

# PEPPERPOTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL

## The Very Revd DAVID LEANING

### An appreciation

by Chris Richardson

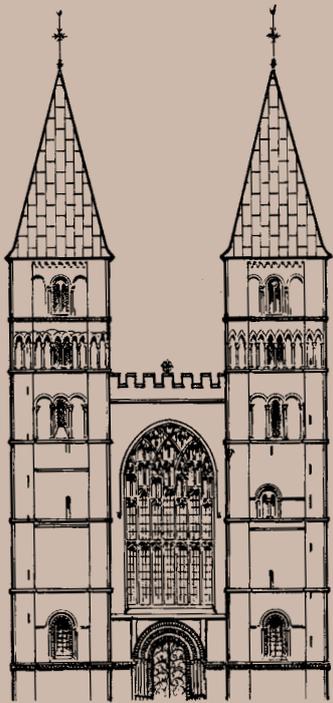
David Leaning was a warm, wise and compassionate priest, a wonderful and clever administrator, a man who, as Provost and later as Dean of Southwell, had a real vision of where the Minster was going and a true and good friend. He retired in 2006 to Lincoln and slipped seamlessly into the chaplaincy of St Mary Magdalene's Church at the top of Steep Hill and close to the walls of the Cathedral. After five years there, he moved to the South Coast and, although leaving his many friends in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, was able to find peace and tranquillity in his final retirement home. It was in Southwell Minster that David undoubtedly exercised his main influence. The general feeling amongst visitors is that the Minster has not changed a great deal over the years. In outward appearances, this may be true, but David did make a big difference, and he started out by setting up a Mission Audit Committee, which he asked me to chair. The report, when it was published, set the tone for his governance of the Minster and, indeed, this document became the basis for the submission to the Cathedral Measures Project in 2000.

David brought changes to the Minster, both within and outside the building. He moved the cathedral shop out of the north transept of the Minster into the refurbished building across the Minster Yard, which had been semi-derelict, and used the rest of the building to create a refectory. He did a lot of work on Sacrista Prebend to convert it into a retreat house for the Southwell Diocese and beyond, and he moved



**David...leaning**

This view was taken in front of Sacrista Prebend at the Friends' Festival on 9 June 2001.



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*Pepperpots*

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the nuns, for whom he had major responsibility, from their Convent of St Laurence at Belper into yet another ruinous building behind Sacrista Prebend. He took over the old Grammar School, made it into the Minster Centre, and brought in the offices from Trebeck Hall so that all the Minster offices were under one roof.

Within the Minster itself, his greatest achievement was undoubtedly the great west window, changing the huge window at the end of the nave from opaque green glass to the glorious stained-glass window that it is now. When this new window was installed in 1996, it was one of the largest stained-glass windows to be put into a church in the twentieth century. This might have been enough for a lesser man, but David went on to commission a sculptor to produce the stations of the cross and then ordering a statue of a pilgrim to be placed on an empty pillar above the door to the pilgrims' chapel.

One would have thought that this would have been enough for one period of office, but further projects included the setting up of an education centre, the inauguration of Time Travelling, allowing some thousands of junior school children to visit the Minster every year and learn about its history and how it functions. David also helped in the setting up of the Southwell Care Project, which is now called REACH, and was a Vice-Provost of Woodard Schools.



Presentation of a retirement gift from the Council of the Friends 8 August 2006.

Throughout his time at Southwell David was chaplain to the Minster School sixth form. Those who wished met in the Residence on one lunch-time per week: David provided the tea and coffee and the students discussed all and everything, and put the world to rights. David also ran for many years the Langton Adventure Centre, taking parties from the Minster (sometimes the choir) and other churches on outward-bound type residential holidays. The Adventure Centre is still going strong under the leadership of David Rodgers, who went on some of the early trips that David organised. In fact, David acted as mentor, advisor and confidante to generations of young people in the Minster and far beyond.

David was brought up in the wilds of Lincolnshire and always regarded himself as a Lincolnshire lad, through and through. He was educated at Brigg Grammar School and Keble College, Oxford, and attended Lichfield Theological College. Ordination followed in 1961, when he was 25, and he was sent, as a curate, to

Gainsborough. In course of time he became Rector of Warsop and received a lot of support from his mother and father, who lived with him in the Rectory. Whilst there, he was responsible for rebuilding a derelict barn, close to the church, and turning it into a well-appointed parish centre. He moved to Kington in the Hereford Diocese, again supported by his mother and father, and made a huge number of friends in his relatively short time there. My wife and I walked down the street in Kington with him, after he had become Provost of Southwell, and he was greeted by almost every other person that we met on that busy street.

David was brought back into Southwell Diocese as Archdeacon of Newark and when his appointment as Provost was announced in the Minster, by Bishop Harris, there was spontaneous applause. This was due to his work as Archdeacon and the support he gave to both incumbents and laity in his archdeaconry. It was work that he continued on a wider scale after he became Provost. His whole aim was to make the Minster a house of prayer and a place of worship and he encouraged anyone to come into the Minster to experience its holiness.

