



# Wareham Choral Society

**SPRING CONCERT**

**Saturday 25 March 2017 7pm**

**LADY ST MARY CHURCH**

**WAREHAM**

**Conductor *Nigel Groome***

**Organist *John Radford***

**Hammig String Quartet**

## Programme

Archer: Organ 'Elegy'

Archer: Requiem

Massenet: Meditation (from Thais)

Mozart String Quartet in C Major K.157

Handel: Chandos Anthem Praise the

Lord with one Consent

## Soloists



Susannah Groome  
*Soprano*



Sarah Shipton  
*Alto*



Nils Greenhow  
*Tenor*



Will Thomas  
*Bass*

"Wareham's choir since 1947"

# Welcome

Wareham Choral Society is delighted to welcome family, members of the Wareham community, and friends from near and far to our Spring Concert.

We enter our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with a concert programme which combines Handel's glorious Chandos Anthem "O Praise the Lord with one Consent" written in 1718 with Malcolm Archer's lyrical Requiem, published in 1993, which combines memorable melodies in a piece of fine devotional music. We also feature a solo on the recently restored organ by our regular accompanist John Radford, and two instrumental pieces by our guests, the Hammig String Quartet.

WCS has been in existence since 1947. We enter this significant anniversary year with every intention of building on past success with diverse programmes of secular and religious music featuring soloists and interesting instrumental accompaniment.

Nigel Groome, our Music Director, is a conductor and organist of national repute. His choral expertise, patience, and good humour all contribute to productive rehearsals which are FUN. Our accompanist, John Radford, is an accomplished organist/pianist and a soloist of distinction.

**We have extended our calendar of events to include a summer concert, which last year was held in the beautiful Rollington Barn. We are continuing this new tradition – look out for details of our forthcoming Summer Concert with a maritime theme, which we hope will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> in the spectacular museum at Kimmeridge which houses the Etches 'Fossil' Collection.**

WCS is growing in vocal expertise and ambition, our repertoire is eclectic and we foster the individual talents of our members.

Music is said to be the key to a long life, a stable temperament, increased intelligence and a better sense of humour!

## **So, why not join us?**

We rehearse in the United Reformed Church in Wareham on Monday evenings at 7.15pm. We have vacancies in all parts, especially tenors!

**Find out more by calling 01929 552272 or 01929 459319 or visit our website**

Our thanks to accompanist John Radford, our guest soloists and the Hammig String Quartet. Thanks also to Lady St. Mary Church for allowing us to perform here.

**Judith Price Chairman of Wareham Choral Society**



#### 4- PIE JESU

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis  
requiem, dona eis requiem  
sempiternam requiem

*Merciful Jesus, Lord, give them rest,  
give them rest, eternal rest.*

#### 5- AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
dona eis requiem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the  
sins of the world, give them rest.*

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,  
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia  
pius es.

*Let light eternal shine on them,  
Lord, with your saints for  
eternity, for you are merciful.*

Requiem aeternam dona eis  
Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Give them eternal rest, lord, and let  
light always shine on them.*

#### 6- LIBERA ME

Libera me, Domine, de morte  
aeterna in die illa tremenda,  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra  
dum veneris judicare saeculum per  
ignem.

*Free me, lord, from death eternal  
on that day of dread when the  
heavens will be shaken and the  
earth while you come to judge the  
world with fire.*

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo  
dum discussio venerit atque  
ventura ira. Dies illa, dies irae,  
calamitatis et miseriae dies illa,  
dies magna et amara valde.

*I am made to shake, and am afraid  
awaiting the trial and the coming  
anger. That day, day of anger, of  
calamity and misery, that day, the  
day of great and exceeding  
bitterness,*

Requiem aeternam dona eis  
Domine et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Rest eternal give them, Lord,  
and let light always shine on them.*

#### 7- IN PARADISUM

In Paradisum deducant Angeli in  
tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres  
et perducant te in civitatem  
sanctam Jerusalem.

