

# RIPON CATHEDRAL

## MAY-JUNE NEWSLETTER



**The Dean:** The Very Revd John Dobson DL  
**Canon in Residence:** Canon Wendy Dalrymple (May)  
Canon Michael Gisbourne (June)

Cathedral Office: 01765 603462  
Website: [www.riponcathedral.org.uk](http://www.riponcathedral.org.uk)

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



## **The Church's Continued Service**

### **Pope Francis**

The recent death of Pope Francis led to an outpouring of genuine sorrow and gratitude from Christians, including countless beyond the Roman Catholic Church, and from many non-Christians. People were impressed by the depth and integrity of his faith in Christ, and by his desire to show Christ's love in acts of kindness and care to those most lowly and marginalized within society. TV images were broadcast of him washing the feet of prisoners, calling to mind the way in which Christ washed the disciples' feet to provide an example of servant leadership. The decision of Francis to be interred at Santa Maria Maggiore, a papal basilica outside the Vatican, suggests that he wanted to be seen to be reaching out even in death.

### **Archbishop of Canterbury**

While the world has lost a great servant leader with the death of Pope Francis, we have been praying particularly for our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters, and especially for those cardinals on whom the responsibility for discerning God's choice of the next pope now rests. This in turn has also brought into focus the fact that we in the Church of England and the worldwide Anglican Communion are also praying for the members of the Crown Nomination Commission who will discern the person being chosen by God to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. And in the period of vacancy at Lambeth Palace, we continue to pray for strength and patience for Archbishop Stephen as he leads the Church.

### **Yearning for the message of the Church**

At turning points in the life of the Church, people naturally reflect on the relevance and value of the Church to society. The Church is growing globally, including in many places in England, and yet in Western society, with a culture which is perceived to be strongly secular, the mission and message of the Church can be seen to be anachronistic. This leaves even many of the faithful concluding that we are simply

‘hanging on’, with little confidence in the possibility of revival. And yet the commentary of much of the media around the time of the pope’s death reflects an underlying yearning for the depth of spirituality, and related hope and meaning for life, which the Church has to share. Perhaps it is time for the Church to acknowledge this more obviously, showing a greater confidence that it remains Christ’s precious gift to the world; a gift which is intended to help the Lord’s Prayer be fulfilled - ‘Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.’

## **Christian influence persists after 2,000 years**

And perhaps there are more grounds for confidence than even we in the Church often appreciate. In his great tome, *Dominion*, Tom Holland traces the history of western, and more latterly global, thought over the past two thousand years. He illustrates how many underlying values and ethical principles are Christian. So, whether people regard themselves to be Christian or not, what they regard as being fundamentally good and right is influenced by Christ’s teaching, as seen in scripture, and the teaching of the Church through the ages. And it would seem that many leaders in the realms of politics, banking, commerce, industry and so forth are only too willing to be prompted and inspired by the Church to reflect on the purpose of their endeavours and the values they need to embrace to be a blessing to society – adding value to social capital.

## **Mark Carney**

In his book ‘Value(s)’, Mark Carney, now Prime Minister of Canada, speaks of the time when, as Governor of the Bank of England, he took part in a seminar in the Vatican. Following the catastrophic failure in the global banking system in 2007/08, participants were asked to consider how the market system could be changed to be something more positive and constructive. Policy makers, business people, academics, labour leaders and charity workers were amongst those taking part.

They were surprised when the pope joined them for lunch; he told them a parable. They would be having wine with lunch. Mark Carney recalls the pope telling them, ‘This is many things. It has a bouquet, colour and richness of taste that all complement the food. It has alcohol that can enliven the mind. Wine enriches all our senses.’

## **The market and Christian principles**

And the pope continued, ‘At the end of our feast, we will have grappa. Grappa is one thing: alcohol. Grappa is wine distilled.’

And he went on, ‘Humanity is many things – passionate, curious, rational, altruistic, creative, self-interested. But the market is one thing: self-interested. The market is humanity distilled.’

Then the pope challenged his guests, ‘Your job is to turn the grappa back into wine, to turn the market back into humanity.’

This story, shared by Mark Carney, provides encouragement. There is hope if those engaged with systems of banking, commerce and investment are keen to ensure Christian principles are acknowledged and applied so that 'the market system' serves the common good and helps to build up what might be described as 'social capital'.

## **Church for the world**

Despite this being aided by Christian values which are still commonly held, even if not understood to be Christian, it is undoubtedly the case that the value of Christian values is more likely to be appreciated and taken to heart when the Church introduces successive generations to its message and teaching. This involves sharing in every age the biblical accounts of Jesus Christ and the good news of the gospel. The thrust of the whole of scripture is seen to speak of a loving, creating, redeeming God who wants the best for all his children.

Seen in this way, the Church does not share the gospel to save and serve itself, to build up its strength for its own benefit. It is not to be like some market system which has become so self-interested that it has lost its humanity and its central mission to serve the whole of society. The sharing of the gospel, including the teaching and life of the Church, is Christ's precious gift for the sake of the whole world, given so that all God's children can enjoy fulness of life.

