

KENDAL SOUTH CHOIR

Newsletter 1 – March 2011

Dear Members,

This is the first of what the Committee hopes will be a regular series of newsletters – perhaps one a term.

April Concert, Saturday 9th April

Tickets are now available, price £10 (under-18s free), for the “Gloria!” concert – please take your two tickets and return the money as soon as possible. Please also take posters and flyers for display in shops, schools, libraries, and sitting-room windows!

Mark will hold auditions for the “bit parts” in *Jephte* on 8th March, from 7 to 7.25 and 9.30 to 10.

The final afternoon rehearsal on 9th April will begin at 1.30pm, and should finish by 4.30pm.

Mary Wakefield Festival

The Choral Celebration Evening takes place at the Leisure Centre on **Wednesday 23rd March at 7pm**, and we will be singing:

The Snow
Quick, we have but a second
Plorate, filii Israel from *Jephte*
Ride the Chariot

in that order. Ken Forster will be accompanying us for the first and third items. Uniform for this event is formal black, with a splash of red – earrings, scarf, flower – for the ladies, DJs, white shirts and red bow ties for the men if possible. All music in folders, please.

The Festival Concert on **Saturday 26th March at 7.15pm** features Paul Spicer’s *Easter Oratorio*, and the dozen or so members of Kendal South Choir who are taking part are finding it a very rewarding sing. Tickets price £10 for the concert are available from the Brewery Arts Centre – please come and support this if you are not already involved.

Fundraising

Because members’ annual subscriptions and ticket sales don’t bring in enough to cover the cost of concerts of the calibre that we aim to perform, fundraising is an important part of our income.

The second of our two annual Coffee Mornings in the Town Hall takes place on **Saturday 26th March**, and tickets, price 70p, are available now. A bag of tickets will be passed round at rehearsals, and we hope that, even if you can’t come to the Coffee Morning, you’ll want to take a ticket and put a donation of at least the ticket price in the bag. Each Coffee Morning raises around £180 for our funds.

Volunteers are needed to make coffee, man the cake stall, wash up, etc, and we will also need home-made cakes and good quality raffle prizes. As we have no say in what dates the Town Hall gives us, this one has fallen on the same day as the Mary Wakefield Festival Concert, and some of our members will be needed to help erect the lights in the Parish Church in the morning.

The quiz sheet compiled by Dorothy raised an astonishing £364 for funds, and the bookstall which Jean runs has raised nearly £150 since September 2010. Keep your used books coming!

Our concert lighting is available for hire, and this brings in some income, as well as keeping us in contact with other local choirs.

Another way of helping to cover our costs is to avoid spending money! If you are willing to buy your own music copies to help reduce the choir's music hire costs, please see Wendy.

Future Concerts

Mark has received several suggestions from members for repertoire for future concerts, and he has recently met with the Committee to begin to put together suitable programmes. More news on this at a future date.

Publicity

On 26th February Moira and Jean manned a stall at a gathering of community groups in the Town Hall, and gave out leaflets about the choir and publicity for the spring concert.

We now have a "Who Are We?" leaflet, which you can give to friends who might wish to join the Choir.

Summer Barbecue

Instead of a Social Evening on the Tuesday after the April concert, we will be having a Summer Barbecue at Strickley Farm, New Hutton, on **Saturday 25th June**, by kind permission of Arthur Robinson's brother Henry.

We will soon be selling tickets, probably at around £7.50 each, and any profit will go to Choir funds. The ticket price will cover a good meaty barbecue with salads and desserts, together with the hire of barbecue equipment etc. There will be a farm walk, weather permitting, earlier in the afternoon, and garden games, such as croquet, jenga, bowls etc. Bring your friends along.

Bring your own wine, or whatever you like to drink, and anything special that your own diet requires.

Rehearsals

Please make every effort to come to all rehearsals. The Choir's Constitution sets out that members should attend 75 percent of rehearsals in order to take part in any concert, otherwise you will need Mark's express permission to sing.

You should all realise that, if you're not there, you are missed!

If you are unable to attend for any reason at all, please let Moira or your Section Representative know. Your Section Rep may contact you after rehearsal to ensure all is well.

It would be greatly appreciated if members would try not to talk among themselves during rehearsal, especially when Mark is dealing with a particular section, as this delays proceedings and can be irritating.

Section Representatives

Soprano:	Jean Robinson	01539 725955	arthurandjean@kencomp.net
Alto:	Dorothy Davies	015395 38837	dorothydavies@foxrock.co.uk
Tenor:	Moira Greenhalgh	01524 761269	moira@m-greenhalgh.co.uk
Bass:	Stephen Hitchcock	015395 60701	sa.hitchcock@btinternet.com

Other Committee Members

Jackie Malone (Chairman), Wendy Corrie (Librarian), Stewart Fuller (Treasurer)
Caryl Wilson, Eileen Robinson, Christine Moore