

American Friends  
of Exeter Cathedral





## Exeter Cathedral Music

We are most grateful to you for wanting to secure the future of the choir at Exeter Cathedral.

Our choristers have been singing in our medieval Cathedral for 850 years. We need your help now to be able to pass on this ancient and historic musical tradition to the next generation and to those that follow, to ensure this wonderful music thrives for centuries to come.



**Gifts of any amount are welcome as every dollar makes a difference. As a token of our appreciation for your donation and friendship we would like to offer you a gift of a pin badge and a certificate by way of a thank you.**



If you are able to make a significant donation we would be pleased to recognise your support in a variety of ways:

### **Endow a Day of Music with a Key Gift**

We all have someone special to remember or an occasion to celebrate.

By choosing a date we too will be honoured to remember with you. Your donation will be helping to provide for the costs of that day's music in the Cathedral.

- \$250: Endow a day of music for 2020 – the donor has a special mention at Evensong on a day of their choice and will be remembered in our prayers.
- \$500: Endow a day of music for 2 years - the donor has a special mention at Evensong on a day of their choice and will be remembered in our prayers. The donor's name will be engraved on an individual disc which will then be fixed in our music room.
- \$1000: Endow a day of music for 5 years - the donor chooses a special day and they are mentioned at Evensong that day for 5 years. The donor's name will be engraved on an individual disc which will then be fixed on a chorister stand or seat in our Song School.



**Your contribution  
will be treasured and  
remembered  
for years to come**



# Support Chorister Scholarships with a Major Gift

By providing a scholarship you will be supporting a musically talented child during their time at the Cathedral. You will be honoured at the Chorister installation service in September each year. Your chosen name will be noted on an engraved disc on a chorister stand or seat in our Song School. You will also be invited to join us at the next Grand Nave dinner - a sumptuous and splendid occasion. All of Devon society attends this fantastic event - set in the medieval surroundings of Exeter Cathedral.



- \$5,000: Sponsor a Chorister for a year. The Chorister will wear a medal inscribed with your chosen name for the whole academic year.



- \$25,000: Sponsor a Chorister for their time in the Cathedral Choir. The Chorister will wear a medal with your name inscribed throughout their career with us.
- \$50,000: will sponsor the choir tour in 2020 and if desired we can sing at your event. We will be in the states of New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts and Washington DC in 2020. A Chorister will also wear a medal with your name inscribed for the duration of their time at the Cathedral.
- \$80,000: Sponsor a future choir tour to sing at your event – all US locations considered.

# Company of Exeter Cathedral – supporting our long-term future with a Transformative Gift

Your generous capital donation will be wisely invested in the Exeter Cathedral Music Foundation Trust endowment to support the Cathedral's music for the long-term.

These are magnificent gifts and make a real difference to the talented children we can support in future.

- \$100,000: as an endowment for a chorister place. For the coming twenty-five years, Choristers will wear a medal with your name inscribed.
- \$200,000: two Chorister places are supported in your name - perhaps one boy and one girl.
- \$1,000,000: we shall be pleased to name the Girls' or Boys' Song School after the benefactor.





## Please come and join us

We would be delighted if you were able to join us, to come and see the treasures of Exeter Cathedral and the historic and beautiful County of Devon at a time mutually agreed and convenient to you. We will organise a bespoke tour hosted by The Very Revd Jonathan Greener, Dean of Exeter, which will include:

- a recital by the Cathedral Choir followed by afternoon tea and a visit to the Bishop's Palace. Not normally open to the public, the Palace dates back 800 years, and together with the Cathedral is amongst Exeter's most historic buildings.
- a personal tour of the Cathedral's medieval library which houses amazing and fascinating books on a whole range of topics from the 10th to the 21st centuries.  
*The highlights include:*
  - *The Exon Domesday Book, written in 1086, which contains unique information about politics, society, and the landscape of South-West Britain a thousand years ago*
  - *Shakespeare's second Folio published in 1632*
  - *The Exeter Book, a 10th-century anthology of poetry in Old English of international importance to English literature and recognised by UNESCO*
  - *The Massachusetts Bible (Eliot Bible), first printed in North America in 1661*
- a special tour of Exeter Cathedral, founded in 1050AD, hosted by our knowledgeable Cathedral archaeologist John Allan BA, MPhil. This will include a look at the choir stalls which contain 49 medieval tip-up seats known as 'misericords'. Carved in the mid-13th century they form one of the oldest surviving sets anywhere. As they are very fragile they are not normally seen by visitors.
- a visit to the Stonemasons' yard to see this ancient craft, followed by a tour to the roof and the view from the North Tower.
- dinner at the Deanery.

Depending on your availability we can make arrangements for you to extend your stay and see more of Devon's beautiful countryside, quaint coastal villages and great houses.



## A Chorister's story

*The overwhelming nervousness as I was installed into the Cathedral Choir was incredible, but it was worth it...*

*When I thought about what being a chorister meant before I joined, the prospect seemed awe inspiring, a complete unknown: what would it do to me? Would I come out the other end, five years later, the same?*



*I'm very proud to say I didn't, and on my last day, all the feelings of five years' service, training, incredible commitment and hard work, were shown in one last sing with the choir. I thought what now? Where am I going? What am I doing? I knew of course. I was moving on, to a new place with new rules and new ways of doing things; but would my life ever be the same? I still ponder this, and my future has changed dramatically. I used to want to be a fire officer, or maybe an astronaut, but now maybe I'll start up my own close harmony group, or become a professional violinist. My view on music and my future has a whole new slant - music is big!*

*Those precious five years changed my view on what I should, could, and want to be. I can now be something completely different with new opportunities. Apart from the normal everyday singing in the Cathedral that is part of a chorister's life, I sang for the Queen, went on tour to Holland and Belgium, made CDs with the choir, was on the radio and TV multiple times, toured parts of this country, sang with other Cathedral choirs, was part of workshops for primary schools, had professional solo engagements with Exeter Philharmonic and Plymouth Philharmonic Choirs, sang at a number of weddings and funerals and was in numerous concerts. One particular highlight was my first solo with the Cathedral choir – I sang the high treble in Allegri's Miserere on Ash Wednesday, the day before my 11th birthday. I've enjoyed every moment of it! I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to be part of a fantastic Cathedral choir and have been able to share my gift with others.*

*As a result of my years at Exeter Cathedral School and as a chorister in the Cathedral choir, I was able to apply for a music scholarship to my new school. I continue to play the viola, violin and piano, and of course, I still sing. I have also joined the South West Camerata with my viola skills which developed through playing in the ECS Orchestra, in which I was Leader for my last year at the school. I have joined many other groups as well where I have met musicians from around the county, who all share the same enthusiasm, and I see now, that so many paths lay open for me in music.*

*I wouldn't exchange those five years for anything!*



# Thank you from all of us here at Exeter Cathedral

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