are about. The sun, creeping in through the stained glass and warming the stone”

These are the words I wrote in my diary as I sat in Ripon Cathedral on the morning of Saturday 30th April. “Ripon Revealed” was billed as “a celebration of the people, life, mission and heritage of this great Cathedral and its wonderful community” and so it proved to be. One of my reasons for simply sitting there was that



Chris was in the tower ringing in a quarter peal (which was achieved). He then came downstairs and was immediately entranced (as were many others) by a Mini-ring: eight small bells hung in a large frame set up in the North aisle and manned by the Ripon ringers. It attracted lots of interest and of course, those folk needed their questions answered! There were glorious flower arrangements (some by the Bradford Cathedral Flower Arrangers), historical plays, a Ripon Rose ceramic art installation, music, acting, lectures, a “Biblethon”, embroidery workshops, lectures, tours of the Minster House and many, many displays featuring the activities which go on in the Cathedral. Light refreshments were available in the South Transept and more substantial fare in the Deer Park. Ripon Cathedral certainly fulfilled its stated aim and Chris and I had a really enjoyable day out.

Barbara Foulds

Barbara was a long term member of the Friends of Bradford Cathedral, and though latterly, she was unable to participate in our events because of failing health, she nonetheless supported all that we do and all that we stand for. I was privileged to be able to attend the Thanksgiving Service held for her in April and I reproduce below some of the comments made by Mrs. Elizabeth Stuckley and Canon Bruce Grainger in their memories of Barbara.

Elizabeth spoke eloquently of Barbara's professional career, initially at Bradford-on-Avon and latterly (and largely) at Bradford Girls' Grammar School. "Barbara's love of words and literature was always richly apparent, conveyed with bright-eyed enthusiasm... She gave opinions (about quality) but also had the quality of listening as girls expressed their views; her classes a shared pleasure."

Bruce spoke about Barbara's contribution to the life of the Cathedral over some fifty years. In the mid- 1960s, "this Cathedral, in common with almost all of our Church of England parishes, was very much a male preserve as far as leadership was concerned." Bruce recalled how Barbara was elected as a sidesperson and then to the Congregational Committee. He remembered too her contribution to the involvement of the Cathedral in outreach to the City and Diocese by means of Pilgrim tours, Pilgrim visits and Pilgrim services. As well as reaching out, Barbara was heavily involved in welcoming people into the Cathedral, whether as visitors or as those who came to worship and to wonder.

Throughout her life, Barbara followed our Lord's example in demonstrating love, care and concern for everyone whom she met. The number of people present at the service of Thanksgiving bear testament to the high regard in which she was held. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

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>

Stitching the Cathedral

This major project for the Friends grew from the Friends' Day at the Cathedral, held in September last year. The Textiles project, masterminded by Canon Sam Corley, saw the provision of altar frontals, pulpit falls and stoles to match each of the church's seasons. The final part of the project was the completion of the canvas work kneelers for the high altar. These had been printed with designs which complemented the designs on the frontals and the Cathedral had been given the wool etc needed to complete the kneelers. Liz Firth had begun the work, taking one canvas into local schools, but after her departure in December, the work stalled.

As a part of the Friends' Day, Gillian Davis and Liz showed us the canvas and invited us to contribute to the stitching.

What followed was amazing: the idea of completing the kneelers was sown and quite quickly grew into a major project.



The vision is to involve the Cathedral Community, the Friends, diocesan, ecumenical and inter-faith partners and the local community.

To this end, a group meets regularly every other Tuesday afternoon in the Cathedral to work on the kneelers. There are always experienced stitchers there, but there are also many who are not and who are trying something new. If you would like to be involved, please contact Gill Davis (telephone 01274 777720 or gillian.davis@bradfordcathedral.org) for more information. We serve tea and coffee and delicious cake or biscuits and you would be most welcome!

Events

Our Treasurer has organised a Friends' trip to York in June and I hope if you wanted to be a part of that, you sent in your form. In September, we plan to pay a visit to St. Andrew's parish church, Kildwick, near Keighley – known as "The Lang Kirk o' Craven" because of its enormous length. This will probably be on 18th September. We'll confirm that in the summer. Also in the summer, we shall send you details of the Annual Lunch on Sunday October 16th. We shall be at the Rendezvous Hotel just outside Skipton and we will send out details in due course.

We are always on the lookout for new ideas and venues for visits which you might enjoy making as a group of Friends. If you know of somewhere which you have enjoyed, the chances are that other Friends will enjoy it, too. Would your parish church enjoy a visit from us on a Sunday afternoon during next summer? Please do get in touch and let us know and we'll do the rest!

Opening of the State Gate

With great joy the State Gate was reopened on 12th April!

Directly opposite the new Broadway shopping centre, this significant thoroughfare will help to connect the Cathedral with the new energy of the developing city.

Dean Jerry said, "This Cathedral is the oldest building in Bradford, and is a steward of its heritage. The Cathedral is playing into the bigger picture, which is the city and the whole regeneration that is going on. We have been anxious to play into a new narrative in Bradford, and we want to make a contribution to it."

The Friends made a contribution to this work.



Events for 2016

Alternate Tuesdays Stitching The Cathedral ('till 4th December)
June 15th Friends' trip to York
September 18th Visit to St. Andrew's, Kildwick,
October 16th Annual Lunch at Rendezvous in Skipton

Contact the Friends!

You can contact the Chair of the Friends by email or phone:
jill@woodchipcomputers.co.uk 01535 634526

www.bradfordcathedralfriends.org.uk

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**