

## **Queens Park Singers**

### **Minutes of committee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 62 Teignmouth Road, NW 2 at 8 p.m.**

#### **Present:**

Monica Healy, Chairperson  
Glyn Jones, Publicity Officer  
Simon Judge, Treasurer  
David Till, Musical Director  
Maggie Turp, Membership Secretary  
Peter Burtt-Jones, observer

#### **Apologies:**

Marion Paul, Minutes Secretary  
Liz Till, Librarian  
Mary Phillips, observer

#### **Previous minutes**

Minutes of previous meeting were read and agreed.

It was noted that there had been a meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November, which had been purely a planning meeting regarding the Christmas Story performance to cover all practical details.

#### **Report on Christmas Concert**

Peter was pleased at the outcome: second performance better than the first. Generally under-rehearsed - particularly the dramatic bit – even a couple of rehearsals more would have made a difference. Very encouraged by the way the choir had risen to the challenge of acting and singing.

Personal thanks to David for his guidance and advice, Mary for work with the Juniors, Julia and Tanya for help with the costumes, and also Jo for organising aprons. Would like to revisit in a couple of years and maybe consider a different venue. (Suggestion of rehabilitated dining room at Salusbury Road Junior School.)

Comments: Choir members had found it difficult to learn the music (partly the music itself!) Controlling ticketing on the door had been difficult – partly because of having two performances. There had been a discrepancy between cost of tickets on publicity and envelopes: family price misquoted. And report of at least one family deciding it was too expensive. Refreshments had worked because of non-singers – essential to have non-singers helping. It could be useful to start building a guidance book for putting on concerts.

**Carols round the park.** There had been a request to sing in the park. Possible event at the lighting of the tree. Peter suggested Christmas Eve. Maggie said there were lots of people in the park on Christmas afternoon. To be reconsidered for Christmas '09.

## **Planning for February concert.**

Publicity would be very important as there would be no Juniors to bring in parents. Handout and tickets would be ready for 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Emphasise to choir members that, if everyone brought two people, the hall would be full.

Ticket prices: Adult: £8; Concessions: £5; Family £12. Members of Queens Park Junior Singers: free and £5 for accompanying parents.

Publicity through QPRA.; Church on the Rise, (MAH); St Mary's, Willesden; Ham & High (subject to cost); local shops.

Catherine Fried had agreed to "train" those speaking verse.

## **Calendar**

**Summer Concert, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2009.** David suggested Mendelssohn (A Midsummer's Night Dream?) Purcell - (possibly children doing something from Dido and Aeneas.) Handel, Haydn?

**Christmas Concert, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2009. Bach Christmas Oratorio**

Would fix rehearsals; a workshop on Bach after A.G.M?

## **Any Other Business**

1) Peter wanted to clarify his role. Mary was getting substantial work and was concerned that she might not be able to give full commitment because of work pressures. Peter felt there was good collaboration between the two. He did not want to step on David's toes but needed to know what his position was so that he could plan ahead for the choir. David made it clear that he was happy to reduce his responsibility and the committee warmly welcomed and were grateful for Peter's offer. Strictly speaking, the appointment of a Musical Director was for the membership. It was agreed that, in the interim, the committee would appoint Peter as a guest conductor, to work in collaboration with Mary.

2) Proposal to increase fees for 09/10 to be put to the A.G.M. It was noted that the Junior Choir, who pay on a weekly basis, pay more than the adult choir.

**Date of next meeting:** Monica to circulate suggested dates in April.