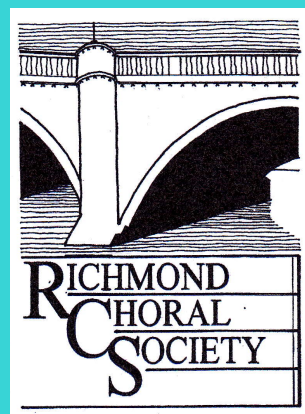


RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY

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www.richmondchoralsociety.com

Autumn 2017
Issue 22



Oratorios for Christmas

A big 'congratulations to us!' for our Christmas concert. Two very different works, but I think we really got to the heart of both of them – and performed them very well! I was very pleased, and the audience reaction was very positive.

Thank you very much to all our soloists and guest singers. We had Sam, Joe and James helping the men out, which was very welcome! For Charpentier, the team of Mike, Chris and Mary provided a varied and stylish ensemble, with principal soloists Sally Pinney and Matthew Duncan turning out an impressive performance, aided by Joanna Arnold, Jill House and Andy Evans creating a great ensemble. I know some of you were uncertain about the work during the term, but I hope you came out of the concert having enjoyed it as much as I did. And special congratulations to Stephanie for stepping up to the plate for her brief solo! The Saint-Saëns – which should be better known – was flawless, both in terms of the chorus and the beautiful solos and ensembles from Rosalind O'Dowd, John Vallance, Jill, Alex Carlisle and Matthew. We look forward to welcoming all the singers back at some point!

As usual, I would like to extend my personal thanks to all those who together make RCS such a lovely, friendly society. Our designers, organisers, helpers, front-of-house, past members and all of you lovely singers are a fabulous team. And of course, we are eternally grateful to Jason and Indigo Blue for their continued support.

Richmond Choral Society
presents



**ORATORIOS
for
CHRISTMAS**
by
Camille Saint-Saëns and M-A Charpentier
Saturday 16th December 2017
19:30

at Richmond and Putney Unitarian Church
Ormond Road, Richmond
TW10 6TH

RACC
Richmond Adult Community College

**INDIGO
BLUE**

tickets £10 on the door
refreshments available
www.richmondchoralsociety.com



Section reps:

We need a volunteer soprano to be the soprano rep, and one for the men too. The role is not onerous: it involves meeting and greeting new members, fielding comments and questions from people in your voice section (and liaising with Janet), and perhaps organising an extra rehearsal or two (with Janet's help). Please step forward at the first rehearsal of term!

Next term is ready for you!

Next term, we will be singing a double bill of works for Easter, joined by Whitton Choral Society. Firstly there is a charming but little-known work by Gounod: *The solemn mass for Easter*. Some of the movements can be found on YouTube, and a full recording is on Moodle (available as soon as you sign up). The second work is *Lux Aeterna*, a beautiful modern piece by Morton Lauridsen; there are many YouTube recordings available. Full rehearsal aids for both works are on Moodle, and scores are ready for you to take if you haven't taken them already.

Please note the dates of the two concerts: **Saturday 24th March** in the Unitarian Church, and **Good Friday the 30th March** in Whitton Baptist Church. There will be extra rehearsals (optional but very useful!) on three Wednesdays through the term at Whitton. It'll be great singing with a double-sized choir!

Signing up...

Several people are not going to be with us next term because of other commitments (though they will return in the summer term). Please have a think whether you know anyone who might like to join us next term to keep our numbers strong.

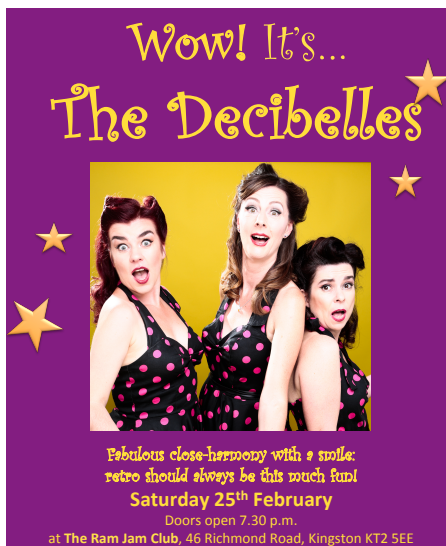
Term starts on the 8th January, but **PLEASE** sign up **before** term starts or college will think there won't be enough people, and will want to close it down!

And after that...

- **Summer 2018: *Vive L'Europe!*** A selection of works from around Europe: we have far more in common than that which divides us.
- **Autumn 2018: Handel's *Messiah*:** it's been 7 years since we tackled it so it's about time for a re-match!
- **Spring 2019: A night at the opera:** in collaboration with Ormond Opera, we'll sing choruses, scenes and solos from favourite operas – it'll be quite a night!

Plug time: save the dates!

Here's a selection of events next term – it's a very eclectic mix so you're bound to find something to interest you!



The Decibelles play the Ram Jam club in Kingston on 25th February. Tickets will soon be available online – check the website for details
www.decibellesuk.co.uk

Remember Mengyang? She was our accompanist for a couple of terms, and is a fabulous pianist. Janet and Mengyang will present a lecture-recital on Liszt's piano music at the Unitarian Church on March 10th.



Thank you to those who came to the first concert of my new group Philomel in November. Our second event is on Friday the 16th March in the Unitarian Church: a magical evening of Renaissance and contemporary song. Tickets will be available from Janet, and online, in the new year.