



In Harmony

The Marchington Singers' Newsletter

Number 20

August 2007

Dear Singers,

As I enter the final year of my chairmanship, I am pleased to start this summer Newsletter with my thanks to you all for your support and hard work that has resulted in another successful year for the Singers.

The AGM

It was good to see such a full attendance, which I am sure was not entirely motivated by the prospect of a free glass of wine! Full minutes of the meeting will be published in due course, but in the meantime, we welcome to the committee Ian Jones and Simon Barber who were elected at this meeting and we thank Ann Lakin who has stepped down but hopes to remain an active choir member. The full committee line-up appears overleaf.

Change in Rehearsal Time

Please note that one of the decisions taken at the meeting was to try out for one term an earlier start and finish time for our rehearsals.

This means that our next rehearsal, (**on Wednesday 5th September**) will start at **7-30 p.m. and end at 9-30 p.m.** Please try to arrive on time which *may* enable us to pressurise Wendy to finish on time!!!

Recent Events

Joint concert with All Saints School, Church Leigh

This went well and the (somewhat depleted) school choir put their heart and soul into it and seemed to enjoy it as much as we did. There was a great atmosphere and it helped to top up the coffers of the School and the Singers alike.

I quote below from a letter sent to us after the event by the Head teacher, Amanda Shaw:

“Would you please convey my thanks to everyone who sang at the concert at Leigh last Saturday. We do appreciate their support, giving freely of their valuable time.

I have received very positive feedback from members of the singers and audience, parents and children alike, so it was indeed a success! Any monies raised will go towards funding our small but enthusiastic school choir.”

Sandon Church: Wedding of Amanda Shaw (not the same one!)

About half the choir turned out for this one. Again a great success in this lovely old church, and a follow up letter from the bride from which I quote:

“Thank you for a brilliant performance at our wedding on Saturday. Several guests have commented how impressed they were by your performance and Jean Goodwin (*verger*) said you were the best choir they had had at Sandon Church.”

See also the item below under “Future events”.

2007 Diary

Wednesday 5 September

Rehearsals Start
Village Hall 7.30 p.m.!

Tuesday 18 September Committee Meeting 8.00 p.m.

Friday 7 or Saturday 8 December

Concert Sandon Church
Date & Time T.B.C.

Saturday 15 December Christmas by Candlelight Concert St. Mary's Church Uttoxeter 7.30 p.m.

Sunday 9 or 16 December Carols Round Village Date & details T.B.C.

2008 Diary

Late January or Early February

‘World Music’ Workshop
with Amy Bebbington
of Chorus Amici
Village Hall & Church
A Saturday 10.00 a.m. to 4.00
p.m. Other local choirs to be
invited

Saturday Mid March Spring Concert Place & time T.B.C.

Saturday 12 or 19 July Summer Concert ‘That’s Entertainment’ Place & time T.B.C.

Future Events

Sandon Church

Following the much acclaimed wedding on 4th August, we have been asked if we will put on a concert of Christmas music at Sandon in early December and this is under consideration. Possible dates are Friday 7th at 8-00 p.m. or Saturday 8th at 7.30 p.m. Please come to our next rehearsal ready to commit (or otherwise) to these dates so we can decide whether we can meet the request.

Uttoxeter St Mary's Church

Candlelight Concert Saturday 15th December at 7.30p.m.

Other Matters

Parking in Marchington

The police have asked that all organisations using the Village Hall avoid parking in the School entrance which has to be left unobstructed at all times. In order to reduce parking congestion round the Hall, perhaps we should all consider such questions as: Could I walk to rehearsals? : Can I offer another member parking space on my drive? : Could I set up a car sharing arrangement with another member? Please give these matters some thought and approach other members if you think there may be some scope.

Availability Charts

As you know, we use these to assess if we can field a well balanced and large enough choir for the event, and a sufficient response from members will usually result in our making a commitment to perform. Sometimes the decision on balance may be marginal if we are short of numbers in one of the parts, and if we subsequently lose more voices from that part we might have to cancel.

Withdrawal from the event would be embarrassing to all, could prove expensive, and, *in extremis*, might even result in an action for breach of contract against us!

Hence, once we members have said we are available, we should do our utmost to avoid dropping out except in cases of **extreme** urgency, and we should at all times keep Wendy in the picture if a problem appears to be coming our way.

Concert Fees

A new scale of fees is introduced from September 2007. This is: Weddings £175, Concerts £150, Charity Concerts are negotiable. In all cases where it is necessary to hire a coach, travel costs will be extra.

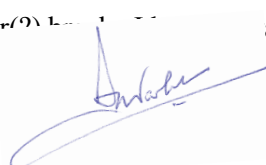
Next Committee Meeting

Tuesday 18th September 8-00 p.m. at 14 Windmill Drive, Marchington.

Next Rehearsal

Wednesday 5th September at Marchington Village Hall. The list of music you need to bring is shown in the box on the right. If you are missing some pieces please let Ian Jones (our new Music Librarian) know in good time. And please don't forget the new starting time of **7.30 p.m.**

Enjoy the rest of your Summer and to seeing you on 5th September **at 7.30 p.m!**



Your Committee

The following officers and committee members were elected, at the AGM on 18th July 2007, to serve for the year to the end of the 2008 A.G.M.

Chairman

David Warhurst (01889 563537)
pat.warhurst@btinternet.com

Secretary

Gill Williamson (01283 820407)
williamson@marchington92.freemove.co.uk

Treasurer

Tim Scott (01889 563570)
tim@raggedrobin.co.uk

Music Librarian

Ian Jones (01283 820581)
ian.jones32@virgin.net

Committee Members

Simon Barber (01889 594291)
Peter Davies (01283 712582)
Pat Warhurst (01889 563537)

The Conductor and Accompanist are automatically members of the committee.

Conductor

Wendy Scott (01889 563570)
wendy@raggedrobin.co.uk

Accompanist

Rhoda Castle (01283 820486)
castletom@btinternet.com

Notes

... put concert dates in diary ...

Music for Christmas

The following are for possible inclusion in the Candlelight programme. Please bring with you on 5th September:

Green and Orange carol books (Carols for Choirs 1 & 2)
Bogoroditsye Dyevo
Little Road to Bethlehem
Let it Snow
Mary had a Baby
Poverty
Rejoice and be Merry
Sing Lullaby
Ring Christmas Bells (Ukrainian Carol)
Sleigh Ride
The Carol Singers (Men only)