



The Hythe Singers Summer Concert

Dawn to Dusk

Saturday 5th July - 7:30pm

The Hythe Centre, Egham, TW18 3HD

www.thehythesingers.com

The Hythe Singers is a registered charity, number 1090818



UPCOMING CONCERTS

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“Dawn to Dusk”

The Hythe Singers Summer Concert

Saturday 5th July 2025, 7pm

in the Hythe Centre, Egham

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

Soprano

Melanie Andriesma
Kate Brady
Demelza Coppin
Ann Corfield
Joan Hellyer
Jo Ive
Mary Morris
Myra Owen
Sofie Palmer
Selina Ramdeen
Sophie Rose
Rebecca Saunders
Cathy Villiers
Carolyn Walters

Alto

Vivien Ambery-Smith
Eileen Bruce
Robin Ridehalgh
Brídín Mills
Sarah Morris
Elaine Sturman
Chris Thomas
Susi Thornton
Jenni Whiteside

Tenor

Tony Dowson
David Moncur
Anthony Ranasinghe

Bass

Daniel Brown
Kiran Chatterjee
Rüdiger Schack

Musical Director: Richard Harker

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Josef Rheinberger (1839 – 1901)**Abendlied (1855)**

Composed aged just 15, Abendlied is a setting of a verse from Luke's gospel on the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaeus. Rheinberger studied at the Munich Conservatorium, and rose to be appointed court conductor in 1877. Amongst his many music students were Richard Strauss and Engelbert Humperdinck.

*Bleib bei uns,
denn es will Abend werden,
und der Tag hat sich geneiget.*

*Abide with us:
for it is toward evening,
and the day is far spent.*

Sir James MacMillan CBE (b. 1959)**O Radiant Dawn (2008)**

MacMillan was born in North Ayrshire and studied composition at Edinburgh University. He came to prominence through the premiere of *The Confession of Isobel Gowdie* at the 1990 Proms: Gowdie was executed for witchcraft in the 17th century. *O Radiant Dawn* is from his *Strathclyde Motets*, written between 2005 and 2010 for the Strathclyde University Chamber Choir.

Annabel Rooney (b. 1973)**Round Me Falls the Night (2021)**

Soloist: Sophie Rose

A cellist in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, Rooney read music at Christ's College, Cambridge, and began composing in 2011.

Sir Arthur Sullivan MVO (1842 – 1900)**The Long Day Closes (1868)**

The Long Day Closes was written by Sullivan before he began his collaboration with W.S. Gilbert. With moving lyrics by Henry Chorley, a prolific author, painter, critic and gossip columnist, the song was often sung at the funerals of members of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company.

Sir William Schwenck Gilbert (1836 – 1911) / Sir Arthur Sullivan**Madrigal (from the Mikado)**

Melanie Andriesma, Susi Thornton, Anthony Ranasinghe, Rüdiger Schack

The Mikado – the ninth opera written by Gilbert and Sullivan – opened in 1885, ran for 672 performances, and remains one of their most successful to this day. The

madrigal *Brightly dawns our wedding day* marks the wedding celebration of Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo.

Trad. arr. Sir John Rutter (b. 1945)

Morning has Broken

Demelza Coppin, Myra Owen, Robin Ridehalgh

A setting of the hymn tune *Bunessan*, a Scottish folk melody first associated with the Christmas carol, *Child in the Manger*.

Traditional

In The Gloaming

Rebecca Saunders, Carolyn Walters, Jenni Whiteside

Antonín Dvořák (1841 – 1904) Song to the Moon (from Rusalka)

Ann Corfield

Rusalka is Dvořák's ninth and most successful opera. The *Song to the Moon* is the most popular excerpt, in which Rusalka, a water nymph, sings to the witch Ježibaba of her love for a prince who often hunts near her lake, a tale inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*.

