

Halifax

Choral Society

February 2010

Dear Concert-goer

My letter aims to make sure you don't overlook a forthcoming concert from the **Halifax Choral Society** and their special guests, the **EDINBURGH ROYAL CHORAL UNION**, on **Sunday 28th March**, commencing at 7.30 p.m. at the Victoria Theatre, Halifax.

The concert features two outstanding choirs combining to perform two monumental choral works, the **VERDI REQUIEM** and **HOLST'S "HYMN OF JESUS"**. The **Verdi Requiem** is an amazing work, intensely moving and full of the most sublime music. The tender compassion of the beautiful 'Kyrie' and 'Agnus Dei' contrasts the trumpets of doom and blazing hell fires in the 'Dies Irae'. No wonder it is the one of the most popular works in the choral repertoire.

The "**Hymn of Jesus**" is a fabulous creation by the composer of "The Planets" Suite, in which awesome, rhythmic and jubilant music portrays the mystic meanings of the text.

Both works need major musical forces and with the two choirs combining with the full North of England Concert Orchestra, the sound will be incredible!

In addition to these delights, the concert includes another work by Gustav Holst. This is his evocative "**INVOCATION TO MUSIC**", for solo cello and orchestra, which echoes *Venus* from his 'Planets' Suite. The soloist will be ALEXANDER VOLPOV, a renowned Russian cello soloist and chamber musician who is also principal cello in the North of England Concert Orchestra, as well as guest principal with many other leading orchestras.

The conductor for the concert is John Pryce-Jones, the well-known and popular artistic director of the Choral Society,

This promises to be a very special night out indeed, not least as the HCS are sharing the platform with their guests, the EDINBURGH ROYAL CHORAL UNION. This Scottish choir has recently celebrated 150 years of music making and performs regularly in the Edinburgh Usher Hall where the HCS will join them to sing in May of this year.

Tickets are now on sale from the Victoria Theatre Box Office, which is open between 10am and 6pm Monday to Saturday, although you may purchase or reserve tickets over the phone 01422 351158.

Prices range from £8 to £25 and there are generous concessions available.

I look forward to the pleasure of your company in the audience on 28th March.

Ann Copeland

Administrator