



# St. Albans Cathedral Ex-Choristers' Association

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 5 July 2008

### **Present:**

Dr. Peter Hurford (President), Malcolm G Bury (Chairman), Bob Staten (Honorary Secretary), David Martin-Smith (Honorary Treasurer) and Mrs Pat Hurford (Honorary Member)

Members (Guests): Mr Marco Baroni, Mr Paolo Baroni, Mr John Bate, Mr Rogers Covey-Crump, Mr Christopher Cutts, Mr Antony Edwards, Mr & Mrs Bob Fitzsimmons, Mr Stephen Guy, Mr William Hare, Mr Trevor Jarvis, Mr & Mrs Peter Pearson, Mr Matthew Taylor, Mr Ross Thayne, Mr & Mrs John Tournay, Mr Dennis Yates,

### **1: Chairman's welcome and apologies:**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Apologies were received from 40 members and honorary members.

### **President's announcement:**

Dr Peter Hurford announced the sad news of the sudden death of Carolyn Lewis- Barclay (Associate Member, Former Choir Robes Mistress and Honorary Lay Canon). He paid tribute to her many outstanding personal qualities and sterling service to the Abbey Choir over many years. Malcolm and Luanda Bury will be representing the Association at her funeral to be held in Worcester Cathedral on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July. It is intended that her ashes will be interred at St. Albans Cathedral later in the year.

### **2: The Chairman's report - (attached)**

### **3: The Honorary Treasurer's report - (attached)**

### **4: Confirmation and Co-option of Committee Members:**

There have been no further expressions of interest from Association Members despite a plea from the Chairman for more representation from other decades. There were no further nominations from the floor. Resolved – All current officers to continue in their positions until next AGM.

### **5: Special Resolutions 1:**

5.1 *'That ECA Reunions are held every two years w.e.f. 2008 with the next reunion being held in 2010'*

There was general agreement that this would be sensible, not least because it will avoid any further clashes with the IOF. It was also felt that a two year gap would encourage more members to attend.

*Moved: Matt Taylor;*

*Seconded: Pat Hurford*

5.2 *'That the ECA hold, and members support at least one fund raising event per calendar year.'*

Since we do not propose to introduce a membership fee, it is essential that the Association raises money on a regular basis to ensure that we can continue to communicate effectively with members as well as run events such as the reunion.

Questions were raised over the kind of event envisaged. The Chairman suggested that a concert at St Saviours was a possibility involving the Abbey Choirs, along with other performances possibly involving Association members. Further ideas would be explored once the resolution had been passed.

*Moved: John Bate*

*Seconded: Bob Fitzsimmons*

**6: Any other business/questions from the floor:**

- Congratulations were offered by Pat Hurford on the enormous amount which has been achieved by the committee in the short time since the creation of the Association.

- Discussion then ensued over the issue of the website. This is seen as a vital, developing and exciting aspect of the Association but it is essential that members without expertise and/or interest in the internet must continue to be catered for. The issue of data protection was also discussed, in particular the disadvantages and advantages of publishing addresses and telephone numbers. There are no plans to do this at present, but the committee are always willing to act as facilitator for members wishing to contact particular names from the past.

- The Chairman explained how the archive (to be viewed later at the Reception) is developing very well and plans are in hand to make this available on the web-site.

- Rogers Covey-Crump is also in the process of transferring a number of recordings of the choir onto a new format with a view to making them available to members.

- The 2008 Directory is now available for a suggested donation of £1.00. Copies will be available at the reception and can also be requested by post from the Honorary Secretary.

**The meeting closed at 2.21 pm**