

# *Bella Musica* CHORUS & ORCHESTRA

# Nota Bene Bell

September 18, 2007

## Announcements

- **Concert date:** Sunday, December 9, 2007, afternoon
- **Dress rehearsal:** Tuesday, December 4, 7 – 10 pm (upstairs in church)

If there is strong interest, we will try to add a second concert (preferably Saturday evening, December 8), assuming a suitable venue is available. Know of a good venue that's not too expensive? Please let us know!

## Chorus Notes and Rehearsal Aids

As the season goes on, we'll be posting notes, practice files, and other helpful material at <http://www.bellamusica.org/singwithus.html> -- click on the link that says "Chorus Notes and Rehearsal Aids." Please keep visiting this website, or be sure to check for notes when you first come into rehearsal.

**A note on practice files.** Practice files come in different formats:

1. **Midi** (.mid) files are very small, and require a computer to play. How they sound depends on how your computer's sound card interprets them. The small size makes them really convenient to email or post on a website.
2. **.mp3** files are compressed audio files. They are larger than midis, and can play on a computer or an mp3 player, such as an iPod. They're usually too big for email, but can be posted on a website (though they'll take more time to upload and download).
3. **.wav** files are very large audio files, so they usually need to be stored on a CD or hard drive. They will play on a standard CD player – no computer needed.

Midi versions of the Vaughan Williams practice files are ready, and should be on the web page soon. We'll also be making some CDs with versions that you can play on a standard CD player, for those who prefer not to use a computer.

Interested in mp3-format practice files that you can play on an iPod? It's easy to download midi files from the webpage and convert them. One good utility for this is called "Switch" (download the free demo version from <http://www.nch.com.au/switch/> ). It can convert whole groups of files at once. (Thanks to Gabriele for finding and testing this utility!)

## Shameless Plugs

♪ Nothing to plug this week. If you have music-related events to announce, or other news of interest to the whole chorus, please give the information to Cristin and she'll post it here.