



# Welcome to Huntingdon Male Voice Choir

HMVC was formed in 1962 when music master Peter Brown called together his St Peter's School colleagues to form a choir. Since then the choir has had four musical directors. The choir moved to its present home in Hinchingsbrooke House in 1994. In addition to appearing locally, the Choir has featured on Radio 3, regional TV, toured around the UK, Ireland and to Germany, and competed in various regional and national festivals and choral competitions including the Sainsbury Choir of the Year Competition (semi-finals in 1998), the BBC Radio 3 Choir of the Year (Choir of the Day 2008) and the Cornish Festival of Male Voice Choirs 2011. In October 2012 we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday in style; in Ely Cathedral, joined by soloists, a brass ensemble and six other male choirs.

## **YOUR INTRODUCTION TO THE CHOIR**

We hope that you will participate to the full in the choir's programme of local concerts, periodic bilateral exchanges with other choirs, occasional tours and participation in festivals and competitions. The choir aims to perform to a high standard but you will be given all the necessary support to allow you quickly to integrate into the choir, even if you have never sung in a choir before. Though it helps, it is not necessary to be able to read music. The choir normally performs in concert without music. Provided you can sing in tune and have a good ear, everything else can be learned. Learning tracks are routinely provided to assist learning.

## **CARE AND CUSTODY OF MUSIC**

The choir provides all the music you will need, all charges being met from within the choir subscription. Music copy involves a very considerable investment for the choir and you are asked therefore to take great care of the music issued to you and not to deface it in any way (eg by permanently marking it or punching holes). If you decide to leave the choir, please return all items of music promptly. All music issues and returns are managed by the choir librarian, Brian Millard.

## **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The costs of running the choir are met from membership subscriptions, set broadly to cover the running costs of the choir, supplemented by concert income. These costs include payments to our MDs and accompanists, purchase of music, hire of our rehearsal rooms, insurance and other miscellaneous costs. Occasionally, for the benefit of members, the choir fund also subsidises choir events. Subscriptions are reviewed annually and voted at the AGM. Currently they are set at £12.00 per calendar month, payable by bank standing order. Once you join the choir, the choir treasurer, Dai Rees, will be in touch to make the necessary arrangements with you.

## **CHOIR UNIFORM**

Normal choir dress for concerts is black dinner jacket with matching black trousers, white dress shirt, with a choir maroon bow tie. Other items of choir uniform (pullover, sweatshirt, polo shirt and choir tie) are also available via David Robinson.

## **ENJOY YOUR SINGING!**

We hope that you will enjoy being a member of the choir and the singing and fellowship which it provides. Membership does involve a fair level of commitment; turning up to practices and concerts, spending some time at home to consolidate learning and participating in activities to promote the choir. We think that it is worth the effort and we hope that you will too!

Musical Director;	Peter Davies	<a href="mailto:peter.davies@abcd.org.uk">peter.davies@abcd.org.uk</a>
Committee Chairman	Jon Lane	<a href="mailto:jon.lane@ntlworld.com">jon.lane@ntlworld.com</a>
Membership Secretary;	Rob Mason	<a href="mailto:pep.rm@btinternet.com">pep.rm@btinternet.com</a>
Choir Treasurer;	Dai Rees	<a href="mailto:rees844@gmail.com">rees844@gmail.com</a>
Uniform;	David Robinson	<a href="mailto:d.robinson28@btinternet.com">d.robinson28@btinternet.com</a>
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