

Welcome

The season is now in full swing and there are only 4 weeks until the Civic Concert on Sunday 12th November. There are still 4 rehearsals left – 23rd and 30th October, and 6th and 10th November. Please note that the rehearsal on Friday, 10th November is at 7.30 pm at Vale Royal Methodist Church. We hope that you will be able to attend all the remaining rehearsals if at all possible, as we wish to give the best possible performance at the Concert, and it is most important to attend the morning rehearsal on the day of the concert.

If you have joined us recently and have any questions or wish to speak to someone about membership of the choir, please speak to our Registrar, Celia Sumner. We do have Section Representatives who are: Alison Kain (Sopranos), Jean Finch (Altos), Alan Spencer (Tenors) and Richard Gosling (Basses) so if you have any questions about anything to do with rehearsals, or the Concert Day, please speak to the appropriate person. If you do not know who they are, please ask another member of your section to point out your Section Representative to you.

Make your presence known

Please remember to tick your name and choir number each week on the sheet provided. Please ask Celia Sumner if you are not on the list. Of course, everyone in the choir is more than just a name and number. If you would like to put a few names to faces and meet other people in the choir, why not head to the Mount Edgcombe pub after a Monday evening rehearsal. Ask someone if you're not sure of your way there or if you would like a lift.



Seeking a special someone

We are still looking for a new General Secretary for the Society, following Heather Styles' departure from this role at the AGM. We feel sure that there is someone in the Choir with the appropriate skills, and hopefully enough spare time, to take on this extremely interesting job. If you wish to know more about what's involved, please speak to Helen MacNab, our Acting Secretary, who is doing a magnificent job in the meanwhile.

Subscriptions and Gift Aid

Subscriptions for the 2006-7 season are now overdue. The subscription of £70.00 can be paid either in one instalment or in two instalments of £35.00 (one now and the other in January 2007). If you have yet to pay, please give or send a cheque, made out to RTWCS, to the Treasurer, Michael Selway, Edensor, Linden Park Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 5QL.

Forms are available for members who would like to Gift Aid their payments. This is well worth doing as it normally generates in excess of £1,500 each year.

Rehearsals

Thank you to everyone who arrives early on Monday evenings to help put out the chairs, or stays at the end to help pack away. It really does make such a difference when lots of people make this extra effort, and is especially appreciated now that it is getting dark earlier and the weather is turning colder.

Our audience – tickets

Now is the time to spread the word about our concert: invite your family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and so on, and take some posters and flyers to display in suitable locations in town and beyond. This is a very special Concert (as indeed they all are) since we are helping to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the founding of Tunbridge Wells. There have been many events this year – we would like this one to be truly memorable. The music is superb and if we all work hard at our parts at rehearsals, and at home too if possible, the concert will be as well.

Please make it your target to sell four or more tickets each. This is easier said than done, we know and can involve quite a lot of effort, imagination and persistence! The tickets are now available from the Assembly Hall, but the Treasurer does retain a number and is able to sell these to choir members who may have just missed the deadline.



Concert day arrangements

Parking.

There is a large car park adjacent to the Assembly Hall, in Crescent Road. Please note that there is a Remembrance Day Ceremony at the War Memorial in the morning and access to the main part of Town will be restricted. The Assembly Hall recommends entering Town via Carr's Corner/Calverley Road. Entrance to the Assembly Hall morning and evening is by the Stage Door at the rear of the Hall.

Timings.

Please arrive at 9.45am, to be seated on stage at 10.00am. There will be a break for lunch. We will line up at the back of the stage at 2.45pm. Concert 3.00pm. It has been decided that on this occasion members of the Choir will be allowed to leave the platform during the interval. Please make sure you return at the appropriate time, 5 minutes before the Interval ends, and line up and go on to the platform in the same way as before the start of the concert.

Taking part.

If you are singing in the Autumn Concert, please make sure your name is on the list. If your name is on the list but you cannot sing in the concert after all, or if you cannot attend the morning rehearsal or will be late, it is essential to tell the Acting General Secretary – Helen MacNab, 01892 526434, email: helenmacnab@yahoo.co.uk – as soon as possible. This is to make sure that we have exactly the right number of seats on stage.

Concert dress.

Ladies: white (not cream) long-sleeved blouses (tucked in), full-length black skirts (black trousers permitted if a black skirt is unavailable, but preferably not on the front row) and black shoes. Jewellery, if worn, must be unobtrusive.

Gentlemen: dinner jacket (or dark lounge suit), white shirt, black bow-tie, black shoes and black socks. There are rooms upstairs behind the stage for changing your clothes, which can be left there during the concert. Poppies to be worn by all members on the left-hand side of blouses and jackets.

*Thank goodness
for these ChoralLine
rehearsal CDs*



Carol Concert

Our concert of Christmas music and carols for choir and audience will be held on Sunday 10th December at 6.30pm at St Barnabas Church, Tunbridge Wells. There will be a rehearsal at the church in the afternoon at 3 pm.

The concert will include a selection from the Novello Book of Carols and Carols for Choirs Books 1 and 2. For choir members who do not have their own copies, these will be available from the Librarian in due course to purchase or hire.

Carol singing

It has become a pleasant tradition for choir members to sing carols at Rosset Holt residential home and Halliwell Nursing home in Tunbridge Wells on Monday 11th December. Further details will be available in due course.

Meanwhile, do enjoy the remaining rehearsals and in particular the concert itself.