



Chorister

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Welcome to the January 2017 'Chorister' Newsletter

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This newsletter has been sent to you as you or your choir are currently listed on one of the sites, or because the services you provide may be suitable for our website. In some cases it is sent to you as you have specifically requested a mailing. Whatever the reason, you are very welcome.

Firstly an end of year apology. Being a one man band there are on occasions emails that get missed or picked up late. Apologies if your vacancy notice or concert was not listed this year. The earlier you can advise of concerts the better and as previously stated the emails that are text only rather than poster attachments are likely to be picked up quicker.

We have also streamlined some pages on the website (www.choirs.org.uk) so the links page now includes location recording and rehearsal aids, rather than these being separate pages.

British Choirs on the Net Mailing Services British Choirs on the Net holds a database of over 2800 choir email contacts as a result of its business with these choirs. Their mailing addresses are collected whenever you ask for your choir to be listed or may be collected from other registers such as the National Association of Choirs and ABCD.

These mailing lists are important to provide you with information from our subscribers, information about other choral services, concerts and general updates such as this newsletter. It is also important because it generates a small revenue which allows us to ensure that at least 90% of the content on British Choirs on the Net is free to list.

It is understood that some of the mailings may not be of interest to all the choirs, particularly if you are not a choir that tours or takes part in competitions, but I hope over the course of the year you will find something useful in the mailings. To see how these contacts are collected, used and audited visit www.choirs.org.uk/mailings.html

The mailing list is not just for big organizations. For instance there are 261 listed choirs in London. This means that if a London choir is looking to put bums on seats, either in terms of audience or singers, or if it wants to advertise a Come and Sing performance or Workshop it can use the mailing list to target the other 260 choirs on the London list.

During this year to date, we have sent out mailings for Helicon Arts, Hal Leonard, LEPR, Wimbledon Choral Society, Gareth Malone's new TV programme, Isle of Man Choral Festival, Limerick Sings and Oxford University Press.

British Choirs on the Net British Choirs on the Net has been running for over 15 years and, with over 3,640 choirs listed, some of this details regarding choirs may have changed i.e. conductor details, size of choir, choir re-names, email addresses or website choir addresses, etc. Please review your choir entries on a regular basis and advise if any information needs to be updated. Where a choir has a website, that will be listed as the main contact point, otherwise Facebook links or emails will be used. In order to promote choir websites and Facebook pages we do not list choirs that are only contactable by telephone or post.

British Choirs on the Net is only as useful as the information held on it. Please email me with any corrections and omissions to choir information. Please email any corrections and amendments to philliptolley@colcanto.co.uk

British Choirs on the Net Choral Conductors Forum This is a group set up on Facebook to enable Choral Directors, Choir Secretaries and Choir members to informally discuss issues of performance practice, request new music and music exchanges, and discuss other choral related issues. It is also increasingly used to advertise vacancies for Music Directors/Accompanists. There are currently over 1,360 members and membership is by invitation. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/britishchoirs/?fref=ts>

We also have a presence on Twitter at www.twitter.com/britishchoirs with over 1,800 followers.

Concertfinder & British Choirs on the Net

Concertfinder is a free online concert diary. It is part of British Choirs on the Net under www.choirs.org.uk and also a standalone website under www.concertfinder.co.uk

During 2016 we have listed, and provided free advertising, to a total of 523 concerts. The works that dominate the listings are the usual suspects—Faure, Durufle, Mozart and Brahms Requiems, Rossini's Missa Solennelle and Handel's Messiah. There has also been an increase in part staged/dramatized performances particularly of the Bach Passions.

There has also been a number of rare or new pieces including the London premiere of Hywel Davies' "War Songs", the UK premiere of Al Fedak's "Spring Bursts Forth", Richard Rodney Bennett's "A farewell to Arms", Hugo Distler's "Choralpassion", Peter Smith's "Benedicite", the premiere of Julian Marshall's "Dark Disputes and Artful Teasing", the premiere of Kerry Andrew's "The flight be fleet: Trainsongs!", the premiere of Ian Assersohn's "Dies Irae" and the UK premier of Howard Goodall's "Sure of the Sky, sure of the Sun".

Other works of interest include James Pelham's "A Shropshire Lad", Arwel Hughes' "Gweddi (A Prayer)", Ronald Corp's "And all the trumpets sounded" and Bob Chilcott's "Gloria". On the debit side it is a shame that we seem to have lost older Easter favourites such as Stainer's "Crucifixion" and Maunder's "Olivet to Calvary". They are both good works in their own right and also great pieces for audience involvement.

Concert listing breakdown per month

2016

January	7
February	11
March	91
April	52
May	45
June	58
July	46
August	0
September	10
October	29
November	71
December	103
TOTAL	523

Each concert is listed with the same prominence and for this reason I do not include the conductors or soloists details. Additionally non choral works are omitted from the listing even when they form part of the concert programme.

