

Cathedral Music News

Lent 2012



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PORTSMOUTH
CATHEDRAL

Lent 2012

Round Up

What do Schnitzel, Tavener, Stollen, Praetorius, Puss-in-Boots, BBCRadio 3, Dove, Eton College have in common? **Three months** in the life of a Cathedral Chorister! Read ahead for news of recent choir events and things to come.....

Berlin Tour October 2011



The **boys and men** travelled to the wonderful city of **Berlin** last term. We spent six days enjoying the sights and sounds of Berlin and sang in some beautiful churches. It was a particular honour to sing in the **Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church** for their Sunday Eucharist.



Advent and Christmas 2011



Both the **Cathedral Choir** and **Cantate** joined together for some key services and events for Advent and Christmas starting with the **Advent Carol Service** and culminating in the live broadcast on **BBC Radio 3** on 21st December. Our choirs sang to just over **5000 people** over the Christmas season. A remarkable opportunity and mission to the community in this area.

People

It has been excellent to work with this year's set of Gappers—thank you to **Nick, Ieuan and Ciaran** for all they have contributed to the life of the Cathedral thus far. We welcomed **Katrina Trim, Nancy Fenton, Guy Snowball** and **Charlie Cresswell-Hogg** to Cantate; **Joe Russell, Frazer Mackenzie, Tom Lees, Dominic Roberts, Sam Crosby, Alex Dellafera** and **Jake Austin** have joined the Cathedral Choir. We have appointed all the gappers for next year and look forward to welcoming **Hector** (Counter-tenor), **Tom, James,** (Tenors) **Daniel, Sam** (Basses) and **David** (Michael James Organ Scholar) in due course.



Three senior boys have hung up their Head Chorister medallions in recent months. We thank **Rob Weekes** and **Hugh Summers** who left last term, and **Sam Gibb** who has had a short but well deserved tenure as Wilson Head Boy. Thanks to **William Forrest** who continues to do sterling work as Spreadborough Head Chorister.

Cathedral Sub-Organist



We said goodbye and good luck to **Mr Wibberley** as he moved to be Director of Music at **Hexham Abbey** last November. The interregnum is being ably covered by **Nick Miller** and **Will Drakett** as Acting Sub-Organists and we thank them for all their hard work. The new combined post of **Cathedral Sub-Organist and School Organist** for Portsmouth Grammar School has just been advertised to start in September.

Cathedral SingUp!

Our outreach work continues apace. Members of the Cathedral Choir and of Cantate led workshops with local primary schools in **Newport Minster** and **St Mary's Rowner** just before Christmas. And both choirs have separately undertaken many trips out to parishes over recent months with the Cathedral Choir singing at **St Peter's Wymering** and for a packed house at **St Faith's Lee-on-the-Solent**, and Cantate singing at **St Thomas Bedhampton** to great acclaim.

Over the next few months we look forward to visiting **St Cuthbert's Copnor**, **Holy Trinity Gosport**, **All Saints East Meon** and **Holy Trinity Ventnor**.

Visit of Mr Ralph Allwood....

We were delighted to welcome former **Precentor** (Director of Music) of Eton College, **Mr Ralph Allwood** to work with our choirs over a weekend in January. Ralph led **inspirational workshops** with the boys, then the girls and then the men culminating in directing the **Cathedral Eucharist on Sunday** morning. Everyone learnt a great deal and we will see him again in the **summer term** for a second session.

Cantate will be organising and hosting another **'Singing Day'** this summer following the success of last summer's Zimbe. Look out for further news soon....



Forthcoming events.....

Over the next two terms we shall be recording **two CD projects** with Convivium Records. The first is to complete our sessions for the **Baltic Exchange Project 'Music for Seafarers'** (see proposed artwork below...) And the second is to record the **church music of June Clark** (mother of Lay Clerk Nick Pepin).



The Cathedral marks the **30th Anniversary** of the **The Falklands Conflict** this May, and then we look forward to two services marking **HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee** on June 3rd.

Cantate will be singing in **The French Alps** during the week after Easter—hopefully enjoying some excellent ski conditions too and this year's **Portsmouth Festivities** will soon be upon us as we prepare for a week of Charles Dickens amongst many other delights.....

Looking further ahead the Cathedral Choir is planning to **tour Sweden** in February 2013.



Cathedral Facebook page

The Cathedral has a **Facebook** page. Please do take a look even if you are not part of Facebook—it is still possible to access the site. If you are a member of Facebook please **'Like'** the page and encourage your friends to join.....