THE CATHEDRAL AND ABBEY CHURCH OF SAINT ALBAN

ALBAN NOTES

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History in the making – The Freeman Choristership

From 1959 to 1970 there was at least one "Freeman" in the Cathedral Choir – all were Woollam Scholars and Martin became Head Chorister. Their father, John Freeman, was Assistant Organist to Peter Burton and Peter Hurford from 1951 to 1972 and Margaret Freeman was a member of the Cathedral Flower Guild as well as a Choir "Mum" in charge of choir teas.

At Matins, on Sunday 18th September, the first Freeman Choristership was presented by Christopher Freeman (far right) on behalf of the family to Freddie Pazzi-Axworthy.

Michael Freeman, Martin Freeman, Peter Hurford, Pat Hurford, Andrew Freeman, Christopher Freeman
Freddie Pazzi-Axworthy – The First Freeman Chorister

The Dean with Freddie & Andrew Lucas

An all-chorister family; proud Dad, Rhodri with daughter Lydia, Freddie and Tom.

Members' News

Congratulations this quarter go to:

Former Abbey Girl Chorister and ECA Committee Member **Rosie Roberts (nee Cooke),** on her marriage to Paul, pictured left, on Saturday 27th of August.

David Humphreys, Organ Scholar 2003 to 2004, who has been appointed Assistant Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral.

Alex Woodrow, Organ Scholar from 2008 to 2009 on his appointment as Director of Music at Bradford Cathedral

Ex-chorister **Laurence Lyndon-Jones** who has moved from being Organ Scholar and acting assistant organist at Chester Cathedral to Assistant Director of Music at Coventry.

Oliver Martin-Smith, ex-chorister, choral scholar and until September 2011 a tenor lay clerk, left the choir after an almost continuous period of singing in the Cathedral Choir of nearly 17 years to devote more time to his studies at the Guildhall School of Music, London, where he is a second-year singing student.

We also welcome new members, former chorister, **David Hammond** (Treble 1969 to 1974) and former chorister **Bill Buck**, Nelson, New Zealand (circa 1943)

Return of "The Rose"

After 14 years away from the Abbey organ loft former Master of the Music and ECA Vice President Dr Barry Rose OBE returned on 19th October to give a lunch time recital entitled **"1934 and all that"** which featured a programme of music based solely on the year of his birth. Introducing his programme from the pulpit (not a place he frequented regularly) his humour clearly had not diminished; he wondered whether people had "come along because the refectory was closed and there was nowhere else to go, to see if he was still alive or to see whether he could still play the organ."

Barry Rose re-visiting the Quire stalls
Would you believe Barry is 77 ?

Barry played a varied and enjoyable programme comprising:

Toccata Giocosa - William Mathias (1934-1992)
Farewell to Stromness – Peter Maxwell Davies (b. 1934)
Imperial March – Edward Elgar (1857 – 1934)
Air & Water from "The Canticle of the Rose – Alan Ridout (1934 – 1996) Written for the rededication of the Rose Window in 1989.
Andante in D flat – Edwin Lemare (1866 – 1934)
Epithalamium, Jacob and the Angel and March – The Spirit of '34 by Alan Ridout

The final piece again reflected Barry's sense of humour when he ended, to the great amusement of the audience with a "Tumdiddly dum dum" – only Barry could get away with that ☺

The Second ECA Concert - 22nd SEPTEMBER 2012

Register NOW to sing with Exquire

The concert, to be conducted by Founder Member, David Ireson, with Tom Winpenny playing the organ will feature the Abbey Girls Choir and invited guest performers. The programme is currently being devised but will contain works that are well known and very singable!! If you would like to sing with Exquire please register your interest **NOW** by emailing the Chairman at malcolmgb@btinternet.com

For your diary! 7TH JULY 2012 - ECA Biennial Reunion