

CATHEDRALS
PLUS



Conference

2025



Journeys

Travelling
together
through faith



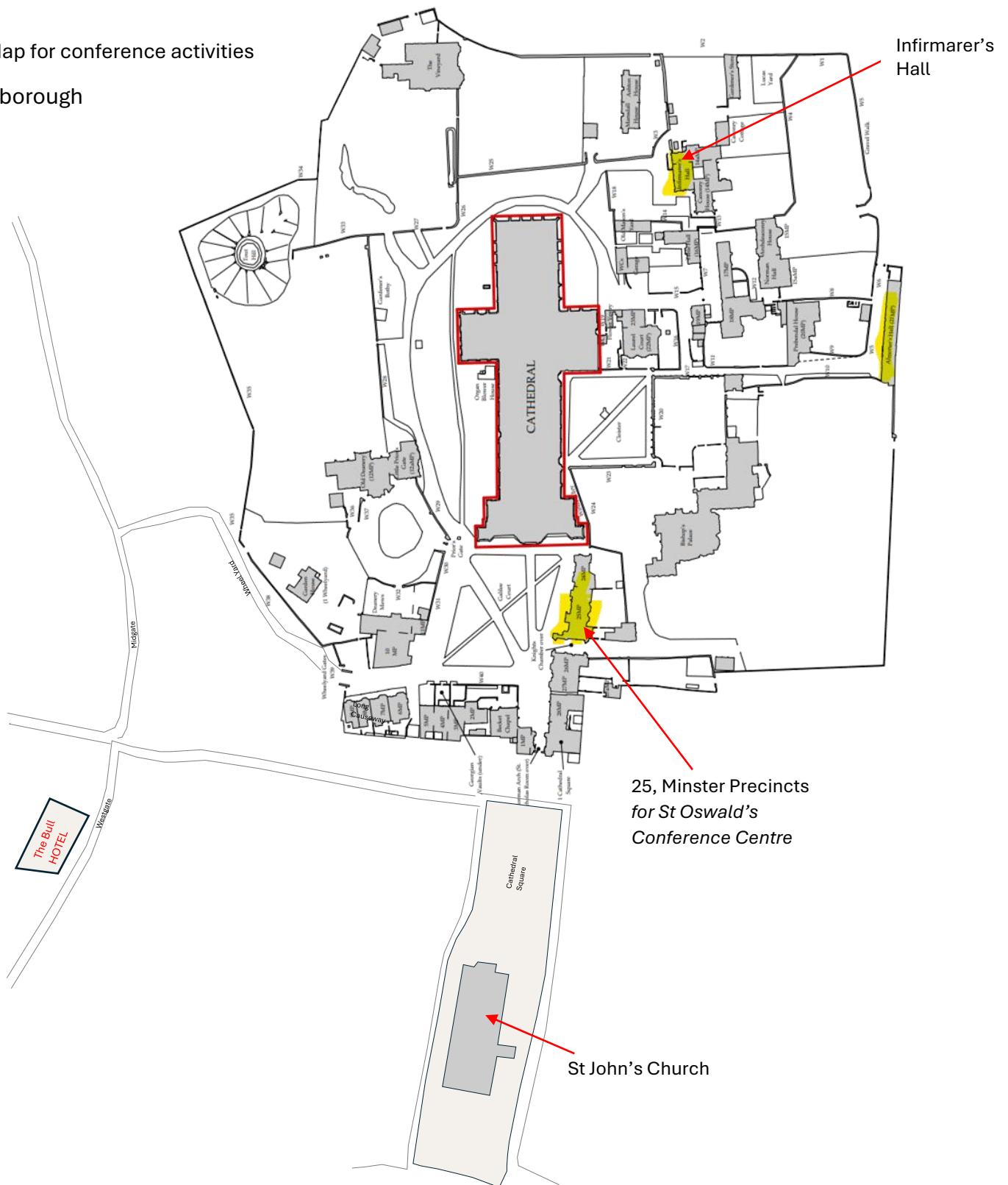
Peterborough
Cathedral

Conference Programme

14th - 16th January 2025

www.cathedralsplus.org.uk/conference

Site Map for conference activities
Peterborough



Regional Hubs will meet in the following rooms (Day 2)
* *In St Oswald's Conference Centre*

- Eastern:** The Drawing Room *
- Midlands:** The Royce Room *
- North:** The Classroom *
- South East:** St John's Church
- South West:** Infirmerer's Hall

Conference Programme 2025

Journeys: travelling together through faith

Welcome to the 2025 Cathedrals Plus annual conference.

This year, we focus on how our sacred spaces underpin individual, collective and inter-faith spiritual journeys, both as inspiration and destination. We explore how we might encourage and celebrate the concepts of worship, prayer and pilgrimage.

