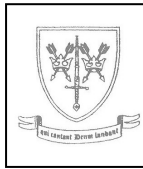


# Tone's Tidings

May and June 2016 Issues 10 & 11



St Edmundsbury Male Voice Choir  
Patron: The Rt. Hon The Earl of Iveagh; President: Paul Deane  
Vice Presidents: John Balaam, Dr John Meers and  
The Very Reverend Dr Frances Ward  
Registered Charity No. 1028123

Chairman  
Tony Farr



V-Chairman  
Rob Bream



In May this year as usual, we held our general meeting, And because of position changes, new faces we are greeting. Richard we thanked for all his work and Andrew is the new Boss It's his job now to run the books and thus ensure no loss. Young John also decided to step down as Secretary So Malcolm is now the man for letters literary. That is our committee, there are no further changes The rest is still the same and we've been there for ages. TF

Secretary  
Malcolm  
Lodge



Concert  
Secretary  
Ivor



Treasurer  
Andrew  
Conquest



Concert  
Manager  
Ian  
Robertson



Membership  
Secretary  
Nick  
Gane



## St Nicholas Church, Rattlesden, Saturday 21 May

It was a rare occasion, and a treat for me, to actually listen to the Choir in concert at Rattlesden. When we are in concert I often wish that it would be possible to be in two places at once, to be able to sing a piece and also listen to it at the same time and hear all the sections in harmony. Well I got half my wish at this concert.

I know that I may be biased but I thoroughly enjoyed the whole programme, the pianos were piano and the fortes raised the roof. And what is more you could hear the words. My favourite of the night was 'The Seal Lullaby'.

What an inspired combination of Ross and Simon Shirm, top marks to those two. I won't highlight any of their songs as they were all brilliant. We are all aware of Ross's vocal capabilities but not all of us had heard Simon's mastery of the guitar, sheer magic.

The wondrous evening ended on a sad note though for it was John Wandless's last performance with us. John has been a loyal and dedicated member of the Choir for nigh on 30 years. Thank you for your support John.



During the evening a cheque for £1,500 was presented to Elaine McGregor, a therapist for Nordoff Robbins (a charity which delivers music therapy to vulnerable children and adults). This was the profit from our concert in February which starred Laura Wright and the

Downham Preparatory School Choir at The Apex.

## Tea Ladies Rota

Anne Everett, who does a marvellous job organising the Tea Rota for us, would like to see some more/new ladies on her rota list as some of her regular ladies are wishing for a break. Also, the more names she has on her list the easier it is for her to fill in last minute alterations and the ladies don't have to put up with us rehearsing so often. Please give her a call on 01284 787751.

## France 2017

### Monday 17 April to Sunday 23 April

I had hoped that by now I could give you all the details and prices for the French Tour. Basic details are as below but not a price as I cannot get any prices for travel yet.

The plan is to be based in Avignon at the Mercure Hotel Pont d'Avignon, close to the town centre. We will be giving four concerts in: Avignon, Uzès, Nîmes and Pont-Saint-Esprit and all of these venues are no more than an hour's coach ride away. A sightseeing trip to either the Camargue or the Château Neuf du Pape. A wine tasting at the Chartreuse de Valbonne and a river trip on the Rhône which will include dinner.

I hope this will whet your appetite and I will keep you informed when plans have been firmed up. TF

## One Good Turn The Apex, Saturday 27 August,



Bury St Edmunds resident, Michelle Parry (34), who is the inspiration behind this Charity Concert, plays saxophone with the group 'Turntable'. Michelle suffers from a degenerative disc disorder which leaves her in constant pain. She has been through three serious operations on her spine, but that has not stopped her playing with the group, even if it means her being in agony for days afterwards.

The charity Help for Musicians UK have been supporting Michelle, as have the Royal Society of Musicians, and she now wants to raise funds for them as a thank-you for their invaluable support through a very painful and troubled time in her life. Although she is in constant pain, music is the mainstay of Michelle's life and she hopes that through this concert she can raise awareness of 'hidden' conditions and illnesses. Guest musicians include SEMVC and Out of the Shadows.

Tickets from The Apex —£15, children and full-time students £12.50, wheelchair users £7.50.

## SEMVC Cufflinks

During the AGM I had great pleasure in presenting their 25 years of Mellifluous Service to Top Tenors Ed Wilson and Keith Skinner.

