

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE TYNDALE CHORAL SOCIETY
HELD AT 8.50 PM ON MONDAY, 29 MARCH 2010, IN DURSLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

1. Present: (taken from rehearsal register)

John Ewer (Chairman), Monica James (Treasurer); Julia O'Connor-Beach (Secretary); Ian Harrold (Musical Director).

Liz Barnes Catherine Bennett Brian Bolsher Jill Brown Mike Chambers Mavis Church Jenny Coles Sophie Cox Jenni Culverwell Pam Davis Jean Dabinett Christine Gourd Joy Green	Peter Harney Marjorie Harrison Betty Hebditch John Hicks Jacquelin Hill Sheelagh Hudleston Estelle James Maggie Jordan Brian Kitching Sally Lamerton Lorna Lane Rosemary Lea Christine Leeding	Doreen Manning Frances Neale Anne Nuttall John Palmer Diz Pedrick Angela Pendlebury Julie Phillips Kate Reeves Wendy Richardson Rosemary Robinson Miriam Salman Anne Shipton Audrey Sewell	Dick Skinner Val Skinner Joyce Theaker Wendy Thomas Eve Tudgay Sue Walshaw Vanessa Weaver Geoff Whiley Elaine White Mary Wright Andrew Young Elizabeth Young (54 members)
Apologies for absence (from register):			
Frank Andoh Fiona Chandler Sue Davies Glenis Ewer Shelagh Fitzarthur	Diane Freeland Claire Harrison Max Holland Alastair Macleod Lynette Magnone	Len Miller Marion Miller Brian Neale Liz Rymer Barbara Sanderson	Sandra Tucker Mark Wright-Davies (17 members)

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

It was proposed by Andrew Young and seconded by Audrey Sewell that the Minutes of the 2009 AGM be approved and signed as a true record. Motion passed nem con.

3. Chairman's Address

"Our choir cannot function without a committee and so we are reliant on those who are prepared to give time and energy to its smooth running. Lisa Randall and Wendy Thomas have served their full term and are now retiring, Monica James stepped in as an emergency Treasurer last year but has had to give up due to work pressures. In addition, non committee longer-term support has been given by Anne Shipton (Concert Manager), Elizabeth Young and Ros Wakefield (Bring and Buy stall), and we are grateful to Estelle James and Sue Walshaw for taking up the latter baton. Others work behind the scenes. Our superb programmes and newsletter are the work of Dick Skinner, and of course refreshments are in Glenis's hands.

We had a very successful year in 2009, culminating in a well-received concert of the Bach B Minor Mass. The audience was excellent and showed the hard work of so many members despite the difficulty of the competition at Wotton-under-Edge. I was very impressed by the extent of the homework done both by individuals as well as by sections who came together for additional rehearsals. We have had increasing involvement of volunteers for various fund raising effort – cake sales, Wotton teas, stage erection and dismantling, and support for the ABC course, ably led by Chris Swain. All of these have been very enjoyable and have increased the camaraderie within the Society which I find very encouraging.

We received a legacy from Rosemary Bowmer's estate of £5,000. Rosemary was a founder member and stalwart of the choir until illness forced her retirement. The legacy showed the importance of the choir to her and our staging has been dedicated to her memory.

We welcome members of the last ABC to Tyndale this season and look forward to this year's music, our 50th birthday celebration, our workshop on "Elijah" with Nigel Perrin and two sessions of voice training with Bronwen Mills (one before each concert). We have received an invitation for us to repeat our summer concert 2011 as the main event at Leonard Stanley in July 2011. This will, of course, depend on the commitment of the choir well in advance.

Last year saw the continuing development of the South Cotswold Choral Group (SCCG) involving Thornbury, Yate,

Wycliffe, Cirencester, and most recently Fairford, and ourselves. Not only do we all know the works and dates that apply to each of us, but we have been able to help each other by pooling our individual knowledge and contacts. Best of all we have the opportunity to combine our resources in order to perform works that could not be achieved individually. In June 2011 we shall join together to perform the Verdi Requiem in Tewkesbury Abbey under the baton of Nigel Perrin.

All in all we have much to look forward to but there have been some disappointments. We had to cancel our workshop as members did not like the choice of works, Schubert, later changed to Haydn, but even this did not bring the necessary support. If you have ideas for music that can be given a degree of polish enabling us to perform it in the evening, please put it forward. Similarly the proposed Christmas concert had to be cancelled. We would like to try again this year.

Enjoy this season and the companionship of fellow choristers.”