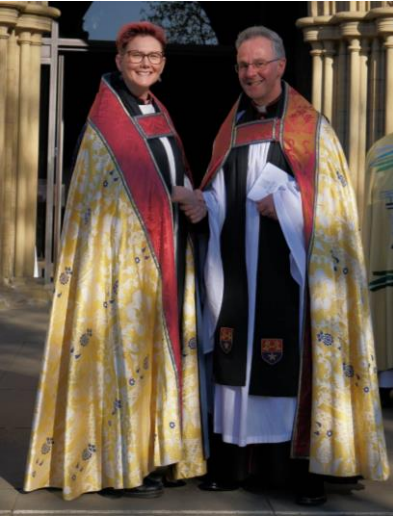
## **Quiet Revival**

More evidence for confidence in the Church's mission in the 21<sup>st</sup> century comes from the recent report, *Quiet Revival*. Commissioned by the Bible Society, it shares evidence of how young people, aged 18 to 24, are turning to the Church for meaning and community. One gets the sense that while wanting the Church's teaching to be understandable and relevant to them, they do not want it to be trivialized and trite. Rather, they are looking for a depth of spirituality (that may not be how they would describe it) which helps them to navigate their path as flourishing human beings in a complex world. The world as it is experienced presents confusion and life-diminishing challenge as well as opportunities and blessings. Churches in all contexts need to be equipped to engage with people and respond to their searching questions. This is something we are keen to do at the cathedral, and it was encouraging to see a good number taking advantage of the breadth of groups and nurture material during Lent, and to note that a large number of people of all ages are being prepared for confirmation. We pray for them and encourage them as they look forward to being confirmed by Bishop Nick in June.

With my very best wishes

Dean John

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW CANON PASTOR



Wendy joins us from Canterbury Cathedral where since the autumn of 2023 she has been Precentor, Residentiary Canon Designate and Head of Worship and Events. This followed on from eight and a half years as Rector of the Parish Church of Loughborough in the Diocese of Leicester. During this time, she fostered an inclusive approach to pastoral care and worship, renewed civic and community partnerships and developed a vision for mission through music. She was incumbent of a rural multi-parish benefice in the Diocese of Guildford and has experience of both school and university chaplaincy. She has served as Area Dean, Chair of House of Clergy and on General Synod.

Prior to ordination she was a Youth and Community Worker, working with young people in faith based and community contexts as well as working with Juvenile and Young Offenders inside prisons on behalf of the YMCA. She continues to be passionate about fostering the spiritual development of children and young people. Twenty years ago, she left her sending church of St Helen's in Wakefield to be part of the first cohort of women to be formed for ordination at the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield where she then stayed to serve her curacy.

She has been attending the Christian inspired festival Greenbelt for more years than she cares to remember and remains inspired by the connection between faith, arts and justice. She is married to Chris, a retired police officer, who after a lifetime spent enjoying country sports in his spare time now gets to enjoy shooting and fishing on a much more regular basis. They have three grown up children and two grandchildren who are looking forward to spending time in Ripon.

Wendy writes:

*'After many years away from God's own country we are so pleased to feel like we are coming home. I left what was then Wakefield Diocese 15 years ago and have had a rich experience of ministry which has continued to shape me after some very formative years at St Helen's in Wakefield and then as an ordinand and curate in Mirfield. I am so pleased to be joining the team at Ripon Cathedral and contributing to our life together here and across our diverse diocese. Chris and I are looking forward to getting to know people and setting up home along with working labrador Angus and retired lurcher Thorn. Do please say hello and we shall try our best to remember names!'*

## NEWS FROM WORSHIP & MUSIC

There have been so many positive comments about the music of Holy Week and Easter. I do hope that you were able to experience some of it first hand. From extracts of *Massaino's* Lamentations from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and Plainsong at the start of Holy Week in the services of Compline to more modern Britten and Dove at Easter, there was something for everyone.

The Dean paid heartfelt thanks to Dr Krippner and the whole music team on Easter Day after the main service and I am sure that the round of applause was just a mere hint of the appreciation that we all felt.

This year we were also privileged to hold the Annual Chrism service for the Diocese. The services involved bishops, priests and deacon's renewing their ordination vows and Licensed Lay Ministers recommitting themselves to their roles. With the Full choral Foundation on show, it was a wonderful way for Ripon Cathedral to minister to the clergy. Many clergy, who appreciate music, commented afterwards about what an inspiring service it was. Even those for whom the English choral tradition is not the usual way they worship appreciated the quality.

But the essential work of the church of praying and teaching continues in this Easter season. Day by day and week by week the choir grows in strength. Please pray for the success of the new recruitment drive with new probationers invited to join in September. Dr Krippner will be visiting many schools with the new recruitment video. On top of that we have many special services as we celebrate the Christian story with Ascension, Pentecost and Corpus Christi.

Please continue to pray for the music staff and all in the choir that they may remain engaged and resilient as we journey towards Lent and Easter.

