

# London Philharmonic Choir

## RING THE BELLS

NEVILLE CREED *conductor*

LONDON PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

## PAUL FINCHAM RING THE BELLS

*Ring the Bells* was commissioned by the London Philharmonic Choir and its first concert performances were given by the choir at the Raymond Gubbay Classic Carols concert at the Royal Albert Hall on 20 December 2017.

The carol has an original text with lively outer sections, a more contemplative middle section based around a chorale theme, and a cheeky bow to *The Holly and the Ivy*. *Ring the Bells* is published by Boosey & Hawkes and was included in the Crisis carol service at Southwark Cathedral in 2018, having been formally adopted by Crisis in support of their plan to end homelessness. All royalties from this recording and from sales of the sheet music have been pledged to Crisis.

## CRISIS

Crisis is the national charity for homeless people across the UK. Founded in 1967, Crisis works directly with thousands of homeless people every year providing vital help so that people can rebuild their lives and are supported out of homelessness for good.

They offer one to one support, advice and courses for homeless people in 12 areas across England, Scotland and Wales. How they help someone depends on their individual needs and situation. It could be with finding a home and settling in, getting new skills and finding a job, or help with their health and wellbeing. They use research to find out how best to improve their services, but also to find wider solutions to homelessness.

Together with homeless people and Crisis supporters, they also campaign for the changes needed to end homelessness for good.

**[crisis.org.uk](http://crisis.org.uk)**



*Follow Paul Fincham and the London Philharmonic Choir as they bring the music to life at the Royal Albert Hall.*

## PAUL FINCHAM

*composer*

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Paul Fincham started composing at an early age and read music at Cambridge University where he was music director of Cambridge Footlights. After a successful first career in the corporate world he

returned to composing in 2012, focusing on film and choral music.

His compositions include an award-winning score for Norman Gregory's feature film *A Reason to Leave* and a youth opera, *The Happy Princess*, to a libretto by Jessica Duchen (after Oscar Wilde), commissioned by Garsington Opera and premiered at Wormsley Park in August 2019. *Ring the Bells* is his first Christmas carol. Paul would like to thank Tess Bartley who assisted with the text for the chorale section of *Ring the Bells* and also provided encouragement and the exchange of ideas throughout the composition of this piece.

**[paulfincham.com](http://paulfincham.com)**

## NEVILLE CREED

*conductor*

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Neville Creed has held the position of Chorus Director of the London Philharmonic Choir since 1994 and in 2002 he was appointed Artistic Director. His work involves preparing the Choir for all the choral concerts given

by the London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by many distinguished conductors including Principal Conductor Vladimir Jurowski. He has also conducted the Choir and Orchestra in performances at home and abroad. Previous appointments have included Chorus Director of the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus which won two major awards under his direction – the Gramophone Choral Recording of the Year and a Grammy Award. He has won prizes in the international choral conducting competition held in Trento, Italy and the Leeds Competition for orchestral conducting. Concerts have been given with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra, Freiburg Bach Orchestra, Ulster Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. He has worked with many other choirs and ensembles including the BBC Singers, BBC Symphony Chorus and Philharmonia Chorus.



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## LONDON PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

The London Philharmonic Choir was founded in 1947 as the chorus for the London Philharmonic Orchestra. It is widely regarded as one of Britain's finest choirs and consistently meets with critical acclaim. Performing regularly with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Choir also works with many other orchestras throughout the United Kingdom and makes annual appearances at the BBC Proms.

It has performed under some of the world's most eminent conductors – among them Marin Alsop, Pierre Boulez, Semyon Bychkov, Sir Mark Elder, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Edward Gardner, Bernard Haitink, Neeme Järvi, Vladimir Jurowski, Kurt Masur, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Sir Roger Norrington, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Georg Solti, Nathalie Stutzmann and Klaus Tennstedt.

The London Philharmonic Choir has made numerous recordings for CD, radio and television. The Choir often travels overseas and in recent years it has given concerts in many European countries, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Australia.

The Choir is connected with the leading British homeless charity, Crisis, through the patronage of HRH Princess Alexandra. The Choir is honoured to be releasing this recording in aid of the Crisis plan to end homelessness. All composer and choir royalties from the sale of *Ring the Bells* will be donated to Crisis.

**[lpc.org.uk](http://lpc.org.uk)**