Tuesday, 14th January 2025

- **11.30am Council members (those present) meet at registration desk to help**
- **12.30pm Arrival. Registration.** Luggage store available. Tour allocations and Workshop choices sign up.

Coffee/tea/sandwich lunch

- *Write your questions on post-it notes here for panel discussion on Day 2*
- *Resources available to peruse, displays & guest partners available to chat!*

- **2pm Welcome**
by **The Very Revd Chris Dalliston**, Dean of Peterborough and **The Very Revd Anthony Cane**, Dean of Portsmouth and Chair of Cathedrals Plus.
- **2.30pm – 3.30pm Cathedral Tours**
(led by Peterborough Cathedral staff and volunteers)
- **3.45 - 5pm Time to check in at the hotel**

5.15 - 6.15pm Speaker session 1

Pilgrimage, Places, and People: enhancing our offer; enhancing visitor experience

Revd Professor Dee Dyas, Emeritus Professor of the History of Christianity, University of York. Dee will draw on decades of research on pilgrimage, the very extensive public interest in spirituality, the impact of great church buildings, and the dynamics of visitor engagement. Using her long experience of working with the AEC and cathedrals across the country to create visitor engagement strategies and resources, she will explore how what we offer visitors of all ages can profoundly affect their life journeys.

- **7.15pm Buffet Dinner**
- **8.45pm Sons et Lumières**
Led by **Revd Canon Tim Alban Jones**, Vice Dean of Peterborough

Wednesday, 15th January 2025

- **8 – 8.30am Morning Prayer, followed by Holy Communion (8.30 - 9am)**

9.30am - 10.15am Speaker session 2

Journeys Personal, Global, and Transformational: ‘Contested heritage’ in cathedrals.

Dr Renie Chow Choy Associate Lecturer in Church History at Westcott House

- **10.15 -10.45am - Coffee**
 - *Write your questions on post-it notes here for panel discussion*
 - *Resources available to peruse, with displays & guest partners are available to chat!*
- **11.00am -11.50am Workshops – choose one from four options**

1 Education:

Engaging the Senses in Awesome Places.

Hilary Young, Learning Officer, and **Philippa Stevens**, Director of Learning, Ely Cathedral.

This will be an interactive workshop with lots of ideas and examples that can easily be applied to any setting.

2 Education:

Moving beyond the Tick Box: Helping pupils to gain more from their school visit

Stacey Burman and Chris Allen

“With 200k visitors to our website, The RE hubs can host Cathedrals' resources and advertise their events to boost engagement, and perhaps even support the educators' own upskilling with access to our free blogs, resources and materials”.

3 Families:

The Growing Faith Adventure in the intersections between home-school-church

Charlotte Nobbs, Diocesan Youth Trust.

‘Growing Faith’ focuses on the interconnection between school-home-church, where children are at the heart of every ministerial and missional decision. This session will explore what it is to be intergenerational and how to adapt to ensure more inclusivity, proactively welcoming younger generations.

4 General/Visitors:

Banning the ‘F’ - word (‘F’ = free), the dynamic donations journey.

Dave Cramp Commercial Development Consultant, Peterborough.

An interactive workshop to stimulate discussion, give confidence and encourage action for change. The group will learn about the plan, tasks and experiences of Peterborough Cathedral’s journey to an entry by donation way of working. They will discover how Peterborough Cathedral approached embracing change, the steps taken and the results achieved.

- **12.15 - 1pm**

Interfaith Panel discussion on spiritual journeys / pilgrimages.

Revd. Canon Tim Alban Jones, Vice Dean of Peterborough Cathedral.

The Panel will include representatives of various faiths and our guest speakers.

- **1.15pm - 2pm Lunch**

[1.10 pm. Council meeting - working lunch]

- **2 - 3pm**

Regional Hub group discussions led by regional contact leads

Co-ordinated by **Laura Arends**, Westminster Abbey

- **3 - 5.00pm Tea and Optional tours:**

3.10pm Visit to a local Mosque departs

3.30pm choose from Museum / Tower Tour / City Walk

- **5.30 - 6.15pm Evensong** with the Upper Voices (years 6-8)

- **7.15 - 7.40 pm**

Drinks Reception with a short talk about The Benefact Trust:

Funding to Support your Cathedral's Mission

Helen Gray, Trust Director - The Benefact Trust

- **7.45 pm**

Conference Dinner sponsored by Ecclesiastical Insurance.

After-dinner guest speaker: **Rt Rev'd Debbie Sellin, Bishop of Peterborough.**

Day 3: Thursday, 16th January 2025

- **8 am Morning Prayer**

 - From 8am - Luggage store available

- **9-10 am Sharing / Practical sessions - two groups**

 - 1 Visitors**

 - Co-ordinated by **Owen Towndrow**, Hereford Cathedral

 - 2 Education**

 - Co-ordinated by **Diana Ives**, Southwell Minster

- **10.05 -10.35 am Coffee**

- **10.40 -11am Cathedrals Plus AGM**

 - All members welcome and indeed encouraged to attend!

