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**BERLIOZ REQUIEM NEWSLETTER NO. 4**

**26th JUNE 2018**

Reply to Jos Gregson,

18 Willoughby Close,

Alveston,

Bristol BS35 3RW

Tel: 01454-411652

Email: jos@josgregson.plus.com

Dear Singer

 This is being sent to you because you have signed up to take part in the Berlioz Requiem performance in Gloucester Cathedral on July 14th 2018 as part of the Cheltenham Music Festival. Rehearsals have now started and so far one each has taken place in Alveston and Stonehouse. Some of the information below is repeated from Newsletter No. 3.

**SCORES**

All ordered scores have been supplied to singers who will be taking part. If by any chance you are missing a score let me know, details above. I still have a very few new copies should you wish to upgrade from a hire copy to your own copy, price £15..

**RETURN OF SCORES**

Boxes will be available for the return of scores at the end of the concert. These will be located on both sides of the stage area, please return your scores to these boxes. There will also be additional boxes and members of the committee at the South and West doors to recover any loan scores that singers fail to hand in. I do not want to have to make phone calls to recover hire scores so please hand them in after the concert.

**SCORE AMENDMENTS**

Adrian Partington has made a number of adjustments to the score and a list of has been sent out to everyone taking part. Please make every effort to get these entered in your Bärenreiter score before your rehearsals start. I will bring a few paper copies to rehearsals in case of any problems in people’s email contacts

**CONCERT WEAR**

**Gentlemen** – Dinner jackets/black suits, white shirts, black bow ties.

**Ladies** – Long black trousers/skirts, black tops with three quarter or long sleeves (no short sleeves or sleeveless tops).

**FOLDERS**

We will not be using folders, we have all got uniform light blue Bärenreiter scores so will use these without folders.

**BUSES**

The SCBSG will run buses from Thornbury to the Gloucester rehearsals and the performance. The dates and departure times are as listed below together with the costs. If you want to reserve a ticket on a bus please let me know at jos@josgregson.plus.com This will obviously suit members of Nailsea, Portishead, Thornbury, Yate, Bristol and Monmouth Choral Societies. There are some places left if you want to take them up, contact me as above.

All departures will be from outside Aldi in Thornbury.

Margaret Pinder will be Coach Monitor, her mobile number is 07753 162920

June 30th Workshop Crypt School departure 08.45 leave Crypt School at 16.15. Cost £8

July 4th Rehearsal Crypt School departure 18.15 leave Crypt School at 21.45. Cost £6

July 11th Rehearsal Crypt School departure 18.15 leave Crypt School at 21.45. Cost £6

July 13th Rehearsal Gloucester Cathedral departure 18.15, leave Gloucester Cathedral at 21.45. Cost £6

July 14th Rehearsal and performance Gloucester Cathedral departure 12.45, leave Gloucester Cathedral at 21.45. Cost £8

Please pay either by BACS to **SCBSG** sort code **55-61-38** Account **72408375** or by cheque made out to **SCBSG** to Jos Gregson, 18 Willoughby Close, Alveston, Bristol BS35 3RW

**PERFORMANCE TICKETS**

SCBSG have been allocated a number of tickets for sale at £35, £28, £22 and £15, the latter are aisle seats with limited visibility. The number of tickets that we have for sale is limited. Jos will have any remaining tickets with him for sale at all the rehearsals or alternatively by phone or email as at the top of this Newsletter. Payment may be paid by cheque or BACS (details as listed under buses above).

**QUERIES**

If you have any questions or there is anything that you wish to discuss please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details above

**REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

The up to date schedule is given below as a record. You will be notified in good time of any changes in timings or venues. There will be checking in at all rehearsals apart from 14th July

**SOUTH COTSWOLD BIG SING GROUP**

**BERLIOZ REQUIEM 2018 REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **EVENT** | **TIME** | **VENUE** | **Conductor** | **Accompanist** |
| 26/6/18Tuesday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Wycliffe Junior SchoolPerforming Arts C | Chris Swain | George Gillow |
| 28/6/18Thursday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Alveston Methodist Church | Steven Kings | Robin Baggs |
| 30/6/18Saturday | Workshop | 10am-4pm | Crypt School, Gloucester | Adrian Partington | Jonathan Hope |
| 3/7/18Tuesday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Wycliffe Junior SchoolPerforming Arts C | Chris Swain | George Gillow |
| 4/7/18Wednesday | GroupRehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Crypt School, Gloucester | Adrian Partington | Steven Kings |
| 5/7/18Thursday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Alveston Methodist Church | Steven Kings | Robin Baggs |
| 10/7/18Tuesday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Wycliffe CollegeChapel | Chris Swain | George Gillow |
| 11/7/18Wednesday | GroupRehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Crypt School, Gloucester | Adrian Partington | Jonathan Hope |
| 12/7/18Thursday | Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Alveston Methodist Church | Steven Kings | Robin Baggs |
| 13/7/18Friday | Group Rehearsal | 7.30-9.30pm | Gloucester Cathedral | Adrian Partington | Jonathan Hope |
| 14/7/18Saturday | Group Rehearsal | 2pm-5pm | Gloucester Cathedral | Adrian Partington | British Sinfonietta |
| 14/7/18Saturday | Performance | 7pm-9pm | Gloucester Cathedral | Adrian Partington | British Sinfonietta |

**STAGE LAYOUT AT REHEARSALS AND THE CONCERT**

Adrian has requested that we rehearse in bands from front to back with Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Bass 1 and Bass 2 comprising the bands. These are usually 2-3 people wide and run from front to back. Soprano 1s are to the conductor’s left etc. Alto 1s will be placed in a block in front of S2s and Alto 2s in a block in front of T1s.

