

19/04/2010 Choir Notices

Rehearsal 4 of 13

Durufle Introit, Kyrie, Domine Jesu Christe,
Ireland 24-end.

In case you weren't at rehearsal last week...

Chairman John Ewer announced that, as the membership is unable to fill the 3 committee vacancies, the committee had considered all options and decided that the society will wind up at the end of this year. A special general meeting will be called in due course to arrange the winding-up details and the application of assets.

Difficult to know what to write this week, under the circumstances. However, taking my cue from Monty Python, "we aren't dead yet"; we have a few months left and we still have a job to do. And miracles can happen.

Steady the buffs.
On with the motley.
Carry on regardless.
Pass the crème de menthe.

New faces

I am delighted to report that some of our ABC 2010s have opted to stay with us - please continue to offer them a warm welcome and as much singing support as you can. It would be a kind gesture if we were all to sport our name badges for a few weeks, to help new members get to know some names. Let's be honest - existing members don't know all the names either! If you have your badge at home, please do fish it out. If you left it with me, please pick it up in the coffee room on your way in.

Data Protection

We have to keep a file of permission forms from you all, with your up-to-date contact details and your signature that you agree to allow us to hold your details in electronic form. Tedious, but necessary.

Some of the slips I already hold are a tad out-of-date. If you have changed your address or email address since you signed a form, or are a new member, please take one of the cream A5 forms from the noticeboard table, complete it, and hand it to me. Many thanks.

Scarf production

Sheelagh Hudleston gets this week's allocation of brownie points for volunteering to be a smiling seamstress. We could do with some more.

This week I shall be glaring meaningfully in the direction of those who asked for scarves, hoping for some more volunteers with a sewing machine at home and an hour to spare. At least we'll go out in a blaze of colour.

Summer Songs

You will have noticed by now that the Durufle and Ireland aren't that long in terms of performance minutes. We have therefore asked our two soloists to sing a couple of songs each; the poor lambs haven't much to do in the main pieces. Their contributions are, shall we say, *bijou*. Paul Fletcher, the bass / baritone, refers to his bit of the Durufle as 'a cough and a spit' - which frankly worried me a bit. Anyway, they will earn their fees by contributing another 10 minutes or so each, so we can sit and relax for a while whilst they do the work.

And finally...

One of the joys of being Tyndale's secretary has been the fun I've had liaising with very talented professional musicians (with one great exception last year - no names, no pack drill, but I'll just say Wotton Messiah) and finding how unstuffy and helpful they can be.

In the course of corresponding with Philip Mackenzie of Amadeus Orchestra, we were musing on the appalling cost of hiring orchestral score sets. He said he'd paid £585 for one month / two performances of the Sea Symphony and once had to get the "Magnificent Seven" from an American publisher - a 5 minute piece which cost £300. I said that was a pity, when I could have hummed the Mag 7 for him... but I occasionally get it confused with "The Big Country".

He wrote back, "Mag 7 goes bum bum bum bum and Big Country goes diddle diddle diddle diddle." I don't remember Chris Swain covering that notation in the ABC... I giggled all day.

Warming to my theme, I feel a mini quiz coming on. Can you work out the following?

"Bum diddle-iddle-um diddle-iddle-um bum bum bum"

and

"Doodle oodle oo wah wah wah"

I'll buy coffee for the first person with the correct answers. Clue – John Wayne was in neither.