*Canon Michael*

# **Cathedral Choristers: We're recruiting now!**

**We now have chorister places for boys (aged 7-11) and girls (aged 7-14) available for September 2025.**

## **The Cathedral Choir**

The Cathedral has a separate boys' and girls' choir and six professional adult singers who sing during term time and special services. There is no residential choir school: the choristers are educated at a variety of schools in Ripon and the surrounding villages. Weekday rehearsals therefore take place before or after school.

## **Why become a Chorister?**

Choristers benefit from an excellent musical education second to none, at no cost. Every child receives an outstanding and bespoke training by our team of professional musicians, from voice coaches to choir directors. Being a chorister offers children a life-changing opportunity and helps improve resilience, self-discipline and self-confidence.

## **What are we looking for?**

No previous singing experience is required. Prospective choristers need to have a good ear, a spark in their eyes, like singing, and above all want to be a team player. The rest of it is hard work and good fun! Parents need to be willing to commit to the full choral schedule.

## **What's the next step?**

If you know a boy (aged 7-11) or a girl (aged 7-14) who enjoy singing, then do get in touch now with our Director of Music, Dr Ronny Krippner:

[singing@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:singing@riponcathedral.org.uk)



RIPON  
CATHEDRAL

# PILGRIM CELLO 2025

## Meditation on the Seven Last Words of Christ

Performed by Kenneth Wilson

This performance is part of a 2000 mile pilgrimage by bike  
around all English Cathedrals.

The performance includes music and reflective poetry

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025

2.00pm

Donations invited at the concert

All Welcome

Find all services at [www.riponcathedral.org.uk](http://www.riponcathedral.org.uk)



## All 42 English cathedrals. 2,000 miles.

### With a cello. On a bike.

Cumbrian cellist and poet Kenneth Wilson, 66, is known for his mad projects. But perhaps this one – *Pilgrim Cello* – is the maddest of all.

Starting on 18 May, Kenneth will cycle, with his cello, 2,000 miles around all 42 of the English Anglican cathedrals.

It's not just a bike ride, however. It's a pilgrimage, in the ancient tradition of Christian journeying. And it's also a concert tour. Kenneth will be giving a performance of a specially-written *Meditation* in 40 of the 42 cathedrals.

He has already performed the *Meditation on the Seven Last Words* in cathedrals as far apart as Salisbury, Rochester, and Liverpool. The *Meditation* is a moving evocation of Jesus's last hours on the cross, combining Kenneth's short poems with the timeless solo cello music of Bach.

"It's more than a religious work, though," Kenneth explains. "The *Meditation* offers music and poetry that has meaning well beyond that. Even if you've never been in a cathedral before, I hope the *Meditation* – as well as the journey – will speak to you!"

Three years ago Kenneth cycled, with his cello, from Hadrian's Wall to Rome. On that journey he performed in tents, in halls, in the open on the highest paved road over the Alps, and at the Musei Capitolini in Rome. His book, *Highway Cello*, about that journey, was described by best-selling author Christi Daugherty as "an absolute charmer of a travel book." The Dalai Lama called his earlier work, *Orange Dust: Journeys After the Buddha*, "inspirational" and "uplifting."

As well as music and poetry, there is another dimension to *Pilgrim Cello*. As Kenneth explains, "I will also be carrying with me seven iconic paintings by abstract artist Gillian Lever, which vividly illustrate the *Seven Last Words*. They underline the "pilgrimage" element of the 2,000-mile journey, and will be displayed at each cathedral performance."

Full details of all performances can be found on his website,  
[www.kennethwilsoncello.com/pilgrim-cello/](http://www.kennethwilsoncello.com/pilgrim-cello/)

As well as coming to see a performance, Kenneth hopes that some cyclists might be inspired to join him for a bit of a ride as he passes through the area. But if you do, he promises not to ask you to carry the cello!

The *Meditation* consists of JS Bach's beautiful solo cello music, interspersed with poems of reflection on Jesus's last words from the cross. Kenneth will be performing it in Ripon cathedral on **Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 2pm**.

The performance lasts about 50 minutes. Entry is free, with a retiring collection.

## NEWS FROM THE EDUCATION OFFICER

### **Anglo-Saxon STEM (Science, technology, engineering and maths) Workshops**

Tues 11<sup>th</sup> March with Year 6 pupils from Terrington Hall. Pupils explored the Anglo-Saxon Crypt and investigated how huge weights were transferred and how masons constructed the arches. They constructed their own mini cranes as part of this workshop and even solved Anglo-Saxon riddles with Sue and Betty.



### **Easter Workshop**

Also on Tues 25<sup>th</sup> March Year 3 pupils came to explore the story of Easter. Canon Matthew was an excellent Centurion recounting what he saw at the foot of the cross. Pupils were relieved it was Canon Matthew really because he had his glasses on! Wendy B shocked pupils in her role as Jesus turning over the tables of the money changers in the Temple but then they thought she made a very nice Jesus afterwards. Daire used signing to explore betrayal and pupils had to spot the signs of betrayal in the drama of the Last Supper and in the Garden of Gethsemane. Children learnt to sign Resurrection to celebrate life after death and Jesus' presence with us. Children also crafted their own Easter crosses with our Education volunteers and went exploring for signs and symbols around the Cathedral which they loved.

