



From the Dean

Somehow this year it feels as though Easter is more needed than ever. After so many months of misery, we pray that our Resurrection eyes will allow us to perceive Gerard Manley Hopkins' reality: "The world is charged with the grandeur of God. It will flame out, like shining from shook foil..." - a grandeur and glory made so much more credible thanks to April sunshine and blue skies, the banks of dancing daffodils that line our roads, the lambs prancing in the fields...

And yet...

During the early part of this Holy Week, our devotions were accompanied by Bishop Jack Nicholls, retired Bishop of Sheffield. On Monday, he showed a picture of an icon he had discovered on Mount Athos in Greece: a picture of Mary embracing Jesus in the tomb. What moved +Jack was not just the tragedy which is real whenever any mother buries her son, but more particularly the name of the icon: *The King of Glory*. And so he concluded: "If you want to see the glory of God, you need look no further than this woman burying her son."

I find that helpful as I look back over 12 months of lockdown, and 125,000 Covid deaths. For it's easy to overlook the presence, the glory, of God in the ghastliness of the past year. Last week I stumbled across a helpful article in the Yorkshire Post by my former bishop, +Nick Baines. "I am a Christian," he writes. "Christian hope is rooted not in some formula or bargain that protects me from all ills. Rather Jesus plunges his followers right into the heart of material life and all it can throw at us... Christian hope is rooted in the person of God who calls his people to get stuck into the world, whatever the cost. Hope – not optimism – draws us into an uncertain future, but with an acceptance of mortality and a willingness to go beyond fear."

From this perspective, the story of Easter is not the happy ending, but the transformation of the here and now - or rather the transformation of our perception of the here and now, and our re-interpretation of the reality around us. In that sense, Easter doesn't change the fact pattern of what's happening, but changes our relationship with and to it. Our Resurrection eyes will allow hope to flourish, not just in the vaccine and the end to the pandemic, but in the many cares and woes of daily life which we now see shot through with, and transfigured by, nothing less than the Easter glory of Almighty God.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Jonathan Greener

Slow Book Group: *Being Disciples: Essentials of Christian Living* by Rowan Williams

Being Disciples is a short, lively and inspiring book which is full of wisdom. It is described by some as an essential guide for our journey of faith. A slow book group is being planned for those who wish to study this little gem of Christian teaching together. Meetings will take place on the 3rd Thursday of each month between 7.00 and 8.30 during May, June and July. We shall devote our time to reviewing what we have read, sharing insights, seeking answers to questions and above all, reflecting on what our learning means for each of us in our daily effort to live out our faith.

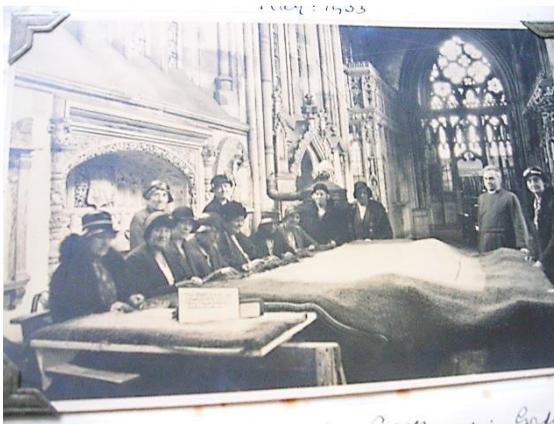
Whether you are relatively new to Christian living or seeking refreshment *Being Disciples* is, in many ways, an ideal book to study together. If you would like to sign up for a place or have any questions about joining please email Revd Phil Wales Assistant Curate (phil.wales@exeter-cathedral.org.uk).

Please buy your copy of Being Disciples from the Cathedral Shop.

The May edition of *Cathedral News*

We hope to publish the next edition of the News on Sunday 2nd May 2021. The deadline for material is **Tuesday 27th April 2021**. Please send any contributions to hmm53@tiscali.co.uk or to any member of the editorial team; Heather Morgan, Rosemary Bethell, Jenny Ellis and Sheila Atkinson.

