



GMVC Newsletter March 2022

Vol 15 No.3

Chairman's Notes, contributed by Geoff Hampson

Hello and welcome to our March Newsletter.

I suppose we shouldn't be too surprised we find ourselves missing a couple of weeks rehearsals again but it is the correct thing to do and it certainly goes to prove Covid has by no means gone. Fortunately we are all fully vaccinated but still a worry for the more vulnerable members and their families. Goodness knows what would have happened early on in the pandemic when vaccines were not available.

Lots of things on the horizon, a joint concert with Gresley Colliery Brass Band. This like a lot of our up and coming events has been carried over and was much enjoyed by all the last time we shared the stage together at The Palace Theatre in Ibstock, very much a mining community near to the Old Leicestershire Coal Fields. Just the type of people who take on the old cinema and turn it in to a thriving little theatre for all to enjoy. Obviously they have been really affected by the events of the last couple of years so we really hope they get a good turnout on the night.

You will see on our list of events some of the community things we do are starting to pop up again as South Derbyshire District Council starts to go back to live functions. The Civic Service being the first.

Friday 4th of March will see us back up and running again but as always we will continue to be fairly cautious as we move forwards respecting all of our members.

If you know anyone who would like to come along and join the choir then please encourage them to give it a try. They can be assured of a warm welcome and plenty of help. I would be delighted to answer any questions and give further details.

Just call Geoff on 07804306891. Singing is proven to have many health benefits.

SPC Notes, contributed by Mick Robey

Last month I promised further details on the immediate engagements so here they are.

We begin this year's concert season with another appearance at **The Palace Theatre, Ibstock LE67 6LG on Saturday 19 March** where we will be joined by the Gresley Band. A venue we have always enjoyed singing in and where there is usually an excellent numerically and appreciative audience. The concert commences at 7.30 pm. and the ticket price is £12 which can be obtained from any member or by telephoning The Palace direct on 01530 262400 or failing that, booking on their website www.thepalaceibstock.co.uk. There are also usually a few tickets available on the door.

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Our second event is our own “**Brass and Voices**” concert on **Sunday 24th April at Burton Town Hall DE14 2EB commencing at 4.30 p.m.** Note the day and time as this is somewhat of an experiment for us as it differs greatly from our usual day and time. On this occasion the Brass part of the programme will be performed by the internationally acclaimed Desford Colliery Band who have World and European Championships as well as UK national championships on four occasions in their historical record. Tickets for this are available from members or via our own telephone booking service on 07359 054834 and are priced at £15. Posters and tickets will be available from this weekend and we would be grateful if you could advertise this event to all your family and friends by word of mouth or even telephone and add it on your social media contacts as nothing is as invigorating as a full Town Hall!

Then on **Friday 20th May** we depart on our annual tour to Norfolk. As usual the coach will be picking up at Stretton, Swadlincote, Ashby and Hinckley before heading to Peterborough Services for a comfort stop and proceeding to Sandringham for lunch. The house and private gardens will be closed on this occasion but the park and café will be open, so we hope some visitors will assemble in the church for our half hour rendition before we depart to our hotel in Norwich. Sandringham was very special last time as we unexpectedly performed before a packed church where the audience even spilled outside. It was great to sing in the church which most of us have only seen on the TV when the Royal family attend for Christmas Day service. Other concerts will be in Aylsham Parish Church on the Saturday evening and Upper Sheringham Parish Church on the Sunday afternoon. We return home on Monday 23rd May via Peterborough where we shall have free time to visit the Cathedral (free entrance), the shopping centre just across the road and also get something to eat. A reminder to all going on the tour this year, your balance of payment is due by 25th March and I will be in touch with you personally in the very near future to let you know what the balance is and tell you how you can pay.

MAVORO Ladies Club, contributed by Maureen Hickman & Hilda Oates

Friends and family are most welcome to join us for our social occasions.

If you would like any more information about our ladies' evenings or events, please contact any of the numbers below:

Hilda Oates	- 01283 536144	Maureen Hickman	- 01283 703218
Jan Masterman	- 01283 814553	Sue Littlewood.	- 01283 810291
Josie Ivens	- 01283 212914	Pat Hurd	- 01283 542746
Janet Auwkit	- 07902 498391		

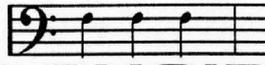
MAVORO ladies please bring your own mugs with you to the meetings to save washing up.

Gentlemen can you please pass this on to your wives.