As a friend, David was completely loyal, and fun, and my wife and I were able to spend some wonderful times with him. In the first instance this was 'church-crawling', visiting a goodly number of churches, usually in Lincolnshire, when our days off coincided. Later, we had a number

of short-break holidays together. David was always up early to say his daily office, in such places as the ruins of Rievaulx Abbey, the deserted beach of Dunwich in Suffolk or the wonderful grounds of Osborne House on the Isle of Wight before they were open to the public. He always returned from these solitary prayer outings to get breakfast ready for us and he became very adept at making the toast and brewing the coffee. He became very fond of antique shops and we had to do a trawl of any new town that we visited, to locate such establishments. The last holiday that we had together was at Lindisfarne and we even managed to get David into a small boat to visit the Farne Islands. The trip was made worthwhile for him when we were able to land and visit St Cuthbert's Chapel on one of the islands.

David's first retirement in Lincoln was an exceedingly busy time, but fruitful, and, I think, enjoyable. His chaplaincy of St Mary Magdalene's was almost a full-time job, but he seemed to enjoy visits from us and

*continued opposite*



# ACTING DEAN'S COLUMN

## Canon Nigel Coates writes:

The objects for which the Friends are established are clearly stated in our constitution. We are to seek

*"to promote the restoration, maintenance, repair and improvement of the fabric, ornaments, vestments, fittings, furniture, and furnishings of Southwell Cathedral, and to maintain public worship and music therein."*

It is right and proper that a constitution carefully delineates our aims, but during Time Travelling this year I was reminded of the Breton fisherman's prayer that helped me reflect on them more simply:

*"the sea is so big and my boat is so small."*

The children's experience of the Minster at Time Travelling prompted me to think of how much we can learn from them about the purpose of a cathedral and why we as Friends seek to help through our concern for the fabric.

During Time Travelling several hundred children gather in the Minster. Especially for young children visiting for the first time, it can be an awe-inspiring

experience. In a nave empty of chairs they are encouraged to look high up into the vast roof space perhaps focusing on the outstretched arms of the Christus Rex. In a large church they can feel so small, but there is also a powerful symbol of welcome. Perhaps something of what a small child feels is captured in the famous words of Sir Isaac Newton:

*"I was like a small boy playing on the seashore and diverting myself now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me."*

One purpose of our Cathedral is to point to the vastness of the grace and truth of God that lies beyond us but is focused in the figure of Jesus Christ. The nave roof also reminds us of the upturned hull of a ship. It offers that sense of 'all being in the same boat' with a large number of travelling companions. This too can be part of the child's experience of visiting the Minster with others.

We might recall the welcome Jesus gave to children and his insistence that we need to learn from them if we are to receive the kingdom of God. Through the ministry of Time Travelling children remind us of the Cathedral's purpose to keep alive a large picture of God and a God who welcomes them. Cathedrals point beyond ourselves to a mystery and a love that both humbles and affirms us and big gatherings remind us that we need a sense of belonging to a larger community that seeks to follow Christ.

The Christus Rex is but one example of a project supported by Friends, but general maintenance is part of our mission and children remind us of our primary purpose. Thank you for your support.

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many other old friends. We came to know the pubs and other eating places around the top end of Lincoln and out into the surrounding countryside very well.

Some two and a half years ago he announced that he would be selling his house and moving away from Lincoln. His friends all thought that he would be returning to his roots in North Lincolnshire and it came as rather a shock when he told us he would be moving

to the South Coast, an area that he did not know at all. He purchased a small bungalow in Fishbourne and worshipped in the parish church at Bosham. He was a regular attender at the 8.00a.m. service and settled happily by the sea. He re-established contact with a godson, who ran a small antique business, and enjoyed his last years visiting Antique Fairs and helping with the business.

## Commemoration

The funeral took place on 8 September where he worshipped in retirement, Bosham Parish Church in West Sussex, followed by interment the next day at Sempringham Parish Church in Lincolnshire. Before that the congregation of St Mary Magdalene's Church, Lincoln, held a memorial service on 16 August to mark his very full retirement ministry there.

To allow people to publicly express their gratitude to God for David's friendship and service, the Minster community extended an open invitation to a number of occasions including:

- + an opportunity to pray and light a candle in the pilgrims' chapel on the day of the funeral and the day of his burial.
- + a reception with light refreshments at 4pm in Southwell Minster on 9 September, followed by Evening Prayer.

# OUT and ABOUT



## Sue Hopkin writes:

Our first event in 2016 will be a visit to Tewkesbury Abbey on Tuesday 10 May. We shall set off from Southwell at 10.00am prompt and arrive in time for a light lunch (soup, sandwiches, tea and coffee). This will be followed by guided tours of Tewkesbury Abbey. Tea and cakes will follow at 4.00pm before we attend Choral Evensong at 5.30pm. We should reach Southwell before 9.00pm.

The total cost, including coach fare, lunch, tea and tour fees will be £30.00. Please send your application form (enclosed with this issue of *Pepperpots*) quickly to avoid disappointment and by 19 March at the latest, including a stamped addressed envelope with your cheque.

Please contact me on 01636 830446 with any queries or with suggestions for future events.



