

## **Cantorum AGM Chair's Report January 2026**

The past year has presented a variety of opportunities for Cantorum to grow and develop, not least by welcoming new members to the choir. We have extended our links with the local community, both by providing entertainment for special occasions and helping with the fund-raising ventures of institutions.

### **Areas of Achievement:**

Lutterworth Golf Club hosted our very successful Silver Anniversary dinner. Thanks go to those members who worked so hard to make this evening a success.

The development of Cantorum's website has aided us in recruitment, publicity, the dissemination of music and keeping members abreast of choir activities.

We experimented by moving our "Strawberry Concert" to a new venue. Whilst this experiment was not without its issues, we received positive feedback on our performance.

We were invited to perform at St Joseph's Church, Monks Kirby and St Peter's Church in Gilmorton. Both occasions were enjoyable experiences for choir members.

### **The Committee**

2025 has been a challenging year for the committee. There were a few changes because of illness and individuals having other commitments. Both factors led to a change of roles within the committee. One disappointing consequence of these changes was a lack of social activities compared to other years. There were however, two walks during the year and a get together for coffee/cake. Moving forward we hope to improve on our social calendar.

### **Looking Forward**

The choir's primary purpose is to sing, for fun/pleasure, as such we would like to cut the amount of paperwork. One way to do this is via the website. As part of this move towards less bureaucracy Andrew has written a new, slimline constitution. Members have had access to this new draft constitution for information and consideration prior to the AGM. Opinions will be taken at the meeting.

Going forward, the committee will request help from members to fulfil specific tasks/projects with no expectation of joining the committee. In this spirit, Cate (A) and Kate (W) have agreed to organise social activities for the choir in 2026. Daphne has agreed to act as Welcoming Secretary. Cantorum committee would like to thank the above and also Carole and Linda for overseeing the decoration of Cantorum's Christmas tree for the festival. Thanks also go to members who made decorations for the tree.

Cantorum's Summer concert will return to the Methodist Church and will follow the format of the Christmas concert i.e. light refreshments. This will reduce the work for members and keep the price of tickets competitive.

Our Summer Concert will not feature Highcliffe. We will need to review how the decision to "go it alone" works, prior to our Christmas concert.

## **Charity for 2026/7**

Over recent years we have supported: Age Concern, Lutterworth and District, Lutterworth and Villages Food Bank. Lutterworth Hygiene Bank, First Responders and Dementia Care. The Committee feel that now is the time to select a new charity to sponsor over the next twelve months. Ideas put forward by the committee are:

Loros

Rainbows Children's Hospice, Leicestershire & Rutland

The Hygiene Bank

If you would like to nominate another charity, please let Sheila know. A vote will then be organised to select one for 2026.

Marilyn Dowell Chair

Sheila Eggleton Acting Chair.