

## READING FESTIVAL CHORUS

The Chorus was formed in 1945 to give high-quality performances of larger-scale choral works. A large, friendly choir, it has become one of the premier choirs in the South-East.

Recent performances include Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* (both in Reading and Dusseldorf with the Johanneskantorei of Dusseldorf), Handel's *Messiah* with Reading Symphony Orchestra (reviving an earlier tradition) and most recently Handel's *Dixit Dominus* and Haydn's *Nelson Mass*. As well as concerts in Reading, the choir has performed in The Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, Leamington Spa, The Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne College, Bearwood College and Arundel Cathedral.

## OUR MUSICAL DIRECTOR Janet Lincé GGSM

An active member of the Association of British Choral Directors, Janet has been Musical Director of Reading Festival Chorus since 2004. She also conducts Choros and is co-director of Encoro and, since 2001, has been Chorus Master for Newbury Spring Festival. Janet works with professional and amateur orchestras such as Brandenburg Sinfonia, London Concertante, West Forest Sinfonia, Beauchamp Sinfonietta and Oxford Sinfonia and her repertoire includes most of the major oratorios, as well as contemporary music and newly commissioned works.

[www.readingfestivalchorus.org.uk](http://www.readingfestivalchorus.org.uk)

## LET US SING FOR YOU

Are you planning a wedding?

The Chorus can provide a small choir for your celebration to lead the hymns and to sing while the register is being signed. In return the Chorus asks for a donation, according to the work involved.

Call Rachel Paton on 0118 947 7970.

## BECOME A FRIEND

Putting on high-quality orchestral concerts is very expensive. We always welcome any donations or sponsorship you can offer. In return for a minimum annual donation of £40, Friends of Reading Festival Chorus are eligible for tickets at reduced prices and are invited to all Chorus social events. Organisations can become Corporate Friends for a minimum annual donation of £250.

If you are interested in supporting the Chorus in any of these ways, please contact Sue Mithen on 0118 962 8776.

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## JOIN US!

We welcome new singers in all parts: soprano; alto; tenor; bass. We meet on Monday evenings from 7.30-9.30 pm at the Wesley Methodist Church Hall, Queens Road, Reading RG1 4BW.

If, after attending a few rehearsals you would like to join the choir, you would be asked to undertake a short audition. We offer reduced annual subscriptions during your season of joining the choir.

**Open Rehearsals** – these are held during the year and you are welcome to come along and 'try us out'. Music will be provided. Please see website or telephone Rachel Paton on 0118 947 7970 for details of our next open rehearsal.

Reading Festival Chorus is affiliated to *Making Music*.

Supported by The Earley Charity

Registered Charity No 254201



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# 2009–2010 Programme

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009 7.30 pm**

Wesley Methodist Church, Queens  
Road, Reading RG1 4BW

## **A Celebration of Christmas**

Mozart: *Solemn Vespers K339*  
Rossini: *La Notte del Santo Natale*  
Respighi: *Lauda per La Nativita*

Mozart's 'Vespers', containing the famous aria 'Laudate Dominum', is complemented by a gorgeous cantata from Respighi, whose orchestral extravaganza 'The Pines of Rome' featured in the 2009 Proms, and a delightful miniature by Rossini.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009 7.30 pm**

Wesley Methodist Church, Queens  
Road, Reading RG1 4BW

## **Favourite carols from home and abroad**

for choir and audience.

An informal sing-along plus refreshments.

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**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2010 7.30pm**

Highdown School Concert Hall  
Surley Row, Emmer Green RG4 8LR

## **An Evening of French Music**

Fauré: *Dolly Suite op. 56*  
Bizet: *Te Deum*  
Poulenc: *Gloria*  
*Featuring Erica Eloff (soprano)*  
Oxford Sinfonia

Joyful French choral music ranging from the youthful exuberance of Bizet to the sumptuous orchestral colours of Poulenc with a brief excursion for the orchestra into Fauré's Children's Suite made famous by BBC Radio's 'Listen with Mother'.

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2010 4.00pm**

Great Hall, Reading University,  
London Road, Reading RG1 5AQ  
Followed by picnic

## **Folk Music for a Summer Afternoon**

Rutter: *The Sprig of Thyme*  
Copland: *Old American Songs*  
Grainger: *Folk-Song arrangements*  
*Featuring Jane Seymour (piano)*  
A programme of folk music from Britain and America including nostalgic love songs, lullabies and sea songs.

Tickets are available from Alison Mackay:  
0118 962 6214, from Chorus members and on  
the door.

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Reading  
*Festival*  
Chorus

# 2009 – 2010

# SEASON

Musical Director  
Janet Lincé GGSM

Accompanist  
Jane Seymour LRAM

Patron  
John Lill CBE

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