### **Anglo-Saxon Workshop**

On Weds 26<sup>th</sup> March 60 pupils from Holy Trinity School came their teacher Louise Stow shared:

'We had a wonderful time and the children came back with a real sense of the historical significance of St Wilfrid during the Anglo-Saxon period.'

**Exploring the Interaction of Science and Faith at our God and the Big Bang Workshop for Secondary Pupils Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March attended by 59 Secondary school pupils.**

**Prof Paul McFadden, Department of Mathematical Sciences at Durham University Theoretical Physics and Theoretical Cosmology**

Prof Paul spoke to pupils from Nidderdale High School and Queen Mary's School about his work studying quantum theory and how in his work he sees beauty and order that leads him to his own position of faith.

### **Abi Falkus**

Abi graduated from Exeter University with an undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences in 2022, specialising in Molecular and Cellular Biology. She then studied climate science at King's College London, specialising in Geographical Information Science in flood risk map making. She now works full-time for God and the Big Bang and lives in North London.

Abi leads the God and the Big Bang Team touring Cathedrals sharing the compatibility of science and faith through Interactive workshops. The workshops are informative and engaging and equip students with the tools to form their own opinions.

**Francesca Blondell** Francesca has just completed an undergraduate master's in physics at Durham university with a focus on laser physics, researching the development of organic lasing. She is going on to undertake a PhD, also based in Durham, in quantum simulation with ultracold molecules. Alongside studies, she has been actively involved in youth and student ministries.

Combining a love for science and her faith has been a hope of Francesca's since she started taking both seriously at sixth form. This came to realisation through a Radio Maria podcast following the faith journeys of academics and students in the sciences through which she was introduced to God and the Big Bang where she has been leading workshops since March 2023.

Francesca shared how her research into molecules in the lab also has deepened her faith in God.

Huge thanks to all our Education Volunteers who make this work possible.



Year 6 pupils from Terrington Hall

# NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OFFICER

## Children's Church

During March and April in Children's Church we have focussed on the Transfiguration; entered into the wilderness with Jesus during Lent; and thought about different ways to pray, including blowing bubbles as sorry prayers (and as the bubbles pop knowing God forgives us just as quickly!)

## Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday was a particularly fun all-age service, complete with chicken (thanks to a very sporting Victoria Kirkman!) and her brood of chicks!



## Cathedral Club

At Cathedral Primary School we have continued to have lots of fun each week in Cathedral Club. We thought about friendship, encouraging each other with our words; we have built houses out of spaghetti and marshmallows, standing on strong foundations of hope, faith, love etc; and we created labyrinths as we meditated on God's word being a light to



our feet and a lamp to our path. We finished with an Easter egg hunt and Easter crafts!

## Sights & Sounds

Representing Children's Church we had lots of fun and messy activities on offer at Sights & Sounds in March. From swamp gloop (as we thought about the messy beginnings of Creation); to creating sparkly treasure tags as we thought about the kingdom of heaven as treasure.





## Holy Week activity mornings

We had a wonderful time together in the cathedral on Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, hearing the Easter story before creating beautiful Easter gardens (thanks to Freda and Sue!). We also made Easter baskets, Palm Sunday donkeys, and decorated Easter cards and crosses.



## Journey to Jerusalem

On Good Friday some of our Children's Church children performed the events of Holy Week, from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the cross, during a reflective family service. The children spoke and acted wonderfully, especially Sophie Harper as Jesus.

**Thanks as ever go to our wonderful Children & Families volunteers, who give so much of their time and creativity to this ministry.**

**Beth Wickenden, April 2025**



# Children's Church and Little Children's Church

On Sunday mornings (school term time only) during the 10.30 Eucharist, join us for **Bible stories, songs, games, crafts** and **prayer**. New children are really welcome, and we always have lots of fun together!



**RIPON**  
Cathedral

**Children's Church** is for age 6+

**Little Children's Church** is for age 0-6

*(Children under school age must be accompanied by an adult)*

To find out more please contact  
[BethWickenden@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:BethWickenden@riponcathedral.org.uk)

[RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK](http://RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK)



# Inspired by William Morris: Children's craft morning



Join us this May half-term for a William Morris-inspired Children's Craft Morning as we think about telling stories through stained glass!

As always, lots of wonderful crafts to explore and enjoy.

Everyone is welcome. Price per child is £3, which includes all craft materials and refreshments.

To book your place and for further info please email

**[BethWickenden@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:BethWickenden@riponcathedral.org.uk)**

Ripon Cathedral

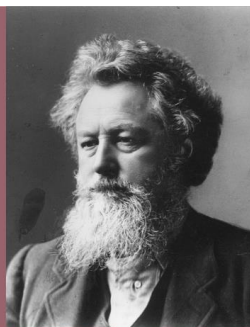
**Tuesday 27 May 2025**

10.30am - 12pm



# Inspired by William Morris

Ripon Cathedral is hosting a series of events that focus on art, beauty and craftsmanship, taking inspiration from William Morris.



## **Stained Glass Exhibition**

**23 April – 30 June 2025**

24 beautifully intricate glass panels reflecting Morris' creativity, social ideals, and intellectual pursuits. Free to enter.



