

July 2005  
Newsletter 12

# notorious

## Editor's Note

Notorious Friends have been particularly important in the preparation for this concert by making a contribution to some of the content. Huge thanks go to those involved!

I'm sure that everyone will enjoy the end result but I won't say more than that to avoid spoiling the surprise!

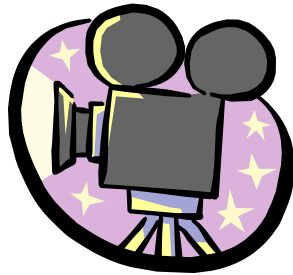
Thanks to Linda Edwards for being such a good sport and posing so effectively for the publicity photograph. If anyone else can see themselves as a screen starlet or matinee idol let us know and you could help with future projects.

Thanks again to Linda for capturing her experience in verse (overleaf). If you are the next Andrew Motion or Pam Ayres then we would also love to have your contributions for future newsletters.

54 Sovereign Way  
Moseley  
Birmingham B13 8AT  
[www.notoriouschoir.org](http://www.notoriouschoir.org)

Summer Concert of film music at the Electric Cinema, 7pm Sunday 10 July 2005

## Lights, Camera, Baton!



The finishing touches are now being added to **You Know the Score** -

a fabulous programme of movie music which pays tribute to the great composers of cinema.

Your complimentary **Friends of Notorious** ticket(s) will be available for collection on the door. And don't forget to arrive in time for the Friends' reception!

For additional tickets call the Notorious ticket hotline on 0121 706 6346... We are sure sell out this wonderfully atmospheric small cinema which has the extra attraction of its own licensed bar.

The Electric Cinema  
Station Street  
Birmingham  
B5 4DY

[www.theelectric.co.uk](http://www.theelectric.co.uk)  
Cinema phone number:  
0121 643 7879



## Red Carpet Reception

Friends of Notorious are cordially invited to an exclusive drinks reception before the concert at 6.30pm. You will have a chance to enjoy a pre-concert chat with members of the choir and mingle with friends and familiar faces from the Notorious audience.

Then at 7pm take your place on the luxury leather sofas of the VIP area, wait for the house lights to dim and be transported to the world of the silver screen...



Photo: Adrian Burrows

## Compact Discount

The last few copies of the Notorious CD are now on sale for just £5 – half the official price. Professionally recorded and released in 2003 it contains the stunning composition from our very own tenor Ian Chapman, *From Born to Cornwall*. This uses lyrics based on memories of choir members to create something completely personal to us which is a very entertaining introduction to the world of Notorious and a brilliant original piece of music.

Completing the track listing is a selection of concert favourites from the choir's repertoire which were chosen by you, the Friends!

**"Mum we need a model and we thought of you!"  
I was very hesitant for a second or two**

**As I'm a little bit choosy when it comes to fame  
but if my daughter needs me then I'm game**

**This modelling lark is not so great  
the photographer's fussy so you have to wait**

**while he gets the details exactly right  
so I felt quite stroppy at the end of the night**

**Joking apart I did have fun  
and I'm very flattered to be the chosen one**

**So don't pass me by it really is me  
and now I've a little extra for my CV**

**After all this hard work please do try  
to be at the Electric Cinema on the 10th of July.**

**CLARE'S MUM**

## Notorious Notions

### Anecdotes and in-jokes from inside Notorious

#### No. 4 Reg

Those people who have been in Notorious for some time will tell you that Reg plays a major role in the musical life of the choir, arranging many of the pieces the choir sings. Indeed, about half of the ABBA/Queen songs we sang at the recent Mamma Mia concert were "Reg arrangements".

But who is Reg? You won't find the name on any Notorious programme, but you will find the name Richard Salt. Richard's middle name is Gavin, and he got the nickname Reg many years ago from his initials.

Not even Reg is sure how many arrangements he has done over the years, but conservative estimates put it at 40-50. Many are arrangements of pop/rock

classics, from artists and groups as diverse as Queen, John Lennon, Robbie Williams and Will Young, although he has tackled songs from other genres such as folk, jazz and classical.

The Notorious CD (available through the choir) showcases 3 of his arrangements; in Queen's Take My Breath Away he combines a haunting piano solo with sopranos and altos singing in unison, before adding harmony from the tenors and basses. Carrickfergus combines a solo voice with the rest of the choir humming gentle chord progressions underneath, while All Saints' Black Coffee shows that Reg is not afraid to tackle more unusual songs, using "dums" and "aahs" in the voices to replicate instruments on the original track.

New "Reg arrangements" are always warmly

received in the choir; after a brief explanation of where the repeats and codas are, we can usually run through the piece after 20-30 minutes rehearsal. The arrangements are very singable and can be committed to memory should Clare decide to do them OBH (off by heart!)

Aside from all those arrangements, perhaps Reg's greatest legacy to the choir is that he has inspired other choir members to arrange pieces themselves. Jon Hawkesworth's arrangement of Buggles' Video Killed The Radio Star is on the CD, but Notorious has also performed arrangements by Tom Conway, Fran Neal, Ian Sutton, Luke Turnbull and others. Encouraging and supporting this musical talent is very much part of Notorious' remit, and Reg is always happy to offer advice where needed.