



Thank you and Happy New Year!

A huge thank you to everyone, staff, volunteers and congregations, for the hard work that contributed to a memorable celebration of Advent and Christmas. Approximately 15,000 people came to services alone during this period, and there were many more who visited at other times. It was wonderful to welcome so many people. It required a terrific team effort to ensure that all the arrangements ran smoothly and that the Cathedral looked at its best, so a heartfelt thank you to everyone.

We wish all our readers, wherever you are, all good wishes for 2023. There are many exciting things to look forward to, including of course Luke Jerram's installation *Gaia* from 1st February. Before that, on 21st January there will be the first opportunity to walk the labyrinth (below), and on 29th January, we will celebrate (a few days early!) the culmination of the Christmas season, at Candlemas, with a Cathedral Community Lunch to which all are welcome.





From the Chairman of The Company of Tapisers

May we wish you all a very happy 2023 – may it bring you good health and happiness.

The Tapisers will continue working hard throughout the year in our pursuit of enhancing our worship of God at Exeter Cathedral.

The items we make take a lot of time, preparation, skill and effort.

Here is a photo of some Textile members working on the banner for the Company of Servers – it's a true team effort, as you can see! We should have it completed very soon now we are restored from our Christmas break!

Diana Symes, Chairman of the Company of Tapisers

The February edition of *Cathedral News*

We hope to publish the next edition of the *News* on Sunday 29th January 2023. The deadline for material is **Tuesday 24th January 2023**. 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. Meanwhile we send to all our readers, wherever you are, our very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

VERY IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a Cathedral Community Lunch in the Cathedral on **Sunday 29th January**. Please make this known to friends and colleagues in all Cathedral congregations and volunteer groups. Everyone is welcome, and in particular there is a warm invitation to newcomers to the Cathedral to join us.

Please look out in the Weekly Sheet and the Cathedral website for further details.

News from the Cathedral Flower Arrangers:

Christmas arranging arrived and I was arranging the lead pillar this year. We had decided months ago that it should be red and gold, and the Dean likes big and beautiful, so we had designed something a little different for the Nave. We re-used some angel wings that six of us had made about five years ago for Advent. Sylvia was pleased, as they cost a great deal of money and time to make. So, we had angels wings with gold heads on one side, with red carnations and anthuriums, which are striking. I had found gold painted wheat and something “bobbly” which we used with soft ruscus. The Dean was there at one stage, and asked if we had a plan? The answer was – not really - we just go with the flowers and foliage, and that works. Sadly, as we were time limited, we were not able to decorate the pulpit this year, but we hope to do so at Easter.

Our plans for this year are rather up in the air until we know which areas of the beautiful building we can access for arranging; though I understand that should be clearer later this month, but arrange we will.

May I, on behalf of the committee and all our lovely arrangers, wish you all a very healthy and happy New Year with many blessings. Thank you all for your support and encouragement.

Flick Evans, Temporary Chair of ECFA

Contemplative Prayer Group

The Cathedral Contemplative Prayer Group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in the St John the Baptist Chapel at 2.30pm for about 45 minutes.

We meet together to share a time of stillness and silence in the midst of the daily life and work of the Cathedral. We begin with a short reading or poem, which leads into the silence.

We welcome any who would like to join us in this prayer fellowship. Our next few meetings are 9th January, 13th February and 13th March.

*“With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of Thy call
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall
As fell Thy manna down”*

Words from John Greenleaf Whittier’s hymn ‘Dear Lord and Father of mankind’

Chrissie Rapsey and Diane Coombes

News from Christians Together Across Exeter (CTaX)

Exeter Turntable www.turntable.org.uk

This local charity will mark its 30th anniversary next year, and is grateful for the support of the community. Donations particularly of beds and white goods are always welcome. They have volunteers through the Probation Service but need a few more to help with the collection and delivery of items on the van, and someone to act as an occasional driver. Then the paid driver can have his day off. Please advertise this need through your networks!

The Trustees are also willing for a church minister to make a referral, so if you know of a family or individual on benefits who need some furniture, please let us know.

Churches Stand at Devon County Show

The Devon County Show is an amazing opportunity to offer Christian hospitality and create a haven of peace in the busyness of the show. There have been so many conversations, both with Christians and non-Christians, over the years, many of which have brought a tear to the eye. The dates for 2023 are Thurs May 18th – Sat May 20th inc.