## **Lecture on William Morris & the Beauty of Life 7pm, 19 May 2025**

Dr Ingrid Hanson will explore the radical inspirations behind Morris' vision for a shared and just world. Booking required. £10. Free refreshments.



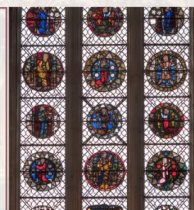
## **Children's Craft Morning 10.30am – 12pm, 27 May 2025**

Crafting, storytelling and refreshments during half term. Booking required. £3



## **Guided Tours 2.15pm, 22, 29 May & 5 June 2025**

Three special guided tours, uncovering the beauty and meaning behind the cathedral's magnificent stained glass windows. Booking required. £5



**Scan here for further  
information and  
booking details**







RIPON  
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# THURSDAY CONCERTS

MAY – JULY 2025

1<sup>st</sup> May  
8<sup>th</sup> May  
15<sup>th</sup> May  
22<sup>nd</sup> May

Louise Wayman  
Voces Seraphorum  
Michael Stoddart  
Students from Leeds University

Soprano  
Choir  
Organ

5<sup>th</sup> June  
12<sup>th</sup> June  
19<sup>th</sup> June  
26<sup>th</sup> June

Llewelyn Blezard-Greenwell  
Students from Leeds University  
The Yorkshire Decibelles  
Young Singers of Ripon

Organ  
Choir

3<sup>rd</sup> July

Jubilate

Choir

1.00-1.50; Refreshments served from 12.30  
Free admission; retiring collection

[RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK](http://RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK)

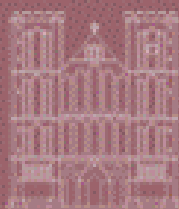


# ASCENSION DAY

## Festal Eucharist

Join us for this special  
celebration

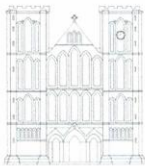
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> MAY  
5.30pm



RIPON  
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40 days after Easter, Christ left  
the earth and returned to his  
Father in heaven.  
Celebrate with us!

[RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK](http://RIPONCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK)



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# GOLDEN WEDDING SERVICE

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025 3.30pm

**Were you married in 1975 or earlier?**

If you are celebrating your Golden Wedding or even a longer time together, Ripon Cathedral warmly invites you to share in this special service of thanksgiving and blessing, to renew your vows and to reflect on and celebrate your many years of married life

If you would like to apply for tickets to attend this unique service (regardless of where you were married or where you are now living) please email [cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk) or tel: 01765 603462 by 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

# THE BELOVED SON

Performed by Andrew Harrison at Ripon Cathedral

Tuesday 1 July 2025, 7.30pm



A powerful solo performance exploring the life of Henri Nouwen—Catholic priest, psychologist, and one of the most influential spiritual writers of the 20th century.

At the height of his academic career, Nouwen left it all behind to join the L'Arche community in Toronto, dedicating his life to people with intellectual disabilities. His journey touches on family, faith, emotional crisis, and the search for belonging.

Was it a step back or a prophetic act of love and courage? The Beloved Son invites you to decide.

Tickets priced at £14 and available from [www.ripontheatrefestival.org/event/the-beloved-son/](http://www.ripontheatrefestival.org/event/the-beloved-son/)

## In Preparation: Discovering Nouwen

Join us for two reflective evenings exploring the life, writings, and core themes of renowned spiritual writer Henri Nouwen - offering insight ahead of The Beloved Son performance.

**Tuesday 13 May – The Return of the Prodigal Son**

**Thursday 12 June – Life of the Beloved**

Thorpe Prebend House, 14 High St Agnesgate, HG4 1QR

Refreshments from 7:00pm | Sessions run 7:30–9:00pm

Led by Revd Dr Rod and Mrs Jan Allon-Smith

All are welcome.

Please book ahead to register your interest:

[cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk) or

01765 603462



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**Theatre**  
FESTIVAL



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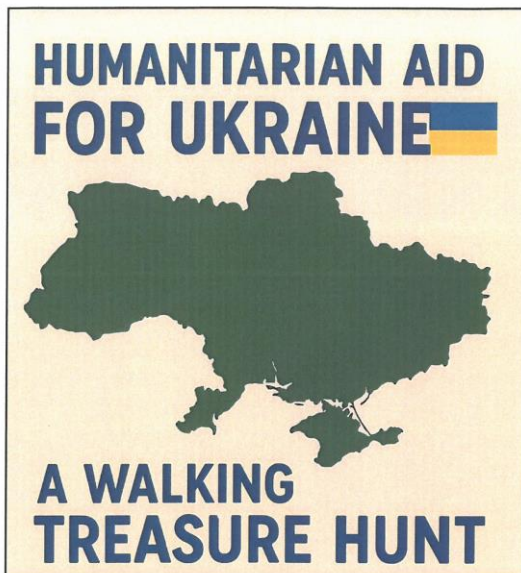


SUMMER  
ORGAN FESTIVAL  
JUNE 2025



03 RONNY KRIPPNER  
10 ALASTAIR STONE  
17 KERRY BEAUMONT  
24 TIM HARPER

TUESDAYS AT 7.30PM



**Saturday 31st May 5-45pm**

Starting at the remembrance garden opposite  
Ripon Cathedral between 5-45 pm and 6-15 pm.

