

## **Birmingham Cathedral Old Choristers' Association report 2012**

At the last evensong of the academic year (22<sup>nd</sup> July 2012), four new members were welcomed into the Association: **Edward Hodge, Louis Berrow, Richard Pinner** and **Lucy Yuan**. This was followed by the Association's AGM: as a result of attending the meeting, former chorister Keiron Nash has returned to sing alto with the choir. On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012, a group of Old Choristers and friends sang Evensong at the Cathedral while the choir was away.

We were sorry to note the death of two members of the Association who dedicated their lives to church music: Thomas Tunnard, organist and master of the choristers from 1958 to 1968, died on 25<sup>th</sup> August at the age of 94; Anthony Cooke, a former chorister who went on to be Organ Scholar of Keble College Oxford and then Director of Music at Leeds Grammar School for over 25 years, as well as holding positions in the Royal College of Organists and the Incorporated Society of Organists, died on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

The Cathedral Choirs continue to perform with the Royal Ballet Sinfonia. This year has included performances of Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* by the Girls' Choir in Birmingham, Sadlers Wells and the Alhambra Palace in Spain. In July, the Cathedral Choir sang at Ely and Gloucester Cathedrals on successive days, as well as a special welcome service for the Jamaican and American teams prior to the London Olympics.

Hugh Houghton (Secretary)