

## Concert Dress

**Ladies**- long black skirt or smart black trousers with a black top with either full length or  $\frac{3}{4}$  length sleeves (i.e. no short sleeves); the small splash of red should be some kind of plain red accessory such as a scarf, jewellery etc.

**Men**- black or dark trousers with a black collared shirt; the splash of red for them will be a plain red tie (no patterns) and this can be a bow tie if preferred.

## Programme Advertising

Each year we donate the proceeds from donations for our Programmes to ACCORD, the local hospice. We are able to do this by obtaining advertising in the programme, and meeting the production costs from this income. We need someone to take responsibility for the task of seeking advertising this year. If you are able to help with this or with taking advertising space please speak to the Secre-

## Concert Management

Help is always needed for furniture moving on the day of the concert and then to return the church to normal a couple of days later. Some of our members are not as fit as they were and therefore we are looking for assistance with this from younger (and fitter!?) people. They don't have to be members of the choir but just be willing to help us with this task. If you know of someone who can help with this please speak to Ruth O'Boyle who has responsibility for concert management this year.

## Gift Aid is changing - HMRC are tightening up Gift aid rules on Subscriptions

From this year we can only claim back the portion of the subscription which is not classed as tuition. You can only put in your tax return (if you complete one) the same amount which we can claim. For the choir year 2011-2012 the amount on which Gift Aid is deemed to be reclaimable is £38.10 (Tax £9.53)

The second tightening up on the rules is that a spouse cannot gift aid the other spouse's subscription. **Each individual has to Gift Aid their own subscription.** I would ask that all those who are in this position please speak to me and complete a separate Gift Aid Declaration.

As in the past, you can only Gift Aid your subscription if you pay enough tax to cover the tax on the amount Gift Aided. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask me at an appropriate time.

I thank you all for your assistance with this matter.

Roger

## Music Editions

Faure – Rutter edition OUP  
Poulenc –Salabert edition

## Tea/ coffee rota

Our tea break is an important part of a Coats rehearsal but will only happen if sufficient people put their names on the rota – please make sure you take your turn and put your name down.

## Rehearsal info 2012

Concert	Sunday March 18th @ 8pm
Tuesday	January 10th @7.30pm
Tuesday	January 17th @7.30pm
Tuesday	January 24th @7.30pm
Tuesday	January 31st @7.30pm
Tuesday	February 7th @7.30pm
Tuesday	February 14th @7.30pm
Friday	February 17th @7.30pm
Tuesday	February 21st @7.30pm
Friday	February 24th @7.30pm
Tuesday	February 28th @7.30pm
Friday	March 2nd @7.30pm
Tuesday	March 6th @7.30pm
Friday	March 9th @7.30pm
Tuesday	March 13th @7.30pm
Friday	March 16th @7.30pm
Sunday	March 18th @2pm

We plan to invite our Associate members along to join us for the rehearsal on 24th January. This will be an opportunity to catch up during an extended tea break and either join in on the rehearsal or just sit in if that is the preference!

## Recruitment/ new members

Although our membership numbers are strong it is always important to bring in new members and the committee has discussed ideas for encouraging new recruitment. We are particularly keen to try to attract younger people (although of course all ages are welcome!). During the month of January we offer the opportunity for people to come along to a rehearsal and try us out with no commitment. Please help by using any sources you have and encourage people to come and join us—particularly if they are tenors!

## Committee 2011-12

President **Janet Roddick** Vice-President **Ruth O'Boyle**  
Secretary **Joanna Boddy** Treasurer **Roger Roddick**  
Making Music Rep **George Johnson** Librarian **Jenni Wright**

## General Member

Soprano **Morag Cameron**

## In attendance

Assistant Treasurer **Audrey Peacock**  
Tea Convenor **Sandra Cochrane**  
Accompanist **Joyce Cockburn**

As you can see currently we have only 1 general member; **Ross (our tenor rep) has moved away and the alto and bass positions were not filled at the AGM. We would like to recruit up to 3 general members and if you are interested in doing this please contact Joanna for more information.**

## From The Treasurer - brief summary of financial matters

We ended the year with a balance of £6,645 after a deficit of £1,685 on a cash basis. The concert activities within the accounts produced a deficit of £118, and we still have a donation of £266.02 to be presented to Accord as a result of programme donations less any direct costs.