# LOOKING BACK ON 2015

## BOLTON ABBEY PRIORY CHURCH and BRADFORD CATHEDRAL



**Jane Williams writes:**

The Friends' outing to Bolton Abbey Priory Church and Bradford Cathedral on Thursday 7 May was the first such occasion for me and what a trip it was, thanks to Sue Hopkin and her Committee. We were accompanied by the Acting Dean, Canon Nigel Coates and his wife Rhoda for whom it was also a first Friends' outing.

After a smooth drive through lovely countryside by Glyn, we arrived at Bolton Priory Church whose land had been given by Lady Alice de Romille of Skipton Castle to Augustinian Canons in the 12th century. The estate now belongs to the Dukes of Devonshire. Our guide told us about Prior Moone who, in 1520, began work on the west tower which stopped in 1539 during the Dissolution of the Monasteries. Sadly, the Priory was almost completely ransacked.

In 1984, a handsome modern pine roof was installed to close in the abandoned west tower. A crescent moon is carved on one of the supporting corbels to represent Prior Moone and, on the other side, the face of Canon Slaughter through whose splendid efforts the restoration of the church was undertaken in the 1980s.

Through the beautiful 13th century west door we admired the roof with its golden angels and bosses and the gorgeous stained glass windows designed by Pugin. Behind the high altar is a beautiful wall painting of Madonna lilies and six symbolic plants which our guide explained to us.

The Angelus Prayer is usually said at midday, but was postponed from midday till 12.15 for us, so Rhoda and

Nigel recited it as our guide tolled the bell. It was a very special moment before we went outside to look at the ruins of the cloister, choir, refectory and dormitory.

I for one look forward to a return visit to this peaceful place.

Glyn then drove us to the Abbey Tea Rooms for a delicious buffet lunch before we moved on to Bradford.



Friends enjoy a tour of the ruins of Bolton Abbey



**Christine Bowering completes  
the recollections of the day:**

Last year when Sue Hopkin was inviting us to join this year's visit to Bradford Cathedral she said how staggered she had been to note how beautiful the Cathedral is and that we could be assured of a lovely welcome. How right she was! After the grandeur of the surroundings to Bolton Abbey the city centre site of the cathedral was a complete contrast situated as it is on a steep hill surrounded by not very attractive buildings.

After a welcome talk the Dean, the Very Rev. Jerry Lepine, formerly Rector of Wollaton, pointed out that we were in the only Church of England church along with 83 mosques within the inner ring road, and that it had a key role in co-ordinating inter-faith work across the city. The education and visitor officer then gave

us a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation covering the history of the church and highlighting those things which we should not miss on our own personal tours round.

The similarities in our histories became very apparent, most strikingly with the reference to Paulinus and the fact that it was through him Christianity came to Bradford. There is evidence of a Saxon church, possibly destroyed by the Normans in 1066 as Bradford was declared a waste. The next stone church was burnt by raiders from Scotland in 1327 and the building of a new church was started during the fourteenth century and finished in 1508, only to suffer considerable destruction during the Reformation, and to withstand the artillery of royalist troops during the Civil War.

The church was made into a cathedral in 1919 and now it is a lovely and very well cared for building with much to see. We spent a very happy hour looking at and admiring the architecture and the beautiful, mostly Victorian, stained glass windows. There were many

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other noteworthy artefacts, including the painted carved angels supporting the beams of the nave.

There were two outstanding items which I particularly enjoyed seeing, the first was the moving World War I Memorial Window telling the story of the local regiment through the battlefields of France and Belgium and the other was the exhibition of the fine altar frontals, copes and stoles recently commissioned by the cathedral and executed by Polly Meynell. These were in the process of being completed and featured in a recent *Songs of Praise* from Bradford. She has used, where possible,



A new frontal at Bradford Cathedral designed by Polly Meynell

fabrics produced locally as a reminder that Bradford is built on the history of the mill trade. Their modern designs reflect the themes of the liturgical year. Kneelers to match the new frontals to go around the sanctuary rail are hoping to be worked by a group of Christian and Muslim women.

Our visit culminated with a wonderful tea, with delicious cakes provided by the Mothers' Union and the volunteer welcomers of the Cathedral; then Evensong sung by the cathedral choir. We came away inspired. A very happy day.



St Aidan's Chapel at Bradford Cathedral

## MUSICAL DELIGHTS IN THE MINSTER

**Sue Hopkin continues:**

Our second event in 2015 was held in the quire of the Minster on Saturday 5 September. We began by welcoming our new Bishop, the Rt Revd Paul Williams, and his wife, Sarah. He talked to us about his faith and his life so far. Without a note he delighted us with his story, including the day he chose to ask Sarah to marry him – on the Clifton Suspension Bridge. At the point when she said 'yes' all the lights on the bridge went on. He then took us through his developing career before arriving in Southwell and we were able to wish them both, and their three sons, much happiness. They then stayed on for the recital and tea in the crossing where between them they spoke to as many Friends as possible. We were also grateful to the Acting Dean



Photograph by Alison Salter

and Rhoda Coates for making time to join us for the afternoon.

The Musical Delight was just that. Robert Parker on the horn and Anthony Clare at the piano (pictured) gave us a splendid recital. The programme began with German items, led on to French ones and concluded with three twentieth-century pieces by British composers. Each of these was lightly and illuminatingly introduced by Robert Parker. It was a special treat to hear the horn as the principal instrument in a recital.

