

## FCM NATIONAL GATHERING IN COVENTRY 8 – 10 June 2018

### Friday 8 June

- 1330 Journey from Coventry to Kenilworth Castle by coach. Pick up the coach at the front entrance of Coventry Cathedral.
- 1350 Unguided visit to Kenilworth Castle and Elizabethan Garden. This is one of England's largest and most historic venues – a medieval fortress which became an Elizabethan Palace. A few areas do not have disabled access, but there is much to see and a tearoom! There are some covered areas in case of inclement weather. (English Heritage members free / non-members £8 group rate)
- 1530 Journey to nearby Warwick by coach.
- 1545 Welcome to historic St Mary's Church by the Vicar, Revd. Dr Vaughan Roberts followed by a talk by newly appointed Director of Music, Oliver Hancock, (lately Assistant DoM at Portsmouth Cathedral) and a tour of the church with local guides, before tea and biscuits.
- 1730 Choral Evensong sung by St Mary's Church Choir.
- 1830 Return to Coventry by coach
- 1930 Gathering Dinner in the magnificent Great Hall in the medieval St Mary's Guildhall (next to the ruins of St Michael's Cathedral). Speaker: Canon Sarah Hills Canon for Reconciliation. Menu: *Braised chicken forestière in a bacon, mushroom and red wine sauce served with seasonal vegetables and roasted or new potatoes or Mediterranean vegetable risotto with white wine and herbs in a tortilla basket finished with pan-fried vegetables and sun-drenched tomatoes*, followed by *Dutch chunky apple flan with crème anglaise*, and *tea/coffee/mints*.

### Saturday 9 June

**Coventry Cathedral – Please make sure you are wearing your FCM badge** – there is an entry charge to Coventry Cathedral which is kindly being reduced for us during the FCM Gathering and which will be combined with the Tours price to give us best value for money.

- 1000 Welcome and introductions – Revd Canon Dr David Stone, Precentor and Sub-Dean.
- 1015 Tours of Coventry Cathedral in groups, to take in the ruins of St Michael's Cathedral, the bombing and rebuilding, and the wonderful modern and medieval stained glass.
- 1115 Tea / coffee and cake in the Lecture Hall, Coventry Cathedral
- 1145 Talk by Director of Music, Kerry Beaumont on music at Coventry Cathedral, choral scholarships and the use made of recent grant money.
- 1215 Members make their own arrangements for lunch – there are a good number of eating places in the vicinity.
- 1330 FCM Annual General Meeting in the Lecture Hall.
- 1500 Members may attend the Choir Rehearsal in the Cathedral  
FCM Council Members will meet in the Chapter House.
- 1530 Tea / coffee and cake in the Lecture Hall
- 1600 Choral Evensong sung by Coventry Cathedral Choir
- 1700 Demonstration of the great Harrison & Harrison Cathedral Organ by Kerry Beaumont
- 1730 Members make their own arrangements for dinner
- 2000 Concert by Coventry Chamber Choir 'Amici' for approximately 1 hour.

### Sunday 10 June

- 1030 Choral Eucharist in Coventry Cathedral,  
Followed by coffee and an informal 'Coffee Concert' given by some of the choristers, on the steps of the Chapel of Unity (back of the Nave)
- 1300 Sunday carvery lunch at the Britannia Hotel, Fairfax Street, (2 minutes' walk from the Cathedral)
- 1600 Choral Evensong in Coventry Cathedral
- 1700 Tea, coffee and cake provided by the Choir Association. Depart.