

# Summer Newsletter



July 2017

## In this issue you'll find:

DATES for your DIARY; concert news; subscription rate and lots more!

## Chairman's report



Our 20th anniversary season saw us perform a mixed Christmas programme, including Britten's Ceremony of Carols, and Dvorak's Mass in D in March. Both concerts were well attended and feedback was good. It is never easy to devise a concert programme which is suitably challenging, within budget and attractive to audiences.

In October we held our 20th anniversary dinner. It was a delight to see former as well as current members enjoying good company, good food, excellent speeches and rousing entertainment.

Thank you for your commitment and your musical and social contributions to our choir. I ask that you do what you can to encourage aspiring singers to join us, especially budding tenors!

At the AGM on **Monday 16 October** I am standing down. We have one nominee as chairman: Ronnie Seiler. Thank you all for your support, especially the committee: Alison, Libby and Audrey, all supremely efficient in their fields, and of course David Turner our Choirmaster who is so patient and skilled.

May the choir go from strength to strength. See you in September!

Liz Mackie

## Music programme

Our next concert, on **Sunday 26 November**, entitled 'Music of the British Isles', will comprise British folk song settings by John Rutter, and Scots songs associated with Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobite rebellion. You'll find more about them here:

*The Sprig of Thyme*

*I Landed with Seven Men*

David Turner

## Rehearsal dates

We meet on Mondays, 7.30 p.m. - 9 p.m., in the Robertson Building, Merchiston Castle School.

Rehearsals resume on **18 September** when Audrey - who thanks you for your prompt return of music - will be on hand from 7 p.m. to issue music, and Libby to collect subscriptions. (Please make cheques payable (£35) to *Colinton and Merchiston Choir*.)

Rehearsals will continue over half term, i.e. **no Monday holiday**.

## Choir finances

Although slightly fewer singers enrolled in 2016/17 and retiring collections were smaller, music and performance costs were also lower, resulting in an overall excess of receipts over payments of £850 (as per the draft accounts), as compared to £461 for the previous year.

Reserves at 31 July 2017 amount to £3,946. As a result the committee is able to hold the subscription for the forthcoming year at £35, and is content that the choir has reserves for occasions when we may require to purchase rather than borrow or hire music, or have higher concert production costs.

Libby Campbell

## Our committee

Liz Mackie (Chairman); David Turner (Conductor); Audrey Dobson (Librarian); Libby Campbell (Treasurer); Alison Kennedy (Secretary); Allan Gray; Carolyn Brodie MacKay; Morag McIntyre.

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