



Friends of Bradford Cathedral

Newsletter Autumn 2014

An Angel from the Song Room window

Chairman's letter

Dear Friends

Welcome to the September edition of the Newsletter for the Friends of Bradford Cathedral. The sun is still shining as I write and I hope you have enjoyed a good summer. As usual, we have a varied selection of articles for you, including some really good news from Monica Slocombe, our Treasurer!

Your Committee met very recently; we were pleased to be able to fund two very different projects in the Cathedral on your behalf. You will remember from a previous Newsletter that the Friends contributed towards the Textiles Project launched by Canon Sam Corley. We have made a further contribution to this overall project of £3000. This grant will enable the conservation and display of the altar frontal worked by wounded World War 1 soldiers. Once the work is completed, the frontal will be displayed in the newly re-furnished Chapter House. The Committee felt that this would be an entirely appropriate project to facilitate during this year when we commemorate the beginning of WW1 a hundred years ago.

The second project we have agreed to fund is the provision of a new sound desk for the Cathedral. Jon Howard (Head Verger) outlined the problems that his team have been having with the current desk, which is becoming more and more unreliable. He had identified a model which will fill the needs of a busy Cathedral at a cost of £1600. Given the importance of having a good, reliable system which will enhance the worship at the Cathedral, the Committee agreed to buy the desk identified by Jon. I think that both of these gifts fulfil the second of the Objects of the Friends as defined by our Constitution: "to assist in the upkeep and repair of the fabric and contents of the Cathedral and the maintenance of the services in the Cathedral".

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find information about the opportunity in December to see a play at Bingley Little Theatre and boost the Friends' coffers. There is also a form for you to complete if you are coming to the Busfeild Arms at East Morton for our popular Annual Lunch. We have moved this event from the centre of Bradford so I hope many of you will be able to join us on 12 October.

The Annual Lecture, put on jointly with Artspace, is on November 23rd. Professor Joyce Hill is an acknowledged expert on the Missionaries, Saints and Scholars who were part of the Golden Age of the Northumbrian Church. Come along to hear what she has to tell us, enjoy some refreshments and end your afternoon with Choral Evensong.

You will also find some plans for our programme for 2015. We hope to put on a trip to Carlisle, travelling on the Settle to Carlisle railway, probably in May. We plan a Parish visit to Holy Trinity, Skipton in June or July and we hope to have another day in the Cathedral. We'll send out final plans later in the year.

The first date in your diary for next year should be March 8th – the date of our Annual General Meeting – but I hope to see many of you at our events before then!

With all good wishes

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

News from the Treasurer

Terrific news! The tax man has given us over £1400 this summer!! Why? Because those of you who have provided me with your permission to reclaim income tax on your subscriptions and donations have enabled me to reclaim this back from HMRC for the past four years! We hadn't claimed for several years and now that we can claim your tax back online, it is so much easier. As a result, recently we have been able to make two big donations to the cathedral for much needed work and equipment. So a really big 'Thank You' to all of you for helping us do this.

Now I would like to encourage those of you who have still not sent back your Gift Aid authorisation as I would like to claim every bit of tax back from HMRC that we can legitimately do. If you aren't sure about this or have mislaid the form I sent out earlier this year, please contact me by email: mslocombe23@btinternet.com, or phone 0113 2574403.

I would also like to encourage you all to think whether you could donate just a little more to the Friends each year. We are keeping our minimum subscription at £10 per single member and for PCCs, or £15 for a couple, but many people are now increasing this amount voluntarily, for which we are most grateful. Please consider whether you could increase your support to the Friends of Bradford Cathedral so that we can provide even more funds for our wonderful Cathedral!

***Monica Slocombe
Hon Treasurer***

The Cream of Gardens

A Visit to York Gate Garden and Adel Church

What a feast for the eyes – York Gate Garden in Adel, North Leeds, is a real hidden gem. More than a dozen Friends visited these small yet magnificent gardens, run by the horticultural charity Perennial, on Sunday 22nd June this year. I was visiting old haunts, as I had cycled past York Gate House many times as a child, and never realised what delights were concealed in this small but delightful series of gardens within the one acre site around the house.

