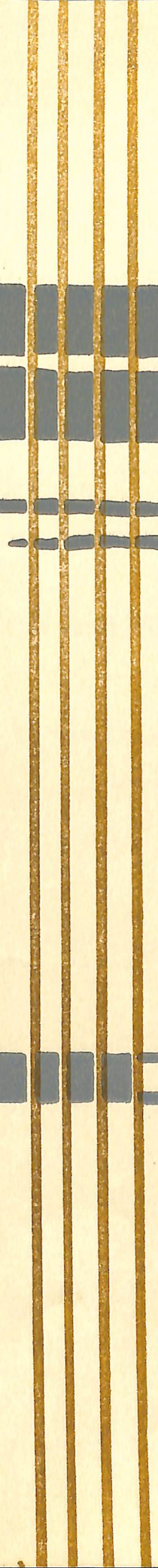


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MANOEL

THE MALTA CHORAL SOCIETY

present

MERRIE ENGLAND

(CONCERT VERSION)

by

BASIL HOOD and SIR EDWARD GERMAN

In Aid Of The

St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral Roof Appeal Fund

AT THE

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Under The Distinguished Patronage of

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

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THE MALTA CHORAL SOCIETY

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The Society was formed in 1936 as a Madrigal and Glee Club, which was renamed the Malta Choral Society some time before 1940. It was disbanded during the war, but started afresh in 1953 with rehearsals for performances of "Merrie England" which took place in May 1954. Since then the Society has aimed at producing two concerts each year — a religious work in December, and a secular work in the Spring.

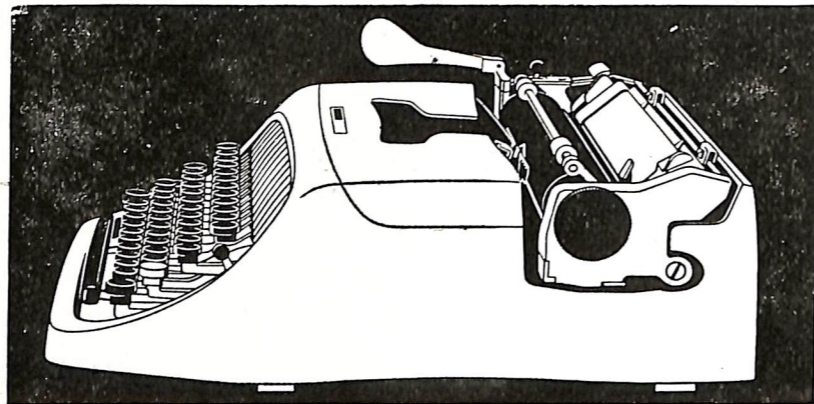
The Society is self-supporting and non-profit-making, and membership is open to all residents in Malta, irrespective of nationality. Its object is to provide opportunities for singing and hearing concert performances of choral music of all periods and composers. New members are always welcome, as replacements are continually required for members who have to return to the United Kingdom at the end of their tours of duty. The secretary, Mrs. Barbara Dean, of 173/7, Tower Rd., Sliema, will be happy to answer any enquiries. Rehearsals are held in the Lamplough Hall Floriana, on Mondays at 7 30 p.m.

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THE STORY

Sir Walter Raleigh is in love with Bessie Throckmorton, one of Queen Elizabeth's Maids of Honour. He writes an acrostic to her, which being lost is found by Jill-all-alone, a dweller in the woods, who is suspected of being a witch; she gives it to the Earl of Essex, who considering Sir Walter Raleigh to be his rival for the hand of Queen Elizabeth, uses it against him by handing it to the Queen. She reads the praises of a certain Bessie, and taking the compliment to herself, is not displeased thereby; when, however, she discovers that the acrostic was intended for her maid (Bessie Throckmorton) she orders Raleigh to be banished and Bessie to be imprisoned. Jill, who has further incensed the Queen by some mocking words, is ordered to be burnt as a witch.

Essex, when he discovers that Raleigh is not his rival, attempts to repair the mischief he has wrought by the following device:—

He arranges that one of the foresters shall impersonate Herne the Hunter and appear in an apparition to the Queen while she is seated in the forest beneath Herne's Oak. According to tradition the appearance of the weird huntsman occurs only when the monarch contemplates a crime. The device succeeds, the Queen relents, and both the lovers and Jill are pardoned.

The various songs about Robin Hood occur in a play presented to the Queen as part of the May Day celebrations. These celebrations are interrupted by the Queen, and later resumed.

SIR EDWARD GERMAN

This composer, who was born Edward German Jones, lived from 1862 to 1936. He wrote two symphonies, incidental music to Shakespearean plays, and the light operas:— "Tom Jones", "A Princess of Kensington", "The Emerald Isle", (in conjunction with Arthur Sullivan) and, most famous of all, "Merrie England". The "Henry VIII" and "Nell Gwynn" dances are also popular.

