

Season 2016/17

Committee Members

Chairman Clive Cooper
Tel: 0151 353 8492

Secretary Sandy Boyne
Tel: 01244 390724

Financial Controller David Taylor
Tel: 01244 380291

Concert Manager David Hilton
Tel: 01352 735815

Librarian Rob Greaves
Tel: 01691 773663

Membership Secretary Becky Ford
Tel: 0151 336 5088

Publicity Secretary Jon Banks
Tel: 01244 380347

Ticket Sales David Willis
Tel: 0151 327 4329

John Wishlade Tel: 01244 383455
Anna Steel Tel: 07790293944
Connie Telford Tel: 01244 674623
Cathy Brown Tel: 07425 146346
Linda Manning Tel: 01244 682143

Voice reps:
Soprano 1: Jean Higgins
Soprano 2: Jennie Richmond
Alto 1: Ester Noot
Alto 1: Bernard Payne
Tenor: Bernard Payne
Bass: John Ferrari

Concert Schedule

12 November 2016

Handel: Messiah

Liverpool Sinfonia

19/20 December 2016

Christmas Crackers

Presenter: Ian McMillan

Chester Philharmonic Orchestra

25 March 2017

Music of Vaughan Williams

The Garden of Proserpine

In the Fen Country

Dona nobis pacem

Liverpool Sinfonia

20 May 2017

The French Connection

Gounod: St Cecilia Mass

Fauré: Cantique de Jean Racine

Fauré: Ave verum corpus

Franck: Panis Angelicus

Franck: Psalm 150

Organ: Graham Eccles

Contact us by email:
choirmembers@chestermusicsociety.org.uk

Find out more at the CMS website:
www.chestermusicsociety.org.uk



Choir

Musical Director
Graham Jordan Ellis

INFORMATION AND RULES FOR MEMBERS

SEASON 2016/17

GENERAL

Rehearsals

These normally take place at the Queen's School, City Walls Road, Chester. You will be informed of any change in venue, if necessary. Please be seated ready for a prompt start at 7.30. Rehearsals will finish at 9.30; if you must leave before then, please speak to the Musical Director beforehand.

There is a 15 minute interval when drinks are served.

Attendance

Please tick the register each week to confirm your attendance.

To sing in a concert you must not have missed any more than three rehearsals for that programme. Attendance at the Saturday afternoon rehearsal prior to a concert is obligatory.

Music

You can either hire or buy scores from the librarian. If you do not mark the list for purchased music or indicate that you already own a copy you will be deemed to have agreed to hire, and will be charged accordingly. Hired copies must be returned in good condition on or before the concert date. If you hand them in late, damaged or marked other than in pencil you may be liable for the full cost of the copy.

Funding

Annual subscriptions are determined each year by the committee. Payment for either a full year or half year is due no later than the second rehearsal in September.

Interval drinks are sold and there is a weekly raffle: income from these is essential to the choir budget. Please volunteer to help when it is the turn of your voice part on the rota.

Our biggest source of income is ticket sales. Choir members are expected to sell at least two tickets for each concert.

Publicity

Please make every effort to publicise concerts by helping to distribute/place publicity material in your area: inform the Publicity Secretary and tick the

distribution list to show the area/locations where you are placing posters and flyers.

CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Confirm that you are singing in the concert

Not later than three weeks before each concert, tick or cross the column on the concert attendance sheet, to show whether or not you intend to sing.

Dress code

Ladies wear long-sleeved white blouses (tucked in), black fabric jackets, ankle-length black skirts or trousers, black tights and shoes. No sparkling jewellery should be worn. Only very small handbags should be taken on stage.

Gentlemen wear a dress suit, black socks and shoes, white shirt and black bow-tie.

Lapel flowers will be provided on the night of the concert.

Folders

You will need a **plain** black music folder for the performance. These can be bought from a Committee member if required.

Rehearsals and performances in the Cathedral

We rehearse in the Cathedral on the Thursday before the concert from 7.30 to 9.30. Find a place in your section seating in the South Transept not later than 7.15. You should make every effort to attend this rehearsal. If you cannot be there it is essential that you let the Concert Manager know.

On concert day (other than the Christmas concerts) the rehearsal is from 12.15 to 3.15, and you must be in your place in the South Transept by 12.00. **Attendance at this rehearsal is obligatory.**

In the evening arrive in good time. Leave coats and bags in the Chapter House Vestibule (off the North Transept) and collect your lapel flower (which you must return after the concert). The performance starts at 7.30 and you should take your place in the South Transept by 7.15 at the latest. **It is important to remain quiet at all times after we assemble and once on the stage to present a professional appearance.** File onto the stage to the directions of the Concert Manager.

Return to the South Transept 15 minutes after the start of the interval. **(Wait quietly again).** Toilet facilities are limited, so make sure you allow enough time to use if necessary without being late back to the South Transept.

Refreshments will be provided in the Chapter House Vestibule during the interval. Eating and drinking - other than bottled water - is not permitted in the Cathedral (nave and transepts). **Drinks should not be taken onto the platform during the performance.**

Getting on and off the stage: 'Stands and Sits'

Take **great care** accessing and leaving the stage. Hold your folder in your left hand and hold onto any handrails with your right hand. **Always** use the steps at the side of the stage, and do not clamber down the stage levels. **Take your music with you whenever you leave the platform.** If you have any difficulty in accessing the stage or in standing, please speak to the Concert Manager

When you reach your place on the staging, sit down. When the conductor enters, stand as he reaches the centre of the Nave and turns towards the choir and thereafter follow his cues. Sit when he leaves the platform. During the performance stand smartly and quietly as indicated. (You should take care to mark stands and sits in your score as directed during the final rehearsals.)

After the performance

Hired music should be put into the appropriate box at the side of the stage. If you forget, it is your responsibility to return it to the Librarian at the earliest opportunity. Return lapel flowers to the Chapter House vestibule.

It is important that we restore the Cathedral to its normal state before we leave. This includes packing music stands, removing chairs and kneelers from the stage and platform and returning the choir stalls and altar to the platform. Also, if required, removing folding chairs from the centre aisle of the Nave. Your help in this is appreciated: these few minutes of help gain the Choir immeasurable goodwill from the Cathedral staff and ensures their continued support for the choir.