



**FEDERATION OF CATHEDRAL OLD CHORISTERS' ASSOCIATIONS
NEWSHEET 22
May 2018**

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's AGM was hosted by Chelmsford Cathedral Old Choristers' Association and held on Saturday 12th May. After the welcome, a guided tour of the cathedral was given together with a demonstration of the organs by the organ scholar, Chris Strange.

The AGM was held in the Chapter House and attended by 17 delegates representing 15 Associations with apologies from a further 10 Associations. No nominations for the Executive Committee were received but Nicola Pollard, wife of our Chairman, Alastair, volunteered to fill the vacancy of Honorary Secretary and was duly elected and will be taking over her duties during the year. In recognition of the considerable service given to the Federation by its immediate past Chairman, Ian Henderson (Rochester), it was proposed he be appointed a Vice President and he was duly elected. The Executive Committee remains unchanged other than these two appointments.

Following the AGM, delegates attended choral evensong sung by the Cathedral Choir. The introit was "Here, while the cherubim within the veil", music by John Jordan (Master of the Music, Chelmsford 1965-81). Responses by Peter Nardone (Master of the Music, Chelmsford 2000-12). Canticles – The Essex Service, Alan Bullard. Anthem Te lucis ante terminum, music by Francis Jackson.

The 2019 AGM will be held at Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday 11th May

2018 ANNUAL FESTIVAL

You should have received by now the invitation to the 2018 Annual Festival to be held at Peterborough, 14th to 16th September together with details of the programme for the weekend and how to book.

Remember, if you book before the end of May there is an early-bird discount, so don't delay – book now. You can do so at this address:

<https://peterboroughfestival2018.weebly.com/>

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

You have probably been inundated with emails and land mail about GDPR including the recent email from me. If you wish to see the Federation's GDPR Policy and Privacy Statement, they will be found on the Federation website from the 25th May.

As was discussed at the AGM, we are removing all of the personal data from the list of members on the Federation website so that personal information is protected however, if your Association has a generic email address which does not reference an

individual (e.g. secretary@xyzoca.org.uk) you may request to have this added to your listing. All future enquiries about contacts at Federation members should now be routed via the Honorary Secretary or one of the Regional Representatives.

To ensure that the information we have about Association Secretaries, Federation Representatives and any other individuals on our database is valid, I am intending to email each person on our database, individually to ask for the data to be checked and corrected where necessary. I am very keen to present Nicola, our new Honorary Secretary, with a clean and up-to-date database and would appreciate your prompt response. I hope to send the email in the next few days.

ONCE A CHORISTER

The 2018 edition, as last year, will be published on-line as a .pdf document, which may be printed or circulated in electronic format. Alastair Pollard has confirmed that, once again, he would be compiling the issue and welcomes articles relevant to choral music together with reports from Associations and their choirs. Alastair would like copy by 31st October. We will look to place Association reports in a separate location on the website to keep the magazine down to a size which makes it more economical to print.

We are aware that a number of Associations arranged to have a supply of last year's issue printed for circulation to their members. At the AGM, Richard Belton (Leicester) volunteered to arrange for printing of this year's issue for other Associations alongside his own. A larger print order will help bring down unit costs. Email Richard (richard.t.belton@btinternet.com) if you are interested in this offer.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

For many years, the Federation membership cards, available free of charge for choir leavers and obligatory for attendees at AGMs and Festivals, have been produced by David Horner, who, sadly, we lost earlier this year. Their production has been taken on by Alastair Pollard. Email Alastair on Alastair.pollard@Outlook.com with at least two weeks' notice before they are required.

FUTURE AGMS & FESTIVALS

Rochester has generously offered to host the 2020 AGM but we are still seeking venues for Festivals from 2020 and AGMs from 2021. Please email me at secretary@fcoca.org.uk if you think your Association might host one of these events and I will be pleased help in any way I can.

Nick Hodges, Acting Honorary Secretary

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