

Join us

De Merc Chamber Choir is always pleased to hear from singers who are interested in performing in a small ensemble

We are a friendly group of amateur singers who rehearse weekly in Harlow

New singers are always welcome and we are particularly looking for **sopranos, altos and tenors**

To register your interest or to find out more, please email info@demerc.org.uk or visit our website www.demerc.org.uk

No audition necessary!

Join our mailing list

If you would like to keep up to date with De Merc and be the first to know about our concerts, please email info@demerc.org.uk to join our mailing list



Hire us

We are available for hire for weddings, parties and any other occasions.

To find out more please email info@demerc.org.uk or visit our website www.demerc.org.uk

Upcoming concerts

Saturday 5th April 2025 - St Mary's Church, Churchgate Street, Harlow

De Merc Chamber Choir is a registered charity (no. 1095387) and is also affiliated to Making Music, which represents and supports amateur vocal and instrumental music groups throughout the U.K.

To learn more about the choir, please go to
www.demerc.org.uk.

De Merc Chamber Choir

A Renaissance Journey from Toledo to Rome

Sacred music by Spanish and Italian composers

Conductor
Derek Harrison

Saturday 16th November 2024
St John's ARC, Old Harlow

Programme

Music from Spain

T. L. de Victoria (1548 - 1611)
Jesu dulcis memoria
O quam gloriosum
O vos omnes
Ave Maria

Ave Virgo sanctissima - Francisco Guerrero (1528 - 1599)

Ave Regina coelorum - Alonso Lobo (1555 - 1617)

O magnum mysterium - T. L. de Victoria

Music from Italy

Sicut cervus - G. P. da Palestrina (1525 - 1594)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567 - 1643)
O primavera
O himè
Si ch'io vorrei morire

Salamone Rossi (1570 - 1630)
Elohim Hashivenu
Adon Olam

Gloria from Missa Aeterna Christi Munera - G. P. da Palestrina

Exsultate justi - Lodovico Viadana (1560 - 1627)

After the concert please join us for refreshments

De Merc Chamber Choir is a compact, versatile mixed voice adult choir specialising in a cappella repertoire ranging from the 16th century through to contemporary works. Based in Harlow, the choir was founded in 1973 so we recently celebrated our 50th anniversary!

At around twenty our size gives listeners the opportunity of enjoying the intricacy and intimacy of unaccompanied singing that is the essence of smaller ensembles.

We have sung in many venues around Herts, Essex and surrounding areas and we are available for hire to sing at weddings, funerals and parties.

Most recently, De Merc Chamber Choir was recognised by Harlow Council as being one of its “Gems of Harlow” for performing arts.

For **Derek Harrison** choral conducting and singing have been central to his musical career. He has directed all sizes of choirs from a handful to over 800. He has founded/directed several chamber choirs and was MD of the Hertford Choral Society for over 40 years. The first of those choirs, established in collaboration with Michael Frith – a distinguished local musician – was De Merc Chamber Choir.

More recently he was an ABRSM examiner for a decade and is invited to adjudicate music competitions. In 2021, he was awarded Making Music’s Lady Hilary Groves prize and named as a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow.

Now, amongst other activities, he sings in the St Albans Cathedral Choir, directs the Knebworth Community Chorus (the third choir he has founded), is invited to conduct other groups, enjoys playing the organ for services in a variety of churches and is President of the East Herts Church Choirs Association.

De Merc Chamber Choir Singers

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
Kate Daynes	Jane Fox	Julian Roques	John Bilton
Gill Jones	Imelda Laybourn	John Warren	Colin Bromage
Janet Kiddier	Margaret O'Dwyer	Robin Woollams	Simon Dinwiddy
Kate Lambert	Helen Reynolds		Peter Kincey
Isky Roberts	Gaynor Tregidgo		Graham Savage