



VAUGHAN-WILLIAMS SEA SYMPHONY GRAND CHORUS NEWSLETTER NO.2

Greetings from your organising committee! We hope you are well under way with your note-bashing and looking forward to starting rehearsals.

Herewith your second newsletter - do remind yourselves of the content of the first - it is on the sccg.info website if you've misplaced it.

Contacts

If you have any queries at all contact either:

Jos Gregson (01454-411652, email jos@josgregson.plus.com) or

Julia O'Connor Beach (01454-260877, email secretary.sccg@gmail.com).

who will be pleased to help. Jos and Julia will attend all rehearsals.

Please try your liaison person in the first instance if you are with the main participating societies.

Registration

We have 120 on board - and should make a very good sound indeed, and be comfortable on the staging. It is always the way of things that tenors are in short supply and that there is a goodly crop of altos. If any altos feel able to stretch to join the soprano section, or would be willing to join the tenor section, then please do come forward and let Julia know. If you know of any available tenors sound them out and ask them to join us.

Getting to know you...

We will have name badges for everyone. It will help us get to know each other quicker, and save most of us from those awful moments when names just escape one's grasp. Even if you feel it is beneath your dignity, it would be appreciated if you'd be a sport and wear your badge at all rehearsals.

Concert Day - Dress Code

It's the one subject which turns committee members into groaning 'swivel-eyed loons'. After much discussion, the dress code has been CHANGED for the ladies. It is now WHITE tops with sleeves of at least elbow length. It was felt that we would look too sombre in black. The only

problem is that white comes in many shades... please aim for Daz white rather than 50 shades of grey....or cream for that matter. Black full length skirts or evening trousers. Gentlemen are asked to wear dinner jackets and black bow ties.

Concert Day - Folders

Stroud CS has kindly agreed to let us use their black folders. (Yate - you can use your own if you wish).

Scores

These have been distributed to liaisons for those who ordered them; for singers who are not members of partner societies, you should have been contacted by Julia by email. Otherwise your copies can be collected at the first rehearsals. Any problems, please contact Julia.

Rehearsals - for your Diary

All information is online - sccg.info under 'big sing 2013'. For your convenience, we repeat it here:

Remember: you are welcome to join us at either or BOTH of the rehearsal venues. All evening rehearsals start at 7.30pm

Wycliffe College, Stonehouse on Tuesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 June

Christ The King RC Church, Thornbury on Thursdays 6, 13, 20, 27 June

Saturday workshop with Nigel Perrin at The Castle School, Thornbury on Saturday 15 June 10am-5pm

There will be a lunch break between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. Teas, coffees, juice, water and biscuits will be provided but you should bring a packed lunch. There will also be a break mid-morning and mid-afternoon for liquid refreshments.

Eve of Concert Rehearsal for ALL singers at Christ The King RC Church, Thornbury on Friday 28 June

Dress Rehearsal and Concert at Tewkesbury Abbey on Saturday 29 June 2pm and 7.30pm

VENUES AND HOW TO FIND THEM

Thornbury Rehearsal Venue

The venue for the four Thornbury rehearsals and the eve of concert rehearsal on June 28th is Christ the King Catholic Church, 11 Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HA.

From the south, A38; at the traffic lights (Hyundai Berkeley Vale Motors ahead) turn left on the B4061 towards Thornbury and proceed down Alveston Hill to the roundabout at the bottom (passing Thornbury Leisure Centre on your right and Thornbury Golf Club on your left). Proceed straight on at the roundabout into Thornbury High Street. The street broadens and you will pass the White Lion pub. Shortly after this turn left and you will come to the Castle Street Car Park.

From the north, exit J14 of the M5, turn right to the junction with A38, and turn left onto A38. In 1.6

miles, after Falfield turn right at the B4061 and continue into Thornbury centre and a small roundabout, turn right (The Plain) and then road curves left into the High Street. Access to the Castle Street Car Park is on the right, just after the pedestrian crossing. Park your car and return to Castle Street. Turn left and you will pass the front of Christ the King Catholic Church. Pass this and turn in to the left where there is a small car park and the church entrance.

