

The Choral Society

# NABUCCO

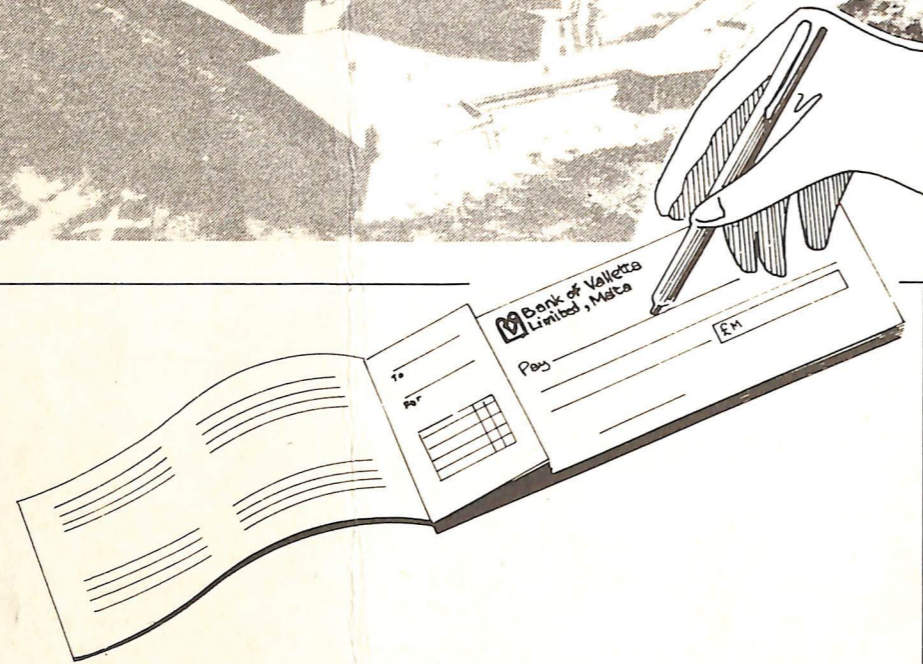
concert version

by  
Giuseppe Verdi

*14th April, 1982*



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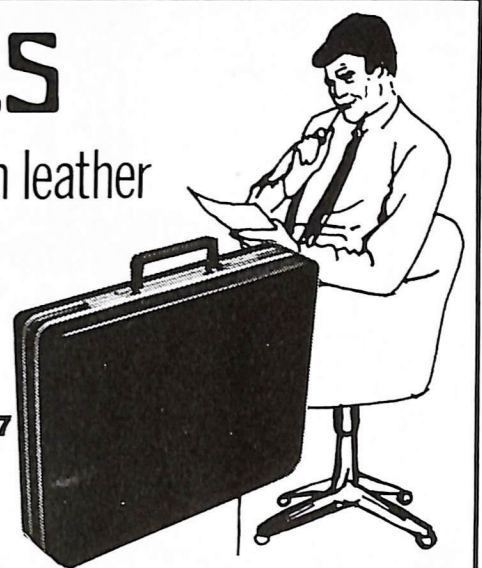
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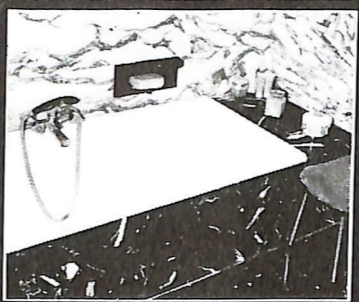
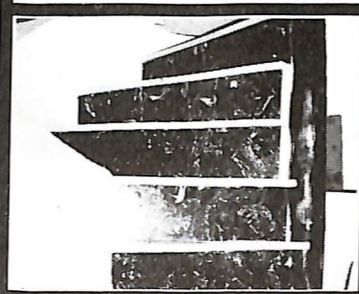
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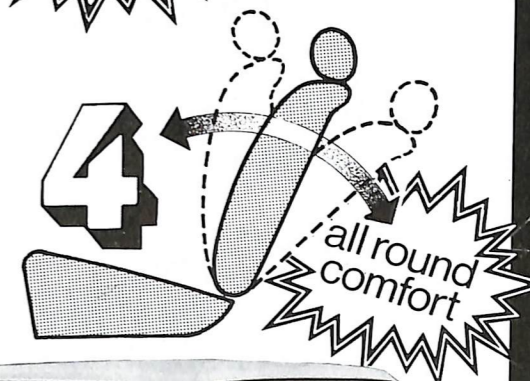
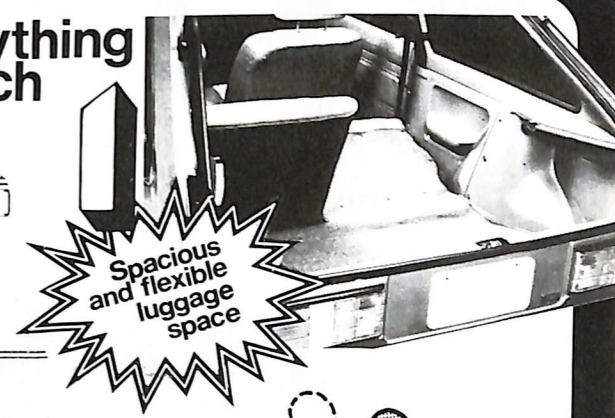
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# THE CHORAL SOCIETY

## History:

The Society was founded in 1936 as a Madrigal and Glee Club which was re-named the Malta Choral some time before 1940.