A little History from the Company of Tapisers



When you think about the work of The Company of Tapisers you probably don't think about carpets! However, the group would not have been established in 1933 if some clergy wives had not come together to make a carpet! The Dean, Walter Matthews, wanted a carpet for the Lady Chapel – a huge task as when finished it measured 17 feet by 11 feet. The clergy wives, under the leadership of the Archdeacon's wife, devotedly stitched on a daily basis in the North Quire Aisle. It took many months to complete.

Eventually, the jade green and saxe blue carpet was finished and installed in the Lady Chapel – to everyone's satisfaction. The Dean praised the efforts of the 'workers' for glorifying God and adding beauty to the Cathedral. The success of this project prompted Walter Matthews to suggest other items could be made: rugs, carpets, kneelers, alms bags, vestments, altar linen, cushions ... and thus began the now 88 years of The Company of Tapisers.

Sadly, the Lady Chapel carpet was destroyed in the bombing in 1942.

Today there are two chapels where you will find carpets stitched by the Tapisers: St Paul's and Bishop Grandisson's chapels. The distinctive carpet in St Paul's leads from the altar rail to the altar: the design lists all of Paul's epistles from Romans to Philemon – and the central panel is lighter in colour, to represent the bright light that blinded Saul/Paul on the road to Damascus. The colourful design on the two carpets in Bishop Grandisson's chapel show arrows – these represent the journey of life as a movement towards God. Look out for these carpets when you next wander around the Cathedral.

The Company of Tapisers would like to wish you all a safe and joyful Easter.

Diana Symes, Chairman of the Company of Tapisers

Year's Mind Book

Last year we offered the opportunity for members of the Cathedral Community to have names recorded in a Year's Mind Book. This is a record of those who have died and who we still remember in prayer each year on the anniversary of their death; their 'Year's Mind'.

Several people responded to that invitation and the book is now being prepared. The opportunity is still open to all those who have a clear connection with the Cathedral, past or present. This means those who qualify to be on the Cathedral Community Roll, whether or not they are actually on the Roll. A request may be made to have the name of a close family member or a Cathedral colleague entered in the book. Those who previously made a request for an entry should have already received an acknowledgement. If you have made a request, have not been contacted or just want to make sure, please use one of the methods of communication set out below.

The names of the people to be brought to mind each week will be printed as part of the weekly intercession list which is included in the service booklets and thus remembered each Sunday. Each day at the offices, when the prayers for the departed are offered, those whose anniversary falls on that day will be named. The Year's Mind Book is for daily and weekly use and is separate from the annual All Souls Requiem. At that time each year we shall still be asking for the names of those to be remembered at the Eucharist.

To request an entry now please send:

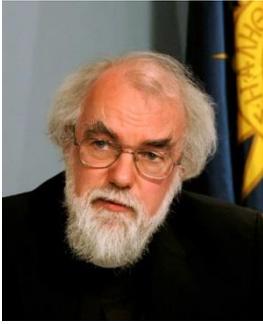
- Your name in full and contact details (telephone number or email)
- Your connection with the Cathedral.
- The name (in Capital Letters) of the person to be remembered.
- The date (dd/mm/yy) of their death.
- Your relationship with the person to be remembered.

To:

Either, david.gunn-johnson@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Or, in writing by hand/post to

'Year's Mind', Liturgy and Music Department, Exeter Cathedral, 1 The Cloisters, Exeter EX1 1HS.



Holy Ground : 'Resurrection Now'

Sunday 11 April at 6pm on Zoom

with Bishop Rowan Williams,

former Archbishop of Canterbury, Theologian, Author, Poet, and more.

We are delighted that Bishop Rowan has accepted our invitation to join us for Holy Ground on the Second Sunday of Easter. This online gathering will be a chance to allow the Easter message of new life to take root in our own lives.

The evening will include worship, Rowan's talk, conversation in groups, and Q&A. Please book for this event at

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/exetercathedral/holy-ground-resurrection-now-with-rt-revd-rowan-williams/e-prgoka>

The Zoom link will be included in your booking confirmation.