Ēriks Ešenvalds (b. 1977)

Northern Lights (2012)

Soloist: Anthony Ranasinghe

A setting of a Latvian folk song with additional texts taken from the journals of Charles Francis Hall and Fridtjof Nansen, two nineteenth century Arctic explorers. The folk song references Latvian mythology, in which the Northern Lights are the souls of fallen soldiers who still fight to this day.

*Cik naksnīnas pret zīemeli redzēj' kāvus
karojam, Ē, redzēj' kāvus karojam;*

*On how many nights against the North
wind did we see the Northern Lights
fighting?*

*Karo kāvi pie debesu, vedīs karus mūs'
zemē; Ē, vedīs karus mūs' zemē.*

*The Northern Lights are fighting in the
sky, they will bring wars on our land.*

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

Northern Lights (2008)

Born near Oslo, Gjeilo studied at the Juillard School in New York, and now lives in California. Inspired by the Aurora Borealis, the words of this piece are taken from the *Song of Solomon*.

*Pulchra es amica mea, suavis et decora
filia Jerusalem,*

*Pulchra es amica mea, suavis et decora
sicut Jerusalem, terribilis ut castrorum
acies ordinata.*

*Averte oculos tuos a me quia ipsi me
avolare fecerunt.*

Thou art beautiful, O my love, sweet
and beautiful daughter of Jerusalem,
Thou art beautiful, O my love, sweet
and comely as Jerusalem, terrible as
an army set in array.

Turn away thy eyes from me,
for they have made me flee away.

Samuel Barber (1910 – 1981)

Sure on this Shining Night (1938)

One of the most celebrated composers of the 20th century, Barber is perhaps best known for his *Adagio for Strings* (1936), which was remixed by Tiësto to become one of the greatest dance tracks of all time. The words of *Sure on this Shining Night* are taken from James Agee's poem "*Descriptions of Elysium*".

INTERVAL

Including a Raffle in aid of the Mayor of Runnymede's Charities:
the Runnymede Foodbank, and Egham Constellations - a disabled swimming club.

Gerald Finzi (1901 - 1956)

My Spirit Sang All Day (1939)

An intensely private man, Finzi's overriding preoccupations were with the transience of life and loss of innocence. His music focusses on the essence of the text without over-embellishment, and convey a powerful simplicity.

My Spirit Sang All Day is from a set of seven part-songs of the poetry of Robert Bridges, who was Poet Laureate from 1913 to 1930, and is known for his work writing, collecting and translating hymns such as *All my hope on God is founded*.

Traditional arr. Harker

Suo Gân

Soloists: Carolyn Walters, Rebecca Saunders, Demelza Coppin

Suo Gân is a traditional Welsh lullaby most notably sung during the Christmas season as Mary's lullaby to the baby Jesus. The song's title simply means lullaby (*suo* = lull; *cân* = song).

*Huna blentyn yn fy mynwses,
Clyd a chynnes y dyw hon;
Breichiau mam sy'n dynn am danat,
Cariad mam sy dan fy mron;
Ni chaiff dim amhar u'th gyntun,
Ni wna undyn â thi gam;
Huna'n dawel, annwyl blentyn,
Huna'n fwoyn ar fron dy fam.*

*Paid ag ofni, dim ond deilen
Gura, gura ar y ddôr;
Paid ag ofni, ton fach unig
Sua, suar lan y môr;
Huna blentyn, nid oes yma
Ddim i roddi iti fraw;
Gwena'n dawel yn fy mynwses
Ar yr engyl gwynion draw.*

Sleep, my darling, sleep so sweetly,
Warm and tender in my arms,
I will guard you, I will hold you,
Safe against the world's alarms.
Soon enough will come the morning,
Soon will come the dawning ray;
Now you sleep in true contentment Till
the breaking of the day.

Do not fear the breath of winter
Brushing leaves across the floor;
Storms will come and tempests gather
Yet will not come near your door.
Sleep, my darling, none shall harm you
As you slumber, heav'nly blessed;
While across the starry heavens
Holy angels guard your rest.