MERRIE ENGLAND

(Concert Version)

Words by BASIL HOOD

Music by SIR EDWARD GERMAN

PART I

- Introduction
1. OPENING CHORUS "Sing adown, adown"
 2. SONG (Jill) AND CHORUS "Oh where the deer do lie"
 3. SONG (Raleigh) AND CHORUS "That every Jack"
 4. CHORUS "Love is meant to make us glad"
 5. BALLAD (Bessie) "She had a letter from her love"
 6. SONG (Essex) AND CHORUS "The Yeomen of England"
 7. DUET (Bessie and Raleigh) "Come to Arcadie"
 8. MARCH AND CHORUS "Long Live Elizabeth"
 9. SONG (Elizabeth) WITH CHORUS "O Peaceful England"
 10. FINALE "It is a tale of Robin Hood"

INTERVAL

PART II

11. INTRODUCTION AND CHORUS SOLO (Jill) "The Month of May"
12. CHORUS "Cat, cat, where have you been?"
13. QUARTET AND MALE CHORUS "In England, Merrie England"
14. DUET (Jill and Raleigh) "The Sun in the heaven is high"
15. RUSTIC DANCE AND JIG "It is the merry month of May"
16. SONG (Raleigh) "The English Rose"
17. DUET (Essex and Raleigh) AND CHORUS "Two merry men a-drinking"
18. WALTZ SONG (Bessie) "Who shall say"
19. SONG (Essex) WITH TRIO (Bessie, Jill, Raleigh) "When Cupid First"
20. FINALE "Robin Hood's Wedding"

SOLOISTS

- Bessie RUBY MOAR
- Jill JILL BARNES
- Queen Elizabeth MARGARET SALMON
- Raleigh ROY TATTON
- Essex DENIS CARVER

THE FOUR MEN OF WINDSOR

- Tailor GEOFFREY SALMON
- Baker WILLIAM ALEXANDER
- Tinker HARRY BARRATT
- Butcher ROBIN LATTA

-
- Conductor QUINTIN DES CLAYES
- Accompanist RICHARD GERRARD

-
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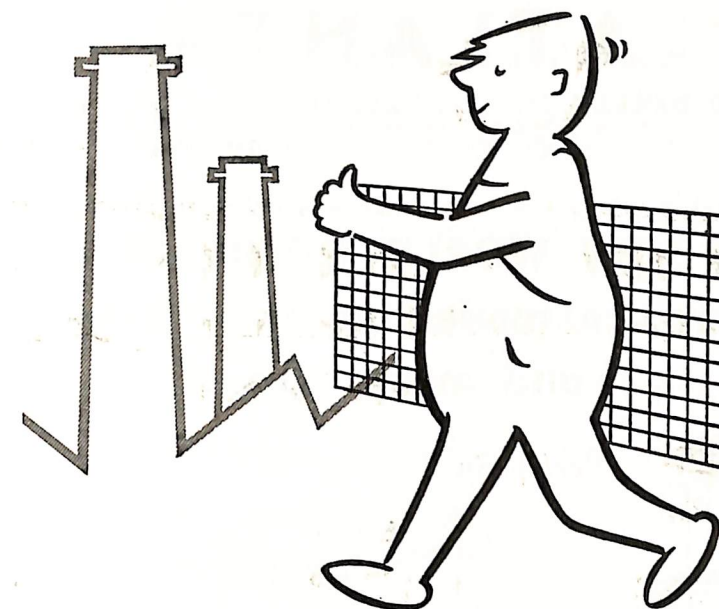
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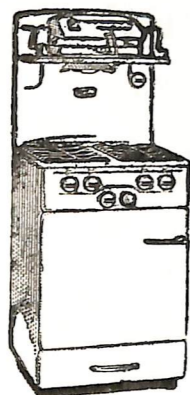
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Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium, Boxes and the Gallery.

The Management reserve to themselves the right to make any change, vary or omit any part of the programme without previous notice.

Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs during the performance is not allowed.

All seats bookable in advance (including gallery).

Seats can be reserved for organised parties on application.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

G. Miliareis — *Celebrity Guitar Recital 6th and 7th April.*

* * *

A Play by the Malta Drama League — "Il-Kerrejja" (Third Prize winning play in the M.T.M.C. Playwriting Competition) on 20th and 21st April.

* * *

A Play by Alvaro Fontana — "The Hands of Eurydice" by Pedro Block on 25th and 27th April.

* * *

A Play in Maltese by Maleth Company 4th and 5th May.

* * *

"Marching Song" — M.A.D.C. from 8th to 11th May.

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