



Members' Newsletter

May 2016

Chair: David Brice 01277 221422

davidpbrice@aol.com

Vice Chair: Liz Biebuyck 01277 233271

lizbiebuyck@googlemail.com

Secretary: Robin Derbyshire 01277 651689

rmderbysire@btinternet.com

Conductor: Jonathan Schranz

Dear Members,

Our March concert was a notable musical success, thanks to everybody's efforts, and in no small way to Jonathan, who found himself both singing an important solo tenor part, and then conducting. We've struck up an excellent and good humoured rapport with Jonathan at rehearsals, and are looking forward to more successful music making together.

We've made an interesting start to our Summer programme, have begun to get used to the musical idiom of the Mass in Blue, and have begun to discover that performing popular songs we've known all our (short or long) lives is not as easy as it seems.

Diaries out please! Here is our latest information about our programme for the remainder of the year, and beyond.

Monday 27 June. You will remember that Jonathan is unavailable on this date and has asked if this rehearsal, the last one before our Summer concert, can be moved to Tuesday 28 June. We have not yet had a reply from the school to our request for the use of the music room on this date.

Our Summer Concert, consisting of the Mass in Blue and selected songs from the In The Mood song book is on *Saturday 2 July* at Hutton & Shenfield Church., starting at 7 pm, and rehearsal is likely to be from 4-6.(to be confirmed).

On Monday 4 July, our last Monday before the holidays, we are going to celebrate the **75th Anniversary of BCS**, in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Your family members are invited to join us, and we will invite guests, including former members and friends of the Society. There'll be a buffet provided by an outside caterer, and no doubt music ! Timing is from 7 – 9.30pm.

The first rehearsal of the Autumn Term is on *Monday 5 September*.

Our major concert, organised by Brentwood Choirs Festival is to sing **Elgar's Gerontius** on *Saturday 12 November* in Brentwood Cathedral , with other choirs orchestra and soloists. Capitation for those taking part is £15, of which £5 will be found from our Society funds. The BCF committee is seeking sponsorship from

commercial organisations and individuals. The organisers are asking us for a list of those intending to take part before the end of this term.

Joint rehearsals for this concert are in the Cathedral on *26 September, 18 October and 9 November*.

On the following *Saturday, 19 November*, by general demand, the return of our **Have A Go evening** in Shenfield parish hall!

Our December Concert is on *Saturday 10 December* in Hutton & Shenfield Church.

Rehearsals in the Spring Term begin on *Monday 9 January 2017*. A **joint concert** with Ingatestone CS is provisionally booked for the Cathedral on *Saturday 11 March 2017*. More details later.

As a result of our appeals for members to take over the duties which Maureen Stone used to do, we are glad to say that Jill has agreed to take over Gift Aid, and another member is considering concert tickets.

We still need people, or one person:

- to draw up and supervise the coffee rota
- be our contact with Making Music, including Performing Rights
- be our representative with Essex Choir Festival (who put on the biannual concert in Drapers Academy, or elsewhere).

These jobs are interesting, but not too demanding of your time, and Liz, Robin or David will be pleased to give you more information.

As you know the post of Secretary of BCS will become vacant at Easter 2017. Robin will be pleased without any obligation to discuss the work with anybody who is interested in taking this post. With approximately a year left before the deadline, there is every possibility of 'job shadowing' in the meantime, and some of the work can be shared.

We were pleased to welcome so many of you returning to rehearsals after the break, and enjoyably setting to work to learn the music for the Summer Concert. If you've not made it back yet, we do want to keep in touch with you, and keep you informed, and we hope that we will have the pleasure of having you back with us soon. And do encourage any would be choral singer you know to join us.

With all good wishes

David, Liz and Robin

