



HYTHE SINGERS WINTER CONCERT



30 NOV 2024

7:00PM

PARRY * HOWELLS * HANDEL

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, THORPE, TW20 8TQ

WWW.THEHYTHESINGERS.COM



UPCOMING CONCERTS

**6
APR**

Mendelssohn: Elijah
TASIS, Thorpe

Summer Concert
"Dawn to Dusk"

**5
JUL**

**29
NOV**

Requiem
Howells & Vittoria

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music**

WINTER CONCERT
Saturday 30th November 2024
St Mary's Church, Thorpe



Commemoration
Music inspired by historical events

The Hythe Singers

(Patrons – Cecilia McDowall, Richard Mothersill and Dr. Ben Spencer)

Soprano

Melanie Andriesma
Kate Brady
Demelza Coppin
Ann Corfield
Joan Hellyer
Jo Ive
Mary Morris
Myra Owen
Rebecca Saunders
Cathy Villiers
Carolyn Walters
Suzy Wood

Alto

Vivien Ambery-Smith
Katie Aspen
Eileen Bruce
Bridín Mills
Sarah Morris
Elaine Sturman
Chris Thomas
Susi Thornton
Jenni Whiteside

Tenor

Jason Crampton
Tony Dowson
David Moncur

Bass

Daniel Brown
Kiran Chatterjee
Rüdiger Schack

Musical Director: Emma Warren

Organist: Simon Gregory

Rehearsal Accompanists: Berrak Dyer & Oskars Kalniņš



The Hythe Singers gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support of the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust.

I Was Glad

Hubert Parry (1848-1918)

This magnificent choral anthem was composed in 1902 for the coronation of King Edward VII. The piece, known for its grandeur and jubilant character, is often performed at royal occasions and features vibrant harmonies and regal motifs that embody the essence of British ceremonial music.

My Heart is Inditing

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

My Heart is Inditing is one of four coronation anthems composed in 1727 for the coronation of King George II. Comprising four sections, it is celebrated for its grandiose and elegant style, incorporating intricate vocal lines and majestic orchestration, and exemplifies Handel's mastery in crafting music for royal ceremonies. This anthem was sung during the crowning of Queen Caroline, and adapts a text used by Henry Purcell for the 1685 coronation of James II.

When David Heard

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

When David Heard was composed in 1622 and reflects King David's grief over his son's death. Its expressive harmony, emotional depth and sombre beauty make it one of the most moving pieces in the English choral repertoire.

Factum est Silentium

Richard Dering (c.1580-1630)

Dering's *Factum est Silentium* is an exuberant Renaissance motet for the Feast of Michael the Archangel. It is notable for its intricate counterpoint, vibrant polyphony and a rare appearance of a dragon in the text!

Daniel, Daniel Servant of the Lord

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)

Smith Moore's arrangement of an African-American spiritual narrates the story of Daniel in the lion's den. It is celebrated for its dramatic intensity and rhythmic vitality. Known as the "*Dean of Black Women Composers*", Smith Moore trained as a classical pianist, but was mostly known for her vocal compositions, and through her teaching. Living most of her life in Virginia, US, she was a strong advocate for the promotion of black music and art, and received the Virginia Governor's Award in the Arts in 1985.

Zadok the Priest

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

This piece was also composed for the coronation of King George II. Renowned for its grand orchestration and stirring choral entrance, the piece is the epitome of royal celebration and pageantry and has been performed at the coronation of every British monarch since George II.

Pastyme with Good Companye

Attrib. Henry VIII (1491-1547)

Also known as *The King's Ballad*, this piece celebrates the joys of social gatherings. The lively melody and cheerful lyrics capture the spirit of merriment and camaraderie. The oldest known version of this piece is part of the *Henry VIII Manuscript* (c. 1513), a collection of 14 of his works, including two masses, a motet, an anthem, and other songs and ballads. Possibly written for Catherine of Aragon, this is by far the most popular of Henry VIII's works.

