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**Welcome!**...to the 43rd issue of **Update** - the newsletter for Cantores.

It's challenging to know what to say in each newsletter update as Cantores just goes from strength to strength!

Our new members have settled in well and have been initiated into our successful Spring and Proms Concerts.

Adrian continues to inspire us with his expertise and humour - I don't think I have ever laughed so much at rehearsals - at the appropriate times of course!

Wishing you a wonderful summer break and safe journeys if you are off to exotic destinations.

See you all in September.

**Trish Winter, Editor**

Summertime !



## AUTUMN REHEARSALS BEGIN

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at  
Lyninge School 7.30 p.m.

## CONGRATULATIONS



**To Melissa Connelly  
On the birth of her daughter  
Arwen Grace Connelly**

## Information

### Officers

Alison Hendy - Chairman &  
Website Editor  
07813071867

Jenny Raper - Secretary  
01233 503686

Janet Scott - Treasurer &  
Music Librarian  
01303 257927

### Committee

Trish Winter - Vice Chair  
Membership Secretary &  
Newsletter Editor  
01233 813860

Val Darnley - Publicity

Pete Raine - Accounts &  
Concert Stage Manager

Jane Reynolds - Concerts  
Manager

Angela Littlefield - Concert Dress

Refreshments & Folders -  
Roberta Draper

President: Jan Galbraith  
Vice President: Stuart Brown

*If you have any queries or  
concerns please speak to Trish  
Winter our Membership  
Secretary*

### Chair's Letter by Alison Hendy

As I write my first letter, I would like first of all to take the opportunity of thanking you all for electing me as your chair. It is an honour. I hope to fulfil your expectations of me, and will work hard to do so.

I am also aware of the very large shoes I have to fill - Maddy is not only a hard act to follow, but an impossible one. Fortunately the strong efficient committee remains largely in place, so I am sure with their support and Adrian's continuing excellent leadership, Cantores will continue to thrive and improve. We will all I am sure have a lot of fun singing together in the future.

July saw us once again producing our rousing version of the Proms. We sang to a full house, with many children enjoying themselves waving flags. The audience participation seems to go from strength to strength too, though I suspect the two bar intervals may be contributing to that!

We were able this month to support a family we met previously, as we sang at their wedding six years ago. Sadly we sang at a funeral this time - but it was much appreciated. We also have another wedding in Smarden church to look forward to in September.

Our final event of 2014/15 was a very enjoyable social evening, which was well supported by the usual array of food and drink contributions, as well as choir members. We would again like to thank Val Morrel for kindly hosting us. The weather was kind, so we very much enjoyed her garden.

Our autumn concert will feature Britten's St. Nicholas Cantata. This will provide challenge with some lively and intriguing sections. Pickled boys?! Again we look forward to Christmas music at Sibton Park.

Have a great summer break - see you again on September 9th.

## Proms Concert 4<sup>th</sup> July – by Stuart Hunnisett

Having only just rejoined Cantores after several years pursuing a variety of dramatic activities I was a little surprised to be asked by Trisha to compose a review of the 5<sup>th</sup> of July Proms Concert. I trust the following sums up the evening.

I love running jokes and Adrian's one about the Concert being a show of three halves was played out to the end, much to the delight of the audience and choir. Delight is perhaps also a suitable word to use in the context of the evening as the splendid audience of around 140 was clearly delighted with the evening's variety, execution and personal involvement.

Act I – European Sacred Music provided a serious tone at the start of the evening with multi-part choral singing in Latin, French and Russian. The quality of the performance supported the custom of re-visiting previously performed pieces to save valuable practice time and make excellent use of the hard earned skills gained at previous rehearsals and performances.

Getting an audience warmed up early in the evening helps guarantee successful participation at the final stages of a Prom, so adding the 'Saints Medley' was particularly suitable. The sparring match between the sides of the Hall, with 'Swing Low' and 'When the Saints', brought a brilliant response from the audience, made even better when they were blended together with a Canon treatment. The gospel spiritual section, interestingly introduced by Adrian and neatly performed, very capably rounded off the first 'Half'.

Act II – The 8 pieces that made up the second 'Half' took us from the Southern States of the USA starting with Yankee Doodle to Australia and back again to finally discover 'Is you is or is you Ain't my Baby? Personally I enjoyed Miss Otis Regrets the most (nice bit for the tenors) but how refreshing to sing those ever popular Aussie songs together, wrapped up in such a way that it seems they were actually made that way – a perfect end to the second of the three 'Halves' and a nice lead-in to a glass of the amber nectar (Sheila)!

The final half, although more predictable from an audience perspective, was suitably boisterous and fun for all. Angela's charming rendition of 'Summertime' continued the American theme, as did the very appropriate song from Oklahoma 'Oh, What a Beautiful Morning'. The audience was then dutifully brought back home with the 'Rose of England' and our concluding Prom favourites.

I have personally never, ever, come across a conductor who has rehearsed the audience in clapping and begging for an encore. Adrian carefully improved the volume and general excitement of the packed audience's applause such that our planned, music free, rendition of 'Goodnight Sweetheart' was delivered, it appeared, as a spontaneous end of concert audience treat, rather than a planned final number.

Our effervescent and multi-talented Musical Director was very ably supported by Doug Jacobs and Spencer Payne who not only accompanied us delightfully but added a great upbeat jazzy feel to many of the American pieces.

Proms 2015 was a great personal reintroduction to Cantores and I, like the appreciative audience, look forward to the next concert on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

## More News:

On the 30<sup>th</sup> June members of the choir sang at the funeral of Harrie Von Den Boomen, Emma's father-in law, having been invited because he loved the choir's singing at her wedding a few years earlier.

The beautiful church of St. Michael the Archangel, Smarden, resounded to our voices as we led the hymns and performed two anthems – Ave Maria (Schubert) arranged for choir with a solo voice for v2, and Amazing Grace, a lovely arrangement by Roger Marvin, who also directed and accompanied on the organ.

The large congregation was appreciative with many remarking on how professional we sounded.

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We will be singing at a wedding in Smarden Church on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

## Singing Tips - Sound-Making

### Starting, Maintaining and Finishing a Sound

A thoughtful hum...

Hum *mmm* as a siren up and down – it is probably sounding mainly in the throat.

Repeat, breathing in through the nose, then out with an *hhh* down the nose, starting quite high and falling (*hmmm*)

Feel the vibration of your nose-bone as you release.



# DATES FOR 2015/2016



## LYMINGE SCHOOL ~ WEDNESDAY REHEARSAL DATES

	<i>First day of term</i>	<i>Last day of term</i>
<b>2015</b>	Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> September Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> October Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>2016</b>	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> January Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> February Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> April Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> February Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> March Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> May Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> July

### REHEARSAL NOTE:

**July 2015: Please note the above dates going to press have NOT been released on Lyminge School website. They are taken from the general term dates for England and may change.**

If rehearsals are to be held during half terms these will be announced at rehearsals and information placed on our website.

### CONCERT DATES:

#### **2015 NOVEMBER**

Autumn Concert Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Sandgate Church 4 p.m.

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#### **DECEMBER**

Christmas Concert Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Sibton Park 7.30 p.m.

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#### **2016 MARCH**

Coffee Concert Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March United Reform Church Folkestone 11 a.m.

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#### **JULY**

Prom Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July Lyminge Village Hall 7 p.m.

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