

## RECENT SINGING NEWS

Welcome to our Music Department newsletter! It's been an exciting start to the new year for the Cathedral choirs. Thank you to everyone for their ongoing hard work and support. More below!

**ADMISSIONS AND INSTALLATIONS** At the start of this year, we were pleased to welcome Eliza, Élise, Cameron and Imogen to the choir, as well as dubbing Hal, Marek, and Oscar as choristers. Congratulations to Adam, Eloise, Henry, Jayden, Nathaniel, Mae and Rowan who have all been promoted to Senior Choristers.

On 16<sup>th</sup> September, we finally installed three of our Lay Clerks! Messrs Cullen, Gallear and Wilson-King were officially installed to their stalls in a service featuring Wood *Collegium Regale* evening canticles and Bainton *And I saw a new heaven*, alongside Mr. Stephens who was installed as sub-organist.

We are so proud of this year's probationers, who have made a very good start to the year. Miss Grinnell and Mr Stephens report that Alfred, Edward, Ezekiel, and George are settling well into chorister life. They sang their first evensong on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, singing Daniel Purcell evening canticles in E minor. We look forward to seeing them flourish!



**RECORDING OPPORTUNITIES** The Girl Choristers had an exciting afternoon in the recording studios at the University of Winchester on Saturday 4 November. The recordings will make up the final portfolio submissions of students Gareth and Grace (who they reduced to tears with their singing – in a good way!) and we can't wait to hear the finished product!

There will be more recording opportunities in 2024 as we will be hosting the BBC for Choral Evensong on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February and again on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July as part of the Southern Cathedrals Festival.



## ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT

We are thrilled to be reunited with the real organ after many months of restoration, and have certainly put it through its paces over the last two weeks with Durufle *Requiem*, Langlais *Messe Solennelle* and a fantastic Chamber Choir concert including Stanford *For lo, I raise up* and Finzi *Lo, the full final sacrifice*. We will be welcoming world-renowned organist Olivier Latry from Notre Dame in Paris to give the opening recital on Saturday 27 April 2024 – tickets available on the Cathedral website in the new year!

**THE VERY REVEREND, DR TREVOR BEESON, RIP** On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, we said a fond farewell to Trevor Beeson, former Dean of Winchester. This funeral was an especially lovely service, well attended by his family and friends. The Boys and Lay Clerks sang the beautifully poignant Harris *Bring Us, O Lord God* alongside some Howells and Schubert.

**BE A CHORISTER FOR AN AFTERNOON** On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, we welcomed 14 boys and their families to Be a Chorister for an Afternoon, where they learned all about the organ, being a boarder at Pilgrims' and sang evensong with the Boys and Lay Clerks. This is such an important event in the Choir Diary and we are crossing our fingers for a good cohort of probationers next year!

## COMING UP

Here is a selection of significant dates coming up. Please refer to the Choir Diary for full details of all rehearsals and services between now and the end of term, and keep an eye out for emails with any additional information.

**Bold denotes services or concerts**

	Boys		Girls		Lay Clerks	
24/11	1730-c1815	<b>Lantern Parade</b>			1730-c1815	<b>Lantern Parade</b>
02/12	1530	Rehearsal	1530	Rehearsal	1530	Rehearsal
	1715	Tea at Pilgrims	1715	Tea at Pilgrims		
	1830-c1945	<b>Advent Procession</b>	1830-c1945	<b>Advent Procession</b>	1830-c1945	<b>Advent Procession</b>
09/12			1100-1400	Social: Ice-Skating		
11/12			1830-c2100	Social: Turkey Feast		
15/12	1400-1600	Rehearsal	1400-1600	Rehearsal	1400-1600	Rehearsal
	1900-c2030	<b>Festival of Choirs</b> <a href="#">(tickets)</a>	1900-c2030	<b>Festival of Choirs</b> <a href="#">(tickets)</a>	1900-c2030	<b>Festival of Choirs</b> <a href="#">(tickets)</a>
17/12	1900-c2000	<b>Wykeham Carols</b>			1900-c2000	<b>Wykeham Carols</b>
18/12	1530-1700	Rehearsal	1530-1700	Rehearsal	1530-1700	Rehearsal
	1715	Tea at Pilgrims	1715	Tea at Pilgrims		
	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>
19/12	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>
20/12	1430-1600	Rehearsal	1430-1600	Rehearsal		
	1600-1630	<b>Britten's Ceremony of Carols</b> <a href="#">(tickets)</a>	1600-1630	<b>Britten's Ceremony of Carols</b> <a href="#">(tickets)</a>		
	1830-c2100	Social: Turkey Feast				
21/12	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>	1900-c2030	<b>Carol Service</b>
24/12	1700	Rehearsal				
	1730-c1815	<b>Blessing of the Crib</b>				
			2145	Rehearsal	2215	Rehearsal
			2300-c0015	<b>Midnight Mass</b>	2300-c0015	<b>Midnight Mass</b>
25/12	0845	Rehearsal	0845	Rehearsal	0845	Rehearsal
	0945-1045	<b>Festal Mattins</b>	0945-1045	<b>Festal Mattins</b>	0945-1045	<b>Festal Mattins</b>
	1115-c1230	<b>Festal Eucharist</b>			1115-c1230	<b>Festal Eucharist</b>
	1300	Christmas Lunch				
	1415	Rehearsal			1415	Rehearsal
	1530-c1630	<b>Festal Evensong</b>			1530-c1630	<b>Festal Evensong</b>

## GOOD NEWS



Welcome to Mr James Wells, tenor lay clerk, who joins us from York. His installation will take place in the new year. We are very lucky to have him in our choir. Please make him feel welcome!

Congratulations to Mr Lumsden who has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Winchester!



## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

*"My music is best understood by children and animals"*

– Igor Stravinsky

If you have any musical or non-musical news which you wish us to include and share, please let us know