

# Tiptree Choral Society Newsletter No. 39

Making music together since 1945

The first day of Spring officially and through my window as I type I can see... a cloudy, grey sky! Lack of sunshine notwithstanding, signs of Spring are definitely there - in the voices of the birds who wake me early in the morning and in the rapidly opening buds on the trees in my garden. Such a lovely time of year, and after false hope last month, maybe it means it this time!



Our first concert of the year successfully completed and enjoyed by a lovely audience. Comments fed back to me suggest that people really enjoyed the mix of music and thought it was fun to go out on a high with a spot of Abba! And now we have time to work on the next one for May. A bit of a steep learning curve in places I expect you'll agree (!) and of course there will be highs and lows but isn't it great that we are all rising to the challenge! The first time we sang the fast Melchizedek movement that we were all so anxious about might not have been perfect (well, definitely wasn't perfect!!) but still sounded amazingly fabulous didn't it? Think we managed to stun Malcolm! It'll make a great concert!



Arrangements for our trip to France in October are beginning to pick up pace: we've just sent Sotto Voce a list of names of those who can go but there's still time to add your name if you find you

can go after all – just let me know!

## BIRTHDAYS



Some of us have already celebrated a 2019 birthday: Linda L and Emily, Pauline and Hanne, Bob, Kim and Marion started off the year (Marion's was an extra special one!); Nick and Linda S celebrated last month, and Dawn, Ann & David, Muriel, Les and Steph are our little group of daffs with birthdays this month. Happy birthday to all of you!

The John Wade Singers are really appreciative of the music we have lent them. I know some of you have had a look at their new website – thanks for the feedback by the way, they appreciate that too! – and have had a good groan at 'Jonathan's Jokes'. I have to tell you that they are not getting any better!! (And yes, in case you're wondering, he does make a lot of them up!) The current crop involves the ubiquitous 'how many lightbulbs', of which I'm sure Malcolm's favourite would be:

*Q: How long does it take a conductor to change a lightbulb?*

*A: Nobody knows... no-one was watching!*

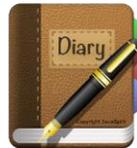
I was treated to a new one this morning (special bonus!), which actually wasn't too bad considering, though I leave you to make up your own mind!

*Q: What do you call musical honey-making?  
A: Beeswaxing lyrical!*

April Fool's Day is approaching so hope you have suitably funny pranks lined up to play on your children and grandchildren! Not something you could do in these digital days but as a school girl, my daughter was a part of a small group who swapped all the blackboard chalk for rolled white paper. You can imagine the reaction when the teacher came to write on the board - and yes, she did have a sense of humour! And there is a wonderful story of a Headteacher who put up a 'For Sale' sign outside the school!!! What a brilliant idea, I love that one!! For those of us of a certain age, could anyone better the spaghetti plant?!



**Diary Dates:** Malcolm always tries to plan ahead for concerts to give us all plenty of notice - we all have busy lives, don't we? Occasionally, we do have to make changes, but these are the dates booked at the moment:



**2018 -2019**

11 <sup>th</sup> &18 <sup>th</sup> April	no Thursday rehearsals - 2 week break for Easter
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring concert: Haydn & Handel
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	concert at Tollesbury
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	AGM and end of summer term

**2019-2020**

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	start of Autumn Term
23 <sup>rd</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> October	visit to France

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas concert at St Luke's: Rutter Magnificat plus other Christmas music
December concert at Tollesbury	to be confirmed
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	start of Spring Term
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Spring concert at St Luke's
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary concert at St Luke's: 'War Story'
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas concert at St Luke's



Three more rehearsals before Easter but I'll wish you an early 'Happy Easter' anyway!

Liz

20.03.2019