



Ripon Cathedral
here for us all

Cathedral News

February 2012

Narthex Project Making Progress



The work on the new glass doors at the Cathedral's West Front started on Tuesday 3rd January and is scheduled to be completed before Easter. The contractors, Anelay's of York, have fenced off their construction area both internally and externally (pictured above).

The inner wooden porch, which was behind the central doors, has been taken down and all three sets of oak doors have been temporarily removed for restoration before being re-fitted.

On the hoarding inside the Cathedral is a series of panels explaining the Narthex Project and showing images of how the new entrance will look. You can also see artist Sally Scott's sketches of scenes from the life of St Wilfrid, which will be etched onto the glass above the new doors.

The Cathedral is open as normal, with all services and events continuing as usual during construction. Access is through a temporary door in the West Front as well as via the North and South doors.

Transcendence

Transcendence is a Multimedia Eucharist, usually held in York Minster or Leeds Parish Church, and now, for the second time, Ripon Cathedral. It is billed as 'An Ancient Future Mass', which utilises contemporary forms of imagery and technology. It aims to be a place where the Church's tradition can be renewed for our contemporary situation. A key element of Transcendence is the mixing of old and new, with plainsong chants over ambient beats, and live video mixing using ancient iconography.



Transcendence: An Ancient Future Mass, Saturday 25th February, 7.30pm



Come and Hear the 'Word of Life'

The series of special 'First Sunday' services exploring the theme of the 'Word of Life' continues in 2012 with services in February, March, May and June. Each service focuses on a particular aspect of faith, and as is usual on the first Sunday of the month, the worship is led by the Cathedral Music Group.

The February service is called 'Newness of Life' and, amongst other things, will feature an opportunity for people to receive the ministry of healing with anointing and laying on of hands. On Sunday 4th March we will be joined by Bishop John, who will lead the service on the theme of 'Life on the Outside'. In exploring this idea we will

be thinking about those who find themselves 'on the outside' in our society. In addition, the service will reflect the fact that many Christians around the world do not have beautiful churches in which to worship, but have to make do and improvise with whatever is available, sometimes even meeting in secrecy. Local representatives of Amnesty International will also have a stall.

The 'First Sunday' services usually have a more relaxed format and aim to be accessible and engaging to people of all ages, including those who may not be regular churchgoers. Families are particularly encouraged, and children are often involved in the service.

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Pastoral letter



After fifteen years in the planning, the West Front doors are taking shape as I write. To the Choristers' joy, and as expected, human bones of long past burials have been discovered and will be returned whence they came. Just a reminder of the centuries this place has been a church. Workshops in Yorkshire and a couple down south are busy cutting and marking glass, restoring seventeenth-century wood, casting and pressing bronze into a huge 'Lego puzzle', all of which will be assembled in time for Holy Week.

This latest and iconic feature of the Cathedral will become the centerpiece of Chapter's transformational work. New lighting, new roof, new electrics, new chairs – all contributing, with the doors, to better attract visitors and bring light to the interior. Not only will folk be able to see into the welcoming Cathedral, but in worship we will be able to see out to the mission field.

If Ripon is to have a viable future as the economy slips into recession, not only do we need an improved infrastructure, but a vibrant economy sustained in part by tourism and cultural events. We believe the new doors will add thousands of visitors to Ripon. The Cathedral will be more welcoming, warmer and brighter.

Our volunteer Guides and Welcomers have undergone training to make sure they are well equipped to offer a Yorkshire welcome, and the Cathedral will continue to offer big services, concerts and events to serve the community and attract new people.

How sad it is, though, that Harrogate Borough Council has decided to charge for Sunday parking – targeting both churchgoers and shoppers alike – hardly the Big Society!

Canon Keith

CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

The Cathedral Newsletter is produced monthly.
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Sign up on the website to receive the monthly eNewsletter

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New Bell for Leper Chapel

By Andrew Aspland

The chapel of St Mary Magdalen, also known as the 'Leper Chapel' has had a somewhat chequered past. The chapel fell into disuse when a larger Victorian church was built on the opposite side of the road. For a while it was even used as a pig sty! When the Victorian chapel was closed in 1989, the original medieval chapel was restored and rededicated.

The history of its bell is no less chequered! Dean Waddilove, who was appointed to the mastership of the chapel in 1792, is said to have appropriated the medieval bell and substituted a wooden bell, which still remains on display in the chapel. After this time a very small bell was hung in the bell-cote but since the restoration of the roof there has been no rope attached to the bell and no means of ringing it! The small bell from the Victorian chapel was rescued when the building was sold, and it spent a number of years lying on the floor. The chapel now had two bells – both unusable.

