WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2016

TODAY, 11am-6pm: Coventry Cathedral Dining Club in the ruins (the last this year).

Sunday 28th August: this is the last week of the David Marlow Cathedrals exhibition in the Chapel of Christ the Servant.

Monday 29th August at 1pm: Summer Organ Recital.

Thursday 1st September at 2pm in the Chapter House: Tourism Forum.

Saturday 3rd September at 4pm: a Celebration of the Ministry of Readers.

Sunday 4th September at 4pm: Choral Evensong and Licensing of Sarah Snyder.

Monday 5th September at 2pm: Memorial Service for Celia Fitzhugh.

Friday 9th September 10.30am-1pm: Procession, Presentation and Refreshments for Ladye Goodyver’s Day.

Friday 9th September from 7pm in the Chapel of Christ the Servant: the last ever Coventry SleepOut 2016.

Sunday 28th August from 9am: Sponsored Abseil in aid of Barnardo’s.

Sunday 4th September at 2.30 pm: Coventry Cathedral for International Day of Peace.

Wednesday 14th September: Mogwai play Atomic.


Sunday 18th September after Eucharist: Lunch in honour of Kerry & Leslie Beaumont. Booking sheet on the Community Table.

Tuesday - Friday, 20th - 23rd September: CCN Pilgrimage.

Wednesday 21st September at 2pm: Faith and Peaceful Relations Forum at Coventry University. christopher.shannah@coventry.ac.uk

Wednesday 21st September at 7pm: Is Peace Possible? Public lecture by Terry Waite for International Day of Peace.

Saturday 24th September from 9am: Sponsored Abseil in aid of Barnardo’s. www.barnardos.org.uk/challenge_form?eid=CE_ED_2240

Please send items for the next edition of Cathedral Matters by end of TUESDAY 30th August for publication on Sunday 4th September to cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk or phone 024 7659 4916

www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

The Friends’ Autumn Newsletter

Please pick up your copy of the Friends’ Autumn Newsletter from the Community Table today and help us to save the postage.

The Friends’ AGM

Saturday 24th September 12.00 noon

The AGM of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral will be held on Saturday 24th September at 12 noon in the Chapter House. It will be followed by a light lunch in the Lecture Hall and a Public Lecture in the Chapter House, concluding with tea and cake.

John Piper and the Church

Saturday 24th September 2.30 pm

The Friends are proud to sponsor this important lecture by Frances Spalding, the leading authority on John Piper, biographer and critic, specialist on twentieth-century British art, and the author of John Piper, Myfanwy Piper: Lives in Art. Formerly Professor of Art History at Newcastle University, she is the editor of the leading art journal Burlington Magazine. Please sign up on the Community table for either or both events.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral - whether you are here week by week, or this is your first time, we pray that you will know God’s presence and peace, and be filled with his peace to take into our hurting world.

We are beginning to gear up for the autumn as we look forward to many new things starting up in September. If you are a Coventry resident, please do read the inside of this newsletter with prayer and reflection, looking for ways to be part of the life of the Cathedral and all that takes place here, both for your own enjoyment and the benefit of others. Our Pilgrim and Joy of the Gospel courses, led by Canon Kathryn, will be wonderful ways of getting to know both our faith and another better. The Reconciliation team offers a host of ways of being more equipped to help us fulfil our shared vocation in the world. And the Friends have some wonderful opportunities - to name just a few.

Those who are regularly part of our worshipping life will be very sorry to hear that Jon Simpson, who has been our Dean’s Verger here since last year, is to leave later this autumn. Those who are regularly part of our worshipping life will be very sorry to hear that Jon Simpson, who has been our Dean’s Verger here since last year, is to leave later this autumn. Those who are regularly part of our worshipping life will be very sorry to hear that Jon Simpson, who has been our Dean’s Verger here since last year, is to leave later this autumn. Those who are regularly part of our worshipping life will be very sorry to hear that Jon Simpson, who has been our Dean’s Verger here since last year, is to leave later this autumn.

We have been really privileged to have Jon and Sue with us, even for a short time, and we will be very sorry to see them go - but we recognize that Jon is moving to one of only a tiny number of roles that has even more to offer than Coventry Cathedral, and his experience will serve extremely well as he moves to a significant post in the Royal Household.

We pray for Jon and Sue, and indeed for one another, as we embrace whatever challenges and opportunities God has to set before us in the coming months.

