

Salzburg 2013

In the last week of May, together with representatives from other choirs associated with our Music Director Stephen Hope, members of the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir descended on Salzburg – famous for Mozart, 'The Sound of Music' and umbrellas. It was a thoroughly enjoyable tour, even if the elements – with the exception of one gloriously sunny day – were generally unfriendly and wet conditions prevailed.

We performed in three locations, singing two services in the Dom – Salzburg's impressive Cathedral – at one of which we were joined by the Westminster Presbyterian choir from Delaware USA. Concerts were also given in two parish churches; one at Thalgau, a village several miles east of town, the other at Mülln, a district of Salzburg.

Our repertoire for the Dom services was Haydn Little Organ Mass and Mozart Missa Brevis K194; for the latter the soloists were from the Delaware party and all four of them gave excellent performances.

The Thalgau concert aimed to introduce an Austrian audience to English music and consisted of Requiems by Ledger and Chilcott. In Mülln, Haydn Jugendmesse was the main item in a short concert. Ave Verum Corpus – both Mozart and Elgar versions – as well as Bruckner's Locus Iste were 'encore' contributions.

All performances were accompanied by Sinfonia da Chiesa and soloists.

The tour was rounded off with a meal and informal concert party at the Fortress which towers above the city.