However, in 2011 that situation was to change. A project was launched to see the restoration of the stonework of the bell cote and, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, a new bell of more suitable size was hung in it. The work was completed just in time



for the bell to be rung for Christmas. The new bell was cast at the bell foundry in Loughborough, where the Cathedral bells were also cast. For the technically minded it is an 18" diameter bell weighing a little over one hundredweight and sounding the note B flat – the same note as the smallest bell in the Cathedral's peal. It is beautifully inscribed with the same motto as its medieval predecessor, *Sum Ego Pulsata Rosa Mundi Vocata* (I that am struck am called the rose of the world) – a dedication to the Virgin Mary.

The new bell will be dedicated by the Dean at 3pm on Sunday 5th February.



On Sunday 8th January, the Cathedral hosted an ecumenical service to celebrate 'Plough Sunday'. Anglican and Methodist rural officers Andy Ryland and Elizabeth Clark (pictured with the Dean) were joined by Bishop James, who blessed the plough. Money was also raised to provide plough and oxen teams for 'Farm Africa'. In his address, Howard Petch spoke of the three characteristics of the plough: commitment, perseverance and hope.

Choir Plans Tour to New Zealand

By Andrew Bryden

The Cathedral Choir is planning a tour to New Zealand in August 2014, where they will sing services and concerts in Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton and Christchurch. This will be the first foreign tour the Choir has undertaken since 2002, and gives us the opportunity to share our wonderful choral tradition with others in a different part of the world. The Choir also hopes to



support the rebuilding of Christchurch, after the devastating earthquake, by giving performances in aid of the earthquake appeal. However, in order to finance the tour, the Choir needs to raise £50,000. In December the Choir raised £1,000 by carol singing at Harlow Carr, holding a raffle, and private donations. A number of fundraising initiatives have already been planned for the coming year as well.

In February the Choristers will have a sponsored sleepover in the Cathedral. The evening will start with Evensong at 5.30pm and after Compline at 9pm the Choristers will bed down for the night in the Nave. The event will close with Choral Mattins at 8.30am on Saturday morning. On Saturday 5th May there will be a Spring Fair and Plant Sale in the Deer Park, whilst fundraising concerts will include a performance of *The Crucifixion* by John Stainer on Palm Sunday.

Perhaps the most novel idea is a Cathedral Cookbook – to be compiled by Andrew Murday, one of the Lay Clerks – which will be published later this year. We are currently collecting recipes; if anyone has any favourites, please do let the music department know.



The Choir also has an 'easyfundraising' account. If you shop online, the Choir can receive donations from the online retailers you buy goods from at no cost to you. Sign up for a free account, it costs nothing but could make a big difference to the Choir. In December parents and supporters raised £100 by using easyfundraising. Please help us raise the necessary funds by attending these events, sponsoring Choristers, submitting a recipe for the cookbook and by using **easyfundraising**.org.uk

The St Wilfrid Lectures 2012 Questions of Right and Wrong

Whether it's the banking crisis or the behaviour of the media, issues in medical ethics, foreign policy or sexual morality – questions of right and wrong are never far from the headlines. But it's not only the big issues in public life that are currently under the spotlight. Personal ethical choices have become a minefield as age-old certainties are threatened by moral relativism, and traditional understandings of social responsibility give way to rampant individualism.

The 2012 St Wilfrid Lectures bring together an exciting range of well known speakers to help us explore the vital questions of right and wrong that affect us all.

Admission free, tickets available from the Cathedral Office.

23 February Clare Short

Aid: Moral Duty or National Self-Interest?

26 April Nick Baines

Mixed Messages: Ethics and the Media

28 June Michael Nazir-Ali

Bio-Ethics and Respect for Persons

13 September Elaine Storkey

Ethical Guardianship: Giving Childhood a High Priority

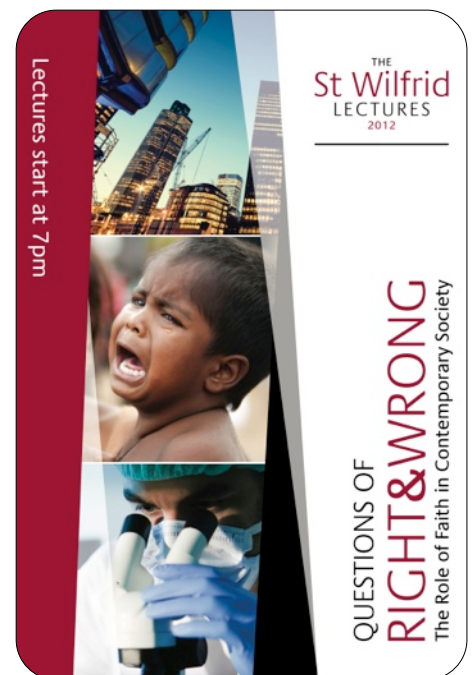
18 October Lisa Isherwood

Christ, Sex and Gender

22 November Peter Vardy

Capitalism: the Root of all Evil?