Every blessing

John

The Dean and Canons

The Precentor is Canon in Residence this week. The Dean is speaking at Greenbelt this weekend.

Canon Sarah Snyder will be licensed during Evensong next Sunday, 4th September.

Readers

The Reader assisting at the Eucharist this morning is Donald Parr (St Lawrence Ansley).
**A message from the Dean’s Verger**

In mid-October I will be leaving Coventry Cathedral to take up the post of Head Verger and Chapel Clerk at the Chapel Royal in London. My time in Coventry has been short and it will be with both sadness and good memories that I return to London. I have met and worked with some wonderful people and I have grown to love and respect this building and the ministry that it endeavours to send out. The new job will have its challenges but it promises to be very exciting, not just because Sue and I will be living in the Royal Mews of Buckingham Palace. The post has come a little bit out of the blue but it was to good an opportunity to refuse. The move is still subject to security checks and references, but as the number of people becoming aware was growing I felt it was only right for it to be in the public domain.

Jon Simpson

**Tell me a story!**

That was the constant cry of my children, and countless others – and story remains perhaps the easiest way of learning, engaging, sharing... For most of us it’s how we received our faith – and it’s the way that we can best hope to pass it on to others. Carla, our Tourism and Visits Manager, is still hoping to hear your “Coventry Cathedral stories” and I am looking for the “God stories” that we all have within us. In the coming weeks, I’d like to gather those stories to produce our own version of the “Gospel according to Everyone”, so please get thinking – and get in touch! It’s not about writing beautiful prose - “your story, your words” seems like a good starting point – and if you’re anxious that you might not have anything to share, let’s have a chat together and see what there might be by way of buried treasure. And yes, I’ll tell you a story in exchange. That’s only fair.

Canon Kathryn

**Pilgrim**

We resume our exploration of the Christian faith through reflective Bible reading (Lectio Divina) and discussion, considering what it means to turn to Christ. Though this unit is particularly suitable for those preparing for Confirmation, previous units have revealed quite enough to keep life-long Christians engaged and learning. Pilgrim begins on Tuesday 20th September at 7pm. Sign up on the Community table or contact me.

Canon Kathryn kathryn.fleming@coventrycathedral.org.uk 024 7652 1230.

**The Joy of the Gospel**

One of the themes that emerged from the Cathedral’s survey of our Eight Essential Qualities was our perceived weakness in sharing our faith, even with our fellow Christians here week by week. If it’s a prospect that fills you not with joy but with panic, this six week course, written by Paula Gooder and drawing on Pope Francis’s much acclaimed writing on mission and evangelism, might just be the answer. With space to reflect on how we can share our faith with integrity as individuals and as a community, and exploring themes that include BEING good news as well as sharing it, I’m hoping this might provide the kind of spring-board we need to renew our confidence as good news people. If you’re interested in being part of a group, please sign up on the Community table. The initial plan is to meet on Monday afternoons, beginning on 26th September at 2.30pm, but I’m really happy to add an evening group to the mix if there’s enough demand, so do say which time would suit you better. Because all group members will need a book, we do need you to commit in advance... any questions, do please speak to me.

Canon Kathryn

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**Mogwai play Atomic:**

Wednesday 14th September at 7.30pm

Almost sold out: Book Now!


Seventy years ago the bombing of Hiroshima showed the appalling destructive power of the atomic bomb. Mark Cousins’ acclaimed documentary ‘Atomic: Living in Dread and Promise’, shown on BBC4 in 2015, looks at life and death in the atomic age. Using only archive film Cousins shows us an impressionistic kaleidoscope of our nuclear times - protest marches, Cold War sabre-rattling, Chernobyl and Fukushima – as well as the sublime beauty of the atomic world, and how x-rays and MRI scans have improved human lives. The nuclear age has been a nightmare, but dreamlike too. “The Atomic soundtrack is one of the most intense and fulfilling projects we’ve taken on as a band. Ever since we went to Hiroshima to play and visited the peace park this has been a subject very close to us. The end results, both the film score and the record are pieces I am extremely proud of.”

(Stuart Braithwaite, guitarist)

[https://www.tickettailor.com/checkout/view-event/id/51781/CHK/f08e8/](https://www.tickettailor.com/checkout/view-event/id/51781/CHK/f08e8/)

**Mogwai Warm-up from 4pm**

To warm up for the Mogwai show we will be screening Mark Cousins’ ‘I am Belfast’ in the Cathedral Ruins - a poetic visual depiction and exploration of Belfast and its citizens, told by a former resident who still loves the city. Followed by live music from Steve Gillick’s Tenebrous Liar; and the part melodic and uplifting, part pure noise, Those Amongst Us Are Wolves.