For those unable to be present the programme was:

Sonata for horn and piano	Ludwig van Beethoven
Nocturno	Franz Strauss
Élégie	Francis Poulenc
Romance	Camille Saint-Saëns
Autumn poem	Alan Bush
Hunter's moon	Gilbert Vinter
Alla caccia	Alan Abbott

Our thanks to the vergers for all their help and to Dwight, Katie and also Jane Griffin, for the tea. As ever the day finished with a delightful Evensong.

On a personal note I was a little anxious about how many Friends would support the event, but in fact I was thrilled that in the end about 80 people attended, the largest gathering at an event in the last 21 years.

# FRIENDS OF SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL

## LIST OF FRIENDS

- Aldred, Dr P.R.  
Aldrick, Mr & Mrs P.  
Allen, Mrs A.F.  
Allen, Mrs J.A.  
Allenby, Mr C.A.  
Allton, Mrs S.  
Anderson, Mr G.W.  
Andrews, Mr A.  
Andrews, The Revd C.F. & Mrs  
Armitage, Miss M.  
Armitage, Miss R.  
Arrowsmith, Mr & Mrs A.M.  
Atkins, Mrs J.K.A.  
Austin, The Revd Canon & Mrs M.R.  
Axtell, Mrs J.A.
- Baird, Ms E.J.  
Baker, Mrs F.P.  
Ball, Miss H.G.  
Balmer, Mr & Mrs E.A.  
Barber, Miss G.  
Barber, Jean, Lady  
Barber, Mrs J.L.  
Barker, Mrs B.  
Barnett, Mrs P.  
Barrow, Mrs S.H.  
Bates, Mr & Mrs M.E.  
Bayes, Mrs R.M.  
Baylis, Mr D.  
Beard, Mrs R.M.  
Beastall, Mr J.H.  
Beaumont, Prof. J.G.  
Bell, Mr D.J.  
Berry, Mrs M.  
Best, Mr S.J.  
Betteridge, Miss M.E.  
Bloor, Mr P.A.  
Bond, Mr G.C.  
Boney, Mr & Mrs S.E.  
Boston, The Revd J.B.  
Boulby, Mrs J.L.  
Bowering, Mrs C.A.  
Bown, Mr S.G.  
Box, Mr & Mrs R.  
Bradley, Miss E.C.  
Bragg, Mrs G.D.  
Bristow, Mr & Mrs W.D.  
Brothwell, Mr I.R.  
Broughton, Mr & Mrs A.  
Brown, Mr A.E.  
Brown, Mrs B.I.  
Brown, Dr C.A.  
Brown, Miss G.V.B.  
Brown, The Revd. Canon M.E.  
Brown, Mr & Mrs S.J.  
Brown, Mr & Mrs W.E.  
Bryan, Miss J.E.  
Buchanan, Sir Andrew & Lady  
Buchanan, Mr R.W.  
Buckland, Mr & Mrs G.F.  
Bunting, The Revd Canon & Mrs I.  
Burchill, Dr J.F.
- Burnell, Mrs S.V.  
Burnham, Mr P.J. & Mr M. Woods  
Burrows, Mrs N.A.  
Busfield, Mr H.M.B.  
Butler, Miss I.L.  
Butler, Mr N.F.T.  
Butler, The Rt Revd P.R.  
Buttery, Mrs P.M.
- Calvert, The Revd Canon J.  
Carson, Mr E.  
Cassidy, The Rt Revd G.H.  
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Charles-Jones, Mr & Mrs J.  
Chetwin, Mr & Mrs D.J.H.  
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Clark, Mr P.W.  
Clarke, Mr & Mrs R.  
Clover, Miss S.  
Coates, The Revd Canon N.J.  
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Cook, Mr & Mrs P.R.  
Cooper, Mr M.L.  
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Coutts, Mr R.T.E.  
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Craven-Smith-Milnes, Mr R.  
Crofts, Mrs F.
- Dakin, Mrs M.  
Dale, Mrs C.T.  
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Darrington, Miss A.C.  
Darwent, Mrs J.  
Davidson, Mr & Mrs M.N.  
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Davies, Mrs J.P.  
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Evans, Mrs K.  
Evans, Prof. M. & G.  
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Everitt, Mr J.M.
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Farrand, Miss R.  
Fethney, Mrs V.A.  
Field, Miss W.J.  
Finney, The Rt Revd J.T.  
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Ford, Mrs M.M.  
Foster, Miss A.S.  
Foster, Mr R.A.  
Fry, Mr A.D.
- Garnett, Mr R.D.V.  
Garton, Mr T.  
Gent, Mr & Mrs R.F.  
Giarmo, Mr T.J.  
Gibbins, Mr & Mrs P.M.  
Gibson, Mr D.P.R.  
Gibson, Miss E.A.  
Gibson, The Revd R.  
Gillitt, Mrs H.  
Glass, Mrs J.  
Godwin-Austen, Mrs D.  
Godwin-Austen, Dr R.  
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Gray, Dr H.C.  
Green, Mr & Mrs P.M.  
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Guyler, Dr C.J.L.  
Guyler, Mr J.  
Guyler, Mrs J.C.
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Hale, Mr P.R.  
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Kirk, The Revd E.C.  
Kirk, Mr P.W.J.  
Kirkland, Mr & Mrs P.S.  
Kirsop, Mr S.C.  
Knowles, The Revd C.H.