There will be layout plans at all rehearsals at Alveston, the Crypt School and at Stonehouse. Plans for the Cathedral will be distributed nearer the concert. At the rehearsal on 13th July the Concert Manager David Joyce and his Deputy Andrew Woodhall will get everyone seated in their concert positions and

Mandatory means just that – you must attend the rehearsals on 30th June, 4th, 11th and 13th July. Life, birth, death and marriage situations as exemptions must be approved by Adrian or relayed to him by myself.

**REFRESHMENTS AND BREAKS AT REHEARSALS AND ON CONCERT DAY**

Squash and water will be provided at the three remaining rehearsals at Stonehouse and the three at Alveston.

There will be a 20 minute tea and coffee break at the Workshop on 30th June at around 11.30am.

There will be a lunch break at the Workshop on 30th June between 1pm and 2pm, please bring your own lunches. There will be no break between 2pm and 4pm.

There will be a ten minute break at around 8.30pm on 4th, 11th and 13th July

There will be a 15 minute break on concert day, 14th July. This will be at 3.35pm

Please bring any (non-alcoholic) drinks you require to all the rehearsals at the Crypt School and the Cathedral – these rehearsals are for 200 singers and it would take too long to provide juice etc. to everyone.

There is only going to be a very brief break in the concert after the Lacrimosa, not an interval. Please feel free to bring a discreet water bottle into the concert, preferably not in fluorescent colours and magnum sized! We do want to look professional.

**REHEARSAL VENUES**

**WYCLIFFE JUNIOR SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE**

Rehearsals on 26th June and 3rd July will be at Wycliffe Junior School Performing Arts Centre, Ebley Road, Stonehouse GL10 2LD to be taken by Chris Swain at 7.30pm

*To get to the venue from the M5 head for Stroud and cross five roundabouts. About 200 yards after the fifth roundabout there is an opening on the right labelled Gate 19 and a large car park. Go into the car park, park and there is a small gate in the fence. Go through this and the Performing Arts Centre is on the left after about 200 yards. Do not be diverted onto the Stroud bypass.*

*Coming out of Stroud follow the A419 out of Stroud along Cainscross Road. Go straight across the large roundabout at the Marling School end into Westward Road. Gate 19 is around 1.25 miles on your left. Kennedy’s Garden Centre used to use the car park.*

**WYCLIFFE COLLEGE CHAPEL**

The rehearsal on 10th July will be at Wycliffe College Chapel, Bath Road, Stonehouse GL10 2JQ.

Note that the following are revised instructions from Newsletter No. 3

There is parking in the grounds of the main school either side of the drive way and an extra car park in front of the headmaster’s house

The entrance is on the left before the fifth roundabout

There will be a steward to show people where to go.

**ALVESTON METHODIST CHURCH**

On June 28th, July 5th and July 12th Steven Kings will take rehearsals at Alveston Methodist Church, Alveston, BS35 3RY at 7.30pm.

*Coming out of Bristol take the A38 – after you pass the village sign saying ALVESTON St Helen’s Church is on your left. Turn left immediately after St Helen’s Church, Alveston Methodist Church is around 400 yards on the left on the corner of Wolfridge Ride.*

*Coming from the Stroud and Gloucester direction on the A38 go through the lights signed to Thornbury and immediately get into the right hand lane. Turn right into David’s Lane, drive to the T junction at the bottom, turn left and immediately right and Alveston Methodist is up to your left.*

**CRYPT SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER**

On June 30th there will be a mandatory all day Workshop at The Crypt School, Podsmead Road, Gloucester GL2 5AE from 10am-4pm. On 4th July and 11th July there will be mandatory rehearsals from 7.30pm to be taken by Adrian Partington

*Coming from Junction 12 on the M5 follow signs to Gloucester city centre on the dual carriageway. Cross two roundabouts and at the major lights that are next turn right on the A38 to Gloucester City Centre. After around 800 yards Podsmead is on the left at lights. Turn left, go round a small roundabout and drive into the Crypt School driveway.* ***There will be a large car park on the left before you reach the school building and a Steward to direct you. Park your car and go round the side of the building, check-in is at the main entrance on the other side of the building from the car park.***

**GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL**

Very well signposted with brown signs from outside Gloucester. There is a large car park in Westgate Street as you leave the inner bypass to turn left towards the Cathedral

All the best and I look forward to meeting up with all of you at rehearsals.

Jos Gregson

Chairman

South Cotswold Big Sing Group