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BOOKING FORM

Please enrol me as a subscriber for the three concerts in the **Holmfirth Choral Society's 2019-2020** season.

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Season tickets at £24.00..... Total £.....

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Please forward completed application form with cheque made payable to

HOLMFIRTH CHORAL SOCIETY

to Dorothy Cramp, 57 Longfield Ave., Golcar, Huddersfield HD7 4BT

Tel: 01484 985271, mob: 07852 290812

Registered charity no. 517460

'Holmfirth in Harmony'

A CD by the society is available from members. 15 tracks of choral favourites including 'Pratty Flowers' and 'Last of the Summer Wine' The CD is also available on line - follow the link on www.holmfirth.org.uk

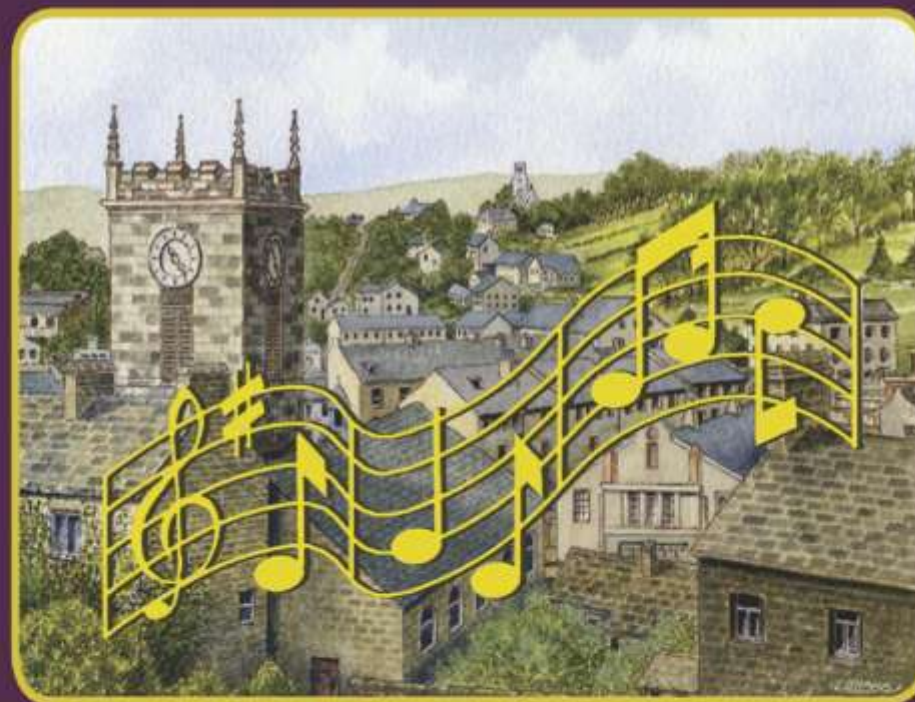
Price £5.00

Holmfirth Choral Society

President: Michael Page

Conductor: Geoffrey Lockwood

Accompanist: Malcolm Hinchliffe



Prospectus 2019-20

www.holmfirth.org.uk

The season ahead

Geoffrey Lockwood



Last season, we experimented with our venue, moving the first concert to Holmfirth Parish Church, where we utilised the organ: it would have been significantly expensive to hire one for the Civic Hall. Despite the not-so-comfortable pews in the church, feedback was positive - the acoustic in the church lends itself to choral music, and is much better than that of the Civic Hall. Consequently we have decided to hold our first concert of the 2019-20 season in Holmfirth Church again. It will feature a performance of Handel's *Alexander's Feast*. This is one of my own favourites, taking me back to my schooldays when my father was accompanist to Holmfirth Choral, and I became familiar with it as he practised it. Holmfirth Choral has performed it three times before, most recently in 1993. The accompaniment will be a smaller than usual Valley Sinfonia, and there will be other shorter items in the programme.

Our December concert will take traditional form - Handel again, his oratorio *Messiah*, it being two years since we last performed it. Again with the Valley Sinfonia, it will be a complete performance. Handel rewrote several of the numbers in *Messiah* to suit particular performers, and we intend to include one or two of the less well known variations. We shall again have the services of the Valley Sinfonia.

And then in March, a year after one of the most effective March concerts we have ever given (Verdi's *Requiem*), we have programmed another of the all-time greats of the choral repertoire, Brahms' *German Requiem*. We performed this for the first time in 2010, using the version of accompaniment that Brahms wrote for two pianos. In 2020, the Valley Sinfonia will provide the orchestral colour that is impossible with piano accompaniment. Brahms' orchestration is really too big for our choir and for the Civic Hall, so we will be using a recently arranged chamber orchestration.

By the start of this season, I shall have conducted Holmfirth Choral for ten years, and I would like to thank both singers and audience for their support over this period. I would also thank our accompanist Malcolm Hinchliffe for his service at the piano. The coming season uses orchestral accompaniment, so his playing will perhaps not be so prominent at our concerts, but he is indispensable at rehearsals.

Do come along and enjoy our concerts.

Saturday 9th November 2019

Alexander's Feast *Handel*

with supporting items

Anna Prosser (soprano)

Andrew McAllister (tenor) Phil Wilcox (bass)

The Valley Sinfonia

Geoffrey Lockwood (conductor)

HOLMFIRTH PARISH CHURCH, 7.15pm

Saturday 14th December 2019

Messiah *Handel*

Anne Wilkes (soprano) Charlotte Collier (contralto)

Chris Why (tenor) James Gaughan (bass)

The Valley Sinfonia

Geoffrey Lockwood (conductor)

HOLMFIRTH CIVIC HALL, 7.15pm

Saturday 28th March 2020

German Requiem *Brahms*

Bethany Seymour (soprano) Thom Meredith (bass)

The Valley Sinfonia

Geoffrey Lockwood (Conductor)

HOLMFIRTH CIVIC HALL, 7.15pm