



FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER CHORAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER NUMBER 13 ... 6th September 2012

Dear Friend

It seems an age since the last newsletter; indeed it's almost six months and my, how the months have flown, so much having intervened! So before looking forward to forthcoming music, a moment of retrospection may be in order.

Since I last wrote, one of our long-standing Friends, Miss Armored Greengrass, passed away. To lose a friend is akin to losing a member of one's family and she will, I'm sure, be remembered with much kindness.

The Elijah concert was an outstanding success in June. Last Tuesday at the RCS rehearsal, Roger Sayer pleased us all with his warm assessment. Praise from him has to be earned and Friends who either attended or took part will have sensed his appreciation.

The next concert, on 3rd November, will be even more exciting, coming in the year of the Queen's Jubilee. Opinions may vary but I think it fitting that it should contain music of the 20th and 21st centuries. As you know, the RCS has been singing the music of living composers ever since 1873 and 2012 is no exception. The concert, imaginatively entitled "Jubilation" contains many favourites, as well as a World Première and a UK Première, the latter being conducted by its American composer, Patrick Hawes. I do urge you to attend what I promise will be a memorable and pleasant experience.

I enclose a concert flier and the RCS Programme for 2012-13 for all Friends who are not active members (and are therefore unable to pick up copies at rehearsals). To save time, I have printed some of these from my computer and they are also available on-line. As usual, I include the relevant page from the Website, which Dan Soper created and which Mary Burslem maintains so well.

The Christmas concert is "on" again this year, on Saturday 1st December. It will be in the Corn Exchange, courtesy of Medway Council. Our first concert was in the Old Corn Exchange, on 8th December 1873, when we were the "Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Strood Choral Society" (in effect "Medway", taking Rainham as part of Gillingham). Please try and come and don't be put off by my being asked to read one of my "pomes" again. And the concert on 6th July 2013 is at the St George's Centre, also in conjunction with Medway Council, thus recognising the part we still play in the community.

Finally, may I remind you that subs, due on 1st October, are Annual £30 (solo) and £50 (duet) or Life £300 and £450 respectively, payable through Chris Clemence or me.

With best wishes for the 2012-2013 season.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm

Saturday 3rd November 2012, 7 pm *Rochester Cathedral*

JUBILATION CONCERT

Copland: Fanfare for the Common Man

Parry: I was Glad

Barber: Adagio for Strings

Hawes: Te Deum **U.K. Premiere**

Parry: Blest Pair of Sirens

Briggs: Mosaïque - Sonata for Organ Duet **World Premiere**

Roger Sayer and Charles Andrews, Organists

Walton: Coronation Te Deum

Conducted by Roger Sayer and Patrick Hawes

Tickets: £18 (front of nave), £14 (rear of nave), £7 (unreserved - mostly in aisles), £3 (for school children and students in full-time education - any seat). RCS Friends save £5 off the front-nave seats and £3 off any other.

Buy your tickets online!

Please contact Rosemary Clemence - email: tickets@rochesterchoral.co.uk or telephone: 01634 401049 - for tickets.

Saturday 1st December 2012, 7.30 pm *Corn Exchange, High Street, Rochester*

DICKENS FESTIVAL CAROL CONCERT

Conducted by Gavin Williams

Tickets: £5 (accompanying children, free)

Saturday 13th April 2013, 7 pm *Rochester Cathedral*

Berlioz Te Deum

Rheinberger: Organ Concerto no.2 in G Minor

With the Rochester Sinfonietta

Conducted by Roger Sayer

Saturday 6th July 2013, 7 pm

Verdi Requiem (with guest singers) *St George's Centre, Chatham Maritime*

Directed by Roger Sayer