

Federation of Cathedral Old Choristers' Associations



*scoca*

# 2022 Festival in Ely

Friday to Sunday  
9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022



“The jewel in the crown at Ely is the traditional service of Choral Evensong which is sung during term time by the Cathedral Choir.”

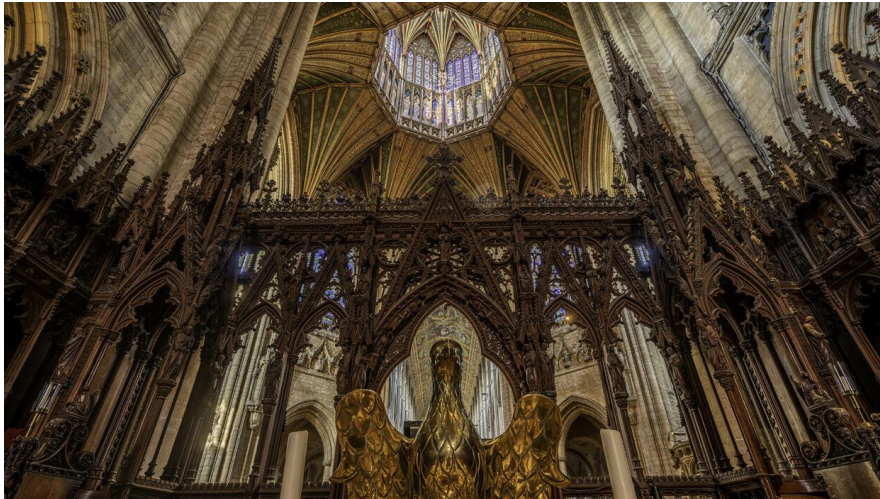
<From the Ely Cathedral Website [www.elycathedral.org](http://www.elycathedral.org)>

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## Welcome to Ely Cathedral

The Dean of Ely Cathedral and President of the Society of Ely Choristers Mark Bonney, Edmund Aldhouse Director of the Music, and the Ely Cathedral Choristers' Society invite you to the FCOCA Festival in Ely in 2022 and are looking forward to meeting you in the City of Ely.

We may only be a small city of around 20,000 souls but the cathedral can be seen from miles away as the "Ship of the Fens" rises above the low-lying surrounding wetlands. William the Conqueror began work on the Cathedral in 1083, and the magnificent Octagonal tower and lantern is acknowledged as one of the wonders of medieval engineering. This incredible structure, suspended high over the centre of the Cathedral, was completed in 1342 and is considered the jewel in the Cathedral crown. The music at Ely Cathedral is offered first and foremost as an expression of worship, and the tradition of daily choral music remains at the heart of the Cathedral's work and witness. Today the Cathedral Choir consists of boy and girl choristers and adult professional singers, who between them sing at the majority of the daily services.



The first organ was built in 1685, and the present case was installed in 1850. In 1908 Harrison and Harrison built a virtually new organ, with the console shown here. Restoration work on the fabric of the building of the last three bays of the North Choir Aisle in 1999 and 2001 was an opportunity to ask Harrison and Harrison to carry out an extensive programme of restoration on the organ.



Festival details are subject to change, but this is what we expect to happen:

### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

Morning/afternoon	Delegates arrive Registration	
1600	Tea and welcome	South Transept
1730	Evensong	Quire
1830	Civic Reception	Old Palace or Cathedral
2100	Compline	Lady Chapel

### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>**

0800	Communion	tbc
Morning	Optional tours	
	Talk	Venue tbc
1145	Organ Recital	Cathedral
	Lunch	Own arrangements
1230	Ely Reunion Lunch	Almonry
Afternoon	Free time	
	Ely Society AGM	Almonry tbc
	Federation AGM	Cathedral Centre tbc
1630	Rehearsal for Evensong	Octagon
1730	Festival Evensong	Octagon
1900 for 1930	Drinks	Monastic Barn, King's Ely
	Banquet	
	Guest Speaker – Christopher Robinson CVO CBE	

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>**

0815	Communion	High Altar
1030	Festal Choral Eucharist	Octagon
1215	Farewell Reception	North Transept
1300	Sunday Lunch	Almonry

Updated details will appear on the Federation website, including details of accommodation in and around Ely.