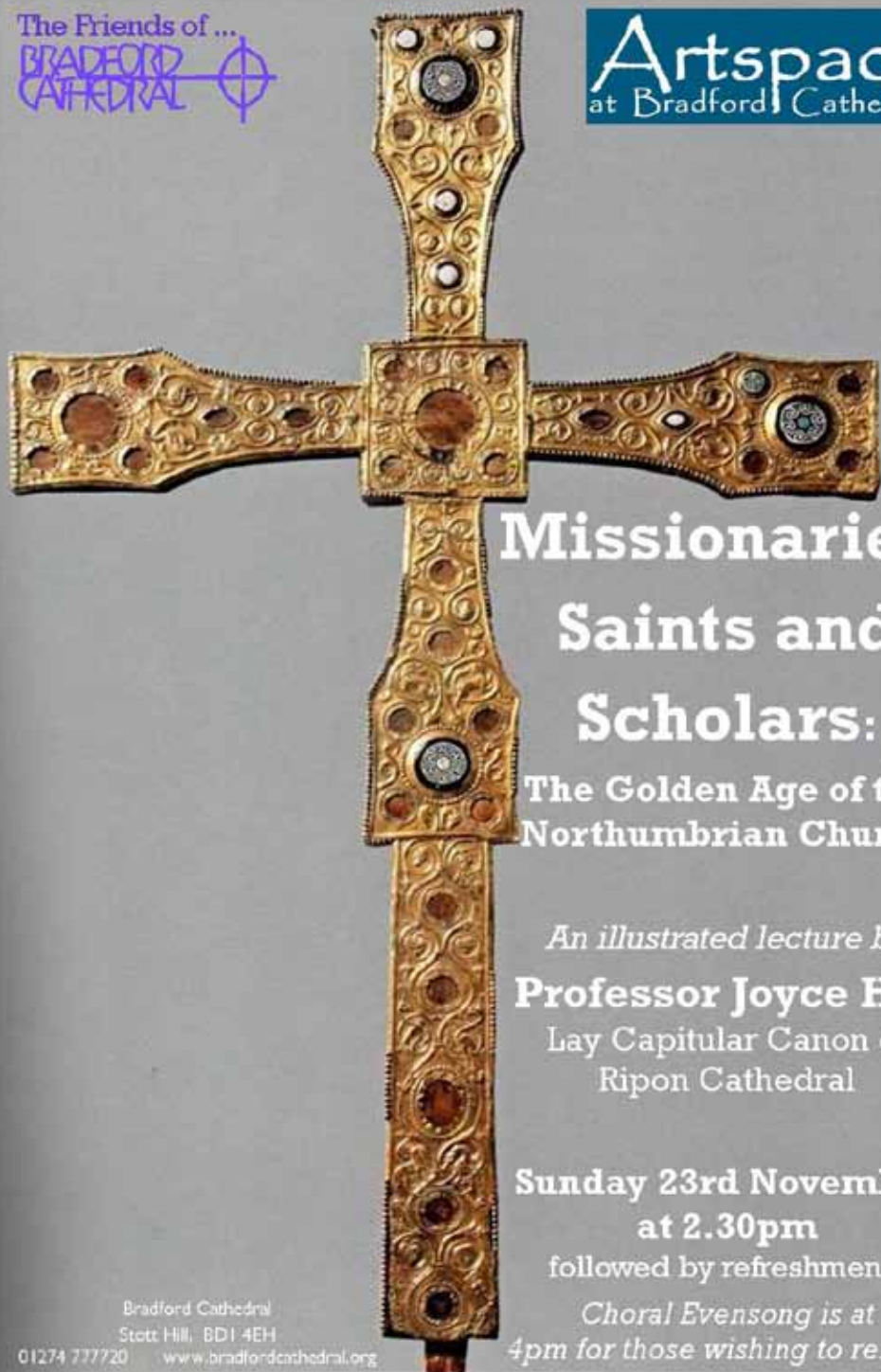
The midsummer weekend of 22nd June was just perfect too, the sun was shining, which brought out the shade and colours of each part of the garden, each one having a particular theme, and all interlinked with tiny footpaths through shady nooks and dells. It provided some wonderful ideas for our own gardens and some of us bought plants to take home to remember the day. Afterwards we were able to avail ourselves of the delicious cream teas, which Adel Church ladies were serving in their stables behind the ancient church. The stables no longer house horses! I can remember going to Sunday school classes there as a girl over 50 years ago, but now they are converted into parish community rooms, overlooking a sunny garden. Fed and watered some of us wandered around the large well-kept graveyard and garden and visited the enchanting Norman church of St John the Baptist, Adel, making the afternoon extra special as it was their Patronal festival weekend. Walking up the path towards the church there was a row of old shoes! Each one was holding a pretty posy of flowers! Inside, the church was decked in beautiful flowers - a real pleasure to behold; we were made so welcome by the church warden and various congregation members and finished the afternoon by joining them in their evening choral worship.

