



# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2007

*A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I have just returned from a few days break in Torquay. I still had the Christmas Cracker ringing in my ears! I thought it was a wonderful evening in every respect. I had given the Choir a lot of new learning including Bob Chilcott's magnificent '12 Days of Christmas'!. What a performance! Bob himself was thrilled with the whole evening and gave the choir lots of compliments. The DVD of John and Cleo was the icing on the cake for me personally. I am so very very proud that they agreed to become Joint Presidents. Even at the young age of 80, they are both world stars.

It was great that we were able to thank Geoff for all his years of service with Kentwood. I am sure that his Waterford Crystal decanter and whisky will always remind him of all the memorable times he had with Kentwood. Thank you Geoff.

2007 has been another great year for Kentwood with many highlights. What to 2008? We have a full calendar already. Our main Show Case at the Wyvern Theatre will be two performances on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Remember to book early. If tickets sell well 2009 will see us doing three performances as usual.

I must also thank Lydia for being Choir Secretary for more years than I can remember. Due to full time work commitments she feels she must stand down now but will continue to be Patron's Secretary. We are not filling the position as we have appointed Yvonne as Deputy Choir Manager to help Chris with the running of a very busy office. Thank you Lydia and thank you Yvonne.

All it needs me to do now is to wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful and healthy New Year. Whether Presidents, Vice Presidents, Patrons or Kentwood members, I love you all!!

Much love

*Sheila*



## **SHEILA'S CHRISTMAS GIFT**

*The Christmas Cracker is our time to say  
A big thanks to you and Chris in our normal way  
This year our gift to you is not one but two  
With instructions of what you have to do*

*We know you both like eating out  
So a voucher for a meal is what gift one is about  
The restaurant is local, not far away  
Jesmond House is the venue, just name the day*

*The second gift gives you some choosing to do  
You will be guided by Carolyn who will be helping you  
An organic meat box will be delivered to your door  
And we hope that cooking it won't be a chore*

*Thanks for another great singing year  
Plus lots of laughs and even a tear  
So it only now leaves us all to say  
Mele Kalikāmakā - that's the Hawaiian way!*

*From all members of Kentwood, young and old*

## **DONATION TO THE PROSPECT HOSPICE**

You will be all thrilled to know that we collected the sum of £575.10 at the two performances of the Christmas Cracker for the Prospect. We would like to thank the Wyvern Theatre very much for their kind donation of mince pies and mulled wine.



## FROM THE POST BAG

Dear Sheila

I should like to express my sincere thanks to you and the choir for the superb decanter and malt whisky presented to me during the lovely concert at the Wyvern on Sunday. It was very much appreciated.

The decanter will certainly be a reminder to me of the many highlights with Kentwood over the years and one that does stand out, appropriately so, was our impromptu performance of the Hallelujah Chorus at Waterford Crystal!

Wishing you continued success with Kentwood for many years to come. Best wishes

*Geoff*

Dear Sheila

The card said 'Thanks for taking the time. Thank you for being a generous soul and a beautiful spirit in a world that could use a million more people just like you. Thanks so much for everything you've done and for all that you continue to do.'

Sincere thanks to you and the members of your choir who gave up their time for entertain the residence of Fessey House and for making Mum feel so special. She enjoyed every minute and it was a lovely start to her 103<sup>rd</sup> Christmas.

*Jan, Don and family*

Dear Sheila and Chris

Many thanks to you and the Kentwood Show Choir for such and excellent all round performance last Sunday evening at the Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon. Everyone who attended was very complimentary about your professionalism and wide range of music and abilities. Thanks again, it was fantastic.

*Tony*

Dear Sheila

What a wonderful evening we had at Fabios. The choir members were tremendous and so entertaining. I just wish people would have more courtesy and not talk whilst they were performing. It could not have been easy and everyone must be admired for carrying on singing unaffected by such conditions. Your support for Macmillan is greatly appreciated and we are indebted to you and the choir.....

*Gill Thornton*

Dear Sheila

Thanks so much to you and your selected few from the Kentwood Show Choir for entertaining us so well on Tuesday evening at Fabios. The event was a huge success and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The raffle alone raised nearly £275, making the total raised for the event £1155. It was also very useful to meet the people who had come in to dine on Tuesday by chance and to spread the Macmillan name a little wider.....

*Graziella Campisano*



## **FUTURE CONCERTS**

### **2008**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 9 February   | British Legion at Braydon Forest School. C Pearson (770789)     |
| 29 February  | Ridgeway School, Wroughton. B Jankinson (747481)                |
| 1 March      | Memorial Hall, Wootton Bassett. D Parrott (01249 890498)        |
| 29 March     | Corn Exchange, Devizes. D Dolman (01380 721510)                 |
| 23 April     | St George's Day at Civic Offices, Swindon                       |
| 27 April     | St Luke's Church, Pinner (afternoon). P Williams (02088 660098) |
| 22 June      | Wyvern Show - two performances at 3pm and 7pm.                  |
| 5 July       | Corn Exchange, Hungerford. R Kellow (01488 682745)              |
| 12 July      | All Saint Church, Evesham. C Vizer (01386 641397)               |
| 3 August     | Macmillan, Hilton Hotel, Swindon. G Thornton (01367 252535)     |
| 4 October    | Assembly Hall, Melksham. S White (01225 704428)                 |
| 31 October   | Memorial Hall, Shrivenham. E Ware                               |
| 1&2 November | Junior Show, Arts Centre. (614837)                              |
| 30 November  | Christmas Cracker, Wyvern Theatre                               |

### **SWINDON MUSIC FESTIVAL 2008**

A quick reminder that the closing date for entries for next year's Festival is Friday 11 January 2008. Syllabus and entry forms are available from the website at [www.swindonmusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.swindonmusicfestival.co.uk)

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