

## THE DAY

By popular demand we will again provide an opportunity for choir members, as well as aspiring singers, to improve singing skills away from the demands of a busy concert rehearsing schedule. This year sees us using these skills to rehearse and perform the ever popular Verdi Requiem.

Graham Jordan Ellis has been Musical Director of CMS since 1996. An experienced freelance conductor of both choral and orchestral music, Graham has worked with numerous choral and operatic societies and conducted many memorable concerts. He was Director of Music at Birkenhead School for many years.

Margaret McDonald studied at RNCM and is acclaimed on the operatic concert platform. She combines her solo career with that of specialist voice coach, teaching an innovative method of vocal technique producing rapid results and building confidence. Margaret is in demand coaching choirs including the Halle Choir.

During the afternoon sessions Margaret McDonald will be offering a limited number of individual 30 minute voice consultations. These sessions are now fully subscribed

Graham Eccles studied organ at Worksop College and RNCM. Starting as Assistant Organist at Chester Cathedral he played a key role in the musical life of the city. Graham has been Organist and Master of the Choristers at St Asaph and Bangor Cathedrals and currently conducts both Colwyn Bay and St Asaph Choral Societies. He is in demand as an Organ Recitalist in the UK, Europe and beyond and regularly plays for the Daily Service on BBC Radio 4. He has performed many times for RLPO and Halle orchestras. Graham is accompanist for Chester Music Society Choir.

## BOOKING FORM

### TIMETABLE

- 9.30 Registration
- 10.00 Welcome and Introduction
- 10.10 Session 1: Graham Jordan Ellis:  
Background to Verdi's 'Manzoni'  
Requiem, its context and problems.  
First sing-through
- 11.15 Coffee
- 11.35 Session 2: Margaret McDonald:  
Vocal techniques with particular reference to  
the Verdi Requiem
- 1.00 Lunch \*
- 2.00 Session 3:  
Sectional Rehearsals
- 3.00 Session 4:  
Full rehearsal
- 4.00 Tea
- 4.15 Session 5:  
Final sing-through
- 5.00 Close

Name :

Voice (SATB) :

Address :

Postcode :

Tel. No.

Email.

Your Choir :  
(If you are not a regular member of a choir put none)

Fee £20.00

Includes coffee/tea and music hire

Please send this form and a cheque made payable to  
Chester Music Society to:-

CMS Workshop,  
Becky Ford,  
The Moorings, The Parade, Parkgate,  
Cheshire CH64 6RW

\*PLEASE BRING PICNIC LUNCHES which can be  
eaten in the Sixth Form Centre Common Room

Chester Music Society Choir gives performances of the major choral classics in Chester Cathedral.

Our next concerts are:-

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 7.30pm**

***Music of Vaughan Williams***

The Garden of Proserpine  
In the Fen Country  
Dona nobis pacem

Liverpool Sinfonia

Graham Jordan Ellis: conductor

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 7.30pm**

***The French Connection***

Gounod: St Cecilia Mass  
Faure: Cantique de Jean Racine  
Faure: Ave verum corpus  
Franck: Panis Angelicus  
Franck: Psalm 150

Graham Eccles: organ

Graham Jordan Ellis: conductor

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 7.30pm**

St Werburgh's RC Church, Chester  
Music by Lauridsen, Pergolesi and Franck

Graham Eccles: organ

Graham Jordan Ellis: conductor

#### LOCATION

Music School  
The King's School  
Wrexham Road  
Chester CH4 7QL

Located on the A483 Chester - Wrexham Road 1½ miles south of the city centre or about ½ mile towards Chester from the A55 southerly bypass.

The Music School is the first building on the left after the entrance gate

For more information:

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[www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk](http://www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk)



***Come and Sing***

# Verdi Requiem

**Saturday 18th February 2017  
The King's School Chester**

An opportunity for all who love singing to spend time rehearsing and performing this ever popular and dramatic work

Musical Director: Graham Jordan Ellis  
Vocal Tutor: Margaret McDonald  
Accompanist: Graham Eccles

Places very limited. Book early to avoid disappointment

