

Date: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Bradford Cathedral starts a new century with an appeal to renew seating**



*Head verger David Worsley carrying two of the current chairs used in Bradford Cathedral.*

Following a year of celebrations to mark its centenary, Bradford Cathedral has launched an appeal to raise £150,000 to renew public seating in the building. The cathedral is the oldest building in Bradford and plans are being made to protect and enhance it so that it is properly equipped to serve the Bradford community for the next 100 years. This will include replacing existing seating with new chairs.

The Dean of the cathedral, The Very Revd Jerry Lepine, is asking for support from local people and businesses to help raise the funds needed:

“The cathedral stands on a site that has been a place of Christian worship and prayer for over a thousand

years. Today we welcome people of all faiths and none, and the cathedral is used in so many different ways; for civic occasions, community and charity events, concerts and conferences.

“As well as being over 30 years old, our chairs are incredibly heavy and impractical. They can only be moved two at a time, and with over 500 services and events at the cathedral each year, there

|

**HOSPITALITY. FAITHFULNESS. WHOLENESS.**

are often days when our Vergers are spending up to six hours moving chairs.”

The hope is that beautifully designed, flexible new chairs will be both more attractive and practical, allowing for an even more diverse range of activities to take place in the cathedral that more people can enjoy.

*It costs £1,800 each day to run the cathedral, which relies on the generosity of its congregation and other supporters to care for the building and continue to serve the Bradford community.*

*Donations to the Take a Seat appeal can be made via the cathedral’s website at [www.bradfordcathedral.org/appeal](http://www.bradfordcathedral.org/appeal) or in the cathedral itself. All donations will be publicly acknowledged and donors will be invited to an exclusive celebration event when the new chairs are installed. For more information contact the cathedral on 01274 777720 or on [info@bradfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:info@bradfordcathedral.org.uk)*

**ENDS**

---

Notes for Editors

### **About Bradford Cathedral**

Bradford Cathedral has been a place of worship in Bradford since the first millennium. It is the oldest building in the city and, alongside being a place of worship, hosts events, arts projects and much more.

For further information please contact:

*Philip Lickley*

*Communications, Marketing and Events Officer*

t: 01274 777720

e: [commsandevents@bradfordcathedral.org](mailto:commsandevents@bradfordcathedral.org)