

DRYBROOK & DISTRICT LADIES CHOIR

NEWSLETTER MICHAELMAS 2017

DIARY DATES:

SAT 4th NOV 12noon Dora Matthews House Coleford to sing for an hour at Xmas Fayre

SAT 11th NOV 11am Festive Fayre in the Bandroom: Stalls and good food

SAT 2nd DEC 8pm Drybrook RFC to sing for ½ hour for Breast cancer

SAT 9th DEC 2pm Dean Neurological Centre, Longford: to sing Christmas Carols and songs for the residents and staff. A coach will be organised – times tbc.

WEDS 13th DEC 7.15pm Holy Trinity Church Drybrook, Christmas Concert with Drybrook MVC, Cinderford Band & Kevin White compere

SAT 16th DEC 12noon Co-op Cinderford to sing Christmas Carols and songs for an hour or so.

MON 18th DEC 2pm The Old Rectory Longhope to sing for the residents and then
3.15pm Forest Court Nursing Home Mitcheldean

WEDS 20th DEC 2pm Westbury Court Nursing Home tbc

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WEDS 10th JAN 7pm Rehearsals begin in the Bandroom

Dear Girls,

I am a bit late for Michaelmas – the feast of St. Michael which falls on the 29th September - but hey, better late than never. I am writing this on a typical autumn blustery day with colourful leaves swirling around the roadsides, the last of the green leaves hanging on the trees for dear life and the odd sharp spatter of cold rain threatening to damp the washing down on the line. The swallows have flown, the harvest gathered in and Advent is looming. Welcome to Michaelmas!

We keep being told that singing in a group is good for our well being – physically, mentally and holistically and I reckon our group is as good as any in the district. Singing without copies is excellent for the memory and makes such a huge difference to our sound, so thanks to you for that decision.

We welcome two new singers to our choir – Emma Daly into the alto section and Nikkie Wells into the seconds. We are so grateful that you all decided to join our choir and we hope you enjoy singing with us.

There are a few new **DIARY DATES** so please, please enter them in to your diary now. We do understand illness but Linda and I get very disappointed when loads of people drop out of a commitment after promising to be there.

If you cannot attend any practise session, please let Miriam (01594 541112) or Barb (01594 542414) know as soon as possible. You can also send an email to me at barb.wright414@gmail.com

The updated Snowline has been distributed and it is very important to keep it handy. Each person delegated to ring others is responsible for letting their named colleagues know of any cancellation. We do not expect anyone to put their lives at risk travelling in adverse conditions. If I need to cancel rehearsal for any reason I will let you know by Tuesday evening, so those who work will be aware before Weds.

The profit from the National Assn. Of Choirs (NAC) Concert at Gloucester Cathedral last April amounted to **£3,166.26** which was shared between two local charities – Winston's Wish and Linc.

We have selected a date for the **Festive Fayre – SAT 11th November**, all donations gratefully received. As Wendy will not have her usual cake stall, we wondered if the other choir members could pitch in with a few cakes to make up a cake stall? Tombola, Raffle and White Elephant stalls as usual and, of course, the excellent food on offer!

UNIFORM: A reminder about the uniform - no excess 'bling' in your jewellery please, Black camisole or top, black trousers and shoes, black or nearly black stockings and the inevitable pink coat.

Just a reminder that we are now on 'Facebook' and our website is www.ddlc.org

REPORTS & REVIEWS

May English Bicknor Wedding: Lovely wedding and the bridesmaids were dancing whilst we sang! The bride loved the Abba songs.

June Dora Matthews House, Coleford: They are still talking about our visit to this residential establishment. They have asked us back to their Xmas Fayre on 4th November to sing again for residents and visitors. It's crucial for us to take our music to those who cannot come to hear us.

June Ruardean Church Concert: raising funds for Church was very well received. A last minute organised event so huge thanks to Paul Speed and his pupil Zak Vincent and to Kath Smith for her poetry. They raised over £340. Well done!

July Bursary Concert: we thought was one of the best ever. We had an appreciative audience, and it was great to hear how Lauren has thrived at music college. Special Thanks to Wendy for the fabulous cake. Amazing decoration! We send Jack on his way with his award and look forward to next year's Bursary which may be given in a different way. Watch this space!

July AGM: There were 17 absentees at the AGM this year, so Linda Speed has suggested that it be held earlier in the year. Our new Chairman: Christine Televantos, Treasurer: Barb Bevan and Secretary: Teresa Roach. The committee next meet 8.30pm on the 23rd October, after rehearsal.

Sept. Concert for Cancer at St. Stephens Cinderford: with the Ukulele Band and a ploughman's supper. We were a very depleted choir with so many on holiday and sick, but we had a good balance of sound and gave a good performance.

Oct. Ruardean Hill Baptist Church: Harvest concert raising funds for Operation Agri. with Mathern Male Voice Choir and ploughman's. Thanks from the Chapel; £122 raised.

We've had quite a busy summer, so now we can look forward to Christmas!! Love it!

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