Please submit your concert details via email in text format. Please do not send pdf or html posters which require the salient points to be extracted and this can delay posting the concert. Also do not forget to let me know the date of the concert as well as the who, where, what and ticket information. You will often find that I do not acknowledge the email, so please check the site to see if it has been added. www.concertfinder.co.uk

N:B: If you use a ticket agency which adds a booking fee please ensure the ticket price you advertise is the full price you pay (including handling costs).

Choirsites They say every picture tells a story and the same rule applies with choirs. The choir that has a website where potential members can see pictures of the choir, their future concerts and repertoire is likely to prove more attractive than simply a listed choir with a text description and an e-mail contact. Choirsites provides low cost website hosting and design for choirs. Some of the choirs using this service include:

Balsham Singers, Cambridge
Holymoorside Choral Society, Derbyshire
Nova, Bristol

www.choirsites.co.uk

Concert Programme Notes British Choirs on the Net hosts a library of Choral repertoire programme notes which are available for the free use of Choral Societies. We do ask however that you acknowledge in your concerts the authorship of these programme notes, as appropriate.

Choirfriends This used to be a small website associated with Colcanto Associates. This has now become a Facebook group. By moving it from a static website to a Facebook group we hope it will be used by a wider audience.

The group was created to help choristers find previous friends who they used to sing with but have now lost contact. It is also used to help find information about defunct choirs and help people find relatives who may have sung with these choirs. It is not designed as a choral dating agency but if that happens - congratulations! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/157147511132581/?fref=ts>

(Note: It is an open facebook group so we cannot control content, membership or adverts) .

VocalBroker This is a site which lists vocal soloists seeking work with Choral Societies and Choruses on the Oratorio or concert platform. It is not an agency and the Societies negotiate directly with singers with Vocalbroker taking no commission. They are all experienced singers and choral societies, and choruses are asked to consider these singers when selecting voices for concerts. www.vocalbroker.co.uk

Choral Vacancies. This page, which is part of British Choirs on the Net, is particularly successful at placing candidates in Choral Music posts.

The listing covers Musical Director/Choir Leader vacancies and also Accompanist vacancies. There are also listing of candidates who are seeking work as Musical Directors or Accompanists. Finally there are list of choirs seeking singers. To list you vacancy just email the details. Please be clear if the post is paid, unpaid or honorarium. Also where possible please include a closing date for applications.



Rayburn Tours - Choir of the Year 2016 Grand Final

In December 2016 I was invited, as a guest of Rayburn Tours, to attend the Grand Final of the 2016 Choir of the Year Competition at the Millennium Centre, Cardiff.

Choir of the Year offers choirs of varying experience levels the chance to perform to large audiences in renowned venues across the UK and Ireland, opening up a range of exciting performance, broad-cast and recording opportunities for its leading choirs.

The whole evening was a success from the private reception and VIP area set aside for Rayburn Tours guests to superb seats in the auditorium, next to the competition jury panel.

Six choirs performed for the judges. The choirs comprising of 4 category winners and 2 wildcard winners were;

Cor y Cwm (Youth Choir of the Year)

The Rainbow Connection (Open Choir of the Year)

Musical Originals Training Choir (Children's Choir of the Year)

Voices of Hope (Adult Choir of the Year)

The White Rosettes (Wildcard winners)

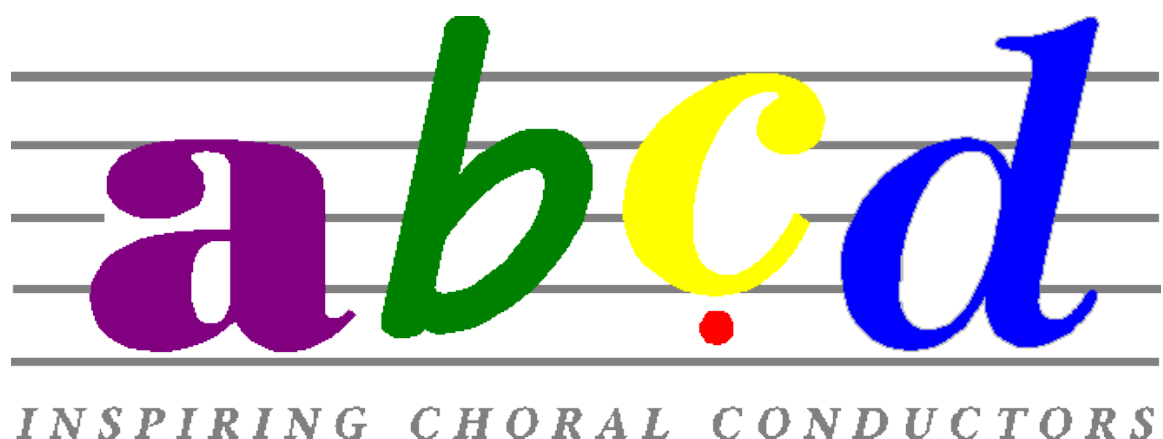
John's Boys (Wildcard winners)

The judges were Harry Christophers (Chairman), Danielle De Niese, Eska and Tim Rhys-Evans while the programme was co-presented by Josie D'Arby, Julian Ovenden and Lloyd Coleman.