Then

**THE RIPON INN**

**Meal and entertainment included**

**Adults £20 (children £3)**

Tickets contact 01765 603517 or 07507323344

# GROWING GREENER – RIPON CATHEDRAL ENVIRONMENT NEWS

## **GIVING THANKS FOR THE LIFE OF POPE FRANCIS**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of April, millions of people around the world mourned the death of Pope Francis whose clear Christian message had touched many hearts.

In 2013, when he chose Francis for his papal name, Pope Francis indicated he shared Francis of Assisi's passion to care for all creation.

Two years later, in May 2015 he released his major encyclical on the environment, 'Laudato Si' (*Praise be to you*), in time to influence the UN Climate Agreement talks in Paris.

In October 2023, in advance of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28), Pope Francis issued the apostolic exhortation 'Laudate Deum' (*Praise God*) in which he called for decisive action against the climate crisis and condemned climate change denial.

His support for environmental and human justice has inspired and will continue to inspire millions of people around the world. His legacy is to give hope that human actions can preserve and nurture our world for the benefit of all and conserve it for future generations.

## **FEEDBACK from the LENT ECO TALKS**

### **Thursday 13/3/25 – Seeking Sanctuary in Ripon; supporting refugee families**

This event was led by Yvonne Jeffries and Emma Wright with the participation of a local Afghan family. It was a most enjoyable and interactive evening with a real understanding gained of the challenges faced by refugee families and the adaptations they make to be accepted. Over 40 people attended.

### **Wednesday 2/4/25 Practical Steps for Churches towards Net Zero Carbon 2030**

This was organised by Ros Swaney and introduced by Canon Matthew

The speakers were Rose Gosling of Summerbridge Methodist Church and Peter Edwards of St Mary's Embsay who gave practical and encouraging talks about actions which can be taken. Over 20 people attended from 9 different churches and excellent feedback was received.

## **MAKE A SMALL GESTURE FOR THE PLANET AND THE CATHEDRAL – USE the QR CODE for the SUNDAY 10.30am SERVICE**

These statistics from the University of Nottingham award-winning Micro Prospectus show the benefits of a QR code over a normal prospectus:

- It saved 72 tonnes of paper and over 18,240 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> which is the equivalent of an average petrol car driving 287,00 miles
- Every tonne of paper uses 54,000 litres of water so that was saved too

**By using the Cathedral QR code on your phone or tablet,** you will save the Cathedral money spent on paper, printing and re-cycling and benefit the environment.



## LENT EXHIBITION – ‘FINDING GOD IN NATURE’

A simple prayer station was up in the Cathedral for the six weeks of Lent. Each week a symbolic item was added to ask for thankfulness for our sustaining world. The prayers were about Trees, Flowers, Soil, Water, Insects and Animals, and Birds and Air. Leaflets from A Rocha and Eco Church were provided and needed to be replenished regularly. An envelope with two sunflowers seeds was available for visitors to take away during the last two weeks. This was a final symbol of our role as to be good stewards of the God's world.

## EARTH DAY - APRIL 22

The first-ever Earth Day was held in 1970 in the United States, when 20 million people took to the streets to protest against big environmental issues, including oil spills, polluted rivers and air pollution. This sounds familiar - 55 years later!

The movement has now spread globally, celebrated by millions of people across the world. It's a chance for people to honour the achievements of the environmental movement and highlight the need to protect the planet. This year the theme is **'Our Power, Our Planet'** and calls for renewable electricity generation to be tripled by 2030 around the world.



## FOREVER HOME AND SUSTAINABILITY – cutting out fossil fuels

Dorothy Gray, joint Cathedral Environment Officer, has been speaking to people in the congregation about their eco actions and she is delighted to find that quite a few are installing air-source heat pumps.

Sue (youthful and patient) and Tony Gill (kind and meticulous), on moving to their home in Fisher Green decided that they wished it to be sustainable and future-proofed. They researched and learned that good insulation and an up-to-date Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) were needed to apply for a government grant for air source heating.

An independent energy consultant did a preliminary survey which has been invaluable. Tony also followed through on





obtaining several quotes for the work recommended. These varied in price and on what was necessary regarding pipework or larger radiators, so he also did some haggling. The outcome is that they have fourteen solar panels on their south-facing rear roofs. They also have batteries in the hall cupboard for storing surplus power. Heating is provided by an air source pump, which is not noisy. Also, importantly, they are not cold but toasty.



You probably know that the Gills are great hosts, so they have children and grandchildren most weekends and holiday times – all needing baths and showers. The hot water supply has not failed. They are pleased with their investment.

The original forecast was for their capital outlay to be recouped in ten to twelve years, but as energy has risen in cost, it is now likely to be achieved in seven years.

They have apps on their phones which allow them to monitor their energy production and usage. To date, they have saved 7.92 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> – this is the equivalent of planting 120 trees in 903 days.