4. Reports and Accounts for the year ended 2009

The documentation required by the Charity Commission, viz The Trustees' Report, the Independent Examiner's Report, the Statement of Financial Activities, and the Balance Sheet, together with the Treasurer's remarks, had been distributed in advance of the meeting by electronic means (copy attached) and précis copies were available at the meeting. **It was proposed** by Angela Pendlebury and seconded by Jenni Culverwell that the audited accounts be adopted. The motion was passed nem con.

5. Proposed Budget 2010

The Treasurer had distributed the proposed budget for 2010 activity, and there were no further questions or comments from the meeting. The budget is a management tool, constantly under review by the committee. It will be revised throughout the year to take account of any decisions taken by the committee (e.g., additional rehearsals, workshops, etc), to ensure that the society remains on a sound financial footing.

6. Auditors and Auditors' remuneration

The appointment of an independent examiner was to be left to the new Treasurer, when appointed.

7. Conductor's Report

Ian Harrold had written on the subject of the past year's activities in the Spring newsletter, and asked the membership to take that article as his Report.

8. Confirmation of Officers

Dick Skinner took the chair for this item.

It was proposed by Wendy Thomas and seconded by Andrew Young that the committee's appointment of John Ewer as Chairman and Julia O'Connor-Beach as Secretary for the term of one year be confirmed. Motion carried nem con.

In spite of repeated announcements and entreaties, the post of Treasurer had attracted no volunteers/nominations from the membership, which was extremely disappointing.

9. Appointment of Charity Trustees

Liz Barnes had offered to carry out the duties of Concert Secretary, but was unable to become a committee member due to pressure of work and family commitments. Liz was thanked for her kind offer, and confirmed as the Concert Secretary, without becoming a Trustee.

No-one had agreed or come forward to take the position of Publicity Secretary.

10 Concert Manager

The position of Concert Manager, which currently is not a Trustee position, remains unfilled.

The resulting committee vacancies for one officer and two members (3 of the 9 Trustees), ie the lack of a Treasurer, Concert Manager, and Publicity Secretary, pose a serious threat to the viability of the Society. The committee will consider its options and come back to the membership as a matter of urgency.

11. Section Representatives

The sections were invited to nominate their representatives for 2010. Bass: Brian Kitching; Tenor: John Ewer; Alto: Wendy Richardson; Soprano: Jenni Culverwell.

12. CIO – Charitable Incorporated Organisation status (arising from AGM 2008)

The Secretary reported that the legislation was still not on the statute book. It is estimated for end 2010/beginning 2011. The committee will evaluate the position and make its recommendation to the membership when appropriate.

13. Employment contracts and recruiting procedure (arising from AGM 2008)

This item will now be linked to the recruitment of Ian Harrold's successor.

Julie Philips, Tyndale's Making Music Representative, reported that she had attended the MM AGM and conference 2009 held in Leeds, which focussed on musical directors, recruitment, the relationship with the choir, contracts and negotiations etc. Julie, together with John Ewer and John Hicks, will work on the task of recruiting a successor for Ian Harrold. Each voice section is invited to nominate a representative to work on this recruitment process, and work will start after Easter.

14. Staging – Report on stability/safety concerns

Maltbury Staging had supplied free of charge further bracing poles/clamps, and had sent 4 riggers who had erected the staging for the November concert. No further concerns were expressed regarding the stability of the staging. Alastair Macleod had generously agreed to take on responsibility for the staging kit with immediate effect.

15. Leonard Stanley 2011

The membership was asked to consider whether it should accept the invitation to repeat the Summer 2011 concert at Leonard Stanley in 2011. A view will be taken at rehearsal in April.

16. Other Business

16.1 Summer 2011 Programme

Ian Harrold reported that the current plan is for Pergolesi and Monteverdi, and a second half of selections from the "Pink Book", In the Mood, a selection of popular standard arrangements. Given the invitation to Leonard Stanley, and the difficulty of making a theme out of the two concert halves, it was suggested that a different piece (or pieces) should be found to replace the "Pink Book". Suggestions are invited from the membership.

16.2 Post Winter Concert Supper

Brian Bolsher suggested that an American Supper might be arranged for the Monday after the November concert, as a pleasant rounding off to the season. Sally Lamerton asked that Monday be avoided so that it did not clash with an Oriana rehearsal. Jacquelin Hill suggested that the following concert's programme could be introduced at such an event. The committee will consider the suggestions.

16.3 Committee vacancies

In answer to Jacquelin Hill's query, the Secretary confirmed that if anyone should be willing to fill the vacancies, the committee is able to co-opt at any stage of the year, and the co-opted member would then be confirmed at the following AGM.

17. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.35 pm.