

Message from the Chairman

Welcome to yet another "Bumper Edition" of Alban Notes which features the 2012 Reunion, the forthcoming ECA concert on Saturday 22nd September in which I hope many of you will sing, and many other news items.


This year's reunion was a great success and I have received many compliments and messages of thanks and congratulations for the celebrations but the best thanks I can ever receive are those when you come along to support our events.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting together with my Chairman's Report are now posted on the "News" page of our website and if any member wishes to see our Financial Statement this may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Maureen Adams.

I'm please to say that your Management Committee has been re-elected for the forthcoming year and I am particularly grateful to Nicolas Gibbon who came forward to offer his services.

Your Invitation to Sing

All Honorary Members, Members and Associate Members who are still singing regularly are invited to participate in the ECA Concert and join with the Abbey Girls Choir and Abbey Singers as members of Exquire, the ECA's own choral group.



Give unto the Lord

A concert in aid of
St Albans Abbey Girls Choir

Saturday 22 September 2012
in St Albans Cathedral
at 7.30pm

Choral Works by Parry, Elgar,
Vaughan Williams and others

Performed by
St Albans Abbey Girls Choir
Abbey Singers & Exquire

Conducted by David Ireson
with Tom Winpenny organ

with Guest Performers:
Stephen Charlesworth baritone
Rogers Covey-Crump tenor
Andrew Parnell organ
Claire Innes-Hopkins organ Hannah Watts flute
Rebecca Muhley soprano Emily Knight oboe

TICKETS: Front Nave £15; Rear Nave £8; Side Aisles £5;
(Concessions £8), from the Abbey Information Desk or
from Malcolm Bury by Email: malcolmgb@btinternet.com
or by Post: 23 Long Plough, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury,
Bucks, HP22 5HB

Concert promoted by
St Albans Cathedral
Ex-Choristers'
Association
Exquire is the
Ex-Choristers'
Association Choir

Give Unto The Lord

Celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty,
Queen Elizabeth II

Saturday 22nd September 2012

Give unto the Lord – Sir Edward Elgar
The Old Hundredth – arr. Vaughan Williams
Five Mystical Songs - Vaughan Williams
Blest Pair of Sirens – Sir Hubert Parry

St Albans Abbey Girls Choir
Abbey Singers & Exquire

Conductor : David Ireson Organ : Tom Winpenny

Guest Performers

Andrew Parnell *Organ* – Rogers Covey-Crump *Tenor*
Stephen Charlesworth *Baritone*
Claire Innes-Hopkins *Organ*
Hannah Watts *Flute* - Rebecca Muhley *Soprano*
Emily Knight *Oboe* - Tom Semple *Trumpet*

Please complete the Reply Slip at the end of this issue of Alban Notes and return NOW!! to the Chairman - by post to 23 Long Plough, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5HB or by email to malcolmgb@btinternet.com

2012 AGM & Reunion

This year's reunion was very well attended with over 30 singers joining with the Cathedral Choir to give a quite outstanding performance of the Canticles in D by H. Brewer and *I was Glad* by Sir Hubert Parry which was followed by a reception attended by over 80 members and their guests, including a few ex-choir mums. It was particularly pleasing to see so many of our younger ex-choristers and ex-Abbey Girls.

© All photographs: Colin Whyman



The Patron of the Ex-Choristers' Association, The Very Reverend Dr Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans, Pat Hurford, Dr Peter Hurford OBE, President of the Association, and guests Mr and Mrs Michael Salmon.



Stephen Guy & Peter Pearson



Christopher Chapman



Nicholas Coleman, Rory Lumsden, Simon Morley



Hazel Ireson & Rogers Covey-Crump

More Photographs



Paul Leggatt, Trevor Jarvis, Peter & Kay Pearson



Cleo Newton & Kitty Bishop



Reunion Guests



The Dean addressing members & guests



Tom P-A! How did he sneak in? 😊



Sheila Thomas, David Ireson, Mark Thomas, Frederick Thomas

Please visit our website at <http://www.stalbans-exchoirassoc.co.uk/index.html> to view all the photographs taken at the Reunion.

