



“Singing in the City”

Weekend Choir Festival

THE MANCHESTER GOSPEL FESTIVAL 2017



Invitation to choirs & individual singers of all standards

Come & Sing!!

DATES: 17th, 18th, 19th & 20th February 2017

Festival Prices from

£199.00 per person

Including 3 Night's Dinner, Bed and Breakfast in a 3-star hotel, lunch on the Saturday and the Sunday and the Gospel Festival Programme as shown overleaf culminating in a performance of

Gospel Music

**by the massed choirs, at
The Royal Northern College of Music.**

Our first two Gospel Choir Festivals, in 2015 & 2016 were a great success. Here's what people said:-

“Thank you very much! Every single member is happy and satisfied with the event and we are exploring the possibilities for next year.” **Lars Nemeth, Hyllie Gospel Choir, Sweden.**

“Another fab event – congrats for its success and your hard work. Wayne, Richard, Mike etc were terrific, full of enthusiasm which cascaded all around us. We will be there again next year.” **Kevin McAloon, Appleton Thorn Village Choir.**

“Just to say how much we all enjoyed the Gospel experience; it's certainly something that we will do again so please keep me on your mailing list. All in all a great weekend! We made friends with the Choir from Canterbury and are planning a trip to see them for the weekend next year. Thanks for all your hard work.” **Nancy and Crystal Chords.**

“Just to let you know what a fabulous weekend we all had at the Festival. Organisation was great, plenty of refreshments at all times and meeting up with people from all over. Hope to be there next year!” **Wendy Capper.**

“We had a lovely weekend and it was great to get the opportunity to sing with so many people from other choirs and countries.” **Phil Hornsey, Canterbury Reach Out Choir.**

“Thank you so much for a fantastic weekend. As a Barbershop singer, I thoroughly enjoyed learning a different style of singing! Ssh, but I'm a convert. Thank you both. SUPERB.” **Kristina Mair.**

“I thought the Gospel Festival 2015 was great! It was lovely to meet lots of lovely people from Italy and Canterbury and a few who had registered independently. The songs we learnt were so uplifting and the concert was an absolute pleasure.” **Stella Clare.**

“This is just to say thank you to yourself and the other organisers of the Gospel Festival – it was a terrific experience!! I went along on my own, not knowing what to expect and I'm so glad that I did because they were a lovely, welcoming bunch of people. As for Wayne – well he was just brilliant! I'll definitely be coming back next time”. **Fiona Hanratty.**

First of all a BIG thank you for organising the weekend. I thought it was great. All 3 of us from Fallowfield Community Choir thoroughly enjoyed it and would love to come again.
Sarah Frazer.

Excellent Gospel Festival – clearly structured, well organised, frequent supply of refreshments. Thank you for all your work and vision in putting this on. **Tim Mackenzie.**

“Wayne is just the perfect teacher, leader and mentor”. **Terry Fiammanti, Bruco Choir.**

“A fantastic weekend. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and are keen to join you all again next year.” **Phil – Canterbury Reach Out Choir.**

“The Manchester International Gospel Festival has shown – Vision, talent, faith and joy; first class musicianship and presentation. Now let's go and tell the world about it!!” **David – Canterbury Reach Out Choir.**

FESTIVAL INFORMATION – All timings to be confirmed

General Information - For Singers the Festival provides the opportunity to mix with Gospel Choirs and Singers from around the country and overseas. The weekend will comprise singing and social events. In 2016 we had choirs and singers from Sweden, Germany, France, Italy, USA and of course the UK.

On the Saturday we have the **Gospel Workshop** at –

Holy Innocents Church, Fallowfield,

Here we will rehearse six songs ready for the Concert. On the Sunday, the choirs will come together at

The Royal Northern College of Music

for further rehearsal followed in the early evening by the –

Manchester International Gospel Concert.

The dynamic, effervescent and extremely talented

Wayne Ellington,

World Renowned International Gospel Singer, Teacher and Leader of the amazing
Manchester Inspirational Voices,
is our Musical Director.

However, following the success of the 2016 Festival we have some of the choir leaders returning to lead some of the workshop sessions. They are –

All the way from New York, leader of the Haven House Choir
Dr Richard Hartley

From Malmo in Sweden, leader of the Hyllie Gospel Choir
Charlotta Holmgren Nemeth

From France, leader of the Tours Gospel Choir and
leader of the Association Tourangelle "Gospel Aujourd'hui"
Ando Rajoelina

Join us for a **BIG Sing!!**



The Manchester Gospel Festival – Musical Director, Wayne Ellington



Wayne developed his distinctive style and passion for music at a very young age whilst singing in his local church in London. He studied music at Brunel University and he has appeared live on television and radio with numerous celebrities from the gospel and secular field as a lead and backing vocalist. His performance credits include: Sir Elton John, Candy Staton, Graham Kendrick, BBC Songs of Praise, Tom Jones, Open University, Robert Palmer, Blur, Alex Clare, London Community Gospel Choir and many more.

Wayne has developed his vocal skills in Jazz and Opera which has opened doors enabling him to travel around the world. Wayne is the choir director of the Manchester Inspirational Voices Choir. He is proud to have established an accessible activity for all. He enjoys working with youth and has made a momentous contribution in raising good standards, morals and values in young people. Wayne is known for being a guiding tool, recognising their potential and helping them to achieve their aspirations and visions.

Royal Northern College of Music

In 2017, the Manchester International Gospel Festival Concert will move to the Royal Northern College of Music, Concert Hall. The RNCM is a leading international conservatoire located in the heart of Manchester, with a reputation for attracting talented students, teachers, conductors and composers from all over the world. The Concert Hall will be a fitting environment for this fabulous event.

Manchester

Manchester is the perfect city break and music festival destination. Manchester rings with music as home to the Halle Orchestra, the Manchester Camerata, Chethams Music School, the Royal Northern College of Music, the Bridgewater Hall, The Lowry Arts Centre, the newly renovated Monastery and much more. Architecturally, Manchester is a mess but a glorious mess with architectural masterpieces from many eras, cheek by jowl with modern buildings. Of the older buildings the John Rylands Library is a little masterpiece of Victorian Gothic, the Manchester Town Hall is Britain's grandest Gothic municipal palace and the Cathedral and Chetham's are the centre of mediaeval Manchester and contain the oldest library in Europe.

And talking of museums, the People History Museum showcases working class history with exhibits relating to the Peterloo Massacre, the Pankhursts, and the desk where Thomas Paine wrote The Rights of Man. The Museum of Science and Industry chronicles the sights, sounds and smells of Manchester from the Industrial Revolution to the invention of Graphene, the world's thinnest material, in 2004. The Imperial War Museum North is a thrilling architectural space documenting the human cost of war.

Shopping in Manchester is second to none with the massive Trafford Centre, the central Arndale Centre, the upmarket St Annes Square and the quirky Northern Quarter with its wacky boutiques, vegan cafes, dusty record shops and not a high street brand in sight.