

Ticket Sales

Many of the newer members will be unaware of the manner in which the tickets for our concerts are marketed. For three to four weeks before each concert the tickets are offered to the members. This activity is absolutely essential, for this is the basis of our audience. If 100 members were to sell four tickets each then our success is almost assured, with the box office adding to the numbers to raise the sales to an acceptable level. It is for this reason that we urge all members to sell four tickets each. This of course is not enforceable, and some members find it difficult to sell that many, but you are asked to support the Society by ensuring that our efforts are well received and supported.

Although the box office does a useful job in selling tickets for a month before the concert, and on the day, they cannot be relied upon to provide us with an audience. A commission of 15% is charged on all sales to cover their administration costs, so you can see that it is better for us to have direct sales through the members rather than pay a premium.

At the time of writing this the ticket sales for the St John Passion are disappointing. It will be a good concert and it deserves support. Monday, 23rd February, will be the final day for internal ticket sales. They then get passed to the Assembly Hall. It is essential that you use this last opportunity to purchase the tickets for your friends and family, and Peter Norgate will be present before the rehearsal and during the interval to serve you. Up until the middle of the week you can telephone Peter to purchase or reserve tickets – his telephone number is 07739 835273.

St John Passion

Preparations are at an advanced stage – two main and four minor soloists are booked, an orchestra arranged and electric organ and harpsichord ready to hire. Programmes are being printed and all we need now is for you to encourage some of your friends to buy tickets (see above). We are performing at The Assembly Hall Theatre as usual and this time the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress are attending.

On concert day, Sunday 29th March, the rehearsal will start at 9.45am with a break at 1.0pm and back in seats ready to go at 2.54pm. Dress is DJ/black tie for the men and white full/three quarter length sleeved top for the ladies with black trousers/long skirt.

Remember – the clocks go forward an hour on the previous night, so set all your clocks correctly so that you arrive at the Assembly Hall on time!

Annual dinner

There was a good turnout for this social event held in a private function room at High Rocks, Tunbridge Wells. Malcolm Beresford (Tenor) again organised an enjoyable evening for us – thanks for all your hard work, Malcolm. And a special thanks to Amy Cordani (Soprano) who entertained us with a selection of well known show tunes after dinner.



Amy Cordani

To celebrate Bill McMillan's 80th Birthday a card signed by many members was presented to him by Richard Jenkinson. Bill's wife Moira (Alto) was away skiing at the time so he was 'home alone' and came to the dinner for some company!!



Richard Jenkinson and Bill McMillan

RTWCS Chairman Roy Dunstall chats with Guy Huntrods



Choir social

The last 'formal' event for the choir in 2008/9 is the end of season social and, breaking the normal pattern of timing, this will be held not on the Monday immediately following the St John Passion but on the following Monday, 6th April.

Dates for your diary

After the summer break we reconvene for the AGM on Monday 7th September and will be working on Jenkins' The Armed Man to be performed on Remembrance Sunday, 8th November at The Assembly Hall. There will be a Christmas Concert at Goudhurst on Sunday 13th December.

Summer Sing

The date of the concert has finally been set as Saturday 13th June and the venue is St John's Church. Rehearsals start on Monday 20th April and the programme will include a number of choral favourites for us to sing, contributions from a brass ensemble and hopefully also from a school choir. Please see the flyer for further details.

The rehearsals are less formal than those held by the choir during the main season but the concert aims to achieve the same high standard. It is our chance to invite friends to sing with us who may have been put off the idea of choral singing by the solemnity and structure of our usual repertoire so please think of whom you could ask to join us. Subs will be £30 with students under 18 years at £10.