



St Woolos Quarterly

The Newsletter of Newport Cathedral

Newyddion Cadeirlan Casnewydd

Summer / Haf 2023

Are We Going For Gold? The Eco-Cathedral

Caring for, and exercising prudent and loving stewardship over, the environment is a distinctive mark of Christian mission, and is central to the Diocesan vision and strategy. To exercise good stewardship is also prophetic in the sense that it points to where institutions and individuals have historically failed and encourages corrective measures so that future generations can enjoy the good fruits of creation and the created order. Newport Cathedral, through discussions at Chapter leading to a resolution, has committed to becoming an Eco Cathedral.

Whilst accepting the challenges that come with enhancing and maintaining a predominantly mediæval building, the Cathedral has decided to take the necessary steps to reduce our carbon footprint and to exercise care for our immediate environment. As the Mother Church of the Diocese, we would like to encourage members of the Cathedral congregations and other stakeholders to do likewise. Our endeavours to date have led to an A Rocha Bronze Award, and we intend to go further and apply for a Silver Award later in the year.

The awards are, however, a by-product, for what we are really striving to achieve is a high level of cultural embeddedness whereby it is clear and obvious that the

Cathedral cares for the environment and for future generations, as distinctive and non-negotiable manifestations of Christian living, or discipleship. Many members of our congregations and other stakeholders are already committed to eco-discipleship and we are grateful for their inspiration and for providing the strong foundations on which to build the Cathedral's eco strategy.



So, what has the cathedral done so far this year?

- Recommitted to the Church in Wales net zero by 2030 aspiration.
- Reviewed our investment portfolios and reaffirmed our commitment to ethical investing.
- Switched to a clean energy supplier.
- Decided that all our hygiene and toiletry products will be ethically sourced and that we only use Fairtrade tea and coffee.
- Ensured that we use sustainably sourced paper.
- Registered with A Rocha (we encourage you to do likewise as a private individual).
- Applied for and been awarded an A Rocha Eco Church Bronze Award, with an aspiration to be awarded a Silver Award later in the year.
- Twinned our toilets with toilets in developing countries (again we encourage you to do likewise).
- Introduced two hedgehog hotels and a small bug hotel into the cathedral grounds.
- Planned to build a giant bug hotel, on the 10th of July at 3 p.m. All are very welcome to join us.

I am sure that there is more that we can do, and will do, but in the meantime let's celebrate what we have achieved, not from a place of pride, but from the recognition that we are taking seriously the demands of Christian Eco Mission and Discipleship.



Speedwell, widespread in the Living Churchyard

Canon Andrew Lightbown

You can visit the website of A Rocha Eco Church
[www.https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/](https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/)



Worship at Newport Cathedral

Gwasanaethau yn y Gadeirlan

Regular Service times are as below: on special occasions these may change
Amseroedd Arferol y Gwasanaethau; gall y rhain newid ar achlysuron arbennig

Sunday Sul	8.00 Cathedral Eucharist	10.30 Holy Eucharist	4.00 Choral Evensong
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Llyn, Mawrth, Iau, Gwener	8.00 Morning Prayer	8.20 Holy Eucharist (but 10.30 on Thursdays)	5.00 Evening Prayer
Wednesday Mercher	8.00 Morning Prayer	8.20 Holy Eucharist	6.30 Choral Evensong

News from St Dunstan's Cathedral, our overseas link in the Diocese of the Highveld

Since 2003, the Diocese of Monmouth has had a formal link with the Diocese of the Highveld in South Africa. Within that arrangement, Newport Cathedral and St Dunstan's Cathedral have created an association of mutual prayer and support. Last Autumn, following the visit of Bishop Charles of the Highveld to Newport Cathedral, and hearing, first hand, of some of the needs of the area, the Congregational Committee decided to send a donation of £1,500 to support the distribution of food, shoes, school books and school uniforms. Regular updates from the Cathedral describe how

the Feeding Scheme, based at St Dunstan's, continues to operate every Wednesday, relieving food poverty for around 100 people each week. The food itself, now supplied from donations within the church family, sometimes runs out. Can we do more?



