

**MAHLER SYMPHONY No. 8** **NEWSLETTER NO. 3**

Reply to Jos Gregson, 18 Willoughby Close,

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**WEEK 3**

Dear Singer,

 We now have held four sectional rehearsals, two each at Stonehouse and Alveston and two group rehearsals, one an evening session and the other a Workshop.

 This coming week we have four rehearsals, one of them a full Workshop so we have a lot to get through and both the Gloucester and Cheltenham rehearsals involve both Choirs

**WHICH CHOIR AM I IN?**

This has been covered in Newsletters 1 and 2 which are available at sccg.info or I can send them to you on request.

**WHICH REHEARSALS SHOULD I ATTEND?**

Adrian would like all singers to attend the rehearsals that he is taking, namely those on 6/7, 9/7, 13/7, 15/7 and 16/7. The evening rehearsal on 15/7 is particularly important as that is when our Concert Manager, David Joyce will sort out the seating plan and allocate places. If you cannot attend this please arrange with someone from your voice section to make sure that you know where to sit.

Singers from audition choirs are also particularly encouraged to attend the local rehearsals in Stonehouse and Alveston. While these are for singers from smaller choirs to get to learn the work it is very helpful to have more experienced singer singing alongside and I hope that many of you will consider doing this.

**SCORES**

I have good stocks of the Serenissima score for sale at £18 and also the Universal score for hire at £2. If you do not yet have a score I would suggest that you get hold of one urgently as time is getting short. Adrian is happy with all versions of the score including Kalmus.

**SCORE AMENDMENTS**

Adrian has produced a number of revisions to the score. These are available to download on the website sccg.info or if preferred ask me and I can email them to you.

**TICKETS**

I have a diminishing number of tickets available for sale. The Cheltenham Festival are now sold out of the pre-concert talk and all concert tickets apart from the side aisles. Ours are priced at £32 (30), £26 (25), £18 (15) and £10 (20). Numbers in brackets are the numbers of seats in our original allocation.

As we have a large orchestra Row D is the front row.

£32 seats – D3-5, F17-18, H13-15, J7, W8

£26 seats – DD6, DD15, EE3-6, GG3-4, GG14

£18 seats – K1-2, L1-2, JJ5-7, KK3-4, KK14

£10 (North Aisle) seats – A5-9, D4-8, F1-2

£10 (South Aisle) seats – A4-7, C3-6

I have a seating plan and can send it to you if you require it or you can look on the Cheltenham Festival website. As I sell tickets I will update this list so that it is current when I send it out. The tickets are denominated at £0.00, we are given these tickets as part of our massive costs towards putting on the performance.

Aisle seats are also available from the Cheltenham Festival Box Office at cheltenhamfestivals.com/booking

**BUSES**

We will be running buses from Thornbury to every Gloucester and Cheltenham rehearsal and the performance. These will leave from outside Aldi in Thornbury which has two car parks adjacent to it. The cost will be £10 per trip and the 33-seater coach will be operated by Mike’s Travel. Booking forms are available on the SCBSG website SCCG.info or from myself.

All departures will be from outside Aldi in Thornbury.

Margaret Pinder will be Coach Monitor, her mobile number is 07753 162920.

July 6th Rehearsal Christ Church, Cheltenham, departure from Thornbury at 18.15 leave Christ Church at 21.45.

July 9th Workshop Crypt School, Gloucester, departure from Thornbury at 08.15, leave Crypt School at 15.45.

July 13th Rehearsal Gloucester Cathedral, departure from Thornbury at 18.15, leave Gloucester Cathedral at 21.45.

July 15th Rehearsal Gloucester Cathedral, departure from Thornbury at 18.15, leave Gloucester Cathedral at 22.15

July 16th Rehearsal and Performance Gloucester, departure from Thornbury at 12.45pm, leave Gloucester Cathedral at 21.15pm

Please pay either by BACS to **SCBSG** sort code **55-61-38** Account **72408375** or by cheque made out to **SCBSG** to Jos Gregson, 18 Willoughby Close, Alveston, Bristol BS35 3RW

**WEEK 3**

**Tuesday 5th July** – rehearsal 7.30-9.30pm at Wycliffe School Chapel to be taken by Chris Swain. This rehearsal is for Choir 2. Note that this is a venue change. We will be serving water and orange squash at around 8.30pm.

*To get to the venue from the M5 head for Stroud on the A419. At the fourth roundabout take the first exit and the official Wycliffe College car park is on your left. Alternatively you can turn left just after the lights before the roundabout and park in the school grounds, there are usually a lot of minibuses there. From the grounds you can see the spire of the chapel. If you park in the school car park walk in the same direction either along the road you have turned into or through the grounds, I am told it is about 5 minutes walk.*

**Wednesday 6th July –** rehearsal 7.30-9.30pm at Christ Church, Malvern Road, Cheltenham GL50 2JH to be taken by Adrian Partington. This is a full rehearsal for both Choirs 1 and Choir 2 and as many of you as possible are urged to attend.We will be serving water and orange squash at around 8.30pm.

*Coming in to Cheltenham from Junction 11 on the M5 approach Cheltenham on the A40. Cross the first roundabout taking the third exit, pass GCHQ on your left and take the second exit at the next roundabout. Go straight ahead at the lights by the Shell station into Lansdown Road, Malvern Road is the eighth left turn and Christ Church faces you at the bottom of the road. There is parking along a lot of Malvern Road and in local streets, it is probably best to park a good distance from the Church.*

**Thursday 7th July** - rehearsal 7.30-9.30pm at Alveston Methodist Church, Greenhill Road, Alveston BS35 3RA to be taken by Steven Kings. This rehearsal is for Choir 1. We will be serving water and orange squash at around 8.30pm

*Coming out of Bristol take the A38 – after you pass the village sign saying ALVESTON St Helen’s Church is on your left. Turn left immediately after St Helen’s Church, Alveston Methodist Church is around 400 yards on the left on the corner of Wolfridge Ride.*

*Coming from the Stroud and Gloucester direction on the A38 go through the lights signed to Thornbury and immediately get into the right hand lane. Turn right into David’s Lane, drive to the T junction at the bottom, turn left and immediately right and Alveston Methodist is up to your left.*

**Saturday 9th July –** Workshop 9.30am-3.30pm at The Crypt School, Podsmead Road, Gloucester GL2 5AE to be taken by Adrian Partington. Note the slightly adjusted time. This is a full rehearsal for both Choir 1 and Choir 2 and as many of you as possible are urged to attend. There will be a tea and coffee break at around 11am. Please bring your own lunch, we will stop for lunch between 1pm and 2pm.

*Coming from Junction 12 on the M5 follow signs to Gloucester city centre on the dual carriageway. Cross two roundabouts and at the major lights that are next turn right on the A38 to Gloucester City Centre. After around 800 yards Podsmead is on the left at lights. Turn left, go round a small roundabout and drive into the Crypt School driveway. There will be a large car park on the left before you reach the school building. Park your car and go round the side of the building, check-in is at the main entrance on the other side of the building from the car park.*

*One of our Workshop singers points out that the Number 10 bus to Cheltenham from Gloucester and vice versa has a Podsmead Road stop*

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at each rehearsal relevant to the Choir that you are in, especially all the joint rehearsals in Cheltenham and Gloucester. Tickets are selling well and hopefully we will be singing to a full house.

If you have any queries at all please contact me at any of the contact points at the head of this Newsletter

Jos Gregson

Chairman, South Cotswold Big Sing Group