

Newsletter

November 2018



BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL
GOOD NEWS FOR LANCASHIRE

Diary

3rd to 18th

Blackburn Art Society –
Exhibition in the Crypt. See
posters for more information.

6th

Open Guided Tour – see below
for more details.

7th

**1.00pm Lunchtime Organ
Recital.** Graham Thorpe (Royal
College of Music).

8th

7.30pm. Brothers in Arms
performance at the Cathedral. See
below for details.

10th

7.30pm.
Blackburn Remembers. A
concert by Blackburn Music
Society, joined by the Blackburn
with Darwen Brass Band, on the
Eve of Armistice Day.

11th

6.00am, A lone piper will mark
the Centenary of the signing of the
WWI Armistice documents.

9.30am, Our Civic Service of
Remembrance.

10.40am, The Cathedral
Eucharist with two minutes silence
and short peel of bells.

6.40pm-8.00pm, Battle's Over –
A Nation's Tribute.

6.40pm, A short
commemoration the centenary of
the end of the First World War.

Telling Stories

Last week I discovered that a secondary school not a million miles away is launching a new initiative: anecdote of the week. The idea is very simple. Every student in the form is expected to tell an anecdote about something which has involved them during the preceding week, and the one which is judged the best will receive a small prize. I am not sure if anyone has thought through the logistics of this: it will take quite some time to work through thirty anecdotes, never mind the issues of checking their veracity and rating them out of ten...

I suspect it may be a one week wonder, built more on idealism than on practicality, but all the same, I rather approve. Imagine thirty sermon openings: 'A funny thing happened to me on the way to the shops...'. Or perhaps not. Nonetheless, anything which encourages people to tell their stories has to be positive. It is a profoundly important way in which we articulate our identity, both individually and collectively: think about the tales which have been passed down the generations of your family, or the accounts you give of how you grew up or became who you are today. And think too of the stories we tell which are centuries old and which we distance with the name of 'history' but without which it is impossible to understand our current society.

The writing and rewriting of history and personal stories has long been a tool of power. British Imperialism generally failed to acknowledge or value the existing histories of countries which were colonized, or the stories of their people, and it was ever thus. St Bede, writing his *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* from an Anglo Saxon perspective in the eighth century, presents the ancient Celtic tribes as a hapless lot. What a relief for everyone when the Saxons arrived in Britain and sorted everything out!

7.00pm, a Beacon of Light will be lit.

7.05pm, Ringing out for Peace: our bell ringers will join with churches and cathedrals across the nation in a cry for peace across the world.

13th

10.00am – 2.00pm. An Exhibition of Blackburn Wedding Traditions through the Decades

14th

1.00pm Lunchtime Organ Recital. Harvey Stansfield (Blackburn Cathedral Organ Scholar)

16th

5.30pm Zumbathon in the Nave in aid of Children in Need. Booking is essential: go to the Eventbrite website and search for Zumbathon in Blackburn.

17th

7.30pm The Renaissance Singers join the English Touring Opera Company to perform St Matthew Passion. Tickets can be booked online via The English Touring Opera Company's website.

19th

7.30pm The Troth. See below for more details.

21st

1.00pm Lunchtime Recital. Jill Crossland, Piano.

Lunchtime Recitals

Join us on Wednesday lunchtimes during term time to hear a variety of recitalists from near and far. All are welcome and admission is free but we do ask for a minimum donation of £3.50 to help cover costs. **1.00pm in the Nave.**

So, there are some notes of caution, but essentially stories are our collective memory bank, and in November the Church explores them in a very particular way. From the inspirational accounts of the holy men and women remembered at All Saints, to the personal memories of loved ones evoked at All Souls, to the national memorials on Remembrance Sunday, we tell our stories.

And of course these stories, this collective memory bank, are also interconnected with the story of our faith. So let us imagine that instead of having to produce an anecdote of the week, we are all challenged to tell our Christian story to someone who has not heard it. It could be our personal story, or it could be the universal story of salvation which we read in the Bible, from God's creation of the heavens and the earth, through to the prophets, the birth of Jesus, the cross and resurrection, and his continued presence in our lives. Not so much 'A funny thing happened to me on the way to the shops,' but 'A funny thing happened to me in a moment of grace.' This is the story of Jesus Christ, and our task is to tell it.

**Revd Canon Dr Rowena Pailing
Canon Missioner**

The Troth

A gripping story of love and loss set during WWI. Moving from rural Punjab to the Belgian trenches where young Indian men have been brought to fight for the Allies, we learn about the secret promise made by one soldier as he makes the ultimate sacrifice to save another.

Award-winning choreographer Gary Clarke unfolds the poignant narrative through contemporary dance, original music and powerful archive film.

7.30pm Monday 19th November.

Tickets are available from the Cathedral website.

£8 with refreshments included.

Cathedral Gift Shop

The Gift Shop will be extending its opening hours during November and December. If you are attending one of the many events we have on in the run up to Christmas make sure you come and visit us, we have a lovely range of cards and gifts suitable for all ages and occasions.

Advent and Christmas

As always the Cathedral will be celebrating Advent and Christmas with schools, colleges and other local organisations during the whole of December.

