

Become a Friend of the Orpheus

The Orpheus Choir is a registered charity and is self-funding, with the considerable costs of hire of rehearsal rooms, music, soloists and orchestra fees being met by members' subscriptions, ticket sales and fund-raising activities. If you enjoy our concerts and would like to support us, please become a Friend of the Orpheus Choir.

The annual membership fee is just £12 for an individual and £18 for a couple, and membership offers a number of benefits:

- ◆ advance notice of concerts
- ◆ discount on pre-booked tickets
- ◆ an additional discount for block booking our concerts at the beginning of the choir year
- ◆ reserved seats at concerts
- ◆ a free souvenir concert programme
- ◆ a newsletter each term
- ◆ an invitation to the Choir's social events

To become a Friend, please complete the form below and return it with a cheque payable to Wellingborough Orpheus Choir to:
Maureen Williams, 7 The Jetty, Hackleton,
Northampton NN7 2AJ

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|-----------|
| Name |
| Address |
| Post code |
| Email |
| Tel no |
| Signed |
| Date |

PROGRAMME 2018/19

Saturday 15th December 2018 at 3.00 pm

An Afternoon Christmas Concert

with Park Junior School Choir
Christmas songs, carols and mince pies!
United Reformed Church
High Street, Wellingborough, NN8 4HW
Adults £5 ♦ Friends £4 ♦ students and
accompanied children free

Saturday 19th January 2019 2.00-4.00 pm

Come and Sing with the Orpheus!

Love to sing and relish a challenge? Try some of the choruses we shall be singing at our next concert
FREE event
Park Junior School, Great Park Street
Wellingborough, NN8 4PH

Saturday 18th May 2019 at 7.30 pm

Rutter's **Magnificat** and Vivaldi's **Gloria**

with The Orpheus Players
and Michelle Todd (soprano)
St Barnabas Church
College Street, Wellingborough, NN8 3HB

Saturday 6th July 2019

Summer Concert

Holy Trinity Church, Denford, Kettering, NN14 4ED

The Orpheus Choir is supported by:

wilson browne
SOLICITORS

Choir contact:

Publicity Officer: Maureen Williams

☎ 01604 870318 ✉ maureen@thejetty.eclipse.co.uk

Registered Charity Number 1149120



Find us on
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Wellingborough Orpheus Choir



New members always welcome

- ◆ mixed choir of 50 voices
- ◆ wide age range
- ◆ classical and modern music
- ◆ performances with an orchestra
- ◆ NO AUDITION required
- ◆ pay nothing for your first term
- ◆ FREE membership for students

www.orpheuschoir.info

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The Choir

Founded in 1953, the Orpheus Choir gives three or four concerts a year in and around Wellingborough and has performed many of the major choral works with professional soloists, including Brahms' *German Requiem*, Haydn's *Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Bach's *St John Passion*, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, the *Requiems* of Verdi, Fauré and Mozart, and, of course, Handel's *Messiah*. Works by modern composers that we have performed include John Rutter's *Gloria* and Karl Jenkins' *Requiem* and *The Armed Man*.

By way of a change we also give concerts of light music, including spirituals and songs from West End shows, as well as an annual concert of Christmas music and carols.



Elijah in St Barnabas Church, 2016

Cover photo: Summer concert 2017. Both photos: Phill Wallis

Our Musical Director



Mark McBride joined us as our new Musical Director at the beginning of 2017. A former teacher, Mark taught mainly in secondary schools and his last position before he retired was at King John Middle School in

Thrapston. Throughout this time he planned programmes, conducted and arranged music for choirs and instrumental groups; performances ranging from Fauré's *Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah* and Monteverdi's *Vespers* (in co-operation with Oundle School and Clare College Cambridge), to the songs of Cole Porter, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Les Misérables*. He and his wife Michelle also set up and conducted for a number of years an adult choir, The Doddington Singers.

The Orpheus Players

As any choral singer will tell you, performing with an orchestra is an experience not to be missed, and we are fortunate sometimes to be accompanied by the Orpheus Players, an ad hoc group of music teachers, students and other musicians, some local, others from further afield, drawn together for specific concerts.

Hire-a-choir

From time to time the choir is invited to sing at weddings and other private events. On these occasions volunteers form a sub choir and we are glad to enhance a celebration by doing what we do best! The funds raised from this activity form a welcome addition to budgets strained by the costs of concert production.



Monday evening rehearsal

Come and sing with us!

The 50 or so singers in the Wellingborough Orpheus Choir come from all walks of life and have varying levels of musical experience and ability. Although the standard of our singing has continued to improve under successive musical directors, we sing for enjoyment rather than to reach competition standard.

For that reason new members are not asked to take an audition. You don't have to be able to sight read, although it does help if you can! Within each section there are always some people who are more confident than others, so we help each other along.

You are welcome to come along for a term to try us out before joining, and membership is free for students. Rehearsals are held on Monday evenings during term time at Park Junior School, Great Park Street, Wellingborough, NN8 4PH from 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm. Just contact the publicity officer, Maureen Williams, first so that we know to expect you: phone 01604 870318 or email: maureen@thejetty.eclipse.co.uk.

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