



**FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER
CHORAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER NUMBER 33**

23rd September 2018



Dear Friend

Sarah and I have sadly to record that Betty Barnard and Sylvia Newton died during last season and that Betty Baker has just recently passed away. We will remember them with great affection.

Having recovered from the period of scorching weather, we are now settled down in eager anticipation of the Autumn Concert on 17th November, a performance of Britten's stunning War Requiem. This will be performed throughout the land, to commemorate the ending of World War 1. Many of us will have personal memories which this very emotional work will evoke. Mairi and I heard Britten conduct it at the Royal Albert Hall in 1962, the year in which he wrote it and the first performance outside a cathedral. Some of us will no doubt remember when RCS last performed it, in June 1991, in conjunction with Gravesham Choral Society. This performance is another collaboration with our friends from The City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra.



Some of us were lucky enough to hear it at the Royal Albert Hall, on 6th September, when it received rapturous applause. As the flyer is obtainable on the Rochester Choral Society website, no doubt many of us have been urging our family and friends to attend. I have told newcomers that it will change their lives. It certainly changed mine, all those years ago and my only regret is being no longer able to sing with RCS. On your behalf I'd like to send thanks and good wishes to all who will perform in November.

It's at this time of year that we remind Annual Friends that subscriptions are due by the end of October (payable directly, please, to the RCS Treasurer, details below). If you pay by Standing Order then you need take no further action

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm and Sarah

Malcolm Moulton and Sarah Anderson, Friends' Secretaries



Forthcoming concerts, all in Rochester Cathedral

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| Autumn 2018 Saturday 17 November, 7.30 pm | Britten: War Requiem With City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra |
| Spring 2019 Saturday 16 March 2019, 7pm | Stainer: Crucifixion |
| | Dvořák: Mass in D |
| Summer 2019 Saturday 22 June 2019, 7pm | Mozart: Vespers |
| | Haydn: Theresienmesse |
| | Haydn: Te Deum |

Friends Annual Subscriptions, benefits and payment

'Solo Friend': £30 for a year (life membership £300).

'Duet Friends': £50 per couple (life membership £450).

As a Friend, you receive:

- £5 off your centre-nave seat
- A free programme at each concert
- Newsletters, in the form of pre-concert mailings and
- An opportunity to socialise at our concerts.

Some fixed-price concerts (eg Christmas) are not included

The Treasurer is Chris Clemence, 246 City Way, Rochester ME1 2BN

tel: 01634 401049 ... e-mail: chrisclarence.cc@gmail.com

He will be happy to receive cash or cheque payments.

To pay on-line (for those with on-line banking), please pay to

Name: Rochester Choral Society

Sort code: 40-39-02

Account n°: 21028936

If paying online, please let Chris know by e-mail.