

26/04/2010 Choir Notices

Rehearsal 5 of 13

Durufle In Paradisum, Domine Jesu, Ireland pp 10-21 and 24-31

A veritable bonanza of volunteers

We have huge pleasure in confirming that two of the three committee vacancies have been filled by two ABC 2010 graduates:

Suzette Darby (alto) was co-opted onto the committee as our Treasurer and will take over the books from Monica James, who receives our thanks for holding the fort for a year.

Lisa Kicinski (alto) was co-opted onto the committee as our Publicity Secretary, and will take over from Wendy Thomas, who has completed her three year tour of duty.

Good eggs, all.

Just one more gap to fill . . . and another 3 at the end of this year.

New lambs to the fold

ABC 2010 graduates Roger Wyse, Roy Richards, Mike and Linda Toft, and Diz Pedrick are now full members - we welcome them heartily and wish them good singing!

Annual Subscriptions

There are a few of the returning members who have not yet brandished their cheques in Monica's direction. It would be kind and considerate of them to bring their cheques this week, so that new Treasurer Suzette has a flying start as she takes over the books.

Scarves and Brownie points

Joining Sheelagh Hudleston at the treadle machines are Barbara Sanderson, Betty Hebditch, and Rosemary Robinson - little belters, one and all. When the scarves appear, there should be universal oohs and aahs of appreciation and gratitude.

Time to declare your interest

John Ewer made the announcement on 12 April that the TCS would fold at the end of the year, due to the membership's inability to fill the committee vacancies. Bad news indeed.

John Hicks (committee member) followed up last week with an impassioned call to arms. New members have filled 2 of the 3 committee vacancies, but the decision to fold still stands. The incomplete committee will continue to work with your help to ensure that 2010 runs smoothly and successfully, and will plan for the society's continuation into 2011, including starting the process of finding a successor for Ian. However, without the practical support and active engagement of members, 2011 will remain on paper and the Messiah will be our last Hallelujah, so to speak.

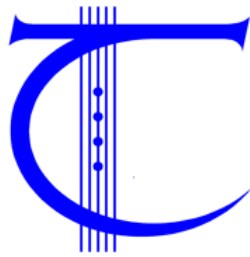
Members will be asked this week (by means of a question sheet) in what way they can support the work of the society, and what skills they could offer. The committee would then hope to find a way forward, with a fairer distribution of the work involved in running a successful choral society.

Sheets will be handed out this evening, but if you missed any of the previous announcements on this subject, or lose the sheet, you can find them all in the website library (or, internet version only, following this page).

And finally...

Last week's daft quiz (with the doodle-oodle-wah-wahs) remained unsolved by any of you. I'm shocked. You usually gleefully let your brain cells loose and solve everything. The answers are hidden somewhere in the text of these notices.

Tyndale Choral Society



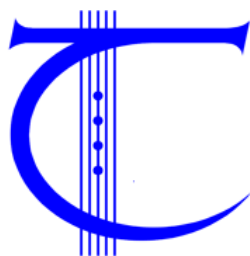
Planning for Renaissance

Statement from the committee - 12/04/2010

Delivered by John Ewer

In the light of the situation after the AGM, it was agreed that the committee would consider the future of the society at the earliest opportunity. This we have done. The Trustees have decided that because we do not have a complete committee, the society will fold at the end of the year. A special general meeting will be called in due course to deal with the matter of winding up and the application of assets.

Tyndale Choral Society



Planning for Renaissance

Update from the committee - 19/04/2010

Delivered by John Hicks

Last week - John Ewer announced that our Society would be wound up at the end of the 2010 season as too few members had volunteered to run it.

This week - I would like to propose a way forward.

First - some good news:

- two members have stepped forward and offered to join the committee
- as a result we can see our way to the end of the year - a magnificent Messiah and an orderly, properly managed, winding up.

It is now time to look beyond 2010.

Any Choral Society may be thought of as a small business:

- the products, of course, are our concerts
- our profit is our own fulfilment and enjoyment
- our stakeholders include not only our members but our audiences, employees and the community at large.

