



The London Cantorial Singers

Issue 3 Winter 2023 Newsletter

From the Choir Chair: David Druce

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our Winter 2023 Newsletter, which I hope you will enjoy. I am delighted to say that we have had our busiest year ever during 2023.



Since the end of the Covid pandemic, the choir has continued to hold rehearsals at Belmont United Synagogue on a regular basis on Wednesday evenings.

We usually begin at 8pm and finish by 10pm with a refreshment break about half way through.

I am pleased to report that our Mailing List continues to grow. If you have not subscribed: Click below

[Join our Mailing List.](#)

Our Shenley Synagogue concert in February.



During the past 18 months we have performed at many concerts, services, commemorations and other events both in the UK and abroad. Here are the choir's highlights since our last newsletter:

In the Autumn of 2022, we took part in the European Cantors Convention in Budapest from Wednesday 2/11/22 to Monday 7/11/22. We also sang at the Valedictory Event at Wembley United Synagogue on Sunday 11th December 2022. The Chief Rabbi attended as well as many other VIPs.

We started 2023 with a musical contribution to Brent Holocaust Memorial Day event in January. We then had four events in quick succession: a Sunday afternoon concert at Anita Dorfman House in Stanmore on 12 February and a Sunday evening concert for the Shenley Jewish Community on 26 February. A Sunday afternoon concert at Sage Care Home in Golders Green followed on 5 March and we gave a concert the following Sunday at Rosetrees Jewish Care home.

Ravenswood Village in December.



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On 14 May we performed a Sunday evening S'firas Ho'Omer Ma'ariv service and concert for the Sutton Jewish Community. Next, we travelled up to Liverpool on 11 June for a Sunday afternoon concert at the famous and historic Princes Road Synagogue. This was a special Tribute concert for the Late Cantor Rev Henry & Mrs Helena Chait. We performed with all three Chait brothers (Alby/Charles/Benjamin) and Rabbi/Chazan Natan Fagleman together with Henry Black, David Shine & David Rome. On 2 July we gave a Sunday afternoon concert at Schonfeld Square Care Home.

The Autumn schedule began with our annual Motsei Shabbat first night Choral Selichot service on 9 September with the famous Cantor Moti Boyer at the prestigious Hampstead United Synagogue. On 15 October we returned to Rosetrees to sing at a book launch party. Then on 31 October we also returned to SAGE care home where we took part in a Tuesday afternoon concert together with the Rimon School Choir.

On 26 November we were part of this year's Tikva UK Concert at Kenton United Synagogue, and on 3 December we entertained the residents and their families at a Pre-Chanukah concert at Ravenswood Village which is a care village run by Norwood.

Our last event in 2023 was to perform a Chanukah concert at HSBC Canary Wharf when the candles were lit by the Chabad Rabbi of North Greenwich.

Our Chanukah concert at HSBC Canary Wharf.



Tikva concert at Kenton Synagogue in November.



The choir also arranges family Social evenings and on 25 October we held our Annual Dinner for choristers and families at a restaurant in Hendon.

All in all, 2023 was a very successful year for the choir and our busiest year to date with 15 events keeping us very active! My sincere thanks go to the many supporters, congregants and concert attendees who swelled audience numbers well beyond expectations.

Future Events

Our choir calendar already includes several events in 2024 and are listed below: (please visit our Facebook page or website for further details)

- 1) 25th January 2024 - Holocaust Memorial Day event for the London Borough of Brent.
- 2) 11th February 2024 - Sunday afternoon concert at Nightingale House Care Home.
- 3) 3rd March 2024 - Sunday concert in Brighton. The venue is the new BNJC building complex at 29-31 New Church Rd, Brighton & Hove BN3 4AD.
- 4) 7th April 2024 - Sunday afternoon Tribute Concert to Mark and Sharon Harris z"l at a prestigious North

West London Venue (further information available on request). Henry Grunwald will be our compere. The concert will start at 3pm and the funds are being raised for The Woolf Institute charity. I do hope you can join us for this high-profile event.

5) 12th May 2024 - Sunday Yom Ha'atzmaut concert at Rosetrees Care Home.

6) 26th May 2024 - Sunday evening Service and Lag B'Omer Concert at Shenley United Shul.

7) 21st July 2024 - Sunday afternoon concert at Belmont United Shul.

Booking The London Cantorial Singers

We are the perfect Jewish choir for choral synagogue services, major organization anniversaries, weddings, commemorations, concerts, musical evenings, Jewish themed events, charity gala evenings and corporate cultural events and celebrations. To get in touch, please email our Chairman, David Druce, at chairman@tlcs.org.uk and inform him of your event and requirements.

We welcome male voice singers of all ages to join and be part of our exciting and rewarding choir experience!

Choristers do not have to be able to fluently sight-read music, though it helps if you can. All of our music is produced using the Capella notation software. You can use any desktop or mobile device to view and play all or part of each music score, enabling choristers with little or no ability to read music to learn their lines by ear.

Essentially, we require candidates to have a good voice, good breath control, a quick musical ear, to listen to each other and to follow changes in tempo and dynamics.

All prospective choristers are auditioned by our Musical Director Alan Freedman. Our membership

has grown with six new choristers and two young soloists joining our ranks recently.

Photo taken from our trip to Budapest in 2022.



Liverpool's Princes Road Synagogue in 2023.



More videos have been added to the choir's [YouTube channel](#) including from our visit to Liverpool. Please click on the "Subscribe" button.

We are also delighted to show you a video of a talk by our Chair and deputy Musical Director David Druce on the history of the choir. David gave a presentation in August 2023 to a group in Cockfosters and North Southgate Synagogue about his passion for music and choirs and also his association with The London Cantorial Singers. The talk contains several videos of the choir performing at the famous Princes Road Synagogue in Liverpool in June 2023 plus a couple of other pieces. To view it, just click [here](#).

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