

ELTHAM CHORAL SOCIETY CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2017 - 2018

Season 2017 - 2018 - as always, another busy and challenging year for Eltham Choral Society .

Following our Singing Day in early autumn, our Christmas concert featured works by Britten, McDowall, Stanford and Holst in a varied programme which included carols for choir and audience, and we were particularly pleased to welcome the talented young singers of the Royal Greenwich and Blackheath Halls Youth Choir .

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the season was an excellent performance of Verdi's Requiem in Southwark Cathedral on a cold wintry evening in March , when ECS joined with West Barnes Singers and Wimbledon Youth Choir, full orchestra and superb soloists in front of a packed cathedral audience . It was a tremendously rewarding experience and a privilege to be part of such an occasion . This project was the culmination of almost two years of co-operative planning and preparation, and particular thanks and congratulations to Max who initiated the idea and conducted the performance so admirably .

Our choir tour to the delightful city of Lisbon followed in late May . This thoroughly enjoyable tour was the tenth in the last twenty years in which my colleague Tony Crowe and I have been involved in organising, and it is time for others to take over . It is encouraging to learn that a group of members are considering this . Watch this space !

Music for Remembrance was the theme of our summer concert . It was a poignant reminder of the centenary of the end of WW1 ,with a performance of Jenkins' The Armed Man , together with part of Treseder's In Flanders Field, our ECS Commission , first performed in 2017 .

ECS has had a very loyal and committed membership for many years ,but the age-profile of ECS is gradually increasing . The recruitment of young(er) people is challenging . Ideas, thoughts, suggestions ,please .

Thanks as always to Max and Andrew, to the Committee for all their endeavours, and to all who help in a variety of ways .

Happy singing in the year ahead .

Roderick Tutt, Chairman. October 2018