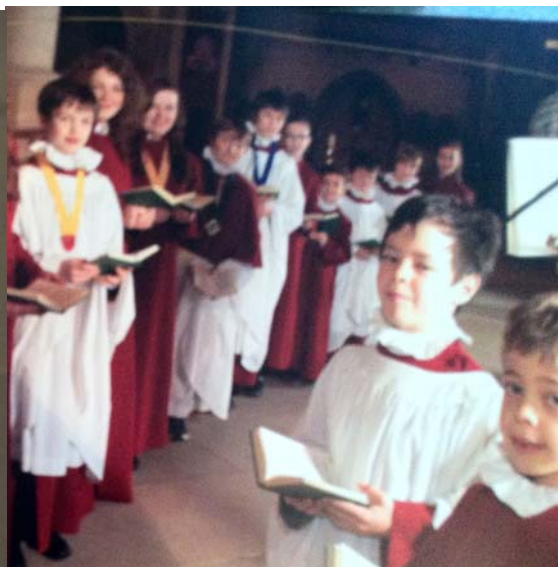


Cathedral Choir News

Summer 2011



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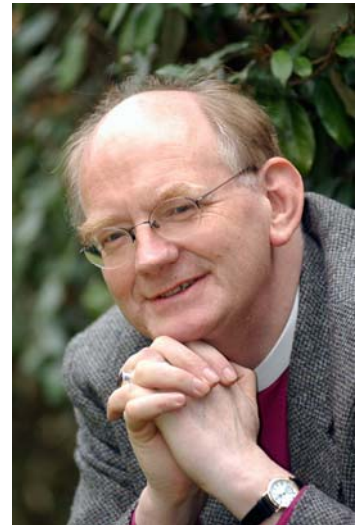
PORTSMOUTH
CATHEDRAL

Summer Newsletter

Welcome to Cathedral Choir Newsletter no 50

Round Up

The year started very sadly with the death of our former Diocesan **Bishop Kenneth** Stevenson. His funeral, full of celebration, humour, poignancy and praise, held on 26th January was, as the Precentor so eloquently put it—'an example of when liturgy can be something unspeakably more than the sum of all its parts'. The **Archbishop of Canterbury** will inter his ashes in the St Thomas Chapel on Sunday 5th June at Choral Evensong. The choir sang at a Remembrance service for all those members of the civilian population killed in the **Portsmouth Blitz of 1941** and at a service to particularly mark the loss of life at 101 High Street.



The French Alps 2011



Some of our Senior Choristers and Choral Scholars sang at a concert in **Alpe d'Huez** in The French Alps in April. They also enjoyed a **bit of skiing!** The concert was reviewed by the local regional newspaper in the following way.....

'On Thursday 14th April, the voices of Portsmouth Cathedral Choir raised the roof of Notre Dame des Neiges. The renown of this choir speaks for itself. It is one of the most famous British choirs and the singers are schoolboys or students. The 14 singers, of whom 4 were children, sang a broad repertoire, accompanied on the organ by Will Drakett, a young and promising 18 year old organist. Their performance of pieces as diverse as the Crucifixus by Lotti, considered one of the masterpieces of Italian Church Music, the Lux aurumque by the contemporary American composer Eric Whitacre, or even the Sparrow Mass by Mozart, was remarkable. The choir finished with a phenomenal Messiah by Handel, which truly moved many spectators in the audience. Portsmouth Cathedral Choir had already been in December 2009 and the audience eagerly anticipated their return, as testified by the number of people who came this Thursday. This event also attracted lots of children, who had come to see this magnificent concert.'



Summer Newsletter

Brother and Sisters.....

Singing Siblings! Our choirs currently have boy and girl Choristers from seven families. Is this a "re-chord"? **Eleven** of our twenty two Boy Choristers from the Cathedral Choir and five of our twenty girls from Cantate hail from seven local families! (see picture on front page)

Holy Week & Easter 2011

The choir returned to a particularly busy Holy Week and **Easter**. The music for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday was of a particularly high standard this year and much appreciated by our congregations. The boys also enjoyed a **swimming** trip during the week as a small thank you for all their **hard work** over the busy period. Easter Day fell very late this year and so there was little time for rest before term started again.



People

We finalised all but one place for next year's **choral scholars** and are pleased to have appointed **Ciaran Walshe** from The Kings School and Gloucester Cathedral, **Ed Seddon** from Kings School Wimbledon, **Alex Robarts** from Eton College, **Ieuan Anthony** from St David's Cathedral alongside **Nick Miller** our new Organ Scholar from the University of Bristol and St Mary Redcliffe.

We were pleased to note the **engagement** of two members of choirs here at the Cathedral. Cathedral Choir Tenor **Adrian Green** and Parish Choir member **Sarah Goddard** have set the date for their marriage in the Cathedral in July 2012. Our congratulations to them both. We also thank Sarah for all her tremendous cake-baking efforts to raise money for music purchase for our choirs. **To date she has raised just under £300.**

Finally—well done indeed to **Harry Bennett** who has been offered a place in **Genesis 16**—a training choir alongside the internationally acclaimed choir 'The Sixteen'. This choir attracted hundreds of young people for audition and so this offer is all the more impressive and thoroughly well deserved.

New recording project— 'On Shore and Sea'



We have been approached by **The Baltic Exchange** to record a new commission of theirs—'An Anthem for Seafarers' by Malcolm Archer as well as other musical items of a nautical flavour. Mr Archer (*left*) was, until very recently Organist of St Paul's Cathedral and is now **Director of the Quiristers** at Winchester College. We hope to record some of the tracks at the end of the summer term in time for an **October** release date.

Cathedral SingUp!



Funding has been secured for another year's worth of **SingUp Outreach** - and we thank the **Diocese of Portsmouth** for their generous contribution. This year's work will mainly be focussed in the Michaelmass term with Christmas concerts in **Portsmouth, Lee-on-the-Solent** and **Newport, IoW**.

Mr Andrew Cleary

Many of you will have heard that **Mr Cleary** moves to be Director of Music at **Christ's Hospital** in the summer. We have much to thank Andrew for his setting up of Cantate **from scratch in 2007** and for all his work with them since. In addition he has a most supportive colleague at The Grammar School and has been an Assistant Sub-Organist at the Cathedral during his time in Portsmouth. Dr Price will be directing Cantate from the start of the new Choir Year.

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