To run this small but complex business we need:

- management
 - to define strategy
 - to plan events
 - to co-ordinate activities, make things happen
- professional expertise
 - examples include aspects of the 'treasurer' and 'web-site manager' roles
- workers
 - to run the library
 - to publicise events
 - to erect staging
 - to book and organise venues

- to collect subscriptions
- to run fund-raising events
- to produce the magazine
- to prepare refreshments
- to run the web-site
- to manage orchestras and soloists
- to attract and retain sponsors
- and so on and so on

In the past we have used a shorthand 'please join the committee'

Maybe this was the wrong request.

We do need a minimum number of committee members to manage the Society and to act as Charity Trustees but that is just the tip of a very big iceberg. What we really need is an army of volunteers to take an active part in the Society and each agree to contribute *something*!

So. Let's start again and attempt to get the phoenix flying.

We need a lot of volunteers.

If you respond in sufficient numbers we will then match your interests, aptitudes and time available to the things that really need doing.

For those who don't like the idea of being on a committee (and we know that there are many of you in that position), that's fine. Each of us can make an appropriate contribution.

We may well need to rewrite our 'rules' or 'constitution' - so what? That's just a detail.

Next steps.

The current committee (including our two very valued new members) will:

- continue to work toward success in 2010
- plan for a renaissance in 2011 to ensure that, if sufficient support from you is forthcoming, there is:
 - a new management structure to match our resources that is consistent with the requirements of the Charities Commission
 - the provisional selection and appointment of a new MD to ensure artistic continuity
 - a full concert programme (including dates, works, venues and soloists)
- **in other words, the committee will continue to plan for success not failure.**

Please think very carefully about whether or not you are prepared to help to rescue this Society and ensure that it flourishes in 2011 and beyond.

At next week's rehearsal we will ask volunteers to sign up.

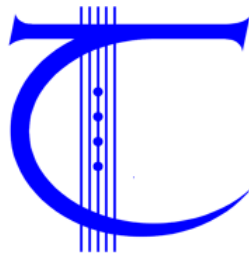
When we have assessed the response, assuming that enough of you are with us, we will plan a new structure allowing each member to contribute in an appropriate way.

Now is the time to decide.

Today, this is *your* Society.

Next year, will this still be *your* Society or will it be history?

Tyndale Choral Society



Planning for Renaissance

To help plan for the future, we ask each member of the Society to complete and return a copy of this form.

Name:

Are you willing to make a contribution to ensure the future of the Society? YES / NO

If you answered 'no', please ignore the following questions and just return your form.

How much time are you able to spend on Society business:

a limited number of short sessions each year for specific tasks?	YES / NO
one or two hours a week?	YES / NO
an occasional complete day to assist with events?	YES / NO
ten to fifteen minutes preceding and following rehearsals (regular, every week)?	YES / NO

Would your preference be to contribute by:

helping to manage the Society (as a committee member and charity trustee)?	YES / NO
working in a defined role or on agreed tasks?	YES / NO

Would you be prepared to take *complete responsibility* for a defined role:
such as Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Concert Manager, Marketing Manager, etc? YES / NO

Would you be prepared to take *complete responsibility* for a defined event:
such as a workshop, a social or fund-raising activity, etc? YES / NO

Would you be prepared to take complete responsibility for a defined task, such as:	
booking and managing an orchestra or soloists?	YES / NO
providing refreshments at a workshop, concert or other event?	YES / NO
booking and managing a venue (for rehearsals, concerts or other events)?	YES / NO
 Would you be prepared to assist with tasks that are coordinated by somebody else?	 YES / NO

Do you have any particular relevant skills or experience:	
task management?	YES / NO
people management?	YES / NO
accountancy / dealing with the Charity Commission?	YES / NO
public relations / marketing / advertising?	YES / NO
event management?	YES / NO
stage management?	YES / NO
writing / preparing documents for publication?	YES / NO
web-site management?	YES / NO
other	
other	

Do you have a telephone?	YES / NO
If 'yes', does your contract allow additional calls to be made without incremental cost?	YES / NO
 Do you have access to a PC?	 YES / NO
If 'yes', are you happy to communicate primarily by e-mail?	YES / NO

Thank you very much.

Please return your completed form to a committee member on or before 03/05/2010.