

East Surrey Choral Society

Founded in 1961, the Society is based in Caterham, though the members are drawn from a wide area in East Surrey....and beyond. As a choir both of and for the community, ESCS invites singers to share their love of music - and of choral music in particular - in a friendly, sociable and relaxed atmosphere. New members are always welcome. No audition is required.

Throughout its existence, ESCS has presented several concerts each season - some with orchestra - in local churches or schools and repertoire remains varied and challenging. The choir continues to offer performance opportunities to young professional musicians and, to that end, ESCS frequently employs young soloists and orchestral players studying at the London musical academies.

Rehearsals are enjoyable as well as rewarding. There is a strong emphasis on teamwork and choral blend, incorporating an awareness of and some instruction in vocal technique that can help each and every singer achieve better individual performance as well as benefiting the overall choral standard.

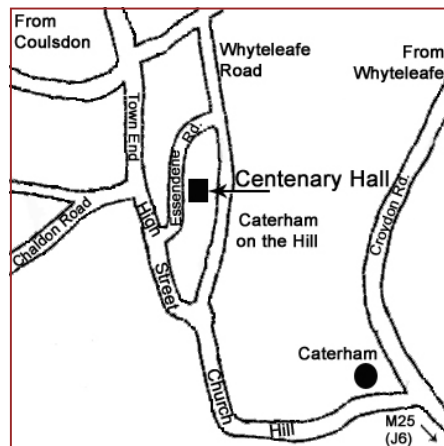
During the past few seasons, the choir's varied programmes have included the following works, amongst others:

Bach: Magnificat, Beethoven: Mass in C, Brahms: Requiem, Britten: Ceremony of Carols, Rejoice in the Lamb, Coleridge-Taylor: Hiawatha's Wedding Feast, Fauré: Requiem, Cantique de Jean Racine, Handel: Messiah, Haydn: Creation, The Seasons, St. Nicolas Mass, Nelson Mass, Horowitz: Horrortorio, Summer Sunday, Mozart: Coronation Mass, Solemn Vespers, Purcell: Come, ye sons of art, Rossini: Petite Messe Solennelle, Rutter: Magnificat, Somervell: Christmas, Stainer: The Crucifixion, Sullivan: The Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance, Vivaldi: Gloria

From its humble beginnings over 50 years ago, ESCS developed and grew, at one time numbering around 100 members and performing concerts in the Fairfield Halls, as well as its own "Last Night of the Proms". Our aim is to consolidate and build for the next 50 years and to continue to provide a choral voice in the community.

Rehearsals

Tuesday evenings, 7.45-10.00pm at
Centenary Hall
Essendene Road
Caterham CR3 5PA



New members are always welcome.
We invite you to come to a rehearsal,
with no obligation.

Contact: Gill English (Hon. Secretary),
126 The Crescent,
Horley,
Surrey RH6 7NX

Email: info@escs.org.uk

www.escs.org.uk

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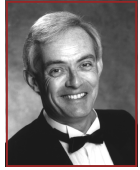
CONCERT PROGRAMME
2015 -2016



President: Della Jones
Musical Director: Ian Kennedy

Musical Director

IAN KENNEDY GGSM



Ian studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where he won the coveted Gold Medal for Singers. He has performed worldwide as tenor soloist, conductor and accompanist in venues as far removed as Sydney Opera House, Hollywood Bowl and cruise liners. He was for nearly thirty years a member of the BBC Singers as well as a freelance tenor soloist in styles as diverse as oratorio, opera and cabaret. He was musical director for "Gilbert and Sullivan for All" and associate conductor of the National Concert Orchestra.

In 1995, Ian became only the third permanent conductor of ESCS, after Arthur Toms and Michael Pilkington, since when he has directed over 50 concerts and 100 major works with the choir. He brings to ESCS a wealth of vocal and choral experience, together with a genuine love and enthusiasm for choral music. He is Professor of Singing at Guildhall School of Music and Chichester University, a visiting tutor at Cambridge and City Universities and is greatly in demand as a teacher and adjudicator.

President

DELLA JONES



Internationally-acclaimed mezzo-soprano Della Jones has been the choir's President for well over a decade and, alongside her demanding solo schedule, she takes an active interest in the life of "her choir". Though born in Wales, Della is now very much a local girl, having lived in Surrey for

many years.

She studied at the Royal College of Music and won the Kathleen Ferrier Scholarship before becoming a principal at English National Opera and the Royal Opera House. As well as singing in the world's top opera houses and concert halls, Della has recorded extensively across a wide range of styles, which reflect her musicianship and versatility. She has sung at a number of high-profile occasions, including the Last Night of the Proms, the handover of Hong Kong and the Cardiff Millennium Gala. She is increasingly in demand for master classes and relishes the opportunity to pass on her knowledge, experience and enthusiasm for singing.

Performance Dates

MUSIC FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

A Christmas concert including Britten: Ceremony of Carols, Finzi: In Terra Pax and carols for choir and audience

Saturday, December 12th, 2015, 7.30pm

Caterham Valley United Reformed Church,
Harestone Hill, Caterham, CR3 6SX

EASTER CONCERT

Beethoven: Mass in C and Schubert: Mass in C, with soloists and orchestra from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Saturday, March 19th, 2016, 7.30pm

St. John's Church,
Canons Hill, Old Coulsdon, CR5 1HA

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Romantic music from stage and screen and featuring "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast" by Croydon's own Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Saturday, July 2nd, 2016, 7.30pm

Woldingham Village Hall,
Station Road, Woldingham, CR3 7EU

Further Information

COME AND JOIN US!!

ESCS will again present a varied programme in 2015/16, with music for all tastes, ranging from Baroque oratorio to contemporary musical theatre. ESCS has always existed as a choir for the community and we hope it will still be here to celebrate its centenary in 2061!! The door is always open to potential new members – see details below under "Membership".

MEMBERSHIP

Our present membership numbers around 70, but we are keen to add voices in all sections. NEW MEMBERS are always welcome. No previous choral or musical experience is necessary and there is no audition to become a member of ESCS. (Initial contact should be via the choir's Hon. Secretary, Gill English – details overleaf.)

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

ESCS will have a lively programme of social events during the 2015/16 season. Over recent years the choir has run members' concerts, Christmas and summer parties, excursions, skittles evenings, garden days, quiz nights and antiques road shows. Similar events will be incorporated throughout the current season – dates and details tbc.

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Gill English, info@escs.org.uk. (Full contact details overleaf.)

More information also available online www.escs.org.uk



ESCS is a member of Making Music
The National Federation of Music Societies
ESCS is a registered charity - No. 294228