



STIRLING CITY CHOIR

# *Noteworthy*

**THE NEWSLETTER OF STIRLING CITY CHOIR**

[www.stirlingcitychoir.org.uk](http://www.stirlingcitychoir.org.uk)

OCTOBER 2008

## **CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**

The new season started, not with a whimper, but with a bang. Eric Dunlea has decided to move on; and he gave us his three months' notice at the AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

We're sorry to see Eric go, but we look forward to his final concert with us, the Christmas Concert in the fine acoustic of the Church of the Holy Rude on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December. There's also the postscript concert a week later, on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, when we shall join with the hand-bell ringers in Dunblane Cathedral, using some of our Christmas pieces.

Eric has given remarkable service over his nine plus years as our Conductor. From Karl Jenkins' "*Armed Man*" in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall to Verdi's "*Requiem*" in 2007 and, last April, Mozart's "*Solemn Vespers*", with John Rutter's "*Requiem*", we've enjoyed an outstanding series of fine concerts. He is a consummate musician and we wish him every success in his continuing orchestral career and with the Glasgow Merchants Choir next year.

Now to the future! The Committee has decided that it makes more sense, for a number of compelling reasons, to advertise for a new conductor with a start date of the '09/'10 session in September next year. We shall therefore require an interim conductor from January to April '09; and we are thrilled that Bob Tait, of the Falkirk Festival Chorus, has agreed to undertake this task.

The Spring Concert programme will include "*Lux Aeterna*", a work by the contemporary American composer, Morten Lauridsen, together with Liszt's "*Via Crucis*". In order to concentrate on these works, we shall not hold the Charity Concert this session, since it would be unwise to ask our interim conductor to prepare for a concert within three or four weeks of his starting.

Our Christmas concert is approaching fast. It promises to be a worthy celebration of Eric's highly successful period as our Conductor. Please be sure to sell all your tickets – YOU are our best sales reps!

With all good wishes for a successful season,

Maxwell  
Craig



### **STIRLING CITY CHOIR COMMITTEE - SESSION 2008-2009**

At the AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> October, the following people were appointed to the Committee:

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Maxwell Craig</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Anne Montgomerie</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Graham Reed</b>
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	<b>(Vacant)</b>
<b>Concert Secretary</b>	<b>Ian Richardson*</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>Claire Whewell</b>
<b>Soprano Reps</b>	<b>Gill Nunn and Sarah Lamont</b>
<b>Alto Rep</b>	<b>Eleanor Phillips</b>
<b>Tenor and Bass Rep</b>	<b>Stuart Anderson</b>

Other “ex-officio” members of the committee are, of course, our present Conductor, **Eric Dunlea**, and our Webmaster, **Michelle Butcher**.

\*Our new Concert Secretary, Ian Richardson, will be assisted in the designing of the tickets, posters and flyers, and in the compiling of the programmes, by **Kathleen McPhail**. We are very grateful to Kathleen for taking on this demanding task, on top of all her other work for the choir - for instance providing the Practice CDs, and leading the Ladies’ Chamber Choir.

We are particularly pleased to welcome **Eleanor** and **Stuart** to the Committee, as they are both relatively new members of the choir. We would also like to thank our two retiring committee members **Tricia Cooke** and **Terry Gourlay** for all the service they have given to the choir over the last three years as Section Reps, and we are also grateful to **Alison Magrath** for her year as Assistant Treasurer.

*Please don’t hesitate to use the committee fully - by, for instance, passing on any ideas or comments you may have to your Section Rep, or to any other committee member. You can also contact the Secretary, Anne Montgomerie, at any time – see contact details at the end of this newsletter.*

### **LADIES’ CHAMBER CHOIR AT PROVOST’S AWARDS.**

On the evening of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November, The Ladies’ Chamber Choir – led and trained by Kathleen McPhail – will be representing Stirling City Choir by performing at the Provost’s Awards ceremony in the Great Hall of Stirling Castle. As I’m sure you’ll agree from hearing their rehearsals, their unaccompanied singing is beautiful, and we wish them the very best of luck as our “ambassadors”!

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Here, to avoid any confusion, are the dates of our main activities this session:

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December:** **Christmas Concert in Church of the Holy Rude.**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** **“Guest Choir” at Hand-bell Ringers’ Concert in Dunblane Cathedral**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January :** **Rehearsals begin again.**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April :** **Spring Concert in Church of the Holy Rude.**

As usual, a full instruction sheet will be issued to all choir-members nearer the time of each concert, giving details of rehearsal times on the day, parking arrangements, and so on.



**A NOTE ABOUT *Noteworthy***

Suggestions, comments, or articles are welcome, though contributions may have to be edited. Any items for the next edition should be submitted to Anne Montgomerie, *e-mail*: [Secretary@Stirlingcitychoir.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@Stirlingcitychoir.org.uk) by 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008.