

27 August 2020



Dear Friends,

The Society's 2020 Annual General Meeting will take place, by *Zoom* online, on Thursday 24 September at 1.30 pm.

All members are cordially invited to attend. Please let me know at your early convenience if you wish to do so. For those who have not used *Zoom* before, please be assured it is very simple, requiring you only to click on the electronic link, which you will be emailed 2 days before the meeting. The time is, still, not yet appropriate to arrange a meeting in person, unfortunately, and I feel certain that everyone will understand that. *The original plans to hold the AGM in London on Saturday 19 September are cancelled.*

This electronic technology has been invaluable in the last few months in assisting the activities, business, and progress of the Society. We look forward to briefing you on developments and plans at the AGM, as well as presenting the formal report of the past year.

Among recent updates and postings on the Society's Website, accessible from the **Home Page** – click the “home” heading in very small type at the left-hand edge of the banner line immediately beneath the Society's logo – is an important welcome from our Chairman, Patrick Russill, including a link to a significant item providing suggested **Music for Returning to Singing and for Christmastide**, compiled by our General Editor, Dr Geoffrey Webber. This is part of the Society's contribution to providing assistance to leaders of music and worship, in locating and selecting material helpful for the challenging weeks and months that lie ahead. It would be enormously helpful if individual members would assist in making colleagues and friends aware of this recent compilation, especially to any local friends and colleagues working in churches, schools, collegiate chapels and cathedrals.

Finally, below, for your interest, is one of a number of potential illustrations located from the internet as possible cover material for the Society's two upcoming Walford Davies titles, comprising *Father of heaven*, for divided altos, tenors and basses in six parts, and *The souls of the righteous* for full eight-part choir. Rest assured that a more conventional photograph of Sir Walford in early maturity will be used! These are comparatively rare. There are many of him at ages of greater seniority and a considerable number with professional colleagues and friends, but very few survive of him in his middle years, contemporary with the two anthems currently in preparation.

With every good wish to you and yours
Sincerely and gratefully

Simon Lindley
Honorary Secretary



Church
Music
Society

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