

Chair Summer Letter 2019

Dear all, as I write this, it is only 2 weeks before our first rehearsal of the Autumn Term 2019.

We had a very good Spring Term, with some 80 choir members at rehearsals, and over 70 at the Spring Concert. Sincere thanks to Michael for an enjoyable rehearsal schedule culminating in a highly successful performance of Haydn's Creation. The Review in the local paper was very complimentary.

Events:

The last term also included two very successful events; the Quiz Night in April, hosted by Karen, and then in early May, our Spring Fayre. Everyone pulled out all the stops to donate items for the tables, tirelessly manned by the volunteers on the day, and not forgetting the ladies on the tea/coffee bar!

Following the term end, during June, Sheila and Jill organised a lovely coffee morning, and the weather was kind. Then in July a few members participated in a service at All Saints' Church, Milford on Sea, commemorating the bicentenary of the death of Admiral Sir William Cornwallis.

Committee News: Viv Parsons intends to step down as Trustee and Committee member (Publicity) at the October AGM. The Committee is very grateful to Viv and David for their considerable hard work during the last 3 years. So I am looking for someone willing to take on this vitally important role. Viv has kindly offered to continue to manage our Website.

Looking ahead:

Concert 14th December: Michael has planned a very interesting concert programme. The Website contains details and practice files.

Choral Day 12 October: We are very fortunate that the composer of Wassail!, Alexander L'Estrange, has agreed to lead a Choral Workshop on Saturday 12th October at Milford on Sea Community Centre. Michael will also be leading an afternoon workshop. The details have already been publicised on the website, and booking forms will be available at the beginning of term. Please support this day, and we will be opening it out to other nearby societies.

French Choir visit May 2020: Looking further ahead we have invited the Vitré choir back for the concert on Saturday 30th May 2020. They will be staying over the weekend, and I will be asking for volunteers to help with the planning. Meanwhile, please note your diaries; those of you who went there last year will remember their outstanding hospitality, and I hope that many members will be willing to host our guests.

Finally, as next term is about to begin, new members are always welcome, and I would like to reiterate some words that Michael sent to the Committee during June: "Please use the success of the last concert to encourage anyone you think might like to join. Remember, the first two rehearsals of each session are 'open' with no obligation"

Looking forward to seeing everyone on 4th September.

Shirley Hewitt