



Tyndale Choral Society

Newsletter

No.21

Spring
2004

Conductor's Welcome ...

Hello there! This year's Conductor's Notes must inevitably be different in format and tone from Michael's. I can't comment directly on your Summer Concert, though I heard excellent reports. However, I was pleased to be present at the November Concert; I thought the Society sang with great distinction, a fine dynamic range, excellent balance with the orchestra, and you were well served by your soloists. I noticed great attention to the conductor. Now **there** is a tradition I shall endeavour to maintain!

I realise Michael is a hard act to follow. As you know, we go back a long way, and I sang for Michael in several productions of the Cuddington Players - you should have seen my Ko-Ko! Our approaches are of course different. I know you have benefited greatly from his technical knowledge over the years. My method is perhaps more 'visceral', with emphasis on the architecture of the music. My hope is that 'note-bashing' can be done to a large extent at home, though of course we will work together on difficult sections (and there are some in Hiawatha!).

At least, most of you know me, and I you by sight. I now begin the daunting task of learning names. I think by the summer I may have learnt those of, ah, the Committee, so please bear with me. It will be a delight also to work with James; you are fortunate indeed to have his services.

The music for this season is naturally my choice, although you can also blame the Committee for choosing it from my shortlist! In July, we explore three sacred works, in two different styles; one well-known, two I doubt you will have seen before. My own *Jubilate Deo* was written a few years ago for David Briggs, hence the organ part in what I hope is in a 'French' style; the choral parts are like Stanford with a few extra discords. At the 'O go your way into his gates' I had in mind the soundtrack to an old Western film - I have no idea why! At that point we divide into two choirs. The sopranos can look forward to a top C at the end (do not lose sleep, there is an alternative).

Vivaldi's *Gloria* is too well-known to need introduction, but they may be a few for whom its glories will be new. I am delighted that Tina Power has agreed to do the soprano solos, and my colleague at

Tewkesbury, Ben Williamson, the alto solos. I expect few of you will have come across Handel's 'As pants the hart'. It is the sixth of his Chandos anthems, and was obviously a great favourite as he rearranged it for many different occasions, including the grand six-part version we are going to undertake. Handel obviously thought highly of the final Allelujah, as he tore it out to use completely in his oratorio *Athalia*.

In November we are looking at two of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's *Scenes from the Song of Hiawatha*. *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* is pretty well-known, and used to be performed annually at the Royal Albert Hall; sadly, it has fallen out of fashion. The final scene, *Hiawatha's Departure*, is a more substantial piece and reflects rather poignantly the reaction of the Native Americans to the remorseless advance of a white Christian tradition.

I hope there is much there to work on and enjoy. I look forward hugely to doing that with you.

Ian

Dr John Sanders

I am sure you will be saddened to see the notice in this Newsletter of the death of John Sanders. Our thoughts go to his widow and family at this time. He had been the President of the Society for only a short while following the death of our Founder Mollie Neale. His death inevitably leaves us with the task of finding a new President. If anyone has any suggestions, would you please advise either the Chairman or Secretary in writing giving a reason for your choice of suggestion.

Letter received from Michael Power:

Dear Angela,

Please convey my thanks to the committee and all the members of the Tyndale Choral Society for the wonderful present of the chair and tankard and Tina would like me to include her thanks for the lovely bouquet which you gave her.

The AGM and the meal which followed was a very happy occasion for us both, particularly as the members' appreciation of what I had endeavoured to do over the years was very apparent.

I had no idea that a collection was being taken for a present, so congratulations on the subterfuge!

The committee has always been very supportive and I have always enjoyed the committee meetings over the years. I am particularly grateful to Doreen who has been so cheerfully efficient in the organisation of the music, particularly for some of the summer concerts when we have sung lots of short pieces.

Over the 15 years I have always found the Chairmen very helpful and the last few years with Anne in the Chair have been particularly memorable. Her enthusiasm and commitment have been to the fore always and the way that new committee members have learned their roles has been most impressive, especially as they know that they will have to stand down in three years' time.

Most importantly, please convey to the members of the Society my sincere thanks for all they have done over the years. I know that I couldn't have done anything without them.

Best wishes, Michael

From the chairman....

Dear Friends,

As we are about to begin this new and exciting season, I would like to say a big welcome to Ian Harold, our new conductor. Having met Ian several times since our AGM last November, I know he has some exciting ideas for concerts and we have already enjoyed several rehearsals with Ian wielding the baton. As ever I make a plea for existing members to try and recruit some new ones particularly in the Tenor and Bass section. Of course any new members are always welcome and I hope that we will begin our new season with at least one or two new faces. Please do your best to support all our fund raising initiatives this year, as our November concert will be quite a costly one. If we had the support of all our members at fund raising events (and there are usually only two or three during the season) it would benefit the society enormously.

