

# Waltham Singers newsletter

Issue No 59  
January 2016

## From the Chair...

Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope you've all enjoyed Christmas and are ready for the new term which starts on Thursday 7th January, 8pm at St. Cedd's as usual.

We had a busy term last Autumn, with a very successful workshop run by Philip Thorby at New Hall in October and a memorable performance of *Elijah* at the Cathedral in November. This concert was greatly enhanced by the excellent soloists and the comments afterwards from audience and choir alike were all positive. We finished off the term with the entertaining Mencap Carol Service which was well supported and enjoyed by all.

Looking ahead, this term we will be preparing a new work by Jonathan Dove called *Arion and the Dolphin*. We will be singing this as a premiere performance and Jonathan will be contributing an introduction to the piece during the performance. It's a very accessible work, which Andrew has already used for a workshop. I would encourage everyone to listen to the recording from this workshop via the link on the WS website or the following link ([https://soundcloud.com/makingmusicuk/sets/arion-and-the-dolphin/s-50KkZ?utm\\_source=solus&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=solus](https://soundcloud.com/makingmusicuk/sets/arion-and-the-dolphin/s-50KkZ?utm_source=solus&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=solus)). The piece will be coupled with Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and Arnold's *John Clare Cantata* and we will be joined by the Longford Brown Piano Duo and a percussion ensemble. The whole programme promises to be stimulating and interesting and I am confident it will be popular with our audience.

Before that, we are hosting our annual Quiz Night at the Hulton Hall in Great Waltham, on Saturday 6th February at 1930. This is an informal, fun event with Mike Wall as Quizmaster. The tables are for eight, but don't be put off if you don't have a group to form a table with, just let Mike Wall know and he will be able to pair you with another table. I can thoroughly recommend it as a good way to spend a dark February evening and raise vital funds for the Choir in the process!

Thanks are due to Marion Farmer, who retired from the Choir at the end of the summer after nearly 40 years as a member. Marion has supported the Choir in many ways over that time, including a period as Secretary in the early 90s. We wish her well in her 'retirement' and hope to welcome her as a 'Friend' and audience member in the future. I must also thank Lynda Stapleton who stepped down from administering the Programme adverts at the same time. This is an unseen but vital task and I am very grateful to Lynda for her efforts over many years. We are fortunate that many similar tasks are undertaken by Choir members who are not on the Committee. If you are interested in helping in any way, please let me know because we can find roles to suit all skills and interests! It was very pleasing last term to welcome Rachel Penny to rehearsals and we hope she is able to join us this term too.

Sadly I have to announce that Laurence Lyndon-Jones is leaving us at the end of this term. I know many of us have greatly enjoyed his accompanying and it will be a loss to say goodbye to him. He is increasingly busy with his role at the Cathedral and needs to devote his attention in that direction. However, this is an opportunity to congratulate him on being awarded the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists last summer, a fine achievement! He heard this news on the same day he got married in August, so that was quite a day for him! We hope to appoint a new accompanist in time for the Autumn programme in September, as we will be singing unaccompanied works for the summer concert.

Finally I would like to mention, as advance notice, that we will be rehearsing in New Hall Prep on 25th February, as St Cedd's is already booked.

I will be on holiday on 7th January but I hope you will all be there and I look forward to seeing you on 14th January.

Best wishes  
Kate Hanson

## ***Quiz Night 2016***

Saturday 6th February 2016 Hulton Hall, South Street, Great Waltham

Doors open 7.00 pm for prompt start at 7.30 pm

Teams of eight (Try to make up a full team if possible but definitely no teams of more than eight.)

£12 per person (pay on the night). A ploughman's style supper is served. Bring your own drinks (alcoholic or soft) and glasses, plates and cutlery.

Raffle prizes welcome.

Book your table now with me - if you have a table with spare places tell me - if you can't raise a table and would like to take part tell me. I will put you in touch with each other.

*Mike Wall*

## **50:50 Club News:**

### **Winners for Draw 72 are:-**

**£50: Libby Wiggs (64) £30: Mike Wall (27) (and about time too!!)**

**£30: Sheila Holmes (75) £25: Libby Wiggs (48) £20: Eeva Golding (84)**

I'm sure you have all spotted the uncanny relationship between the numbers drawn:

4 cubed; 3 cubed; 5 squared x 3; 4 squared x 3; the previous number reversed.

I can't wait for the next draw to see how this pattern is repeated!

*Mike Wall*

If you would like a number (or numbers, max 5) they cost £12 and we have three prize draws a year.

Half the income is returned in prizes and the other half helps to support our concert programme.

Please see Mike Wall for an application form, or pick one up at rehearsals from near the notice board.

## ***Committee meetings:***

The Committee members for 2016 are

Ian Aim, Sarah Bakewell, Mike Catterall, Bill Gray, Kate Hanson, Gerald Malton, Sabine Nussey, Jemma Parker, Nadia Smart, Jenny Tait, Mike Wall and Julie Warner.

Our next committee meeting is on 10th February. Please let Kate Hanson or Nadia Smart know if you wish anything to be raised at that meeting.

# Dates for your Diary

## Spring Term 2016

Thursday, 7 January	8.00 pm	St Cedd's School	First rehearsal of term
Saturday, 6 February	7.30 pm	Quiz Night	Hulton Hall
Thursday, 25 February	8.00 pm	New Hall Prep School	Rehearsal
Sunday, 6 March	2.00 - 4.00 pm		Pre-concert Sunday rehearsal
Saturday, 12 March	1.00 - 4.00 pm	KEGS	Concert day rehearsal
Saturday, 12 March	7.30 pm	KEGS	<i>Arion and the Dolphin</i> and other works
Thursday, 24 March	8.00 pm	St Cedd's School	Last rehearsal of term

## Spring Term 2016

Thursday, 14 April	8.00 pm	St Cedd's School	First rehearsal of term
Sunday, 12 June	2.00 - 4.00 pm		Pre-concert Sunday rehearsal
Thursday, 16 June	8.00 pm	St Cedd's School	Last rehearsal of term
Saturday, 18 June	1.00 - 4.00 pm	Gt Waltham Church	Concert day rehearsal
Saturday, 18 June	7.30 pm	Gt t Waltham Church	Cipriano de Rore concert

## Future Concert Dates

Saturday, 19 November 2016	7.30 pm	Chelmsford Cathedral	Mozart C minor Mass, Sinfonia Concertante
Saturday, 18 March 2017	7.30 pm	KEGS	
31 March - 4 April 2017		Bruges	Choir tour: repertoire to include the Allegri <i>Miserere</i> and Faure <i>Requiem</i> and an Alan Bullard commission.
Saturday, 17 June 2017	7.30 pm	Gt Waltham Church	