Upcoming events at Newport Cathedral - Digwyddiadau nesaf y Gadeirlan

*** Please check our website for details of these and other events ***

For details of Special Services and Festivals, keep an eye on the website www.newportcathedral.org.uk

- Sunday June 4th at 2.00 pm: Infant and Baby Memorial Service - all are welcome
- Saturday June 17th: Coffee@theCathedral and Summer Fayre - Friendly coffee and chat, stalls
- Saturday June 10th at 12 noon: Music@StWoolos Recitals - Meritxell Nogueer - piano
- Thursday June 22nd at 7.30 pm: Music@StWoolos Evening Concert - The Olive Collective
- Saturday July 8th at 12 noon: Music@StWoolos Recitals - Thomas Greif - Organ
- Saturday July 15th: Coffee@theCathedral - friendly coffee and chat. Bric-a-brac, stalls
- Saturday August 5th at 3.00 pm: St Woolos Sinfonia Summer Chamber Music Concert
- Saturday August 12th at 12 noon: Charles Matthews - piano

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Newport Cathedral Shop
Opening times: see website

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- Children's Corner

FAIRTRADE



Who's Who at Newport Cathedral

Dean of Newport / Y Deon	The Very Revd Ian Black	01633 259990	dean@newportcathedral.org.uk
Residentiary Canon	Canon Andrew Lightbown	01633 837468	andrewlightbown@cinw.org.uk
Assistant Priest	Canon David Neale	07912 104902	apriest@newportcathedral.org.uk
Admin & Events Co-ordinator	Luise Bannister	01633 267464	newportcathedral@churchinwales.org.uk
Chief Operations Officer	Phae Cole	01633 267464	coo.newportcathedral@gmail.com
Director of Music	Dr Emma Gibbins		emmagibbins1978@gmail.com

Dare to Care by Alfie Bannister

As a part of my Welsh Baccalaureate course, I was tasked with creating something of my choice for a subject of my choice. I chose the climate crisis.

I decided to make a persuasive video for plastic waste and how to reduce it.

I made the video using various stock footage I found online that related to the subject. I then found some light reflective music that went in the background video and pictures and then I wrote a script for my 9-year-old cousin to read out. I recorded her narration and then put it over the video and music and reorganized the videos so they then matched up better with what she was saying. She is also very passionate about this issue and has used this video in her school for awareness of children.

I think videos like these are important for our community as they draw attention to an ever-present issue. It is also vital for young people to be involved in this kind of thing

as we are the people who will live in the world that plastic waste is going to create.

The link to my video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dTv80Kuq6E>

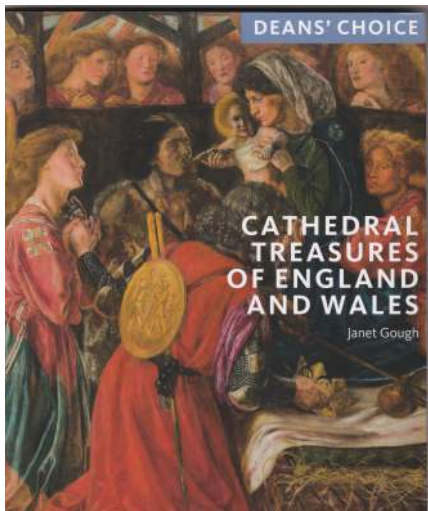


How to get involved: <https://www.oceanicsociety.org/resources/7-ways-to-reduce-ocean-plastic-pollution->

THE BOOK REVIEW

Cathedral Treasures of England and Wales: Deans' Choice

by Janet Gough 2022 Scala Arts & Heritage Publishers Ltd 112pp ISBN 1785514539



Q. Where would you go to see an original copy of Magna Carta? A crypt used by St Wilfred? A golden model ship weathervane? A black wire sculpture of the crucified Christ suspended in mid air?