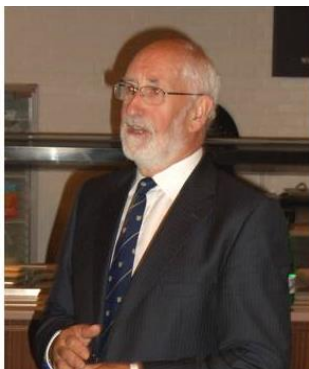
Members' News

The **2012 ECA Year Book** is now available from info@stalbands-exchoirassoc.co.uk at the price of £2.00 to cover the cost of postage.

We are delighted to share the news that Assistant Master of the Music and Director of the Abbey Girls Choir, Tom Winpenny, and Gemma Saunders, Secretary to the Music Department are engaged to be married.

We congratulate former Precentor, The Very Reverend Mark Bonney on his appointment as Dean of Ely Cathedral and also former Organ Scholar, Chris Betts, who is moving from Lubbock, Texas to Washington, D.C. to become the Organist and Associate Director of Music at the National Cathedral.

Other news



David Ireson

We congratulate David Ireson (left) on becoming an Honorary Life Member of the Ex-Choristers' Association. David, who has retired from the Cathedral Choir, was a lay clerk for 47 years and sang with Peter Hurford, Stephen Darlington, Colin Walsh (a survivor!) Barry Rose and Andrew Lucas. David is the second longest serving lay clerk in the history of the Cathedral Choir.

We welcome **Christopher Muhley**, Chairman of the Cathedral Music Trust and former choir parent as an Associate Member.

We also welcome former Organ Scholars, **Father Neil Kelly, Michael Haynes, Sean Farrell and Miles Quick** whom we have been able to contact recently.

Members will recall the stunning performance by former chorister and founder member of the 1960's Rock Group, The Zombies, Rod Argent, at the 2010 ECA Concert.

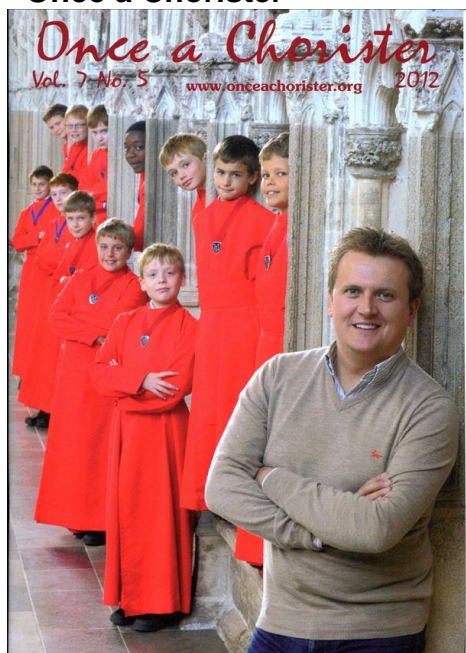
The Zombies first met at The Blacksmith's Arms, St Albans in April 1961 and are still going strong with their recent US tour and their album, Breathe Out, Breathe In!!

In April this year, some 50 years on, they unveiled an honorary Blue Plaque at the Blacksmith's Arms to forever mark that special moment in time.



The Federation of Cathedral Old Choristers' Associations

"Once a Chorister"



The Federation of Cathedral Old Choristers' Associations (FCOCA) comprises some 55 affiliated associations both in the UK and overseas and publishes an annual magazine, "Once a Chorister" in the spring of each year.

Our ECA is affiliated to the FCOCA and Chairman, Malcolm Bury, has recently been re-elected to the Executive Committee as the Regional Representative for the South East of England, which includes St Albans, Scotland and Overseas.

Our association has a two-page colour spread in this year's magazine and a number of our members are mentioned, including the Cathedral Choristers and Abbey Girl Choristers who were valedicted in the summer of 2011 together with choristers who have gone on to music scholarships.

Copies of the magazine are available from the Chairman at malcolmqb@btinternet.com at £3.00.

Definitely recommended to all members.

To: **Malcolm G. Bury, 23 Long Plough, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5HB**
Email to malcolmqb@btinternet.com (Cut & Paste)

I should like to sing with Exquire at the ECA concert on 22nd September.

Name	Voice Part:
Address	Post Code:
Telephone No	Email address