

Leeds Festival Chorus

Corporate Patrons Scheme

An Opportunity to become part of the cultural life of Yorkshire



"Mills & Reeve has been delighted to be associated with Leeds Festival Chorus over a number of years. For us, it is one way of putting something back into the community as LFC represents a significant part of Yorkshire's cultural heritage. It is important that a chorus of this quality should be able to continue to flourish by reaching out to new audiences and commissioning new work. We are proud to play our part in this."

**David Salter, Joint National Head of Family Law
Mills & Reeve LLP**

"Archbold Logistics and Vehicle Group has been proud to support LFC as a Corporate Patron over many years. Our association with such an amazingly good local Yorkshire institution, which has provided thousands with pleasure since it first sang for Queen Victoria in 1858 has been both a privilege and a pleasure."

**Stuart Archbold OBE, Chairman
Archbold Holdings Ltd**

About Leeds Festival Chorus

First formed in 1858 the chorus sang when Queen Victoria opened Leeds Town Hall. We became independent in 1985.

There are currently **in excess of 150 singing members**, admitted to membership via formal audition, giving freely of their time and talent, rehearsing weekly every Wednesday evening.

Each year we give **3-4 concerts** in the splendid setting of Leeds Town Hall and a summer concert in Ripon Cathedral. We also perform in other venues including Leeds Arena, London's Albert Hall, Manchester Arena and smaller venues. Many of our concerts are recorded and broadcast by BBC radio or Classic FM.

We work with **internationally renowned orchestras** and soloists including BBC Philharmonic, BBC Symphony Orchestra, The Halle, English Chamber Orchestra and Northern Sinfonia.

New Music has long been commissioned and championed by us including Belshazzar's Feast (Walton), Choral Symphony (Holst), Shakespear Requiem (Judith Bingham) and Deus Noster Refugium (MacMillan).

Simon Wright is our conductor and Artistic Adviser. He has earned considerable respect and acclaim for his interpretations of wide-ranging and challenging orchestral and choral repertoire. Under Simon, the quality and vigour of the chorus's performances regularly receive critical praise: "Dramatic and moving" *The Times*, "Superb...compulsive listening" *The Guardian*, "Impressive, well focused sound" *The Independent*.

Leeds Festival Chorus is a **registered charity** and has an ambitious agenda of charitable projects that it supports including Leeds Youth Choir.

Why do we need External Patrons?

- Each of our concerts costs between £5,000 and £25,000 to stage.
- We have a program of initiatives to bring participation and enjoyment of choral music to the wider community
- We encourage people both in and out of the Chorus to develop their musical ability enabling them to perform to the highest professional standards
- Whilst our members, through subscriptions and fund raising activities, fund the majority of our annual running costs we do need external financial support in order to keep developing our activities and delivering our wider agenda

What can we offer you?

- **An opportunity to be a part of the cultural life of the region**
- **Brand Exposure/Awareness**
 - Corporate logo and Listing as Patron on the following platforms
 - Concert brochures
 - LFC Member/Friends publications
 - Social media e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Linked-in
 - LFC Website
 - Half page advert in our professionally published concert programmes
- **Marketing Support and Corporate Hospitality**
 - Marketing Support
 - Opportunity to develop appropriate events with the Chorus eg “Chamber Choir” performance at one of your employee or corporate networking events
 - Corporate Hospitality
 - Priority booking of tickets for you and your guests at our concerts.
 - Invitation to LFC pre-concert reception

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- **Working With Your Teams**

- Invitation to our “Come and Sing Evening” in September as an introduction to full membership of the Choir
- Opportunity to use LFC to help with your team building and employee development programme via eg a bespoke Come and Sing workshop for your team to initiate a workplace choir

What do we ask in exchange?

- Annual Fee (or charitable donation) of £2,000
- Support for our concerts and other concerts in the LICS programme through ticket purchases
- Positive advocacy of the choir within your network through your association with us

The Way Forward

- An initial meeting with a member of our Corporate Patrons team
- Identification of your wants and needs
- Agreement of an outline of your programme for the next twelve months
- Sign-up as a Corporate Patron of Leeds Festival Chorus

NB Should you feel unable to support us as a full Corporate Patron any charitable donation would be much appreciated and be put to very good use

Frontispiece - The Chorus preparing for performance with The English Chamber Orchestra in Leeds Town Hall