After a tremendous evening of choral singing the winning choir of the Choir of the Year 2016 was announced as **Voices of Hope** from Newcastle.

With grateful thanks to the supporters of Choir of the Year and particularly to Ellen and her team at Rayburn Tours

Apply for the NYCGB Fellowship Programme 2017-18. Applications for the NYCGB Fellowship Programme 2017-18 are now open. Please visit www.nycgb.org.uk/fellowship for further information and to download the application form. **Please note that the deadline for applications is Monday 13 February 2017 and that applicants must be aged 22-24 on 1 September 2017.**



Association of British Choral Directors

Courses and Events 2017

Booking is now open for our Initial Course, and Young Conductor Day in London next spring! We are also delighted to be able to offer another Choral Conducting Apprenticeship for 2017 with Strathclyde University Chamber Choir and conductor Alan Tavener. All this is in addition to our Polish and Shine event in February, giving conductors the opportunity to work with a choral society!

Initial Course - London Spring 2017 The Hall School, 23 Crossfield Road, London, NW3 4NU 25th March, 22nd April, 20th May, 17th June

This course is designed to lay firm foundations for anyone who has an interest in learning to conduct singing of any kind, or who has recently started to lead a choir. No previous conducting experience is necessary, but the course is also suitable for those who would like to develop their conducting and vocal technique or have some experience in leading choral music.

Each day runs from 10am to 5pm, and video footage is provided from each session.

Price: £250 **abcd** members, £280 non-members. Find out more about the course [here](#), or book online [here](#).

Young Conductor Day - London 2017 Blackheath Halls, 23 Lee Road, London, SE3 9RQ 21st April

We are running our first Young Conductor Day of 2017 in association with Trinity Laban. The day will be led by Stephen Jackson and Sarah Tenant-Flowers and is open to anyone aged 18 - 25 not earning their living from conducting. No previous experience of conducting is necessary, just an ability to read staff notation, and preferably some experience of singing or instrumental playing. Price: £20 (includes membership to **abcd**) Find out more about all our Young Conductor events [here](#), or book online [here](#).

Polish and Shine St Sepulchre-without-Newgate Church, Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 2DQ 18th February

Conductors will have the chance to work with a high level symphonic chorus comprising members of Wimbledon Choral Society and Constanza Chorus. Neil Ferris and Joanna Tomlinson will help address aspects of tuning, colour and blend, giving helpful tips on how conducting technique can have a positive effect on these. They will also explore the role of conductor as vocal trainer. Observers are also welcome. Price: £90 **abcd** members, £100 non-members (participant) £30 **abcd** members, £40 non-members (observers) To book your place, download the form [here](#) and return as directed.

www.abcd.org.uk

Lacock Courses

We have just announced details of two new courses on the Lacock web site www.lacock.org. The first is the long-awaited Ludlow Summer School directed by Eamonn Dougan, assisted by Greg Skidmore, from 13th to 18th of August. This will take a glimpse into the brilliant musical world of 17th century Poland, when its wealth and prestige attracted musicians from all over Europe, particularly Italy. On the menu will be large-scale works for two, three or more choirs from the lavish musical establishments at the courts in Krakow and Warsaw, so as for last year's Monteverdi Vespers there are places for choral singers, soloists, renaissance instruments of all sorts including continuo. Ludlow works brilliantly as a venue – a small town set in delightful countryside, with enough places to stay and eat, a foodie paradise, interesting independent shops and most importantly from our point of view, quite the most helpful and welcoming people running the church in the whole of Christendom.

The other is a return to Jimena de la Frontera in southern Spain from 17th to 22nd September for a week with Robert Hollingworth. The repertoire will be Spanish renaissance music and we hope to put some of the composers and specific works on the web site in the next few days. We were going to wait until then before sending out this newsletter, but since Robert let the cat out of the bag in an email to Fagiolini Friends last weekend there has been such clamour to enrol, we thought it would be only fair to let everyone know. Jimena is one of the famous pueblos blancos of southern Spain, but very much still an unpretentious working town where the relaxed rhythms of Andalusian life are undisturbed by intrusive tourism.

Slightly further ahead, the next winter school will be in the small town of Ambleside, more or less in the centre of the Lake District, surrounded by some of the best walking country in the kingdom. We don't yet know who will direct, but the dates are 28th of December 2017 to the 2nd of January 2018. Shortly after that we return to the Caribbean fishing village of Castara on Tobago in the West Indies for another 'Singing at Castara' from 28th of January to the 4th of February 2018. The director will again be Justin Doyle.

Despite his recently-announced appointment as principal conductor of the prestigious Berlin Radio chamber choir, he has kept those dates free for us.

