



From the Chair of Chapter

“God comes to us disguised as life” - a quote from John Pritchard’s book *God Lost and Found*. God dwells in our lives and events; in our Good Friday and Easter Day experiences. Our Cathedral is a sacred place; a place where people come to wander around, to stop, pray or just sit and feel something of the history of prayer and worship; a place where they can feel closer to God than in their everyday lives.

Yet God is present in our everyday lives. It maybe that we are too busy, or the norms of society shut out the spiritual dimension of life. John Pritchard suggests that we use ‘holy attentiveness’ in our lives. To be attentive to the now, to the God in ourselves, in others and to the events that fill our experience. Part of our role as a Cathedral is to face outwards to the City and County; to give holy attentiveness to the needs of the people who live and work around us each day.

Holy attentiveness is not easy. We face a constant stream of news, discussion, argument and multiple needs. Political debate will be ever present in the run up to the general election. Facts and counter facts, or news and false news. We elect politicians to help us as a society to face and make decisions about issues that divide us. Often the issues have no clear solution – we ask them to make the best of difficult situations.

Part of the nature of human existence is that there will be disagreements. Our Bible provides us with many stories of disputes. Yet God does not abandon his people; far from it - as we were reminded at Easter. God is not a God of the gaps – just there to fill in where politicians, scientists or others don’t succeed. No. God is there at the fundamental core of what it means to be human – to demonstrate what love, compassion and hope can bring to life.

Revd Canon Dr Mike D Williams

Chapter Update

In May, we will see the departure of our three resident Residentiary Canons. We will be saying farewell to Ian and Victoria after the 10am service on the 7th May, and to Anna after the 10am service on the 28th May.

Ian has been a very loyal servant to the Church of England over many years. His ministry among us is greatly valued. He quietly gets on with his many roles, never afraid to get into the detail of what needs to be done to maintain the high standards of pastoral care, prayer, and worship. There are many jobs that Ian does which we will only realise when he leaves. He oils many wheels in our community and provides a wealth of knowledge about how things happen. I, for one, will be keeping his phone number handy. Ian will be living in Exmouth, and no doubt we will see him from time to time.

Victoria's time with us has been marked by her leadership of our liturgy and music, alongside her ministry in the Cathedral School. Canon Precentors are key to the life and worship of a Cathedral, and Victoria brought her expertise to that role whilst taking seriously the pastoral needs of the School, and members of the Choir and congregations. Her decision to leave was taken thoughtfully and we all wish her well for the future.

Anna's taken on a new challenge in south London and will leave Exeter over the summer. She is taking a well-earned sabbatical from the beginning of June to prepare for her new role. Anna served as the Diocesan Missioner with a part-time role with us in the Cathedral and then took on the position of Canon Chancellor. She brought her expertise in mission to bear real fruit with us. Sundays @ 7, Holy Ground, the Wednesday Café, and her work in organising education have been transformative in how we serve the people of the city and beyond. We will have to work hard to fill the considerable gap that she will leave. Arthur, her husband deserves a special mention – if I didn't know better I would have thought he was an officer in the Royal Logistic Corp. He must have served hundreds if not thousands of cups of coffee; thank you.

Each of the Residentiary Canons has brought their own personality to the role they have undertaken. Much of their ministry is in public view. Yet there is much that they do which we take for granted and may not be visible. Their combined dedication to the ministry of being a resident Residential Canon will be greatly missed. This is a time of transition for each of them personally, and for us as a Cathedral Community. Please pray for them, and ourselves, as we adjust to the new arrangements over the summer and beyond.

Joining the team during this month will be John Endacott, who is being installed by Bishop Robert at 4pm on the 30th April as a Chapter Canon. John will bring

his considerable financial expertise to the governance role of Chapter. Prebendary Becky Totterdell is being installed at 5pm on the 9th May as a non-resident Residentiary Canon, and will help take a lead with our prayer life and spirituality. The Revd Henry Pryse will be installed as a Prebendary at the same service. Please join us to offer your support at these services if you can.

Revd Anne Dunlop will be joining us as the Acting Chaplain to the Cathedral in May, and will be licensed by Bishop Sarah at a date to be arranged. Please pray for John, Becky, Henry and Anne as they take on their new ministry with us.

Revd Canon Dr Mike D Williams

A Message from the Company of Tapisers

I would like to convey the deep appreciation and affection for Ian Morter felt by the tapisers. As Treasurer and Pastor, he has regularly visited and encouraged us, supported us, given us advice, shown a genuine concern for all our members, and brought a sense of fun to our meetings. His contribution to our work during his time at Exeter Cathedral has been remarkable. Thank you so much, Ian.