We would like some younger blood to step up and become part of our teams. Some of the jobs include:

Preparing the site, cleaning the barn, hanging bunting etc on the Saturday before the show. i.e. May 11th.

Joining a team to help serve tea and coffee on any of the show days.

Galvanising their Church to make some home-made cakes to give to our visitors.

Help with the Children's tent and area, subject to qualification.

Joining with our Chaplaincy Team.

Clearing up, and packing everything away at the end of the show. This would be for a couple of hours during the early evening on the last day of the show.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to join our team please contact:

Kathy Govett – Secretary 07855896746 churchesstanddevon@gmail.com

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service 22nd January 6-7pm Hosted at St Matt's Church, Lower Summerlands EX1 2LJ

A time of prayer and blessing for our city, and all who love and serve in it. With pulpit exchanges happening throughout the day and following week, across the city! You can find out more about the theme, from Churches Together England, here: <https://cte.org.uk/wpcu-2023/>

The apophatic way: desiring God in the darkness

The kataphatic way, or *via affirmativa* (see December's News), approaches God through metaphor: God is our rock or shield. But although God's character has aspects of a rock, God is not a rock. God is like a shield, but God is not a shield. God cares for us as father or mother, but God is not a father or mother. The apophatic way, or the *via negativa*, starts with this teaching that God is no thing that we can grasp. The likeness of the immanent God is in every thing that God has made, yet God is also utterly transcendent and beyond.

We can study and read and think about God with our linear, logical, conscious minds. We can use our senses, imaginations, and feelings to approach God. All this is good. But our thoughts about God are not God. They are ultimately finite and constrained. We as finite created beings can never fully comprehend the infinite uncreated Creator.

James Finley of the Center for Action and Contemplation uses a helpful metaphor: if we cannot get the ocean into the thimble [or this subject into one side of A5!], we can drop the thimble into the ocean. So in the practice of contemplative prayer we still our conscious minds, and reach out into the darkness with the desire of knowing and loving God. We offer the least resistance to being overtaken by God, in humility allowing God the initiative.

Our subconscious might be beyond our awareness, but is also rational. At the times when our thinking mind is still, it provides our eureka moments, answers to crossword clues, words on the tip of our tongue, gut instincts, surprising wisdom in difficult situations, and dreams.

This deep mind is where we encounter God, or God encounters us. Many writers have sought to describe it, variously as a "great absence / that is like a presence (RS Thomas), or "a sound of sheer silence" (1 Kings 19), or the Dark Night of the Soul (John of the Cross), or a "deep but dazzling darkness" (Henry Vaughan), or an "incomprehensible certainty" (Gerard Manley Hopkins), or a Cloud of Unknowing (anon). It remains indescribable, but their attempts help us to recognise and persevere in this prayer.

"[T]he darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you." (Psalm 139). We don't necessarily have an experience, but over time we might notice an effect, say increased peace, patience, or desire for God.

Most of all, because God is utterly beyond, God "loves beyond our uttermost", as the hymn to the tune 'O Waly Waly' puts it. God knows us totally, both our light and our uttermost darkness. And God loves us, totally, completely, utterly, and beyond that. The God we desire is the God that desires us first.

Clare Bryden

Devon Historic Churches Trust Bike and Stride

The Cathedral Community raised £515 for the 2022 Bike and Stride, of which half will be donated to the Cathedral. Many thanks to all who contributed so generously.

Slow Book Group: Awareness by Anthony de Mello

“Awareness is Anthony de Mello's best-selling guide to the spiritual life, now firmly established as a modern spiritual classic. It uses humour, compassion and insight to help readers into an understanding of the importance of 'awareness' in order to understand ourselves and the world around us.”

Anthony de Mello SJ was a member of the Jesuit community, and was renowned for his retreats, workshops and seminars on prayer and the spiritual life before his death in 1987.

A slow book group, co-led by Clare Bryden and Revd Phil Wales, is being planned for those who wish to read and reflect on de Mello's writings together. In contrast to previous book groups, this will be a one-off meeting, taking place on Zoom from 7pm-8.30pm on Thursday 9th February.

Places are limited. If you would like to sign up or have any questions about joining, please email Revd Phil Wales, Assistant Curate (phil.wales@exeter-cathedral.org.uk).

Thank you to the Cloister Club for the lovely Jesse Tree they made during Advent.



'How to get a Handle on Handel' – Review of Exeter Cathedral's Performance of 'Messiah': 4th December 2022

Like the Proms, Exeter Cathedral's performance of Handel's masterpiece has become a fixture in the annual calendar that people like to have in their diaries at the start of each year. They have come to realise that if tickets aren't booked the moment they are flagged up, the chances of getting a good seat are becoming a rarity.