Shop Snippets

As you may have already seen in the Service Sheet, we will soon be opening a 'pop up' shop within the Great West Doors and Grandisson Chapel. This allows us to re-open the shop in line with Government guidelines until the Cathedral re-opens to visitors, when we will return to our usual spot. To open a shop on April 12th you have to be directly accessible from the street (which causes a bit of a problem with the shop's current location!), hence this temporary set up. We were very pleased with Chapter's approval to allow us to use the Grandisson Chapel for this short period, giving us a little more space, overnight security, and shelter from the elements.

The 'pop up' shop will be open 11am – 2pm, Monday – Saturday from 12th April until 15th May. We'll have a good selection of stock including **Being Disciples: Essentials of Christian Living** by Rowan Williams ready for the study group, **Tiggs and the Midnight Choir** by Julie and James with accompanying limited edition signed prints, and a few other new bits too.

Now, I realised I promised a big sale in my piece last month, but fear not, this will all be accessible when we are back in the main shop.

We look forward to seeing you soon whether it be for a spot of shopping or a glimpse at the Grandisson Chapel itself!

Alice, Shop Supervisor
shop@exeter-cathedral.org.uk 01392 271354

Patricia Parkin

Patricia Parkin died on 7th March 2021. Her funeral was on 30th March at All Saints, Exmouth. She made an immense contribution to the life of the Cathedral and was a much loved member of the Cathedral Community. We are very grateful to Marian Gilpin and Chris Lethbridge for contributing their memories, to those past and present Cloister Club colleagues who assisted them with their recollections, and to David Peers for this photograph of Patricia with the late Revd Greg Dexter taken at a Cloister Club party.



Marian writes: I first met Patricia in 1991 when we moved to Exeter for my husband to become Director of Ordinands. We attached ourselves to the Cathedral and joined a conference to discuss the future of the Cathedral Laity. One of the topics raised was Children's Work, of which there was none. In a group I outlined what we had done at Tavistock, our previous parish. The Dean, Richard Eyre, must have noticed, and the following day, I received a phone call from him, asking me to start some children's work, mentioning Patricia as a likely colleague, as she had just retired as Head of an Infants School in Exeter. I met up with Patricia soon after to discuss the possibilities. We gathered together a group of potential helpers, and a plan was hatched to open Cloister Club, as it was to be called, for children aged 5-13.

We duly opened on 6 September 1992, and made a good start with about 20 children. We were not allowed to look for children, as the Cathedral is in a unique position because everyone in the congregation lives in someone else's parish, and the clergy of the surrounding parishes would not be happy if we were to poach! That is why we always had a small number of children, mainly those of existing members of the Cathedral. Patricia remained cheerful and determined to make a success of the Club. We arranged trips out for the

children, such as primrose-picking on Maundy Thursday, ready to decorate the Easter Garden, and visits to Pennywell Farm for the Nativity where the children could dress in the characters of the Christmas tableau. It was Patricia who took the lead in arranging such things, always with a big smile on her face. Storytime was an initiative of hers, allowing children from anywhere to come and sit in a big circle and hear stories of the first Christmas, Easter Day etc. This was outreach in the truest sense of the word, as we welcomed all and sundry to bring their children to the Cathedral – some of them being visitors' children who just dropped in by chance to hear Patricia's dulcet tones telling Bible stories. Some of the books she purchased for the children many years ago are still used in storybags for visitors' children to keep them happy during the Eucharist.

We got going, with Patricia sorting out the teaching side and me dealing with any admin and links to the Chapter: by the following autumn Cloister Club was born and in action. There were a few problems along the way, such as where the children should sit in Church, as it was deemed to be important to make them part of the Sung Eucharist on a Sunday morning. Patricia was a welcome colleague and we got on very well together.

We soon established a routine, with Patricia being very willing to organise treats for the children. Eventually the congregation at the 10am accepted the children's presence after the prayer of consecration. When Patricia decided to move to Exmouth in 2010, we very sadly said goodbye to her. We realised how much she had done, when we came to reallocate the jobs to others. Very few people could have done as much for the children. I guess being single helped, but I think her dedication helped enormously in the establishing of Cloister Club. She was and continues to be much missed. May she rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Chris writes on behalf of herself and of Cloister Club colleagues:

I first got to know 'Miss Parkin' (it was many years before I could call her Patricia) as headmistress of Stoke Hill School, which was attended by our daughters. As headmistress, she was always very approachable and caring, and this was further endorsed by her involvement with the children at the Cathedral, which resulted in the present 'Cloister Club'.

