



Founded October 1999 Charity registration no. 1082431
Founders & Vice-Presidents - John Lennox, Mark Greenfield,
Winifred Lundgren

Musical Director – Paul Judson

Newsletter – New Year 2018

Next concert

**Saturday 24th March 2018, at 7.30pm, provisionally in West Park Church (See below).
'Music from Stage and Screen'**

To include: Polovtsian Dances from 'Prince Igor' by Borodin, selections from 'The King and I' by Rodgers and Hammerstein, and music from 'Oklahoma', 'Schindler's List', Jesus Christ Superstar'.

Future concerts

Saturday 7th July 2018 7.30pm

'Music of the Sea'

October 2018 (Date to be confirmed)

Music to celebrate the coming of age of the orchestra (18th birthday)

Venues to be announced (Hopefully, in West Park Church – See below)

Planned participation

Members of the orchestra will be supporting a workshop with the Sunderland Youth Orchestra on 10th March this year, and providing musical guidance.

Tall Ships Race It is planned to be involved with this event on Wednesday 11th July 2018.

Summer Streets Festival It is planned to take part in this event again, on Saturday 14th July 2018, in Thompson Park, Southwick, Sunderland.

Passing of Margaret Wallace

It is sad to record that Mrs Margaret Wallace, aged 91 years, passed away on 2nd December 2017, peacefully in her sleep, following a short illness.

As a member of West Park Church, Margaret became involved with the orchestra from its inception, serving refreshments at concerts, and then also baking for the musician's teas between afternoon rehearsals and evening concerts.

Margaret was always regarded as 'the boss' of the refreshment team, although she would never admit to this. Her lovely caring, quiet, nature endeared her to all the members and visitors who met her.

Latterly, when she was no longer able to cook, she would always send a donation in lieu of her baking, towards the costs. For many years, Margaret single handedly cleaned and polished all the upstairs seats and woodwork in the church prior to a concert.

She was made an Honorary Member of the Orchestra in the year 2012.

Ball-point pens carrying the orchestra logo have been produced for use as publicity material.
Thanks to Mark Greenfield for sponsoring these.

Membership subscriptions for the year commencing 1st January 2018

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due on 1st January 2018, which is for a whole year. By arrangement with the Membership Secretary, this amount may, in exceptional circumstances, be paid monthly or termly, by standing order.

Annual General Meeting 2018.

The AGM of the Sunderland Symphony Orchestra will be held on Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 7.30 – 8.30 pm **provisionally** in West Park Church Hall.

An agenda will be sent out to all members in due course, but will include the following items:

Executive Committee's Report for the year ended December 31st 2017.

Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended December 31st 2017.

Election of Executive Committee. Nominations and consents for all posts must be in the hands of the committee at least seven days prior to the AGM. All present members are willing to stand for re-election.

Election of Independent Checker for the accounts.

Membership Secretary's Report and subscription rates for the year 2019.

Alteration to the Constitution

The Committee has been advised that it would help in future grant applications if the composition of the Committee specifically included a younger member.

It is proposed that Paragraph 7.2 of the constitution be amended, to include the words 'and a younger member', at the end.

Closure of West Park Church

Although an offer to purchase was accepted by Synod, the potential purchaser has found it necessary to withdraw. This is unfortunate, since the buyer wished the orchestra to remain in residence.

The building is now going up for auction on February 19th 2018. (London Auctions).

Following auction, if sold, the building will transfer to the new owner within days. This could result in our having to vacate the premises, depending on the wishes of the new owner.

In view of the uncertainty, arrangements have been made with Burn Park Methodist Church, on Durham Road, Sunderland, SR2 7JH, to host the concert **if needed**. (Metro - University).

Funding

The orchestra has been successful in obtaining funds from two sources.

The Sunderland City Council, by the courtesy of the ward councillors for the St. Michael's Ward, has provided £800.00 to enable the purchase of a complete set of music stand banners.

The Sir James Knott Trust has given a grant of £1,000.00 for the purchase of sheet music.



THE SIR JAMES KNOTT TRUST

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