Lambley, Mr & Mrs D.  
Lane, Mr P.R.  
Lane Ms S.  
Langford, Mrs M.G.  
Law, Mrs J.  
Lawrence, Mr P.O.  
Lawrence, Miss W.M.  
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Leggatt, Mr C.G.  
Leman, Mr R.F.  
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Littlewood, Mr & Mrs S.  
Lodge, Dr J.S.H.  
Lort-Phillips, Lt Col. and Mrs P.  
Loughton, Mr & Mrs J.P.  
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McKie, Mrs K.

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McNish, Mr F.  
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Moses, The Very Revd Dr J.H.  
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Muir, Mrs B.A.  
Muir, Mr R.K.  
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Muskett, Dr J.A.

Naish, Sir David and Lady  
Nall, Angela, Lady  
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Newbold, Mr J.M.  
Newbury, Mr D.E.G.  
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Norman, The Ven.G. & Mrs J.  
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Nunn, Mr R.A.

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Ratcliffe, Mr K.U.  
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Reed, Mr & Mrs M.  
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# Enrolment Form



Please enrol me as a Friend of Southwell Cathedral (see subscription rates at foot of page).

\* I enclose cash/PO/cheque for £.....

\* I enclose a completed Bankers Order

\* I enclose a completed Gift Aid declaration

(Cheques payable to 'Friends of Southwell Cathedral' please).

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Date.....

\*Delete as appropriate

## BANKERS ORDER

To the Manager..... Bank/Building Society

Full address of Branch.....

Postcode.....

Account No.....

Account Name.....

Sort Code.....

Please pay to: 'The Friends of Southwell Cathedral', a/c number 97113409 at National Westminster Bank, 9 Church Street, Southwell, Nottinghamshire (60-20-15)

the sum of £.....(.....pounds)

on receipt of this order and on every..... day of..... annually until further notice.

Please cancel any existing order in favour of the Friends of Southwell Cathedral

Signature.....

Date.....

## Gift Aid Declaration

Only one person should complete this form.

You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Friends of Southwell reclaim on your contributions in the tax year.

Please inform the Friends of Southwell Cathedral if you cease to pay at this level or if you change your name or address.

I WANT THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL TO TREAT ALL CONTRIBUTIONS I HAVE MADE SINCE 6 APRIL 2000, AND ALL CONTRIBUTIONS I MAKE FROM THE DATE OF THIS DECLARATION, UNTIL I NOTIFY YOU OTHERWISE, AS GIFT AID DONATIONS.

Title.....

Forename(s).....

Surname.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Signature.....

Date.....

# SOUTHWELL MINSTER SERVICES

## SUNDAY

7.30 a.m. Morning Prayer and the Litany (BCP)

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 a.m. Family Eucharist (CW1)

11.15 a.m. Sung Eucharist (BCP)

3.30 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## MONDAY

8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *Sacrista Prebend*

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## TUESDAY

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *Pilgrims' Chapel*

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## WEDNESDAY

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *St Oswald's Chapel*

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

12.15 p.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *Sacrista Prebend*

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## THURSDAY

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) *Airmen's Chapel*

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

9.45 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP) *Airmen's Chapel*

12.30 p.m. Silence and Meditation *Pilgrims' Chapel*

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## FRIDAY

7.30 a.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *St Oswald's Chapel*

8.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

## SATURDAY

8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (CW)

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (CW1) *Pilgrims' Chapel*

5.45 p.m. Evensong/Evening Prayer (BCP)

Visit: [www.southwellminster.org](http://www.southwellminster.org) and click Minster Magazine for variations and more details. Evensong is usually said on Monday and Wednesday, but see the Minster Music List [www.southwellminster.org](http://www.southwellminster.org) and click Music and Choirs

Sunday Club meets weekly.

The sacrament of reconciliation (Confession and Absolution) and the Anointing and Laying-on of Hands are available at any time by arrangement with the Dean or with any other clergy.

The Minster is open every day until dusk or 7.00 p.m.

The diocesan cycle of prayer is used every day, remembering parishes and organisations within the diocese.

Please ring the Minster Office (01636 812649) for details of how to organise a party visit to the Minster and to check service times, which may be subject to alteration.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- Individual members: £15.00 per year
- Joint membership: £25.00 per year
- Senior Citizens or under 18: £10.00 per year
- Life membership: £500
- Businesses: £20.00 per year

# Creating a Garden

## The early days of the new Education Garden



Charlie Leggatt  
Hon. Curator of the  
Archbishop's Palace  
and Education Garden

I will never forget the moment the Heritage Lottery Fund said they were not prepared to support the restoration of the Archbishop's Palace (Great Hall). Equally, I remember despair turning to joy when, in the same breath, they gave their reason as our being too modest in our pitch; go away, rethink and come back with something more ambitious, they concluded!