You will find a few highlights of our liturgical and community event calendar below but see our website or the leaflets available at various points around the Cathedral for more details of concerts and other performances.

Local Schools will be holding lunchtime and some evening Carol Services most week days – check out the What's On section of the website for details.

Sunday 2nd 6.30pm: **Advent Procession Service.**

Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th, 6.30pm: **Children for Children Carol Concerts**

Wednesday 5th, 7.30pm: **Lancashire Fire and Rescue Carol Service**

Friday 7th, 7.30pm: **Derian House "Lights of Love" Carol Service.**

Monday 10th, 7.30pm: **East Lancs Hospice "Light up a Life" Carol Service.**

Sunday 23rd, 7.30pm: **A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.**

Monday 24th, 4.00pm: **Carols Round the Crib.** 11.30pm: **Midnight Mass**

Tuesday 25th 8.00am: **Holy Communion (BCP).** 9.00am: **Parish Eucharist.** 10.30am: **Cathedral Eucharist**

Brothers in Arms

An Inspiring True Story

Brothers in Arms seeks to personalise this vast conflict by telling the story of the Great War through the inspiring true story of two soldiers, Noel and Christopher Chavasse. These twin brothers were both highly decorated soldiers who served with great distinction in the trenches of World War One. Noel Chavasse is notable for being one of only three soldiers to have been awarded the Victoria Cross twice for his exceptional bravery under fire. His brother Christopher was awarded the Military Cross for his courage and steadfast service. Their lives tell an inspiring story of courage, service, sacrifice and faith lived out under fire.

Performed by Blackburn Creative Arts and featuring drama, film clips, images and music; Brothers in Arms is an extraordinary theatrical experience which brings to life the events of WWI in a moving and powerful performance.

Written by David Banbury a writer, clergyman and former soldier to commemorate the centenary of WWI, this multi-media performance has been seen by over 4,000 people across the North of England with extremely positive reviews. David is also the writer of Home Front - Front Line which was performed to sell out audiences at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2017.

For more information contact:

Revd Canon David Banbury - davidbanbury@me.com

Brothers in Arms - Thursday 8th November 2018 at 7.30pm at Blackburn Cathedral.

Admission: £2 per person (proceeds to go to the Royal British Legion).

Tickets available from: Cathedral Gift Shop, shop@blackburncathedral.co.uk, or on the door.

Newsletter

If there is anything you would like us to include in the newsletter, please get in touch either via the cathedral office or by sending an email to info@blackburncathedral.co.uk putting 'newsletter' in the subject line.

Donate to the Work and Fabric of the Cathedral

The Cathedral has now set up a Just Giving account to support our mission and maintain our beautiful historic building. To donate, go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/blackburncathedral>

The Cathedral has also set up Text Giving - you can donate by texting BLAC01 followed by the amount you wish to donate, to 70070.

You can donate £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10.

As an example, to donate £5, you would text the following to 70070: BLAC01£5

All the money you donate goes to us. You may be charged for your text message. Please refer to your network operator's standard rates.

If you have any questions about JustTextGiving, visit <https://www.justgiving.com/>

Regular Service Times

Sunday:

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.00am	Parish Communion
10.30am	Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm	Evensong

Weekdays:

Morning Prayer - **8.40am** Monday to Friday

Holy Communion - Every day, but times may differ, please see the Cathedral website or weekly bulletin for details.

Evening Prayer/Evensong - **5.15pm** Monday to Friday please see weekly bulletin or music list for details of sung services.

Saturday:

9.00am	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Holy Communion
3.30pm	Evening Prayer

Contacts

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The Dean:	The Very Rev'd Peter Howell-Jones
Canon Sacrist:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Hindley
Canon Missioner:	The Rev'd Canon Dr Rowena Pailing
Canon Pastor:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Horsfall
Episcopal Canon	The Right Rev'd Philip North
Dir. of Music:	Mr Samuel Hudson
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THERE BUT NOT THERE

— COMMEMORATE. EDUCATE. HEAL —

Ten transparent silhouettes funded by The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust have been placed throughout the seating areas of the Cathedral. A similar installation in a church in Kent in 2016 proved to be so powerful that it has become a national project: the defining centenary commemoration of the end of the 1914-1918 war, installed where the men and women came from across the country, back in the communities they left behind.

There But Not There aims to place a representative figure for as many as possible of the names on local war memorials, around the country, into their place of worship, their school, their workplace or wherever their absence was keenly felt.

The aim is three-fold:

- Commemorate those who died in the First World War through installations of silhouettes wherever there is a Roll of Honour.
- Educate all generations, particularly today's younger generation, to understand what led to the deaths of 888,246 British and Commonwealth service personnel.
- Heal today's veterans who are suffering from the mental and physical wounds of their service by raising substantial funds.

For the stories behind some of the names on our war memorial, see the continuing exhibition in the South Transept. You can also find prayer resources with two of the silhouettes in St Martin's Chapel.

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Open Guided Tours

Tours are held most first Tuesdays of the month, all are welcome. Please be at the Welcome Desk for 3.00pm.