Well, most of us know the last one. These are all Cathedral treasures, and along with many others are beautifully set out in this compact book, with excellent colour photos, descriptions and background stories. The Deans of every cathedral in England and Wales were approached to suggest the greatest treasure under their care. It could not come as much of a surprise that Dean Ian Black chose to nominate the Newport Rood. Some of the others are interesting choices – manuscripts and Bibles (Rochester, Exeter, St Asaph), kneelers that tell a story (Guildford), the Tempus Fugit clock (Wells), a pair of pilgrim's boots from about 1500 (Worcester) and it makes you want to get out there and see them all for real, and explore whatever else they may have. But next best would be to have this book on your shelves at home. And it is available in the Cathedral Shop.

(A. Salisbury, Ripon, Portsmouth and Newport)



Cathedral News

As we approach the 35th edition of the St Woolos Quarterly, we like to re-iterate how much we value contributions from all and any of the Church family, as well as those with memories or connections past or present. So in this edition we are delighted to include two articles, one by a member of the Cathedral Choir, the other by an ex-Chorister. Thanks to Alfie and Bethan for those.

By the time this edition reaches the news-stands there will have been Services, concerts, Come-and-Sing Compline, celebrations of 'Women in Song' and more. On Friday 19th the London Film Music Orchestra will have brought us the best of John Williams and Hans Zimmer. Why not jot down your impressions, your critique, or send us photos? All contributions warmly welcomed.

Brian and Sian - Eds.

Harp Show - Bethan Cole

Music has always been part of my life, and from the moment I saw Catrin Finch play the harp on Zingzillas, a children's program, when I was 3 years old I knew that was the instrument I wanted to play. I've been really lucky that my parents have always supported me in this desire, fighting for me to be able to learn at primary school, and I have had some fantastic teachers who have inspired real joy for the instruments.

This September my school purchased a pedal harp and I was delighted to be asked to play it to the infants and juniors at an instrument introduction day.

Two pupils signed up for harp lessons, but I found out that one little girl, who had been completely entranced by the instrument, didn't do so. I asked her about

it and she said her parents thought it would be better if she learned an instrument that she could play more in school. This got me thinking, it was great that the school now had both a lever harp and pedal harp, but if we were going to expand the opportunity, really small hands needed to have the chance to play the instrument.

I spoke to my headteacher about purchasing some really small harps and introduce a little hands-on harps project in the school. Although she was incredibly supportive of the idea she advised that financially it wasn't a priority.

So I decided to see if I could put on a concert to raise the required funds.

Fortunately when I asked, a wonderful group of people said yes and volunteered their time and skill to put on a fantastic concert that really helped show the true versatility of the harp. After some friends and I opened the concert, Gwent Youth Harps, whose players range from 8 to 17, really emphasized what I'm hoping to achieve. Shelley Fairplay opened the second half by walking through the audience premiering a piece on her

electric harp, and this was followed by Ben Creighton Griffiths playing a jazz set. Claire Jones and Chris Marshall showed how the harp and percussion can create a wonderful fusion of sound and the concert concluded with most of the performers coming together to play Piazzolla's Libertango, as arranged by Chris. We raised £650 at



the concert and I am now half way towards my goal of £2,250 for ten Derwent Adventurer 20 harps. If I am able to secure sufficient funding, the plan is to start a series of harp groups in the junior school from September 2023 and then offer the chance to join in to other local primary schools.

I've been really fortunate to have wonderful mentors and teachers and I really hope setting up a grassroots harp program will allow me to inspire others.

Please feel free to send us items of interest that relate to the Cathedral - its past, current activities or news. Articles should be kept short (400-500 words or less, as a rule) - they may need to be edited prior to publication.
Deadline for copy for next edition: Tuesday August 22nd 2023 Contact Brian or Siân King: contact@newportcathedral.org.uk
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