



# The Johannesburg Bach Choir

<http://www.jhbbachchoir.co.za>

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## NEWSLETTER 2 - 2012

Dear Choir Members

Erratum: I apologise for the error in the last newsletter: Our concert of Handel's *Israel in Egypt* is scheduled to take place on **14 October** (and not 16 October).

If you missed the announcement at a recent rehearsal: Our founder and patron **Tony Fell** passed away on 6 December last year. Tony started the Johannesburg Bach Choir in 1964 and was also its first conductor. We owe the existence of the Choir to him. Please see links to a number of obituaries on our website ([www.jhbbachchoir.co.za](http://www.jhbbachchoir.co.za)).

Our practice sessions for our next concert on Saturday, 9 June at the Trinity Methodist Church in Linden are coming on nicely; I believe Tim is pretty happy so far. Of course, we haven't really done the last chorus of the Cantata yet, and that sounds pretty fiendish on the CD. We have been invited to sing the Bach Cantata again on the following day at the **Thomaskirche** (corner of William Nicol and Bryanston Drive) as part of the Sunday service there. This will certainly increase our exposure and should be a nice experience. If you can't make this engagement on 10 June, please let your section leader know.

Our accompanist of many years, **Aletta** de Winter, has decided that she needs to spend more time in the warm embrace of her recently-acquired hubby, and has opted to give up helping us during rehearsals. [She has also given up other commitments, so we are not the only ones with a problem!] Her last rehearsal with us will be 26 March. In the meantime Tim and I are endeavouring to find a replacement repetiteur/-euse. If you have any suggestions please let us know.

I am very happy to see some old faces back in the Choir, as well as some new members. We are still looking for more singers, of course, so press-gang any singers you know.

Please be aware of the Choir's "**75% rule**": if you have not attended 75% of the rehearsals for a particular concert, you MAY be asked by the Musical Director (Tim) and/or your Section Leader to sit out. Note that this is not some sort of vindictive ruling; it's merely a procedure which ensures that all singers at the concert are adequately prepared to sing the works in question AS A CHOIR. Just because a singer "knows" a work does not mean that he/she can fit in with the sound which the conductor envisages. Singing in a choir is all about teamwork...

Lucy Wiseman, our bean counter, has requested that you do not pay **cheques** into the Choir's account directly. For every transaction this sets us back R15. Instead, please pass any cheques to her so that she can make a bulk deposit which still only costs R15. Better still, of course, would be to make an online transfer.

Wishing you lots of joyful singing.

Reiner Fossati  
Chairman