Of the courses already announced, next up is another of Ghislaine Morgan's voice workshops, from the 19th to the 24th of March, in Corsham. There are still a few places left. We can really recommend it and promise that if you come you will get more out of whatever is left of your singing life. Ghislaine's workshops attract so many gratifying comments – summed up by this one: "So many of my conversations with other singers during the week started with someone saying 'Isn't Ghislaine good!'" – that we feel we're on the right track and are filling a real need. It is no longer necessary to fill in a form to enrol for any course – just send us an email telling us you want to come and we'll take it from there. JanJoost van Elburg's week at Montecenero is alas full in all voices.

Since we last wrote in June we have had the wonderful Monteverdi Vespers week in Ludlow with a team of Lacock scholars soloists including a soprano from Veracruz in Mexico, and some brilliant young instrumentalists, the Schütz week in Trogir, which incidentally resulted in at least one of the scholars being offered work with Erik Van Nevel's professional group Currende, and the winter school in which we gave the world premier of Will Carslake's 'Duel of the White-Necked Ravens' with stunning performances by Lacock scholars Catherine Shaw (soprano) and Sarah Latto (piano). In fact the Lacock Scholars' star is still very much in the ascendant, with recent appearances at the Brighton Early Music Festival and an Advent concert to a packed audience at Lacock church in addition to their regular London performances at St Cuthbert's, Earls Court. Their first CD, a selection of music from their last season, came out in November, with stunning performances of, inter alia, Mouton's Nesciens Mater and a couple of movements from Duarte Lobo's six-part Requiem. Copies of the CD (£10) are available from their web site www.lacockscholars.org. For more information visit www.lacock.org

Singing Network UK (formerly TONSIL) Singing Network UK comprises organisations that work in the field of youth & adult singing. Formed in 1988 as TONSIL, it meets two to three times a year, or as needed, to discuss what is, can, and should be happening in the world of choral singing, practice and education, in Britain and Internationally. The group began because the member societies felt the need to respond as a group rather than individually to the wide variety of ideas and issues affecting the future of choral singing, including the music education curriculum and the Music Manifesto.

Singing Network UK is less an official organisation, more an informal association whose function is to serve its member choral organisations and to act as forum for national and international vocal education and practice.

Singing Network UK represents 18 organisations promoting choral singing across a wide variety of genres, supporting over 25,000 members choirs and over 500,000 singers, who each year perform to audiences totalling nearly 5 million.

The organisations that current make up the Singing Network UK are:

The Association of British Choral Directors (ABCD)

The British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS)

British Choirs on the Net

British Gospel Arts

The Big Big Sing

Choir Schools Association (CSA)

Friday Afternoons

Gerontius

International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM)

The Ladies Association of British Barbershop Singers (LABBS)

Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies (MM)

The National Association of Choirs (NAC)

The Royal College of Organists (RCO)

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM)

Sing for Pleasure (SfP)

Sing UK

Voices Foundation (VF)

Voices Now

New website www.singingnetworkuk.org

EUROPA CANTAT is an international choir festival that brings together more than 3000 singers, conductors, composers and choral managers coming from Europe and beyond for 10 days of singing delight. EUROPA CANTAT is really a festival for everyone!

The festival offers you the chance to

- attend different workshops for choirs and singers, with a duration of 4 to 8 days
- sing and hear all vocal genres: classical, folk, jazz, musical, opera and vocal pop
- discover rare jewels of choral music
- work together with leading choral conductors
- sing at beginner's, average or advanced level
- join the special conductors' or composers' program
- join our special "training-on-the-job" program for young managers, the Youth Event Management Programme YEMP
- take part in the daily 'Open Singing' with all participants and visitors
- join a workshop while your children are entertained
- discover the unique cultural heritage of Tallinn and Estonia
- get to know other choirs and singers from many different countries!

The Conductors' and Composers' Program offers warm-ups, seminars, reading sessions, workshops, lectures, round-table discussions and composers' showcase.

Open Singing is a singing event where EVERYBODY is invited to sing. The repertoire is international, in different styles and languages.

As a side-program, we welcome everybody to visit our MUSIC EXPO, where publishers, international festival organisers and music managers from all over the world invite you to see their products and to become familiar with the services they offer.

The programme of the festival should be published in June 2017. Sign up for our newsletter to get the latest updates – www.ectallinn2018.ee!

