



**COME & SING**

**Mendelssohn's  
Elijah**

**Saturday**

**8<sup>th</sup> February**

**2025**

**Holy Trinity Church Hall**

**Rosemary Lane, Formby, L37 3HA**

Have one of your musical highlights in 2025 with a day singing Mendelssohn's wonderful *Elijah*. Hosted by Formby Choral Society, accompanied by Jon Barton and led by David Holroyd, the day will be fun, fulfilling, motivating - and above all dramatic!

Timetable	
10:00	Arrival / Registration / Coffee
10:30	First session
12:30	Lunch break
13:30	Second session
15:30	Tea break
16:15	PERFORMANCE
c.17:15	Finish

**Copies** of the full vocal score (and additional music) will be available on the day, and this is included in the day's cost.

#### **Refreshments**

We will provide tea/coffee and biscuits on arrival, and at the afternoon tea break; and drinks will be available during the lunch break, whether you choose to buy our lunch offering, or bring your own.

#### **Lunch**

We will order a light lunch from *The Lunch Hour* on Church Road, Formby, which will include sandwiches and cake. The cost will be £5 per person. As above, tea and coffee will be available. You are welcome to bring your own lunch if you prefer! If you have any allergies or dietary requirements it might be simpler to bring your own, although we are happy to ask *The Lunch Hour* if they can accommodate specific requests. Please note that it is unlikely that *The Lunch Hour* will be able to guarantee completely nut-free products.

**Parking** - there is limited parking available in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church. If you need a Blue Badge parking space, please let us know, although space is limited. Other parking is available in Pay & Display car parks located in Furness Avenue (The Cloisters, £4.50 all day), or at the Formby Pool on Elbow Lane (£8.00). The Waitrose car park has number plate recognition cameras, and is restricted to shoppers - and only two hours. Don't!

**Merseyrail** Formby Station is half a mile away, about a ten minute walk, mostly on the flat, apart from the bridge down from the actual station bridge.

**Buses** The **47 Liverpool/Crossens** and the **X2 Liverpool/Preston** stop at Cross Green (also about a ten minute walk).

**Audience** Non-singers are welcome at the performance - no charge, but donations are welcomed on the day. Please reserve a seat on the application form.

## **Elijah**

Felix Mendelssohn was one of those prodigies who died far too young (1809 - 1847), but in that brief life produced some of the best music in the choral repertoire. As a young composer he was hailed as a second Mozart by leading musicians of the day.

He had first considered the subject of *Elijah* for a major choral work as early as 1836. There was communication between him and a couple of his friends discussing the text, and the notion whether it should be more a sacred work, or a dramatic one.

In 1845 the committee of the Birmingham Festival approached Mendelssohn as conductor of the next festival, and commissioned him to write an oratorio for the occasion.

After much soul-searching and self-doubt, the work eventually emerged in 1846, with the latter parts of it only finalised 9 days before the first performance.

Mendelssohn himself conducted the first performance; it was a resounding success, and since then *Elijah* has been established as one of the most successful and enduring pieces of choral music.

**David Holroyd** has conducted Formby Choral Society since 1991. He trained at the Royal Northern College of Music, was Assistant Organist at Chester Cathedral, and then taught for 33 years at Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, where he was Director of Music until 2019. As well as FCS he has conducted Birkenhead Choral Society since 1985, and Amadeus: the Chamber Choir since 2000. He is Organist at St Peter's Church, Formby. And every year since 1997, he has conducted the Cheshire and Merseyside NHS Carol Concert in Liverpool Cathedral. He believes in long-term commitment!

The image used on the cover is by Brenda Wright, and is called **The Double Portion** and portrays that moment when "there came a fiery chariot" and Elijah is taken "by a whirlwind to Heaven". We had her permission to use the art work for our publicity material for our performance (with Birkenhead Choral Society and Merchant Taylors' School) at the Philharmonic Hall in 2017.

See [www.brendasmessageart.wordpress.com/the-double-portion/](http://www.brendasmessageart.wordpress.com/the-double-portion/)

**Please fill in the form below -**

**or** you can use the **QR code** at the bottom to sign up online,

**or** go to [www.formbychoralsociety.org](http://www.formbychoralsociety.org) and follow the **Come and Sing** links

Name					
* Email address					
* Phone number					
Voice <i>please circle</i>	Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass	Audience
Singing ticket	(No charge for <b>listening</b> to the performance)	£ 20			
Copy required <i>please circle</i>	Yes	No			
Lunch required <i>please circle</i>	Yes	No	£ 5		
	<b>Total amount payable</b>		=	£	
Payment method <i>please circle</i>	Bank Transfer		Cheque	Cash	
<i>* Usual data protection blurb applies ... and after confirming your booking, and reminding everyone of the final arrangements for the day, we will only contact you if there are any queries. We won't do anything with your information after the event, unless given your consent. We won't be selling your details to anyone else!</i>					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please tick this box if you <b>do</b> consent to being on a mailing list to receive four emails a year, with details of the Choral Society's concerts.				

## Payment details

### Bank Transfer

Account name: Formby Choral Society

Sort Code: 08 92 99 Account number: 6720 2414

Please use **CS** plus your **initials** and **surname** as the reference

**Cheques** payable to **Formby Choral Society**

Post this form (enclosing cheque if relevant) to:

Formby Choral Society

% 45 The Evergreens, Formby, Liverpool, L37 3RW.