She, along with Marian Gilpin, changed the attitude of the Cathedral towards children, making their contribution into something positive and lowering the average age of the congregation. Her commitment to growing and enriching the Club, and providing stimulating resources for the children, was such that we are still using many of them today. At one time, we had two rooms in Cloister Garth, one for the crèche, and one for school age children. Delicate

negotiations were necessary to find places for these groups to take their places in the Cathedral for the end of the service!

Patricia excelled in storytelling, and I always admired her ability to keep a noisy group of youngsters quiet and enthralled in whatever tale she was telling. She introduced 'Storytime' in the Cathedral itself at Christmas and Easter – several different levels of stories were told by helpers around the Cathedral – the great attraction being a clutch of chickens which arrived every Easter. Patricia and Marian were also keen on involving the children in the Cathedral Service itself, so they acquired banners so they could join in with processions, and were also given certain Sundays to read the Intercessions.

In order to achieve all this change, she recruited a loyal band of helpers. One of her many skills was bringing out the best in parents and helpers, encouraging them in their ability to take on roles within the Cloister Club, and even to expand their roles, and this developed into a strong community of fellowship and shared sense of purpose.

Patricia will long be remembered in the hearts and minds of those who benefitted from her quiet counsel, her storytelling, her knowledge and the devotion she showed to valuing children's worth, thus enhancing the lives of many within the Cathedral Community.

From the Cathedral Flower Arrangers

This year, Holy Week and Easter will be different for the flower arrangers. There will be no Easter Garden, nor the usual High Altar of Repose or flowers in every chapel. We are going to have arrangements by the pillars in the Nave, the Easter (Paschal) candle, a pedestal to fill a space prominent on Zoom services and something under the central Nave altar. The few arrangements that were left before the lockdown are looking sad and dusty, so we will strip them out.

We decided as a committee that we must try and return to some normality, so the plan is to arrange silk until June, and fresh flowers and foliage from June 21st at the earliest. Should there be anyone who would like to consider joining us, do let us know. We would love to have a chat with you soon and tell you more about our work. Some of our arrangers are not returning for various reasons, so our total numbers are down and we could do with some more help. Contact via Joseph in the Volunteers Office (volunteers@exeter-cathedral.org.uk) initially please.

Do pray for us as we resume our work in some limited form, so that our beautiful Cathedral looks wonderful dressed for Easter Day, even if it is only the Nave. The team of ECFA wish all readers a Happy Easter - with lots of chocolate eggs!

Flick Evans

Why do you volunteer at the Cathedral?

Last month, we published a request from Joseph Patkai, Special Projects and Volunteers' Assistant at the Cathedral, for volunteers to write to him with their response to this question. We are very grateful to Joseph for sending us, with the authors' permission, these anonymised replies. We will publish the remaining contributions next month. If you would like to respond to Joseph with your answer to "Why do you volunteer at the Cathedral?", it isn't too late! Please contact him at volunteers@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Response 1

The main reason I initially volunteered was because I was retiring from teaching at Exeter Cathedral School and wanted to maintain the close connection I had forged with the cathedral during my years working there. I like having an opportunity to 'give back' to an institution I value very highly. I find interacting with visitors, staff and other volunteers interesting and stimulating. And I love being in that wonderful space!

Response 2

The reason I volunteer with Prayers for Healing is that when I had a very bad accident eighteen months ago, the Group prayed for my recovery. Additionally two members of the team visited me in hospital and when I was confined to my home and gave me support. It was such a help to me that I felt I wanted to do the same for others, hence volunteering.

Response 3

Following 35 years of policing in Devon and Cornwall, I knew that I needed to challenge myself in my retirement in order that I could stay physically and mentally active. I was also keen to explore 'new' things, so about 12 years ago I spent some time at the Exeter Volunteer Bureau explaining what I thought I could offer and seeing what they could come up with and where I could help. I am a 'people person' and wanted to be 'out and about' if possible.