CONDUCTING DAY

SATURDAY 13 MAY 2017

at

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH, SHORTMEAD STREET,
BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORDSHIRE, SG18 0AP

Director – DOUGLAS COOMBES MBE

COST £50

This is a unique and very full conducting day which runs from 10.00am - 10.00pm. It will be the sixth time this day has been held in Bedfordshire and as before, caters for the beginner to the experienced conductor. There are 8 places available. Each conductor will be sent, in advance, two pieces of music suited to the experience of the conductor. This music is in the repertoire of *The Amici Singers*, a women's chorus of 50 voices. The music will be well known by the choir so participants will be able to concentrate on conducting. The format of the day will be:

10.00am – 1.00pm.	Discussion of all the music with Douglas Coombes
1.00pm – 2.00pm.	Lunch (please bring a packed lunch).
2.00pm – 6.00pm.	Each conductor will have 25 minutes to rehearse their two pieces with The Amici Singers
6.00pm. –	Tea which will be provided. This will be taken with the choir who usually
are	happy and keen to talk to all the conductors
7.30pm. –	Concert. Each conductor will conduct their pieces in front of an audience in concert conditions. At the end there will be an open forum involving conductors, choir and audience led by Douglas Coombes

NB: As on previous occasions, if any conductor has to travel some distance, accommodation can be arranged.

Application should be made to Lindsay Music – carole@lindsaymusic.co.uk.

Please make cheques payable to 'THE AMICI SINGERS'

If you would like more details ring Lindsay Music 01767 260815 (9.30am – 12.30pm)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

EMAIL _____

TEL NO _____ MOBILE NO _____

CONDUCTING EXPERIENCE-----:



PRESS RELEASE

Honorary doctorate bestowed on Sing for Pleasure's Chief Executive Manvinder Rattan, who took the helm at national choral charity Sing for Pleasure earlier this year alongside his duties as Head of Conductor Training, has received an honorary doctorate from his *alma mater* York St John University. The degree was awarded by Archbishop John Sentamu, Archbishop of York and the University's Chancellor, at a graduation ceremony held at York Minster in November, and is all the more prestigious, being bestowed in the University's 175th anniversary year. The award recognises his considerable contribution to the world of choral conducting and conductor training for more than 20 years.

In addition to his voluntary roles at Sing for Pleasure, Manvinder is Musical Director of the John Lewis Partnership Music Society, where he has been in charge since 1995; this involves the management of over 18 choirs across the UK, including Voices in Partnership, The Cavendish Singers and the Cavendish Ensemble.

He has appeared on judging panels at a number of high profile national choir competitions over the years, and in 2012 he was a guest judge on BBC Two's *The Choir*, with Gareth Malone. With warmest congratulations extended by Stephen Gregson, Chairman of SfP's Board of Trustees, on behalf of all involved with the charity, Manvinder commented: "I was surprised, touched, honoured and very proud to be awarded this degree. The day was momentous, and I was particularly proud that my parents were able to see my second graduation in York Minster, 27 years after the first."

BOURNEMOUTH - POOLE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION

Registered charity number 1140071

Bookings by choirs and classical orchestra for 2017 now being taken

Poole, 29 November 2016 - The Bournemouth & Poole Orthodox Christian Foundation is now taking bookings from choirs and classical orchestras for recitals and performances in St Dunstan's Church. The Grade II* listed basilica has amazing acoustics, and the Foundation is sure that many choirs and orchestras will make use of this opportunity, including visiting international choirs and orchestras, who are also warmly invited to perform at the Church.

This initiative aims to make high quality cultural events accessible to the local community in Poole and wider region, by sharing the proceeds of the events with the performing artists. This will make it possible for more people to engage with the building, both as a place of worship and as an outstanding architectural and artistic testimony to the Arts & Crafts movement of the early 20th century.

The Foundation is the owner of Saint Dunstan's Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, one of the Parishes of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland. The funds raised by the Foundation will be used to restore the historic Church building, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and guided by the Borough of Poole Conservation Officer of the Planning and Regeneration Service. Historic England has listed the Church on the "Heritage at Risk List", (published annually), to assist the owners of heritage structures in need of major restoration.

St Dunstan's Antiochian Orthodox Church is located on the corner of Bournemouth Road and Saint Osmond's Road in Parkstone. It is an early 20th century basilica in the Arts & Crafts style designed as the last work of the renowned architect E.S. Prior. It contains a number of furnishings and objects in the Arts & Crafts style designed for the church by W. Bainbridge Reynolds, and MacDonald and Eric Gill, as well as 18th century railings donated by St Mary-le-Bow, London.

Quotes

His Eminence Metropolitan Silouan, Archbishop of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland: "I bless this initiative by our Poole parish and all who will support and participate in these cultural and musical events. I hope and pray that the opportunity will be taken by many British and International choirs and orchestras to perform in this splendid building, which will benefit the local parish and community. It contributes to the restoration of this historically and culturally important Church, as part of the National heritage, so that we can pass it to bless future generations."

Commenting on the call for action, Father Chrysostom, the Parish priest, said: "We are seeking to do justice to the opportunity this unique space offers by attracting the most talented musicians and offer the public high quality performances. This will provide a wonderful and uplifting venue for the people to engage with and enjoy this amazing building in worship and music. We are a growing parish and believe that this building and these events will greatly benefit Poole and the wider community, through worship and in so many other ways, culturally and economically, through the restoration and the events."

