

PRESS RELEASE

Chief Executive of Three Choirs Festival named as new Managing Director of National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain

Dominic Jewel, Chief Executive of the Three Choirs Festival Association, has been appointed as Managing Director of the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain (NCOGB). He is expected to take up the post early in 2016.

Dominic has headed the Three Choirs Festival's management team for the past three years, overseeing delivery of the event in Gloucester, Worcester and most recently this summer's very successful 300th anniversary festival in Hereford, which saw record ticket sales and a considerably enhanced national and international profile for the festival. Previously a producer for BBC Radio 3 working across the UK with a range of organisations and performers, he started his professional career as a violinist and spent several years playing with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales; as a student he led the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and he is also an alumnus of the NCOGB.

Commenting on the news of Mr Jewel's appointment to run the NCOGB, Dr Timothy Brain, Chairman of the Three Choirs Festival Association, said: 'Though we will be sorry to see him go, I am pleased for Dominic and his family and we offer him our congratulations. The Three Choirs Festival owes him immense gratitude for the contribution he has made through his hard work, strategic vision and professionalism to the growth and business development of our organisation.'

'The recruitment process for Dominic's replacement as Chief Executive of the Three Choirs Festival will begin immediately. The celebration of our 300th anniversary year continues and we have exciting plans for a new-look Gloucester Three Choirs Festival in July 2016. The task of leading the longest-running classical music festival in the world into its fourth century will be a challenging but very attractive prospect for Dominic's successor.'

Dominic Jewel said: 'Working with the Three Choirs Festival has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career. It is a wonderful organisation combining sacred and secular choral music at the very highest level, and I have enjoyed the most stimulating and fruitful relationships with the artistic directors and chairmen of the committees in the three festival cities, and with colleagues at the Philharmonia Orchestra which is resident at the Three Choirs Festival every year. I shall be sorry to leave, but the opportunity to return to my own musical roots by joining Artistic Director Roger Clarkson at the helm of the National Children's Orchestra was one I could not miss. I wish the Three Choirs Festival all the very best for the future.'



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finest choral music**

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Chairman: Dr Timothy Brain
Chief Executive: Dominic Jewel

Registered Charity No.: 204609
Company Registration No.: 580176

NOTES TO EDITORS

1) The Three Choirs Festival has its origins at the end of the 17th century in visits by the lay clerks of Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester to one another's cathedrals for joint services and informal singing. More formal annual 'music meetings' can be traced back to around 1715 and have continued ever since, interrupted only by the two world wars, making this the oldest continuously running classical music festival in the world. The event rotates between the three cathedral cities on a three-year cycle. The Three Cathedral Choirs continue to combine for daily liturgical services as part of the festival and also join the Three Choirs Festival Chorus for the main orchestral concerts. The Director of Music of each cathedral serves as Artistic Director of the Three Choirs Festival in their city. The Philharmonia Orchestra currently has continuing annual residency at the festival.

2) The administration of the Three Choirs Festival Association is managed by a small professional team based in Gloucester, headed by the chief executive and managing development, ticket office services, media and marketing staff on behalf of all three festival cities. Operations directors in each city work more closely with their respective artistic directors and with voluntary committees to deliver the events.

3) A job description and application form for the position of Chief Executive of the Three Choirs Festival can be found on the festival's website at www.3choirs.org/jobs

4) The National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain (NCOGB) were founded in 1978 by Vivienne Price MBE, who saw the need for talented children aged under 14 to have their own symphony orchestra. The organisation now embraces six national age-banded orchestras, which receive top quality tuition at residential courses and regularly perform at some of the UK's most prestigious concert halls, as well as six regionally-based orchestras. In 2012, the NCOGB's main orchestra performed for the Queen in Westminster Hall for her Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Alumnae of the NCOGB include conductors Daniel Harding and Robin Ticciati and violinist Nicola Benedetti. www.nco.org.uk

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