With street food from Digbeth Dining Club.

Free with a Mogwai ticket, £12 general admission.

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**Faith and Peaceful Relations Forum**

Wednesday 21st September at 2pm

Coventry University

The aim of the Forum is to provide an opportunity for all those involved with faith and community groups in and around Coventry to come together to explore key issues and their experience of working in the community in an inclusive environment. For more information please contact Chris Shannahan christopher.shannahan@coventry.ac.uk

To register for your free place please contact charlotte.martin@coventry.ac.uk

**Is Peace Possible?**

Wednesday 21st September at 7pm in the Nave

**Coventry Peace Day**

Terry Waite was the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Assistant for Anglican Communion Affairs in the 1980s. As an envoy for the Church of England, he travelled to Lebanon to try to secure the release of four hostages, including the journalist John McCarthy. He was himself kidnapped and held captive from 1987 to 1991. He will share part of his narrative and his thoughts on peace and reconciliation. Join us for this talk offered by Coventry Cathedral and the Reconciliation Ministry on International Day of Peace. There is a £5 suggested donation for the continued work of peace and reconciliation. For news of more events planned for Coventry Peace Day please look at [coventrycityofpeace.uk/events/cov-day-of-peace-2016/](https://coventrycityofpeace.uk/events/cov-day-of-peace-2016/)

**A House Move**

I will be moving into my new apartment in Montes Court, 11 St Andrew’s Road, Earlsdon CV5 6JG at the end of August.

Margaret Skelton
A Quiet Day at the Monastery
Saturday 17th September
Do you feel the need for “time out” to think, relax, meditate, pray? Time to find yourself again? Are you just curious to try out an ancient spirituality?
I am organising a quiet day at Turvey Abbey on Saturday 17th September (departing at 8am from Bablake School carpark and returning at 6pm, or flexible if you use your own transport). Turvey Abbey is located in the village of Turvey near Bedford. Historically, Turvey Abbey was a country house and family home. It now belongs to the “Priory of Our Lady of Peace,” a Benedictine order of nuns and the “Monastery of Christ our Saviour,” a Benedictine order of monks.
We will start the day just before 10am with a short introduction from me and then the time is yours to spend in the retreat house, the extensive gardens, chapels, library, exploring the area or walking in silence. You are welcome to attend the Eucharist/Mass and other services if you wish. We will share lunch together (not included and not silent) and return to silence afterwards. The cost for the day is £15. If you are interested, please sign the sheet on the community table by Sunday 11th September at the latest. Thank-you, Fr. Sacha
For pictures: www.turveyabbey.org.uk

Sunday 18th September
We will be putting on a lunch to celebrate 10 years of Kerry & Leslie Beaumont’s service to the musical life of the Cathedral. We will reprise the successful ‘Desserts are Us’ recipe – a modest main course followed by a glorious array of puddings – at £15 per head to raise money for the choir. All the food and drink for the meal is being donated so that all ticket money can go to choir funds. There are 90 places: please sign the sheet on the Community Table to book yours.
The Catering Team
Calling all Tourism Volunteers…!
We will be holding our next Tourism forum this Thursday 1st September at 2pm in the Chapter House. If you have any kind of volunteer role within the Tourism team you are more than welcome to join us. Please let Carla, Emma or Helen know if you are coming.

Coventry SleepOut 2016
Friday 9th September from 7pm in the Ruins
This event in support of St Basils’ work with young people in Coventry will be taking place in one of the most atmospheric venues possible for a sleepout under the stars! It is free to take part, all we ask is that participants try to raise as much as possible in sponsorship. The sleepout is a sponsored challenge to sleep overnight with just a cardboard box and plastic sheeting. Participants are required to wear warm waterproof clothes and bring outdoor sleeping bags and there are toilets on site as well as security throughout the event. It will also be possible to purchase hot food and drinks at the event.
All the money raised from this event will go towards supporting our services in Coventry. We work in partnership with Coventry City Council operating five services aimed at helping young people in crisis with advice, assessments, practical assistance and temporary accommodation, supporting them throughout.
So if you want to ensure young people aged 16-25 in Coventry get the support they need to avoid losing their homes or to find safe haven when they do, please consider taking part in this event. It’s a great opportunity to meet other local people like you! www.stbasils.org.uk/help-us/sleepouts/coventry-sleepout/

