



Chelmsford
Cathedral



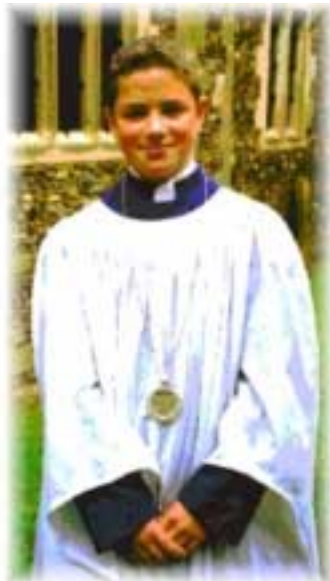
inQUIRE

The Newsletter for the Chelmsford Cathedral Choir Association
Michaelmas Term 2001

The Director of Music writes...

Welcome to the new face of *inQUIRE*. The committee of the Choir Association have agreed that, rather than produce a booklet annually, it would be much more beneficial for you to receive a termly newsletter with up-to-date information on events, broadcasts, services, concerts, tours and the numerous other activities of the Cathedral Choir.

The end of the summer term saw the departure of David Hiett (Decani Head Chorister). We also said goodbye to Lay Clerk, Phillip Abbott, who this year is studying for a PGCE. Timothy Wayne-Wright, choir member for twelve years, has left Chelmsford to continue his musical studies in London. We wish them all good luck in the name of the Lord, as the Psalmist wrote.



David Hiett - retired after six years in the choir, and latterly Decani Head Chorister

New Faces

In September we offered a warm welcome to two youngsters from Croydon Parish Church. Daniel Soper, our Organ Scholar for this academic year, is keeping himself busy between the sixth form at Trinity School, Croydon and undergraduate study at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Daniel Joy, Tenor Choral Scholar, is also having a gap year before continuing his academic studies at Durham University. We hope that they will enjoy their time with us and that these particular Daniels won't find too many lions to fight with in Chelmsford.

Choral Foundation News

We are pleased to announce some generous donations from various sources. The main contributors to the Choral Foundation this year were:-

- **The Pilling Trust**, £20,000 (the last instalment of a £100,000 grant over five years)
- **The Ouseley Trust**, £25,000
- **The Welton Foundation**, £2,000
- **The Michael James Trust**, £550

Of course the return from investments is ever decreasing as the economy seems to



*Peter Wakeford –
The Ouseley Chorister for 2001/2002*

“Lighten our Darkness.....”

It doesn't feel as though I have been sitting here in the music office with Peter, and at the console of the Chancel organ for the past eighteen months; I arrived here in Chelmsford on 1st April 2000, so I hope you'll allow me to let you know what I have been doing since then.

The most reassuring part of the day for me begins at 4.00pm when we pack up the frantic music office (now redecorated in yellow, lit by trendy spotlights and all computered up – it's worth a visit!), and brave the 'real world' by crossing New Street on the way to the Song School.

The Choristers arrive at 4.00pm from their schools and are quickly recharged with sandwiches and juice. This is *their* second visit of the day to the Cathedral; thankfully the 8am choir practice is not in the remit of the Assistant Director of Music and I usually escape that one! I cherish this time during the afternoon rehearsal when I adjust from staring at this computer screen to watching the conductor and practising the accompaniments for Choral Evensong.

be sliding into recession so we are still finding it difficult to make ends meet. The trustees are deeply grateful for all donations to the Foundation and any ideas for funding our music at the Cathedral would be welcome.

Peter Nardone

At about 5.05pm I feel that the true job of the organist starts as I set the mood for the service. Often at this point I am the only person in the Cathedral, soon to be joined by the faithful few as the Choir process in. There is *always* at least one visitor at Evensong whom we don't recognise which seems to make the whole thing even more worthwhile; an anthem we may have sung many times will be heard by a new listener who may be moved closer to God through it – which of course is what we are there for.