The bottom line is that I trained to be an Exeter Redcoat Guide, I was an historical virgin and found the 6 months training extremely testing but nevertheless enjoyable and I learned a lot about my city. I also met some wonderful people. About 8 or 9 years ago, I became their Chair for two years, and also got involved in training aspiring new Redcoat guides. At the end of my tenure as Chair, I found that I had more time on my hands so was on the hunt for another challenge. I knew several former Redcoats who were guides at

Exeter Cathedral and as the historical aspects of the Cathedral feature prominently in several of their tours it seemed a logical step forward. The conduit that would enable me to broaden my horizons.

My first wife had died (in my arms) shortly after I had retired from the Police service and I'd always known that her favourite place in Exeter was the Lady Chapel, where she would sometimes spend a few minutes in quiet reflection. Although we were both confirmed members of the Church of England and had been raised as such, I don't think that I can in all honesty say that we were fully committed church going Christians.

We led good and honest lives, brought up good and honest children but were churchgoers for weddings, christenings and funerals only (other than my wife's occasional visits to the Lady Chapel).

In my time of need after her death I think I expected more from 'the church', but maybe I wasn't looking in the right places. I would describe myself as an optimistic agnostic.

Well, I have always loved Exeter Cathedral and I applied for training as a guide and was accepted. The wonderful Malcolm Walker (R.I.P.) was my lead trainer and I have never looked back. I love being in the building, 'showing it off' to our visitors and being a member of the family. It's my place of solace and my sanctuary in a turbulent and disjointed world. I have also made some new friends in the Cathedral community, both professional and voluntary.

There is so much 'hope' in the building and quite a lot of humour, if you know where to look for it. I love it when my tour guests are smiling and occasionally laughing as they experience what it has to offer. I learn something about the building on every tour.

I now help train aspiring new Cathedral guides and I hope that some of my enthusiasm rubs off on them. I'm still optimistic.

Foundations in Christian Ministry Training Course

If you would like to go deeper in your Christian faith, and learn more about how you can play your part in the life of the Church in Devon, then this is the course for you! The course is run by the South West Ministry Training Course on behalf of the Diocese of Exeter. It will be held over seven Saturdays from September 2021. It also offers a great opportunity to meet other people and be part of a learning community in which to explore your calling.

[Click here for more information and to apply for this September.](#)



Our Third Cathedral Quiz Evening **Saturday 10th April: 6.45 for 7.00pm on Zoom**

As we enter hopefully into the spring and greater freedom to get out and about again, we thought that as a celebration of Easter we would have our third Cathedral Quiz Evening.

So we invite any members of the Cathedral Community near or far to join us for an exciting evening. You can gather a team of

four who work together (you do this on Zoom without having to be physically together). If you are on your own, we can either include you in a team, or help you to create a team of your own.

The now accomplished quiz personnel, Chris, Louise and Caroline, will help me to organise our Easter Quiz Evening.

What do you need?

- A computer or tablet (iPad or similar)
- Pencil and paper
- Boundless knowledge! (seriously, it's going to be fun not Mastermind!)
- A supply of a beverage of choice – soft drinks are permitted
- Chocolate eggs or Easter Biscuits may be consumed

How do I take part?

- Please register your interest with me as soon as possible on ian.morter@exeter-cathedral.org.uk giving me your email address.
- Tell me the members of your team and please give me their email addresses, or let me know if you want us to create a team for you.
- Nearer the evening I will send you the details of how to log into the ZOOM Quiz and we need to be gathering 15 minutes before the 7.00pm start so we can get the teams in their private 'break-out rooms' so they can confer.

Sadly no prizes can be awarded because of Covid Security, but you will be heralded as the top three teams! You will see and hear your friends from the cathedral community, and you never know you may meet some new faces.

Ian Morter, Priest Vicar



From Chapter and the Cathedral Community Committee

As you may know, Easter Day is the last Sunday at the Cathedral for Tim Parsons in his role as Assistant Director of Music. Chapter and the whole Cathedral Community want to thank Tim for his outstanding contribution to the Cathedral. We hope that as many people as possible will want to contribute to a thank you gift, and will tune in to Evensong on Easter Day, when we shall bid farewell to both Tim and Cressida.

