



MRDCS NEWS

September 2018

New Season

Welcome back to rehearsals. We've got a varied and interesting programme to continue our celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the choir. We are pleased to confirm that Emma will continue as our Musical Director with Hilary as our accompanist.

Concert Dates

Sunday 25th November 2018 - "Reflections"

2 pm in the Methodist Church (rehearsal 2pm 24th November). To reflect on the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 we will sing the choral version of **The Armed Man** by **Sir Karl Jenkins**. In the second half, there will be readings and choral arrangements of the music that is played at the Cenotaph Remembrance Day Ceremony. Members of the local Air Cadets will be on duty to set the scene and act as ushers.

Tickets will cost £10. Concert Dress will be black with red poppies.

Sunday 16th December 2018 - "Wassail"

2 pm with Market Rasen Primary School at De Aston School (rehearsal 2pm 15th December). This will be a shorter and less ambitious programme than 2016 but will follow the same format. The programme is currently being arranged and will include a reading as well as a duet from Julia and Emma plus several performances by pupils from the Primary School. Community Carol Singing with the audience will wind up the concert.

As before, Judith Mackay and her team will be calling for volunteers to provide food for the interval.

Ticket cost is yet to be decided as will the concert dress

18th May 2019 - Spring Concert

In the Methodist Church - time to be confirmed. A selection of Choral Works by composers through the ages, from Byrd to the present day.

December 2019 "A Grand Festive Occasion"

Date and time to be determined. We shall sing in de Aston's Sports Hall with orchestral accompaniment plus food and drink and other attractions. The programme will include "Magnificat" by **John Rutter** plus various Christmas Music.

New Treasurer Needed!!!

Iris Rowbotham has tendered her resignation with effect from September. We shall miss her dedication and effort - Iris, thank you very much for all your hard work. The job is clearly defined by a list of tasks (as are all other roles on the committee) and comes with the full support of the chairman and committee members.

Iris is happy to offer a long handover period by “mentoring” whoever takes on this role. Please do let either our Hon. Secretary Roz or me know if you can help.

Concert Management Group

The Committee received many useful comments and suggestions from choir members after our last concert. A considerable amount of time has been spent on seeking ways to address the issues raised. As a result, a Concert Management Group has been formed to ensure that the preparation and performance of concerts runs smoothly.

This Group will be responsible for all aspects of concert organisation, presentation and publicity. It is already in place and consists of four committee members who have agreed to give up a lot of their time to achieve a professional approach. It is well on with plans for our concerts in 2018 and 2019.

A considerable amount of thought has gone into working out what jobs need to be done to produce a successful concert. A concert is not just about the singing, there is a lot of work to be done in the background. Also we are looking at new ways to create a more effective publicity effort in order to increase our audience numbers.

We hope that some members of the choir will be able to assist the group - we all depend on each other for success, so a willingness to help the Committee and Group would be much appreciated. We hope that friends and family of society members will be willing to volunteer to help out with various tasks, such as front of house.

Returning Music

Getting all the music returned after a concert has always been a knotty problem. We get charged for library copies that have gone missing. **It has been decided to charge a fee of £1 when your music is handed to you.** This money will be used to defray (in part) the expense of having to pay for lost copies.

Subscriptions

Annual subs are still £75 or 2 lots of £37.50. Students will only be required to pay £10 for the whole season. Please make payments through your Section Rep.

The committee and I thank you for your continued support and commitment in developing the success of the Choral Society.

Geoff