- **11.10am -12 pm Workshops – choose one from four options**

 - 1 Education:**

 - Science and Faith**

 - Jen Stratford**, Education Officer, Chester Cathedral.

 - An interactive exploration of how science can engage children to explore spiritual concepts.*

 - 2 Education :**

 - The Cathedral Classroom: creative teaching in sacred spaces**

 - Steve Clarke**, Education Officer at St Alban's and **Toni Morgan-Ray**, Learning Officer at Peterborough Cathedral.

 - 3 General/Visitors:**

 - 0-60 in 5 years – Peterborough Cathedral's Eventful Journey**

 - Revd Canon Tim Alban Jones**, Vice Dean and Canon Pastor and **Maria Elsey**, Head of Operations.

 - Peterborough Cathedral has moved from running two income-generating events per year to over 60. This workshop will explore how we try to balance the secular and the spiritual in an interactive exploration of our events schedule – the what, the when and the why!*

4 General/Families :

Messy Cathedral

Jane Butler, Messy Church Training & Development Lead, BRF Ministries

An interactive workshop on Messy Church and ways of encouraging children and families onto a journey of faith and discipleship.

12.10 pm -12.55 pm Speaker Session 3

Ancient Practice/Modern Meaning: Pilgrimage in Britain Today

Dawn Champion, the British Pilgrimage Trust

Dawn will talk about the motivations, practices and places that make up the modern practice of pilgrimage in Britain and ask what is driving the revival of pilgrimage today.

- **12.55 pm Farewell, thanks and evaluation**
The Very Revd Dr Anthony Cane, Chair of Cathedrals Plus
- **1.10 pm Collect packed lunches**
- **Depart**
 - 1.15 – 2pm - Council debrief

**Thank you for coming to the Cathedrals Plus conference.
With very best wishes for a safe journey home, on behalf of the Council.**

The Cathedrals Plus Council: Dean Anthony Cane (Chair) (Portsmouth); Canon Jane Brooke; Antony Austin (Hon. Treasurer); Jackie Holderness (Secretary); Sarah Page (Co-Secretary); Laura Arends (Regional Coordinator) (Westminster); Canon Kevin Walton (St Albans); Clark Brydon (St Patrick's Dublin); Yvonne Pearson (Liverpool); Jen Stratford (Chester); Zoe Willis (Canterbury); Owen Towndrow (Hereford); Charlie Rowbotham (St Paul's); Lisa Power (York); Daniel Parnell (Worcester); Phil Stevens (Ely); Jane Southward (Walsingham); Gillian Bunn (Wakefield); Alex Carton (Peterborough).

Guest Speakers



Dawn Champion, the British Pilgrimage Trust

Dawn Champion is a historian, naturalist and pilgrim. After a career with English Heritage and the Wildlife Trusts, she now works for the British Pilgrimage Trust as Head of Community, reviving a culture of pilgrimage and helping more people discover the benefits of this modern practice built on ancient tradition.



Dr Renie Chow Choy

Dr Renie Chow Choy is Associate Lecturer in Church History at Westcott House, Cambridge, and from January will be Public Historian at Westminster Abbey. Previously she was Community Engagement Manager for historic collections at St Paul's Cathedral, where she led the curation of two trails about monuments associated with the British Empire. Renie is author of *Ancestral Feeling: Postcolonial Thoughts on Western Christian Heritage* (SCM Press 2021) and *Intercessory Prayer and the Monastic Ideal in the Time of the Carolingian Reforms* (Oxford University Press 2016), a monograph on early medieval monasticism. She sits on a number of committees responsible for the conservation and interpretation of the Church of England's historic buildings, including the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England (CFCE). She is also Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Chester and Research Associate at the Centre for the Study of Christianity and Culture at the University of York.



Revd Professor Dee Dyas

Revd Professor Dee Dyas is Emeritus Professor of the History of Christianity and former Director of the Centre for Christianity & Culture at the University of York. She has taught spirituality, led research on cathedrals, mission, and pilgrimage, worked extensively with the AEC and cathedrals across the country on visitor engagement, and is Director of the Explore Project. Dee is now part of the team delivering 'Faith in the North,' a new mission, pilgrimage, and heritage project for cathedrals and parish churches across the Northern Province.

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The Council wish to thank our sponsors and guest speakers, and all those who have donated items for the delegate bags.



Emergency numbers during the conference:

Alex Carton (Peterborough Cathedral): 01733 355315 / 07735 434744

Jackie Holderness (Secretary): 07784 323903

Sarah Page (Co-Secretary - Website, Social Media and Marketing): 07753 198245

The Bull Hotel: 01733 561364