“Have you seen any flares tonight?”
Friendly Monday: 9th November at 11am
To mark the 75th anniversary of the Blitz, Mike Bunn, a local historian of the Fire Service, with close links to the construction of the new Cathedral, will give an illustrated talk recalling the momentous night of 14th-15th November 1940.

Pick up your special edition copy of the Friends’ e-Bulletin today
The Friends have just published a special edition of their Monthly on-line Newsletter, giving a full diary of the Civic and Cathedral events over the weekend of 13/15 November 2015. Included is an article on the connection between John Piper’s paintings of the ruined Cathedral the morning after the Blitz and his design for the Baptistry Window of the new Cathedral.

It will be a poignant testament to the stoicism of the Fire Service and the Citizens of Coventry, and also a commemoration of the sorrow and the heroism that changed our City and the ministry of the Cathedral forever. Not to be missed, so to be sure of a place sign up on the Community Table today.

If you don’t have internet access, pick up a hard copy today. If you don’t yet belong to the Friends, pick up a leaflet, and join today.
You will receive the latest news about the Cathedral in your inbox every month.
Andrew Paine, Chairman of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral

DO YOU KNOW WHAT’S ON IN NOVEMBER 2015?

Monday 2nd November  - 2.30pm: Volunteer Monday - memories of the Blitz.
Monday 2nd November  - 5.45pm: Remember Our Child (Chapel of Unity).
Sunday 7th November  - 4pm: Diocesan Festival Evensong.
Monday 9th November  - 11am: Friendly Monday: ‘Have you seen the flares tonight?’
Monday 8th November  - 3pm: Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Phil Townshend
Tuesday 10th November  - Opening of the Dresden Project exhibition and installation of Monica Petzal’s artwork

‘75/70’ in the Cathedral.

Wednesday 11th to 13th November  - Rising 15 Summit.
Thursday 12th November  - 12.10pm: a time of prayer for the Christian Service Centre, Chapel of Christ the Servant.
Saturday 14th November  - 6.30pm: Joining Hands for Peace in University Square.
7.30pm: Saint Michael’s Singers - Mozart’s Requiem & Solemn Vespers, Coventry Cathedral.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANON PASTOR

Dear Friends

As a child, I was predictably anxious about death. My mother spent extended periods in hospital, and I worried about the day when I would have to manage alone, without my parents. In those days I HATED November, when dark evenings and falling leaves conspired to speak of endings.

As a family, of course, we never spoke of such things at all, so when in time my fears became reality, I had no language but music to help me engage. A beautifully sung Requiem in a college chapel began to give me a framework for questions and feelings, and each year this season of remembering lets me continue the process begun long ago.

I wish, though, that we had talked at the time. Death matters, and as people of faith we can bring so much to the conversation. Today, as we commemorate both All Saints and All Souls, we trust that death is not an unspeakable disaster but one more step in faith...and so we combine the sadness of letting go with thankfulness for what is yet to be.

Canon Kathryn

Update on the Reconciliation team

Today Canon Sarah is in Northern Ireland to attend a service in St Anne’s Cathedral in Belfast to mark the 50th anniversary of Corrymeela.

Image: Coventry House at Corrymeela

WHAT’S ON IN NOVEMBER 2015

Please send items for inclusion in the next edition of Cathedral Matters by end of TUESDAY 3rd November 2015.
Tel: 02476 521200 or email: cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk
Website address: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk
The Diocesan Reader assisting at the Eucharist today is Donald Parr from St Lawrence, Alne.

**Sunday 8th November**

Please note that the Cathedral Eucharist will begin at 10am.

