

Season 2022/23 Committee Members

Note: For reasons of security this downloadable PDF does not include individuals' email addresses. If you require any email addresses please speak to Becky Ford or any member of the committee

Chairman	John Ferrari
Deputy Chairmen	Jon Saunby Andy Ashton
Secretary	Cathy Brown
Financial Controller	David Taylor
Concert Manager	Vacant
Librarian	Yvonne Preece
Membership Secretary	Becky Ford
Publicity Secretary	John Wishlade
Rehearsal Liason	Linda Manning
Ticket Sales	David Willis
Committee member	Alison McLellan
Voice reps:	
S1:	Judy Chadwick
S2:	Janet Ridgway
A1	Diane Ashton
T:	David Willis
B:	Jon Banks

Concert Schedule

25 November 2023
Verdi: Requiem
Liverpool Sinfonia

18 December 2023 Christmas Crackers
Presenter: Lemn Sissay
Chester Philharmonic Orchestra

23 March 2024
Music for Passiontide
Williams: Procession of Palms
Finzi: Lo! The Full Final Sacrifice
Chilcott: St John Passion
Elysian Chamber Ensemble

18 May 2024
Crowning Glory
Mozart: Horn concerto No 4
Mozart: Coronation Mass
Handel: Coronation Anthems
Liverpool Sinfonia

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

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



Choir

Music Director
Graham Jordan Ellis

INFORMATION AND RULES FOR MEMBERS

SEASON 2023/24

REHEARSALS

These currently take place at the Wesley Church Centre, St John's St, Chester. You will be informed of any change in venue if necessary by email. Please be seated ready for a prompt start at 19.30. Rehearsals will finish at 21.30; if you must leave before then, please speak to the Musical Director beforehand. Latecomers should not disrupt rehearsals by walking in front of the Director.

Attendance

Please tick the register each week to confirm your attendance.

The choir season starts in September and we sing four main concerts each season. It is expected that every member is **committed to sing in all concerts** and do necessary **home practice** between rehearsals.

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 who will send you a request form by email before each concert. If you do not fill in the web form no music will be hired for you and you may be required to purchase your own copy. Hired copies must be returned in good condition with all pencil markings erased within the week following the concert. 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 is due not later than the second rehearsal in September. Those not paying promptly may lose their places to new applicants. Members who have allowed their subs to lapse for more than one season will be asked to re-audition if they wish to resume membership; however no priority over new applicants will be given.

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. If you are a user of social media please use these outlets to publicise our concerts

CONCERT PERFORMANCE

As soon as possible during rehearsals, and in any event not later than three weeks before each concert, inform your voice rep and mark in the register 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.

Please do not wear strong perfume or after-shave

A lapel flower will be provided on the night of the concert, to be returned at the end of the evening.

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 as normal on the Thursday before the concert from 19.30 to 21.30. Find a place in your section using the Cathedral layout. You should make every effort to attend this rehearsal. If you cannot be there it is essential that you let the Concert Manager know. If you do not intend singing in the performance it would be helpful if you do not attend this rehearsal.

On concert day (other than the Christmas concerts) the rehearsal is in the cathedral from 12.15 to 15.15, 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 South Transept. The performance starts at 19.30 and you should take your place in the South Transept

by 19.15 at the latest. **It is important to remain quiet at all times after we assemble and once on the stage to present professional appearance.** File onto the stage to the directions of the Concert Manager.

Return to the South Transept no more than 15 minutes after the start of the interval. **(Wait quietly again.)** Toilet facilities are limited, so make sure you allow enough time if necessary without being late back to the South Transept.

Refreshments will be provided 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 with markings erased 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 within the following week (via a colleague if necessary).

It is important that we restore the Cathedral to its normal state before we leave. This includes packing music stands and removing chairs from the stage and platform. **Your help in this is appreciated.**