

The majority of this newsletter is devoted to the forthcoming Verdi Requiem concert and so it is being made available to our friends in ECGS who are joining us for the performance. A special welcome to all of you who have made the journey across to Tunbridge Wells for rehearsals and will be part of our 160 strong choir for the concert. Also a 'well done' to those members of RTWCS who have attended open rehearsals at East Grinstead.

## Rehearsals not to miss

The schedule of rehearsals and a map of the East Grinstead venue have been distributed to all who have attended recently. A few extra copies are available from the Registrar Celia Sumner

It is most important that as many of us as possible attend the two joint rehearsals on:

**Thursday October 30th** from 7.45 to 9.45pm at East Grinstead.

**Monday 3rd November** from 7.30 to 9.30pm at Tunbridge Wells.

Please note that the final open rehearsal is being held on

**Friday 7th November** at Tunbridge Wells in St John's Church rather than in the usual room in the Church Centre.

## Sunday 9th November – concert day

### Rehearsal with orchestra

This will be a very busy morning as we have to seat an almost capacity choir on the Assembly Hall stage as well as rehearsing the piece. Please be at the rehearsal by 9.45am at the latest so that line reps can allocate the seating ready for a 10.00am start.

The two minutes silence will be held at 11.00am.

Black paper folders are being prepared for the scores and these will be available at the rehearsal.

### Parking

On- street parking will be very limited as it is Remembrance Sunday. The multi-story car park in Church Road (A264) charges on Sundays and the only access to it will be westwards from the Crescent Road roundabout due to road closures for the Parade to the War memorial which is close to the Assembly Hall. You should then enter the Assembly Hall via the stage door which is situated at the rear of the building off Monson Way – **maps** are available if required. I am liaising with the Police to allow vehicular access for those who need to be dropped off at the stage door – your transport should approach via Monson Road and Monson Way and then go round to the multi storey car park.

### Food and drink

There are no facilities for obtaining refreshments at the Assembly Hall so please bring a flask with you for the break if you want coffee/tea.

There are a number of local restaurants for lunch in Mount Pleasant Road and further down in the High Street – turn right out of the Assembly Hall front doors and left at the traffic lights. It may be a good idea to make a booking. For details go to <http://maps.google.co.uk> and enter 'restaurants in mount pleasant road' in the search box.

### Dress

A reminder that the dress for ladies is black long / three quarter length sleeved tops and black long skirts or trousers. No shawls or pashminas etc please, and minimal jewellery. For the men it is black collared shirt with black bow tie and black suit/DJ. As the concert is on Remembrance Sunday would all participants please wear a poppy on the left.

Changing facilities will be very limited so please come along in your concert dress unless you live locally and plan to go home at lunchtime.

### Concert details

Water bottles should not be visible from the auditorium. Please wrap them in a black bag – part of a bin liner may be suitable – and place them under your seat.

If at all possible please do not leave the stage during the interval; there is nowhere to go as we are using all of the stage for seating! There are a limited number of lavatories backstage so you may have to use those front of house as well.

## RTWCS Members

### Subs

A few people still haven't paid – a reminder that the recommended sum is £90 for the season with an option to pay in two £45 instalments, and a reduced rate for under 25s. Any donations on top of the basic sum are welcome. Please see the Treasurer Michael Selway (Bass)

## Fund raising event

A table has been booked at the indoor boot fair to be held at King Charles the Martyr Church Hall, Warwick Park (off Nevill Street) on Saturday 15th November. Ann Greenfield is organising this and would welcome donations of books (in good condition), CDs and DVDs before the date. Cakes should be brought along on the day.

## Christmas concert

This will be held at St Barnabas Church, Stanley Road (off Camden Road). The rehearsal will be held from 4.00 to 6.00pm with seating starting at 3.35pm. Tea and biscuits will then be provided and the concert will start at 7.00pm running for about 1 hour 15 minutes followed by mulled wine and mince pies (donation required).

Entrance for the audience will be by ticket and these will be sold at the fund raising event on 15th November and at subsequent rehearsals, as well as on the door. Seating is unreserved.

Dress will be Christmas red tops full / three quarter length sleeves with black trousers or long skirts for the ladies, and DJ, white shirt and black or red bow ties for the men.

The main piece to be sung is the *Navidad Nuestra* by Ramirez. Although copies of the score can be hired as usual, members may order their own copies from our librarian Clive Brock for £5.50 – more details to follow.