Eucharist to Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

This evening we will be holding our annual Eucharist with the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. The Romsey Singers are our visiting choir and will be singing the Requiem by Herbert Howells during this service, which will begin at 4pm and replace Choral Evensong. As members of the congregation arrive, they will be given the opportunity to offer the details of those they would like remembered by name during the service. All are welcome. **Canon David**

Coventry Winter Night Shelter

**December 2015 to March 2016**

Cathedral team - Fridays 7pm-10pm St Oswald's Tile Hill

**Can you spare one or two Friday evenings to join the Cathedral team supporting St Oswald’s Tile Hill? We hope to offer to provide and cook the evening meal and have a team of five or six Cathedral volunteers to put up the beds, lay the tables and wash up as well as eating and chatting with our guests on three Fridays each month. It can be fun.**

Add your name to the rota on the community table or speak to John or Margaret Lloyd, Richard Chamberlain-Brothers, Jane Edwards or Moya Horton by 1st November. (Don’t sign up for more than you can manage and if you add your name please treat it as a commitment). If you haven’t volunteered with the night shelter before you need to provide two referees for working with this potentially vulnerable client group and it would be good to attend the training event at 7pm on Tuesday 3rd November at The Welcome Centre, Parkside. For details see the Community Table. There is a particular need for volunteers for the night shifts - 10pm to 7am - and also breakfasts 7am to 9am. You can get a form to register as a volunteer from coventrywinternightshelter@gmail.com

Coming soon: Grave Talk

Though it’s often overlooked in the scramble towards Christmas, the Four Last Things – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – have long been part of the Advent journey, so on the eve of Advent Sunday it seems appropriate to offer a chance to engage with this.

Wherever you are in your faith, it can be very hard to think about your own funeral – or indeed any of the other questions around death and dying that we all need to face at some point. Grave Talk is a café space that offers the opportunity to explore these big questions, with the help of specially designed conversation cards… Why not join us at 10.30am on Saturday 28th November in the Lecture Hall for coffee, cake and conversation? In addition to the “Grave Talk” discussions, there will be an opportunity to fill in a funeral plan and to talk through any other matters around death and dying that are important to you. Getting things straight for yourself now can often feel like a huge burden lifted – and make life much easier for those you leave behind as well. If you’d like to talk more at any time, do please contact Canon Kathryn.

Rising 15 – session tickets now available

You are being offered the chance to hear the pick of the speakers at a major international peace forum being held in Coventry later this month (Wednesday 11th- Friday 13th).

Rising 15 will bring together some of the greatest minds in peace-making and global affairs and will build Coventry’s reputation as a world symbol for peace and reconciliation. It has attracted an array of leading speakers including former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, ex-Beirut hostage Terry Waite and Shadow Foreign Secretary Hilary Benn MP as well as leading diplomats and other key players in the resolution of conflict around the globe.

The three-day symposium – entitled “A Hard Road to Hope” – is designed to appeal to an international audience of those actively involved in peace and reconciliation.

Organisers have now made certain sessions available for £35 on an individual basis to allow local people to hear keynote speakers. And to celebrate 75 years of peace-making in Coventry, the first 75 tickets will be available for £10 to organisations with a Coventry and Warwickshire postcode.

Singers

You can get a form to register as a volunteer from coventrywinternightshelter@gmail.com

Monday 2nd November

 Volunteer Monday – 2.30pm

Stories from the Blitz (Lecture Hall). At this Volunteer Monday, we’re asking some of our volunteers who remember the Blitz to share their memories and experiences with us. **Canon Kathryn and Carla Crawley**

Mozart’s Requiem and Solemn Vespers

Saturday 14th November 7.30pm

Mozart’s Requiem and Solemn Vespers form part of Coventry’s Blitz Commemoration Weekend Saturday in the presence of His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO ADC.

The Cathedral is the venue for this historic performance by Saint Michael’s Singers, The Parliament Choir, internationally acclaimed soloists and the English Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Paul Leddington Wright.

Tickets: £25, £20, £15/Concessions (Over 60s): £23, £18, £13/Under 18s and Students £12.50, £10, £7.50 available from the Cathedral Gift Shop or from St Michael’s Singers - www.saintmichaelsingers.org