Christmas concert

This year we undertook a new venture – a Christmas concert. Amberley Parish Church was kind enough to host this concert and Mike Tucker gave us an extremely warm welcome. Mike is Rector at Amberley and the husband of Sandra (Soprano). The choir was a good balanced ensemble of about half of our members and all who attended thoroughly enjoyed singing. There was a good audience who joined in with carols at various points in the concert and if their singing was anything to go by, they also enjoyed the concert! The evening ended with wine and mince pies and a good time was had by all. It would be good to repeat the venture next year.

Anne

CONCERT INFORMATION

SUMMER CONCERT

Saturday 3rd July at 7.30pm
St Mary's, Wotton-under-Edge

Harold: *Jubilate Deo (Gloucester)*
Handel: *As pants the Heart*
Vivaldi: *Gloria*
Soloists: Tina Power (soprano)
Ben Williamson (alto)
Organist: Ian Ball

AUTUMN CONCERT

Saturday 13th November at 7.30pm
St James' Parish Church Dursley
with the Tyndale Sinfonia

Orchestral Overture
Coleridge-Taylor: *Hiawatha's
Wedding and Hiawatha's Departure*

Concert rehearsals will be on the Mondays before each of the concerts: 28th June in Wotton Parish Church, and 1st and 8th November in Dursley Parish Church at 7.30pm. The rehearsal on the 3rd July will be at 3.30pm, and on the 13th November will be at 2.30pm.

Dress:

Ladies: Long black skirt and long-sleeved white blouse (black blouse for Winter concert).

Men: DJ or dark suit, white shirt and black bow tie.

AGM: Wed 17th November at Dursley Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

Critique of the
**Autumn Concert in Dursley Parish Church
on 22nd November 2003**

'Fine Finale for Michael'

The Tyndale Choral Society's performance of Haydn's *Creation* was a special occasion, well supported by a full audience in Dursley Parish Church.

After 15 years as conductor, Michael Power raised his baton for this final concert as their musical director. The orchestra was very confident, comprising members of the Regency Sinfonia - West-Country freelance musicians. Their precision in ensemble and impressive soloist skills did full justice to Haydn's extraordinary orchestration. From the opening note of the orchestral introduction *Representation of Chaos* it was clear we were in for a real treat. The choir showed their appreciation of Mr Power's long association with them by their attentiveness to detail.

The experienced soloists, Jane Sherriff, Stephen Davis, and Robert Clarke gave most competent renditions of their roles.

The 'raison d'être' of Choral Societies is to provide enjoyable recreational opportunities for amateurs to benefit mentally and physically from singing good quality music together.

It was therefore good to witness the loyal long-standing members and some welcome new faces clearly relishing the well-written, tuneful parts.

Though fewer in numbers, the tenors and basses must be congratulated on providing good worthy tone to compliment the upper parts.

The famous chorus *The Heaven's are Telling* gradually gathered in intensity and provided a rousing and energetic conclusion to the first part.

The choruses were very secure generally - no small feat in parts two and three where the greater proportion of solo numbers means that the chorus has to perform the equivalent of rewinding from '0 - 60' in a few seconds!

Well done to all the performers, the support teams behind the scenes, the committee, the chairman and the loyal friends and supporters of the Tyndale Choral Society for producing a concert of such a high standard.

The echoing applause and final spontaneous *For He's a Jolly Good Fellow* sung for Michael Power was an affectionate farewell to him and a mark of sincere gratitude.

Diary Dates and Other Matters ...

Committee Meetings

There was a pre-season meeting in January at which a number of matters were considered including fundraising (see below). Other meetings are planned for 28th April, 13th July, 16th September. If there are matters which you want to be considered or raised, please see members of the committee in good time.

New Members

Please encourage potential new members to come along to rehearsals at the start of

New Members

John Hicks has produced a leaflet designed to attract new members which is included with this Newsletter. Would you please pass it onto prospective members or find somewhere to display it; church, village hall or shop etc.

the season, in particular, and make sure you introduce them to the Secretary, Angela Sinton, so that she can welcome them and take their details.

Subscriptions: Please pay early in the season. The rate will be £38 if paid before 23rd May otherwise £39 (see card) and £19.50 (or £20.00 after 23rd May) for full-time students. If you yourself pay tax, you can Gift Aid your

subscriptions very simply so that the Society can reclaim the tax paid - a free bonus to the funds! The Treasurer, Kate Reeves (alto) will be happy to provide details.

Fund Raising:

Principal events will be:

23rd May: Town Hall teas, Wotton-under-Edge.

2nd October: Cake Stall, Dursley 9 - 11a.m.

A further fundraising Christmas concert is also planned.

