



CAPELETTA

No 6, August 1992

Editor's Notes

Here we go again! The summer seems to be passing fast, and the start of the new Choir Season is nearly upon us, so I hope this Capeletta will remind you all to start exercising those vocal chords in preparation for the first practice on September 7th.

I must thank Tony Goddard and Alan Drake for their contributions to this Edition - it gets rather boring writing it all myself!

I would like to add my support to Tony's words - we should all make an extra effort in the coming months, to return Capel Choral to where it belongs, at the top of Division I. And as a struggling Tenor, I shall be delighted if any of you have been able to persuade some more men to join our ranks.

I look forward to meeting you all again on September 7th.

Ian Moir

From the Chair

As we look towards the new Season, I thought it would be a good time to write about a number of matters.

Although our results at the 1992 Leith Hill Festival were rather disappointing when compared to previous years, I believe they could easily be improved upon by enlisting some more Tenors and Basses to the Choir, so please encourage any potential singers to come to our first meeting - which will be fairly informal - on September 7th. Naturally new Sopranos and Altos will also be made welcome, but we really need more men! Please note that our Subscription will remain the same for 1992/93.

As you are probably aware, our Conductor, Alan Drake, is starting at a new school in September, but I am pleased to tell you that he is staying with Capel Choral and I hope that we can show him our support and enthusiasm by a regular commitment to rehearsals on Monday evenings.

Looking further ahead, the Village Hall Committee are holding an Autumn fair on October 10th, and it is hoped that the Choral Society can organise the tombola as we did last year. Therefore any offers of prizes and help on the day will be gratefully received.

By popular demand, we are planning another Christmas Concert with small orchestra in the Church this year which is to be held on Saturday 19th December. Our Christmas Dinner will be on December 14th at a venue still to be arranged.

I do hope you are looking forward to the coming Season and the challenge of new music for Christmas and the Festival, which should be very rewarding, particularly if we can increase our membership and all give our full commitment to rehearsals.

Tony Goddard

Music for the 1993 Leith Hill Festival

Full Chorus:	Mass in E minor I Was Glad Funeral Sentences	Anton Bruckner Hubert Parry Henry Purcell
Part Song:	White Flowering Days	Gerald Finzi
Ladies' Song:	Pluck ye Roses	Robert Schumann
Men's Song:	A Tall Story	Arthur Benjamin
Madrigal:	All Creatures Now	John Bennet
Quartet:	The Younge Child	Richard Rodney Bennett

Music Notes

The major work for the 1993 Leith Hill Festival is the Mass in E minor composed by Anton Bruckner in 1866 while he was organist at Linz Cathedral which is where the work had its first performance, under the composer's direction. Bruckner, like Brahms, has a 'seriousness' to his compositions and a considerable skill in choral writing, but, unlike Brahms, Bruckner's output is wholly symphonic and choral (and ecclesiastical at that). He remained an organist and choirmaster throughout his life and had a devout and profound Christian faith. Bruckner was also an ardent disciple of Wagner and, though many of his works are, like those of his Hero, massive and heroic in scale, they have a spirituality and a simplicity not to be found in Wagner.

Bruckner wrote two settings of the Mass; the more often performed F minor Mass and the present E minor setting, perhaps a finer piece, with the unusual accompaniment of wind and brass instruments only (shades perhaps of Bruckner's cathedral organ?). Bruckner sets the normal six sections of the Ordinary of the Mass and throughout the whole piece (which at 48 pages of vocal score is not over-long) there is much division of all parts, giving a greater richness and homophonic effect. The Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are particular examples of this acoustic.

Having just worked at the accessible and extrovert 'Carmina Burana' we have this year the opposite extreme of Germanic culture which does not immediately reveal its effect, yet even if at first it seems stolid by comparison, the Bruckner is very much worth the time and effort of rehearsal and performance.

Alan Drake

Capel Choral Society Committee

For the benefit of new members, and some not so new, the current Choir Committee consists of:

Chairman:	Tony Goddard
Secretary:	Eileen Myall
Treasurer:	Peter Carlton
Soprano Representative:	Pam Tangley
Alto Representative:	Judith Taylor
Tenor Representative:	Ian Lawrence
Bass Representative:	Derek Stedman
Press and Publicity:	Ian Moir
Conductor:	Alan Drake
Accompanist:	Anthea Smallwood