There are other members in our congregation who have taken the plunge into “green” energy solutions, too. If you would like to know more, please contact Dorothy Gray.

## **CHECKING THE CONSERVATION AREA in APRIL**

A surprisingly large spread of scilla was observed in the corner by High St Agnesgate and the church hall carpark wall at the start of the month. It lasted three weeks. Violets were in abundance near the blackberries in the north but not in flower and soon to be overtaken by cleavers and cow parsley. Celandine were tumbling down the bank. Primroses were popping up everywhere. The first bluebells and cow parsley flowers bloomed towards the end of the month.



We must thank our groundsman, Tim, who mowed an attractive path through the Conservation Area. This will enable walkers to see the wildflowers up close and also allow selective weeding to take place as the Eco Action Group learns more about the wildflower growing patterns in the area.

**The ‘CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE’ event on June 7<sup>th</sup> will be very beneficial as it will help to get a baseline record of the species in the Conservation Area and the rest of the Cathedral churchyard.**

**\*\*\* IT WILL BE A FUN MORNING \*\*\* PLEASE JOIN IF YOU CAN \*\*\***



# COUNT ON NATURE

a fun activity in the Cathedral grounds  
to find and record our flora and fauna

Saturday 7 June 8am start to 11am

The count will be followed by  
refreshments and review of findings

All materials will be provided so  
booking is essential

Bookings for a place can be made by  
contacting [dorothygray1152@gmail.com](mailto:dorothygray1152@gmail.com)

Please note that any children under the  
age of fourteen years must be  
accompanied by a responsible adult



RIPON  
CATHEDRAL



## 'C3: CATHEDRAL COMMUNITYCONNECTIONS

Ripon Cathedral is committed to supporting our community through partnerships with local charities.

Contact [C3@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:C3@riponcathedral.org.uk) or 01765 603462



### Spring Fayre March 2025

The fayre was exciting and lively. A total of £193 in cash payments was taken. Thank you to all who donated, bought or helped with the stall.

### VE Day 8 May 2025 - 80-year celebrations

#### For Dignity For Equality For Justice

This year is a double anniversary as Christian Aid was founded in 1945 in response to the plight of refugees and prisoners of war from WW2. To coincide with VE anniversary events, an exhibition in the Cathedral will feature Christian Aid's continuous work since then.

#### • **Christian Aid Week 11 to 17 May 2025 - Abounding Hope**

This year, Christian Aid will focus on poverty in Alta Verapaz communities in Guatemala where 90% of people live in poverty. Water sources are drying up or being polluted by industry.

- **Christian Aid envelopes** will again be delivery-only and regular postmen will be contacted direct nearer the time. Anyone who would like to volunteer to take round envelopes please speak to Dorothy Gray in the first instance. Bundled envelopes will be put out for collection in the South transept before the week starts

#### • **SAVE THE DATE -Harvest Supper Saturday 18 October 2025**

### DEMENTIA FORWARD

**03300 578592. <https://www.dementiaforward.org.uk>**

Dementia Forward is the leading dementia charity for York and North Yorkshire who provide support, advice, and information to anybody affected by dementia across the county.



**Could you spare a few hours? Dementia Forward is looking for volunteers** to help with their activities at The George Armitage Centre in Burton Leonard. Go to <https://www.dementiaforward.org.uk/volunteering/> to see how you could help.

### HARROGATE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ACTION

**[hadca@hadca.org.uk](mailto:hadca@hadca.org.uk) or phone 01423 504074**



**Twice a year C3 hosts a meeting of HADCA** (Harrogate and District Community Action) at Thorpe Prebend. This enables the charities and the local council agencies to share information and make CONNECTIONS. The latest meeting in April enjoyed sharing ideas as well as the sunshine in the garden!





## RIPON WALLED GARDEN

**The Spring Fair is back with a bang! SATURDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM 9.30am – 4pm** We have a fun filled day planned here at Ripon Walled Garden. You can expect, live musicians, a balloon modelling workshop, some magic performances, our ever popular Sing and Sign choir,

face painting, tombola, stalls showcasing what we make and sell and fair ground games including coconut shy! Our hugely anticipated Spring Plant Sale including bedding plants, hanging baskets, perennials, herbs, compost and so much more. Plus not forgetting our Café and Shop, serving hot and cold food to keep your energy levels up for all there is to see and do. We are open 9.30am – 4pm and we have free parking, toilets and are dog and child friendly!



## JENNYRUTH WORKSHOPS

<https://www.jennyruth.co.uk> [info@jennyruth.co.uk](mailto:info@jennyruth.co.uk)

Jennyruth Workshops have several NEW items of their lovely products available in the Cathedral Shop. They are also out and about selling their goods all over the place this Spring-Summer.

Venues that you might see their sales tables are:

**22<sup>nd</sup> June Harlow Carr Gardens. 8<sup>th</sup>- 11<sup>th</sup> July at The Great Yorkshire Show  
27<sup>th</sup> July – Ripon Old Car Gathering, Ripon**



**Racecourse**

**Our Food Banks have now expanded!**



The donations left in the boxes  
at the West End of the Cathedral will now be divided between

## THE SALVATION ARMY and THE TENANTS AT THE RIPON YMCA

Please GIVE GENEROUSLY to those in need of FOOD and essential items such as soap and other personal hygiene, washing up liquid etc.



