

RETROSPECT OPERA

Ethel Smyth *The Boatswain's Mate*

www.retrospectopera.org.uk

Newsletter # 3, December 2015

Season's Greetings from all of us at Retrospect Opera!

We've had a very good year at Retrospect Opera and we're extremely grateful to you for making it so.

At the end of our first year "in business", we've received donations from over 150 individuals, obtained grants from five organisations, become a Registered Charity and made our first recording, Ethel Smyth's *The Boatswain's Mate*!

We're also in the process of registering with CAF, the Charities Aid Foundation, which some people have asked about. And we've greatly improved our website! Do visit it again soon if you haven't done so recently: www.retrospectopera.org.uk.

We're very happy with how the next stages of the CD are going. *The Boatswain's Mate* is still being edited, and we are designing the packaging and working on the sleeve notes.

We're very excited about the year ahead!

It will see the release of *The Boatswain's Mate* and, if all goes well, the recording of our second opera, *Raymond and Agnes*. We are a charity and we do rely on your continuing support. If you have friends and colleagues likely to be interested in what we are doing, please do encourage them to become supporters too. Or if you know of other sources of funding for projects like this, please let us know!

We've made a difficult decision about publicity for the release of *The Boatswain's Mate*.

We could employ a marketing agent, but marketing agents are expensive and we've decided that it's not the best use of our donors' money to spend it in that way. So we are going to publicise the recording ourselves. If anyone on this list has marketing experience, or a connection with reviewing publications, we'd really, really welcome your help and advice! But anyone who uses social media can help us. We're sure you'll love the recording, and it would be wonderful if you can recommend it to all your connections.

But that's for the future. For now, we are just very grateful for all you've already done for us, and we wish you an exceptionally Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year!

The team at Retrospect Opera:

Andy, David and Valerie



Retrospect Opera's next recording project is Loder's *Raymond and Agnes*. This needs a full orchestra, large chorus, and several soloists. Extracts from it were performed in a concert in Bath (UK) in October, within a major 'Loder Celebration', and you can hear excerpts from the concert on our website (in the 'Listening Room'). There's a short report about the event too, under 'What's New?'