We are also aware of the bustle of the end of the working day outside with the fading light through the East window. The rumble of the traffic jam on New Street reminds us that we are rounding off the day for all those outside the Church too.

The daily pattern of singing Choral Evensong in our Cathedral forms the backbone of our musical life here, and it is also this regular pattern of singing that allows the choir to grow together so that it can perform so well at the many Diocesan and Civic Services that we host. I am sure that there are probably members of our own Sunday congregation that have not experienced the special feeling of a Tuesday Evensong when the trebles sing on their own.

Our Choristers give to the congregation of their time and talents in such a way that they deserve support from us all. Of course they gain plenty too – a first class musical education, a sense of order which comes from working alongside professional adult musicians, a daily exposure to the beautiful architecture of our Cathedral, not to mention music and words spanning more than four centuries.

As the organ voluntary draws to a close, the vergers lock up, and we go on our way with our minds already on 'tomorrow's' anthem – as the pattern continues, hopefully for many hundreds of years to come.

Edward Wellman

St. Andrew's Night

30th November 2001

with entertainment from the gentlemen of the choir

7.30 for 8pm in St. Cedd's Hall

£10 per head from the Music Office

01245 294486

**Hot Supper ~ Bring you own wine/beer ~
Soft drinks available**

*All Proceeds to fund the Cathedral
Choir Tour to France, Easter 2002*

Sponsored Slim

In support of the Cathedral Choir's trip to the twin town of Annonay

Following a humiliating public weigh-in on Weston-Super-Mare pier on Thursday 16th August 2001 it was decided that **Peter Nardone**, Director of Music would use weight reduction from a massive **17 stones, 13 Lbs** to raise money for the Cathedral Choir Association. His target by Christmas 2001 is 15 stones. The next public weigh-in will be after 11.15am Eucharist in the Cathedral on Sunday 16th December. If you would like to sponsor the Director of Music you can do so by leaving a message on 01245 294485 or by emailing him on dom@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk. You can state an amount per pound of weight or simply say the total amount you are prepared to donate. Peter will email or telephone you to collect the money if he is successful in his venture.



Peter Nardone trying to make a mole hill out of a mountain!

Diary of Events

11th November 2001

CCCA Annual General Meeting

After the 10:55am Remembrance Day Service, in St. Cedd's Hall.

18th November 2001

Chorister Making

During Choral Evensong at 6pm the following probationers will be made up to choristers. Patrick Aspbury, Thomas Barnes, James Duncombe, Luke Richmond and Simon Schofield.

30th November 2001

St. Andrew's Night - with entertainment from gentlemen of the choir.

7.30 for 8pm in St. Cedd's Hall - tickets £10.00 per head available from Music Office - 01245 294486.

2nd December 2001

Advent Carols

6pm (come early for a good seat)

24th December 2001

Nine lessons and carols

6pm (come early for a good seat)

1st February 2002

Quiz Night

7.30 for 8pm at the Police Social Hall

6th March 2002

Choral Evensong Broadcast on Radio 3

4pm

8th March 2002

Charity Concert with James Bowman and Chelmsford Cathedral Choir.

7.30pm in the Cathedral - tickets £10.00 each available from the Music Office - 01245 294486 from January.

8th May 2002

Soirée in the Festival Marquee (Guy Harlings garden). Details to follow.

Are you paying your membership fee in the most cost effective way?

Why not pay by Standing Order and save the cost of reminders and posting cheques - your card is automatically sent to you annually. If you are a UK taxpayer, you might also like to fill out a Gift Aid form, so we can recover the tax paid on your subscription. Please contact the Music Office for further details.

Choir Association Committee

Cathedral Staff

Peter Nardone (Chairman)
Edward Wellman
Daniel Soper
Jane Orton
Dr. Genny Tunbridge

Gentlemen's Representatives

Graham Houghton
Richard Walley

Choristers' Parents' Representatives

[To be elected at the AGM]

Secretary

Paula Hiett

Treasurer

David Lucas

Membership Secretary

Philippa Penkett

Co-opted member

Jean Bentley

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