For those who have not visited York Gate Gardens, I would sincerely recommend a trip over to Adel, only 10 miles from the centre of Bradford, and combine it with a viewing of the beautiful ancient church of St John the Baptist, both of which are open most weekends from April to September. We all had a thoroughly enjoyable time, and are grateful for the hospitality of both the Perennial volunteers and the Adel church congregation for making it such a lovely afternoon.

Monica Slocombe

The Friends of ...
**BRADFORD
CATHEDRAL**

Artspace
at Bradford Cathedral



Missionaries, Saints and Scholars:

**The Golden Age of the
Northumbrian Church**

An illustrated lecture by

Professor Joyce Hill

Lay Capitular Canon of
Ripon Cathedral

**Sunday 23rd November
at 2.30pm**

followed by refreshments

*Choral Evensong is at
4pm for those wishing to remain*

Bradford Cathedral
Stott Hill, BDI 4EH

01274 777720 www.bradfordcathedral.org



The Friends of Bradford Cathedral Annual Lunch

Sunday 12th October 2014

This year's Annual Lunch is moving out from the centre of Bradford and will be held at the Busfeild Arms in East Morton.

The meal will be served from 1.30pm.

The Busfeild offer a Sunday roast as the main course with beef and lamb or pork.

Desserts and coffees can be ordered from the menu on the day.

Please choose from the menu opposite and tear out that page

Your menu choice and payment needs to be sent to Monica Slocombe **by Wednesday, October 8.**

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

Desserts, drinks and coffee will be paid on the day

Monica Slocombe

14 Woodhall Pk Dv, Stanningley, Pudsey, LS28 7EY

Tel: (0113) 257 4403

mslocombe23@btinternet.com

Note! The Busfeild Arms is spelled that way! To see a bit more about the Busfeild Arms, see their website at <http://www.busfeildarms.co.uk>

The Friends Annual Lunch 2014

Name

Address

.....

.....

Telephone

Email Address

Number of Places Payment Enclosed £

Any special dietary requirement

Menu – please mark your choice

Starter

.....	Chicken liver and brandy pate	£5.95
.....	Soup with bread and butter	£4.50
.....	Prawns in Marie rose sauce	£5.95
.....	Fried French brie in bread crumbs	£5.95
.....	Spicy Cajun coated chicken breast strips with tomatoes, Parmesan and salsa sauce salad garnish	£5.95
.....	Roast pulled pork nachos with BBQ sauce	£5.95
.....	Breaded haddock goujons	£5.95
.....	Mini Meze olives, tomatoes, feta cheese and mixed herb bread	£5.95

Main course

.....	Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, roast and new potatoes, vegetables and gravy	£9.25
.....	Guest roast of the day – lamb or pork roast and new potatoes, vegetables and gravy	£9.25

Dessert

To be ordered from dessert board



Kathleen Gray RIP

As promised, we are privileged to print the address and tribute to Kathleen Gray which was given by Canon Andy Williams at Kath's funeral on 12th June 2014 in Bradford Cathedral.

It followed a reading from St John's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 7 to 18.

That NT passage may seem like a strange reading for a funeral service, so some words of explanation. Kath loved the 23rd Psalm, 'The Lord's my shepherd' and we will be singing a hymn setting of it shortly. Jesus is taking a metaphor that would have been familiar to his hearers and applying it to himself. You have heard God spoken of as a Shepherd. Well I am a GOOD shepherd. My whole purpose is to look after my sheep, even to the point of laying down my life for them. Just as a shepherd lies down at the door of the sheepfold to stop predators harming the sheep, so I lay down my life. I am the gateway to abundant life, to life in its fullness, body, mind and soul. And Kath knew that. She had made Jesus her Good Shepherd, right to the end. She lived abundantly in this life, and there are many fine clothes retailers who were grateful for that. But it occurs to me that in her own way, she was a shepherd herself. Over the years she looked after many flocks (pupils) and those she taught were set clear boundaries and encouraged to use their talents to the full.

