

Waltham Singers newsletter

Issue No 44
January 2011

From the (new) Chair... !

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a good break Christmas break, not too badly affected by the weather, and are ready for the musical challenges and pleasures of 2011.

My thanks to Sabine for continuing her duties as Chair through the end of last year, which was a great help to me. This completes four years and three months of Sabine's hard work in leading and coordinating the choir's activities, from which we have all benefited. "Sabine, thank you!"

It was a great shame that the Macmillan Carol Concert had to be cancelled on account of the snow. Ticket monies will be refunded if you wish on presentation of your tickets to Mike Wall. Alternatively, if you would like to treat the cost as a donation to Macmillan, I am sure that would be much appreciated by them. In any event I hope any disappointment of a concert foregone will be quickly forgotten as we get into this term's programme.

Handel's *Messiah* needs no introduction. Written in just 24 days in 1741 whilst Handel was depressed and in debt, it has come to be one of the most-loved works in western choral music. Our performance in the Cathedral on 19th March will be accompanied on period instruments by musicians engaged by Richard Thomas of Quintessential. We also have some first-class soloists and I fully expect this to be a concert that lingers in the memory. Tickets are going to be made available earlier than normal and I strongly recommend that you get your reservations in promptly.

Other activities this term include our Quiz night on 12th February (again early booking is advisable) and we are grateful to Richard Eason for being quizmaster on this occasion. Also Annabel Malton is to run a new series of workshops focussed on reading music, marking your score and any other aspect of choral singing participants would like to cover. Further details will be given at rehearsal. These sessions proved popular in the past: do think about whether you would like to join in this series.

Lastly, as I take up the Chairman's duties, can I please ask you to let me or other committee members know what you think of your choir. Do let us have suggestions of works you would like to perform and ways we could improve the choir's activities. I can't promise we will always share your views, but I do promise they will not be ignored.

I look forward to seeing you all at rehearsals.

Gerald Malton

Committee Meetings will take place at 7.45 pm on:

12 January 2011, 16 February 2011, 27 April 2011 and 25 May 2011

If there are matters you would like the committee to consider, please contact Gerald (01245 360240) or an other committee member.

50-50 Club Winners

The fifty- seventh draw of the 50:50 Club was held on the last rehearsal of term. As we have three draws a year that shows we have been running for 19 years now, and in that time your 50:50 subs have made a valuable contribution to The Waltham Singers concert fund. The winners this time were:

**£50 Sheila Bearman, £30 Peter Jackson, £25 Peter Strickland, £20 Barry Williams
£20 Lynda Stapleton, £15 Marion Garrett**

All choir members and Friends can have up to five numbers in the draw. Each number costs £12 for a year (three draws), and remember, half of that goes straight to The Waltham Singers to help fund our programme. To make sure you've got all the numbers you want complete one of the forms, which are available by the notice board every Thursday night, and pass it to me.

Mike Wall

Dates for your Diary ...

Spring Term

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| Thursday 6 th January | 8.00pm- 10.00pm | St Cedd's School | First Rehearsal of Term |
| Saturday 12 th February | 7.30pm | Hulton Hall | Quiz Night |
| Sunday 13 th March | 2.00pm- 4.00pm | Gt Waltham Church | Rehearsal |
| Saturday 19 th March | 1.00pm- 4.00pm | Chelmsford Cathedral | Rehearsal |
| Saturday 19 th March | 7.30pm | Chelmsford Cathedral | Concert (Messiah) |
| Thursday 24 th March | 8.00pm- 10.00pm | St Cedd's School | Rehearsals continue |
| Thursday 14 th & 21 st April | - | No rehearsals | Easter Holiday |

Summer Term

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| Thursday 28 th April | 8.00pm- 10.00pm | St Cedd's School | Rehearsals recommence |
| Sunday 12 th June | 2.00pm- 4.00pm | Gt Waltham Church | Rehearsal |
| Saturday 18 th June | 2.00pm- 5.00pm | Gt Waltham Church | Rehearsal |
| Saturday 18 th June | 8.00pm | Gt Waltham Church | Concert (Mantra) |
| Thursday 23 rd June | 8.00pm | St Cedd's School | Annual Review Meeting |

Please keep us up to date with any change in your email address. If you change it, please email SchNussesey@AOL.com so that we can amend your details.