Programme 2022

March 4th Research into Local People *Gillian & Alan Talbot*

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April 1 th	Bringing up Babies	<i>Kath Reynolds</i>
May 6 nd	Painting Demonstration	<i>Jayne Good</i>
June 10 th	An Australian Adventure	<i>Shirley Horton</i>
July 1 th	Dames & Knights of the Theatre	<i>Paul Newsham</i>
August 5 st	Meal	
September 2 th	A Grand Day Out in the 1950's	<i>Alan Hiley</i>
October 7 th	Ghosts in Grandeur	<i>Jo Golby</i>
November 4 th	Have Yourself a Wild Christmas	<i>Kevin Reynolds</i>
December 2 th	Party Night Buffet	

Practice or Coach Contributed by Mick Robeyin my opinion

As you have probably read elsewhere in this issue, we have recently had a break from our usual coaching sessions due to Covid – a very wise decision by our Executive in my opinion. Why do I say coaching when we always use the term practice? To me practice is the repetition of the same thing until the performance can be repeated exactly the same on each occasion. But at GMVC we do not just repeat on every occasion, we are coached by our M.D. on pronunciation, volume, accuracy, posture and rhythm. It is only when all these variables have improved to the M.D.'s satisfaction for a public performance that we then start to practice, the art of accurately repeating that performance every time.

Last Sunday afternoon I was thinking (yes I do sometimes) of giving the lawn a trim – I shall return to this subject shortly. Instead there was a football match between Chelsea and Liverpool in a "Mickey Mouse" cup final on the "box" that I wanted to watch. After 90 minutes and then a further 30 minutes extra time the score was still 0 – 0 but it was a riveting and thrilling match with both teams missing 3 or 4 excellent chances each to score. My immediate thought was the footballers who missed all the rather easy scoring chances needed more coaching on how to score goals. I also thought (yes you are right, all this thinking gave me a headache!) that the players had been coached correctly to get in the positions that they did to enable them to score. It was just a lack of coaching on "finishing" they required. Then the game went to penalties to decide which was the better team and would consequently win the cup. Twenty three successful penalty kicks were taken before the 24th penalty was missed and the result decided. Put another way, the two goalkeepers failed 23 times to save a penalty kick.

In my "younger" days I played football in the local leagues for almost 20 years and my position was goalkeeper (that surprised you!). As my stature then was similar to what it is now (short and stout), the opposition were fully aware they could only score in the air, with a ground shot they had no chance! I could get down to shots like grease lightning, just by letting my weight drop vertically downwards, for which I was extremely grateful to Sir Isaac Newton's theory. In one particular League Cup Final which also went to penalties, I managed to save 4 out of the 5 penalties and we won the cup. Yes, the weight helped but

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more than that, I used my brains which at that time existed, and I cannot understand why coaches do not employ the same thinking as I did.

Most footballers are either right or left footed (this is not an obvious statement as a few can kick with both, but not at the same time) and if you know which one they are going to use you are on a winner. The penalty spot is in a central position to the goal but visualise where the player is when he starts his run up. If he is right footed, from the start of his run-up he is much nearer the left hand post then psychologically, on the majority of occasions he will kick the ball to the left of the goalkeeper and conversely for a left footer. I am right on at least 80% of occasions which is a lot better than the guesswork currently employed. My predictions were proved yet again on Sunday as I related them to the better half and quite honestly, if she had been in goal and had me as her coach, she would have saved far more than the professional goalkeepers did. The so called "experts" said they were all outstanding penalty kicks, no, they were far from it. It's only because the goalkeepers guessed the wrong way that made them look good ones. The goalkeepers require coaching on my theory and then put it into practice for perfection.

At this time two years ago I wrote about the "Beast from the East" and last year it was the incessant rain from November to March. This year in February we have experienced storms Dudley, Eunice and Franklin and rainfall has again waterlogged the ground necessitating numerous flood warnings up and down the country. With all this rain and the relatively mild winter, the grass has continued to grow and is now 6 inches long in some areas of my lawns, hence my thoughts last Sunday to mow. With dry grass and reasonably firm soil underneath, it was an opportunity to trim the lawns to remove storm debris (leaves and twigs) and worm casts and smarten them up a bit. If we get another small dry period, this can be done at this time of year but only removing a minimal amount of grass. We could still experience severe forms of winter with ice and snow so it is essential to only remove the minimum amount of grass at the moment and only if it is dry. If you grow a few potatoes in your garden, now is the time to lay your potato seed out in boxes in a light and frost free area so they can produce strong green "chits". Onion seed and sweet pea seed can be sown now in a heated environment (window sill) but will require potting on in 2 to 3 weeks in a greenhouse or under cloches to prevent "leggy" growth (thin and weak). Broad Beans and onion sets can still be sown direct into the ground but if the ground is still soft and wet, keep off as it will do more harm than good. The compressed soil from footsteps will dry like concrete when the warmer weather comes. Finally for this month, now is the time to plan your gardens. I recommend a website www.vegplotter.com which you can download to roughly draw your allotment or garden. It has icons you can drag across to position your shed, dustbins, patio etc and similar for flower borders, bean sticks, lettuce or beetroot patches etc. You can draw a complete picture of your garden to help you plan or remember where you set things and of course, it is invaluable for crop rotation if your patch is large enough to rotate.

