

# About Nottingham Harmonic Choir



**President: Prof. John Morehen Music Director: Richard Laing**

Since its foundation in 1856, the Nottingham Harmonic Choir, Nottingham's civic choir, has established itself as one of the leading provincial choirs in Britain. In its early years the names of Charles Hallé and Sir Arthur Sullivan were among those associated with the choir. At the beginning of the twentieth century its principal conductor was Henry Wood, later to become Sir Henry Wood, conductor of the first Promenade Concerts. Following Noel Cox and Andrew Burnham, a twenty-year distinguished period of musical achievement under the guidance of gifted choral director Neil Page led to a brief stewardship under international conductor Murray Stewart.

Richard Laing, appointed chorus master and director of music in 2009, brings a new, vibrant and youthful approach building upon the last period of successful development by his illustrious predecessors.

The choir has regularly performed with guest conductors in addition to its Director of Music. Sir Adrian Boult, Sir Malcolm Sargent, Owain Arwel Hughes, Norman Del Mar, James Loughran and George Weldon are among those who have worked with the choir. In the last twenty years the choir has been privileged to be directed on several occasions by Laszlo Heltay, Richard Hickox, Sir Charles Groves and Sir David Willcocks. More recently, in partnership with Nottingham Classics, the Harmonic Choir has worked under John Wilson with City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in 2008, and formed a new working relationship with the Hallé under Cristian Mandeal in 2011 and Sir Mark Elder in 2012 and 2013.

After using its own amateur orchestras (adult and youth training) until the 1970s the choir has worked with professional orchestras from within the region and has performed most often with Orchestra da Camera. Guest appearances with national orchestras have included the CBSO, BBC Concert Orchestra, Northern Sinfonia, RPO, Philharmonia and the Hallé. The choir has even featured in a concert with ELO, extending its repertoire to Queen's *Bohemian Rhapsody* and *We will Rock You*. The choir has recorded exclusively for Priory in two CDs of Christmas music with the Thoresby Colliery Band. In December 2010 the choir and band gave the world première performance of a new Christmas carol *The Seven Joys* commissioned from composer Tim Sutton.

The full choir, numbering over 200 singers at the time, performed at the opening of Nottingham's magnificent Royal Concert Hall, which has become the venue for the majority of the its concerts. In addition to its concerts in the Royal Concert Hall the choir has accepted invitations on numerous occasions to perform in other venues including the Royal Albert Hall, London. Most summers however, it is to the sublime surroundings of Southwell Minster, where the friendly atmosphere and fine acoustics complement much of the earlier classical repertoire performed by the choir.

For further details of forthcoming concerts and membership of Nottingham's civic choir please see our website [www.NottinghamHarmonic.org](http://www.NottinghamHarmonic.org)

# Opportunities for Corporate Sponsorship



Registered Charity no. 231548



# A Message from Richard Laing Music Director

As a conductor I often muse upon the similarities between my role and that of a manager in the business world. I must gather together many different but highly-skilled individuals persuade them to share my vision, and lead each project from tender beginnings to final flowering. People-management is as important as inspiration; effective control of budgets just as vital as the ability to find the gap in the market, to create a product none of one's competitors can equal.

At Nottingham Harmonic I believe we have a world-class choir with the energy and the determination to create that unique product, a musical experience second-to-none. We work with some of the greatest soloists and orchestras in the nation, performing in various venues around the county of Nottinghamshire and further afield to discerning and intelligent audiences who share our vision of a powerful shared artistic experience.

Yet our concerts, which I'm proud to say are always extraordinarily well-received by the public and the press, are rarely self-financing, and we rely on our own fundraising and on the generosity of our sponsors to continue our work. If your organisation shares our commitment to the highest levels of performance and professionalism; if, like us, you have a vision of people coming together to make our lives better, deeper, more enriched, then perhaps you will consider being more closely involved with our work. We have packages to suit all budgets, and can tailor individual packages to your requirements. You might consider sponsoring a particular piece of music being performed, or a prominent section of the orchestra (Kettle-drums? Trumpets? Double-basses? ). You might like to sponsor our eminent soloists. However you would like to help, we hope that your organisation and ours can become partners.

We look forward to working with you.




# Annual Benefits Packages

	Gold Patron	Silver Patron	Bronze Patron
Price	£3000	£2000	£1000
Tickets for all concerts spread across the season.	20 prime tickets & 30 tickets in stalls for Christmas concert	15 prime tickets & 20 tickets in stalls for Christmas concert	10 prime tickets & 15 tickets in stalls for Christmas concert
Interval reception and refreshment in VIP lounge in Nottingham Royal Concert Hall & Nottingham Albert Hall	●	●	●
Credit in concert programmes	●	●	●
Advertisement in concert programme	Full page	Half page	Quarter page
Pre-concert poster credit	●	●	●
Logo on our website	●	●	●
Annual brochure credit	●	●	●
Copy of programme at concerts	●	●	●

**We are very happy to work with any intended corporate supporter to create a tailor-made package that best suits your needs and interests. For example, we can create a Christmas Carol Concert package or more simply you could choose to sponsor a soloist for a specific concert. We also offer more basic advertising opportunities within our programmes which would be of benefit as our programmes are viewed by thousands of people annually.**

## Programme Advertising

	Per programme	For all programmes in a season
Full page advert	£100	£350
Half page advert	£ 60	£200
Quarter page advert	£ 40	£130

## Next Steps

The choir relies heavily on the generosity of its supporters and members for funding. Please help by discussing any of our benefit packages or other opportunities with John Parry on 0115-960-4606 or email [GetInvolved@NottinghamHarmonic.org](mailto:GetInvolved@NottinghamHarmonic.org)