*Into paradise may angels draw  
them, on your arrival, may the  
martyrs receive you and lead you  
into the holy city Jerusalem.*

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat et  
cum Lazaro quondam paupere  
aeternam habeas requiem

*May the chorus of angels receive  
you, and with Lazarus, once a  
beggar, may you have eternal  
rest.*

**Interval (refreshments will be served)**

## **Hammig String Quartet – Massenet : Meditation**

### **Hammig String Quartet - Mozart: String Quartet in C Major K.157**

### **Choir and soloists – Handel : O Praise the Lord with One Consent**

#### 1. CHORUS – O PRAISE THE LORD WITH ONE CONSENT

O praise the Lord with one consent, and magnify His Name.  
Let all the servants of the Lord His worthy praise proclaim.

#### 2. AIR – PRAISE HIM, ALL YE THAT IN HIS HOUSE ATTEND

Praise him all ye that in his house attend, with constant care  
praise Him with those that to His utmost courts with humble zeal  
repair.

#### 3. AIR – FOR THIS OUR TRUEST INT'REST

For this our truest int'rest is glad hymns of praise to sing,  
and with loud songs to bless His Name, a most delightful thing.

#### 4. SOLO – THAT GOD IS GREAT

That God is great we often have by glad experience found  
and seen how He, with wondrous pow'r, above all gods is crown'd.

#### 5. CHORUS – WITH CHEERFUL NOTES LET ALL THE EARTH

With cheerful notes let all the earth to heaven their voices raise,  
Let all inspir'd with godly mirth sing solemn hymns of praise.

#### 6. SOLO – GOD'S TENDER MERCY KNOWS NO BOUNDS

God's tender mercy knows no bounds, His truth shall ne'er decay  
Then let the willing nations round their grateful tribute pay.

#### 7. CHORUS - YE BOUNDLESS REALMS OF JOY

Ye boundless realms of joy, exalt your Maker's fame.  
His praise your song employ, above the starry frame.

#### 8. CHORUS - YOUR VOICES RAISE

Your voices raise, ye Cherubin and Seraphin to sing His praise  
Alleluja!

### **Closing Remarks**



**Music Director Nigel Groome** trained at the London College of Music, and carried out postgraduate study at the Royal College of Music.



From 1980 to 2016 he was Organist and Director of Music of Beckenham Parish Church. The adult choir has a large repertoire, ranging from plainsong to contemporary music, and new works are regularly commissioned for it.

Nigel was also the founder and Chairman of the St. George's Arts Festival, which is held annually in May, and has attracted artists of international calibre, for example Cleo Laine and John Dankworth, Willard White, Prunella Scales and Geraldine McEwen.

Last year Nigel took up a new post at St. Matthew's, Westminster.

**Organist John Radford** was born in Wakefield, where he was a chorister at the cathedral. He received a bursary to study music at Ackworth School, and then studied music at Leeds University.



**He has had posts as organist and teacher at Portsmouth and in Somerset. He is currently the organist for a group of village churches in East Dorset, and is the accompanist to The Broadstone Choir and The Allen Singers (Wimborne).**

**The Hammig String Quartet (Nigel Sharpe violin 1, Becky Nall violin 2, Jane Tyler viola, Diana Nall cello) was first formed in 1989, and is based in London. All its members pursue their own musical careers alongside the quartet. The quartet have played at the St George's Arts Festival in Beckenham on several occasions. Other regular venues include The Usher Art Gallery, Lincoln, The Colour House Theatre at Merton Abbey Mills and St Mary's Church, Henley, and music clubs in Seaton, Ruthin, Welshpool, Dolgellau and Dwyor.**

**Susannah Groome** (soprano) enjoys a reputation as a versatile soprano with her repertoire ranging from the baroque to musical theatre. She is not only in demand as an oratorio soloist, but also as a solo recitalist. Her concerts are popular for their musical variety, stage presence and innate comic timing. Susannah graduated with a First Class BMus Honours Degree from the London College of Music. At the College she studied singing with Amanda Thane and Peter Savidge. She received many College prizes as well as being an Associate and Licentiate holder of the College. Susannah currently studies singing with the mezzo soprano, Sarah Pring. Susannah has featured as a soloist in a number of live BBC radio and television broadcasts. As a



recitalist Susannah has performed throughout the country and abroad. Susannah has undertaken many solo oratorio engagements. Recent works include Haydn's Nelson Mass and the Johannes De Deo Mass; Mozart's Coronation Mass and the Mass's in D and F; Vivaldi Gloria; Handel's Samson and Judas Maccabeus; Mendelssohn's Hear My Prayer and Elijah; Brahms' Requiem.