Notes to editors

About the Bournemouth & Poole Orthodox Christian Foundation

The Bournemouth & Poole Orthodox Christian Foundation was set up to acquire the Church from its previous owners, as a place of worship for the Saint Dunstan Antiochian Orthodox Christian Parish and the growing numbers of Orthodox Christians in the South-West of England. Saint Dunstan's has an important role in the Antiochian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland.

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. www.hlf.org.uk
@heritagelottery

Further information

For further information and pre-booking visits please contact:

Father Chrysostom: 01202 602628 **email:** fr.chrysostom@fsmail.net
Diaconissa Annemieke: 01308 868543 **email:** annemieke.blondeel@gmx.com.

Address:

St Dunstan's Antiochian Orthodox Church,
Saint Osmund's Road,
Parkstone,
Poole,
BH14 9JG.

Calling all Singers! - Be part of an exciting new performing opportunity in London

Award-winning choir composer/director Helen Yeomans is bringing her acclaimed show One World to London in 2018 and invites singers to audition to join the One World Choir. This theatrically-inspired musical show - a tapestry of original music, spoken word and percussion - focuses on the crossroads at which we presently stand as a human race. If it feels like we're reaching the tipping point then this show will replace fear with hope for a better future. Powerful and moving, One World has been debuted in the South West to critical acclaim:

"The concert on Saturday was one of the most moving musical events I've ever experienced." Anne Ridgely, Amnesty International

"It broke my heart open ! It woke me up to my own sense of purpose and shifted a gear." Susannah Uren

Auditions will be held in spring/summer 2017 and rehearsals commence in September'17. If you feel passionate about the themes in One World and are a confident singer/performer then this is a perfect artistic opportunity.

For all information, watch video highlights of the show and register to be part of the One World choir visit <http://www.helenyeomans.co.uk/one-world>



Limerick Sings invites you to the 5th International Choral Festival from the 22nd to the 25th June 2017.

A SPECIAL INVITATION:

Dear Choir Secretary/Member,

I would like to extend a special invitation to your Choral Group to attend this year's Limerick Sings International Choral Festival, 22nd to 25th June 2017.

Limerick Sings would like to offer a complimentary place* for your Choral Conductor to attend this year's festival (*minimum group numbers of 15).

Limerick Sings is an annual non-competitive Choral Festival set in the beautiful backdrop of the University of Limerick Campus along with some of Limerick City & County's most spectacular venues.

Choirs can have an opportunity to join Perform International's 120 Voice Festival Choir from the US, under internationally renowned conductor and composer Andre Thomas, for a performance of Dan Forrest's Jubilate Deo.

Don't miss the chance to join the "Big Sing" at the Cliffs of Moher, a truly unique singing experience at one of the most majestic settings in Ireland and a natural wonder of the world.

As part of the 4 day Festival programme, choirs can choose to perform in a choice of formal and informal concerts, Come Sing Workshop with Ánuna, a Choral Trail and many other social events.
<http://www.limericksings.com/>

For enquiries or a programme brochure please contact Elaine Courtney on 00353 61 – 233 236, by e-mail information@limericksings.com or <http://www.limericksings.com/> For further information on the Limerick Sings International Choral Festival

Contact: Elaine Courtney

Tel: 00 353 61 233 236

E-mail: information@limericksings.com

Web: www.limericksings.com

11th World Symposium on Choral Music of the IFCM (International Federation for Choral Music).

July 22nd to July 29th 2017, Barcelona Organized by the Catalan Federation of Choirs (FCEC) the Symposium will be a space able to bring together conductors, composers, choirs, professionals, publishers and fans of choral music, with the purpose to promote artistic excellence, cooperation and exchange among choral music global community.

The symposium program, that will take place at L'Auditori of Barcelona, will include intensive format (25 h) conducting courses/master classes with 4 renowned international conductors and pilot choir addressed to active students and listeners:

July 22nd to July 25th, 09:30h to 13:30h and 14:30h to 17:00h (25h)

ELISENDA CARRASCO – Children Choirs — Pilot Choir: Cor Infantil Sant Cugat

Repertoire: Orlando di Lasso—"Adoramus Te", Pekka Kostianen—"Jaakobin Pojat", Pablo Casals—"Nigra Sum", Xavier Sarasola—"Pater Noster", Hiroshi Ishimaru—"Aizu Bandai San", Josep Vila—"Cançó Del Conductor De Núvols", Lajos Bardós—"Cantemus", Alberto Grau—"La Cucaracha", Bernat Vivancos—"El Cant Dels Ocells", Bob Chilcott—"Like A singing Bird", "Banaha", Antoni Rodríguez Sabanes—"Cançó De Bres Per A Una Princesa Negra", Lorenz Maierhofer—"Sing And Swing", From Canciones de Papel, Silvia Furno—"Pobre Mariposa".

