



# THE CHORAL FOUNDATION

THE CHAPEL ROYAL  
HAMPTON COURT PALACE

## NEWSLETTER WINTER 2014/2015

### Dear Supporters

December 2014 is the 3rd anniversary of the Choral Foundation's launch and much has been achieved. The organ has been overhauled, we have an annual Be a Chorister For a Day event, we have held seven concerts and have developed a successful recital series.

Hundreds of donors have made these achievements possible and we are grateful for each and every donation. A number of people have committed to monthly or annual donations, with the cost effective addition of Gift Aid where possible. We are always delighted to hear from those who are able to donate in this way in support of The Choral Foundation.

We will be holding a series of Sunday lunchtime information meetings throughout the Winter/Spring 2014/15 to give a detailed update about what you have achieved and to share our plans with you. The dates are 14th December, 15th

February, 1st March and 26th April. Please contact [choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk](mailto:choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk) or call 020 3166 6516 if you would like to attend one of these or are able to join our supporters by donating.

We are a very small charity and as you know we operate on a shoestring with only one paid part time member of staff. We also have a small team of volunteers who give copious amounts of their time and talents to run fundraising events and do much valuable work behind the scenes. One of our issues is that even though we are a small charity, we have annual running costs, such as hosting and updating our website and database, audit fees, printing costs etc. Where possible we obtain favourable rates from our link with Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) or via helpful suppliers. However, we would be extremely grateful if any of our supporters could sponsor this work. For example we are about to commission a new brochure which will require design, production



and printing. If you are interested in this opportunity which offers a range of levels of contribution and recognition, again please contact [choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk](mailto:choral.foundation@hrp.org.uk) or on 020 3166 6516.

This year we have established weekly recitals in the Chapel on Sundays at 1pm and I hope that you have been able to enjoy some of these already. Historic Royal Palaces is funding the recitals which are proving popular with visitors, enabling them to hear music in the Chapel and us to increase awareness of our Choral Foundation. You may also have noticed the new wooden receptacle at the back of the ante-chapel near the entrance which is designed to enable visitors to contribute, should they wish. Some lettering is due to be added to make that clear!

Next year sees the 500 year anniversary of Hampton Court Palace and there will be many events organised by HRP to celebrate this momentous anniversary. You can be sure that the Chapel Royal and the Choir will be playing an important part in the celebrations and details will be announced as they are finalised. I am particularly delighted that Judith Weir, the new Master of the Queen's Music will be composing an anthem to celebrate the long heritage of choral composers associated with The Chapel Royal over the last five centuries. We look forward to taking part in the anniversary celebrations which will so clearly demonstrate the heritage of the Choir – which the Choral Foundation, supported by you, has been set up to preserve.

Thank you for your continuing support.

*Jon Round, Chair of Trustees*

## WEEKLY RECITALS

Lunchtime Recitals at 1pm are now an established part of Sundays in the Chapel when visitors and congregation can hear a range of international artists and ensembles. Rufus Frowde, Artistic Director of the series, has put together a varied programme of instrumental, vocal and ensemble recitals alongside a core of recitals showcasing the newly-restored organ. Rufus comments that 'The Chapel can be a challenging place in which to perform, particularly as we and HRP are keen for visitors to continue, if they wish, to explore and enjoy the beautiful surroundings during the recital. I am delighted with some of the partnerships which have been fostered during our first year and we have some exciting performers in the diary over the coming months. It is particularly



Rufus Frowde

pleasing that so many performers have expressed an eagerness to return.'

The listing is reproduced here. Recitals are free to holders of Palace tickets, HRP members and to the congregation of the 11 a.m. Service. Please visit the recitals page of the website for the current schedule.

