

WIMBORNE CHORAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
2008/2009

'Some days there won't be a song in your heart. Sing anyway'
Emery Austin

'He who sings frightens away his ills.'
Cervantes, Don Quixote

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There has been a great deal in the media lately about the joys and benefits of singing. We are told that not only does it lift us emotionally but is good for us physically as well. No wonder people are being encouraged to join in and sing somewhere, anywhere. Maybe choir fees should be on the National Health! How lucky we all are to be in a choir and to be able to benefit from this glorious activity.

Yet another year has passed far too quickly. If you can cast your mind back to December 2008 you will remember our Christmas Miscellany in a candle-lit Minster, when we manfully (and womanfully) juggled with what seemed like hundreds of pieces of music as well as large carol books. However, like a swan which is seen to glide above the water while there's a hell of a lot going on underneath, I'm sure we presented a smooth and seamless image to our audience! I know they enjoyed it. For the first time we took a retiring collection and as a result were able to send a substantial amount to CLIC-Sargent, the charity for children with cancer. This was so successful that we have decided to make a retiring collection a feature of our Christmas concerts and this year we will support Julia's House, the local children's hospice.

Our Spring concert brought in the large audience which we come to expect when we sing Mozart. His Vespers along with Michael Haydn's Requiem made a delightful and popular programme.

In the Summer Handel's Judas Maccabaeus broke new ground for many of us. It was a big sing and we were very down on numbers but the end result turned out very well indeed, receiving many compliments from members of the audience.

In addition to our concerts we have met together socially. In the New Year many of us enjoyed a buffet dinner at the church of St Nicholas in Corfe Mullen, when the highlight of the evening was Kieron and Ruth's little girl entertaining us with her singing. A future soprano, perhaps? We also enjoyed our annual Garden Party at High Hall where Susan Gibson once more made us so welcome. Also in the summer some of us once again sang in Stourhead Gardens in the Festival of the Voice. If you've never been to this event, or would like to take part, see Sophie who will be happy to give you details.

Funds have been boosted by raffles, sales at High Hall and by a coffee morning. The latter was very poorly attended both by the public and members of the choir, but in spite of this we made a small profit. We have decided that this is not publicised enough in the town and next year will make an effort to make people more aware.

You will, I'm sure, have noticed the huge improvement in our programmes over the last few years and our congratulations and thanks go to Ken Palmer for his hard work in producing a programme which now, with advertising and your page sponsorship, pays for itself. This year we have decided to introduce to the programme a new feature in which people who participate in the concert are introduced to the audience. This happens already, of course, with Chris and the Soloists, but we thought it would be nice to go further, so this coming concert will see an introduction to Andrew Foot, the leader of our orchestra. In future programmes we hope to feature other players and also members of the choir!

The Armed Man scores have continued to be hired out throughout the year, and even as you read this letter 50 copies will be on their way to Berkshire for a workshop. We have yet to hire out any copies of Michael Haydn's Requiem, but Tony Britnell, our webmaster, is making them more prominent on our website, so we hope we may have some success soon. May I also remind you, having mentioned the website, that we have the buy online feature which can help the Society's funds at no extra cost to you. Do take a look: www.wimbornechoralsociety.org.uk

Forthcoming Programme:	Sat 12 th December 2009	Mendelssohn	'Elijah'
	Sat 27 th March 2010	Mozart Haydn	'Requiem' 'Nelson Mass'
	Sat 26 th June 2010	Vivaldi Holst Vierne Other tbc	'Gloria' 'Two Psalms' 'Messe Solonelle'
Other Dates for your Diary:	Fri. 11 th Dec 2009	RNIB Carols Dolphin Centre 11.30am	
	Date Tbc	Save the Children Carols on the Green	
	Date tbc	Sing Hallelujah!	
	Sat 16 th Jan 2010	New Year Dinner	

Other events: For details of **Wimborne Music Society and Wessex Singers** concerts visit wimbornemusicsociety.org.uk, or contact Chris in person or on christopher@joyofmusic.co.uk or **01202 882083**

It just remains for me to thank everyone, Friends of Wimborne Choral Society, the Committee, Chris and all of you for your support and loyalty in making this another happy and successful year.

And finally.....

<i>A few musical definitions.....</i>	A Patella:	Accompanied by knee slapping
	Approximatura:	Series of notes not intended by composer but sung with 'I meant to do that' attitude.
	Approximento:	Musical entrance somewhere in vicinity of the correct pitch.
	Gregorian Champ	Title held by monk who can hold a note the longest.
	Placebo Domingo	A Faux tenor

And a last piece of advice..... When everyone else has finished singing, do not sing any notes which you may have left!

Happy Singing!

Marion