We join together to wish you a happy, purposeful, and peaceful retirement.

Diana Symes, Chairman of The Company of Tapisers

Exeter Philharmonic Choir: Elgar *The Dream of Gerontius*

On 20th May 2017, Exeter Philharmonic Choir is performing Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* in the Cathedral. The choir will be accompanied by The Sinfonietta. Soloists are Alison Kettlewell (Mezzo-Soprano), Richard Berkeley-Steele (Tenor) and Quentin Hayes (Bass). This is one of the favourite pieces of Andrew Millington, who will be conducting the work as his last appearance with Exeter Philharmonic Choir.

Tickets (£49-Supper Club; other tickets £22 £17 £12) are available online at www.exephil.org.uk, by telephone on 01392 499211 or from the box office at Exeter Visitor Information and Tickets, Dix's Field, 01392 665885.

Foodbank Collection

The next collection for the Foodbank is on **Sunday 28th May**.

Becky Totterdell



I tend to vary my route each day into Exeter from Bovey Tracey, where I live. One of my favourites is coming down the hill into St Thomas. Suddenly the panorama of the city opens up before you, the two towers of the Cathedral rising majestically above the skyline (with only John Lewis competing for highest point). And, with a mix of glee and disbelief, I say to myself, 'And there's the office!' At least, I *could* say that when working from the West Wing of the Cathedral – it has been rather stretching a point since the DDO office moved to the Gatehouse! There is something iconic about the towers of the Cathedral 'keeping watch' over the city – it speaks silently of the city and surrounding

county being covered by the prayers offered there for its people and their wellbeing. So it is an enormous privilege to be entrusted with a role in the life of the Cathedral as a member of Chapter, and to play a part in contributing to its flourishing. I very much look forward to getting to know everyone who is a part of the cathedral family – whether worshipper, volunteer or employee – and to share in giving a welcome to all who just drop in as visitors.

Coming into ministry in a Cathedral is not something I had ever imagined doing. I was brought up in the Brethren, going to Chapel morning and evening on a Sunday, with Sunday School in between. Dad was an elder there for many years. The Chapel in which we met originally housed a fellowship of Bible Christians. It had been built by my great-grandmother as an alternative centre of worship after my great-grandfather had a serious falling-out with the Rector of the parish church where he had been church warden. I realise that inheriting these sorts of genes has meant that there is quite a strong streak of non-conformity running through me - in the broadest sense. I don't do 'conforming' very well! Except that, like all children brought up in the Brethren, I can sit still for a very long time without moving - a skill honed by years of sitting through very long sermons twice a week!

I am the youngest of four siblings. My parents were dairy farming in the Somerset levels by the time I came along. After school, I went to London Bible College and studied for a BA in Theology, then took a year's post-graduate course to train as a PA. I was then able to fulfil my ambition of moving into book

publishing, working for Scripture Union Publishing as a commissioning book editor, for the best part of ten years. Towards the end of that, I sensed God's call to pastoral ministry and found the doors opening to train for ordained ministry in the Church of England. I trained on a part-time basis at Oak Hill College while continuing as a book editor, and was ordained deacon in 1991, and priest in 1994. After a four-year curacy in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, and a further four years as associate minister in Stevenage, I was incumbent of two parishes just outside Stevenage for ten years. For the latter part of that incumbency, I was also half-time Assistant Director of Ordinands. Along the way I also acquired an MA in Biblical Hermeneutics.

Mike and I were married a few years before I was ordained. He was a teacher, and then moved into the world of university education. Our move to Devon, in 2008, was to make his commute to work at Plymouth University a little more manageable than it was from Hertfordshire!

Each year since taking up the post of DDO in 2010, one of the annual highlights for me in this vast and beautiful building is the Ordination of Deacons, held at Holy Cross-tide in mid-September. Each person being ordained will have spent a year or more working with me or one of the DDO team, exploring what it means to be ordained, sometimes undertaking foundational study, being asked probing questions, being prayed with, and being interviewed by a range of diocesan assessors. And that is all before they are interviewed by the Bishop, attend a selection conference (known as a Bishops' Advisory Panel), and embark on two or three years' training.

