



Welcome back!

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear choir member,

With cautious optimism(!), we start rehearsing again on 6th September, and look forward to seeing you all again. Committee members, as Trustees, have debated long and hard about the best ways to keep everyone safe, including maximising ventilation etc. and it's very important that you read all that follows very carefully. It might look a bit complicated and alarming, but don't worry, it'll all make sense, there'll be a lot of help around, and we're encouraging everyone that feels able, to come and join us and start singing again. How we've missed it!

The most important thing for you to do, is to sign the Code of Conduct which is the last page of this Newsletter. It might appear strong in its content, but we have to make absolutely sure that everyone attending is fit to do so, and not putting anyone else at risk.

You can either return it to me completed by email to sclaridge31@gmail.com, or bring it to the first rehearsal. If you can print it off, it would be very helpful. For those not able to do so, I will have a few copies available on 6th September.

We would like to stress that there is no obligation to participate in any of the events that we're organising now, or in the future. You should only do so if you feel comfortable, and your decision not to will in no way affect your membership status - you'll be welcome back at whatever point you feel able to return.

PERSONNEL

We're delighted to tell you that Emily Spence has offered to be Acting Chairman until next March (or longer!), and that Eppy Sewell will be assisting her as Vice-Chairman.

The full Committee is now:

Emily Spence (Chairman), Eppy Sewell (Vice-Chairman), Geoff Hall (Treasurer), Sandra Claridge (Secretary), David Chaplin, Vivienne Hall, Shirley Lynch, Dave Munson, Olivia Shenton-Taylor and Pete Sawyer.

REHEARSALS

The arrangements are as follows:

Parking and access to LWS

Building work is being undertaken on the Main Hall and Gym at LWS, and we are asked not to use the small car park off Sycamore drive but to park further down the road in the Skills

Centre car park. You can also park in the Foundation car park by main reception, or in the Thame Leisure Centre car park.

Access to the Main hall and Gym will be via the white doors at the rear of the building. (If looking at the red doors at the front of the building, walk to the left and around the corner, and the white double doors are there on your right). We are not able to use the toilets above the Main Hall, but instead we have access to the toilets by the Drama Studio, and a Committee member will be around to guide you to both places!

Rehearsal times Autumn 2021

- To avoid “mingling”, **rehearsals will be from 7.30 – 9.00 with no break**, and therefore you will be responsible for bringing a drink for yourself.
- The opening rehearsal on 6th September will be very busy, so it would be very helpful if you could get there by 7.15, so that we can provide everyone with their copies, ensure that everyone has signed our “Code of Conduct” (more on that overleaf!), and acquaint themselves with the set-up.
- Please provide your own hand sanitiser, and use it on entry to the building.
- Masks will be required on entry and exit, but not during the rehearsal.



Registers

It's extremely important that everyone signs the register on arrival, and there will be an extra column for each Monday, which must be ticked to confirm that you continue to observe the Code of Conduct.

Hall set-up

At 6.45 pm on 6th September Committee Members will be setting up the hall theatre-style, i.e. in rows facing the stage, as we have previously done on Friday pre-concert rehearsals, with as much distancing as possible. We'll be around to help you, and it's anticipated that Sopranos will be on the right facing the stage, Tenors and Basses in the centre, and Altos on the left.

And now to the more interesting bit -



PROGRAMME

This term we plan to do the following programme:

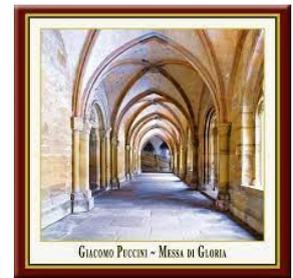
Vaughan Williams - Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Puccini – Messa di Gloria

Mozart – Laudate Dominum

Parry - I was Glad

Carols with audience!



The copy cost this term is £5, and this can be paid either in cash to Dawn, or by bank transfer, and details of how to do this will be supplied. **If you're paying by bank transfer please ensure that you include your surname as a reference.**

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We're well aware that most of you paid a full year's subscription in January 2020, and that others paid in advance for two terms. Geoff Hall has all the details, and we'll be carrying over these subscriptions into the coming season. If you're not planning to return this term, your subscription will be carried over until you rejoin us.



For those re-joining us this term, who only paid for last year's Spring term, subscriptions will be collected from 20th September onwards.

If you'd like to be reminded of what you paid in early 2020 you can check with me at the first two rehearsals....

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2020 AGM will be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 27th September, when the three Officers and Committee members will be elected for the period to March 2021. Nomination papers will be available at the September rehearsals. If you feel that you would like to join the Committee, you will of course be very welcome....



Overleaf is the Code of Conduct for you to complete, sign and return.

All the very best, and we're looking forward to seeing you – it's going to be fun!

Sandra

LWFC MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT TO ENABLE THE RETURN OF IN-PERSON REHEARSALS DURING 2021-2022

PURPOSE

This Code relates to the behaviour and actions expected of members to facilitate the return of in-person rehearsing during the COVID-19 pandemic period and will apply from 6th September 2021 until further notice.

In order for our return to rehearsals to be safe and enjoyable, all of us must sign this code and agree to abide by the rules until further notice.

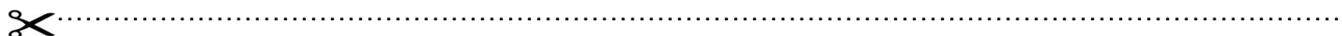
CODE OF CONDUCT

LWFC members may attend rehearsals provided they:

- are not ill, and do not have symptoms of any illness
- are not experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, e.g. fever, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell etc. or any other symptoms related to its variants.
- believe they have not come into contact with anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- have not been told to isolate
- are not under Government quarantine restrictions, e.g. recently returned from designated countries or affected by local lockdown restrictions
- have supplied all up-to-date personal details, including name, address, telephone number, mobile number, email address
- agree to maintain the space set out in the rehearsal hall and avoid mingling at all times within the rehearsal venue
- sanitise their hands on entry to the rehearsal
- wear face coverings when entering and leaving the venue, and when moving around the venue.
- Observe the rules for the use of toilet facilities at all times.

By supporting the Code of Conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic, members are building trust with each other and supporting the Making Music guidelines for the safe return of in-person rehearsing.

September 2021



MEMBER'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

I, the undersigned have read the September 2021 LWFC Code of Conduct and agree to abide by all behaviours as laid out therein.

Name

Address

Tel.

Mobile

Email address

Signature