

Choir news

Pentland Singers

Dec-16

Edition 2

Convenor's News

Planning Ahead

Plans for next session are well underway with the committee working very hard behind the scenes on a variety of tasks to ensure our performances and rehearsals for next term go as smoothly as possible. There will be a few changes to the committee after summer with

choir or have been on the committee in the past, do think about what you can do to help us. Thank you.

Early next term choir members will be asked for ideas for music for the forthcoming sessions, to see us through from August

The committee: Alwyn Ferguson – Chair, Jonney Crerar – Treasurer, Marcus Stout – Membership, Alison Hynd – Junior Singers, Alison Marr – Social Media, Hazel Douglas – Website, Sarah Dawson and David Teale – Tickets, Lorna Turnbull – Making Music Rep, Douglas Esslemont – Music Files

Thanks to : Rowena Stewart – Librarian, Sara Wilczynska – Graphic Design

some longstanding members leaving, so we are looking for people to join in and help. We will need a new treasurer and convenor, so if you are able to help, or have skills and experience which might be useful, please volunteer. We can only remain a successful and well organised choir with members' help, so whether you are relatively new to the

2017 to June 2018, so get your thinking caps on!

Our summer concerts in 2017 promise to be very exciting. The dates have yet to be confirmed, but potentially they will be the week of the 5th June. More details of the trip for the Swaledale Festival will be provided in the new year.

MUSIC FOR SUMMER CONCERTS AND SWALEDALE FESTIVAL



Pentland Singers Summer
Concerts (June 2017 TBC)

Puccini Messa di Gloria

Kyrie; Gloria; Sanctus &
Benedictus; Agnus Dei

Puccini 'Humming Chorus'
from Madama Butterfly

Rogers and Hammerstein on
Broadway (Medley of music
from The Sound of Music,
Oklahoma, South Pacific,
Carousel, The King and I,
and State Fair)

Swaledale Festival 3 June

Puccini Messa di Gloria
including Credo

Selection from Rutter

The Sprig of Thyme (TBC)

Afton Water; Down by the
Sally Gardens; I know
where I'm going; The Keel
Row

A word From Michael *Messa di Gloria*

Messa di Gloria has been chosen as the joint work for this year's Swaledale Festival with Swale Singers, and we also look forward to sharing it with audiences closer to home in our summer concerts. Giacomo Puccini is best known for his operas such as *La Bohème*, *Tosca* and *Madama Butterfly*. However, the young Puccini was born into a family with a long association with church music, and in many ways it was expected that he would follow in his predecessor's footsteps. *Messa di Gloria* was written

at the tender age of 18 as Puccini's final graduation piece at the Istituto Musicale Pacini in Lucca, performed in 1880. While it was received to great acclaim by the public and academic staff alike, the work was not heard again for 72 years, and only resurfaced in 1952 when it was brought to the public's attention by an American priest researching a biography on Puccini. That *Messa di Gloria* wasn't heard again in Puccini's lifetime suggests that composer had by then made up his mind to abandon his family vocation of writing music for the church, and instead compose

for the operatic stage. In this way, the work can be heard as a kind of farewell by Puccini to the world of sacred music. It is strongly operatic in style: lyrical and tuneful with many beautiful and dramatic moments, and strongly influenced by the operas of Verdi. I would strongly encourage you to find a recording of the work over the Christmas holidays and have a listen—it will hopefully be very rewarding! I am looking forward to our getting to know this little-heard piece over the next 6 months!

*Tell your friends and family to come and support our performance
St Giles at Six - Sunday 19th March 2017*

A reminder of Music for St Giles at Six

Rutter A Gaelic Blessing

Whitacre Seal Lullaby

Lauridsen O Magnum Mysterium

Handel 'Hallelujah Chorus' from Messiah

Vivaldi 'Gloria' and 'Domine Fili Unigenite' from Gloria

Ferguson Ave Maria (two-part version)

Jenkins 'Sanctus' from The Armed Man

Burton 'Great getting-up morning' and 'Put on the Armour' from Five Contemporary Gospel Choruses