

Watford Philharmonic Society – Notices 13th September 2021

Graham Garton GRSM, LRAM, ARCO, ARAM

(25th April 1929 – 7th September 2021)

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Graham Garton just one month after that of his beloved wife, Barbara. Graham was Music Director of the Watford Philharmonic Society from 1967 to 1989 and since then has been our Conductor Emeritus. He directed the Society in many memorable performances at Watford Colosseum and overseas, details which can be accessed on our website. In March 2015 we were privileged to sing his *Magna Carta Cantata*, a performance which he and Barbara attended. A more detailed obituary will be available in due course. We extend our sincere condolences to his daughter Jocelyn and family.

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 are confident 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

There is no Box Office at the Arena so we have put ticket sales online at trybooking.com/uk/book/search/Watford. This was used very successfully for the Come Back & Sing workshop in July so we're confident that it will work well for all future ticket purchasing. For anyone unable to access the internet, we have set up a telephone Box Office on 07843 192016.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Revised rehearsal schedules for choir and orchestra, to take account of the rescheduled AGM and the new rehearsal time of 7.30 to 9pm without an interval for choir only, have been uploaded onto our website together with a revised list of **Rehearsal Resources**. The rehearsal time will be reviewed at the end of 2021. Please note that the revision includes the date of 31st January which I forgot in the original schedule! A few printed copies will be available for those without internet access.

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**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE!

PLEASE NOTE AND RESPOND TO THE NOTICE YOU WILL FIND ON YOUR CHAIRS WHEN YOU COME TO REHEARSAL TONIGHT! One person cannot do a safely-distanced set-up of the hall for rehearsal on their own. Just 3 or 4 pairs of hands (each with a big stick!) can make light work!

FUTURE WEEKLY NOTICES

Please note that all future weekly notices will be emailed to members on Sunday evenings as regularly as possible and also posted onto our website. 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

AGM

The Society's AGM will be held on **Monday 11th 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 and those of us who've been around for some time were beginning to feel a bit stretched pre-lockdown. Here is a list of this season's 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 – 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

Ex-officio

Music Director: Michael Cayton

COVID19

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