

# KENDAL SOUTH CHOIR

Newsletter 11 – May 2015

## **Barbecue**

The Choir's Summer Barbecue on Sunday 28th June will again be held at the home of Dorothy and Michael Davies, Fox Rock, Allithwaite Road, Grange-over-Sands LA11 7EN, from 3.00pm onwards. Don't let the prospect of wet weather put you off – there is room indoors for all!

The cost is £7.50 per person (£3.50 for children), payable to Stewart on the day, but we must know numbers for catering – please contact Dorothy by Monday 22nd June on 015395 32241 or at [dorothydavies@foxrock.co.uk](mailto:dorothydavies@foxrock.co.uk) to let her know.

We would like some choir volunteers to provide salads and puddings – your expenses will be covered. Please let Dorothy know if you can help.

There is a Prom Art event in Grange that day from 10am-4pm (see [www.promart.info](http://www.promart.info)), so you might like to make a full day of it!

## **Concerts**

A list of diary dates appears on the notice board at rehearsals, but the main points are as follows:

### Our own concerts

Our postponed April concert will be on **Saturday 10th October** at St Thomas's Church, Kendal, with soloists Emily Robinson and Fiona Weakley (sopranos) and Christopher Steele (tenor). The organist will be Ian Pattinson. The programme will be exactly as the postponed concert, ie:

- Mendelssohn: *Hymn of Praise*
- Vaughan-Williams: *Toward the Unknown Region*
- Wesley: *Blessed be the God and Father*
- Bairstow: *Blessed City, heavenly Salem*

- Rossini: Prayer from *Moses*
- Mascagni: *Easter Hymn*

When rehearsals begin again on 8th September there will only be five Tuesday rehearsals before the concert, so please try to find some time to sit down with the score in front of you and either Cyberbass on your computer or a recording on your CD player to remind yourself of the music. If you need a recording of our pieces and didn't get one last term, please contact Jean Robinson (details at the bottom of this Newsletter).

Please take good care of your borrowed scores. Some are from our own collection and should be in good condition and some come from Carlisle music library or outside the county and arrive in a variety of conditions. Ideally, please rub out any old markings as soon as possible and make your own annotations in light pencil. (We will be charged for damaged or lost scores).

All borrowed music must be returned at the end of the concert and put into the boxes provided.

Future concerts are planned for the following dates:

- Saturday 20th February 2016 (Stainer: *Crucifixion*; Leighton: *Crucifixus Pro Nobis*; Vaughan-Williams: *5 Mystical Songs*)
- Saturday 7th May 2016 (Haydn: *Creation*)

Please note that these dates are different from those shown on the last Diary Dates.

If you are unable to attend a rehearsal for any reason, let your Section Rep (see below) know.

New members are always welcome in the tenor and bass sections. If you know of anyone who might be interested please have a word with them and ask them to consider joining us.

Mary Wakefield Festival Choral Weekend  
11th-12th July

- **A Come & Sing day** on Saturday 11th July from 10am-5pm, led by Hilary Davies, a natural voice practitioner and workshop and community choir leader. This will have a community singing theme and so it will be quite different from previous years' Come & Sing events. It will however be suitable for singers of all kinds, including ourselves. More information and a booking form are attached. The cost is £15 per singer (audience £6).
- **A recital by the Herdwyck Consort** on Saturday 11th at 7.30pm in St Anne's Church, Ings – ticket price £7.50
- The Festival Chorus will sing **Dvořák's Stabat Mater** on Sunday 12th July in Kendal Parish Church, to be conducted by Ian Jones – ticket price £14 (students free)

More details about all of these are on the Festival website, [www.mwwf.org.uk](http://www.mwwf.org.uk)

Cumbria Choral Initiative Events

The next two Come & Sing events are:

- Haydn *Nelson Mass* on Saturday 24th October in Cartmel Priory (by kind invitation of Levens Choir)
- Haydn *Maria Theresa Mass* on New Year's Eve in St Martin's Church, Bowness-on-Windermere

Cumbria Choral Initiative has now become Cumbria Festival Chorus, but the website can still be found at [www.cumbriachoralinitiative.org](http://www.cumbriachoralinitiative.org)

You can find other local music events on the Bay Anti-clash List (which is available to download from [www.bayanticlashlist.com](http://www.bayanticlashlist.com)).