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Secretary's Update – contributed by David Wright

GRESLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR - CONCERT/EVENTS 2022

Please bear in mind there could be further amendments to the list below, dependent on the Venues

Uniform colour and start times all to be arranged.

Tickets available from our ticket line 07359 054834

DATE	VENUE	Post Code	Uniform
Saturday 19/03/2022	Brass & Voices Ibstock Palace Ibstock	LE67 6LG	Black Red Bowtie
Sunday 10/04/2022 Proposed	SDDC Chairman's Civic Service Emmanuel Church Swdalincote	DE11 8LG	TBC
Sunday 24/04/2022	Burton Town Hall Concert Burton on Trent (Further details to follow)	DE14 2EB	TBC
Fri / Mon 20/05/2022- 23/05/2022	Choir Annual Tour Norfolk	TBA	TBC
Thursday 02/06/2022 Proposed	SDDC invitation to Beacon Lighting for Queens Jubilee Eureka Park, Swadlincote	DE11 0BN	TBA
Sunday 05/06/2022	Queens Jubilee Celebration St Matthews Church, Overseal	DE12 6LQ	TBC
Saturday 18/06/2022	Charity Concert St. George's Church Ticknall	DE73 7JU	TBC
Saturday 02/07/2022 proposed	Century Theatre Concert Coalville	LE67 3LN	TBC
Saturday 03/09/2022	Unitarian Chapel Concert Hinckley	LE10 1PP	TBC
Sunday 02/10/2022 Proposed	All Saints Church Concert Loughborough	LE11 1EE	TBC
Saturday 26/11/2022	Choir Christmas Dinner Appleby Hotel Appleby Magna	DE12 7AP	informal
Saturday 10/12/2022 proposed	Christmas Concert Venue to be advised	TBA	TBC

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**Tickets for our Concert at the Ibstock Palace are also available from Ibstock Palace
Ticket order line**

I just heard from my nephew Justin who is fast becoming one of England's foremost authors. He is currently on tour in Australia as part of the launch of his new book. He called me to tell me that he was in a book shop in Sydney on Wednesday, there was apparently a very long line of fans, all clutching the new book and waiting for him to sign them. He said they approached one by one he asked them their name and duly wrote "to (the name given) best wishes and I hope you enjoy the book, (signed) Justin. After about 30 minutes of this he was confronted by a lady who said 'Emma Chissett' and Justin carefully wrote 'To Emma Chissett best wishes and I hope you enjoy the book' he signed it Justin and handed the book back to what he could only describe as a bemused lady. The lady looked at the page retorted, 'No, Emma Chissett!' Justin, in his most apologetic voice replied, 'Sorry, have I misspelled your name?' with a great deal of exasperation, the lady said once more. 'No, Emma Chissett. What's the price?'

Stay Safe and Well
David

GMVC Website and Facebook

GMVC has now a new more modern Website with a new address www.gresleychoir.com GMVC would like to acknowledge the generous support of the family of the late Mr. Roy Atkins and his son Andy, through his company WebCertain, in securing the availability of our new web address "gresleychoir.com" for a further 5 years.

If you need to know **anything**, about Gresley Male Voice Choir, visit our Website www.gresleychoir.com. It's full of pictures, videos and information about the Choir. If you need to email the Website or any of the Officers or Committee, email gmvc.choir@gmail.com. Also, if you wish to keep in touch with events, other members and supporters of the Choir, look at our **Facebook** page, web address: <https://www.facebook.com/GMVC1904>

Privacy, Newsletter Readership

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If you wish, you can also request all data we hold on you to be deleted. If you receive your Newsletter as a printed copy and wish to cease receiving it each month, then please ring Mr D Wright, 07545 472774

Eric Coxon 1st March 2022