July 22nd to July 25th, 09:30h to 13:30h and 14:30h to 17:00h (25h)

HELMUTH RILLING – From Baroque to Romanticism— Pilot Choir: Cor Anton Bruckner

Repertoire: Anton Bruckner: "Os Justi" and "Christus factus est", Felix Mendelssohn: "Opus 78, 1 (Psalm 2 : Warum toben die Heiden)" and Opus 78, 2 (Psalm 43 : Richte mich, Gott); Johannes Brahms: "Opus 74, 1 (Warum ist das Licht gegeben)", Opus 74, 2 (O Heiland, reiss die Himmel) and "Opus 104, 1 to 3 (Nachtwache I&II, Letztes Glück)".

July 26th to July 29th, 09:30h to 13:30h and 14:30h to 17:00h (25h):

ROLLO DILWORTH – North American Gospel, folk and African Music — Pilot Choir: Cor Carlit Gospel

Repertoire: "I Sing Because I'm Happy"—arr. Kenneth Paden/adapted by Rollo Dilworth, "He is Marvelous!"—Rosephanye Powell, "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord"—arr. Moses Hogan, "Shenadoah"—arr. James Erb, "Ah! Si Mon Moine Voulait Danser"—arr. Donald Patriquin, "Jenga Imani Yako—Israel Kagaruki/edited by Eugene Rogers.

July 26th to July 29th, 09:30h to 13:30h and 14:30h to 17:00h (25h):

SIMON HALSEY – XXth CENTURY AND CONTEMPORARY— Pilot Choir: Cor de Cambra del Palau de la Música

Repertoire: "O Radiant Dawn", James MacMillan, "Chichester Psalms" movement 1, Leonard Bernstein; "Five English Folk Songs" n° 1, The Dark Eyed Sailor, Ralph Vaughan Williams, "O Vos Omnes" (in Latin), Pau Casals, "Lake Awake At Dawn", Eriks Ešēvalds.

The master classes that will take place during the World Symposium on Choral Music allow to its students the possibility to work improving and refining their technique in the choral conducting art and also in the specialized area of each conductor. The aim of these sessions is to offer a deeper complementary formation to conductors with a wide experience in choral conducting. These master classes offer the greatest quality level thanks to the excellence of guest master conductors and pilot choirs with which students could work.

How to apply?

Interested students should fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have a five (5) years minimum experience as a principal conductor in musical performances
2. Attach a video or a URL link with rehearsal and concert recordings. It could be an edited video with extracts.
3. Provide a list with the repertoire related to the masterclass that has been previously approached by the applicant.

Students will work with the master conductor in open sessions with a pilot choir and in private sessions with the master and a pianist.

Applicants who do not be selected will have priority to attend the masterclass as listeners.

A student only could take 2 masterclasses, one in each half of the Symposium.

Application deadline: November 30th, 2016.

Confirmation deadline: January 31st, 2017.

To submit your application please complete the following form:

<http://www.wscm11.cat/#!formulari-masterclasses/j69u2>

Conducting Course- Masterclass Prices*:

*The registration fees for WSCM11 vary according to 3 country groups, based on the United Nations' Human Development Index - HDI list. To find more information about country groups visit <http://www.wscm11.cat/registrations>

- **1 masterclass: Country Group 1: 385€**
Country Group 2: 325€
Country Group 3: 225€
- **2 masterclass (1 in the first half + 1 in the second half):**
Country Group 1: 650€
Country Group 2: 550€
Country Group 3: 375€

Special discounts for young people (until the age of 27)

You can find further information at the symposium web: www.wscm11.cat

You can also contact us at:

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Run by Singers Courses 2017

SALZBURG HIGH VOICES SUMMER SCHOOL - 27 May to 1 June Directed by Ghislaine Morgan. This very special course for ladies only explores a range of music that is seldom available to mixed choirs. This repertoire, combined with the coaching skills of the wonderful Ghislaine Morgan – in Mozart's birthplace will make for an unforgettable few days.

WEEK IN KRAKOW - 4 June – 11 June Directed by Patrick Craig. This will be our third visit to Krakow and it's always a great week. We look forward very much to working with Patrick Craig who has an enviable reputation as a singer, vocal coach, and choral director. You can read Patrick's impressive CV [here](#). Expect a week of varied a capella music in a splendidly preserved and extremely cultured city. There are some photos from our most recent previous visit [here](#).

EARLY MUSIC IN ANTWERP—17 June – 24 June Directed by David Skinner. This will be our second week for more advanced singers following the model established in Burgos. All singers are welcome to apply but a higher than usual standard of sight-reading will be required. As before there will be a separate application process and numbers will be capped at 40 voices.

BARCELONA - 10 July – 14 July Directed by Jeremy Jackman. This will be our first ever visit to Barcelona - a unique and vibrant city. High costs have always deterred us in the past - and it is certainly an expensive place to stay - but we have an opportunity to sing in Gaudi's magnificent cathedral which couldn't be missed. Expect this event to be very popular!

A WEEK IN RIGA - 23 July – 30 July Directed by Nigel Perrin. As we have enjoyed our two visits to Estonia so much it seemed only right to visit neighbouring Latvia. The ancient capital, Riga, appealed to us greatly when we visited earlier this year and Nigel is putting together a mouth-watering programme of Baltic, Russian and English music for us to sing.

