

A Summer Message from EPMS Chairperson - August 2019

As the summer flies by and we start to turn our minds to the new season ahead, greetings to all choir members and friends! This somewhat belated summer newsletter is just to let you know what is in store for EPMS once the new season gets underway in September, only a couple of weeks away now.

As you know, the EPMS 2018-19 season was a fantastic year with two major concerts; the wonderful Nelson Mass by Haydn in December and then our hugely successful gala performance of Carmina Burana in April, in collaboration with The Barnby Choir. We also had a number of very successful social and fund-raising events, which made our Treasurer, Steve Williams, very happy (!) and meant that the overall financial picture at the end of the season is healthy, despite the huge cost of the Carmina Concert.

With that in mind, the first thing that I would like to tell you is that the EPMS Committee has decided that the annual subscription for this coming 2019-20 season will remain at the same level as last year, namely £100, and it can be paid in two parts if that is preferred.

During the summer the Committee has been pulling together a new programme of fund-raising and **social events** for the coming season, and we are keen to continue to use Trinity Methodist Church in Ellesmere Port as a venue, whenever possible. It is such a lovely space, the acoustics are good, and it enables us to present EPMS at the heart of the local community. So, a few dates for your diary up to Christmas:

- **Improve Your Sight Reading (Even More!): Saturday 28th September.** Following the success of and very positive feedback on this event last year, Lloyd has kindly offered to run a re-cap and follow-on workshop, again at Trinity Church. A flyer for this workshop is included with this email. We need to publicise this event as soon as possible, so please spread the word to your friends, other choirs and encourage people to sign up.
- **EPMS AGM: Monday 30th September.** This will be held after a short rehearsal on that Monday, providing an opportunity for a bit of socialising between choir members, and a welcome to new members, as well as addressing the formal matters required by the EPMS constitution. The AGM an important meeting when members vote on matters which are key to EPMS continued healthy existence – committee membership, financial stability and so on.
- **Wine tasting evening: Thursday 21st November,** hosted by Chester Beer and Wines. More details will be provided on this in due course, but if you are interested, put the date in your diary now and await further information!
- **Christmas Carol Concert and Social: Sat 14th December,** venue Trinity Church. There will be a dedicated carols rehearsal on the Monday after the December concert.

There are several other events in the pipeline for the Spring term, more of which in due course. And there are one or two other ideas to be announced at the beginning of the September term. We will of course have the usual pre-Christmas and Easter produce stalls, which always raise a good sum!!

Over the summer, Tom Rozario (Bass) has been doing some great work for the choir, with the aim of giving our 'branding' and publicity material a bit of a make over. To this end we now have a new EPMS Logo, which will be used on all our publicity material. (You can see the new logo on the Sight Reading Day flyer.)

The new season begins on Monday 2nd September, when we will start rehearsals for Handel's Messiah, the centrepiece of our December concert, which will take place on Sat 7th December.

Please also note that the attachments here, and more, are on www.epmsonline.co.uk.

And finally, with the Registrar hat on, I will be emailing everyone in the next week or so, just to confirm your details and let you know about payment methods for the annual subscriptions.

In the meantime, enjoy the rest of the summer.

Regards

Marian McCarthy
Chair, EPMS