

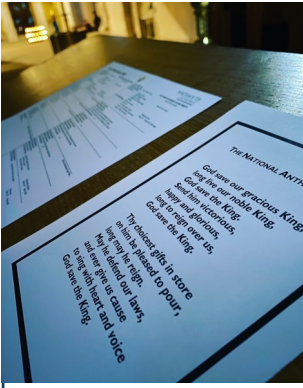
# Cathedral Music News

ADVENT 2022



PORTSMOUTH  
CATHEDRAL

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## Round-up

No sooner had we returned from our Summer break, when our choir plans had to be up-ended at the **sad news of the death** of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It was our honour to help lead city and diocesan remembrances and a **week of mourning** which coloured our daily services here at the cathedral (see below).

Later in the term we held our Annual Seafarer Service (see cover), Michaelmas Carol Service, a beautiful Fauré Requiem sung by Consort for our All Souls' Commemorations; the Girls led a moving Service for **Remembrance Sunday** morning and the Boys a haunting rendition of the Duruflé Requiem that evening, all ably supported by our dedicated back row including our excellent 2022 cohort of Scholars who've excelled in their roles.

## Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Long laid plans for Operation London Bridge were put into action to mark the death of The Queen. Our Senior **Boy and Girl** Choristers combined for the first time since 2019 to sing a Commemoration Service, and Evelyn sang the beautiful Jesu during the service.



Choristers Noah Lloyd-Webber Pie



## Philip Stopford Singing Day

In partnership with RSCM Portsmouth and IoW we hosted **100 local singers** and musicians as well as young instrumentalists from Portsmouth Grammar School for a Singing Day with composer and conductor **Philip Stopford**. We

sang a selection of his own music including a new Mass alongside music by Ralph Vaughan-Williams in this, his 150th Anniversary.

## Old Choristers' Evensong and Dinner

We enjoyed hosting our Annual Old Chorister Dinner at Cathedral Evensong and Dinner in **Buckingham House** complete with superb speeches from OCs **Stephen Pritchard** and **Ben Lewis-Smith**



## Singing Out and About

It has been so good to get back to our tradition of taking the choir out and about. We sang concerts at St Mary's **Bramshott** and **Beaulieu Abbey** and led the



Sunday morning worship at **Holy Trinity Gosport**. It has been good to share something of the Portsmouth choral tradition out **in the diocese** and beyond.

In a similar vein, we hosted multiple groups of young singers for two flagship events in our choir calendar. The first

was an Evensong for St Cecilia's Day which featured a **new commission** by composer Matthew Coleridge. And the second was on an epic scale....

## Gabrieli ROAR

Working with Portsmouth Grammar School we were able to host **400 young singers** from schools across the region to be the opening cathedral venue for **The Gabrieli Consort's** *In dulci jubilo* tour of the UK. It was such an honour to work with a group of early music specialists of **international stature** making music accessible to children in our area. Thank you to Paul McCreesh and the ROAR team.



## PCCA Barn Dance

Thanks to the **Choir Association Team** for a brilliant Band Dance in the Cathedral Nave to raise funds for the work of our choirs.



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## Advent and Christmas

The Advent Season kicked off with a **beautiful Carol Service** and the choir will be spending December doing a mixture of regular cathedral services and special events like Carols on board **HMS Victory** and a Gala Concert for the Rowans Hospice. After a short break at the end of the school term, we will have an intensive few days of four Carol Services leading to Midnight Mass and Christmas Day itself.

## People

Earlier in term we installed our **new Head Chorister** teams for both our boys' and girls' choirs and last Sunday we installed some of our probationers as Pro-Choristers. Well done to all!

Dr Price received his **Fellowship** of The Royal School of Church Music at a ceremony in Winchester Cathedral last month. This award was given for work nationally and internationally for the work of the RSCM.



## Sweden

The boys and back row will be touring Sweden in February. We look forward to singing at venues in **Stockholm and Uppsala** as well as coping with Scandinavian chill, snow and wonderful food!

## Join our choirs!

We are recruiting to all our choirs at the moment. Places are available for **boys (Yrs 3-5), girls (Yrs 5-12)** and also for our Gap Year Scheme for 2023/24. Please email for details or see our website.

**David Price** *Organist and Master of the Choristers*  
music@portsmouthcathedral.org.uk  
www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk/joinourchoir

A poster for the Portsmouth Cathedral Choir. It features a young boy in a white choir robe with a yellow sash, looking to the side. The text 'Join our choir' is written in a large, dark red font. At the top right, it says 'PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL'. At the bottom, there is a small text box with the following text: 'With opportunities for boys and girls aged 8-11, the Portsmouth Cathedral Choir is a fantastic experience for those with a passion for music and singing.' Below that, it says 'Find out more at portsmouthcathedral.org.uk/join-the-choir'.

## Sing Joyfully

We have recently launched a campaign to secure the **future of our music programme** at Portsmouth Cathedral.



**You can find out more details about *Sing Joyfully* on our website. Please support us if you can to enable us to continue our work into the next 25 years and beyond.**