

# KENDAL SOUTH CHOIR

Newsletter 13 – September 2016

## New Director of Music

We are very pleased to welcome Don Gillthorpe as our new Director of Music. Don is Head of Music at Ripley St Thomas School in Lancaster, where he leads several choirs, and he has fingers in lots of other musical pies.

He is also Director of Vox Boys' Choir, who will be joining us for our November concert.

## First Rehearsal

The first rehearsal of the new season takes place on Tuesday 6th September at 7.30pm at Stricklandgate Methodist Church. Please arrive earlier than normal to allow time to pick up your copies. It would be helpful if you could donate £2 towards music hire costs.

Please would you bring with you to that rehearsal your black folder. This is so that a choir photo can be taken, which is required for one of the sponsors of our May concert.

## Concerts

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

### Our own concerts

Our next concerts will be on:

- **Saturday 26th November 2016** – Widor: *Mass for Double Choir*, and Duruflé: *Requiem*, with Vox Boys' Choir – in Kendal Parish Church
- **Saturday 6th May 2017** – Vivaldi: *Magnificat* and Oliver Tarney: *Magnificat* – at St Thomas's Church
- **Saturday 25th November 2017** – a concert of pieces by Britten, Tippett and Bernstein – at St Thomas's Church

New members would be very welcome in all sections. If you know of anyone who might be interested please have a word with them and ask them to consider joining us.

### Cumbria Festival Chorus Events

The next two Come & Sing events are:

- Haydn: *Harmony Mass* on New Year's Eve in Carver Church, Lake Road, Windermere

- Mendelssohn: *Elijah* on Saturday 8th July 2017 in St Thomas's Church

### Mary Wakefield Festival

This takes place from 18th to 25th March 2017, with the Choral Celebration Day being on Saturday 25th March. We will be taking part again, though our pieces have yet to be chosen.

### Vox Boys' Choir

The choir has a concert in Lancaster Priory at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th September as part of the Priory Festival.

### Other Events

You can find other local music events on the Westmorland Music Trust's Concert Diary which is now available online at

<http://www.westmorlandmusic.co.uk/concert-diary.html>. This has more information on it than the Bay Anti-Clash List.

## Money Matters

### Crucifixion Concert

A fine performance with excellent young soloists. The loss of £640 was within budget.

### Creation Concert

This was a resounding farewell concert for Ian. It was a great musical success from all – choir, orchestra and soloists. There was an appreciative audience in greater numbers than recently which helped keep the loss down to £1,523 – more than £700 within budget.

### Coffee Morning

The March event did well, producing a profit of £272.

### BBQ

Another fine day greeted this event. A big thank you to Dorothy for again making her lovely garden available, and to those who provided puddings. A profit of £244 was made.

### Accounts 2015/2016

These show a loss of £1,071 which is some £1,700 better than expected. Concert losses were about £1,000 lower than forecast, and the Sir John

Fisher Foundation generously continued their grant of £1,000 which could not be assumed when budgeting. Unfortunately there was a reduction in membership which of course reduced subscription income, and Storm Desmond wreaked havoc on our social events by preventing a coffee morning and the party.

The healthy year-end balance of £7,761 will be eaten into next year by the planned performance of Oliver Tarney's *Magnificat* which requires a largish orchestra and which, despite a grant of £1,000 obtained from The Westmorland Arts Trust through the Cumbria Community Foundation, is expected to make a loss of about £2,200. Nevertheless a still healthy balance of some £5,000 is expected at the year end, and more if any other grants are obtained.

A copy of the accounts and of the Examiner's clean report will be on the notice board and you will each get one with the AGM notice.

#### Subscriptions

The Committee has decided that these should be unchanged at £80 for next year. The Committee would emphasise that continuation at this level is dependent on increasing membership and on successful social events, and would ask that you all do everything you can to support in this way.

#### Gift Aid

A reminder to those of you who need to complete self assessment tax returns that not all of the subscription counts for gift aid. The amount to be included as gift aid for the 2016/17 tax year is £74. It is the same amount for the tax year 2015/16 just ended.

#### Easy Fundraising

Please remember, you online shoppers, to buy through this means, which gives money to the choir at no cost to you. Stewart has an information sheet to guide you – it is very easy. And encourage your friends and relations to order this way as well.

#### Book (and anything else) Stall

Look for the bookstall in the corner directly opposite the door, and bring along any books you no longer have any use for. Books are 50p, whether hardback or paperback, and if you bring

them back when you've read them we can sell them again.

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.

#### New Folders

The Committee has agreed that the Choir should purchase a batch of new folders, as many of the existing ones are getting very dilapidated, and these should be available before the November concert. If yours is one of the ones that needs to be replaced, it would be helpful if you would agree to purchase your own, at cost – certainly not more than £6.

#### Coffee Morning

Our next Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 22nd October in the Town Hall, from 9am. Please sign up to help on the day and/or to make cakes or bring raffle prizes.

#### Repertoire

Anyone who has ideas for repertoire for concerts beyond November 2017 should mention it to any member of the Committee for consideration by them and the Director of Music.

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#### Section Reps:

**Soprano:** Jean Robinson (01539 725955)  
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**Alto:** Dorothy Davies (015395 32241)  
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**Tenor:** David Thomas (015242 74223)  
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**Bass:** Arthur Robinson (01539 725955)  
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[www.kendalsouthchoir.org.uk](http://www.kendalsouthchoir.org.uk)