So we did and – at the second time of asking – we included the strip of land immediately east of the main ruined façade of the Palace. This had been previously an ornamental coppice but, with the roots of the young trees causing possible damage to medieval foundations, we had earlier cut back the line of trees and grassed over the exposed area.

Diana and Emma, our Education Officers, recognised the potential and suggested we ask the Lottery to help us turn this space into a new public garden, with flexibility for educational work. We saw, too, that a new garden could be hired out, thus helping the Palace's self-generated income (as I write, it has been used with immense success for two wedding receptions, a marquee fitting perfectly on the lawn).

So, the archaeological inspections were carried out; a new entrance with steps and ramp built; a path laid along the gable and flower beds created. I think it was Percy Thrower who gave the excellent advice, when starting a garden, of 'a penny for the plant, a pound for the planting'. How lucky we were, therefore, that Brackenhurst allowed us copious amounts of well-rotted horse manure which volunteers and students helped dig in, getting the planting off to a flying start!

Gardens are not created overnight and, of course, mistakes have been made; it was heartbreaking to watch the squirrels munch their way through most of the tulip heads this spring, but I



did not know then that tulip flowers are a squirrel delicacy! Set against this has been the white rose bed establishing itself so robustly, despite a few Cassandras fearing the plants would not get enough light.

No doubt the garden will evolve and change. We are reworking the far section of the main border as a hot bed this autumn to provide some visual 'oomph' - but we will maintain the key concept of the design, reflecting as it does the heritage timeline of the Palace; thus a Tudor knot bed to reference Cardinal Wolsey's stay, a Gertrude Jekyll section to reflect the architecture of Bishop's Manor and so on.

Working with our gardener, Liam Bagguley, I look forward to helping the Education Garden settle down and establish over the next few years; we could not do it without the wonderful support given in so many ways by kind Friends and volunteers. If you haven't yet visited the Education Garden – please do!

## SOUTHWELL CHORAL SOCIETY

Southwell Choral Society have enjoyed a memorable 50th anniversary year which has included a gala dinner, two excellent concerts in Southwell Minster and a workshop with Bob Chilcott as a prelude to the Society's performing his *Requiem* in November.

We are delighted to announce that there is now a new venue for rehearsals, the recently restored State Chamber within the Archbishop's Palace. This beautiful historic room, used by Cardinal Wolsey and King Charles I, will be both inspiring and acoustically excellent.

Southwell Choral Society is a registered charity run by an active and dedicated voluntary committee. We seek to promote music in our community at all levels. The annual music bursary, together with the Peggy Oldham Fund award, provide financial support for promising performers and young composers are supported by the Nicholas Thorpe Composition Award.

We are now welcoming new members to the Society. Auditions are not required. The only prerequisite is a wish to have a go at singing with a large friendly choir. Rehearsals take place on Mondays 7.30pm until 9.15pm under the guidance of Nicholas Thorpe (Director of Music) and Brian Robins (Assistant Conductor). If you wish to learn more please look at our website:

[www.southwellchoralsociety.co](http://www.southwellchoralsociety.co) or contact the Membership Secretary, Brenda McLeisa, at [brendon12@talktalk.net](mailto:brendon12@talktalk.net) or 01636 830548 or our Chair Person, Kitty van der Eijk, on 01636 813143.

## ART OF MARY

A New Year exhibition at the Minster, curated by the Revd Matthew Askey (Southwell Minster School Chaplain) 8 January - 5 February 2016.

A major exhibition of new art on the theme of 'Mary' is to be shown at the Minster. Twenty-two significant contemporary artists have made new works specifically for this ambitious exhibition which will see art shown all over the cathedral, both inside and outside. Timed to coincide with the Patronal Festival of Candlemas at the Minster, the exhibition will be supported by a programme of events and will be open to the public for free. A colour-illustrated catalogue will be available at a nominal charge.

## CORRECTION

Apologies to Dr Martin Duffy who in the last issue of *Pepperpots* was credited with having served on the Council since 1965 instead of 1975.

# FRIENDS' FESTIVAL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

The Friends' Festival of 2015 may claim to have been better attended than any of its predecessors. In the course of the varied programme around one hundred people attended the annual general meeting (and seventy bothered to send their apologies) and more came at other points during the day.



Bishop Harries

The occasion on Saturday 20 June began with coffee in the crossing and by 11.00am the front of the nave was comfortably full to welcome Bishop Richard Harries to speak on the image of Christ in modern art. His easy, yet authoritative style quickly made it apparent that we were to be entranced by a succession of specific examples of twentieth-century work, grouped under such heads as non-European cultures as a

source, suffering, intense personal vision or nature and colour.

These were illustrated by painting, sculpture, glass and other media, some familiar, others less well known. Epstein and Stanley Spencer rubbed shoulders with the stunning Chagall windows at Tudeley (pictured here) and the Rest on the flight into Egypt by Nicholas Mynheer, a stained-glass artist shortly to be represented in the Minster. Most listeners would have been enabled to put one or more pieces they recognised into the wider context and found themselves making mental notes to pay a visit to see others as a result.

