

CHORUS

The Winchester Community Choir *newsletter*

Issue 1, October 2007

Welcome to your newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of CHORUS, Winchester Community Choir's new *newsletter*. We hope to email CHORUS out to all members approximately once a term. If you don't have email a *few* copies will be printed, but only for those members who can't read it electronically!

Welcome also to all our new members, we're delighted to have you with us and hope you enjoy your time with Winchester Community Choir!



And thanks once again to Freya and Sarah, our lovely leaders..

Help Needed

...with images for newsletter and website. If you (or a friend) have a talent in that direction we'd love your pictures of the Choir. Please email to mirandajohnson@btinternet.com saying where and when taken. Thanks.

Preview..

The Winchester Passion

As you know, the organiser of the Winchester Passion came to our "Summer Serenade" concert and asked us to sing *Keep You in Peace* at the launch of the Passion in Winchester Cathedral on 30 Sept. What an amazing experience – singing in front of 1,000 people and in such a

glorious venue. Everyone said we sounded great – well done. The Choir will be singing at the Passion itself next Easter. Watch this space!

The Goose is getting fat!

We hate to say this but... Christmas is coming! Although it's some way off, we are, as you know, preparing for our Christmas concert with Alton Community Choir, which will be on 11 December at the United Church, Jewry Street. More details will be forthcoming over the next few weeks but please remember that it is up to us all, as Choir members, to sell as many tickets as possible. If we each sold 2 tickets, the church would be full. It's as simple as that. So see whom amongst your friends or family you can bring along to hear us sing our Christmas hearts out.



Other Christmas Sing-outs

Other Christmas dates have been discussed and it's been decided to accept MacMillan Cancer Support's request that we again sing for their Tree Of Thought ceremony on 15 November (location tbc). This is the evening before Winchester's Christmas lights are turned on. If you

have an electric candle from last year, please bring (with battery).

Later in the season, on Sunday 9 December, we have a hugely exciting chance to sing in Romsey Abbey in a concert that will be broadcast on Radio Solent on Christmas Eve. We have also been given the chance to rebook our slot at the Cathedral's Christmas market (date tbc).



Choir Colours

We thought it might be useful for new (and not so new) members to be reminded what to wear for our sing-outs this autumn.

The choir's performance dress code is smart casual. Colours are black, and sea colours - i.e. anything from [sea blue](#), through [aquamarine](#), [turquoise](#) and [jade](#) to [sea green](#)

Bottom half black; top half either sea colours or black (with a touch of sea colour - scarf, jewellery, tie, etc. - if you want it). Fabrics should be plain, not patterned. A bit of sheen/sparkle can look good under lights.

Review. .

Summer Serenade

Those of us who sang at this concert on 10 July will remember how fantastic the evening was. What you may not know is we raised £570 for the NSPCC, which was Mary Gray's favourite charity. We had a full house, with people queuing outside the

church before the performance to get in! Joining us on stage that evening were The Tabbush Sisters, Steve Jordan, Sarah Morgan, Carolyn Robson and Paul Tabbush. Their wonderfully varied vocal and instrumental talents complimented the Choir's repertoire and later, standing at the door with the collection buckets, we saw only smiling faces leaving the concert that night. Well done to all.

ChoirFest

A number of WCC singers joined with members from Andover, Alton Guildford and Brighton community choirs, for ChoirFest on 1-2 Sept. We sang throughout both days, our efforts only punctuated by lunch breaks, a barbeque and ceilidh, music round the campfire and (very little) sleep. The weekend culminated in singing all we'd learned from the bandstand in Alton Park to a small but appreciative audience - thanks to Sarah, Freya, Carolyn, Paul and Anna!



Finally. .

..congratulations to Gavin who got married in the summer - our first wedding! But tell us, Gavin, has Laura heard you sing?

This newsletter is edited for Winchester Community Choir by Miranda Johnson and Catherine Hahn. If you have photographs we can use in the next issue please email them to mirandajohnson@btinternet.com. Suggestions for stories should not be emailed direct. Please discuss beforehand with Catherine or Miranda at the next Choir session.