

22/06/2009 Choir Notices

Rehearsal 12 of 13

Well done and thank you...

... to those who came forward with advertisements for the programme; brilliant effort. Never had so many.

...to those who baked cakes, donated goods for sale, and staffed the kitchen at Wotton Town Hall. We made about £200. Betty H did a brilliant job of organising. What a star!

Just the Dursley Cake Stall next Saturday... Don't pack away the cake tins just yet!

Concert Day – All hands on deck

Lisa Randell (Concert Secretary) is still looking for more helpers on the day – steward duty, bar duty, etc. Please ask your partners/friends if they wouldn't mind helping out. Please also consider volunteering your own services - singing doesn't preclude anyone from being able to pitch in. (Remember, I have crutches and WILL use them.)

Lisa won't be at rehearsal this week, and has asked me to take the names of anyone kind enough to come forward.

Concert choir numbers

Anne Shipton needs to know firm numbers now, so if you still haven't indicated on the registers whether you are singing or not, please do so this week.

Polishing the Performance

Over the last few years during my stint as secretary, I have collected audience comments about our concert performances and passed them on to you. We'll take

the good stuff as read; we know we can pull out the stops sound-wise. Where we fall down (as do other local choirs) is in our presentation, as witnessed by a distinguished Tyndaler in the St Paul concert audience (on sick leave!):

"About a quarter really looked as if they were entering into the spirit of the words & music with animated faces. The rest looked bland & could have been singing about anything... The holding of the book during performance also needs addressing as some people's faces were hidden or partially hidden"

Since I've been banging on about this issue of communicating, some of you have told me that when attending other choral concerts you've taken note of how other choirs perform, and that you agreed what a difference it makes when the singers look up and are more expressive/communicative. It is such a simple thing, really. Get into the groove of what you are singing!

Vaughan Williams: 'Sigh no more ladies' tells us that men are a bunch of cads and rotters, so get over it and cheer up... allow yourselves a devil-may-care demeanour. Think Jessie Matthews, if you're old enough to remember her! We actually do have to sing 'Hey nonny nonny', and if you look like Les Dawson in drag complaining over a garden fence, it won't work.

As to the Fairies, do what you can! 'Pinch him and burn him' – perhaps an air of gleeful malevolence, with your choice of politician in mind?

'The Epilogue' is as near to Monty Python's 'Always look on the bright side of life' as you'll get from Vaughan Williams. Philosophical smiles all round.

Allow me to dust off a suggestion I made in December:

1. It's our summer concert, not a Mass. Be joyful.
2. Check your 'singing face' in the bathroom mirror, and ask yourself if you would pay £8 to watch it.
3. Make the necessary corrections and aim for three quidsworth at the very least.
4. If the above made you smile, you'll be half way there.

Tyndale's Come and Sing

'Jolly Good Haydn' on 27 September, St James Dursley. Haydn's *The Seasons*. We need to ensure there is sufficient support from within the Tyndale ranks for this to proceed. If you haven't already done so, **please indicate on the sign-up list in the coffee room** if you are going to join us or not (no need to pay yet!).

Reminder: Next week - Rehearsal in Wotton

Christopher Boodle will be playing for us next week in the Church. Please car share as much as possible, and leave parking on the Church drive for those who need it.