The Tidal Zone
You may have heard or seen this reviewed in the Observer and on Radio 4; it’s a new novel by Sarah Moss which is partly about the story of the rebuilding of our Cathedral. Here’s a review from Canon Margaret Sedgwick:

‘THE TIDAL ZONE’ by Sarah Moss
This absorbing novel has recently been reviewed in the press and on Radio 4 and Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers and I have both read it. The narrator is Adam, an underemployed academic, who has been charged with writing a script for a “geolocative media app” for Coventry Cathedral. He is also the chief carer for his chronically stressed GP wife and two daughters. Turmoil for the family begins when 15 year old Miriam’s heart stops while she is at school and although she recovers the doctors struggle to find the cause and the family is left in limbo. Three narratives run in parallel - Miriam’s condition, Adam’s father’s unconventional background and the history of the rebuilding of the cathedral. Despite the uncertainty over Miriam’s future there are some amusing and recognisable pictures of family life. I was somewhat taken aback by the author’s description of the cathedral as an Arts and Crafts building but later in the book she justifies this as she describes Basil Spence’s vision of the new cathedral. It would be a good book to discuss for a reading group, in particular the relationship between the three narratives.’

Canon Kathryn has suggested a meeting to discuss The Tidal Zone on Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm – a day when the girls’ choir are singing Evensong later – which gives us all plenty of time to buy the book and read it. It’s also available from the city library. www.abebooks.co.uk/servlet/SearchResults?an=sarah+moss&sts=t&tn=the+tidal+zone

Accommodation for Canon Sarah Snyder
Canon Sarah (the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Advisor for Reconciliation) is looking for somewhere in Coventry where she can stay when she is here, normally for two nights a week (Sunday and Monday). If you have a spare room and would be willing to welcome Sarah, please contact Victoria Mason at victoria.mason@lambethpalace.org.uk

The Bishop’s Certificate in Discipleship and Mission
The first year of the revamped BCDM has been a great success; sessions are now open to everyone who would like to learn about one or more of the topics and more than 150 people have taken part in at least one of the many interactive modules that have been held in various parishes across the diocese. www.dioceseofcoventry.org/BCDM

These modules are being offered in September, weekly at 7pm, for five sessions each:
A: Mission-Shaped God (at Westwood, 13th Sept - 11th Oct)
B: Jesus and the Gospels (St Nicolas Nuneaton, 12th Sept - 10th Oct)
C: Understanding Loss (Claverdon, 13th Sept - 11th Oct)
D: The Bible in Five Acts (Harbury, 14th Sept - 12th Oct)

Modules planned for November include Paul’s Life, Mission and Letters (at St Mary’s Leamington), Music (Holy Trinity Stratford), and Advent (St Mary’s Walsgrave).

What participants have said about BCDM modules:
“Found the module totally absorbing and inspiring. Gained so much from discussions with other participants as well.”

Holding Palestine in the Light: the conflict of the context
Friday 7th - Sunday 9th October
Lichfield Cathedral
A weekend of talks and events on the Israel/Palestine Conflict and the prospect of peace. Speakers include Jane Clements, Professor Yossi Meckleberg, Sir Vincent Fean KCVO, Professor Kamel Hawwash, Professor Ilan Pappe, Patricia Cockrell, Rabbi David Goldberg, Claire Amos, Revd. Dr. Yazid Said, William Bell, The Very Rev’d. Hosam Naoum, Dervla Murphy, Hannah Khalil and Ahmed Masoud.

Join us for what promises to be an important and thought-provoking weekend!
To buy tickets, pop into The Shop at No. 9, telephone 01543 306150 or email: shop@lichfield-cathedral.org; www.lichfield-cathedral.org/news/news/post/123-conference-holding-palestine-in-the-light

What does Coventry Cathedral mean to you?
We are looking for tales about how Coventry Cathedral impacts people, and we would love to hear from you! If you would like to share a few words about what the Cathedral means to you, why you choose to volunteer here, or even if you have a tale of how you have witnessed it impact our visitors we would love to hear from you.
There is no limit on the length or content; all submissions will be welcome. Please email your contributions to me or hand them in to me or one of the Welcome Team in person.
Carla Crawley
carla.crawley@coventrycathedral.org.uk