WHAT’S ON IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2015

Volunteer Monday 7th September – Odd robes and vestments – stories uncovered (Lecture Hall)
In the Muniment Room there is a cupboard full of odd robes and vestments, many of which are rarely seen but are of interest. At this Volunteers Monday, Pat Stansbie from the Needleworkers team will talk us through their history – when they were used and what makes them significant.

Volunteer Monday 5th October – Film afternoon (Chapter House)
We’re off to the movies….. well the Chapter House to watch two films. Firstly ‘Built out of faith’ – the rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral’ and ‘From Coventry to Cochem’ a film about Patrick Reyntiens. Don’t forget the popcorn. We look forward to seeing you there. Canon Kathryn and Carla Crawley

Monday 31st August - 1pm Lunchtime organ concert with Kerry Beaumont.
Sunday 6th September - Foodbank Sunday.
Monday 7th September - 1pm Lunchtime organ concert with Andy Von Oppenkowski.
Saturday 12th September - Heritage Open Weekend.
Sunday 13th September - Heritage Open Weekend.
Monday 14th September - 1pm Lunchtime organ concert with Daniel Cook.
Thursday 17th September - 7pm Scarred Lands and Wounded Lives: the Environmental Footprint of War.
Friday 18th - Saturday 19th September - ‘Reconciling a Wounded Planet’ two-day conference.
Monday 21st September - 1pm Lunchtime organ concert with Paul Leddington Wright.
Monday 21st September - International Day of Peace.
Tuesday 22nd to Saturday 26th September - Community of the Cross of Nails Pilgrimage.
Monday 28th September - 1pm Lunchtime organ concert with Andrew Kirk.
Sunday 4th October - Foodbank Sunday.

Please send items for inclusion in the next edition of Cathedral Matters by end of TUESDAY 1st September 2015.
Tel: 02476 521200 or email: cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk
Website address: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANON PASTOR

Dear Friends

A few weeks ago I preached a sermon that included an aspirational and radical welcome that had been doing the rounds online for a while. The following week, we printed that welcome again on the cover of our service book, where it has remained ever since, and it went viral! I have received dozens of comments, congratulations and challenges – all based on the premise that here at Coventry we are really and truly committed to a completely inclusive welcome, no matter what!

And that’s just as it should be, but it does set the bar very high indeed, and we all of us need to be careful not to fall over it. Of course those of us who are “at home” here feel the warmth of friendship as we gather week by week, and on the whole we aren’t bad at sharing smiles and a friendly greeting with visitors (though sometimes less good at including those who come to the Cathedral as tourists at times when we are open for worship). For all our efforts, though, I’d say that there’s quite a lot to do to ensure that newcomers, who are seeking a spiritual home, feel genuinely included. They need more than a quick “hello” as we wander off to talk to our friends. That’s before we even begin to consider how we make it easier for people with differing needs and expectations to worship with us and become part of our family life…or to just sit quietly while we carry on around them.

So – we’re a work in progress but the quality of our welcome depends on each and every one of us. We are on a journey to become the Cathedral that says “Yes” – and that will be reflected in every aspect of our life. Please pray that we may live up to our bold claim and – visitors – please do hold us to account. We so want to get it right.

Love and blessings
Kathryn
**A request from the Canon Treasurer – Millennium Screen names**

I am delighted to report fresh names to be added to the Millennium Screen. It will be lovely to see parents honoured in this way. It follows a request earlier in the summer for the name of a Coventry cross country champion to be added. This of course prompts me to ask - are there other sporting heroes whose names could be added? We have many decades to choose from! Or of course other prominent figures who have meant a lot to you or people you know?

Besides the honouring of that person, in this very special chapel, there is the huge value to the Cathedral that a gift of £2,500 brings. Can you help us and the Cathedral find a few more individuals whose names could be engraved and so contribute to the much-needed revenue that sustains our Cathedral and its vital work. It is one of the most important and urgent requests I am making this year. Canon Stephen

**Cake Sale**

On Sunday 18th October and Sunday 15th November there will be a cake sale after the morning service. Please can the choir parents supply amazing homemade cakes to sell! If so, please leave in the choir vestry on Saturday or Sunday morning. Claire Coopey

**News from the Friends of Coventry Cathedral**

Your very last opportunity

Next Saturday 5th September, the Friends are arranging a full day coach excursion to the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA), Alrewas and Lichfield Cathedral.