**Sarah Shipton** (alto) was a member of the Girls' Choir of the Collegiate Church of St Mary's, Warwick while at school and attended the junior school at Birmingham Conservatoire. Sarah went on to study music at King's College London from 2004 to 2007. While at KCL Sarah was a choral scholar and sang in several other university choirs, as well as playing in the university orchestra. Since graduating Sarah has performed in concert with a number of choirs, including the Holst Singers, St Martin's Chorus (at St Martin in the Fields) and the Renaissance Singers, as well as performing music in a liturgical setting with the choir of the Old Royal Naval College Chapel, Greenwich, the choir of St George's, Beckenham and the choir of St Matthew's, Westminster. Sarah has enjoyed a number of solo opportunities in concerts and in services whilst being a member of these choirs. Sarah studies singing with Nicholas Powell.



When not singing, Sarah works as a forensic accountant in London.

**Nils Greenhow** (tenor) began his musical journey with cello lessons at the age of 6. He spent two years at Birmingham Conservatoire studying composition before completing a music degree at the University of York. There, he discovered his voice under Jason Darnell and has been in demand as both a soloist and choral singer since.



He has held choral positions at Clare College Cambridge, St Martin-in-the-Fields Trafalgar Square and also at Bristol Cathedral and has regularly found himself touring such locations as Canada and China. In December 2014, his set of Preces & Responses were premiered live on BBC Radio 3's Choral Evensong and he is often commissioned to compose and arrange for voices. Nils hopes to return to music college soon with a view to entering the world of Opera.

**Will Thomas** (bass) was born in Harpenden and in 2013 he gained a place at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (BMus) and is currently studying under the guidance of John Evans.



Will competed in the Kathleen Ferrier Society Bursary Competition for Young Singers October 2014 and received

the Joyce Budd 2nd Prize. Will has sung in Masterclass with Peter Rose in February 2015.

His operatic roles include Bass Quartet, English Eccentrics, Malcolm Williamson, (British Youth Opera) Calmon (cover) The Little Green Swallow, (British Youth Opera) Sarastro Die Zauberflöte (Broadstone Opera) Usher Trial by Jury (Winterbourne Opera) Forrester Cunning Little Vixen (abridged) (Guildhall School, Introduction to opera). Future engagements include singing in the Garsington Chorus as an Alvarez Young Artist, covering Doctor, Pelleas et Mellisande and High Priest, Semele.

Will performed as a soloist in Vaughan Williams' Serenade to Music at the Birmingham Symphony Hall with the CBSO, which was broadcast on BBC Radio 3, January 2016.

**Malcolm Archer** (born 1952) is an English organist, conductor and composer. He combines this work with a recital career. He has held posts at Bristol Cathedral, Norwich Cathedral, Wells Cathedral and St Paul's Cathedral and is now Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College.



**Handel** (1685 – 1759) was a German composer who spent most of his career in London, becoming well known for his operas, oratorios, anthems, and organ concertos. The anthem *O Praise the Lord with one Consent* is one in a series of eleven church anthems which Handel composed between 1717 and 1718, when he was composer-in-residence to the 1st Duke of Chandos. The Chandos anthems are settings of texts from the psalms for use in the Anglican liturgy. *O Praise the Lord with one Consent* sets verses from psalms 117, 135 and 148.



**Massenet** (1842 –1912) was a French composer of the Romantic era best known for his operas, of which he wrote more than thirty. The two most frequently staged are *Manon* (1884) and *Werther* (1892). He also composed oratorios, ballets, orchestral works, incidental music, piano pieces, songs and other music. *Meditation* comes from his opera *Thais*, set in Egypt under Byzantine rule.



**Mozart** (1756 – 1791) showed prodigious ability from childhood, composing from the age of five. He composed more than 600 works, many acknowledged as pinnacles of symphonic, concertante, chamber, operatic, and choral music. His *String Quartet in C Major* K.157 is one of a set of 6 (the Milanese quartets) composed in 1772-3 in Milan, while he was working on his opera *Lucio Silla*.

