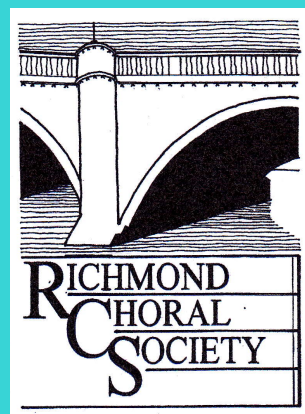


# RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY

[janet.oates@btinternet.com](mailto:janet.oates@btinternet.com)  
[www.richmondchoralsociety.com](http://www.richmondchoralsociety.com)

Summer 2017  
Issue 21



## Ooh, Elijah!

Once again our end-of-term concert was a roaring success. With soloists, guest singers almost doubling our numbers, and our fabulous accompanist Mike, we performed Elijah, in St. Anne's Church Kew on the 15<sup>th</sup> July in aid of SPEAR London. There was a good audience, who gave us the longest applause in our history! And, with the ticket money, refreshment donations and bucket collection, we raised about £1330 for SPEAR to help the homeless of the borough. Well done us!

A big thank you goes out to all our guest chorus – it was great to have you all and a real treat for us to have such good numbers. We also had many soloists supporting us and bringing the work to life: Alex, Lucy, Janet, Panos, Joey, and Richard. Lucy and Janet stepped in at the last minute to cover ill singers, so we are grateful to them for doing such a great job. I loved the quartets, trios and so on – showing Mendelssohn's delicacy as well as his barn-storming choral capabilities! Our lead soloists Jerome, John and Rosalind were amazing: it's a huge work with BIG arias and they were fabulous. Jerome was magnificent, and we very much hope he can sing with us again sometime!

A new step for us was having the words projected on a big screen – there are improvements to be made in this system but I hope you'll agree it worked well. We were all delighted with the beautiful, evocative backgrounds for the libretto, created by Lyn.



Other thanks need to go to Rebecca for setting up the whole concert – and for leading the rubbing-out team which meant I could return all the scores on time! Other members of the RCS team did their usual fantastic, reliable jobs to ensure the smooth running of the term and of the event (before, during and afterwards). Thank you to all of you, and to Jason and Indigo Blue for their continued support.

## A double bill for next term

Next term, we will be singing a double bill of Christmas works: an elegant, charming baroque work by Charpentier (*Pastorale sur la Naissance*) and a gorgeous Romantic piece, *Oratorio pour Noel* by Saint-Saens. We hope to perform in the lovely Unitarian Church again, with the date being **either the 11<sup>th</sup> December (the final Monday of term) or Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> December**. Mike will be rejoining us on harpsichord and piano; we have instrumentalists booked, and 2 nearly-complete sets of soloists ready and waiting!

Julia and I are preparing rehearsal aids, and the scores are ready; I will put them all up on Moodle so that they will be available to you as soon as you sign up. For now, do have a listen to both the works: there are many recordings freely available online.

**PLEASE** sign up **before** term starts or college will think there won't be enough people, and will want to close it down!

## Plug time: save the dates!

November 2<sup>nd</sup>: my new vocal ensemble **Philomel** will be performing gorgeousness from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, plus fabulous new works written for us: I REALLY want you all to come so please put the date in your diaries!



**Richmond Opera: *Hercules***  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday  
19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30.

Handel's tragic, dramatic opera about  
the fall of Hercules, fully staged and  
with orchestra, at the historic  
Normansfield Theatre, Teddington.

Tickets £17 from their website,  
[https://langdondowncentre.org.uk/  
event/hercules-2/](https://langdondowncentre.org.uk/event/hercules-2/). There are still places  
left to sing in the chorus – contact  
[info@ileworthbaroque.co.uk](mailto:info@ileworthbaroque.co.uk)!

**Ormond Opera Carmen**

Fancy singing in the chorus for this brilliant opera  
(no memorising required)? Contact Rosalind!

Or, pick a date to see it:

**25<sup>th</sup> Nov and 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec at 7.30, or 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec at 2.30**

Buy tickets here:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/348768>

Performances will be in the Unitarian church.