The Ripon Rotary Charity Bike Ride  
will take place on  
**Saturday 10th May 2025**  
with the route passing through  
the delightful countryside of  
the Vale of York

For more details, to enter the ride, get involved  
or to support us visit our new website at

**[www.riponrotarybikeride.org](http://www.riponrotarybikeride.org)**

SUPPORTING



and other Rotary charities

Website  
sponsored  
by



Registered with



for Ride Entry

SPONSORED BY





"The contact with  
Members, the  
gratitude of the staff  
and the whole  
experience is  
heartwarming"



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We have a range of volunteering opportunities available at Ripon Walled Garden, from working in our beautiful garden, to helping in sessions with Members, or lending a hand in our cafe and shop. If you want to make a difference, and meet new friends, come and find out more about potential volunteering opportunities. We have something for everyone, and you might find that in turn we help you!

**Contact Zoe at: [givingyourtime@riponwalledgarden.org](mailto:givingyourtime@riponwalledgarden.org)  
or call us on 01765 609229 for more information**



# The Dementia Forward Messenger

Helpline: 03300 578592  
Website: [www.dementiaforward.org.uk](http://www.dementiaforward.org.uk)



## Welcome to our April Issue Dementia Action Week 19th - 25th May



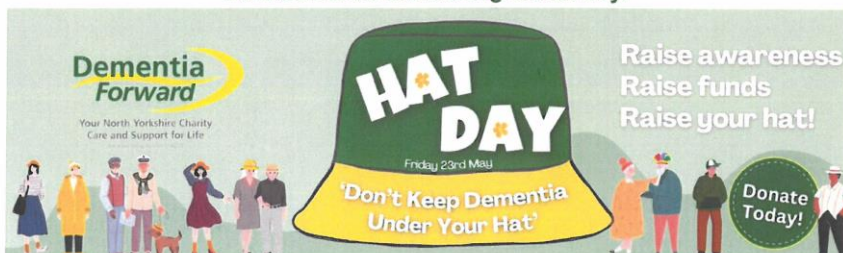
Dementia Action Week is a national initiative to encourage conversations around dementia, improve understanding and increase awareness of the support available. During the week, members of the Dementia Forward team will be out in the community providing information, offering support and answering questions. We will provide full details next month on where our support team will be during that week. We will also be hosting a coffee morning at our Hub in Burton Leonard (21<sup>st</sup> May) and a Garden Party at St John's in Settle (20<sup>th</sup> May) and releasing a series of informative videos throughout the week.

### How can you get involved?

As part of our Dementia Action Week plans, we are excited to launch 'Hat Day' - a new annual event encouraging open conversations about dementia, inspired by the theme: **'Don't Keep Dementia Under Your Hat'**. To get involved, we are asking people to wear a hat, raise awareness, and donate to support our vital dementia services. We are also calling on businesses, schools, and community groups to hold their own Hat Day events - whether this is an office collection, a school-wide fundraiser or a community event, every contribution makes a difference.

To take part, simply wear a hat on the 23rd of May (or any day during Dementia Action Week), let people know what your hat represents, and donate.

You can find our more information on our website at  
[www.dementiaforward.org.uk/hat-day/](http://www.dementiaforward.org.uk/hat-day/)



## CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

**Opening Hours:** Mon-Sat 10-5; Sun 12-5. Tel: 01765 601347

### SERVICE TIMES

#### **Sundays**

8.00am	Eucharist	9.30am Morning Prayer (said)
10.30am	Sung Eucharist	12.30pm Eucharist (BCP)
3.30pm	Evensong	

#### **Weekdays**

8.30am	Morning Prayer
9.00am	Eucharist Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
10.00am	Eucharist Wednesday followed by coffee and mingle
12 noon	Eucharist Tuesday, Friday and Saturday
5.30pm	Evensong (or said Evening Prayer)

**The Magdalen Fellowship** is an ecumenical group that holds a weekly service of short reflection, silence and prayer at St. John's Sharow every Monday morning at 10:30 am. On the first Monday of the month, there is a Healing Eucharist with a Laying on of Hands. For more information contact John Whelan 01765 647744 or Anne-Marie Tarter 01765-602129

**Thursdays** (most Thursdays – see the monthly events schedule) **1.00pm Lunchtime Concert in the Quire (free).**

#### **Further Information**

For further information on any of the events and services listed or for general information, please contact us on:

Email: [cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:cathedraladmin@riponcathedral.org.uk)

Tel: 01765 603462 (Office) 01765 602072 (Chapter House)

Or visit our website: [www.riponcathedral.org.uk](http://www.riponcathedral.org.uk).

#### **Cathedral E newsletter**

If you wish to subscribe to the weekly electronic newsletter, please email Michele Gee [michelegee@riponcathedral.org.uk](mailto:michelegee@riponcathedral.org.uk)