

# LAETARE SINGERS

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## REMINDER

**Choral Weekend at  
Royal Agricultural University,  
Stroud Road, Cirencester GL7 6JS  
Friday July 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Conductor: Patrick Craig (see biography below)**

**The music programme** will be on the theme of angels by Isaac (15c) Parsons, Byrd, Bassano, Guerrero (16c), Weelkes, Dering, Rebelo (17c), Mendlesohn (18c), Tavener (1993), Whitacre (2000) and Weir (2011).

We wrote in January inviting your participation in our Summer Choral Weekend. If you have already registered, thank you and we look forward to seeing you in Cirencester in July. If you put it aside to deal with later, now's the time to send me your booking! We still have room for all voices, but as usual would particularly welcome more tenors and basses.

We also have an exciting new announcement: your committee have agreed to offer one or more bursaries to attract younger singers to join our group. This bursary will reduce the participation fee by £150 and will be made available to a singer under the age of 45 for attendance at their first Laetare residential event. So if you know a competent younger singer who might enjoy the challenge of a choral weekend, perhaps this bursary would encourage them to try it out. Please see our **new website** <https://laetaresingers.co.uk/> for further details.

We still have accommodation available on site at the RAU, including both the ground-floor twins. All other bedrooms are on the first or second floor, and there is no lift. All our daytime activities – singing, dining, socialising – will be on the ground floor. Non-singing partners are also welcome. The costs this year are:

- residential full board £305
- non-residential (includes all meals except breakfast) £165

Once the rooms are booked up we may be able to assist with B&B off site.

**Please let me have your non-refundable deposit of £65 per person as soon as possible. The balance will be due by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025. Please pay by bank transfer (details on the booking form).**

You may wish to insure against cancellation, please do so individually.

I do hope you will be able to join us and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Wishes

Pat Mills

Summer Event Secretary, Laetare Singers

**Patrick Craig**

Countertenor and conductor.



Patrick Craig is Vicar Choral at St Paul's Cathedral and over twenty years sang more than a thousand concerts with the Tallis Scholars. He is a member of The Cardinal's Musick who won the Gramophone Record of the Year award in 2010.

Patrick Craig began conducting as Organ Scholar at Selwyn College, Cambridge. He went on to found Aurora Nova, the first all-female professional choir to lead Sunday worship at St Paul's Cathedral. He led them on their first tour of USA, and also conducted the City of London Sinfonia in a series of Orchestral Masses at St Paul's.

In 2016 Patrick became the Musical Director of the Temenos Chamber Choir in Sevenoaks. In March 2018 he conducted his first Bach *B minor Mass* with them. Other conducting opportunities have included guest conducting The Cardinal's Musick at the Lichfield, Brinkburn, Brighton and Aldeburgh Festivals, and the Tallis Scholars at the BBC Proms. He is also Guest Conductor of the Cecilia Consort, with whom he has led performances of Poulenc's *Gloria* and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*.

Patrick has also taught and directed on Tallis Scholar Summer Schools in the UK, Spain, USA and Australia, and regularly leads singing workshops across the United Kingdom and Europe for amateur singers, focusing especially on Renaissance polyphony and its cultural and historical contexts. (2019)