



CHORAL NOTES - Spring 2008

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2008

June 21 st	Summer Concert in Moot Hall
June 25 th	Summer BBQ at Jill and Rod Hill's home, West Mersea
September 3 rd	New term and AGM
October 31 st	Barn Dance, Lion Walk Church Hall
November 22 nd	Brahms' German Requiem and Vaughan Williams' Benedicite in St. Botolph's
December 7 th	Carols in Moot Hall

2009

March 14 th	Messiah in St. Botolph's
June 27 th)	Summer Concert in the Moot Hall
November 28 th	Concert in St. Botolph's
December 13 th	Concert in the Moot Hall

CONCERTS

Another great concert in March! Bach and Barber, along with Ashley Grote on the organ again! As usual, I struggled with the unknown pieces, but it was well worth the struggle. Thank you to all who contributed to the success, especially our own soloists. The audience were converted too. Ashley Grote has now left Westminster Abbey for a new job at Gloucester. We do wish him well.

Tickets and posters are now available for the Summer concert, so get encouraging all those friends and relatives and workmates, for whom Barber may have been a turn off, to come and swing along with the Beatles and celebrate the Vaughan Williams anniversary.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Remember ticket sales are our major income. However, all your fundraising efforts are still very valuable. Sandra Sceats can tell you about the Friends' scheme. Check that you have 'gift aided' your membership with Sarah Haines. Mark is now back raffling again and Ruth's book sales are available each week. Mark and Ruth are always happy to receive donations in kind of unwanted presents or books you are clearing out.

AGM

This will be on the first day of the September term, September 3rd, at the beginning of the rehearsal. Do come early as there will be music to get as well. We will have copies of the agenda for you all on the last Wednesday rehearsal of this term along with some copies of the minutes of the last meeting, for those of you who want to read them before the AGM. The financial statements will not be available until the AGM itself, as we do not close the accounts until after the last concert and then they have to go to the auditors.

Please remember this is your AGM and if you want anything raised at the meeting please let Pauline or me know before the last week of the term so that it can be put onto the agenda. Don't forget, Ian is always open to suggestions of music you would like to sing, especially at the Christmas concert.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Gill and Rod Hill have again invited us (and guests) to their home in Mersea for an end the season gathering and BBQ on the Wednesday following the summer concert, June 25th. Mike Pluck and his team will be catering, tickets will be available later. We hope the weather will be kind but we even had a sunset last year when it rained so hard. So ask for directions if you are unsure of the venue. Gordon will accept gifts for the raffle at anytime. You bring your own seats and drinks, the BBQ is paid for by the tickets and as many people who can bring a pudding.

We now have two members of the choir who are also members of a long established folk band. Paul and Marianne Kiff have kindly offered to play with their band, Bushes and Briars, for a Barn Dance in the autumn. Put the date in your diary now, October 31st.

JOBS TO BE DONE

We are always looking for some more volunteers

None of the following need be singing members, and some **must** be non-singing. We shall need for June 21st:

- stage and chair movers for Saturday morning
- bar staff to support Peter for after the concert
- catering will be minimal nibbles to go with drinks only, but still watch out for Colette's list

Everyone should be:

- trying to sell tickets
- finding places to display posters
- thinking what item of finger food they can contribute to the after performance buffet (*nibbles only*)
- giving a thought to what other contribution they could make to the society especially in the light of needing new officers next season. Please give some thought to the following:
 - We especially need someone non-singing to take over the **Front of house** organising for November
 - We would dearly like a **Concert manager** to be a separate person from the chairman, to co-ordinate all those little things that go together to make a successful event

SOME FURTHER THOUGHTS

Congratulations to Catherine Sales on her engagement.

Our thoughts are with several prominent members of our choir who are undergoing various treatments and procedures at the moment. We wish them well, hoping they will soon return to sing with us again. Miriam has reluctantly had to come off the committee for a while but Lindsay Wilson who has been doing the programmes, tickets and posters in her absence, has agreed to join us on the committee. Thank you, Lindsay, for stepping into the breach. It is difficult to thank Miriam enough for her work for the society over many years. We owe much of our professional presentation style to her. Best wishes also to Gwennlian, get well soon.

Please circulate this newsletter, keep supporting CCS and contact us with your ideas.

Here's to the next concert.

With best wishes to you all -

Anne Watkinson

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Secretary: Pauline Heselden: Tel: 01206 570952

Treasurer: Sue Connolly

Committee members: Gordon Kuphal, Peter Douch, Malcolm Lench, Lindsay Wilson

Musical director: Ian Ray