

# Winter 2015 Issue 44

# Cantores

# Update

Members' newsletter

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**Welcome!**...to the 44th issue of **Update** - the newsletter for Cantores.

Fresh from our amazing autumn concert (my ears are still ringing from those drums!) – we are well into the festive season.

I always think that Christmas isn't same without our annual Sibton Park concert and I was certainly not disappointed again this year.

What a great team we all are.  
Thanks again to our talented MD Adrian who continues to stretch us to our full potential

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful and healthy New Year 2016.

**Trish Winter, Editor**



**Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow  
(please Santa!)**



**2016  
REHEARSALS BEGIN**

**Wednesday 6th January  
Lyminge School  
7.30 p.m.**

*Wishing Melissa Connelly a very  
speedy recovery and looking forward  
to seeing her very soon*

## 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  
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

Well, 2015/16 got off to a brilliant start. Having worked hard all term – we produced an excellent concert in November at Sandgate church. The singing of Faure's Cantique de Jean Racine, in support of Paris after the terrible events there, was very poignant. Having a string quartet and double bass as well as keyboard and organ, enabled us to provide an interesting and varied first half. However it was the second half where we really triumphed. With the additional support of three amazing percussionists – Britten's St. Nicholas Cantata proved a very exciting and amazing performance for us. When I think back a few years to when the choir nearly collapsed, and we were reduced to singing 'Polly put the kettle on', in my sitting room – I can't believe how far we have come. There are many people who have contributed to this progress – but it is all built on the hard work of every choir member. However inspiring the conductor is (and Adrian is pretty inspiring!) we cannot achieve anything much – unless the choir turn up, listen and work hard, every week. It's so important that we have fun doing it too. So well done to each and every one of you.

Some members of the choir sang at a wedding in Smarden and were complimented on how professional they were – and how well they pulled off a challenging piece. The local organist was very impressed. Thank you to those of you who represented the choir.

We again look forward to some lively carols in the glorious and seasonal setting of Sibton Park. In addition we have received a number of invitations for additional concerts next year – it seems we are developing a reputation locally of offering something more than the run of the mill choral society concerts. Although we sing to enjoy ourselves – it is good news that we provide good entertainment for others too.

Finally may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas, and a peaceful and successful 2016.



## Autumn Concert 14<sup>th</sup> November – by

Annette Jewell

Being one of the new girls, I was fully occupied trying to remember the music and calm my nerves so when Trish asked me to write a little article about the night as well, I had more than a moment of panic.

We couldn't have asked for a worse night weather wise! It was dark, wet and surprising cold and the air full of sadness following on from the atrocities that had occurred in Paris.

However, that was all momentarily held in abeyance when the concert began.

We started by singing a Cantique de Jean Racine as a symbol of respect and remembrance which led into the first half of the programme. Beatus Vir (according to Adrian) is one of the choir's party pieces, I still struggle a little with it, but recognise that together the sound made is rather special and the audience thoroughly enjoyed it.

We were accompanied by 10 superb musicians, who effortlessly raised our performance to the next level.

Thanks must be given to all those that provided the interval refreshments. It was quite hard not to keep going around the table for seconds, I managed a little self control. Some didn't, but I'll keep names to myself.

To me the highlight was St Nicholas Cantata. I love Adrian's enthusiasm when introducing us to new pieces of music and confess that I often find myself humming small snippets from Benjamin Britten's Cantata.

The tenor Nicholas Todd, was aptly cast as Nicholas and we were all swooning a little as he sang. The 'pickled boys' all brought a smile to our faces and the reaction of the packed audience was the icing on the cake.

To me it was a memorable night and left me on such a high and looking forward to our next concert.



## Sibton Carol Concert - by Pete Raine

### ...and the enderes camels were holpen at Sibton Park

1618 wasn't a particularly notable year. There was the defenestration of Prague, the execution of Sir Walter Raleigh, and that was about it. Apart from the construction of the Great Hall in Sibton Park, that is, probably the finest Jacobean room in East Kent and now a regular venue for the Cantores Christmas carol concert.

And so it was this year too. Certain things have become traditional – the packed audience, the rising temperature, the creaking of arthritic knees during the 12 Days of Christmas, Adrian's Christmas joke, and the rhythmical snoring of the people on the comfy sofas at the back. And certain things are new each year – new carols like 'O Queen of Heaven' or 'As I outrode this enderes night' (small prize for anyone who can find out the meaning of the word *enderes*, by the way); new people in the audience; and of course new choir members since Cantores seems to be growing and growing.

All in all, Christmas wouldn't be the same without the Sibton Park concert, and a great evening was had by all. And thanks to Alison for the mulled wine afterwards!

**DON'T FORGET THE CHOIR'S SOCIAL GET TOGETHER  
SATURDAY JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>  
7 P.M. AT ALISON'S**



# DATES FOR 2016



## LYMINGE SCHOOL ~ WEDNESDAY REHEARSAL DATES

### *First day of term*

### *Last day of term*

**2016** Wed 6<sup>th</sup> January  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> February  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> June  
**Restart:** Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Sept

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> February  
Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> May  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> July

### **REHEARSAL NOTE:**

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

## **2016 CONCERT DATES:**

### **12 MARCH**

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

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### **2 JULY**

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

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**Autumn & Carol Concerts to be announced**