



Autumn Newsletter September 2017

Dear choir members past, present and future,

Since our successful showing at the Leith Hill Music Festival back in April, when we broke Mickleham's eight year run as holders of the coveted Holmbury St Mary egg, we've had a busy summer:

- We had a strong showing at Shalford village fete in June, achieving some good publicity and raising a healthy £88.50 for choir funds.
- Gareth's Playathon event at St Mary's Church was a resounding success. In addition to a fabulous 10 hours of music, and raising more than £1,000 for the choir, we also made a significant donation to St Mary's Church and raised the profile of the choir. Thanks to Gareth and to the organising committee who put in so much work to make this a success.
- Finally, many thanks to Sally Cole for hosting a successful Garden Party. We all enjoyed the outstanding hospitality, despite the miserable weather.

Autumn Term

Following on from his success last season, Gareth Giles will be returning this year as our Musical Director. Rehearsals will alternate between having an accompanist and being conducted with Gareth at the piano.

Rehearsals will run from 7:15 to 9:45. This is a 15 minute earlier start than previously, so Gareth understands that some people (including me) are likely to be coming in a little late. Exceptions are:

- Tuesday 24th October – Rehearsal ends at 9pm
- Tuesday 31st October – No rehearsal

Once again, our Christmas concert this year will be held jointly with pupils from Tillingbourne School. We will therefore be inviting the parents of those children to join us.

A new term will mean new members and, with that in mind, I'd encourage all existing members to do all they can to make the evening welcoming for potential newcomers. We will:

- Have 15 minutes at the beginning of the first rehearsal to welcome new faces and catch up with friends – as well as sort out this year's music.
- Use name badges to help everyone to remember names.
- Have tea/coffee and biscuits at the interval.
- I'm also intending to invite everyone for a drink in the Seahorse after the rehearsal, so I hope you'll all be able to join us for that.

Dates for your Diary

First Rehearsal	12th September 2017
Christmas Concert	12th December 2017 (Tuesday)
LHMF Combined Rehearsals	20th January (Saturday) 24th February (Saturday) 24th March (Saturday)
LHMF Competition (Red Division)	14th April 2018 (Saturday)

Leith Hill Music Festival

Next year, the divisions have been re-balanced and we will be competing in Red Division against Epsom, Oxshott and Capel. I hope you'll all be joining me on Saturday April 14th 2018 when we will be performing:

Main Works	Vaughan Williams – Five Mystical Songs John Rutter – Mass of the Children
Madrigal	Stephen Chatman – Golden slumber kiss your eyes
Upper Voices	Janet Wheeler – The Deadwood Stage
Lower Voices	Arnold Foster – O Sally, my dear
Part Song	Bob Chilcott – The Lily and the Rose
Ensemble	Purcell – O God, the King of Glory
Own Choice	To Be Confirmed

Fees

The membership fee for 2017/18 will remain unchanged at £180. This includes the fees for hire of sheet music and entry to the Leith Hill Music Festival. Members may divide this into three equal monthly payments of £60. This can be done by post-dated cheque, although the simplest way to do this is by standing order to the choir's Barclays bank account:

Sort Code 20-35-35

Account Number: 80824992

Please use a payment reference (e.g. name or initials) that Jane can use to assign the payment to the correct person.

As a charity, one of our objectives is to advance the practice of choral music in the Shalford area. The committee, as trustees of the charity, have therefore established a fund to provide support with fees for any member or potential member who would otherwise be prevented from joining the choir. Please contact Jane or another committee member for further information.

Committee

Please don't hesitate to approach a member of the committee with any questions or feedback. We are:

Robert Lowe (Chairman) rel@rel.org; 07801 730711

Robert Abrams (Secretary and LHMF Rep) secretary@shalfordchoralsociety.org.uk; 07510 196157

Jane Robertson (Treasurer)

Beth Hashemi (Minutes Secretary)

Katrina Jenkins (Friends Secretary and Vice Chair)

Jenny Potter

Non-committee roles are as follows:

Jackie Fraser (Librarian)

Sally Cole (Social Secretary)

I look forward to seeing you all – old friends and new – in the new term.

