



Agenda for the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
at the Trinity Centre, Holy Trinity Church, Guildford
to be held at on Monday 27th June 2011 at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the Previous AGM (28th June 2010)
3. Matters Arising
4. Music Director's Report
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts
7. Election of Officers
8. Election of Additional Committee Members
9. Appointment of Music Director
10. Appointment of Accompanist
11. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts
12. Any Other Business

Please notify the Secretary at least 48hrs in advance in writing or by email
(secretary@vivacechorus.org) of any matters you wish to be addressed at the meeting



Minutes of the AGM
held on Monday 27th June 2011
at the Trinity Centre, Guildford

The meeting was called to order at 19.30 with 97 choir members present.

1. Apologies for absence

Sue Fletcher, Geoff Forster, Penny Muray, Lesley Scordellis, Prue Smith, Sally Varley and Frances Worpe.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM (28th June 2010)

The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting Geoff Johns proposed that they should be accepted as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Robin Privett.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report (Bob Cowell)

A statement of financial activities and a balance sheet had been circulated prior to the meeting. A full version of the accounts and the report to the Charity Commission is available on request.

This year had been unusual in that, due to the Mahler 8 concert, there was a considerable flow of cash in and out of the balance sheet but which had no effect on this year's profit and loss account. We had a deficit for the year of £80 .

The concert programme had a deficit of £12,400 and fundraising activities generated £5,247.

Bob reported that the choir continues to be in a sound financial position having reserves of close to £59,000. We need this sort of reserve to be confident in committing the choir to projects as large as the Mahler concert.

Bob thanked Brian Reed for his work as Independent Examiner of the accounts.

James Garrow thanked Bob Cowell for his work in managing the choir's finances. Jeremy Johnson proposed and John Trigg seconded acceptance of the accounts which were approved by the meeting.

5. Music Director's Report (Jeremy Backhouse)

Jeremy reviewed our very busy year which began with the recording of the Todd *Te Deum*, followed by our concert in Croydon, the *Petite Messe Solonnelle*, Christmas concerts in Holy Trinity and St Martins, The Mozart *Requiem* at St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Come & Sing, The Baroque concert (including the amazing singing of Vasari member Joce Somerville in the top soprano part of the Allegri and the brilliant playing of the BS in the Brandenburg Concerto) and finally the amazing experience of performing Mahler's Eighth Symphony in the Royal Albert Hall.

The next season is also taking shape; a concert for the RNLI in Holy Trinity in October, followed by the Brahms *German Requiem* and music by Parry in November. Another Come & Sing in January working on the Monteverdi *Vespers* and Bob Chilcott's *Salisbury Vespers*. March sees us performing 'A Night at the Opera' in GLive and in May we will put on a Rachmaninov concert including *The Bells* and some of the *Vespers* and Francis Pott will play the 2nd Piano Concerto. We are also looking forward to our 5-day tour to Alsace with concerts in Freiburg, Hedlberg and Strasbourg.

Jeremy thanked James all the committee and added his personal thanks to Christine Medlow, Prue Smith, Brenda Moore and other non-committee members involved in the successful

organisation of the choir. Many thanks to Francis as ever for his brilliant playing and finally, a big thank you to all the members.

6. Chairman's Report (James Garrow)

James praised the commitment of the members in making the choir the success it undoubtedly is. He particularly thanked Brenda Moore who has for many years produced our programmes but is now handing over to Lesley Scordellis.

James read out some of the messages he had received praising the Mahler 8 concert and said that there is not one person in the Vivace Chorus who doesn't appreciate the skills, professionalism and fun that Jeremy brings to all he does with the choir.

James urged members to publicize our concerts and sell more tickets aiming to spread our reputation beyond Surrey, and to use the 'Good Ideas' link on the website.

Gill Perkins has been our acting Press Officer but we need a volunteer to take on this vital role.

James acknowledged that we need to work on the method of wearing the new scarves and reported that we are still trying to improve the sound system at Holy Trinity. He thanked the Committee for their work and particularly thanked Michael Taylor who is standing down after 5 years on the Committee.

7. Election of Officers

Only one nomination had been received for each of the Officers so there was no election.

Chairman – James Garrow

Hon Treasurer – Bob Cowell

Hon Membership Sec – Jane Brooks

Hon Secretary – Isobel Rooth

8. Election of additional Committee Members

Seven members had been duly proposed and seconded for a maximum of eight places so all were elected unopposed. The members are Jackie Alderton, Liz Durning, Neil Martin, Gill Perkins, Lesley Scordellis, Barry Sterndale-Bennett and Hilary Trigg.

9. Appointment of Music Director

Jeremy Backhouse was reappointed unanimously.

10. Appoinment of Accompanist

Francis Pott was reappointed unanimously.

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts

Brian Reed was reappointed unanimously.

12. Any Other Business

John Britten questioned whether our financial reserves were too high for a charity. Bob Cowell answered that we aim to keep a year's turnover to allow us to do adventurous things, and John Trigg commented that provided we are operating and fulfilling our charitable aims the bank balance is not a problem.

Chris Robinson proposed a vote of thanks to James Garrow and Kate Rayner proposed a vote of thanks to Christine Medlow.

The meeting closed at 20.30.