

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SING?

A new mixed choir is to start in Port Isaac in the Autumn. We had a 'try-out' earlier in the year to gauge the interest which proved to be very successful and now plan to begin in earnest in September. We will need singers in all parts - soprano, alto, tenor, bass - and although experienced singers will be necessary, we will particularly welcome youthful people who perhaps haven't sung before in a choir.

The aim is to sing all types of songs from folksongs to popular songs with everything in between. There is a vast repertoire to choose from. If this interests you, come along to the first open rehearsal at the Green Door Club, Port Gaverne, on Tuesday 22nd. September, and give it a try. Who knows - it could be the start of something big!

As well as that, the excellent Port Isaac Singers will resume rehearsals on September 17th. at Port Isaac Primary School. We would like new members particularly sopranos. Come and give it a try. You will be given a warm welcome and may find a whole new way of life.

Janet Townsend.

Choral society to mark radio concert of 60 years ago

A CHANCE discovery earlier this year has prompted a special concert, which is to be held in Port Isaac Village Hall on Tuesday (May 28) at 7.30pm.

The concert will commemorate a similar event staged by the Port Isaac Choral Society in 1936, which was broadcast on the radio by the BBC.

Liz Rowe, one of the organisers of next week's concert, said that few local people had remembered the original broadcast, which had only come to their attention during a talk to the local history society by Cornish Bard and historian Eileen Spry.

She brought along the original souvenir programme for the 1936 concert and set the ball rolling for next week's concert.

"Back then the choral society was about the same size

as the present choir and included several members whose relatives are still singing with us," said Mrs Rowe.

The original society had eventually disbanded and the present Port Isaac Choral was formed many years later.

"A few members of the original choral society are still with us, including Bessie Selway, Joyce Honey, Muriel Couch, Gladys Collings, Muriel Tucker and Nurse England, and they are being invited as special guests for the occasion. If we have missed anyone, we would be delighted to hear from them," she said.

The programme on Tuesday will include one or two pieces that were sung in the original concert, and the concert will also feature some young musicians as well as the choir.

"The original concert was broadcast on the radio and proceeds from it went to the Wireless for Hospitals Fund. Proceeds from the present concert will go towards the Mermaid Appeal," said Mrs Rowe.

Since beginning organisation of next week's event, the choir has found a photograph, of the choral society taken in 1933 and showing most of those who took part in the 1936 concert.

As part of the anniversary celebration, the present choir posed outside the same building in Port Gaverne which provided the backdrop for the 1933 photograph.

To coincide with Tuesday's concert the Port Isaac Local History Group will be staging an exhibition of memorabilia recalling music in the village during the pre-war period.



Members of the present Port Isaac Choral Society.



Port Isaac Choral Society in 1933.

Port Isaac Chorale takes first prize at Music Festival



From the shtetls of Eastern Europe to the kibbutzim of Palestine, 'rejoice and be merry in song' is encapsulated in the well known and loved song 'Hava Nageela'. This rallying tune, bridging the cultural divide, travels from the Ukraine through to Israel and has been recorded by the likes of Harry Belafonte, Elvis, The Muppets, Connie Francis and Bob Dylan. This was the song chosen by our Musical Director as one of our entries in the 2015 Wadebridge Music and Speech Festival held at the beginning of March.

Sung in the Hebrew language, the choir had, 'secure pronunciations in Have Nageela and 'rhythmic charisma' (We are not quite sure what that is!) However, we crescendoed our way to the final 'Hey' with gay abandon and great excitement!

By complete contrast, our second piece was the title song from the moving and eponymous love story, 'The Way We Were' which starred Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford in the original film. This lilting and sensitive melody, written by the late Marvin Hamlisch, evokes the pain of lost love and memories of joyful laughter. With, 'sensitive interpretation of the words' and 'beautifully crafted dynamic markings', we finished our set only to scoop the first prize, finally winning that one point that has so eluded us in the past.

So, 'If we had the chance to do it all again, tell me, would we, could we?' Of course! Part of our repertoire includes learning two new pieces for the Festival and we will return next year with something special, maybe in Russian?? April 2015

Port Isaac Chorale

The Chorale was in disarray when Janet Townsend broke her ankle last December. So much had been planned for the festive season - was it all to be abandoned? No, the members of the Chorale are made of sterner stuff and the carol singing at the pottery went ahead, albeit with a novice organist! Carols were sung at St Kew on the coldest night in December, followed by our annual Xmas meal. Then, with the help of a wheelchair, a zimmer frame and several strong men, Janet joined us for our annual Carols at Port Gaverne.



Old Time Music Hall Night with the Port Isaac Chorale in the Village Hall in 2004

Port Isaac Chorale

A very special concert

In 1992, Janet Townsend began the mixed choir, the Port Isaac Chorale who are still going strong today. Over the years they have entertained many with their annual concerts and fundraising events.

PORT ISAAC CHORAL SOCIETY

SEASON 1935-36.

RONALD JAMES, (Conductor.)

SOPRANOS:

Mrs. E. Creighton	Mrs. M. Prout	Miss M. Couch
Mrs. S. Honey	Mrs. F. Williams	Miss D. Gale
Mrs. R. James	Miss I. Cory	Miss B. Hill
Miss B. Selway	Miss C. Saundry	Miss O. Williams

CONTRALTOS:

Mrs. R. Ashton	Mrs. J. Tucker	Miss A. Kendall
Mrs. E. England	Miss F. Bate	Miss D. Sweet
Mrs. L. Lobb		

TENORS:

Mr. H. Drabble	Mr. J. Provis	Mr. G. Sherratt
Mr. M. Prout	Mr. E. Rockett	Mr. N. Short
Mr. J. Prout		

BASSES:

Mr. S. Honey	Mr. J. May	Mr. J. Tucker
Mr. J. Honey	Mr. W. Mutton	Mr. J. Thomas
Mr. H. Howard	Mr. F. Podler	Mr. C. Wearne

Accompanist: Miss MURIEL COUCH.

Port Isaac Chorale

Season 1996

SOPRANOS

June Bryant	Liz Hosking	Jo Sherratt
Caroline Cleave	Sarah Kingsbury	Ann Steer
Sue Coster	Mary Lethbridge	Margaret Tucker
Sue Plitter	Barbara Oxley	Angela Williams
Elaine Pound	Denise Randell	Rosemary Williams

ALTOS

Margaret Cann	Jenny Oaten
Kathy Carney	Barbara Richards
Christine Hawkey	Liz Rowe
Carol Hurd	Gina Smart
Carole Lee	Linda Ward

TENORS

John Lethbridge	Peter Rowe
Lawrence Reeve	Bryan Richards
	Nigel Sherratt

BASSES

Jon Cleave	Mark Provis
Michael Mably	George Steer
George Oxley	Ernest Tucker
Richard Smart	David Ward

Port Isaac Chorale

60th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

to commemorate a Grand Concert of the Port Isaac Choral Society in 1936

at
The Village (Temperance) Hall

on
Tuesday 28th May 1996

at 7.30 pm

Musical Director
Janet Townsend BA, ARCM

Accompanist
Maureen Wakeham ARCM

Chairman
John Bennallick

In aid of The Mermaid Appeal