There were no performances during the war years, but the Society was revived in 1947 as a Madrigal and Glee Club. In 1952 it lapsed once again but was re-constituted the following year as the Malta Choral Society. In 1979, in accordance with local legislation, the Society took its present name.

## Aims:

The Society exists to provide opportunities for singing and hearing concert performances of choral music of all periods and composers. The Society endeavours to produce two concert performances each year.

## Members:

Members are of two kinds, Singing members (and amongst those singing tonight are representatives of Malta, Britain, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Italy and Norway) and Associate members. Singing members normally meet once a week for rehearsal, except during the months of July and August. Associate members help to support the Society by means of a small annual subscription, in return for which they are allowed facilities for prior booking for concerts.

To become a member of the Society please write to:

**The Hon. Secretary,  
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## Thanks:

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# GIUSEPPE VERDI 1813 — 1901

Giuseppe Verdi was born on the 10th October, 1813 at Le Roncole, a small village near Busseto, Italy, of humble parentage.

His musical talent revealed itself early and, in fact, his parents bought a second-hand spinet for him when he was only eight years old. Two years later he became the pupil of the director of the music school of Busseto, and the *maestro di cappella* and the cathedral organist both began to take an interest in his education. He was only twelve when he became an official church organist. At about this time Antonio Barezzi, a merchant from Busseto, began to take a hand in advising the young Verdi's parents. From then on he figured prominently in the youth's life and career.

By the time he was fifteen his compositions were being performed in public, comprising pieces for flute, clarinet, bassoon or horn with orchestral accompaniment, and also for voice and piano, piano solo or organ. These works were both sacred and secular, and are still to be found in the archives in Busseto.

It was now evident that his musical education should become more formal. Various applications were made for 'financial subsidies' (study grants in today's terminology) to enable him to study in Milan and an annual subsidy of 300 lire was granted by the mayor of Busseto for this purpose. He became the pupil of Lavigna, the *maestro al cembalo* of La Scala who was responsible for the preparation and rehearsal of operas. It was in Milan that Verdi first had the opportunity of hearing music performed professionally, and he continued his studies there until April 1836 when, at the age of 22 he returned to Busseto to become *maestro di musica* for the town. The following month he married Margherita Barezzi, the daughter of his patron, and two years later he returned to Milan and took up permanent residence. This period of domesticity came to a sad end, when his two children and his wife all died within less than two years.

In 1839 Verdi's opera "Oberto" was performed with a libretto by Piazza revised by Solera. Solera later collaborated with Verdi on **Nabucco, I Lombardi, Giovanna d'Arco and Attila.**

"Nabucco" was Verdi's first major success and was dedicated to Her Imperial Highness the Most Illustrious Archduchess Adelaide of Austria, the fiancée of Vittorio Emanuele on the 31st March 1842. The composer was now 28 years of age.

"Nabucco" was closely followed by "I Lombardi", and Verdi by now had become a public figure who was to write 32 operas in all between the years of 1839 and 1893.

