

WORRALL MALE VOICE CHOIR

(Registered Charity No. 515038)

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2016

What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time the Choir Diary Sheet was looking very thin with few concerts planned. This year the diary is quite full and we are struggling to find space for new requests and fit in all the things we want to do.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Monday 22nd February and the newly elected Committee is as follows:-

Chairman - Mark Rotchell.

Secretary - Ian Pasley.

Treasurer - John Adamson.

PRO & Social Secretary - Hugh Prewett

Librarian - Alan Barber.

Committee Member - Frank Street

Committee Member - Peter Revitt

Committee Member - David Atkinson.

Committee Member - Terry Else

Committee Member - Lewis Atkinson.

Committee Member - Martin Price.

Our first concert this year is on Saturday 23rd April at Christchurch, Stocksbridge when we join Bolsterstone MVC and Stocksbridge Junior School Choir. On Saturday 7th May we join Bolsterstone MVC again together with multi-instrumentalist Simeon Wood and Soprano Sean Voller in Sheffield Cathedral. I'm sure those who were at the concert at Sacred Heart a year or two ago will remember Simeon as a very talented entertainer.

If you recall from the last Newsletter I said I would have more details of the Men of Steel Concert with Lesley Garrett on Saturday 21st May. Sadly we have had to withdraw from this concert on financial grounds. On Saturday 24th September we are joined by Ecclesfield Handbell Ringers in Ecclesfield Church and on Friday 15th December we join with Bolsterstone MVC again and Chapelton Band for our Christmas Concert in Victoria Hall. On Saturday 16th December we are the guests on New Mill MVC to sing at their Christmas Concert in New Mill.

Just backtracking a little, in August 2015 we were stunned to find out that the Choir had been left a significant legacy by a follower of the Choir, David Hawksworth. David's hobby was

painting and many of you will have known, or have known of David as he could regularly be seen walking around the district with his satchel over his shoulder containing a sketch pad etc. should anything catch his eye that he considered worth painting. The majority of the legacy was in the form of a property, his family home at 7 Dixon Road Hillsborough. This was auctioned on 23rd February 2016 and raised a very substantial sum of money. David will never know what a fabulous gift he left to the Choir which hopefully should see us financially secure for the future. As a tribute to David, we are hoping to arrange a Memorial Charity Concert and to donate all the proceeds to a local cancer charity. Watch the press or visit our website for further details when the date is confirmed.

We received an invitation from Bolsterstone MVC for any member from WMVC to join them on a singing tour to Amsterdam in June and 12 members have accepted the invitation to take part. This will take the form of three concerts in three day in local churches and the tour will last 5 days.

We already have our first booking for 2017. Following the success of the joint Worrall MVC, Bolsterstone MVC and the Military WAGS Choir from Catterick, the WAGS have asked if both choirs would join them for a "Christmas Concert" on Saturday 7th January in St. Mary's Church Richmond. Both choirs were delighted to accept.

On a somewhat sadder note we have decided to close down the Friends Scheme from 1st January 2017. Due to the loss of members, the cost of running the scheme means that it is no longer viable. As the majority of Friends members have paid their subscription for 2016, they will still receive their free tickets for the Annual Christmas Concert this year. I will still write a Choir Newsletter which is published on the website but if anyone who doesn't have access to a computer would still like a copy, I am prepared to still send them out by post if you let me know you would like one. If I have your E Mail address I will also send you a copy via this route. We will gladly receive any donations to Choir funds should you wish to make one.

Our recruitment campaign for new members never ceases and we were very pleased to welcome two new members at the beginning of the year; Bill Skipworth and David Stevenson. It is heart warming to see that there are still people out there who want to keep the tradition of male choral singing alive. Any men in the area who enjoy singing and would like to have a go at choral singing with a very sociable bunch of blokes will be made more than welcome. No experience is necessary; it is your potential which counts. If you have a desire to sing but cannot read music, if the dots and lines on a page of music look like a foreign language to you, don't worry. You will

be taught by two excellent musicians in our M.D. Nigel and our Accompanist Steve who will help you develop that potential. If you are not sure what is involved and would like more information, why not give me a call on 0114 2344 374 or E - mail Secretary@worrallmvc.org.uk with your questions and I will try my best to answer them. Better still, why not come along and have a listen or have a sing. We would be delighted if you gave it a try. There are no voice tests and no firm commitment at this stage but we sincerely hope that you find it interesting enough to come to a Choir rehearsal and hopefully become a member of the Choir.

Due to the illness of a number of the stall helpers the Support Group does not have a Fayre organised for this year. Their Committee are due to meet shortly and I will let you have more information in the next Newsletter.

Do you shop on line? If so you might like to consider supporting the Choir financially without any cost to yourself by joining "easyfundraising". This is an easy way to raise funds for Worrall Male Voice Choir. You can shop at any of over 2,000 well known retailers listed on [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and a percentage of what you spend is passed to Worrall Male Voice Choir at no additional cost to you. Retailers include Amazon, M&S, Vodaphone, eBay, Tesco, Viking and many more. Please register today and support Worrall Male Voice Choir at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/worrallmalevoicechoir>

You can also help by making [easysearch.org.uk](http://www.easysearch.org.uk) your search engine and every search of the internet you do, easyfundraising will donate a halfpenny to Worrall Male Voice Choir.

If you are on E Mail and would like to help us cut down on the amount of paper we use you could receive the Newsletter electronically. Drop me an E Mail to Secretary@worrallmvc.org.uk and let me know if you would like to receive the Newsletter this way in future.

As usual, there is an up to date Diary Sheet with the Newsletter. We thank you once again for your continued support of the Choir and will be delighted to see you at any of the concerts or events listed. You can also now follow the Choir on Facebook.



Ian Pasley - Secretary Worrall Male Voice Choir.