

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PRESS RELEASE

**'STITCHING THE CATHEDRAL' GROUP RETURN FOR 2019 TO BEGIN NEW KNEELERS FOR ST.AIDEN'S CHAPEL.**



*Heather Choudhary and Jill Wright displaying the canvas that will, once stitched, become the kneelers for Bradford Cathedral's St.Aiden's Chapel.*

A team of twenty members of the 'Stitching the Cathedral' group met in January to finish off working on the kneelers for the main altar at Bradford Cathedral, as well as preparing for their next stitching project, a Celtic-themed design for St.Aiden's Chapel.

The project grew out of the 'Friends of Bradford Cathedral' group in 2015, and was something entirely new for a Cathedral that didn't have anything like an Embroiderers' Guild. Over the last three years a core group of twenty-five men and women, have come regularly to the Cathedral on a Tuesday afternoon to take part in 'Stitching the Cathedral'.

|

**HOSPITALITY. FAITHFULNESS. WHOLENESS.**



*Some of the members of the 'Stitching the Cathedral' group working hard on their most recent project.*

The design, by Polly Meynell, has been transferred onto seven large pieces of canvas, which are tacked to frames and then sewn in various colours by the group. Their latest work forms part of the Textiles Project undertaken by the Cathedral some five years ago.

Jill Wright of the Friends of Bradford Cathedral said:

“The original project is almost complete now. When that fact seeped through to the group towards the end of last year, uproar ensued! “We don’t want to stop!” they cried. “What can we do next?” they asked.

“From being a group of people who didn’t know one another and whose only common interest was sewing, there has grown a caring and supportive group who want to keep working to enhance the Cathedral in the best way they can. They come from all faiths and none and from many different places.

“We have welcomed a wide variety of visitors, talked, eaten cake and drunk tea (and coffee!), laughed and cried together. Literally thousands of hours have been spent on the project. Around 80 people have done at least a few stitches, making it a real community project, and their names are recorded in our Heritage Book.”

‘Stitching the Cathedral’ takes place twice a month at Bradford Cathedral, with the next session on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019, and anyone is welcome to join the team. No experience is necessary and you can turn up for as few or as many sessions as you can. The group will shortly begin work on the kneelers for St Aidan’s Chapel. You can find out more about when the group meets on the Bradford Cathedral website.

## **ENDS**

### Notes for Editors

#### **About Bradford Cathedral**

Bradford Cathedral has been a place of worship in Bradford since the first millennium. It is the oldest building in the city and, alongside being a place of worship, hosts events, arts projects and much more. Bradford Cathedral celebrates its centenary in 2019.

For further information please contact:

Philip Lickley  
Communications, Marketing and Events Officer  
t: 01274 777720  
e: [commsandevents@bradfordcathedral.org](mailto:commsandevents@bradfordcathedral.org)