

NEWSLETTER

Exciting Start to Season

Norwich Phil has had an exciting start to the 2012/2013 Season with three successful and well-supported concerts - the 10th November and Family Christmas Concerts both selling out several days ahead. There have also been many positive comments from the audience and critics. With appealing programmes for the remaining two concerts we hope that the Season will be successful financially as well as artistically.

2013/14 Season now confirmed

And it's a real corker! It starts with our major celebration of the Britten centenary – the colossal War Requiem (see below) with Chorus and Orchestra joined by the Academy of St Thomas and choristers from Norwich Cathedral. We step back to Romantic repertoire for the December concert with Brahms' 1st Symphony and Zoe Beyers as soloist in Sibelius' Violin Concerto. February's concert is an all-Russian affair featuring Tchaikovsky's 6th Symphony and the Phil's first ever performance of Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet. The season ends with Chorus and Orchestra in a foot-tapping American Night including music from Bernstein's West Side Story, Gershwin's Porgy and Bess and songs from the shows.

Get set for the Phil Quiz and Chips

Who can beat Mike Beames' team from last year?

7:30pm, Friday 1st February Lower School Hall, Norwich School Tickets: £6 per person +

Cod & chips £5 Chicken & chips £4.80 Spring roll & chips £4.90

Teams of up to 8 people. Bring your own nibbles/drink. Contact Sally West-Lindell (sallyfish@msn.com)

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And we're on Facebook too:

http://www.facebook.com/groups/196375054156/ (or go to Facebook and search for 'Norwich Phil')

So much wonderful Britten



Norwich Phil has been closely involved with the **Britten Centenary celebrations** through the participation of Caroline Jarrold (Dixey) as Chairman and Michael Nutt as Administrator of **Familiar Fields**, the celebration of Britten's music and his influences across Norfolk and

Suffolk. So far, 262 performances of **110 different works by Britten** are taking place across 168 events. More details and a downloadable Events Guide at www.familiarfields.org

The Phil's own celebration started with a marvellous performance of the Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes at our 8th December concert and we will perform Britten's arrangement of the National Anthem at the start of the Apostles concert on 16th March. Our celebrations culminate with two performances of the **War Requiem:** in Norwich on 9th November 2013 and in Koblenz on 22nd November 2013 (the 100th anniversary of Britten's birth in Lowestoft) when the Phil Chorus will join forces to perform with the Koblenz Musik Institut. Given the strong pacifist theme of Britten's Requiem, this promises to be a very emotional event.

The War Requiem requires massive forces, and will cost around £3000 more than one of our average programmes. We would welcome additional support from Members and Friends to help put on this event. Choir members could help by buying their own scores (price to be determined, but less than £16.99 each).

Please send any further donations to to Kate Anetts, Honorary Treasurer, Norwich Philharmonic Society, 10 Ninhams Court, Norwich, NR2 1NX, cheques payable to 'Norwich Philharmonic Society', pay directly into the Phil's HSBC account, sort code 40 35 09 a/c no 73885933 (please identify your payment as "donation" and email (kate.annetts@tesco.net) if you would like an acknowledgement that your online payment has been received), or watch out for the **Just Giving** link coming soon on the Phil website (norwichphil.org.uk) for online contributions.

Koblenz trip Organiser needed

We hope that as many Chorus members as possible will take part in the trip to Koblenz. We will need a volunteer to assist with making the arrangements from this end. This will include hotel, flights and coach arrangements and liaising with host contact for those who wish to stay privately. You don't need to be able to speak German. If you are interested in taking on this role please contact Caroline Dixey (details on next page).

All Change ... Can you help?

Without our volunteers we wouldn't be able to put on the concerts we do. The work they do in various roles is invaluable and we are extremely grateful for the contribution they make. But sadly at the end of this season a number of them have said they would like to step down. This is by way of a huge thank you to all of them. If you think you might be able to fill their shoes, or know someone else who might, please let us know.

Front of House Manager

Chris Mitchell has been Front of House Manager for an amazing sixteen years but now feels that it is time for a break. We are indebted to him for his unstinting contribution, and he will be a very hard act to follow. Chris agreed to take on this role when he realised that he was coming to most of the concerts as Sue was singing in the choir and he was happy to help the Society by getting involved in this way. It is a role which would be well-suited to a regular attender at concerts who is happy to become more involved.

Front of House Manager involves:

- a small amount of preparation before each concert
- supervising the box office at each concert
- reconciliation of the ticket sales and receipts after each concert. Advance ticket sales (the great majority) are handled by Prelude.

Ideally a new volunteer would shadow Chris for the remaining concerts in the current Season.

Front of House Team

We are also sad to be losing three other members of our Front of House team who are stepping down after many years. We are really grateful for the work they do:

- manning the desks at concerts for ticket sales
- welcoming the audience and moving them quickly and efficiently through the entrance area, especially when concerts are busy.

Again these roles would be well-suited to regular supporters of the Phil and you get a complimentary ticket for each concert.

Friends Secretary

Colin Bodkin has been the Hon. Secretary of the Friends for many years and has also indicated that he would like to step down. Colin brought a special personal touch to the role, which was greatly valued by our Friends and Benefactors. We would like to thank him for all his hard work. And thanks to our Treasurer, Kate Anetts who has kindly offered to take over Colin's duties once he retires.

Assistant Secretary

Ann Cogman stood down from this role last year after many years of sterling service. The main elements of the role are:

- to provide support to the Society Secretary
- to take responsibility for distribution of publicity material
- help proof read the programmes and publicity material.

Ideally suited to a member of the Chorus or Orchestra who wanted to get more involved.

To volunteer or find out more about any of these roles, please contact: Caroline Dixey caroline@dixeys.co.uk 01508 538819 or Sue Mitchell

sueandchrismitchell@yahoo.co.uk 01603 451692



Orchestra News

New staging on order – After experimenting with enlarging the stage at St Andrews in November, we have placed an order for new stage extensions which will widen the performance area and give much more space for larger forces. We hope to have this in time for the Mahler concert in February.

Repertoire ideas – We are now turning our thoughts to concert planning for the 2014/15 season and our 175th Anniversary in 2015/16. If there are any works you would love to play (or hear), then please email any ideas or suggestions to Michaelnutt@btconnect.com.

Let's start on time! – A reminder that 7.15pm is the first down beat, not when you should arrive! Please do try to get to all rehearsals well ahead so that you are warmed up, tuned and ready to go at 7.15!

Don't forget our fund-raising

DINNER DANCE

On 27th April 2013 at The Assembly House Music Room

6:45pm for 7:30pm dinner Dancing to The O'Fenders

Black Tie Price £42.50

email: sallyfish@msn.com

Hurry - tickets selling fast!

