

WATFORD PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY – Notices 9th March 2020

WPS Image Bank We are very grateful to photographer Rachel Piper for coming along this evening to take some more shots of us enjoying ourselves and working hard in rehearsal. Some of her earlier photographs are on the display boards at the back of the hall and thanks to her talent and generosity, we are starting to build an attractive collection for use on our website and for other media outlets. You can see some of Rachel's stunning wildlife photography on her website at www.rachelpiper.me.uk. Do take a look.

SETTING OUT CHAIRS – A PLEA FOR HELP (AGAIN !) There is a small group of very dedicated ladies who set out about 150 chairs each Monday evening. It would be enormously helpful if more people could help with this task, as many hands make light work... All you need to do is arrive a bit earlier and give a hand. Many thanks, Nikki
The layout : **Sopranos and altos** – each 5 rows of 10 chairs. **Men.** 2 rows. **Basses** 12 chairs; **Tenors** 9 chairs

REHEARSAL RESOURCES Available on website https://watfordphilharmonic.co.uk/wp2019_B/2020/01/07/handel-messiah-resources/

Also available on Cyberbass, ChordPerfect (<https://www.chordperfect.com/george-handel>)

Messiah Miscellany

Two questions for you this week. The quiz will end on 23 March (15 questions in total)

Messiah Miscellany week 10	
 <p>Q. Where can you see Handel's personal draft score of <i>Messiah</i>?</p>	A.
 <p>There have been many editions of <i>Messiah</i>, several still in print.</p> <p>Q. Which 20th century musicologist produced an edition in which more instruments were added to accommodate the increasingly large choirs being used for performances?</p>	A.
<p><i>Messiah</i> was originally scored for just strings, trumpets and drums. More instruments and our own orchestral players will be on the platform for our performance on 25th April, alongside the drums of celebrated timpanist Tristan Fry. Read all about Tristan on our website www.watfordphilharmonic.co.uk</p>	

Messiah Memories. Another recollection of schooldays

Judy Newton-Davies (alto) writes:

'Aged about 15, I was thrilled to be a member of my school choir and invited to join forces with several other ensembles for a performance of *Messiah*. The widely respected local Oratorio Choir left us school kids in no doubt of their evident superiority, but we had been well-drilled by our music teachers and made especially aware of those all-important rests three bars before the end of the *Hallelujah Chorus*. Imagine our delight when an elderly bass voice struck up a loudly triumphant 'Halle...' on the second and third beats where the rests should be, followed by an equally loud 'Dammit' on the fourth beat instead of the final 'Halle...'