The King Shall Rejoice

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

This anthem is the third of four composed by Handel for the coronation of George II and sung as the king was crowned. A setting of the first verses of Psalm 21, the anthem's triumphant character and grandeur convey the majesty of the coronation ceremony.

A Good-night

Richard Rodney Bennett (1936-2012)

A Good-night is part of a collection of pieces commissioned by Paul McCartney to commemorate the death of his wife Linda. Based on a poem by Francis Quarles, this serene and poignant piece is renowned for its tranquil beauty and sense of calm and peace.

Take Him, Earth for Cherishing

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Take Him, Earth for Cherishing was composed by Howells in memory of John F. Kennedy. Set to a text by Prudentius, a Roman Christian poet living in the 4th century, the piece features solemn melodies and rich, complex harmonies, and was written in the late spring of 1964. First performed in the National Gallery of Art in Washington in November that year, it offers a moving tribute to the recently assassinated president, blending grief with hope and reverence.

Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

This majestic piece was the first of the four anthems by Handel to be performed at the coronation of George II, with text taken from Psalm 89 that emphasises recognition of the king as rightful ruler.

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

John Rutter (b.1945)

Rutter's spirited arrangement of this traditional spiritual features lively rhythms and dynamic harmonies, creating a sense of excitement and movement that captures the story of Joshua's victory.

Emma Warren is an award-winning conductor based in London. Emma's current roles include Genesis Conducting Scholar with The Sixteen, Artistic Director of Inchant and Music Director of the High Holborn Chamber Choir. Emma attained a Distinction in her Choral Conducting Master's at the Royal Academy of Music, where she was a scholarship student under Patrick Russell, and subsequently the Meaker Fellow. Upon graduation, Emma was awarded the Sir Thomas Armstrong Prize for Choral Leadership and the Alumni Prize for 'a singularly distinguished musician'. Emma also holds a First Class Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Birmingham, where she majored in Choral Conducting and was mentored by Simon Halsey.

Simon Gregory studied music at Christ Church, Oxford under Simon Preston and Francis Grier and organ with Richard Popplewell, Nicholas Danby and Anne Marsden-Thomas. He retired from teaching in July 2020 at Emanuel School, Wandsworth, where he had been Head of Music and Head of Lower School during his 36-year career there. He is an administrator and accompanist for the Association of British Choral Directors Advanced and Intermediate Choral Conducting courses. As well as giving organ recitals throughout the UK, he has accompanied various choirs in concerts, workshops and at services in many English Cathedrals. He is also a past council member of ABCD and has held posts as Musical Director with several choral societies.

Berrak Dyer studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and then went on to study at the Solti Academy and the National Opera Studio. Berrak was the Musical Director for Pop Up Opera (2014-2018) and has worked with Winslow Hall Opera, University College Opera, Welsh National Opera, Opera Holland Park, Buxton, and Royal Opera House.

Oskars Kalniņš is a fourth generation organist from a family with a 100 year tradition in church music. Highlights include competition wins, performances at Riga Cathedral and studies at the Royal Academy of Music.

Richard Harker is musical director of The Hythe Singers, Hampton Choral Society, Henley Choral Society, Parenthesis and Henley Youth Choir. He is a Chorus Master at Opera Holland Park, and a classroom music teacher. Richard also works extensively as an organist and accompanist. He is currently on sabbatical, returning to the Hythe Singers in January 2025.

The Hythe Singers Easter Concert



Mendelssohn ELIJAH

TASIS School, Thorpe, TW20 8SJ

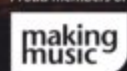
Sunday 6th April 2025

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An Amateur Chamber Choir based in Egham, Surrey
Rehearsals Wednesdays, 7:15pm @ Englefield Green



Free Elijah Open Rehearsal - 8th January 2025

Find out more: info@thehythesingers.com