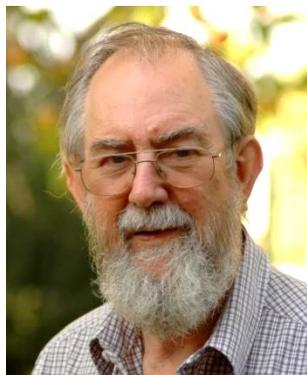
So when they stand before the Bishop on their ordination morning, there is always a great sense of achievement, as well as trepidation (and often astonishment!), on the part of the candidates, and great joy on the part of all who had prayed and encouraged them along the way. Mind you – though ordination marks the end of one journey it does of course simply open the door to another adventure.

In this season of Eastertide, discipleship is something that keeps coming to our attention through the readings. When we answer that call, 'Follow me', we have no idea where it will lead. As our ordination candidates look back over their journeys, and I look back on mine, I think we are all surprised to find ourselves where we are. Yet all of us remain 'works in progress' - God hasn't finished with us yet! But as all of us journey together, we will find that God is good, loving and faithful in equipping us to do what he calls us to do.

Becky Totterdell

Prideaux Lectures 2017: 2nd May at 7pm in the Cathedral

3rd May at 7pm Xfi Henderson Lecture Theatre, Exeter University



We are delighted to welcome the distinguished South African Theologian John de Gruchy to deliver two lectures on the theme of Christian response to political crisis. The Prideaux Lectures are a unique collaboration between the Cathedral, the Diocese and the University of Exeter. They were instituted under the Will of the late Canon S P T Prideaux in memory of Bishop John Prideaux of Worcester. John Prideaux was born at Stowford, Devon, one of twelve children of a local farmer. He walked to Oxford, where he became first a servant, then a student, fellow, and Rector of Exeter College! He

was later Vice-Chancellor and Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, and was appointed Bishop of Worcester shortly before the outbreak of the English civil war.

It is particularly appropriate, then, that this year's lecturer has served both university and church: John de Gruchy is an ordained minister in the United Congregational Church, and served two congregations before working for the South African Council of Churches. He then took up a post in the University of Cape Town, eventually becoming Robert Selby Taylor Professor of Christian Studies. Like John Prideaux, he has lived through times of serious civil division and political unrest: John de Gruchy has used his scholarship to engage in the work of reconciliation and social justice and to reflect theologically on a wide range of political and social issues both in South Africa and beyond. He is a renowned scholar of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German Lutheran pastor and academic who was executed by the Nazis in 1945.

In his lectures, John de Gruchy will offer a Christian analysis of the current times of global crisis and uncertainty. He will probe the relationship between freedom, justice and power, and suggest a Christian response which is prophetic, which offers hope, and which renews a politics for the common good.

Morwenna Ludlow

Free tickets are available from j.w.smith2@exeter.ac.uk or see the Cathedral website for more information

Exeter Cathedral Society of Ringers

Often when you hear the Cathedral bells ringing, it will be for something we call a Quarter Peal. As opposed to a full peal, which takes over four hours to ring on Exeter's heavy bells, a quarter peal is exactly that – a quarter of the length of a full peal, and usually taking just over an hour to ring.

On most occasions, we aim to ring all twelve bells, and a quarter peal is a perfect opportunity for us to build upon our rehearsals over the month, where we have been working to improve our rhythm and striking, or perhaps learning a new method (the tune to which the bells are ringing).

Quarter peals are also a traditional and important way to mark special occasions and events during the life of the Cathedral; thus in May we will be ringing several. These will mark the farewell services of Canon Ian Morter and Canon Victoria Thurtell on Sunday 7th May, Canon Anna Norman-Walker on Sunday 28th May; and finally, on Saturday 27th May, Katie, younger daughter of Carl and Alison Turner (Carl is a former Canon Precentor), will be marrying at the Cathedral, so the bells will sound out joyously after the ceremony to celebrate this happy day.

We hope you all enjoy our ringing for you this month!

Clare Griffiths, Cathedral Bellringers Secretary

Congratulations and Best Wishes.....

- Katie Turner and Adam Dimond, who are to be married on 27th May
- To Robert Higham and June Beere, who are to be married on 6th May
- To Elizabeth Searle, on completing the London Marathon –in 5 hrs 28 minutes 27 seconds

Cathedral Community Committee 9th May

The Cathedral Community Committee will meet on 9th May. The agenda will include the recommendations of the Outward Giving Committee concerning donations from planned giving; the Chapter's proposals for theological and prayerful engagement within the Cathedral Community in the next few months; the amended timetable for the Cathedral Business Plan, Strategic Plan and Self-Evaluation Framework; and a presentation by Cressida Peers on the plans for the Christmas Market. If there are other issues to raise, please email Heather Morgan: hmm53@tiscali.co.uk

The Prayer Book Society: AGM 17th June

The AGM of the Prayer Book Society will be held in the Pearson Room at 2.15pm on Saturday 17th June 2017. The meeting will be followed by an address by Bishop Martin Shaw (formerly Bishop of Argyll & the Isles, and currently Acting Precentor of the Cathedral). His subject is *The Revival of Anglican Religious Communities & the Anglo Catholic use of The Book of Common Prayer*.