Bear these in mind. More information on these will come later.

Sales Stall: The stall will again be in operation throughout the season. It makes an important contribution to the funds, so bring along books, plants and other produce, records, tapes and anything else that is saleable, and in any case visit the stall and buy.

Saturday 13th November - help will be needed to erect and dismantle staging after the concert so please contact the Concert Manager (John Ewer) and Assistant (Jacquelin Hill) with offers of assistance - *they need your help once again!*

Wednesday 27th November - **Annual General Meeting** in the Parish Centre, Dursley at 7.30pm.

Dr John Sanders

It is with great sadness that we record the death of our president, Dr John Sanders, shortly before Christmas. He had been ill for a while and had been getting worse with another chest infection and was heavily sedated and on oxygen.. He died peacefully with all his family around him. Our thoughts go to his widow, Janet.

A memorial service took place on Saturday 28th February 2004 in Gloucester Cathedral.

Tyndale Choral Society

Committee 2004

Conductor:	Ian Harrold (01452 xxxxxx)
Chairman:	Anne Shipton (01453 xxxxxx)
Secretary:	Angela Sinton (01453 xxxxxx)
Treasurer:	Kate Reeves (01453 xxxxxx)
Concert Secretary:	Lynette Magnone (01453 xxxxxx)
Publicity & Printing:	John Hicks (01453 xxxxxx)
Patrons Secretary:	Katie Emsley (01453 xxxxxx)
Fundraising Co-ordinator:	Sandra Tucker (01453 xxxxxx)
Concert Manager:	John Ewer (01453 xxxxxx)
Asst Concert Manager:	Jacquelin Hill (01453 xxxxxx)
Librarian:	Doreen Manning (01453 xxxxxx)
NFMS Secretary:	Audrey Sewell (01453 xxxxxx)

Membership

This is the current membership list held by the Secretary.

If your name does not appear below, please advise the Secretary of your details so that our records can be kept up to date.

Sopranos

Rev Janet Bromley
Mrs F Chandler
Mrs Mavis Church
Mrs Glenys Ewer
Mrs B Garnham
Mrs A Glanville
Ms C Harrison
Mrs M Hilton
Mrs Lynette Magnone
Mrs Doreen Manning **L**
Mrs Marion Miller
Mrs K Palmer
Mrs Angela Pendlebury
Mrs Anne Shipton **Ch**
Mrs Valerie Skinner
Mrs J Taylor
Mrs J Theaker
Mrs L Townsend
Mrs Sandra Tucker
Miss Ros Wakefield
Mrs V Weaver
Mrs Elaine White
Mrs Elizabeth Young

Altos

Mrs C Bennett
Mrs P Brice
Mrs Jill Brown
Mrs Jenny Coles
Mrs B Cook
Mrs G Dickinson
Miss K Emsley
Ms S Fitzarthur
Mrs Amanda Hicks
Dr Jacquelin Hill
Mrs W Hills
Ms E Irvine
Mrs Elspeth James
Mrs L Lane
Mrs Jennie Leighton
Ms Inge Medlow
Mrs Francis Neale
Mrs Anne Nuttall
Mrs J O'Connor Beach
Mrs Kate Reeves **Tr**
Mrs Wendy Richardson
Mrs Miriam Salman
Mrs Angela Sinton **Sec**
Mrs Joyce Sirett
Mrs Mandy Troxler
Mrs Eve Tudgay
Mrs Sue Wagner
Mrs Sue Walshaw
Mrs Leslie Wrankmore

Tenors

Rev Phil Butcher
Brian Davies
John Ewer
Dr Peter Harney
H Richards
Audrey Sewell
John Taylor
Andrew Telford
Andrew Young

Basses

Frank Andoh
Brian Bolsher
Mike Chambers
Alan Garnham
John Hicks
D Hillen
J Hilton
Brian Kitching
Derek Manning
Brian Neale
Tim Page
John Palmer
Dick Skinner *
Geoff Whiley

Names in *italics* - committee members:

Ch - Chairman: *Sec* - Secretary: *Tr* - Treasurer: *L* - Librarian

* Editor

NOTICE BOARD

Oriana Singers

Conductor David Moss

Handel's Belshazzar

with

Julie Kench Angela Ayers

Stephen Davis and David Child

with the Severn Strings Orchestra

Saturday 27th March 2004

at 7.30pm

Dursley Parish Church

Tickets: £8, £6.50 concessions

Amberley Chamber Choir

Conductor Harry Lyall

A Concert of Sacred Music from
the 16th to the 21st Century
with Oliver Lomberg (organ)

Saturday 13th March 2004 at 7.30pm
St Nicholas Church Standish

Programmes £4 (under 16s free) at the door
(includes light refreshments in interval).