

## Join our mailing list

If you would like to receive concert reminders, news of the society and invitations to join our social events by email, you can join the Friends of WGC Orchestra & Chorus e-mail list.

To join, go to the "Support Us" page of our website [www.wgcms.org.uk](http://www.wgcms.org.uk), enter your email address and click 'join' or leave your name with our front of house team.

## Patron Scheme

The Welwyn Garden City Orchestra and Chorus invite you to become a Patron. In doing so, you will help us to continue our long history of orchestral and choral concerts.

### As a Patron you will enjoy:

- Acknowledgement in our concert programmes
- Two complimentary tickets and programmes for our concerts in December, March and July
- A glass of wine or fruit juice during the interval
- An invitation to our social events

For further details please contact Peter Smith on 01992 551943 or email [patronage@wgcms.org.uk](mailto:patronage@wgcms.org.uk)

## Sing or play?

Do you wish you sang in a choir or play in an orchestra with fellow musicians? Then why not consider joining us? We all enjoy our rehearsals and concerts and have regular social events. The choir meets on Monday and the orchestra on Tuesday, term time only, 7.45pm at Templewood School, Pentley Park, Welwyn Garden City AL8 7SD.

If you are interested and would like more information please contact:

Choir: Margaret Breese 01438 718702

Orchestra: Celia Smith 01992 551943

Visit [www.wgcms.org.uk](http://www.wgcms.org.uk), Find us on Facebook 

## Welwyn Garden City Orchestra and Chorus

Formed in the early days of Welwyn Garden City, we gave our first concert in the Cherry Tree (now Waitrose) in 1921. With a subscription of 5 shillings a year, we rehearsed at an army hut in the woods, where the council offices now stand. Still going strong, we are the town's oldest society. Today we put on around four concerts a year. We are open to all and welcome singers and musicians, as well as those who come to our concerts. Unusually, we are both an Orchestra and a Choir, rehearsing separately but performing together.



### James Ross, Music Director

James Ross studied at Harrow School and Oxford University, taking a history degree and a doctorate in French opera, on which he has published extensively. Initially studying violin, he was a BBC Philharmonic Conducting Competition finalist. Since then he has conducted over 1,000 symphonic, opera, ballet and choral works in 18 countries throughout

Europe, North America, Asia and Africa, and has been our Music Director since 2000. He is music director of four UK orchestras, is Artistic Advisor for The Commonwealth Resounds, guests conducts widely abroad, and has performed in leading UK venues including the Royal Festival Hall, St John's Smith Square, Symphony Hall Birmingham, Westminster Abbey for HM The Queen, and the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, for whose 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary he conducted Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

[www.james-ross.com](http://www.james-ross.com) [www.facebook.com/james.ross.conductor](https://www.facebook.com/james.ross.conductor)



### Crispin Lewis, Chorus Master

Crispin Lewis works mainly as a conductor and as a singer. In addition to his own ensembles Crispin is engaged regularly as a guest conductor by orchestras and choirs. Crispin is the conductor and founder of The Musically Compass, a specialist baroque music ensemble of voices and instruments which he has

conducted many times live on BBC Radio 3; at Wigmore Hall; at the Royal Opera House Linbury Theatre; at the South Bank Centre; at St John's Smith Square; and at most of the major London concert halls; and is also the conductor of several choral societies. After studying violin to postgraduate level at the Royal College of Music, he studied orchestral conducting and singing. Crispin appears regularly as a solo singing recitalist, in opera roles - including Leporello (in Don Giovanni), and Don Alfonso (in Cosi fan tutte) - and appears as an oratorio soloist for many other societies. As a music editor, many of his editions of early music have been published by Kings Music [www.crispinlewis.com](http://www.crispinlewis.com)

# Welwyn Garden City Orchestra & Chorus

## 99<sup>th</sup> Season 2019-20



President: Andrew Watkinson

Music Director: James Ross

Chorus Master: Crispin Lewis

Leader: Philippa Hanson

Rehearsal Accompanist: Barbara Manning

[www.wgcms.org.uk](http://www.wgcms.org.uk)

WGC Music Society is a  
Registered Charity: 290194

To buy tickets please go to our website:

[www.wgcms.org.uk](http://www.wgcms.org.uk)

or call 01707 391224 or email [tickets@wgcms.org.uk](mailto:tickets@wgcms.org.uk).

Tickets also available at Hill & Co in Welwyn village  
and at the door

**Sunday 13 October 2019**

**Orchestral Concert**

*7:00pm The Tythe Barn, Tewin Bury Farm Hotel  
near Welwyn, AL6 0JB*

Mozart, Overture: *Don Giovanni*  
Schubert, Symphony No.3  
Sibelius, *Valse triste* Brahms,  
Hungarian Dance No. 6

**Iohan Coman, Purcell School of Music**

*Wienawski, Violin Concerto No.1*

Conductor: James Ross

**Saturday 14 December 2019**

**Orchestral/Choral Christmas Concert**

*7:30pm, St Francis Church, Church Road,  
Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6HH*

J.S. Bach, *Christmas Oratorio* scenes  
Conradi, Overture: *Berlin wie es weint und lacht*  
Rheinberger, *Abendlied*  
Richard Strauss, *Der Rosenkavalier* Suite  
Carols for Chorus, Orchestra and Audience

Conductor: James Ross

**Tuesday 14 January 2020**

**Orchestral Open Rehearsal**

*7:45pm, Templewood School, Pentley Park,  
Welwyn Garden City, AL8 7SD*

Dvořák, *The Golden Spinning Wheel*  
Sibelius, *En Saga*

Conductor: James Ross

For enquiries contact Celia Smith 01992 551943

**Saturday 28 March 2020**

**Orchestral/Choral Concert**

*7:30pm, St Francis Church, Church Road,  
Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6HH*

Mussorgsky, Prelude: *Sorotchinsky Fair*  
Mussorgsky, *Night on a Bare Mountain*  
Rimsky-Korsakov, *Mlada* Suite  
Rachmaninov, *Vespers*: excerpts  
Liadov, *The Enchanted Lake* Stravinsky,  
Berceuse and Finale: *The Firebird*

Conductor: James Ross

**Saturday 4 April 2020**

**Choral Concert**

*Luton*

Rachmaninov, *Vespers*  
with Luton Choral Society

Conductor: Crispin Lewis

**Saturday 4 July 2020**

**WGC Centenary Concert**

*7:30pm, St Francis Church, Church Road,  
Welwyn Garden City AL8 6HH*

To include:

Falla, *The Three-Cornered Hat* Scenes and Dances  
Rodgers and Hart, *Blue Moon*,  
and other songs from *In the Mood*  
Vaughan Williams, *The Lark Ascending*  
Elgar, *The Spirit of England*

Conductor: James Ross

*Our thanks go to the generous  
local businesses who support us:*

First Impression Designer Florist Tewin Bury Farm Hotel