Have you seen any flares tonight?
Friendly Monday: 9th November at 11am

Join us tomorrow for an illustrated presentation on the Blitz. Mike Bunn, a local historian, with close links to the construction of the new Cathedral, will recall the momentous night of 14th - 15th November 1940.

75th Anniversary of Blitz
Pick up your copy today of the special Blitz Anniversary edition of the Friends Bulletin. If you don’t have internet access, pick up a hard copy of the November bulletin today from the Community Table.

Andrew Paine, Chairman of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral

WHAT’S ON IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2015

Monday 9th November - 11am: Friendly Monday: ‘Have you seen any flares tonight?’
Monday 9th 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.
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.
Sunday 15th November - 7pm: Civic Service of Commemoration (please note - there is no 4pm Evensong).

Monday 16th to Friday 20th November
The Cathedral will be closed for the Coventry University graduation ceremonies.

Sunday 29th November - 6.30pm: Light in Our Darkness.

Remembrance Sunday
This week we have had a series of enquiries around the question, “Do you do remembrance differently in Coventry?” Well, yes, of course we do. In this city, and especially in this Cathedral, we take this season as an opportunity to recall the destruction of war, and to plead for different ways of resolving our differences. The Coventry ministry of Peace and Reconciliation has its 75th anniversary next weekend: 75 years of reaching out in compassion and understanding to our enemies; 75 years of standing alongside them to ask for our heavenly Father’s forgiveness (not to ask solely for them to be forgiven, but to ask forgiveness for us all); 75 years of learning to live with human diversity and to celebrate and enjoy our differences; 75 years of building a culture of peace for all to inhabit.

Visitors often ask me if it was a good thing that we suffered the destruction of the blitz. Of course not – it was a tragedy. But in the grace of God, the greatest tragedy can open a space for the greatest hope – hope for all to share. May we fulfill our vocation to stand in the love and hope of God throughout this coming week, and to share that love and hope with all the world.

John Witcombe
The Very Reverend John Witcombe MA MPhil
Dean of Coventry

CCN Evenings - Monday 23rd November at 7pm
Discover more about our German partners
All are welcome to join us at Saint Michael’s House on Monday 23rd November at 7pm to an informal evening to discover more about our German partners in the Community of the Cross of Nails.

Ricarda Fillhardt
**CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**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…

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.

**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 Saint Michael’s Singers - www.saintmichaelsingers.org

**This week on Facebook and Twitter**
Our social media channels continue to go from strength to strength. The image of the Dean’s granddaughter went viral and reached over 100,000 people with many comments and discussions among respondents on the subject of welcoming children into Church life.

Also each day leading up to the 14th November we are publishing a story of reconciliation inspired by the Coventry story. These stories are being well-received generating around 2,000-3,000 people reached for each one. Christine Doyle

**Coventry Cathedral in the news**
Last weekend the Guardian newspaper online, published a feature on the ‘Ten best monuments to peace’; included in the list at number two is our Cross of Nails. The article also featured the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, Monument Against War and Fascism and for Peace in Harburg and the Choeung Ek Stupa in Cambodia. Christine Doyle

**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.

Sessions available on a one-off basis include Gordon Brown, Hilary Benn MP, Northern Ireland politician Lord Alderdice, and a double session with diplomat and author Emma Sky, former political advisor to America’s Commanding General in Iraq, and Prof Heaven Crawley, a leading researcher on the Mediterranean migration crisis.

To qualify for the £10 tickets, organisations can simply email administrator@rising.org with their address and postcode.

For more information and to book tickets, visit www.rising.org Twitter @risingforum Facebook: www.facebook.com/risingpeaceforum

**Cathedral Walkers, Wednesday 18th November**
Why not join us for our last walk of 2015, or just come for lunch? Details are on the Community Table; please let me know if you are coming.

Dave Goodall, dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk

**Romania Today**
Last Sunday it was both heart-warming and moving to hear volunteers tell the story of their work in Romania sponsored by members of the congregation. The Romania Lunch also generated a profit of £155 towards the work for which I thank the diners warmly! Recruitment of volunteers for next summer will start next month – more news later. Jane Williams JaneMLWill@aol.com

**Cake Sale and Chorister Christmas Fayre**
Sunday 15th November
After the morning service on Sunday 15th November, there will be a cake sale and the Chorister Christmas Fayre which will include homemade cakes, a raffle, jewellery and loads of fun for all. Clayre Coopay