

INFORMATION FOR CONCERT DAYS

Concerts and dress rehearsals take place on the Saturday of the concert in Holy Trinity Church, Rolle Street, Exmouth.

If you know in advance that you are unable to sing in a concert please let Brian or the Registrar know as soon as possible. You are still welcome to attend rehearsals.

Staging

We are lucky in having purpose designed staging in Holy Trinity Church, which means that all singers should be able to see the conductor without problems. The staging for the concert is put up on the Friday morning by a band of volunteers. It is dismantled and stacked immediately after the concert so that the church can be used for services the next day. On the Monday morning after the concert the staging is returned to its storage place. Help is essential for all 3 of these processes. With plenty of helpers, ten to twelve, women as well as men, the whole task takes just over half an hour. The helpers usually have coffee together in the church coffee room after the Friday and Monday sessions, which is a good chance to meet choir members from other "parts". The names of volunteers are asked for on the last Monday practice.

"Dress Rehearsal"

A rehearsal in Holy Trinity church is held on the afternoon of a concert day, about 2.30pm to 5.00pm, with the orchestra if applicable. Exact times for the rehearsal vary and are announced on the last Monday practice. It is essential to attend the concert day rehearsal as seating and "sits and stands" are decided and adjustment to the acoustic of the church is necessary.

Seating for the concert is arranged just before the rehearsal. It is important to **arrive 15 minutes before the stated start of the rehearsal** in order to negotiate seating or you may find that there is nowhere for you to sit! However getting there any earlier than this is unnecessary and may disturb the orchestra who are often already rehearsing.

Bottles of water

Bottles of water are welcome at the rehearsal but for the performance please only use in a coughing emergency (!) and then use them discreetly, otherwise wait until the interval.

Mobile phones

If it is essential, you may keep mobile phones on during the rehearsal, but please put them to **silent mode. Please do not take mobile phones, pagers or any similar equipment onto the concert stage.** There is absolutely no reason for you to need them once you are on stage.

Toilets

There are toilets upstairs at the back of the church.

Parking

Parking in the church grounds is limited so it would help if you park in the surrounding streets and leave the church parking for people with mobility problems. If you do need to park in the church grounds the way in is at the top end of Beacon Place at the junction with Bicton Place and the way out is into Rolle Street. It is a one-way system.

If the weather has been dry for some time the church permits cars to be parked on the grass.

Front of house

Volunteers, who are usually partners of singing members, staff the front of house roles – selling tickets and programmes, hosting the raffle and acting as ushers. Parking attendants are also required if we are

parking on the grass areas. The Secretary would be pleased to hear if you have a partner who would be willing to fulfil any of these roles.

Between Rehearsal and concert

Anyone who does not have time to go home between the rehearsal and the performance can usually find somewhere in the church to eat a sandwich and have a drink (which they need to bring with them). If you wish to do this there is some space for communal changing.

Concert dress

Clothes for the performance consist of long black skirts and smart pure white long-sleeved blouses for the women. Black tights should be worn. Men wear dinner jackets and black bow ties. Both men and women wear black shoes.

Security

Please note that all your personal belongings are your sole responsibility. We suggest that you bring the absolute minimum with you. If ladies have to have a handbag in the church please only take a black clutch bag onto the stage.

Folders

Because we are often using different editions of the scores, music should be held in a black folder. If you do not have a folder please ask the secretary, or if you prefer you could obtain one of the correct size yourself.

Assembling for the concert

Please be in the church at least 20 minutes before the start of the concert.

Sopranos and Tenors usually gather in the North organ vestry (on the left side as you enter the church). Altos and Basses gather in the South Choir vestry (on the right side). You should line up in such a way that we fill the seats in an orderly fashion.

Interval

Refreshments are usually available upstairs during the interval, courtesy of the church volunteers. During the interval it is fine to go and join your friends in the body of the church, or upstairs, but please be back in your seat on the stage in very good time.

Returning music scores

If you become aware in advance that you will not be singing in the concert please return your scores to the Librarian, via another member if necessary.

At the end of the concert please leave your music in the appropriate boxes which are placed in the vestries so that the librarian can collect it.

We incur extra charges by the Devon Libraries if we do not return the loaned scores on the designated date.