



CAPELETTA

No 2 December 1989

Editorial

This second edition of the Capel Newsletter has taken longer to arrive than I intended - the Autumn is always a very busy time for myself and Gill as our other interests tend to compete for our time-like organising a car rally which starts in Bournemouth

Anyway, thank you for your kind comments about my first effort. You didn't exactly overwhelm me with ideas for a name for the newsletter though. In fact I only had one suggestion, from Alan Smallwood, and I've used it for this edition. Which reminds me that I promised a small prize for the winning suggestion.

As I said in Newsletter No 1, I shall be happy to print any article that is given to me - anything from a paragraph to one side of A4 will be very welcome.

Car Stickers

In order to promote the Choral Society, and try to attract more members, I suggested to the Committee a little while ago that we look into the possibility of having some car stickers produced - something like "COME AND SING WITH CAPEL CHORAL SOCIETY". The initial outlay may be appreciable, so we would probably have to sell them to choir members. I would welcome your ideas on the subject.

New Members

We have had quite an influx of new members this season. A warm welcome is extended to:

Judith Taylor, Vera Kitchin, Pam Langley, Stephanie Conaley, Jill Owner, Francis McElwaine, Joanne Trovey, Alison Roberts, and Ian Harrison (very welcome!).

LHMF AGM 20th October 1989

The overall mood of the Meeting was one of optimism, due, to a large extent, to the success of the 1989 Festival. The Box Office takings at Dorking Halls were up some 40% compared to 1988, the Advanced Division sang to a 93% full hall, and the St Matthew Passion was a 'sell-out'. The choirs had made a big contribution to ticket sales, selling 2.27 per member, compared with 1.21 in 1988. The general opinion was that the choice of music had had a lot to do with the success.

We must not rest on our laurels, however! The profit of about £5800 for the year was due largely to sponsorship of the St Matthew by the John Lewis Partnership, and some generous donations, and in order to try and keep the Festival on a stable financial footing, a committee is to be formed to consider the whole question of obtaining corporate

sponsorship. However, it is still felt that personal contact is likely to be the most successful source of support - so if you are acquainted with any philanthropic millionaire businesspersons, put in a word for the LHMf! There was an appeal at the AGM for volunteers to serve on the Sponsorship Committee.

Continuing healthy income is very important also to the standard of our concerts - for example Bill Llewellyn is finding it increasingly difficult to attract good soloists with the funds available.

It has been suggested that the GWEN TANGLEY MUSIC FUND should be used to purchase a set of the Oxford Madrigal Book. There was some opposition to this at the AGM, both on the grounds of cost £6 - £7 even in paperback) and the fact that only some of the madrigals are suitable for four-part choirs. David Willcocks is attempting to obtain a discount from the OUP for us.

The COMMITTEE ELECTIONS produced the welcome news that Graham Aslett has agreed to stay on as Hon. Treasurer, but also the very sad news that Renee Stewart wishes to step down from the post of Hon. Secretary in the near future.

The choice of MUSIC for 1991 reflects three major anniversaries during the year - Mozart died in 1791, Sir Arthur Bliss was born in 1891, and Geoffrey Burgon will be 50 during 1991. The other Divisions get all the main 'anniversary music', however! We get the Russian Requiem by Pehkonen, and Vivaldi's Gloria.

Important Dates

In case you have mislaid your LHMf Schedule, or forgotten to put the dates in your diary, here are the main events after Christmas:

January: St John Passion rehearsals on Friday 5th and 19th at 8.0pm, and on Sunday 14th and 20th at 3.30pm.

Division I rehearsal on Monday 29th at 8.0pm.

February: St John Passion rehearsals on Friday 9th and 16th at 8.0pm, Friday 23rd at 7.30pm (7.0pm for children). Full rehearsal on Saturday 24th at 2.30pm, followed by the performance at 7.0pm.

March: Open Competition on Saturday 10th at 9.30am.
Division I rehearsal on Wednesday 28th at 8.0pm.

April: Division I Festival Day, Friday 20th.

Capel Dates

I'm sure you won't have forgotten the Christmas Dinner on 13th December - reserve you place now if you haven't already done so!

Then there's the Christmas Concert on 16th December - I hope our lungs won't be too restricted by all the over-eating on the 13th! A really full Hall would be great, so tell your friends what an enjoyable evening it will be. Tickets are available from Eileen Myall.

P.S.

Happy Christmas !!