Money Matters

Coffee Morning and Quiz

The Coffee Morning profit was actually £205.45, not the lower figure reported at rehearsal. The Quiz raised £137.

Accounts 2015/16

We have again done better than expected. The loss on Messiah was more than had been hoped but this was more than offset by the unfortunate postponement of the spring concert. Part of the cost of this postponement was covered by insurance. Overall the concert account loss was £570 less than expected. Our share of the profit on the Carlisle Verdi concert contributed £450. There were some savings in expenditure and an increase in the number of members brought more subscriptions and related gift aid. The barbecue is still to come so it looks as if fund raising will make a good contribution. A surplus of about £1,000 looks likely which is some £2,000 better than budgeted. If applications for grant we have made are successful this surplus would be increased.

The three concerts planned for next year (including of course the postponed concert) will more than use up this £2,000, although any successful grant applications would improve the position. At worst we expect still to have a healthy balance of over £4,000.

Subscriptions

In view of the healthy state of our finances the Committee has decided that there need be no increase in subscriptions next year, so they will remain at £80 for the third year running. In coming to this decision the Committee would emphasise that it relies on membership remaining at its present level and very importantly that all members continue to support our fund raising activities. These contribute over £1,000 each year and without them subscriptions would need to be nearly £100. The fact that we do a lot to support ourselves is also an advantage in applications for grant assistance.

Subscriptions are due at the beginning of the September term, or for those of you who find it more convenient to pay by instalments £40 can be paid then and the remaining £40 at the beginning of January.

#### Gift Aid

Not all of our subscription is eligible for gift aid. For those of you who need to complete a self assessment tax return the amount to be included as gift aid for the 2015/6 tax year is £74. It is the same amount for the tax year 2014/5 just ended.

#### Easy Fundraising

This is a very easy way for all you online shoppers to get more income for the choir. We shall probably get well over £50 this year from this source, but it is quite likely it could be considerably more if online shoppers remembered to log in first to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), select Kendal South Choir as the charity to support, and then proceed to shop. The supplier then makes a donation to the choir at no cost to you. You can also encourage your friends and relations to do this as well. If you need more details, please ask Stewart who has an information sheet.

#### Book (and anything else) Stall

This hasn't done particularly well this year, partly due to the tight access into the church. The Committee will be thinking about the siting of the book table so it's more visible and easier to access during the break.

Please also think about bringing other items too – perhaps make some smaller pots of jam when you do your season's batches, or a cake or some fruit. It would be good if you could price up your own items, and be prepared to take them home if they aren't sold by the end of the evening.

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#### New Year Social 2016!

Our Social will be on Saturday 27th February 2016 in the Kirkland Hall, from 7.30-9.30pm,

with a choice of tasty main courses prepared by Duncan Hamer, and a selection of puddings. As usual, the evening will start with an informal quiz. More details later.

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#### Section Reps:

**Soprano:** Jean Robinson (01539 725955)  
Email [jeanrobinson1946@gmail.com](mailto:jeanrobinson1946@gmail.com)

**Alto:** Dorothy Davies (015395 32241)  
Email [dorothydavies@foxrock.co.uk](mailto:dorothydavies@foxrock.co.uk)

**Tenor:** David Thomas (015242 74223)  
Email [dgt.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:dgt.thomas@gmail.com)

**Bass:** Arthur Robinson (01539 725955)  
Email [arthurrobinson48@googlemail.com](mailto:arthurrobinson48@googlemail.com)

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<http://www.kendalsouthchoir.org.uk>