

Watford Philharmonic Society - Notices 6th September 2021

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to our 2021–22 season rehearsals! I am so sorry not to be joining you for this momentous occasion, but I am currently abroad – North of the Border – enjoying my re-arranged holiday from last year! I shall however be watching via the Zoom link organised by Tim Pettigrew which will run for about 4 weeks to enable those who currently feel unable to attend in person.

I must thank Judy, Margaret, Nikki and Peter Davis for all their care and attention to detail to make our return to rehearsals as safe and comfortable as possible. The CB&S workshop was so successful that I feel confident that following similar guidelines we shall be able to move forward and start working towards producing a cracking performance of Mozart's *Requiem* in October.

Malcolm Two has the advance publicity material for the concert. Please make sure you take and distribute as many flyers as possible. You will also receive the email version to send out. The Grand Hall has a smaller audience capacity than the Colosseum and it would be really magnificent to sing to a full house. The Box Office is open now so start buying!

The Committee has been working throughout this eventful year to be ready for the challenges of our return, but there are some areas where it is essential for people to come forward to help and I urge you to consider what YOU can do. We all enjoy the benefits of being part of this wonderful Society, but we must share more of the workload to allow WPS to continue to perform to the highest standards possible, both financially and musically.

Enjoy the rehearsal and see you soon!

Pam

MICHAEL is also unable to be with us this evening, due to a prior engagement. He sends his apologies and very good wishes and looks forward to being with us again next week. Meanwhile, a warm welcome to **Emily Ashmore**, deputising for Michael this evening.

WATFORD COLOSSEUM

The Colosseum has been our performance venue more or less continuously since we gave its inaugural concert in 1940. It is currently closed to enable major repair and renovation work to take place as part of the exciting Town Hall Quarter redevelopment project outlined in the Borough Council's Cultural Strategy 2018 – 2025. Read more about the project here: https://www.watford.gov.uk/downloads/file/3084/watford_culturalstrategy_2019

We are unlikely to be able to return to the Colosseum before autumn 2023 but we're sure that the Grand Hall at Bushey Arena will be a very acceptable alternative. Our first concert there will be on **Saturday 23 October** when we will perform an all-Mozart programme to include the *Requiem*, *Ave Verum* and the *Jupiter* Symphony.

CONCERT TICKETS

Our new Box Office at the Arena is ready to go so we have put ticket sales for the next concert online at www.trybooking.co.uk/BETP. This was used very successfully for the Come Back & Sing workshop in July and we're confident that it will work well for all future ticket purchasing. You can also book via the Box Office link from our website and for anyone unable to access the internet, we have set up a telephone Box Office on 07843 192016.

PRE-CONCERT WORKSHOPS

As well as the scheduled rehearsal dates, we will be holding Saturday workshops each term as an integral part of our concert preparations. The first 2 dates for this season are **Saturday 9th October** and **Saturday 27th November**, both in **St Luke's Church, Langley Way, Watford WD17 3EG**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Margaret has prepared schedules for choir and orchestra, showing all rehearsal and concert dates for the season. These are now available on our website, with a few paper copies available this evening for anyone without internet access.

AGM

The Society's AGM will be held on **Monday 11 October** at the earlier start time of 7.00pm at Watford Girls' Grammar School. Several essential committee posts will be up for election, including the key role of Publicity Manager left vacant following Pam's 'elevation' to Chairman earlier this year. Social Activities Co-ordinator has remained unfilled for several seasons and other posts are likely to become vacant in the next two seasons. We cannot run the Society without a team of people willing to share responsibility for its wide-ranging business. Here is a list of existing committee members with dates when their current 2-year period of office comes to an end. **An asterisk * signifies that a postholder is eligible for re-election this year – should they be prepared to put themselves forward for a further 2 year term!**

Post	Post-holder	Current term ends
Chair	Pam Allanson	October 2023
Vice-Chair	Judy Newton-Davies	October 2021 *
Secretary	Audrey Adams	October 2022
Treasurer	Paul Buckley	October 2022
Concert Manager	Frances Pyatt	October 2021 *
Publicity & Marketing Manager	Vacant	
Membership Secretary	Nikki Hind	October 2021 *
IT projects Manager	Tim Pettigrew	October 2021 *
Social Activities Co-ordinator	Vacant	

Co-opted

Rehearsals Manager: Margaret Burke

Music Director: Michael Cayton

Orchestra Representative: Lindsey St John Smith

FUTURE WEEKLY NOTICES

After tonight's rehearsal, these will no longer be printed out and distributed on Monday evenings. Instead, they will be emailed out to members on Sunday evenings as regularly as possible. We respectfully suggest that it is the responsibility of individual members to ensure that they check in advance of rehearsals to ensure that they are up to date with essential information. www.watfordphilharmonic.co.uk

COVID19

Please let us know should you test positive in the next 14 days – members@watfordphilharmonic.co.uk