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# Chorister

February 2010

## Welcome to the revamped 'Chorister' Newsletter

**Chorister'** covers information and news regarding the web sites 'British Choirs on the Net', 'Concertfinder', 'Choirsites' and other associated websites under the banner of Col Canto Associates.

British Choirs on the Net has become the foremost Choral Resource Listing web site in the UK. The aim is to support the British Choral tradition, the Music Manifesto and 'Singing for Health'

This newsletter has been sent to you as you are currently listed on one of the sites, or because the services you provide may be suitable for our website.

**British Choirs on the Net** The site continues to grow with over 2250 choirs now listed and we continue to welcome new choirs both UK based and internationally. [www.choirs.org.uk](http://www.choirs.org.uk)

The site continues to successfully place musical directors and accompanists with choral societies and choruses across the UK and at recent interviews for a particular post 2 of the 3 candidates interviewed applied via the British Choirs on the Net Vacancy pages.

**Concert Programme Notes** British Choirs on the Net hosts a library of Choral repertoire programme notes which are available for the free use of Choral Societies. We do ask however that you acknowledge in your concerts the authorship of these programme notes, as appropriate. Recent additions to the list include Stanford's Stabat Mater and Bob Chilcott's The Making of the Drum & Little Jazz Mass, all kindly provided by John Bawden.

## Choral Composition Opportunities

**Christmas carol writing competition.** New and established composers are invited to submit a carol for SATB voices of maximum 4 minutes duration. Initial short-listing will be undertaken by Jenny Sumerling, Musical Director of Edinburgh-based choir, Cadenza and Scottish composer, Tom Cunningham.

A final shortlist of six will be selected by a judging panel consisting of composers Bob Chilcott and James MacMillan and Simon Woods, Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. The six shortlisted carols will be performed by Cadenza at a concert in Edinburgh on Saturday 27th November 2010, and a cheque for £500 will be presented to the winning composer.

The winning carol will also be included on Cadenza's forthcoming Christmas CD.

Full competition guidelines and an application form can be downloaded from Waverley Care's website: [www.waverleycare.org](http://www.waverleycare.org) or telephone 0131 556 9710 to request an application pack.

Closing date for entries: Friday 21st May 2010.

The competition is sponsored by Sir Tom and Lady Farmer

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**The 2010 Thornesian Composition Prize** set up by Chantry Quire of Chichester is now running. Entrants are welcome to compose a 3 - 5 minute piece for choir and submit it before 1st September.

Winner receives £300 and runner up £100. For full details and an entry form please email Victoria Larley: [larley@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:larley@ukonline.co.uk)

Closing date for entries 30 August 2010

Going Places  
of Pleasantville, Inc.



### Hosts and Venues required

Going Places of Pleasantville, a specialist choir tour company based in NY, is planning to bring a American Chorus over to the UK in July 2011 and is looking for hosts, venues and possible sponsors for a tour of Devon & Cornwall. If you can help or would like more information please email [philliptolley@colcanto.co.uk](mailto:philliptolley@colcanto.co.uk)

## **Choirsites**

This is a site providing website design and web hosting to choirs. Currently the following choirs use this facility;

Balsham Singers, Cambridge  
Clarkson Singers Wisbech  
Chester-le-Street Civic Choir  
Charvil Voices, Wokingham  
Leominster Choral Society, Herefordshire

And most recently  
Holymoorside Choral Society, Derbyshire

[www.choirsites.co.uk](http://www.choirsites.co.uk)

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## **Concertfinder**

Concertfinder, the online calendar of choral concerts, is now listing events for 2010, 2011 and even 2012. Please submit your concert details via email in text format. Please do not send pdf or html posters which require the salient points to be extracted and can delay posting the concert

[www.concertfinder.co.uk](http://www.concertfinder.co.uk)

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## **Choirfriends**

This small site is designed to help chorister get back in touch with their friends and colleagues when you move to other choirs or (heaven forbid) stop singing. Recent searches have been for former members of the Belfast Girls Choir (in the 1940-1950's) , Ulster Girls Choir, the Hall Russell Male Choir (in the 1920—1930's) and the Wolverhampton Girls Choir (in the 1950's)

[www.choirfriends.co.uk](http://www.choirfriends.co.uk)

### **British Choirs on the Net Mailing Services**

British Choirs on the Net holds a database of over 2000 choir email contacts as a result of its business with these choirs. While the site has no intention of selling this it can provide a mailing service to choirs and businesses to help promote events and services of interest to the choral community.

Recent mailings have been sent out on behalf of English National Opera, the Unforgettable Choir Competition, a mass performance of Carmina Burana and a performance of Messiah to raise funds for the Haiti Earthquake Relief fund..

### **British Choirs on the Net Choral Conductors Forum**

This is a new group set upon on Facebook to enable Choral Directors, Choirs Secretaries and Choir members to informally discuss issues of performance practice, request new music and music exchanges and discuss other choral related issues.

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) We also have a presence on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/britishchoirs](https://www.twitter.com/britishchoirs)

### **VocalBroker**

This is a site which lists vocal soloists seeking work with Choral Societies and Choruses on the Oratorio or concert platform. It is not an agency and the Societies negotiate directly with singers with vocalbroker taking no commission. They are all experience singers and choral societies and choruses are asked to consider these singers when selecting voices for concerts. [www.vocalbroker.co.uk](http://www.vocalbroker.co.uk)

### **WeddingSingers**

This is a site which lists soloists, choirs, barbershop and gospel group who are looking for work performing at weddings [www.weddingsingers.org.uk](http://www.weddingsingers.org.uk)