Although we say farewell to Tim and Cressida on Easter Day, it will be possible to contribute to the gift until the end of April.

Please send a donation either to the Finance Department, Cathedral Office, 1 The Cloisters, Exeter EX1 1HS, or donate online to

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SupportExeterCathedral>

If you send a donation by post, please mark the envelope 'Tim Parsons Gift', and make cheques payable to 'The Dean and Chapter of Exeter'. If donating online, please indicate in the space for comment that the payment is for Tim's gift.

Canon Mike Williams

At Evensong on Tuesday 23rd March, the Canon Treasurer, the Revd Canon Dr Mike Williams was licensed to serve at the Cathedral for a further three years.

We send him our prayers and very best wishes, and our thanks for his already immense contribution to the Cathedral and its community.

Thank you from Sylvia

Sylvia Pritchard has asked us to express her thanks to the Cathedral Community for the lovely flowering plants and the beautifully written card, sent to her following her recent heavy fall. She was in hospital for a while, but is now on the mend.

Shirley-Ann Williams RIP

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Shirley-Ann Williams, who died at the age of 87 on 12th March.

Shirley-Ann was a great servant of the church, both in Devon and nationally, for decades and we hope to publish a more detailed tribute in next month's *News*.

Meanwhile, we send our sympathy and our prayers to Shirley-Ann's family and friends. There will be a memorial service later in the year.



Assistant Director of Music

James Anderson-Besant has been appointed as Assistant Director of Music at the Cathedral from September 2021, subject to legal formalities.

James has spent the last four years as Organ Scholar, then Assistant Organist, at St John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 2020 with a starred first degree in Music. In his role with St John's Choir he has accompanied the daily round of services, regular broadcasts, recordings, and tours under the direction of Andrew Nethsingha (former head chorister of Exeter Cathedral), and also assists in the training of the choristers. This year he is supervising Cambridge music students in counterpoint and keyboard skills.

James also enjoys conducting, and has organised and directed performances of Bach's Christmas Oratorio and St John Passion. He has directed the St John's Sinfonia in a Bach Cantata Evensong. James recently gave organ recitals at King's, Queens' and St John's Colleges, as well as Truro and St Albans Cathedrals, and looks forward to upcoming engagements at Stockholm Cathedral and Trinity College, Cambridge. He won second prize at the 2019 Northern Ireland International Organ Competition, and was Organ Scholar for the Charles Wood Summer School and Festival in Armagh, giving him the opportunity to work under David Hill and Philip Scriven. James has also held Organ Scholarship positions with the Cathedral Singers of Christ Church, Oxford, and at Gloucester Cathedral, where he helped to train the first ever set of girl choristers in the cathedral's history.

On being appointed, James said:

I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed Assistant Director of Music at Exeter Cathedral. It will be a privilege to work within the renowned music department and have the opportunity to contribute to the Cathedral's rich and varied musical tradition. Everyone I met at the interview was very friendly and welcoming, and I can't wait to immerse myself in the life of the building and its music-making.

Timothy Noon, the Cathedral's Director of Music, said

We were blessed with an extremely strong shortlist, but James's talent and personality shone through with the iridescence of a thousand suns. We are thrilled to have appointed James and he will be a worthy successor to Timothy Parsons, who leaves – metaphorically speaking – big shoes to fill.

From May to August, Tim Noon will be assisted by the eminent London-based freelance organist, James McVinnie, who brings a wealth of experience to the role, having been Organ Scholar at St Paul's Cathedral, and Assistant Organist at Westminster Abbey.

Elections to Christianity Deanery Synod Cathedral Community Roll

The election of representatives to Christianity Deanery Synod, postponed from last year, must be completed by the end of May. At present, the Cathedral can elect three representatives. They will serve a three-year term. Those elected to Deanery Synods form the electorate for the General Synod elections later this year, and also become members of the Cathedral Community Committee.

Details of the Deanery Synod elections, which will take place in May, will be published as soon as possible. At this stage, it is very important to note that if you wish to stand for election, or to vote in the election, you must be on the Cathedral Community Roll. If you worship or volunteer regularly at the Cathedral, or are employed by the Cathedral and are not yet on the Roll, please complete the enrolment form as soon as possible. We intend to make online and paper copies available after Easter.