This will be preceded at 11am by prayers and a tour of the Cathedral, with lunch at 12.15. The day will conclude with said Evening Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 4pm. The Society will be pleased to welcome both members and non-members to the whole, or to any part, of this event.

Appointment of a new Dean

As part of the process for appointing a new Dean, the Archbishops' Appointments Secretaries will be visiting Exeter on 8th and 9th May. They will consult a wide range of people within the Cathedral, the city, the county and the diocese. This will assist them in determining the needs of the role and the role specification. If you wish to contribute any thoughts in writing, please email Catherine Escott, Acting Chief Executive (catherine.escott@exeter-cathedral.org.uk). An overview of the appointment process can be found at www.churchofengland.org

Farewells: From the Chairs of Chapter and of the Cathedral Community Committee

We will say farewell to Canon Ian Morter and to Canon Victoria Thurtell after the 10am Choral Eucharist on **Sunday 7th May**. Wine and nibbles will be served. We hope there will be a large congregation at the service to mark the considerable contribution they have each made to the life of the Cathedral. A presentation will be made to both of them. Please either send donations to the Finance Department, Cathedral Office, 1 The Cloisters, Exeter EX1 1HS, or deliver them in person to Reception in the Cathedral Office. Please use two separate envelopes, and mark them 'Canon Morter Gift', or 'Canon Thurtell Gift'. Please make cheques payable to 'The Dean and Chapter of Exeter'.

Collections have also begun for Canon Anna Norman-Walker and Dean Jonathan. Please use separate envelopes ('Canon Anna Norman-Walker Gift' or 'Dean Jonathan Gift') and send donations as above. Full details of the farewells for Anna and Jonathan, on **28th May** and **2nd July** respectively, will appear in due course in the Weekly Sheet, the *News*, and on the Cathedral website.

Revd Canon Dr Mike D Williams, Heather Morgan
John Thurmer Memorial Lecture: Thursday 1st June at 7.45pm

St Michael's Mount Dinham, Exeter

The annual lecture in memory of the Revd Canon John Thurmer (formerly Canon Chancellor of the Cathedral) will be given by Dr Bruce Coleman at St Michael's Church, Mount Dinham, on Thursday 1st June at 7.45pm. The subject of the lecture is *The Oxford Movement in Church and Society*. This will be followed by a Question & Answer session. There will be a retiring collection in aid of St Michael's Restoration Fund.

Election Papers

The papers for the elections to Deanery Synod, Cathedral Community Committee and Cathedral Council have now been sent by email and post. If you have not received these and you are on the Cathedral Community Roll you can download them online, or please contact Catherine Escott, the Returning Officer, at catherine.escott@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Congratulations Norman!



Norman Pullen, Head Sidesman, receives the BEM from the Lord Lieutenant.
From John Harris – Sidesman and Steward

I send my grateful thanks to all friends in the Cathedral Community who prayed for me during my recent illness. I'm pleased to say that I have been declared free of cancer, and pray that the remission will continue.

Thank you all again.

John Harris

JR: A Biography

We have received details of a biography of the Rt Revd John Richards, *JR-the Life and Ministry of John Richards, first Bishop of Ebbsfleet*. The author is the Revd John Fairweather (Vicar of Exwick until his retirement in 2006) The book is published by the Additional Curates Society, and costs, £11 including postage and packing, www.additionalcurates.co.uk (0121 382 5533). Many members of the Cathedral Community will remember John Richards, generally known affectionately as "JR". He was Archdeacon of Exeter, and also a Residentiary Canon of the Cathedral.

What's On in May: From Laurence Blyth, Marketing Manager

By now I hope you will have seen the latest printed *What's On* diary for May and June. Copies are available in the Cathedral, around Exeter, and also on the Cathedral website (head to www.exeter-cathedral.org and look under 'News and Events' on the menu).

Without wanting to give too much away, I wanted to draw your attention to some of the things that I'm particularly looking forward to over the coming weeks:

On **Wednesday 3rd May** the acclaimed Albion Quartet (led by Tamsin Waley-Cohen) gives an evening performance of string quartets by Haydn, Schubert and Schumann as part of the Honeymead Festival. That same week we will also mark the 75th anniversary of the Exeter Blitz with a Commemorative Evensong and series of specially-themed guided tours (**Thursday 4th May**).