It begs the question as to why. There are so many performances of Handel's work up and down the country you could have quite rightly said, ...'Oh no, not another one'... However, when the standard of singing is so high, coupled with the expertise of an orchestra under the baton of someone who knows what they're doing, the ship is held so tightly that all the components come together as one unit making the end result utterly compelling.

This is precisely what happened on this particular occasion. As a member of the audience, I overheard ...'Wow', 'amazing', 'so musical', 'the standard gets higher every year'... These were a sprinkling of the comments that wafted past me. Then there were the other whisperings; ...'how do they do it?', 'did you see how tired the little Choristers looked?', 'will they get their Christmas dinner?'.. and so it went on...

Handel did not compose an easy work, and for a Choir whose commitment to the Cathedral is to deliver services on a daily basis, it was astonishing to see chorus after chorus delivered with confidence, panache, artistry and a glorious sound that reached every gargyle. The final 'Amen' chorus must have come as rather a relief.

It is the conductor's 'lot' to hold body and soul together with the aid of a baton – or hands - but it's that supreme quality of artistry, intuitive musicality and personality that bring together all the artists to perform as a single unit. Timothy Noon, the Cathedral's Director of Music, has all those skills and it was these that produced the magic of the performance. He was given a quartet of soloists that would have been a dream to work with. One has every sympathy for the tenor who kicks off the programme with 'Comfort ye' – a hard and exposed entry for anyone. However, Eamonn Mulhall made it seem a doddle. Tim Mirfin's 'shaking of the heavens' had 700 people quaking in their seats (Mr Mirfin has a voice to die for); the soprano arias were sung with great beauty of

tone by Julia Featherstone – (rumour had it that she was far from well – but who would have known?); last but by no means least, Madeleine Shaw's rich mezzo sound in 'He was despised' brought tears to the eyes.

Devon Baroque is an orchestra that means business. I urge you to hear the players whenever there is an opportunity to do so. The band is no longer to be considered a 'provincial orchestra'. They are now of a standard that would do justice in any situation whether at the Proms or in a recognised concert hall. They play as a tightly-knit ensemble with a good balance and feeling of camaraderie all round. In *Messiah* the orchestra gets no rest while the choir and soloists are lucky enough to have the odd break. After playing so magnificently, they deserved a drink and let's hope they got it!

Now, more than ever, with perpetual Arts Council cuts, orchestras, opera and ballet productions, music schools, Cathedral choirs, not to mention public performances, depend on financial support. But for the generosity of two sponsors, on this occasion the cost of a ticket would have been £100. It's worth thinking about...

Hats off to Exeter Cathedral and all those who took part as let's face it, wielding the baton for three hours of solid Handel must be like steering an armoured vehicle through the desert!

Look out for the date of the next performance of *Messiah* by the Cathedral Choir!

Penny Adie

Morning Prayer on Zoom

I'm writing to share something of my experience of attending the Cathedral's Zoom service of Morning Prayer at 9am every day Monday to Friday. I had been looking for some time to find an online Morning Prayer which would be held every weekday and not too early in the day. I live in Taunton and visit Exeter with my husband, Adrian, quite often, so I thought I'd look at the Cathedral's website. There I found the information about this Zoom service which ticked all the boxes for me and I thought I'd give it a go.

I was met with a lovely warm welcome from those attending and immediately felt comfortable with them. The service is said beautifully usually with four people reading aloud and the rest firmly on "mute" - Zoom doesn't work very well when there are too many voices speaking at once! It was lovely for me to

get back into this daily prayer and to hear very familiar words in the psalms and readings and to pray with a group of people asking God to "hear our prayer".

On 30th October) Adrian and I came to the Cathedral for the Harvest service which was lovely with the beautiful and original harvest decorations on the pillars. I was so pleased to be able to meet most of my Morning Prayer companions after the service. They gave me and Adrian a lovely warm welcome. They have all given me a very real sense of belonging and for that I am so grateful. I hope to meet more people at Morning Prayer - everyone will be welcomed and you don't have to come every day!

To my Morning Prayer friends - thank you for giving me that sense of belonging and for your lovely smiles!