It is some time since the Roll was revised, so if you have joined the Cathedral Community recently this notice is of particular importance. Longer standing members of the congregations may wish to check that they are enrolled. If you are on other areas of the Cathedral database, it doesn't follow that you are also automatically on the Community Roll.

New Zoom details for Morning and Evening Prayer

From 31st March, to join Morning Prayer at 9am and Evening Prayer at 5pm, the Zoom codes are:

Meeting ID: 972 8247 6293

Password: 7A3kHQ

Cathedral Community Committee 16th March

With great sadness, the Committee received the resignation of Anne Foreman. Anne made a huge contribution to the work of the Committee over a number of years, for which we expressed our deep gratitude, and she will be greatly missed. Fortunately, her many gifts and valuable experience will remain available to the Cathedral in other areas of our work.

We received a progress report on the Living in Love and Faith Lent courses. There had been high levels of attendance and planning is under way for summer sessions.

Clare Griffiths, the CCC's Safeguarding Champion, reported that she had joined others in that role from other volunteer groups within the Cathedral for an induction session. The role of Safeguarding Champion is to act as a conduit for information and to embed best safeguarding practice. Any safeguarding concerns should be raised with Charlie Pitman, Diocesan and Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, Trevor Jones, Chapter Safeguarding Lead or any member of Chapter.

Turning to the Committee's Action Points for 2021:

Review of the CCC Constitution in time for elections later this year: it was agreed this would be delegated to the Dean, James Hayward and Heather Morgan.

Encourage and Support improved attendance, either in person or online, at daily Morning and Evening Prayer: there was strong support to continue to livestream both Morning and Evening Prayer when they resume in the Cathedral. It is important that we don't lose those who have established new habits of online worship. More teaching about the value of the Daily Office would be very important. Agreed to propose a week of mission as the Cathedral Community emerges from lockdown, the Dean to invite a former colleague to lead this.

Back to Church Sunday: although great uncertainty surrounds future events, we agreed to book a provisional date in September or early October for a lunch to welcome everyone back to church, which we hope to combine with a welcome to new choristers and their parents, and to new students just starting the university term.

To mark the departure of staff who have left or who are leaving: we agreed to liaise with the Cathedral Administrator to confirm those staff who will not be returning, or who have already left, and discuss how best to thank them. Arrangements have been made to say farewell to Tim Parsons, and an event is also planned later in the year for Gordon Pike.

Develop invitation and community for those who have engaged online with the Cathedral during the pandemic. We noted that many of those who had participated in worship and events online in recent months had no previous involvement with the Cathedral or with any other church. We agreed to arrange a joint meeting of Chapter, CCC and leaders of volunteer groups with a keynote speaker to explore how best to welcome this new part of the Cathedral Community.

Revise Community Roll and Elections: Deanery Synod elections must be completed by the end of May. At present, we have three representatives. We agreed that full revision of the Community Roll is urgently needed before elections to the CCC later in the year, when the congregations can feel part of, and engage with, the election process. Meanwhile, we agreed to consider co-options to the CCC, with a view to encouraging people to stand for election.

Heather Morgan, Chair CCC

Thank you Tim and Cressida

Tim Parsons and Cressida Peers will be leaving us after Easter to start their new life in Suffolk, when Tim takes up his post as Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds.

Since he became Assistant Director of Music at the Cathedral in September 2016, Tim has delighted congregations, audiences and online viewers with the technical virtuosity of his playing and his superb musicianship; in accompanying the Cathedral Choir, directing the St Peter's Singers and as a recitalist and composer.

The Cathedral has been part of Cressida's life since childhood when she attended Cloister Club. She was a chorister, and returned to be a highly valued member of staff for many years, latterly as Events and Christmas Market Manager. Cressida has made a huge contribution to the life of the Cathedral over many years.

Tim and Cressida will return to Exeter for their, now twice-postponed, wedding.

We are very sad to be losing Tim and Cressida, both of whom have become much loved and respected colleagues and members of the Cathedral Community. We will miss them. They leave with our thanks, our prayers and our very best wishes for the future.