

Minutes of the Chiltern Chamber Choir Committee Meeting - Thursday 6 June 2019

Present: Adrian Davis, Marie Brewer, Kater Perera, Kate Goodwin, Chris Sanders, Jane Wilde

Review of last concert (Zelenka, 14 April)

Musically judged to be a success. Adrian was pleased with the performance. The overall loss was approx £1100, which in the great scheme of the choir's finances is not too bad. Adrian has asked St Peter's if the church can give the choir some form of discount as at least 2 of our 3 concerts have traditionally been considered part of the liturgical programme of the church year. We await a reply.

2 members of a different Chiltern Choir were in the audience and very enthusiastic. Marie will ask if they would like to join us for the Lyon tour (provided they attend the important rehearsals).

We discussed whether Palm Sunday was a good day for a concert - as many working people prefer Saturday, but at present Adrian would like to keep Palm Sunday (with a view to a reduction from the church as above).

Forthcoming concert (15 June)

The minimal programme was thought to be a good solution this time. Jane to email to Marie and Adrian for comment.

We will keep the same configuration as for the Zelenka, with staging and with the men further forward.

Oliver Brown will be given £30 for his solo.

Floats for ticket sales - Kate Goodwin to provide.

The after party is open to the whole audience - Patricia Bandle, who is organising the party, is happy with this. People were encouraged to bring a bit more food accordingly.

Marie will ask Jan if her sons can help with ticket sales. Or Richard will help out.

Dress - all black (with a touch of bling!).

Diary 2019/20 season

We restart of 5 September 2019 after the summer break.

There will be 2 Saturday rehearsals for the Zelenka in Lyon, at Marie's house as before.

Concert dates:

23 December 2019 (Monteverdi's Vespers)

5 April 2020 - possibly Rachmininov Vespers

20 or 27 June 2020 - possibly with the orchestra from Lyon.

We have been asked to provide a small choir for a Bridgewater School assembly, but no date has yet been set. It would be for a short slot of 5-10 minutes.

Edlesborough Church is another possible future venue (with our prospective new alto, Alison a contact there).

Lyon

All is going ahead, ably led by Mary McCarthy Harris

As mentioned above, Marie will try to recruit the bass and alto from Chiltern Choir.

The orchestra predict an audience of around 350 for the event!

Mary has friends in Lyon who will help with the promotion and Jane and David Brown have been asked to help with poster design.

Adrian asked whether the basilica in Lyon is taking responsibility for security - Marie will look into this with Mary.

Rehearsal venue

We agreed that a new venue is required. People in general are not keen on the school chapel - it is difficult to get a fellow-feeling with the pew set-up. Marie will ask the school again about our using the Old Hall as our default venue (though without a huge amount of confidence in the outcome!). Marie also asked if Adrian would have a look at the available room in the Hospice, which Adrian agreed he would. Kate Perera will investigate the possibility of our using the Court House, but there is a martial arts class which currently finishes at 8 pm on Thursday.

The probable change of venue will almost certainly mean an increase in costs and hence subs for the 2019/20 season - probably going up from £90 to £110 per annum.

New members

Christopher Boyce, David Baldwin, Jo Rhoden and Alison Davies have all completed and passed their voice reviews.

Tour 2020

It was thought that most people would enjoy a summer tour to S.W. France again - but we need someone/some people from the choir to take responsibility for organising it.

JW