Wycliffe/Stonehouse Rehearsal Venue

The venue for the four Wycliffe rehearsals is Wycliffe College Chapel, on Wycliffe College campus, Bath Rd, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 2AF (vehicular access Gate 1, Bristol Road A419)

From the East, A38 or M5 J13, take the A419 direction Stroud. Follow this road for approx 2.5 miles over roundabouts and just past the traffic lights at Downton Road junction the campus will be on your left. At the central bollards, turn left into Gate 1 and park with care.

From the West, take the A419 from Stroud through to Stonehouse. At the Horsetrough Roundabout (A419/A4008) stay on the A419 and the campus is on your right. Enter at Gate 1 and park with care. The Chapel is on the far side of the campus (bordering the A4008 Bath Road). A glance across the playing fields to the left of where you entered will reveal all.

Nigel Perrin Saturday Workshop Venue

The venue for the Workshop on May 21st is the Castle School, **Park Road site**, Thornbury
Beware – there are two school sites; use the exact postcode for satnavs! BS35 1HT

From the North on M5: Head South, take exit J14, turn right onto B4509, and turn left at traffic light junction onto A38 at Falfield...

From the North on A38: Proceed South to Falfield...

From Falfield, in 1.5 miles turn right onto Gloucester Road (across central reservation).

In 2.1 miles turn right into Whitfield Road.

In 276 ft keep left onto Park Road.

In 350 yds take 3rd left to stay on Park Road. School is on your right.

From the South – Bristol:

Take the A38 Gloucester Road North, direction Thornbury.

From roundabout under M5 travel 5.1 miles to traffic lights (Alveston House hotel on left, car dealership ahead) and turn left onto Thornbury Road/B4061

Continue 1.1 miles and take 1st exit at roundabout (straight on)

Continue into High Street and after .3 of a mile with Natwest on your left, keep straight on into "The Plain" and Castle Street (technically a left turn as the road continues to the right).

In another .3 of a mile, the road swings right (church ahead) into Park Road and in another .3 of a mile, the school is on your left.

Parking – some on site parking, otherwise please find a space locally, with consideration to residents. Please car-share wherever possible.

Saving Petrol

For the rehearsals and workshop, to save on petrol and to ease any parking issues, and to have more fun, please do try to car-pool whenever possible. You know it makes sense! If you would like to be put in touch with someone from your neck of the woods, be it to offer or to find a lift, the secretary can help you. Please just say so.

As for concert day, Thornbury Choral Society have booked coaches to take their singers and friends from Thornbury to Tewkesbury Abbey and to bring them back after the performance. If you live in the Thornbury area and would like to travel on one of these coaches contact Jos Gregson on 01454-411652 or by email: jos@josgregson.plus.com. The cost of the return trip will be £8 and this coach will depart from outside Aldi in Thornbury at 12.30pm.

Thornbury U3A are also running a coach to take people up to Tewkesbury for the day to include our concert. This coach will depart at 2pm from outside Aldi in Thornbury, the cost is also £8. If your friends are interested in travelling contact Trevor Anderson, the U3A Trips Organiser for this trip on 01454-613279

If you are not in the Thornbury area and would like to travel on a group coach talk to your liaison officer and if there are sufficient singers they may arrange a coach.

Audience Tickets

Your liaison officers will have audience tickets for sale up to the Saturday workshop with Nigel Perrin. Best nave seats £15, West End seats £10, aisle seats with often restricted view at £8. Tickets for under 16s at £2 can be provided - just ask your liaison officer. For non-SCCG members, please contact the secretary or see her at rehearsals.

As with any performance, it is more exciting to sing to a full house, and better for the budget, so please do ensure that you encourage family and friends to come along. Make a day of it in Tewkesbury; visit the town, the Abbey itself, walk the heritage trails, have a picnic by the river or even take a river cruise.

See you next Tuesday or Thursday!