



**FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER  
CHORAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER NUMBER 23**

9 December 2015



*Dear Friend*

Those of us who were present on 14<sup>th</sup> November, as audience, singers or players, witnessed a remarkable concert given by RCS and the City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra, in a packed Cathedral. Our Director of Music, Scott Farrell, generously gave up the baton to the conductor of the CRSO, Peter Bassano and sang with us, giving wonderful support.

The CRSO is an amateur organisation (in the same way as we are) and did well in performing Mozart's Don Giovanni Overture, the lovely Brahms Song of Destiny and the stunning Beethoven 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony. This was indeed a very challenging programme and the audience loved it. We had sold tickets for the north side of the nave and side aisles and the CSRO took the south side, which they sold out almost instantly, owing to their large number of season ticket holders. With the loyal support of Friends (and their friends and families) we had no difficulty in selling "our half" and virtually fill the Cathedral

Not yet concert-fit, I was in the audience and I'm proud to say that I found the singing, by choir and soloists, to be of the highest class, with accurate pitch, rhythm and dynamic.

That was an evening to remember. Perhaps the audience noticed the newly-designed music folders with striking logo. It shows how much RCS takes pride in its appearance as well as in its singing. I will update the Newsletter heading to show this but, meanwhile, show it on page 2, incorporated in a picture taken from our concert of June 2015.

The Chamber Choir, under Peter Ashley, continues to give recitals to local organisations and individuals and augments the RCS carol-singers which have been supporting public events by Medway Council. These have included the Rochester Christmas Market on 29<sup>th</sup> November, with another one due on 12<sup>th</sup> December and last Saturday's Dickens Festival.

Last time, I mentioned the need to find a new RCS Hon Secretary and I am pleased to tell you that Margaret Holtby has volunteered to fill the vacancy, at least for the time being.

We know it's still a while before Christmas but I've added a bit of festive holly as this is the last chance for Sarah and me to thank you for your generous support and to wish you many more enjoyable concerts, a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Malcolm and Sarah*

Malcolm Moulton and Sarah Anderson, Friends' Secretaries



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Spring Concert

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016, 7 pm

**Rutter: Requiem**

**Pärt: The Beatitudes**

**Janáček: Otče Náš**

**Bernstein: Chichester Psalms**

Conducted by Scott Farrell

*Rochester Cathedral*

**Tickets: £15 (unreserved - nave), £7 (unreserved restricted view - mostly in the aisles), £5 (for school children and students in full-time education - any seat). RCS Friends save £5 off the nave seats and £3 off the aisle seats (please contact Rosemary direct for Friends tickets).**

**Buy your tickets [online!](#)**

Please contact Rosemary Clemence - email: [tickets@rochesterchoral.co.uk](mailto:tickets@rochesterchoral.co.uk) or telephone: 01634 401049 - for tickets.

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### Summer Concert 2016

Saturday 25th June 2016, 7 pm

**Mozart: Great Mass in C Minor**

**Vivaldi: Gloria**

With the Rochester Sinfonietta

Conducted by Scott Farrell

*Rochester Cathedral*