Traditional arr. Hugh S. Robertson

Dream Angus

Soloists: Joan Hellyer, Cathy Villiers, Brídín Mills

A traditional Scottish lullaby from the mid to late 19th century. Angus is the Celtic god of love, youth, beauty, and sleep.

Traditional

My Lagan Love

Brídín Mills

A traditional Irish air, first collected in 1903 in County Donegal. The Lagan referred to in the title is a stream that flows into Lough Swilly in County Donegal.

Pat Ballard (1899 – 1960)

Mr Sandman

The Close Shaves

Written in 1954 and recorded and covered many times, the song references the mythical 'Sandman', a character in Germanic and Scandinavian folklore that puts people to sleep and inspires beautiful dreams by sprinkling magical sand into their eyes.

Randy Newman (b. 1943) arr. Sir Richard Rodney Bennett (1936 – 2012)
Dayton Ohio 1903

The Close Shaves & Friends

While the song evokes a simpler, more innocent time, it may not be a coincidence that the Wright Brothers' first flight took place in December 1903, in Dayton, Ohio – marking the dawn of a transition to a new world.

Thomas Augustine Arne (1710 – 1778) **The Glittering Sun**

Kate Brady

Arne is best known as the composer of *Rule, Britannia!*. The Glittering Sun is taken from Arne's cantata for High Voice and Piano, *The Morning*.

Jerry Bock (1928 – 2010) **Sunrise, Sunset (1964)**

From *Fiddler on the Roof* (1964), this song is performed at the wedding of Tzeitel, the oldest daughter of Tevye and Golde.

Henry Mancini (1924 – 1994) arr. Howard Wallace **Moon River (1961)**

Moon River was originally performed by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 film *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, winning the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

The Kinks arr. Harker **Waterloo Sunset (1967)**

Written and produced by the Kinks' frontman, Ray Davis, the song was originally intended to be *Liverpool Sunset*, but the Liverpool theme was scrapped after the Beatles released *Penny Lane*.

Billy Joel (b. 1949) arr. Lawson **Goodnight My Angel (1994)**

Lullaby (Goodnight, My Angel) was the fourth single from Joel's *River of Dreams* album, and was inspired by Alexa Ray Joel, his daughter.

Richard Harker (Musical Director)

Richard is musical director of The Hythe Singers, Henley Choral Society and Henley Youth Choir. He is a Chorus Master at Opera Holland Park and works as a music teacher in schools. Richard is an organist and accompanist, and graduated with an MA in Choral Conducting from the Royal Academy of Music. Richard read music at, and was organ scholar of, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

At Opera Holland Park Richard has worked on *Pagliacci*, *La Bohème*, *La Traviata*, *Eugene Onegin* (Assistant Conductor & Chorus Master), *Carmen*, *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*; *Manon Lescaut* and *Un ballo in maschera* (Chorus Master), *Ruddigore* and *Pirates of Penzance* (Chorus Master and Assistant Repetiteur). Other operatic engagements have included *L'Elisir d'amore* for West Green House Opera (Chorus Master), *HMS Pinafore* for Windsor and Eton Opera (Conductor), Terterian's *Fire Ring* at the Grimeborn Festival with London Armenian Opera (Conductor).

Programme: Daniel Brown

Acknowledgements

The Hythe Singers is grateful for the support of the Humphrey Richardson Taylor Charitable Trust, without which this concert would not be possible.



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Egham Choral presents

A Summer at Sea

Saturday 12th July 2025 at 5pm

St. John's Church, Egham, TW20 9HE

Conductor: Hugh Beckwith

Join us as we perform 'Songs of the Fleet' by Stanford and
'Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo' by Horovitz & Flanders,
with piano accompaniment and baritone soloist.



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the hythe singers autumn concert

29 nov 2025 | st. mary's church, thorpe

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howells | victoria

requiem

Cost: £10
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