7 Dec	<b>Piano/Violin/French Horn</b> – Paeon Trio
14 Dec	<b>Organ</b> – Daniel Phillips
21 Dec	No recital
28 Dec	<b>Organ</b> – Carl Jackson
4 Jan	<b>Harpichord</b> – Terence Charlston
11 Jan	<b>Guitar</b> – Adam Brown
18 Jan	<b>Organ</b> – Ian Le Grice
25 Jan	<b>Flute &amp; Piano</b> – Emma Halnan & Rufus Frowde
1 Feb	<b>Oboe</b> – Stephanie Oatridge

8 Feb	<b>Organ</b> – Rufus Frowde
15 Feb	<b>Organ</b> – William Round
22 Feb	<b>Vocal Ensemble</b> – Amaryllis Consort
1 Mar	<b>Choir</b> – The Choir of Royal Holloway
8 Mar	<b>Organ</b> – Carl Jackson
15 Mar	<b>Violin &amp; Organ</b> – The Gough Duo
22 Mar	<b>String Quartet</b> – Gildas Quartet
29 Mar	No recital
5 April	<b>Viol Consort</b> – Fretwork

# BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

Our 3rd Annual 'Be a Chorister for a Day' open event took place on 6th September this year when we welcomed 28 boys and their families. The boys were ably chaperoned by several ex Choristers and took part in a workshop run by Carl Jackson and Rufus Frowde whilst parents found out what it would really mean for their son to be a Chorister. Kevin Knibbs, Headmaster of Hampton School also talked about the link with Hampton and the Choral Awards available and we welcomed Iain Donald, Hampton Director of Music and several of the music staff. Everyone attended an impressive recital in the Chapel where ex Chorister Louis Watkins played the first movement of Dmitri Kabalewsky's Violin Concerto in C Major beautifully, ably accompanied by William Round, former Chorister and Organ Scholar, on the Markson Piano. Our Choristers sang – their first time together after the recess – and then the boys attending the day joined them in 'Sing of the Lord's Goodness' which they had learned at the workshop. Canon Mulliner awarded certificates and everyone enjoyed a splendid tea in the Clore Centre provided by the wonderful ladies of the Chapel.



Some of the comments we had after the day show how well received the day was:

*'A wonderful open day. The whole family really appreciated all the effort that had been put into organising it'*

*'Saturday's event was perfectly executed... the care commitment and gratitude of the Foundation was apparent too'*

*'We were so taken with the experience, the certificates were a lovely touch, the cakes were wonderful!'*

The day has proved an invaluable way for boys and their parents to find out about being a chorister. We have been able, by contacting all the local schools, to widen our reach and to plan the future 'supply' of choristers. Sixteen boys subsequently auditioned and six have been awarded

places; they will join us progressively during the year, first attending rehearsals as pre-probationers and then singing in Chapel when they are ready.

We are grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation, John Lewis Kingston and the Coutts Charitable Trust, all of which funded a number of the costs of holding the day. We are indebted to the many volunteers who make it work so well. We are also delighted that a grant from Garfield Weston has enabled us to start paying for music lessons for pre-probationers, as well as the full Choristers, as this truly makes the opportunity available to all. Developing the musical education of the Choristers is a core aim of the Choral Foundation, helping it to flourish, raise standards and thrive in future.

## >>> STOP PRESS <<<

Hampton Court 500 celebrations will be launched with a BBC documentary presented jointly by David Starkey and Lucy Worsley, provisionally entitled 'A Night in the Palace'. This is a detailed look at the night King Henry VIII's son Prince Edward VI was baptised. Many hours filming of The Chapel Royal and The Choir has just been completed so we hope to feature prominently! Date of broadcast is expected to be Saturday 10th January 2015. Do look out for it in the TV schedules.

**AND...** You may like to purchase the December issue of *Surrey Life* magazine which has an excellent 5 page article about The Chapel Royal and Choir entitled 'Sing it from the Rooftops'.

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

[www.choralfoundation@hrp.org.uk](mailto:www.choralfoundation@hrp.org.uk)  
020 3166 6516

Choral Foundation Manager: Michele Price

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.

For more information, including details of the music programme, visit [www.chapelroyal.org](http://www.chapelroyal.org) or telephone 020 3166 6516



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