

Dear Chorale Members

Our Winter concert is on Saturday, 29 November 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 Henrike, using the e-mail henrike@ntlworld.com or mobile (07952 948 799).

CONCERT WEEK

Tuesday 25 November: rehearsal at St. George's Church with Mark Griffiths, starting at 7.45pm.

Thursday 27 November: extra concert-week rehearsal at St. George's Church, starting at 7.45pm.

Saturday 29 November: Rehearsal with Coro, soloists and full orchestra at St George's Church from 2.30 to 5.30, with a short break in the middle. This will be the first time the concert stage will be set up, and we are having to seat the extra 26 singers. **You should arrive by 2pm** in order to be seated and ready to start at 2.30pm promptly.

We will have "competition" from the Christmas Fair and Beckenham Lights Switch-On that afternoon: The Green right next to the church will be busy with people, the car park is likely to be full. Please consider this when deciding whether you should go home between rehearsal and concert. If you want to stay, then you are, of course, welcome to stay in the church – but we have also booked a room in the Methodist Church as a "Green Room". The Methodist Church is just across the road, and you will be very welcome to go there to change and relax.

Please also let your friends and families know that they might find car-parking space difficult to come by that night, and to consider car sharing or public transport. Incidentally, the Methodist Church will also be open during the concert interval, with additional toilet facilities available.

The church doors will be closed after the rehearsal until 6.15pm.

Concert starts at 7pm - please arrive no later than 6.45pm by the South Transept door (not the main door which is reserved for the audience). Expect the whole concert including interval to run for just under 2 hours 30 minutes.

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. 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 do not applaud when we are standing – we don't want to look as though we are applauding ourselves – but we can applaud the soloists and orchestra after the performance as long as we are seated.

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.

At the end of the first part, and again after the concert, we stand and walk back in reverse order, both front rows walking out together. Observe and follow Tina Holderried, the Alto at the far end of the first row.

Folders: We are not using the concert folders for this 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 2 December (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.

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

Enjoy the concert - and keep selling those tickets!

With kind regards
Henrike

Henrike Hawkins
Concert Manager
07952 948 799



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