Katharine Smith

*The link for Zoom Morning Prayer is Meeting ID: 99638985011
Password: 1F0puR Tel. 0203 051 2874*

Living and Learning Well Together: A Five Week Study Group Beginning January 2023

Would you like to join with others to learn more about how we grow as Christians? Would you like to reflect on the things which may get in the way of our doing so, and find ways around these obstacles? The Pastoral Principles for Living and Learning Well Together course developed by the Church of England can help us respond to these questions.

The Principles grew out of the Living in Love and Faith initiative, yet, as course participants will discover together, they have a much wider application for all Christians, both in our church family and in the wider communities in which we live. During this course we'll take time, week by week, to explore each of the principles in detail. Through reading, discussion, reflection and worship we'll discover ways of applying the principles in our everyday lives so that we can embrace and overcome our differences, live more fully in the Way of Christ and welcome others into Christ's Kingdom.

The course will be facilitated by Anne Eyre and Phil Wales. We will meet in person on: Sunday 29 January, 5, 12, 19, 26 February between 11.45 and 13.15. Places are limited and it's essential that you are able to commit to each of the 5 sessions. To find out more and reserve a place, please email phil.wales@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Exeter Cathedral does York (at last): 29th – 31st October 2022

One of the joys of bell ringing is that no two churches and no two rings of bells are the same. The Exeter Cathedral ringers tour of York underlined this diversity. The tour was originally planned in 2020, but like many other activities was



delayed for two years by the Covid-19 pandemic. 30 ringers travelled by car or by train, arriving in York on the evening of Thursday 28th October. Some spent the evening in their lodgings, some went to the practice at the Oratory and some went out to hunt for food and drink.

It was half term week, and the run up to Halloween. The city centre was heaving with people. Groups on guided ghost tours of the city, and hundreds of individuals with torches searching in every nook and cranny around the Minster, trying to find one of the 125 “Ghosts” hidden by “The Ghost Merchant” each evening. These little porcelain figures usually retail for between £10 and £25.

On Friday morning, we converged on the church of St Philip and St James, Clifton, for the first tower of the tour. After a good Devon-style raise and call change peal, a variety of methods were rung including York Surprise Minor.

A short drive or brisk walk (for the younger and fitter) saw us regroup at St Lawrence, Hull Road for some very enjoyable general ringing on this very easy-going peal of eight bells. The bells were installed here in 1999 by the ringers of York to mark the millennium. Four of the bells, cast in 1947, were originally hung at the Charrington’s Brewery in London. Interestingly, the original church was demolished in 1883 to make way for the much larger building seen today. However, the tower of the old church still stands forlornly in the churchyard.

After lunch, it was time for some more serious ringing with a peal and four quarter peals being successfully rung at different towers around the city.

Saturday saw us venturing to towers to the south of the city. The Minster Church of St Peter and St Paul at Howden must have been a truly magnificent building prior to the reformation. Sadly, following the dissolution, it became the parish church and fell into disrepair. Although the nave and tower were restored in 1855, the choir and chapter house (the last octagonal one to be built in England) remain in ruins. A fire in 1929 damaged the tower, requiring further restoration work which included the installation of a fine Taylor ring of eight bells.

Selby Abbey is one of the few remaining abbey churches of the medieval period. It was ravaged by fire in 1906 and the peal of eight bells was destroyed. A new ring of ten was installed in 1907 and augmented to twelve in 1997.

The parish church of St Helen in the village of Escrick houses a ring of twelve bells, which were originally hung in St Martin's in the Bull Ring in Birmingham. In 1991 the bells were removed from St Martin's in preparation for the installation of the new ring of sixteen. After a period of homelessness, with numerous plans that never materialised, the bells finally found a new home. In 1997 they were installed in the small tower of St Helen's, where it was a challenge to get all thirty of us to fit in!

The final tower of the day was the Oratory Church of St Wilfrid, back in the middle of York. There has been a church dedicated to St Wilfrid since medieval times. However, in the latter part of the 16th century, the church fell into disuse and was demolished. The first catholic chapel for public worship in York was built in 1760, but the present church was built on a nearby site in 1862. The church was designed in the Gothic Revival style and has been described as one of the most perfectly finished Catholic Churches in England. The tower contains a ring of ten bells. The back eight bells were cast by Gillet and Johnson for St John's Church Thornham in Lancashire in 1938, and were moved across the Pennines to York in 1993. The bells were subsequently augmented to ten in 1995. After a good ring including Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and Bristol Royal, we adjourned to The Duke of York for a most enjoyable group meal.