We will be leaving the Cathedral at 9am. At the NMA we will have a guided tour of the Arboretum and arrive at Lichfield Cathedral by 1pm. After a guided tour of the Cathedral there will be free time to visit the Shop and Café. We will return to Coventry Cathedral at about 6pm. There are just a few places left on the coach. Tickets are £25.50 each. Phone: 024 76 67 3854 and send a cheque (payable to The Friends of Coventry Cathedral) to Jim Newton, 37 Woodfield Road, Coventry CV6 6AJ.

**September e-bulletin**

If you don’t have internet access, pick up your hard copy of the latest Friends e bulletin from the Community Table today, with details of the AGM and the Autumn Programme.

Andrew Paine

**Reconciling a Wounded Planet**

Do join us at this exciting and challenging conference at the Cathedral on 18th-19th September. With a number of top speakers and contributors from the world of environmental science and theology, we will come together to consider ‘stories of hope’ in the midst of the growing environmental crisis that the world is experiencing. Do pick up a brochure and buy your ticket from the Welcome desk or on line at the Website. Otherwise, if you would like to help as a volunteer, please see me. Godfrey Armitage, Vice Chairman, Reconcilingawoundedplanet.com.

**Scarred Lands and Wounded Lives: the Environmental Footprint of War**

This film is being shown on Thursday 17th September for those who wish to come early for the Reconciling a Wounded Planet conference. The programme starts at 7pm and there will be a panel discussion with Lord Dannatt, former CGS, Professor Michael Northcott and the Reverend Canon Dr Sarah Hills PhD after the film. Admission free.

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**Heritage Open Day 12th and 13th September**

It’s that time of year again when we take part in Heritage Open Days. We would like to open the Haigh Chapel, Cappers Chapel, show the medieval glass store (with some boxes open) and, if it’s still visible, talk about the archaeology throughout the day. To do all this and make sure we welcome as many people as possible on the day we need volunteers to help – if you can, please let Emma Price know. Emma’s email is emma.price@coventrycathedral.org.uk and is a member of the Visitor Services team. Carla Crawley

…..at the same time we’ll be holding a Volunteer Fayre

Calling all volunteers – and that means ANYONE who gives of their time and energy to the life of the Cathedral…including (I suspect) YOU! During Heritage Open Weekend, 12th & 13th September we are planning a mini “Volunteer Fayre”, with a display from our many volunteer groups, to promote volunteering at the Cathedral to visitors. We hope to have pictures and information about all the groups so if you give of your time in any way, please do think about how we could represent this.

So far we have words and pictures from Bardsley Work Club, the promise of a Real Life Needleworker sewing busily, and some wonderful images from the archivists – but there is so much more to celebrate and share with the world. Not only are we hoping to encourage others to join us in the volunteer community, but also a great opportunity to remind the city that the Cathedral is a living church and not simply a wonderful collection of 20th century art. PLEASE, if you’re able to, come and support us…or let me have info and images so that I can promote your group. Many many thanks. Canon Kathryn

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**Reconciliation: What is it and how do we begin?**

Come and join St Michael’s House on the 12th and 13th October for the first of our new series of Reconciliation courses. Over two days, Canon Sarah will provide an introduction to the theology and practice of peace and reconciliation. The course fee is £200, which covers all teaching and resources, as well as refreshments and lunch on both days. For more information and to book your place, email reconciliation@coventrycathedral.org.uk, call Carly Tewkesbury-Witham on 024 7652 1284, or talk to Canon Sarah. The Reconciliation Ministry Team

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**John Pratt**

We are sad to note the death of John Pratt, who continued his priestly ministry into retirement by presiding regularly at the Thursday lunchtime Eucharist, as well as joining the Chaplains’ team. Our love and prayers are with his widow, Ros, and the whole family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Canon Kathryn

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**Families First**

Families First resumes next Sunday when we will be launching the “Roots” programme, designed to enable children to engage with the lectionary readings for each Sunday. Next week’s session will be lead by Canon Sarah

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**This week in the Ruins**

Those of you who follow us on Facebook will have already seen the images of the recent finds. These include pieces of stonework from the interior of the Cathedral; both are slightly charred but show fascinating details, one of which is a face and the other find was fragments of a burnt Bible. If you look closely you can just make out the text. Christine Doyle