



THE CHORAL FOUNDATION

THE CHAPEL ROYAL
HAMPTON COURT PALACE

NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2017

Dear Choral Foundation Supporters,

As I write, the Chapel Royal, whose music we support, has just been privileged to hold the Centenary Evensong of the Companions of Honour in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. Our excited choristers had a very good reason to ask for the afternoon off school! It was a beautiful service, with magnificent singing from the choir under the direction of Carl Jackson and there has been much feedback about the excellence of the choir, including congratulations from The Queen. Certainly an occasion which demonstrated powerfully why the music is worth supporting. The Chapel Royal has become the new spiritual home of the Order and we look forward to welcoming members whenever they wish to come.

It was a pleasure to be able to talk to some of you in person at our recent donor lunch and tea and to reflect how far we have come in 6 years. From a very precarious state of funding then, we have achieved a stable position, with a wonderfully restored organ and a very strong choir. When you see the chorister pews full to (sometimes) overflowing, I hope you realise that your steadfast support has made this possible. You are indeed supporting the future of choral music! Our pipeline of choristers continues to be strong and we will again be inviting boys to 'Be a Chorister for a Day' at our family friendly Open Day on Saturday 23rd September.

For those of you who have not yet met her, I am pleased to tell you that Deborah



The choir is presented to Her Majesty The Queen

Fearn has joined us as Director of the Choral Foundation. Deborah has been involved with the charity since its formation, as a former chorister parent and Trustee. She says "My son gained a tremendous amount from his time in the choir. I too gained a love for the music and a wish to ensure that this 500-year-old tradition will continue for generations to come. We know we cannot take it for granted and I am delighted to join the team which is helping to give it a future." Deborah is working on a part time basis with Louise Cole, our administrator who also works part time. Our office is generally manned Monday to Wednesdays from 9.30am to 1.30pm. As a very small charity, we still have many legal and statutory obligations. Whilst we endeavour to keep

expenses to an absolute minimum, they tend to be proportionately larger than in big charities. There is no doubt that fundraising is increasingly challenging and we really do rely on the support of those who love the music and want it to continue.

We have a new leaflet, available in the Chapel, highlighting the fact that the running costs of our choir are £80,000 each year. The Choral Foundation, through your generosity, currently funds chorister music lessons and makes grants towards the costs of the adult musicians. Our ambition is to build an endowment to ensure that the music can continue for future generations. To endow a gentleman's pew has long been an ambition and there are opportunities for this over varying periods >



FUTURE PLANS

We are hoping to establish a Training Choir, ideally this Autumn. Due to the success of our Open Day we have excellent candidates on our waiting list. Currently they have to wait 12-18 months which is far too long for a small boy who is keen to sing! Inevitably, this needs funding. Please speak to Deborah Fearn on 020 3166 6516 or email choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk if you would like more information.



Louise Cole and Deborah Fearn

of time, with the acknowledgement as appropriate to the donor's wishes. Equally, regular donations every month, of whatever magnitude, are what enable us to continue to support the music week after week. May I also draw your attention to the article on Easy Fundraising, which really does do what it says on the tin. Those of us who, in increasing numbers, purchase online, including booking holidays and supermarket shopping, can generate hundreds of pounds at no cost whatsoever to the individual. Please ask your friends and families to sign up to this and to nominate the Choral Foundation too.

Our current capital fundraising project is to raise £12,000 to fund the Steinway Grand piano which you may have seen recently in the Chapel. We have been able to secure the piano at this exceptionally

reasonable price due to the kindness of a member of the congregation. It will now give the flexibility to hold piano recitals in the Chapel and for future concerts to feature piano accompaniment. Please do talk to me or to Deborah if you would like more information on this or any of our projects.

As always, I am very grateful for your support of the Choral Foundation.

With best wishes,
Jon Round

STOP PRESS

The Choir has just been filmed for a BBC4 programme with Lucy Worsley on the origins of Evensong. It is currently scheduled to be shown in October.

EASY FUNDRAISING

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be collecting free donations for The Choral Foundation? Our administrator Louise has been doing this for years and raised hundreds of pounds.

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the trainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra. It's very easy...

1. Head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thechoralfoundation and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever.

If you think you might forget to shop each time via easyfundraising then the Donation Reminder will help you.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/donation-reminder

It provides a little reminder every time you shop online.

Over 150,000 supporters use it and they raise on average 5x more. It's free with no annoying adverts.

There are no catches or hidden charges and you can see how much you raise over time. The Choral Foundation will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

OPEN DAY

Our 6th family friendly Open Day for boys aged between 7 and 9 years will be held on Saturday 23rd September 2017 at 2pm. For more information please see the website www.chapelroyal.org or contact Louise or Deborah on 020 3166 6516 or email choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk



Ex-chorister Brendan Soane, Carl Jackson, Josephine Batt and the Chaplain with the new piano

NEW SONG SCHOOL PIANO

We are delighted that Carl Jackson now has a new piano for the practice room to replace the ancient piano he had been using for many years. This was made possible by the generosity of one of our donors, Miss Josephine Batt, who donated the major funding and we were

most fortunate to obtain a significant discount on the purchase via Norton York, parent of one of our senior choristers. Our next project is to fund the Steinway piano for the Chapel which will enable a greater variety of recitals and concerts to be held in the Chapel.

The Choral Foundation preserves and promotes the unique heritage of English Choral Music at The Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace.

For further information please contact Deborah Fearn or Louise Cole.

choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk
020 3166 6516
www.chapelroyal.org

The Choral Foundation supports music at The Chapel Royal, a living vibrant church, located at the heart of the historic Palace of Hampton Court. Everyone is welcome to attend the regular services held in the Chapel Royal and to worship in the place where kings and queens have done so for centuries.

The Choir sings Choral Matins or Sung Eucharist at 11am and Evensong at 3.30pm every Sunday (except during the choir recess in the summer). The services are from the Book of

Common Prayer. Those attending The Chapel for a service only do not pay the Palace entrance fee. Please enter by Tennis Court Lane.



THE
CHORAL
FOUNDATION

All images of The Chapel Royal are reproduced with the gracious permission of HM The Queen.

The Choral Foundation, The Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AU, UK.

Tel +44 (0) 20 3166 6516 | e-mail choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk | Registered Charity Number 1142075 | Company Number 7542466.