

Rob's Review



Happy
Christmas



St Edmundsbury
Male Voice Choir

2018

Issue 6

Concert at St John's Church, Bury St Edmunds Saturday 17 November 2018



A packed St John's Church ensured our concert was a rip-roaring success. For the first time we were singing with Lift, the choir from West Suffolk Hospital. Their programme, sung with verve and enthusiasm, included golden oldies such as *California Dreamin* and *Perfect Day* as well as more modern pieces such as *This is Me*. Lift's soloists included Saffron Wilkinson (aged 8) and Laura Crutchlow (aged 13) as well as Rachel Ni and their Musical Director, Dr Phillipa Lawson.

SEMVC chose a traditional first half finishing with *Amen* and then enthralled the lively audience with a modern selection, concluding with what is sure to become a choir classic, Elbow's *One Day Like This*. The concert finished with the choirs combining for a rendition of *You Raise Me Up*.

Organiser Ivor Thulborn wishes to thank all those who helped with the concert. Over £1,000 has been raised for Every Heart Matters, a fundraising campaign launched by the My Wish charity at the hospital to help finance the new cardiac unit. A presentation to the charity will be made in the New Year.

Ivor T, Concert Secretary

What a busy year we had in 2018!

A quick reminder of most events:-

- 30th Anniversary Dinner
- Concerts in King's Lynn, Barton Mills, Colchester, Ipswich, BSE, Newmarket, Dunstable, Nowton Park, Elmswell, Kedington, Haverhill, BSE
- Visit from our friends the MGV 1865 Werdorf e.V. and Allegro
- Sing at Suffolk Show
- 2018 Tour to Telford and Aberystwyth with concerts in Wolverhampton, Llanfyllin and Aberystwyth
- Stay-in-touch social activities in the summer break

Phew!!

It is with sadness that we report the recent deaths of two members of SEMVC who had been part of the choir in its early days. Full tributes to them will appear in the next issue of Review.

Mike Mason (Bass), 1937 - 30 November 2018

Terry Mills (Bass), 1927 - 8 December 2018

Condolences are sent to their widows and families.

Bury St Edmunds Christmas Fayre Saturday 24 November



Many of us managed a 10:00 a.m. start at the Bury Fayre which for some also included breakfast at Wetherspoons. We were well received by quite a large audience, many of whom stayed for several songs. We featured in the following week's Bury Free Press with a star position taken by new choir member Robert Lamb (Baritone).

Carols and Chips night was held on Thursday 20 December at Bury St Edmunds Rugby Club - lively and festive singing. More details in the next issue.

The Chairman and Committee of SEMVC thank all those who have played their part in making this a successful choir.

We wish you a Happy Christmas and look forward to another year of good singing and friendship.

Rehearsals resume in Howard Primary School on Thursday 3 January 2019

St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir (Registered Charity No. 1028123)

Patron: The Rt. Hon The Earl of Iveagh. President: Paul Deane, Vice Presidents: John Balaam, Dr John Meers

The Ladies of SEMVC

After the Welsh tour, Wendy Pott and I were asked if we wanted to start a Ladies Group. We all support the choir at concerts, make teas and coffees for rehearsals, sell tickets etc but we don't do much for ourselves as a group. So, we started with four coffee sessions at my house and discussed what we might do. A lot of suggestions came up – a theatre visit, a pub lunch, coffee mornings, a garden centre visit, exhibitions, visit to National Trust properties, a cinema or concert trip. The list could become endless!



Pat Fuller led two groups for our first event. In Fornham St Martin Village Hall on 23 November and 4 December she taught us how to make our own Christmas wreaths. The amount of greenery that appeared was amazing and the results were equally so. I know we all went home feeling we had achieved a wonderful result, as can be seen in the photograph. The Ladies were very keen for Pat to teach us about flower arranging in 2019. If any other Ladies would like to join us, please get in touch with me or Wendy Pott. 2019 will be a very good year for us all.
Helen Bray

Annual Dinner

Friday 25 January 2019
Bury St Edmunds Golf Club
Tut Hill, 7.00 for 7.30 pm



At 22 December, 103 of a possible 120 places have been booked. Please note the closing date for this event is **Thursday 10 January**.

The Golf Club have provided an excellent menu with a number of choices. The taste of haggis is optional!



Don't forget to wear something Scottish, if possible.

Contact Ian Robertson (Concert Manager) to book your place.

Dates for your Diary

2019

Th 3 January - Rehearsals resume

F 25 January - Annual Dinner, BSE Golf Club, Tut Hill

Sa 23 March - Three Choirs Festival, Southwell Minster, NG25 0HD with Mansfield and Bestwood MVCs

Tu 2 - M 8 April - Liverpool & Isle of Man tour, *tbc*

Th 25 - M 29 April - Les Canards Sauvages visit SEMVC

W 1 - Sa 4 May - Sing at West Suffolk Beer Festival, Apex, BSE, *tbc*

Sa 8 June - Sing at wedding reception (private event)

Sa 6 July - Concert with the Jubilee Singers, Stowmarket United Reform Church, IP14 1AD

Tour in 2019

Tuesday 2 - Monday 8 April
Liverpool and Isle of Man

The preparations for the choir's tour to Liverpool and the Isle of Man are progressing very well. We have accommodation booked at the Holiday Inn, Lime Street, Liverpool and the Comis Mount Murray, Santon, near Douglas, Isle of Man.



The Holiday Inn is located directly opposite Liverpool Lime Street Station and right next to St John's Shopping Centre. Liverpool ONE Shopping and Entertainment centre is a 5-minute walk away, with major city

attractions such as The Beatles Story, Albert Dock, Empire Theatre and World Museum all within walking distance from the hotel.

(www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/liverpool/lpls/hoteldetail)

The Mount Murray, set in 200 acres, 10 minutes from the airport and 5 minutes from Douglas, has only just been rebuilt following a serious fire and should provide an excellent base for the Isle of Man.

(www.comishotelandgolfresort.com)



Ivor has concerts planned and full details of these will be available early in the New Year.

To date, of the 80 places available, 60 of you have expressed interest. There's still time to join us.

SEMVC archive spot - 22 March 1988

Ivor T

Mike Voysey



Paul Deane

Within 8 weeks of formation, the membership was 35. Conductor Stephen Linden's aim was for 60-80 voices singing the traditional male voice repertoire. Rehearsals had concentrated on *Speed Your Journey*, *Farmer's Boy*, *There is Nothing Like a Dame* and a Welsh hymn sung in English.

Reports and pictures are most welcome, please.

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