



# Newsletter

Spring Term 2020

Issue Number 2

## Chairman's Column

The period running up to Christmas saw the Society at its busiest: two concerts at St. Peters, Society members singing at the Library, the Mill Hotel, the Christmas Fair, and turning-on of the local Christmas lights. We had very positive responses from the public. Though the November concert was not well attended it received a glowing press review, and after the December concert, some regulars declared we had sung as well as ever. David Butcher's music selection and performance was singled out by many for well-deserved praise, and the point was made that the diversity of music we were capable of singing was a measure of the versatility of this choir and its conductor.

In this issue you will find the 2020 music programme which, again, is varied and interesting. The Society continues to grow in numbers and we remain able to finance the orchestral and soloist accompaniment to two concerts this year, which always adds an extra dimension to our performances and our pleasure in taking part. We are taking steps to maintain an income to continue in the same vein in the coming years, by increasing audience numbers and by raising the level of sponsorship.



### Profile

#### David Butcher

David Butcher originally hails from Hertfordshire, although Suffolk has been home for many years

David's musical experience is wide-ranging .....as well as being the musical director of Sudbury Choral Society, he is accompanist for the Sudbury-based Accidentals, Ipswich-based Musicology (both vocal groups) and is increasingly to be found playing keys in pit bands for several music theatre groups in Suffolk.

David's original instrument is the pipe organ, and, for many years, he has provided so-called "sample sets" for the Hauptwerk computer programme which aims to offer the playing experience of a real pipe organ in the comfort of your own home.

David's main day job is in local radio with the BBC, and he recently made his debut - and possibly the classical organ's too! - on BBC 6 Music, with some pipe organ re-imaginings of some of the 6 Music playlist.

David is married with two children and lives near Ipswich. He has been the Musical Director of the Sudbury Choral Society for 27 years now.

### Pat yourselves on the back! –Concert Reviews

#### Summer 2019 Concert

"Huge congratulations to Sudbury Choral Society and St. Gregory's Primary School choir on a fantastic concert in St. Peter's this afternoon. So lovely to have something for all ages and really inspiring for the children to experience something they could be a part of in the future. My four year old loved the Disney finale. More like this please!"

**November 2019 concert. CURTAIN CALL** (Halstead Gazette - review by Pat Rudkins)

"C.P.E Bach's challenging Magnificat achieved glory, from Anna Cooper's solo onwards. The Chorus' robust dynamics brought the work to a satisfying close. Soprano Ffion Edwards did admirable justice to the cleverly-inserted familiarity of Mozart's Exultate Jubilate, while Michael Bell and James Atkinson did sterling work throughout the programme.

Rightly, the excellent programme notes commended the vivacity, despite its title, of Mozart's Solemn Vespers. Once again, an excellent climax emphasised the Society's strengths. Musical Director David Butcher managed singers and instrumentalists with a fierce work ethic."

**December concert** There was no formal review of this concert, but our President was moved to say a few words of praise at the end of performance. For us, then, 2019 is a hard act to follow!

## Dates for your Diary 2020 – Concerts

Spring	5th April	Fauré— Requiem / Poulenc Gloria	1st Rehearsal	8th. Jan
Summer	7th. June	English Eccentricity – G & S to the Beatles.	1st Rehearsal	6th. April
Autumn	15th Nov.	Monteverdi/Vivaldi/Gjeilo/Grieg	1st Rehearsal	14th. Sept
Christmas	20th. Dec.	L'Estrange, - Wassail, Carols, Readings	1st Rehearsal	Nov.16th.