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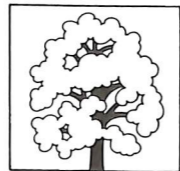
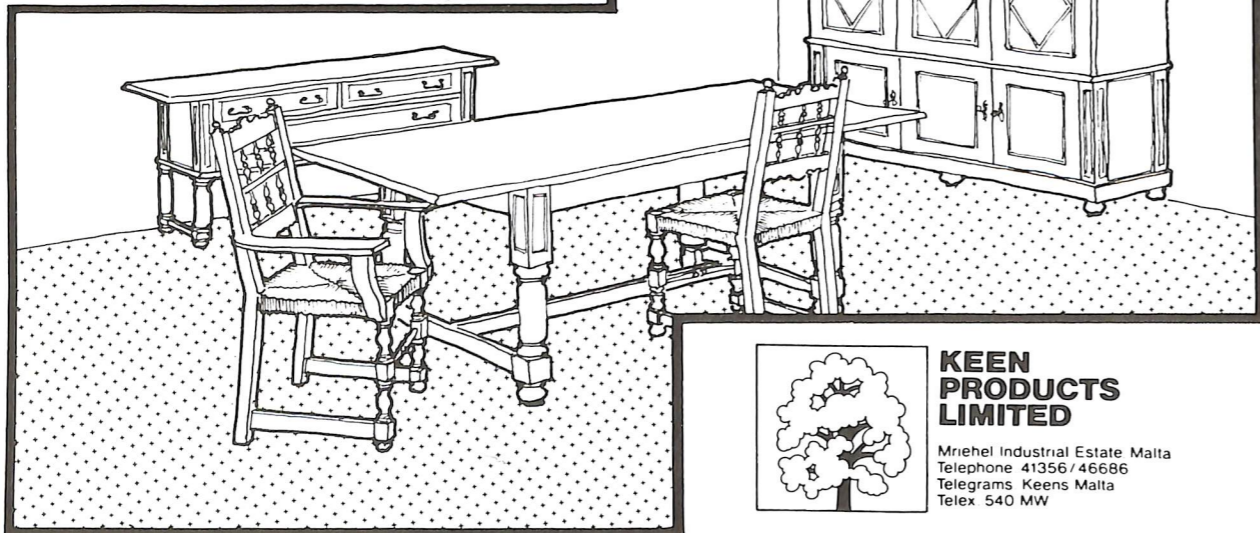
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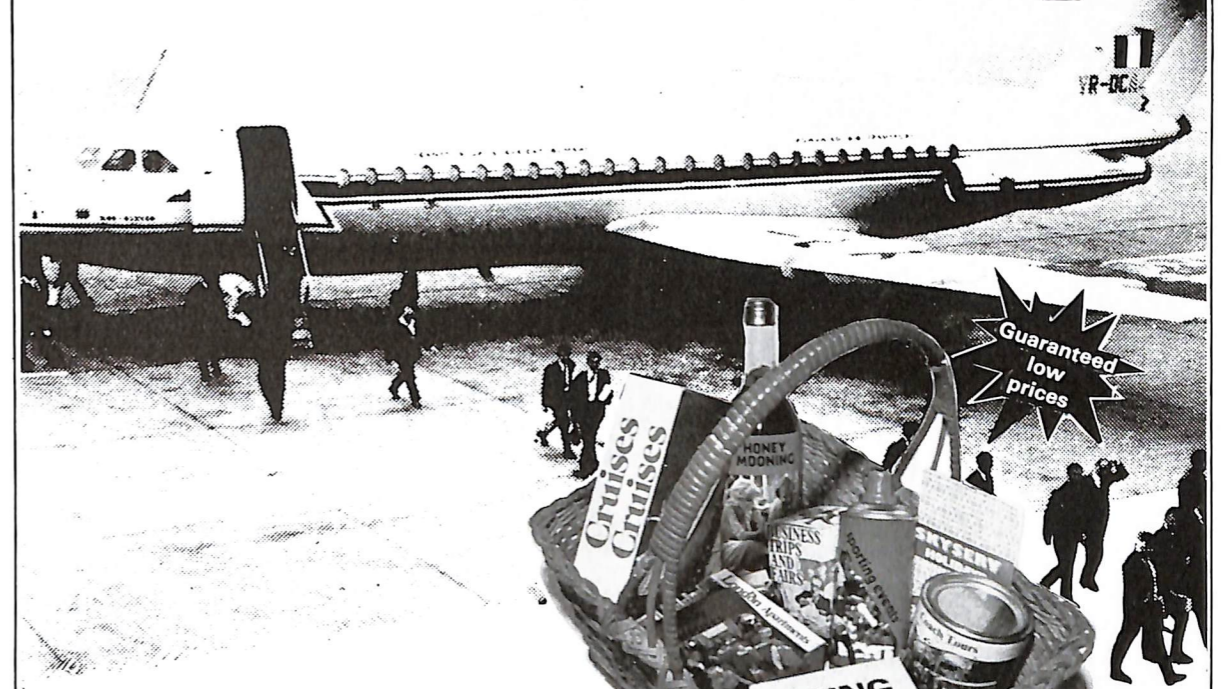
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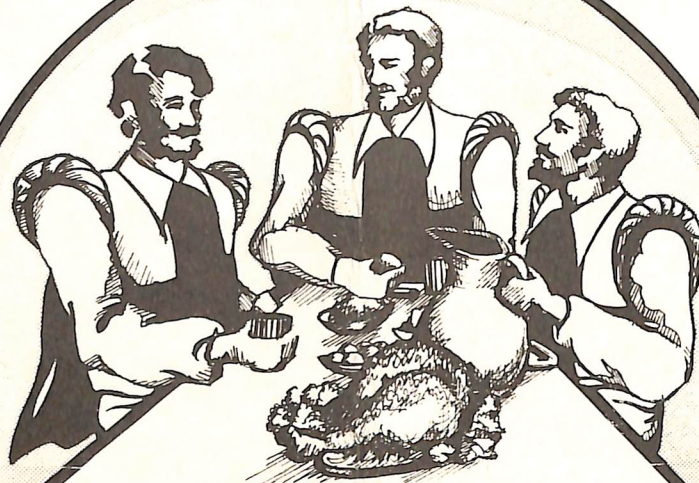
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