At the AGM the following items were approved:

Full Subscription £40.00, Associate member subscription £10.00, Student Subscription £10.00, Full Tickets at £8.00, Student Tickets at £5.00. All the same as last year.

All these contribute to an estimated deficit for 2012 of £1,600 a large part of which is the fact that Making Music will no longer fund concerts. This would leave us with £5000 as a balance of funds.

I would ask you to encourage new members and also sell as many tickets as you can.

Gift Aid is important and there is a note elsewhere on this newsletter. We recovered almost £800 last year. This will reduce slightly for 2012 but it is an important income source.

Enjoy the new season.



# Thomas Coats Memorial Choral Society Newsletter Autumn 2011

## From the Committee

You will be aware that this newsletter and the registration information are going out much later than usual. This is because we learned very recently that Gordon was resigning as Musical Director, as he has a new job in Dublin and will be moving there very soon. Whilst we are pleased for him and congratulate him on this great opportunity, we are sad to lose him - and it left us with the difficult task of searching for an MD for the start of the new season!

We made the decision that it would be best to have an interim MD for 3 months for this year and this would allow us to advertise and recruit for a new MD for 2013. We are delighted to tell you that Derek Norval has agreed to come back and take the choir for this year and we are grateful to Derek for his assistance. The rehearsal schedule and concert programmer will therefore remain as discussed at the AGM.

We intend to start the recruitment process for an MD 2013 as soon as possible and plan to advertise before Christmas so that choir members will have the opportunity to be involved in choosing our new MD. We will keep you fully updated on this.

There will be an opportunity for you to say your farewells to Gordon at the first rehearsal in January. We would ask for your full support for Derek and the committee at this time as we go forward. Have a great Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you all in January.

Dear Friends

2011 has been another fantastic year for the Choral! We gave a stunning concert featuring three great works: Puccini's 'Messa di Gloria', Vaughan Williams's 'Five Mystical Songs', and who could forget Liszt's 'Psalm 13'? I was really delighted with this concert, despite the difficulties we encountered (and transcended) in learning the Liszt.

At this point in my annual newsletter article, I would normally begin to look forward to next year. But, as you'll know by now, I'm starting a new job at the end of January. I'm going to be moving to Dublin to become the new Head of the Conservatory of Music & Drama at Dublin Institute of Technology. Unfortunately, this means that I won't be able to continue as Musical Director for TCMCS.

I'm very sorry to be leaving Thomas Coats - I will miss you all, and the music. I remember very well the night of my audition in 2006, when I rehearsed some portions of the Brahms Requiem. I was thrilled by the sound of the choir that evening, and being enthused by the warm reception you gave me and the other prospective conductors.

Since I arrived in 2007, we have performed five great concerts comprising 13 works. For our first concert, we performed two works by Sibelius, 'Finlandia' and 'The Captive Queen' - one in Finnish (!), the other a dramatic work, though mostly in unison. How we have developed since then! The Verdi Requiem in 2010 was a particular highlight for me, as was tackling unfamiliar yet beautiful music, such as Frank Bridge's 'A Prayer' and Liszt's 'Psalm 13'.

Over the last five years, the choir has grown in number and in strength and confidence, and we have built a strong relationship with the RSAMD (now the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland) Symphony Orchestra and soloists. I am absolutely confident that all of these things will be maintained and improved under Janet's presidency, and with your new Musical Director, whoever that may be.

I shall miss our regular Tuesday and Friday rehearsals: they were immensely enjoyable - one of the highlights of my week. I got energy and inspiration from you, and from the music. I will especially miss working with Joyce Cockburn, our incomparable rehearsal accompanist. And I will miss the camaraderie - and the physical exercise too!

I'm very sorry to be leaving Glasgow, and all my friends at Thomas Coats; however, the new job is a very exciting opportunity for me, and one which I'm looking forward to. But I will be back! I hope to see you at some point in January before I go, and I hope to be here for your concert on 18 March.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

With best wishes for Christmas, the New Year and the future!

Gordon

For more information on how to join please contact the secretary Joanna Boddy:

**Phone: 01505 816110 Mobile: 07990 975970 Email: [Coatschoral@btinternet.com](mailto:Coatschoral@btinternet.com)** or visit our website: **[www.thomascoatschoral.org.uk](http://www.thomascoatschoral.org.uk)** .

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