Baritone Michael Akehurst's cufflinks were presented to him at a later rehearsal.

## Hands Across the Sea in Music, 2 April 2016

We received this photograph showing the handover of concert proceeds of **£2,002.64**, in aid of the Northern Ireland Hospice.



SEMVC performed with Queen's Island Victoria MVC in St John's Presbyterian Church, Newtownbreda.

Some light relief perhaps

### Four little animals.

A teacher asked her class 'What do you want out of life?' A little girl in the back row raised her hand and said 'All I want out of life is four little animals. Just like my mum always says'. 'Really, and what four animals would that be?' asked the teacher.

The little girl replied, 'A mink for my back, a jaguar in the garage, a tiger in the bed and a jackass to pay for it all'. The teacher had a coughing fit and had to leave the room.

A report of the concert organized by Bob Moulding at St Mary's Church, Ixworth on 18 June will appear in next month's issue of Tidings.

### Dates for your Diary

**Tu 5 July** – Downham Preparatory School Summer Show

**Th 14 July** – Concert for the Over 55's Club, Blackbourne Centre, Elmswell, IP30 9UH

**Su 7 August**—SEMVC Lunchtime Barbecue, Great Barton Village Hall, Elms Close, IP31 2NR

**Sa 27 August** – 'One Good Turn' charity concert in aid of Help Musicians UK, Apex, BSE

**Sa 24 September** – Concert with Haverhill Silver Band, St Mary's Church, BSE, IP33 1RT

**Sa 22 October** – Concert with The Orpheus Singers, Salvation Army Temple, Hadleigh, Essex (near Southend) SS7 2PF

**Sa 19 November** – Concert at St Lawrence's Church, Little Walsingham, CO10 0SP

**2017**

**Sa 18 March** – Concert at The Beeches, Isleham, CB75RY with Isleham Primary School Band.

**M17-Sun 23 April** – French tour *tbc*

**Su 14 May** – Concert with Amersfoort MVC from Holland, St Peter and St Paul Church, Clare CO10 8NY

**Sa 3 June** – King's Lynn MVC 60th Anniversary Mass Choir, St Nicholas Chapel, St Ann's Street, King's Lynn PE30 1NH *tbc*

**Sa 17 June** – Woolpit Festival *tbc*

**Sa 8 July** – St Mary's Church, Redgrave IP22 1RJ *tbc*

**Sa 30 September** – Concert at St Mary's Church, Stratford St Mary CO7 6LS

**Sa 14 October** - Three Choirs Festival with The Dalesmen MVC and Mansfield and District MVC, Derby Cathedral Centre, 18-19 Iron Gate, Derby DE1 3GP

**Sa 18 November** - Concert in St Peter's Church, Sudbury (RAFA) (with Wattisham Military Wives Choir *tbc*)

**2018**

**Sa 14 April** – Concert in Ipswich area with Suffolk Constabulary MVC

### Funeral pieces

Sadly the choir is increasingly asked to sing at funerals. Whilst members are often willing to take part at short notice, sometimes it is very difficult to find an accompanist. Mark therefore has kindly recorded the accompaniment to four pieces that could be played whilst choir members sing. The four pieces are:- *Angels Watching Over Me*, *My Lord What a Mornin'*, *The Lord's Prayer* and *You Raise me Up*.

### Deaths of past members of the choir

Jacinta Wright was accompanist to the MVC for many years.

Aged 66, she died on 27 April. Some members of the choir attended her funeral.

Mark Kramer, retired music teacher at RAF Lakenheath had been a member of the choir. He died on 14 May.

### Sing for Your Supper, 23 April

It was the night when some members of the choir and friends demonstrated their talents to a packed audience in All Saints Church Hall. A small selection of photos received follow.



There is a young lady, who will remain anonymous, but we will call her Miss W, who has been much maligned on virtually every tour or trip that I have been on. The tale concerns a bag of potatoes and a bag of sandwiches. Now this young lady has been accused of, in her haste to catch the coach, bringing the aforesaid potatoes instead of sandwiches.

It transpires that another young lady, Miss A, who was travelling with her and respective husbands that had been asked to take the bag of sandwiches from the 'fridge, but, she picked the wrong bag. That's right, it was Miss A, who brought the potatoes, not Miss W. TF

*Reports and pictures for Tidings are welcome. Please contact Chairman Tony Farr, 01440 704179, lolandtony@talktalk.net*