Kath had once spoken to Christine Shedd about funerals in general and had said that she didn't like it when people went 'on and on' about how wonderful people were. 'Just get on with it' she would say. Now I think that comment gives me permission to relate some anecdotes which illustrate the kind of person Kath was. First, without going on and on, a sketch of her biography. She was born and brought up in Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. She was an only child. Her father had a grain processing mill, which was his own business. Her love of music came from her mother. She had a very loving and supportive home, which was served by a maid. That may explain why she NEVER cooked at home (Apart from for herself – which she got from Marks & Spencer) – she said that she couldn't abide cooking in her home. She once joked about this to Bill Green when he was Vicar of Thornton. She was put on the Catering Rota at the Cathedral, saying "You'll never guess what they've got me to do?" So it's all the more impressive that she used to help prepare the buffet lunch for organ recitals. Brenda, who worked with her, remembers when she started: Brenda says that when she first met her, Kath walked into the Cathedral kitchen dressed very smartly indeed in a pale blue dress and matching jacket.

Brenda enquired, "Are you going to a wedding?"

Kath replied, "No, I've come to help".

Brenda was amused as Kath always had to have the sandwich filling dead centre of the bread and would trim the filling to the shape of the bread.

Brenda told Kath that she felt like a pauper at the side of her. Kath always said to Brenda "How do I look today?"

Brenda would reply, "Just like a Bride".

They enjoyed working together and Kath told Brenda that it had been wonderful working with her.

Kath had said that she was blessed to have been brought up in a loving home. When she left she studied music at the Royal College of Music, and afterwards was housemistress at a boys' boarding school in the Home Counties. She taught in another school before moving to Bradford Girls' Grammar School. She kept in contact with some of the girls and was very proud of their achievements. One former pupil, Sally said she was terrified of Miss Gray and so were all the pupils. But they held her in high regard. Sally remembers being very encouraged when playing a piano solo for the first time. Sally, though, had the problem of being sporty as well as musical. There is always competition between PE and music, because they both want pupils in out of lesson times. Sally commented that Miss Gray produced some brilliant productions in school and was totally dedicated to their development. She added that although she had a stern exterior, she had a heart of gold. And others would echo that. When her colleague and friend Robert Andrews fell very ill Kath went and cleaned his house for him. She modeled her own high standards and was always immaculately dressed. She also expected others not to drop their standards. Bill Green remembers being told off for not wearing his robes! She was generous with her time and her resources. She was an active and much-valued member of the Mothers' Union.

At Thornton, through the MU, she got involved in helping asylum seekers and she was very significant and instrumental in the distribution of clothes. She was on the Mothers' Union Diocesan Committee and was Church Warden at St James for about 5 – 6 years. She was an excellent Church Warden and was loyal and organised. Even if she was not too keen on an idea she would never speak publicly about it but rather privately to the person involved.

She loved travel, went skiing until 2005, loved going to the opera in Verona, where she went last in 2013. And regularly went to see friends in the New Forest.

She would never blow her own trumpet, but was proud of her own musical ability and playing. She was very protective of musical standards and loved

the music here at Bradford Cathedral, where she has been worshipping since about 2007.

She was very loyal to people. She was reliable and committed and would always do what she said she would do.

Three brief stories to finish with.

First, Kath realised one night, when Church Warden at St James, that she had misplaced the church keys. So, in her nightclothes, she drove up to the church, went round the back into the car park, and with a torch began her search for them. And she found them!!!

Then one day she parked her car on someone's drive, which was on a slope. Unfortunately she had probably not put the handbrake on correctly as her car rolled back and wedged itself on a small wall of the garden opposite. In order to remove the car a small mobile crane had to be obtained to lift the car off, but there were problems because of overhead wires!!! The more embarrassing part was that an 'old' girl from school, who lived nearby, saw the incident and the story of Miss Gray and her car went round the grammar school!

Finally, a member of the cathedral congregation arrived at the counter of a local store to be greeted by an excited shop assistant. 'I must tell you. I've just served a lady who looks just like Margaret Thatcher and talks like the Queen.

Kath, you were royal in your countenance. You lived abundantly, you gave generously, and you were a shepherd to many. Thank you for all you brought to our lives. And may you now rest secure in the care of the Good Shepherd. And so now we stand to sing Psalm 23:

The King of love my Shepherd is.

Bingley Little Theatre

Once again Bingley Little Theatre have given us a set of tickets to be sold for our funds.

The play is "**A Murder is Announced**" by Agatha Christie tickets are available for Monday 8 December at a cost of £7.00.

Please contact Barbara Walker on 01132 552608 if you wish to purchase tickets.

Events for 2014/5

October 12th	Annual Lunch
November 23rd	Annual Lecture: "Missionaries, Saints and Scholars"
December 8th	Bingley Little Theatre: "A Murder is Announced"
March 8th	AGM
May	Visit to Carlisle
June or July	Parish visit to Holy Trinity, Skipton

Contact the Friends!

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

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**