Apart from the quality of the images and their interpretation a very welcome feature



One of the Chagall windows in Tudeley Church, Kent

*continued opposite*

was the length of time that was given to study and reflect on each illustration. This gave the whole lecture a gentle pace without a hint of sluggishness. Many of those present would have made a decision to acquire a copy of the bishop's recent book, *The image of Christ in modern art*, Ashgate, 2013.

We were grateful indeed to Lord Harries for fitting a trip to Southwell into his still busy diary and for launching the festival day with such zest and erudition.

After that tour de force Friends scattered to have lunch in a café of their choice, though the weather was such that we could have had a mass picnic.

The next part of the programme was the annual general meeting, held for the first time in the newly designated State Chamber which proved just large enough to accommodate everyone. The detailed minutes will appear in the next issue of *Pepperpots*, but in the meantime it can be recorded that it lacked the sleep-inducing qualities sometimes associated with such events. Canon Nigel Coates, in the chair for the second year running, set the tone and caught everyone's interest. There were a lot of contributions from the floor and the Hon. Treasurer managed to explain some of the more intricate detail of the accounts.

Margaret Bagguley once again laid on a tea to be remembered, making use of the much

enhanced facilities of the State Chamber kitchen and at 4.30pm it was time for Evensong. The Canon Theologian, the Revd Dr Simon Oliver, preached succinctly on the concept of friendship as exemplified by God and Jesus. It was good to hear him before his imminent removal to the University of Durham as Van Mildert Professor of Divinity. The full text of his sermon can be read at: <http://www.southwellminster.org/saturday-20-june-15-1.html>

The attendance each year at the Friends' Festival seems to suggest that this is a pattern which people find congenial, not least because it encourages the renewal of existing acquaintanceships and stimulates new ones.

## OBITUARY

**Miss Madeline Liles** died on 24 May 2015 at the age of 97. She must have been among our oldest members and had been a Friend for more than 40 years. Her successive careers as a trainee nurse, school secretary, parish worker, Midlands representative of the Bible Society and finally (after retirement) as a Reader at the Minster mirrored very closely the way in which opportunities for women expanded during the twentieth century. The stultifying restrictions which she repeatedly encountered during her thirteen years as a parish worker read particularly sadly fifty years later. Advancing years did not diminish her lively interest in both the Friends and the Minster generally and she resolutely took part in coach outings until very recently.



The Annual General Meeting is about to begin.

## New Friends

We warmly welcome the following Friends who have joined recently:

Miss M Betteridge

Mr & Mrs M Davidson

Mrs E C Herring

The Revd E C Kirk

Mr & Mrs A Paris

Miss J T Robbins

Mrs J Woodhouse

# A CAPITAL CONFERENCE OF FRIENDS

The focus of the Friends of Southwell Cathedral is naturally the Cathedral, which suggests that we are primarily looking inwards rather than beyond the building. This is not the whole story, of course, because our members live in every part of the United Kingdom and overseas and we value their support and interest. This pattern is replicated in every Anglican cathedral in England, even if the size of membership varies greatly from one place to another.

So it is always an eagerly awaited pleasure when it is time to attend the biennial national conference of the cathedral Friends. This is an occasion when the representatives can learn from each other, sometimes be inspired and occasionally realise that they have discovered an insight denied to others.

This time there had been a three-year interval since the last gathering in Worcester which had tried to resolve an appropriate way to establish an umbrella body to ensure continuity between meetings. The Friends of Southwark Cathedral had nobly, and it transpired very ably, volunteered to host the occasion and make all the necessary preparations to encourage and welcome a good attendance. This they did with great skill and imagination. A very helpful feature was the purposeful concentration on the function and activities of Friends. In the past there has sometimes been an unwitting tendency to focus on the cathedrals themselves rather than their Friends organisations.

The attendance at these conferences embraces cathedrals and individuals who are known from previous years and those who appear only occasionally. A gratifying feature of 2015 was the number of new faces, in some cases from the Friends of cathedrals hitherto unseen. This made for a refreshing exchange of views. About 36 people represented some two dozen cathedrals and greater churches. The Southwell Friends financed Roy Pearson and Malcolm Stacey, ably supported at no cost to the Hon. Treasurer by Pearl Pearson and Mary Stacey.

So what happened during the day-and-a-half of the conference? We began arriving after midday on Friday 2 October and had the opportunity to join a lively tour of the cathedral guided by a Southwark Friend who was both knowledgeable and engaging. Then, making the most of a late burst of summer, we were led along Bankside and across the Millennium Bridge to Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral. For most of those attending it was probably a novel experience that the Nunc Dimittis was very quickly followed by a fire alarm which meant that we spent a little while on the steps outside. Though there was neither flame nor smoke, the service was not resumed.

However, having been awed by the magnificence of the main public areas of St Paul's, we were allowed back and taken up to the triforium level to see the library which houses some magnificent old books, including a Tyndale bible. We didn't see that, but an even older psalter was on display.

The Great Model is a remarkable piece of work. It shows Wren's original plan of a Greek cross with equilateral arms. Photos of the interior hardly look like a model. It's possible to walk inside, where the scale becomes "real" in an uncanny way. (We didn't, though!)