Sunday morning saw the group divided, with some assisting the Minster band ringing for the morning service, while the remainder rang at St Olave's in Marygate. The bells here were the last peal to be cast by R Dalton of York in 1789, and were restored for full circle ringing in 1988 largely due to the efforts of Ron Dove (of Dove's Guide fame). There is a memorial to him in the ground floor ringing chamber at the west end of the church. Here, the ringing was in competition with a very good choir who were rehearsing at the other end of the church!

After a break for coffee (when we rather over-whelmed the staff of the Harlequin Café), some went to ring a quarter peal at St Lawrence, some supported service ringing at the Oratory Church of St Wilfrid, while others walked the city walls.

Sunday afternoon came, and what for many of us was the jewel in the crown, the chance to ring on the bells of York Minster. Another great set of bells cast by Taylors in 1925. The ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Zanussi Surprise Maximus. While not ringing, many of the group took the opportunity to go up to the viewing platform to watch the bells turning over, and to enjoy the panorama of York from the rooftop.

It seemed like no time at all before we were making our way back to ground level, saying our farewells, and dispersing to our respective destinations. Arranging 16 ringing sessions over three days for 30 ringers (including five quarter peals and a peal) is no mean feat, and we are grateful to our Ringing Master Matthew Hilling for arranging the trip, and to David Hull for his organisation at the York end. Over the course of the weekend, we had rung in churches that had been ravaged by fire, and on bells that had been moved from one tower to another, great reminders that “where there is a will there is a way”.

Phil and Jane Dunn

Christingle



The Christingle Service on 30th November was well attended and much enjoyed as this photo of three of our Cloister Club members shows.

Many thanks to all who helped to make this possible especially to Elizabeth Knox who co-ordinated the team and their efforts.

Peggy Conway

Peggy Conway's funeral took place on 9th December 2022. We are very grateful to Trevor Conway for allowing us to use an edited version of the tribute he wrote, delivered by Canon Chris Palmer during his sermon

Peggy Eileen Purchase was born on 17th October 1930 in Jubilee Road, she had two older and one younger brother. Her father died when she was 17, so she helped her mother with her three brothers. She told me about how she used to play with her brothers and their air rifle, on one occasion shooting her father's boots that were hung upon the shed door; he was not amused.

She left school at 15 and worked at the telephone exchange where she remained for 14 years until she got married. In the evenings she learnt how to drive an ambulance and the joys of double de-clutch. Perhaps this experience had an influence on her quite positive driving style?



She enjoyed dancing at the Ida Tremayne School of Dancing and won several medals. She was therefore asked to help teach new pupils, including one David Conway, who apparently was alright but not brilliant! They later married in September 1958.

She worked as a secretary to Bill Kneel of Kneels laundry and spent her lunch hours walking up West Garth Road to see the progress on the build of number 41, which they moved into and stayed for 53 years.

In 1965 Trevor arrived on the scene and within 6 months there were three other children born in the neighbourhood. One of

the neighbours has told how they remember days out in her Mini, with 3 adults and four children, not something to be attempted these days.

She was a very active person with swimming, keep fit, yoga, tennis and later golf. She really didn't like sitting down and doing nothing and was always on the go.

She was a glass half full person (though perhaps that is not the best metaphor) and had a positive outlook on things, sometimes not based on facts! There was one holiday in Brixham, we were there for 2 weeks, and it rained just about every day. One day it was lashing down. We were stuck in the flat playing cards, grabbing a quick walk if it cleared up. It became a standing joke as Peggy would

be saying “oh it’s not so bad, it could be worse” or “it’s getting brighter”. Well to be brutally honest worse would have looked like a hurricane, and brighter might have been the reflection of some lightning!

It is fair to say that both Peggy and David were very sociable people and joined many groups throughout their lives. In the 1970s they started attending the Cathedral (albeit David had been involved since childhood).

There was an idea to have a wine and cheese party at the Cathedral and from this the Social Committee was formed. Peggy was the secretary and organised the food and drink. Many a Sunday she would hover and pounce on members of the congregation to provide a salad, dessert or other form of food, but they were told what was required. It was very amusing at home and frustrating to David, who worked for a printers and stationery company, that Peggy’s notes were kept on (I quote) “silly little bits of paper” the size of today’s post-it notes, rather than a proper pad of paper.

