



Friends of Bradford Cathedral

Newsletter Spring 2014

An Angel from the Song Room window

Chairman's letter

Dear Friends

I hope by the time you read this, the weather will have improved to something resembling summer! This is not least because we have two events planned which will be much more pleasant if the sun shines on us. On June 22nd, we plan an afternoon visit to the lovely gardens at York Gate with a cream tea in the stables behind the church. We'll end the afternoon by joining the congregation of St John's church, Adel, for evensong. That weekend they celebrate their Patronal Festival. You'll find a flyer giving more information with this Newsletter. Please contact Monica Slocombe if you wish to go to York Gate and St. John's church.

The following month, on Wednesday 23rd July, we have booked a coach to take us to Southwell Minster for a day visit. As you know, this is where Dean Jerry came from and he is joining us for this trip. We hope to arrive about 11.00 and spend a while in the Minster before a service of Holy Communion at 12.15. There will then be a break for lunch (there is a Refectory) before we are taken on a guided tour of the Minster. Again, there is a flyer about this event and you are asked to fill in the form and send it with your payment to Monica Slocombe.

Later in the year, on October 12, we shall have our Annual Lunch. This year, we have decided to move out of Bradford and travel north a little way. The final decision about venue has not yet been made, but we will let you know in good time so you can book your place at this popular occasion.

Our final event of the year is the Annual Lecture, which this year is on Sunday, November 23rd. It is to be given by Professor Joyce Hall, Canon Capitular at Ripon Cathedral. Her subject will be Missionaries, Saints and Scholars: the Golden Age of the Northumberland Church. We hope to welcome Friends from both Wakefield and Ripon Cathedrals and the afternoon promises to be very interesting. As usual, we shall serve refreshments after the Lecture and we hope that Friends will then stay on to Choral Evensong in the Cathedral.

Please can I encourage you to put these dates into your diary and to try and join us for at least some of the events? If you have ideas about somewhere you would like to visit or a speaker you would like to hear – or indeed anything which you think would be of interest to the Cathedral Friends, do please get in touch.

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

A Day in the Cathedral

Some fifteen Friends enjoyed an insight into a working day at the Cathedral, joining in the Wednesday morning Eucharist, examining the silver, enjoying a buffet prior to the weekly organ recital and learning about the history of the Cathedral with the help of a power point presentation.

The said Eucharist was celebrated by Canon Andy Williams, who also gave a short address. Then, after coffee, we went into St Aidan's Chapel, where head verger Jon Howard showed us the Cathedral silver, mainly chalices and patens, but also a processional cross, vergers' sticks used in processions and a communion flagon dating back to the 1640s. This proved to be an eventful decade in the Cathedral's history as the Civil War raged throughout England and the citizens of Bradford protected the cathedral against the barrage of canons from the Royalist forces by fixing wool sacks against the tower. Jon confessed he was not an expert on the Cathedral's silver, but he held our attention for an hour as we explored the significance of some of their treasures.

We then joined the people who had come to the Cathedral for the lunchtime organ recital. These recitals have grown in popularity and, after a buffet lunch, we sat back to enjoy music provided by Claire Innes Hopkins, then assistant organist at Lincoln Cathedral, but now assistant Director of Music at Rochester Cathedral. Appropriately for Lent, her programme included music based on the Stations of the Cross.

In the afternoon, the Cathedral's education officer, Gillian Davis gave us a power point presentation of the history of the Cathedral from the origins of Christianity in Bradford in Saxon times through various buildings on the cathedral site and culminating in the present Medieval church. She also traced the history of the building as Bradford Parish Church until it was elevated to Cathedral status with the formation of the Bradford Diocese in 1919 and the subsequent extension of the East End and other developments in the 1960s. More refreshments brought an enjoyable day's visit to an end.

We thank everyone at the Cathedral for making the Friends welcome. We would like to have another Friends day sometime in the future.

David Markham

Events for 2014

June 22nd	York Gate and St John's church, Adel
July 23rd	Southwell Minster
October 12th	Annual Lunch
November 23rd	Annual Lecture

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**