

SOL PROJECT: HEBDEN BRIDGE WORSHOP 4th – 6th April 2014

WELCOME TO HEBDEN BRIDGE Newsletter 1: December 2013

The Hepton Singers are tooking forward very much to welcoming you to our beautiful town of Hebden Bridge, for what will be an enjoyable weekend of music making.

This is the first Hebden Bridge newsletter. Other information will follow shortly.

About our town

Hebden Bridge is a small town with a lot of character. We are about half way between the cities of Manchester and Leeds, in the heart of the Pennine hills which run up the spine of northern England.

We were originally an industrial town, dependent on the textile trade; our area was one of the birthplaces of the industrial revolution. Almost all our textile factories closed in the 1960s and 1970s and after that the town went through a period of transformation. Because of our



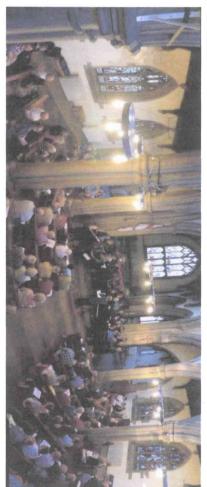
beautiful location and also because of the large number of small independent shops, Hebden Bridge is now a popular tourist destination. We are particularly well known for our strong artistic and cultural life; many visual artists and workers in the creative industries now live here. You might sense, perhaps, a certain radicalism in the atmosphere as you walk around our town centre, some might say that it's a reincarnation of the early radicalism of the textile workers a

century and a half ago, as they struggled for democracy. Hebden Bridge today is a place where many different kinds of people feel they belong.

You can find out a lot about the town on our community-run website at www.hebdenbridge.co.uk

About our choir: The Hepton Singers

We are a choir of about forty local people, who meet to rehearse once a week. Our repertoire ranges from early music to contemporary choral works; one recent programme consisted entirely of works by women composers and we have in recent years performed music written specially for us. We will be teaching you one piece composed by our own musical director Alison West and she will conduct this piece. All other pieces will be conducted by David Bartlett, one of our assistant conductors.



You will find our choir website at www.heptonsingers.co.uk.

Your travel plans

We strongly advise you to fly into Manchester airport. We will be starting rehearsals at 17:00 on Friday 4th April and to allow you to travel to Hebden Bridge for this time you should aim to arrive in Manchester by 13:00 on Friday. Depending on the number of visitors arriving at this time, we will try to meet flights between 11:30 and 13:00 and help you to arrange travel to Hebden Bridge. We will also help to arrange transport back to Manchester on Monday morning.

minibus taxi to pick you up and bring you to Hebden Bridge (cost about €60 each If you arrive at Manchester airport earlier or later, we can help you to book a local

of how to do this on request airport and to Hebden Bridge (cost about €20 per person). We can give you details contemporary city. Transport links are good from Manchester city centre to the You might want to extend your stay and visit Manchester en route; an exciting

could get to Hebden Bridge from these by a combination of bus and train or by you details of how to do this on request Two other airports, Liverpool and Leeds/Bradford are also relatively close and you taxi. You can also travel by train or coach through London and Leeds. We will give

options you prefer and we can help you to make arrangements accommodation details. You can then request further information on the In January we will send you a form to complete to tell us your travel and

Accommodation

stay in Hebden Bridge itself so that everywhere is within walking distance Because our town is small, there are limited options here. We recommend that you

January book places through the choir contact when we send out accommodation details in We have already taken a block booking on the Hebden Bridge hoste (www.hebdenbridgehostel.co.uk). Any visitors wishing to stay at the hostel should

The weekend

on Saturday atternoon. of the weekend. We are rehearsing at the lunch, shopping and sight-seeing in the town Saturday, and you will also have free time for Town Hall on Friday early evening and We will be based in Hebden Bridge for most



you are welcome to join us centre) and members of our choir will be making bookings at local restaurants and (there are many cafes, pubs and restaurants at a variety of prices in the town You can make your own arrangements for evening meals on Friday and Saturday

here is our regular concert venue, hence our name The Hepton Singers Heptonstall is a small historic village close to Hebden Bridge and the parish church Sunday afternoon and so have a rehearsal in this venue on Sunday morning We will be performing in an old church (with good acoustics!) in Heptonstall or

evening After the performance we have arranged a farewell social event on Sunday

Here is a draft of timings for the weekend

Friday 4th April (based at Hebden Bridge Town Hall)

16:00 of our choir Arrival for refreshments and informal conversations with members

Rehearsal

19:00 - 19:45Welcome Reception

Evening We suggest that we eat together afterwards at a local restaurant. (Likely cost about €25-30 per person, including wine.)

Saturday 5th April (based at Hebden Bridge Town Hall

09:30 Rehearsal including 15 minute break

12:15 Free time for lunch, shopping and sightseeing in Hebden Bridge

15:00 - 18:30Rehearsal including 15 minute break

Evening us at another local restaurant. Members of our choir will come too You have a free choice for dinner but, again, you may wish to join

Sunday 6th April (based at Heptonstall and then Hebden Bridge)

10:00 Rehearsal in our concert venue, Heptonstall Church

15:00 - 17:00Concert in Heptonstall Church Free time for lunch and sight-seeing in Heptonstall

12:00

Evening: Farewell Social with food at The Birchcliffe

will be able to learn some easy English folk dances Centre, Hebden Bridge. A local folk band will be playing and you

What to wear

also enjoy sunshine too cold. Considering the time of year (April showers!) come prepared for rain, but we Because we are in the hills (albeit only at 100-300m) come prepared for it to be

The dress code for the concert will be

Men: black suit, black shirt, black shoes, plain coloured tie (optional)

shoes, plain coloured scart (optional). Women: long black dress, skirt or trousers, black top with long sleeves, black

Please note that the church where we perform can be cold



Special requirements

requesting detail of anyone in your group who has particular dietary requirements wheelchair user or has other disabilities or special needs. We will also be be requesting information on anyone in your group who has mobility difficulties, is a happy to make reasonable adaptations to enable this to happen. In January we will We want all our visitors to be able to participate fully in our workshop and are

options you prefer and we can help you to make arrangements accommodation details. You can then request further information on the In January we will send you a form to complete to tell us your travel and

or special needs can be accommodated, please get in touch with Helen. If you need more information in advance of this about whether your disability



Our repertoire is as agreed and all the music is available on the SOL website.

Kolysanka Dormi Jesu

Fiat Pax

Nuit

Na Horach

lo Pian

Rise Up, My Love

O Jesu Dolce

Such Spirals (piece composed by our Musical Director, Alison West, for performance on this workshop only)

Background information

A useful community-run website is www.hebdenbridge.co.uk

Hepton Singers website at www.heptonsingers.co.uk

Our contact

Helen Plaice, plaiceh@gmail.com