

## **PRESS RELEASE - Coventry Hiroshima Remembrance 2023 6<sup>th</sup> august 2023 2pm**

**Mr Yasuyuki Okazaki, Minister, Public Diplomacy, Embassy of Japan will represent Hiroshima and Japan**

**In Coventry at the annual remembrance held in Coventry Cathedral**



Photograph by Embassy of Japan and Mike Lane

Coventry Hiroshima Remembrance is on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> august 2023 at 2pm in the nave of Coventry Cathedral and Coventry chapel of unity. All welcome. We are honoured with the presence of our Lord Mayor Councillor Jaswant Singh Birdi and Mr Yasuyuki Okazaki, Minister, Public Diplomacy of the Embassy of Japan and Coventry elected Councillors. Everybody from Coventry and beyond is welcome. 2023 is the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The two nuclear bombs of 1945, are the only ever use of Nuclear-Weapons. 266,400 died instantly. Many people died later of radiation poisoning. The Hibakusha – the explosions affected people - 526,000 Hibakusha have died in Hiroshima and Nagasaki since 1945. The remembrance includes messages of greeting from our Lord Mayor of Coventry to the Mayor and people of Hiroshima and from to Mayor of Hiroshima to the Lord Mayor of Coventry and the people of Coventry; the story of Sadako, the making of cranes of Peace in origami, and finally the reading of Coventry Cathedral's Litany of Reconciliation. Greetings will be by Coventry Young ambassadors. All welcome and please use Eventbrite to book – it helps so much. please use this link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hiroshima-day-2023-in-coventry-cathedral-tickets-636544721397>

Coventry continues to build links with Hiroshima. In 2021 Coventry City Council sent a certificate of continuing friendship to the Hiroshima City Council. Coventry Cathedral's fellowship of reconciliation awarded a prestigious Coventry Cross of Nails to the people of Hiroshima recognising their contribution to world efforts for peace and reconciliation. The ambassador of Japan to the United Kingdom

commended the efforts of the Peace Committee with a certificate “of the spirit of profound gratitude” for everything that the committee had done.

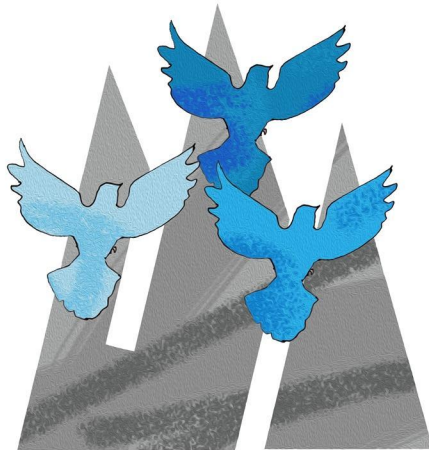
Paul Maddocks chair of The Lord Mayor’s Peace committee and long-standing member of the Coventry Society says “the annual Coventry Hiroshima Remembrance is part of Coventry’s great contribution to “the world-wide work of Peace and Reconciliation” and the call to end the world of the “unbelievable destructive” nuclear weapons.” “We look forward to being with everybody at the Remembrance”.

All welcome but if you cannot be there in person please watch on line.

The link for the Cathedral’s Facebook live stream is <https://tiny.cc/cathfacebook>  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hiroshima-day-2023-in-coventry-cathedral-tickets-636544721397>

## Information for Editors

### Coventry Lord Mayor’s Committee for Peace and Reconciliation



Coventry Lord Mayor's Committee  
*for Peace & Reconciliation*

This Committee of about 20 peace activists has been organising events promoting peace and reconciliation both within the City and beyond since 1980. It currently organises a range of events including the Lord Mayor’s Peace Lecture, Hiroshima Day Commemoration, Young People’s Peace and Reconciliation Conference, Children’s Peace Poem and Children’s Peace Song Competitions. It also publishes books and pamphlets.

We also work to make the people of Coventry more aware of peace and reconciliation, for example by maintaining the website <https://coventrycityofpeace.uk>

### More information about Coventry Lord Mayor’s Committee for Peace and Reconciliation

Please contact our Chair Paul Maddocks [paul\\_maddocks@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul_maddocks@yahoo.co.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/coventrycityofpeace/>