

Cathedral Choir News

Easter 2010



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PORTSMOUTH
CATHEDRAL

Easter Newsletter

Welcome to Cathedral Choir Newsletter no 47

SingUp 2010



Our final year of government-funded **SingUp Outreach** is in full-swing with a large programme of visits to eight schools on the Isle of Wight and four schools in Gosport. They will all come together for a combined concert in the cathedral during the Portsmouth Festivities in June.

Scholars at Gosport

This year's set of **choral scholars** are well over half way through their time with us, in fact we have already said goodbye to **Dan Johnson** who had long-planned to only do half the year alongside plans to spend time in **Argentina** working on his language skills—see his farewell party pictured right! We shall be sorry to bid farewell to a number of them at the end of the summer term and thank them for all they have contributed to the music here so far - while looking forward to a good deal more....



They gave an excellent concert at **Holy Trinity, Gosport** last month to a large and enthusiastic audience. This concert was the third such that we have given there as part of Holy Trinity's efforts to raise £150,000 to rebuild their famous 'Handel' organ.

The concerts take place on the first Sunday of every month at 3.30pm if you would like to support the series.

Next year's gaps

We have completed most of our auditions for **next year's choral scholars**. We shall be welcoming **Kate Macpherson** (from Exeter University) as Organ Scholar, **James Hall** (Warwick University) and **Ed Woodhouse** (Portsmouth University) as tenors; **Jonathan Stewart** (King's School Canterbury) and **Alexander Trend** (Tonbridge School) as basses. We are lucky that Alasdair, Oliver, Adrian, Harry and James continue to be part of the choir alongside Dr Pepin, Mr Mitchell, Mr Barrett, Mr Cawte, Mr Owen, Dr Hughes and Mr Dodd.



New Choir recording—Harvey Brough's Valete in Pace

At long last the much awaited CD of **Harvey Brough's 'Valete in Pace'** for DDay 60 is set to be released this June. The Cathedral Choir recorded the CD with Clare College Choir, Cambridge and The Britten Sinfonia under the direction of Andrew Parrott in March 2008. We shall be performing a section of Valete in Pace and **Harvey's Requiem in Blue** (also on the disc) at a concert in the Portsmouth Festivities on Saturday 19th June.

James Wilder—Friends of Cathedral Music 'Tony Harvey Scholarship'

Thanks are due to the National **Friends of Cathedral Music** who have presented a cheque for £500 to support one of our choral scholars James Wilder in his post-graduate gap year.

Portsmouth Cathedral Choir

Summer term....

There are a number of busy weeks ahead for the choir in the **summer term**. We hope to complete our Christmas disc recording that we began last year. We are singing out and about - two visits to parishes in the diocese; **Hambledon Church** and **St George's Waterlooville**; and to the **Beaminster Festival** in Dorset. In the May half term we are travelling to Antwerp to sing 2 concerts as well as the Sunday morning service in **Antwerp Cathedral**.



A new bishop for Portsmouth.....



We look forward to welcoming our new bishop, the Right Reverend **Christopher Foster** who will be installed as Bishop of Portsmouth on Saturday 18th September. Bishop Christopher used to work at St Albans Cathedral as Sub-Dean and is currently Bishop of Hertford.

Valete

We marked **David Hampshire's** retirement from the cathedral choir after almost **thirty years** service at a dinner in January. David was 'dined-out' by two former Precentors of Portsmouth and Tony Froggatt (Organist here from 1977-1990) amongst others.

The choir sang at the funeral of a former assistant organist of Portsmouth Cathedral, **Hugh Davis** who was on the staff here until 1977. He also still holds the record for the oldest person to be caught **speeding** in Portsmouth!

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