

**PAPERS OF THE YORK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**1898-1937**

**(YSO)**

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The York Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1898 by then York Minster organist, T. Tertius Noble, who conducted and composed for the orchestra until his departure in 1913 to take up a post in New York. The amateur orchestra met weekly and originally performed two concerts per year, as well as further special concerts, until the start of the First World War. Though plans were initially made to continue, and a memorial service at York Minster featured a performance by orchestra of Brahms's German *Requiem*, the orchestra was forced to suspend its programme during the war.

The orchestra was revived in 1919 and a number of concerts were given during the interwar period, but these were occasional rather than regular, such as to celebrate the visit of the Prince of Wales to York in 1933. After the Second World War, the YSO was once more resurrected, and continues to this day in York as an amateur orchestra, currently performing three concerts annually.

This collection represents the archive of the York Symphony Orchestra from its inception in 1898 to the start of the Second World War. The collection contains Committee papers such as minutes, membership details, correspondence and accounts, alongside original publicity material in the form of concert programmes and prospectuses. There are two original group photographs of the orchestra dating from 1906 and 1913 as well as a range of newspaper cuttings including adverts, reviews and musical articles of national and local interest from the period 1898 to 1935.

Material dating from the 1940s to the present day remains in the care of the Orchestra.

Records are open to the public, subject to the overriding provisions of relevant legislation, including the Data Protection Act 1998.

In the interests of preservation, surrogates have been made of newspaper material in the collection and will be produced for researchers in place of the originals.

## YSO 1

### COMMITTEE PAPERS

#### YSO 1/1

#### Committee Administration

YSO 1/1/1	<b>Committee meetings</b>	
YSO 1/1/1/1	Minute book, with loose sheet of minutes for May 1914	1910-1914
YSO 1/1/1/2	Notes on the 1913-1914 notes on the season including members' instruments, music timings, some addresses of members, a committee list and matters requiring attention	1913-1914
YSO 1/1/1/3	Draft of Annual Report, typescript with manuscript notes, and AGM report ( <i>two items</i> )	1913-1914
YSO 1/1/1/4	Typescript sheet of minutes	15 October 1915
YSO 1/1/1/5	Minute book	1915-1939
YSO 1/1/1/6	Statement read to General Meeting concerning finance	27 October 1919
YSO 1/1/1/7	Agenda for Committee meeting	November 1919
YSO 1/1/1/8	Correspondence apologising for absences from meetings ( <i>six items</i> )	1919-1921
YSO 1/1/2	<b>Correspondence of Committee members</b>	
YSO 1/1/2/1	Letter to T. T. Noble from the composer Edward German expressing his thanks	30 Nov 1903
YSO 1/1/2/2	Circular from Committee to members inviting subscriptions for T. T. Noble's leaving fund	27 February 1913
YSO 1/1/2/3	Correspondence of Secretary including issues regarding criticism of conductor and the orchestra, and possible amalgamation with York Music Society ( <i>eleven letters</i> )	1913-1915
YSO 1/1/2/4	Correspondence of Secretary, partly concerning the orchestral programme ( <i>three letters</i> )	1919-1921
YSO 1/1/3	<b>Committee papers concerning the restarting of the orchestra after the First World War</b>	
YSO 1/1/3/1	Printed letters from Committee to old members concerning revival of orchestra, detailing a General Meeting ( <i>two items</i> )	26 July 1919, 18 October 1919