Lectures begin at 7pm.



Clare Short – Aid: Moral Duty or National Self-Interest?
Thursday 23rd February, 7pm

Clare Short was MP for Birmingham Ladywood from 1983 to 2010 and Secretary of State for International Development from 1997 to 2003. Since 2006, Ms Short has been a member of the Advocacy Panel of Cities Alliance. She is a trustee of Hope Projects (West Midlands) Ltd, Trade Out of Poverty, the Welfare Association, Africa Humanitarian Action, and the Human Trafficking Foundation. She is also a member of the Advisory Committee of International Lawyers for Africa and chairs the International Advisory Board of the Cranfield Masters in Security Sector Management Programme. She is the author of *An Honourable Deception? New Labour, Iraq, and the Misuse of Power* (2004).

Visitor Information



They're Only Pictures

Until 15th February

Ripon Cathedral has a history going back nearly 1400 years. The present church was founded by Saint Wilfrid and dedicated in 672, although it has been rebuilt several times since.

The ancient Saxon crypt – one of the oldest in the country – is the only part of Wilfrid's original church that remains to this day. The Cathedral also has many other interesting features, not least the medieval woodcarvings that decorate the choir stalls, which are believed to have inspired Lewis Carroll, the author of *Alice in Wonderland*.

The Cathedral remains at the heart of the community to this day: a vibrant centre of prayer and pilgrimage, welcoming thousands of visitors every year to services, concerts, exhibitions and other community events.

The Giftshop, open daily, sells a wide range of cards, books and gifts.

Ripon Cathedral is open every day, 8.30am to 6.00pm. Entry is Free.

The Cathedral Parish

The **Cathedral Pastoral Team** offers care and support to the community and parish. They visit the housebound and those who are ill. Home Communion can be arranged.

Life Events: In addition to the regular services, the Cathedral offers **Weddings, Blessings, Baptism, Confirmation** and **Funerals**. There are also a variety of special services such as the annual Golden Wedding Service in June and the Memorial Service every November.

The **Prayer Pyramid** prays for the sick and those in need, especially in an emergency. Tel: 690367 or 602036.

The **Magdalen Fellowship** meets for prayer at the Magdalen Chapel on Mondays at 10am (8pm last Monday of the month).

The **Parish Prayer Group** meets in the Chapel of the Resurrection on the third Monday of the month, 8–9pm.

The **Mothers' Union** meets in the Cathedral Hall at 2pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Froglets (the Toddler Group) meet at the Cathedral Hall on Wednesdays from 12.45–2.40pm.

Children's Church meets most Sundays during the 10.30am service.

The **Youth Group** (for 13–18 year olds) usually meets on alternate Friday evenings, at the Cathedral Hall.

PEGS (the Parish Discussion Group) meets at Thorpe Prebend house on alternate Thursday evenings 7.30–9pm.

The **Cathedral Music Group** rehearses in the Cathedral on Monday evenings from 7–8.30pm.

For more information, please contact the Cathedral Office or the Chapter House.

Service Times

Sunday

08.00 Eucharist (said)
09.30 Mattins
10.30 Sung Eucharist
12.30 Eucharist (BCP)
17.30 Evensong

Weekdays

08.30 Morning Prayer
09.00 Eucharist
also Wed 11am (BCP), Fri 12 noon
17.30 Evensong
(Wed – Evening Prayer)

Cathedral Registers

Newly Baptised

Francesca Miriam O'Sullivan Kirkman

Recently Deceased

Penelope Lawrence
Kenneth Robert Deane
Alastair Thompson, Honorary Lay Canon
Dorothy Pearson

Calendar

All events are at the Cathedral unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 5th February, 10.30am

*First Sunday Service
Newness of Life*

Monday 6th February, 7.30pm

*Cathedral Concert Society
Kariosa Ensemble*

Sunday 19th February, 3pm

*Friends' Lecture
Janet Walker: A Collection of Curiosities
as a Result of Church Crawling
Thorpe Prebend House*

Tuesday 21st February, 11am

*Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Races*

Wednesday 22nd February, 7.30pm

*Ash Wednesday
Solemn Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes*

Thursday 23rd February, 7pm

*St Wilfrid Lecture
Clare Short: Aid - Moral Duty or
National Self-Interest?*

Friday 24th February, 9pm

*Compline
Sung by the Boy and Girl Choristers*

Saturday 25th February

*8.30am Choral Mattins
7.30pm Transcendence*

Sunday 4th March, 10.30am

*First Sunday Service
Life on the Outside*

Contact Details

All numbers are Ripon (01765)

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Music Office 603496
Cathedral Giftshop 601347
Choir School 602134

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