

President: Douglas Potts Musical Director: Rachel Tweddle Chairman: Geoff Kirk

A very warm welcome to Isle of Wight Cantata Choir

The Isle of Wight Cantata Choir was founded in 1956, originally as The Isle of Wight Cantata Club, by Andrew Pusey, the County Music Advisor. Denis Wickens succeeded him in the adviser role and also as the choir's conductor from 1967 to 1976. In 1977, following in both roles, Douglas Potts took the choir forwards over a period of 21 years.

Rachel Tweddle has been our Musical Director since 1998 and continues to take the choir from strength to strength.

We are one of the largest choral groups on the island with c.100 members, and sing a varied range of music; from the major choral composers such as Verdi, Bach, Handel, Brahms, Fauré, Haydn, Vivaldi and Vaughan Williams, alongside more modern compositions from Paul Carr, Will Todd, Karl Jenkins, Alexander L'Estrange, Eric Whitacre, John Rutter and Bob Chilcott.

The choir's music programme is chosen by our Musical Director, Rachel Tweddle, who knows our capabilities. However, she is always open to suggestions.

We perform two concerts each year, with a Christmas Concert in alternate years. We are supported by professional soloists, and Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra musicians.

Rehearsals take place in Newport on Monday evenings, during term time, from 7.30pm to 9.15pm.

Upon joining, your Voice Section Leader will introduce themselves and others around you. We were all new once, so if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to approach them, or indeed any member of the committee, who will try to assist you.

We sincerely wish for your time spent singing with Cantata to be enjoyable and rewarding.

Please find enclosed in your Membership Pack - an Application Form, a Data Consent Form and a Gift Aid Form - which should be returned to Membership Secretary, Judith Goodhind.

We hope you will find the other information within the Pack informative and helpful.

We are delighted that you have chosen to sing with the Isle of Wight Cantata Choir and hope you enjoy many happy years singing with us.

Geoff Kirk

Geoff Kirk Chairman