She kept a small book with a record of every event from 1974 and the last entry is February 2007. This details number of attendees, exactly what food was provided and (in red) a verdict. Here are a few from the first few years :

Dec 1974 wine and cheese – 150 people, Too many satsumas, wine all went

February 1975 pancake party– 100 adults, 40 boys, wine all went, more pancakes or food required for the boys

November 1975 advent party– 185 people White wine all went, 3 gallons red spare (not liked), not enough trifles!

February 1978 pancake party– 150 adults 40 boys, too much batter, all wine and punch used, too many people

January 1979 Chorister’s party – 20 boys. Too much food. Boys do not eat much first two days of term. Only snack food.

It is fair to say that the verdicts improved over time, perhaps we can put that down to continuous improvement.

When they bought Wotton Limited Peggy became company secretary and worked part time looking after the books in meticulous detail. She also enjoyed being a visitor guide at the Cathedral and at Killerton House.

The catering and parties were not restricted to the Cathedral as there was always entertaining taking place at West Garth Road. On more than one occasion people were snowed in, Trevor being turfed out of his bed to cater for unexpected overnight stays, followed by walking in the snow to the Cathedral the following morning.

Peggy always sought a solution and would not be put off. To say she was determined is an understatement, whether it was fitting a ridiculous amount of luggage into a mini, becoming a B&B at the drop of a hat, or, one Christmas when Gordon Pike came to deliver a turkey from his parents' farm. In his Devonian accent he said, "Peggy I've got a problem. You wanted a 16 pounder, but I have got a 27 pound one I can't get rid of; any chance you could have that?" to which the answer was "How the hell am I going to cook it, I haven't got a tin big enough? Oh, alright Gordon!" and so, somehow, it was cooked.

After her knee replacement, she set herself up doing twice as many exercises as she was given, so that she could get back on the golf course quicker. She would not be defeated, and after recovering from a quadruple heart bypass at 85, she quite openly said "Well I am a tough old bird!"

Family was very important to her. Locally there are nieces and nephews and their offspring with whom she liked to keep in contact. Then she loved her trips to East Anglia to see Trevor, Penny and Alexander, of whom she was very proud, and would happily share news with anyone willing to listen.

When they did retire, David and Peggy started travelling further afield both on their own and with their Rotary friends, all of which they enjoyed with wine and laughter.

Having been such social animals all their lives, Peggy did find it difficult when, a week after David's funeral, COVID lockdown came in. This period was tough for many, and she felt it acutely. Yet she still continued with her positive attitude "it could be worse, we could be being bombed."

Though when the World War 2 bomb went off within a mile of her, and Alexander phoned up to ask her about it, "What bomb?" was the reply.

She moved into Cadogan Court in November 2021 and funnily enough was in a corridor named after Bill Kneel. She enjoyed her time there immensely and joined in with many of the activities and found yet more people to chat to.

One lasting memory many of the family will have was last December when, at the age of 91, she attended a family wedding in Oxfordshire. She had a great time as can be seen by this photo, and rather than agree to be taken back to the hotel in the evening, there she was on the



dance floor stick in hand and having a whale of a time – a great lasting picture. It was particularly touching when clearing her room at Cadogan that there was a procession of staff who came to say how much they would miss her. One young carer said, “I loved looking after her, the way she talked to me made me feel very special”.

It is fair to say that she made the most out of everything, glass half full, lived life to the full, always with a smile on her face.

Cathedral Community Committee (CCC)

The CCC met on 13th December. The main points were:

- Update on staff appointments and vacancies
- The Cathedral Community raised £515 for Devon Historic Churches Trust with the Bike and Stride in September
- We agreed 29th January for the Cathedral Community Lunch
- Elections for the Deanery Synod and the CCC in the Spring may have to use the current Community Roll unless the new Cathedral Constitution and Statutes are in force by then. The new arrangements will require a complete revision of the Roll.
- The Canon Treasurer will convene a group to promote Planned Giving and Parish Giving and we approved a paper setting out the purpose and scope of the group.

We next meet on 10th January. Please send any agenda items, questions etc to Ann Barwood, the Committee Secretary at amb@exeter-cathedral.org.uk

Heather Morgan, Chair CCC

Wanted! Labyrinth Volunteers

We are planning to use the labyrinth on six Saturdays during the year, and to invite visitors to the Cathedral to pray with it. We need some labyrinth volunteers to support this ministry, explain a little about the labyrinth, and supervise its use. It probably involves 3 Saturdays a year for 4½ hours on each occasion. If you would like to know more about this role, please speak to Canon Deborah Parsons.

deborah.parsons@exeter-cathedral.org.uk