ASSISI SUMMER SCHOOL - 5 August – 12 August Directed by David Skinner. Our hardy annual is growing from strength to strength under David Skinner. This will be another week of delicious Renaissance polyphony with an emphasis on music composed by English Catholics abroad. As always, this intensive a capella week will end with a concert in the Basilica of San Francesco.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL WEEKEND - 1 September – 4 September Directed by Peter North. Next year our popular cathedral weekend is scheduled for Norwich. We will sing the usual three cathedral services and learn how to be a cathedral chorister under Peter's expert tuition. This is the only UK event we currently have planned for 2017 and it is expected to fill quickly.

THE GLORY OF VENICE - 25 October – 29 October. We told you we couldn't bear to stay away so we will return to our favourite part of Venice next year for another long weekend of English and Venetian music. This really does seem to be the best time of year to visit this breathtakingly beautiful city. Don't miss it.

SPANISH RETREAT - 31 October – 4 November Directed by Peter North. During All Saints RBS will be closeted away in a monastery in Northern Spain. This remote cloister, in a stunning mountain setting, will be our home for four days while we prepare to sing Faure's Requiem during a special service in the chapel. There will also be an opportunity to sing Compline with the monks.

ADVENT CONCERT IN WEIMAR—30 November – 4 December Directed by Colin Durrant. Christmas markets, a concert in Bach's Church and an optional visit to Leipzig make this a very special winter treat. Weimar is the birthplace of Goethe and Schiller but is also one of the most charming and Christmassy towns in Germany.

For details of these courses please email Nick Couchman <nick@runbysingers.org>



New Choral Facebook page from Oxford University Press

The popularity of choirs worldwide has now grown to such an extent that mainstream magazines such as *Stylist* are running feature length articles on the benefits of singing. The Royal Society recently estimated in a report on singing that in Europe alone there are an estimated total of 22.5 million singers from 28 countries, in approximately 625,000 choirs.

At Oxford University Press, choral music has always been a major focus of our sheet music publishing, and to support this, we recently launched a new Choral Facebook page: www.facebook.com/oupchoral.

Whether you're a choral director or a choir member, the new Choral Facebook page is a great place to engage with the wider choral community. Take your choir to the next level with practical advice from other highly experienced choral directors; read about developments and issues in the choral world; discover more about some of today's finest and best-loved choral composers, and find out about forthcoming choral publishing.

Oxford University Press is a leading publisher of sheet music with a distinguished heritage that began in 1923. Eminent composers published in those early days included William Walton, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Constant Lambert. Today, we are proud to publish many world-renowned composers including David Bednall, Bob Chilcott, Gabriel Jackson, Cecilia McDowall, Sarah Quartel, John Rutter, Will Todd, and Mack Wilberg among many others.

Please take a look at the new Choral Facebook page, 'like' and 'share' if you're interested, and help spread the word about the wonderful world of choral music!





In October 2016 I had the pleasure to be invited by OneStage Specialist Concert Tours on one of their familiarisation trips. The trips are intended as familiarisation visits to showcase some potential concert venues, some of the cultural opportunities and some of the beautiful areas of Europe available to choirs, bands, orchestras, schools etc.

The trip started at Heathrow where we met our hosts from OneStage and our fellow travellers. We then flew to Vienna where we met our Hungarian representatives, who acted as our local hosts and our language and cultural guides to Hungary. Over the next few days we explored the beautiful region of Western Hungary (Sopron, Győr, etc) and stretching down to the shores of Lake Balaton, the largest and warmest freshwater lake in Central Europe. An area with some outstanding natural sights, historic spa towns, and of course a distinguished musical heritage, as we followed in the footsteps of Haydn.

Having never toured outside the UK before it was amazing what non musical aspects of touring needed to be considered including local customs, competing sporting and cultural events, access to the venue for instruments vans and the hormonal and safety considerations of taking a large group of teenagers on tour. We visited a range of venues both indoor and outdoor as well as a range of hotels .

I would highly recommend touring in Western Hungary particularly to Győr, which has both a beautiful church of St Matthias and wonderful outdoor venue in the square. If you are interested in a more contemporary venue then I would recommend MOM in Budapest .

Overall it was a highly enjoyable visit , with friendly knowledgeable hosts, good companions talking music well into the evening (with drinks) and free time to shop.

I have a number of tour companies advertising on British Choirs on the Net and this is my first familiarisation visit with any of them, so it would be unfair of me to recommend one tour company over another.

However I can say if you do decide to tour with OneStage you will be very well looked after, have a local representative in the country you are touring as well as from OneStage, and come away with many wonderful musical and cultural memories.

With thanks to Sonia, Pippy & Becky for their time and patience .

More details of the trip can be found at : <http://onestage.co.uk/an-appetite-for-hungary/>

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