

Jubilate *Journal*

May 2011

Welcome to the third edition of your *Jubilate* members' newsletter. This issue, we give you all the latest information on our exciting Llangollen trip, fill you in on all the latest website developments and let you know how those all-important CD sales are coming along...

A message from your MD

Well, if you haven't learnt how to pronounce 'Llangollen' yet, you certainly will have by the end of that weekend in July!! With the Eisteddfod very much in our sights, we have real reason to be more motivated than ever this term. Our chosen programme for the competition is *Laudate Pueri*, *Soldier Soldier* and a revised version of *Lullaby*. The summer concert is also looking very exciting; with our feature piece being the Roald Dahl inspired *Little Red Riding Hood Songbook* as well as extracts from Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

Rehearsal time is at a premium if we are to master the new pieces as well as bring the competition pieces up to the best possible standard. In order to aid uninterrupted rehearsals and comply with our venue's security policy, the committee and I would like to trial a new system for entering the building. The usual entrance on Avenue Road will be open before the rehearsal and **for the first 10 minutes of the rehearsal only**. If you arrive after this time, please do not ring the bell as this interrupts the rehearsal. Instead, please use the disabled access to the hall, which is to the right and round the back of the building. This leads you straight into the hall, by the piano.

Please make every effort to be there for the start of the rehearsal – 7:45pm. We lose valuable rehearsal time due to lateness and it is important that all voices are properly warmed up. We will be having more sectional rehearsals this term to enable us to look at individual parts in details, so please make every effort not to miss as no two rehearsals will be the same!

All white on the night

The committee recently purchased a whiteboard, which we will now display at every rehearsal. It will be used to tell you about upcoming performance dates and repertoire, as not everyone likes to use email or the website. Keep any eye on it for the latest developments. We'd like it to be a two-way, interactive board, so it's also magnetic - if you have any flyers for other concerts you are involved in, feel free to stick them up for all to see. We also welcome your written contributions, such as suggestions for fundraising, so why not grab a marker and get the ball rolling?

The hills are alive...



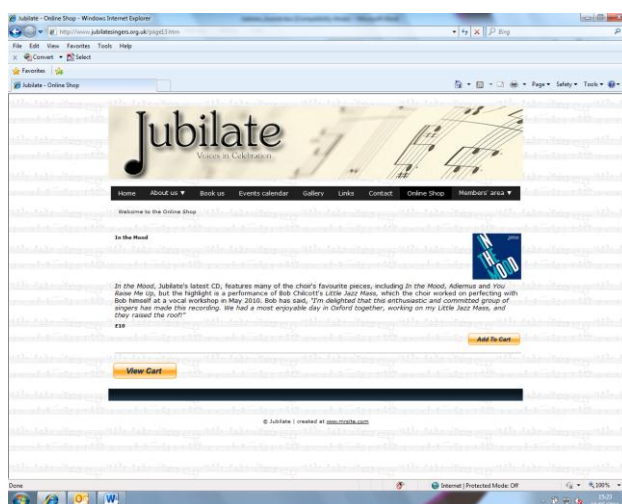
Our trip to Llangollen on 8th July is fast-approaching. Here is a summary of how the weekend is shaping up:

- Cost per person is £88.50. Please ensure you have paid Karen in full by 25th June so we can pay the hotel
- We will be staying two nights at the Wynnstay Hotel and Spa: www.wynnstayhotel.com
- Breakfast will be £7.50 on top of this if you would like it
- An evening meal has also been arranged at the hotel on Friday night for those that would like it. Menus to follow
- There will be a coach to the competition ground at 8am on Saturday morning. The competition starts at 9am
- There will be the opportunity for us to sell copies of 'In the Mood' at lunchtime on Saturday, which could add some much-needed money to the pot. If you would like to volunteer for this please let Claire know by 27th May.
- After the competition results we are free to explore the field and nearby village. Highlights include the steam railway, horse-drawn barges on the canal and numerous tea shops. If we win there will be no time for sightseeing as we will need to rehearse for the 'Choir of the World' competition later that evening!
- Timing for return to the hotel is to be arranged
- No evening meal has been organised for Saturday night, so everyone is free to relax and make their own arrangements. You can find out what Oswestry has to offer here: www.oswestry-welshborders.org.uk

To find out more about the festival, or book tickets for 'Choir of the World', please visit the official Llangollen Eisteddfod website: www.llangollen.org

Tech this out!

A number of exciting changes have been made to the Jubilate website. Firstly, some of the tracks from *'In the Mood'* have been added to the home page as well as the 'repertoire' page, enabling potential new members and those who are thinking of hiring us for an event to have a taster of our unique and fabulous sound. Then, if they like what they hear, there is a new online shop, so they can order their very own copy. There are plans to add *A Quetzal Plume* to the shop too, perhaps incorporating a special offer so they can get both CDs at a special price.



The eagle-eyed amongst you may have also spotted a quote from Bob Chilcott, which we were originally hoping to include in the original artwork for *In the Mood*, but didn't quite make it. Bob said, *"I'm delighted that this enthusiastic and committed group of singers has made this recording. We had a most enjoyable day in Oxford together, working on my Little Jazz Mass, and they raised the roof!"* And speaking of the CD...

Have you got *In the Mood* yet?

Sales of this very special recording have gone incredibly well. So far, we've sold 164 of the 300 we produced, raising a grand total of just over £1,600! Thanks to everyone who has bought a copy so far. If you'd still like to get yours, please speak to Jane P.

Raising the bar

Back at the July AGM, we asked for volunteers to be the choir's fundraising co-ordinator. Nearly a year later, we still don't have anyone in this role! The committee has done all it can, but its workload is too heavy to do the fundraising job well, so this is a vacancy that urgently needs filling. Ideally, we would like to hold at least one fundraising event per term, no matter how small.

Many hands make light work, so we are appealing for some volunteers who can meet occasionally during the break or over email to bounce fundraising ideas around and feed them back to the committee. It needn't be a time-consuming job; the committee just needs a few creative brains who can get things started and act as a point of contact. Remember: the more money we make from

fundraising, the healthier our bank balance, and the less you will have to pay towards trips away, new music and so on. If you would like to volunteer, please speak to a member of the committee.

Huge thanks already go to Allison, who donated all her takings from a day of haircutting to the choir, Veronica, who kindly gave up her house for the event, and Nin, who has offered to organise a 'Cash for Gold' event at a future rehearsal. Every little helps!

Dates for your diary

25th June 2011 – Summer concert at Emmanuel Church, Northwood

8th July 2011 – Llangollen Eisteddfod, Wales

24th September 2011 – Performance at Sarah Adderley's wedding, The Grimsdyke Hotel, Harrow

22nd October 2011 – Charity concert, Metropolitan Police Training School, Hendon

Start of January term 2012 – Open rehearsal (tell your friends!)

5th May 2012 – Performance at Annette Cooper's wedding

23rd June 2012 – Jubilate's summer concert featuring Wessex Male Choir

6th October 2012 – Joint concert with Wessex Male Choir (away)

Don't forget to check our new whiteboard if you are unsure of any upcoming performance dates or arrangements. They will also be on the members' section of the website. The password is 'adiemus'.

And finally...

Which one are you?!

