

Dear Chorale Members

Our Spring concert is on Saturday, 22nd March at 7pm. Here is what you need to know if you are taking part in the concert. If you have further questions then do, please, ask Nigel, using his e-mail nigel@brittenbunt.net or mobile (07767 833610).

Tuesday 18 March: rehearsal at St. George's Church with Mark Griffiths, starting at 7.45pm. If you do not already have a music folder you can collect one from Nigel that day.

Thursday 20 March: rehearsal at St. George's Church with our Guest Conductor James Morgan, starting at 7.45pm. Please arrive no later than 7.30pm to ensure we have time to get everyone properly seated; the concert stage platforms and seating will be up, and chairs placed as for the concert on Saturday. The "ringer" basses and tenors will be joining us for this rehearsal. At the end of the rehearsal, we will remove chairs as usual, but the stage platforms will remain in place.

Saturday 22 March: Rehearsal with orchestra and soloists at St George's Church from 2 – 5pm, with a short break in the middle. You should arrive by 1.45pm in order to be seated and ready to start at 2pm promptly. Between the rehearsal and concert, you are welcome to stay in the church if getting home and coming back is not convenient, and you can also change into concert attire.

The church doors will be closed from after the rehearsal until 6.15pm. If you do want to come back earlier, you can either ring the bell at the front door or call Sally Moran on 07710 752683 to let you in.

Concert starts at 7pm - please arrive no later than 6.40pm by the South Transept door (not the main door which is reserved for the audience). Expect the whole concert to run for about 100 minutes including a 20-minute interval before the Mozart Mass, when wine and soft drinks will be available to audience and singers alike.

Dress

Women: Long dress, or skirt (ankle length) or smart trousers; tops with long sleeves – all Black. Small black handbags and discreet jewellery only.

Men: Black dinner suit, white shirt and black bow tie.

Concert Etiquette

During the concert, women may leave their belongings in the Lady Chapel using available chairs. But please note, under no circumstances should we hang coats over the altar rails.

At 6.50pm assemble in the North Transept (men) and Lady Chapel off the South Transept (women). Find your neighbours and line up to walk to the seats in sequence. **New! The two first rows of the ladies walk in and out together.** Please walk in purposefully and sit down immediately when you have reached your chair.

Take care moving around on the stage platforms and **do not walk through the orchestra at any time (priceless instruments!)**

When seated, please be quiet and still. Please do not take water bottles on stage.

We don't applaud when the conductor and soloist/s come on stage, but we can applaud them when they return to take their bow.

Stands / Sits: Please make sure you mark up your copies as directed by Mark during rehearsals. If you are not sure, then please check with those around you to make sure what to do.

After the final bow we stand and walk back in reverse order, **both front rows walking out together.** Observe and follow the Altos at the far end of the first row.

Folders: We are using the black concert folders. If you do not have a folder at home, please collect one from Nigel on the Tuesday before the concert.

Return of Vocal Scores

Our Music Librarian Jo Groves will collect the vocal scores **not on concert night, but at the next rehearsal at 7.45pm on Tuesday 25th, (which will be held in St George's Hall, Albermarle Road).**

Remember to erase all pencil markings from your scores. If you're not going to be at the rehearsal, please make arrangements with a friend to return your scores. Keep your folders for the next concert.

Any problems or questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Enjoy the concert - and keep selling those tickets!

With kind regards
Nigel

Nigel Britten
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07767 833610



<https://www.beckenhamchorale.org.uk/>