



The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire

Welcome from the Officials

Welcome to the Order of the British Empire Newsletter.

The Order of the British Empire is closely associated with St Paul's Cathedral and we are proud to support them in a number of ways, some of which are reported in this newsletter.

We hope you will enjoy reading about the great work the Order carries out with the charitable funds, to which members and Medallists generously donate.

Periodically, we will be sending you news concerning future events, appeals and projects connected with the Order.

As there are approximately 130,000 members and Medallists in the Order, this is the only time you will receive a 'hard copy' of the newsletter. To enable us to have your correct contact details, please would you either complete and return the form on the reverse of this newsletter or update your details via the Central Chancery Website.

www.centralchancery.org.uk

Should you prefer not to be sent this document in future, please do let us know and we will remove you from the mailing list.

Officials

The Officials of the Order are currently:

THE SOVEREIGN

GRAND MASTER,

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh,
KG KT OM GBE ONZ QSO AK GCL CC CMM

PRELATE,

The Bishop of London

The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dr Richard Chartres,
KCVO

KING OF ARMS,

Lieutenant General Sir Robert Fulton, KBE

REGISTRAR,

The Secretary of the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood,
Lieutenant Colonel Michael Vernon

SECRETARY,

The Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service,
Sir Jeremy Heywood, KCB CVO

DEAN,

The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral,
The Very Reverend Dr David Ison

LADY USHER OF THE PURPLE ROD,

Dame Amelia Fawcett, DBE

Services in the Chapel of The Order

The following may take place in the Chapel:

- **Memorial Services** - for Knights and Dames Grand Cross only.
- **Weddings** - for members and Medallists of the Order or their children only.

- **Baptisms** - for members and Medallists of the Order, their children or grandchildren only.

There is approximately a two-year waiting list for these services.

All services will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Church Of England

Centenary Appeal

In connection with the Order's Centenary, we are assisting St Paul's Cathedral in their admirable work to make the Cathedral accessible to everyone. This will take the form of a permanent and architecturally sympathetic access ramp to the North Transept.

The estimated cost for the ramp is two million pounds, which will be a joint project between the Order and the Cathedral.

A leaflet providing details of this project is enclosed, along with a pre-paid envelope, should you wish to donate towards this permanent addition to the Cathedral's architecture.

Centenary Window

To celebrate the Centenary of the Order of the British Empire, 1917-2017, we are working with St Paul's Cathedral to replace a plain glass window with a specially commissioned stained-glass window in the Chapel of the Order.

An artist has been selected and the design has been approved by the Cathedral. The window, we hope, will be in place in time for the Centenary Ceremonial Service in 2017.

Annual Evensong

An Evensong for new members of the Order (appointed since the Birthday Honours List 2013) was held on Tuesday, 10th November 2015 at St. Paul's Cathedral, in the presence of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, Grand Master of the Order.

The service was attended by 1,000 members and their guests. The Officials, OBE Choristers and Organ Outreach Fellow and two members of the Order took part in the service.

The Officials of the Order were delighted to see so many members and Medallists of the Order attending the service. It was much appreciated by all members and Medallists of the Order, some of whom had attended their investiture early that day.

The next Evensong will be held in 2016 (date to be confirmed), for those appointed to the Order since the Birthday Honours 2015. Once it has been agreed, the date will be published on the Central Chancery website and emailed to those for whom, we have addresses.

There is a daily evensong in St. Paul's Cathedral, which is open to members of the public at 5pm (Monday-Friday) and 3:15pm (Sunday). They are free to attend without pre-booking a ticket.

Ceremonial Service in 2017

The next Service of Dedication which was due to take place in 2016, will now take place in 2017, to correspond with the Order's Centenary. Once the date for this service has been confirmed in December 2016, you may apply for a ticket either in writing to The Registrar of The Order **or** via the Central Chancery website.

Due to the size of the Order this service will be open to members and Medallists only. It will therefore not be possible to bring a guest. In the event of oversubscription there will be a ballot.

We hope that the new ramp and stained-glass window will be completed in time for the Service.

Chorister Scholarship

In 2003, a Chorister Scholarship was introduced to cover the boarding and music fees for two Cathedral Choristers, who would have been unable to attend the Cathedral school without this financial assistance.

Currently the two OBE choristers are:-

Eric Kabamba. Eric has made considerable progress both in his singing having sung a number of solos during the last 12 months and achieved a distinction in his Grade 2 (Violin) and Grade 3 (Piano) examinations.

Ndiana Essien. Ndiana as the most recent OBE chorister is making excellent progress both musically and academically and will be with the school for the next three years.

The Choristers, funded by the Order can be identified by the OBE badge they wear when on duty.

Organ Fellowship

In 2014, Mr Tom Daggett, BA (Oxon) was selected as the first Organ Outreach Fellow for the OBE Organ Outreach programme. Sponsored by the Order, its aim is to share St. Paul's musical heritage with primary schools in London. It seeks to enrich curricula, inspire minds, and promote a deeper understanding of the organ.

It does this through workshop days in schools on a digital organ, and by introducing the new 'William Drake OBE Organ' (situated in the OBE Chapel) to a more diverse audience.

Since his appointment, Mr. Daggett has worked with over 2,500 children from inner-city London Schools. Progress on this programme can be followed on Twitter @StPaulsChoir or at Facebook.com/StPaulsCathedralChoir

The OBE Collection

Toye, Kenning and Spencer are the **only** authorised supplier of memorabilia, known as The OBE Collection. Royalties are donated to the OBE Chapel Fund.

www.thetoyeshop.com



Miniatures of the medals can be obtained from a number of companies, details of which, can be found on the card enclosed with your insignia.

Visit our Website:

www.centralchancery.org.uk

We will update this page regularly with
upcoming Services and Events.

Order of the British Empire
St James's Palace
London
SW1A 1BH

Tel: 0207 024 5761



Updating My Details

Please complete this form if your details have changed since your appointment to the Order.

Or complete the form online at www.centralchancery.org.uk

Please complete only one version of this form.

Surname and Post Nominals: (PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS)

.....

Forenames:

.....

Permanent Address:

.....

.....

.....

Email Address:

.....



Please return this form in the envelope provided to:

The Order of the British Empire (AF)

St. James's Palace

London

SW1A 1BH