The Creative Arts

Last year, Chapter marked its commitment to the creative arts by producing a set of guidelines around installations and exhibitions in the Cathedral. One of the purposes of the document was to encourage prospective artists and producers to engage creatively with this wonderful building, enrich the experience of those visiting the Cathedral as tourists or worshippers, and to connect with, and represent, currents of secular culture. May 2017 sees the second ever 'Art Week Exeter' which brings together artists in venues around the city to widen access to, and participation in, the diverse forms of contemporary and traditional art in the city. The Cathedral is a prominent

partner in helping to achieve that brave ambition, whilst beginning to explore our own attitude to the creative arts. I hope that you'll have an interest in, and will engage with, the exhibitions and installations hosted here during that time (please see the list online for detailed opening times):

Stretch 15th-19th May (Nave)

A blank canvas, an electro acoustic harp, minimalist and symbolic in appearance, Stretch is a screen made of hundreds of strands of fine shearing elastic under tension, stretching from wall to wall across the Nave. Its many miles of elastic create a permeable threshold or boundary, radically altering the architecture of the space it occupies.

The sculpture invites interaction, quietly provoking the viewer into physical engagement, to manipulate it, and to discover its potential to transform and be transformed. There are no instructions about what to do or how to be. The viewer makes their own multisensory journey outside in.

Exhibition: Ellen Tinkham College 13th-21st May (Chapter House)

This includes work exploring line, form and colour in a variety of two-dimensional media such as drawings, prints and collage created by young adults with learning disabilities and complex needs.

Ellen Tinkham is an "Outstanding" Local Authority funded special school for children and young people aged 3-19 years, who have severe learning disabilities. All 140 children have a statement of special educational needs.

Hope and Renewal 13th-21st May (Cathedral Green)

In October 2016, Exeter's Royal Clarence Hotel burnt out, leaving a scar that was both physical and psychological. After destruction comes renewal, a theme being explored through sculpture by 'Morth' (Martin Staniforth). 2-3 tonnes of burnt timbers have been taken away from the site to build an organic, emerging, edifying sculpture for Exeter Cathedral Green.

Finally, the **Music Team** have been working hard on two projects of their own. Firstly, tickets are now available for each of the **summer organ recitals** (featuring seven talented performers including our own Timothy Noon, Timothy Parsons and Ed Jones) with the first performance taking place next month. Finally, this year's Cathedral Choir summer concert programme has been announced, bringing together choir, organ, harp and percussion for Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, Roxanna Panufnik *Westminster Mass*, *Finzi Lo*, *the full final sacrifice* and motets by Harris and Piccolo. Tickets are on sale soon.

Further information for all these events is available on the website www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/events or from the printed *What's On* guide.

Laurence Blyth, Marketing Manager

The Diary in May

This is just a selection of the many events in the Cathedral in May. For full details please look at the Cathedral website and the "What's On Guide" leaflet.

- 1st *Philip & James, Apostles*
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist for feast of St Philip and St James
- 2nd 7pm Prideaux Lecture (see page 6)
- 3rd 7.30pm Concert-Albion Quartet
- 4th 7.30pm Concert-Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
- 7th 10am Choral Eucharist; Farewell to Canon Morter & Canon Thurtell
- 8th Chapter Finance Committee
Consultations for the appointment of a new Dean
2.30pm Julian Prayer Group in St John the Baptist Chapel
- 9th Consultations for the appointment of a new Dean
5.30pm Evensong & Installation of Revd Becky Totterdell & the Revd Henry Pryse
7.15pm Cathedral Community Committee
- 11th 9am Chapter Meeting
- 14th 7pm Holy Ground
- 15th *Matthias, the Apostle (moved from 14th)*
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist for the feast of St Matthias
- 20th 7.30pm Exeter Philharmonic Choir-Elgar *Dream of Gerontius*
- 22nd Friends' Council Meeting
Tapisers' AGM
- 25th ***Ascension Day***
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist for Ascension Day
- 26th 12noon Mothers' Union Prayers in the Lady Chapel
- 28th Choral Eucharist; Farewell to Canon Anna Norman-Walker
- 31st *The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth;*
5.30pm Solemn Eucharist

Next Month: Please send material for the June edition by **Wednesday 24th May** to Heather Morgan (01392 877623) hmm53@tiscali.co.uk, and Sheila Atkinson sm.a@blueyonder.co.uk. The other members of the editorial team are the Venerable Clive Cohen, Rosemary Bethell and Laurence Blyth.