Southwark Cathedral

And finally a walk 'home' to Southwark in the dramatic floodlit cityscape for a very satisfying buffet supper in the library. If there seem few signs of studious conferring so far, this was not the case. For most of the time (except during Evensong of course) we were actively engaged in discovering who our fellow delegates were and either pumping them for ideas and opinions or else inflicting ours on them.

The Saturday programme lasted from 9.00am till 10.30pm, so we earned the well presented dinner which was served in the retrochoir of the Cathedral and concluded the formal business of the weekend.

There were *three main sessions* which between them covered a range of issues which were a refreshing change from the topics of previous years. As a reflection of Southwark Cathedral's next-door neighbour we began with a captivating joint address by two officers of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Neil Constable, Chief Executive, and Colin Mackenzie-Blackman, Head of Revenue Fundraising.

They described in some detail the size and scope of their Friends organisation which operates on a slightly larger scale than those of our largest cathedrals. We discovered that we had a number of problems and challenges in common, but they offered some attractive insights into recruitment and retention of Friends and, most appealingly,

*continued opposite*



A view of St Paul's Cathedral from the west gallery



Wren's Great Model of St Paul's.

how to 'help people fall in love' with their theatre or with our cathedrals. The Southwell Friends' Council will be presented with a more detailed resumé in due course and may glean some helpful ideas for future action.

The *second session* was devoted to Friends' insurance and finance. Bruce Crawford of CCLA, which manages investments for charities, religious organisations and the public sector and not least the Church of England, was directed in particular towards treasurers, but since all trustees are responsible for the actions of their charities, it was instructive and necessary for almost everyone in the audience to be alerted to many of the issues raised.

He was followed by Claire Attenborough of Ecclesiastical, the insurance company of choice for the vast majority of churches in England. Her observations on the subject generated an informative exchange of views on insurance matters relating specifically to Friends' functions and activities.

The *final session*, entitled 'Friends: structures and associations' was introduced by Sarah King of the Association of English Cathedrals. She outlined the choice of charity model which Friends might adopt, but was mainly concerned with the option of becoming

a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), a new development since 2012 which was relatively little known except to professionals. She recounted her experiences of setting up such a body with re-assuring detail. It was clear that several of the bodies represented at the conference were already moving in this direction.

The formal discussions closed with a reconsideration of what kind of structure was needed to co-ordinate relations between the individual Friends bodies and in particular the planning and hosting of the well established conference (eight since 2000). The need was fully recognised, but there was overwhelming preference for the minimum of bureaucracy. There was amicable agreement that past practice, which has produced a series of successful and useful gatherings, should be followed. Essentially this could be achieved by mainly electronic communication between the organisers of the previous conference, the organiser of the forthcoming one and the potential organiser of the one after.

Everyone recognised the immense debt they owed to those who volunteered to ensure that these were worthwhile occasions. In particular at this point there was a unanimously vibrant vote of thanks to Kate Dean, the Southwark secretary, to her team and to the very active involvement of the Dean and the Cathedral staff.

Choral Evensong followed, on this occasion in its complete form, and a breathing space preceded the dinner when the Dean, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn, spoke briskly and wittily on four Southwark notables: St Olave, John Merbecke, Lancelot Andrewes and John Robinson.



Some of the Friends' representatives in front of the high altar at Southwark Cathedral. *Photograph by Chris Wright*



Southwark dinner. *Photograph by Chris Wright*

# PEPPERPOTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL



No 42

Autumn 2015

PEPPERPOTS appears in the spring and autumn each year. The copy dates for each issue are the last days of February and August.

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Email: friends@southwellminster.org.uk

For more than 150 years Southwell Cathedral has been overshadowed by the railway viaduct on the approach to London Bridge Station. Only 18 metres separate the tracks from the south-east corner of the building. A more recent neighbour is the Shard, pictured here left of centre. Our photographer, Chris Wright, has managed to disguise the fact that with a height of 309 metres it is six times the height of the cathedral tower.

## LIST OF FRIENDS

New friends are always welcome. If you glance at the list on pages 7/9 and notice that acquaintances or members of your family do not appear, you may wish to suggest that they join. You will find an application form on page 10 or in the Minster or contact the Membership Secretary by email or post – details in the right-hand column of this page.

Unattributed photographs are by Mary Stacey

### THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHWELL CATHEDRAL

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The Friends' website address is: [www.southwellminster.org/friends/](http://www.southwellminster.org/friends/)

Pepperpots is printed on 75% recycled paper

## OBJECTS OF THE FRIENDS

The Friends of Southwell Cathedral exist to bind together all who love the Cathedral Church and who desire to help in preserving for posterity the fabric of this ancient and historic building; in maintaining daily worship therein; and in enhancing its adornment.

## LEGACIES

Over the years many Friends have remembered the Minster in their wills and this has been greatly appreciated.

The following form of bequest is suggested for the convenience of those who would like to make a bequest to the Friends from their estate in their will:

'I bequeath to the charity known as the Friends of Southwell Cathedral (Registered Charity No. 1039131) a sum of ..... pounds (free of legacy duty) or a .....percentage of the residue of my estate and I declare that the receipt of the Secretary for the time being of the said charity shall be good and sufficient discharge for the same.'