



Whitehall Choir Committee Action Points

Meeting held on 30 April at 100 Parliament Street at 6.30 pm

Present: Jonathan Williams (Chair), Patrick Houghton (Treasurer), Liz Walton (Secretary), Rose Chandler (Librarian), Ruth Eastman (Publicity), Richard Grafen (Webmaster), , Katherine Herzberg (Ticket Management) Martin Humphreys (Publicity), Ben Nichols (Tenor Rep), Rachel Nixon (Publicity and programmes), Penny Prior (Ticket Management), Malcolm Todd (Bass Rep), Alison Williams (Alto Rep),

Apologies: Laurie Grace (Librarian), Kate Goulden (Soprano Rep) Paul Spicer

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Apologies	Laurie Grace and Kate Goulden	
2. Minutes of last meeting	Agreed subject to minor typos	RN to amend
3. Rossini Concert St Peters Eaton Square 26 June	<p>1. Arrangements: PH had visited and spoken to Olivia Reed parish administrator. Issues were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) arrangements for choir to sit during solo sections, there were only 30 chairs, so part of choir would need to sit on altar steps and possibly on pews at side. b) Need to check that parish room at back of church could be used by choir for changing <p>2. Publicity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) RE circulated draft flyer which subject to minor adjustment to spacing on back was agreed and the design commended. Effort should be made to ensure it was available for the Brahms Workshop. Notices of the concert would also be placed in Concert diary in national papers, on My Music, and if possible in the St Pancras local paper. (b) The church was happy for both A4 and A3 posters to be put up immediately and a banner outside from 1 June. <p>3. Tickets: would be available in 2 weeks time</p>	<p>PH to discuss with Philip Pratley</p> <p>LW to contact church to confirm</p> <p>MH to liaise with David Rawlins re printing</p> <p>MH to arrange printing and delivery of posters and banner</p>
4. Review of Israel in Egypt St Johns 23 March	PS had already commented very positively on the choir's performance. PH still had no final audience figures from St Johns but expected the figures to closely mirror budget forecasts for the concert. It was regretted that the audience had not been even larger than it was. Comment was made that a weekday other than Friday might attract more people.	LW to note possibility of non-Friday fixtures for future concert bookings
5. Brahms Workshop 12 May	JW reported that about 40 tickets had been sold to none choir members and we should aim for a total of at least 100 singers including Whitehall. More flyers needed to be printed and distributed. The choir catering 'corps' needed to be organised to provide teas and coffees and the choir asked to bring cakes as well as the orchestra.	<p>MH to arrange for David Rawlins to print additional flyers</p> <p>JW to ask for catering helpers at next rehearsal</p>
6 Budget Update	Subject to expected final figures for the St Johns concert PH reported that we were on budget. He hoped that there would no need for a subscriptions increase next year	
7 Concert programme 2013 - 2014	The venue for the summer concert was still not decided. LW had contacted the Banqueting House (BH) who had pencilled in Monday July 2 for Whitehall. However tickets for choir members would be £25 and for those buying direct from BH they would be £30. This was considered too high and LW was asked to go back to BH and see if they were willing to offer alternative options at a lower price including the choir hosting a drinks party after the concert. Alternative venues might be St James Piccadilly St Mary Le Bow or St Peters Eaton Square (depending on how successful the summer 2012 concert proved to be. The current suggested repertoire may need to be reviewed in the light of final venue.	LW to go back to Banqueting House
8 ideas for future special events	a) new commission There was further discussion on the merits of commissioning a new piece to commemorate the choir's 70 th anniversary. PS pointed out that the cost of using a well established composer would probably be prohibitive. BN suggested the possibility of running a competition for young composers through	Planning of these possible events would be taken forward urgently by JW, BN and others after the Brahms workshop together with the

	<p>music colleges departments and conservatoires. He agreed to look into developing a structure for the competition based on a piece for performance around Easter 2013. The competition could be funded through the Jubilee fund</p> <p>b) recording another CD PS felt that it would be beneficial for the choir to work towards another recording possibility of Easter music (This could also include the winning piece from the competition as an extra draw for attracting entries). There were budget considerations although the last recording had not required a cross subsidy from the Jubilee Fund because of choir members subscribing in advance to purchase of CDs</p> <p>c) choir tour: BN had looked into the possibility of singing at Oxbridge colleges but had concluded that it was not totally practical. It was suggested that a weekend within commuting distance of London (so that overnight stays were not absolutely necessary) might be the most attractive option to choir members. Possible venues might be St Cross Hospital Winchester, Romsey Abbey or Dorchester Abbey. The only weekend PS was available was 22/23 June 2013.</p>	<p>budget implications and use of Jubilee Fund(PP). Decisions on options should be made in time for discussion at the AGM on 10 July</p>
9 AGM 10 July and committee nominations	<p>RC explained that Mark Graver had agreed to stand as librarian. The committee thanked Rose on behalf of the whole choir for all the work she had done as librarian over recent years.</p> <p>MT announced that he was standing down as Bass rep but had found a replacement. BN said he would be happy to stand down as tenor rep as there was someone else interested in the post. It was agreed however that BN could be co-opted on to the committee to develop and manage special projects, given his wide range of useful choral contacts. All other members of the committee were willing to re-stand.</p>	
10 Committee meetings	<p>The next committee meeting was on 18 June at 100 Parliament Street and the AGM at St Stephens on 10 July. Dates for the autumn term forward would be circulated</p>	LW to circulate future dates
11 AOB	<p>July Workshop: Ghislaine Morgan had agreed to run a choral technique workshop on 3 July using European Sacred Music. It was agreed her fee should come from the Jubilee Fund</p>	PP to refer fee to other Jubilee Trustee