



The Orpheus Voice

SUMMER SOIRÉE

It seems a long time ago now, but our invitation-only musical soirée at the Tithe Barn in July turned out to be a great success.

The acoustic in the barn was excellent as was the piano, and although the lighting was a little dim our newly acquired book lights solved that problem (thank you Susan Anderson). Our new folders looked very smart too. We may well consider the venue for a public concert in the future, although we shall have to ensure that Andrew gets a proper piano stool next time!

Congratulations to all those who had volunteered to perform solo items: Wendy Goddard, Meg York, Martyn Glass and Keith Jones.



Photo: John Wheaver

The food was amazing: thank you to everyone who contributed and a HUGE thank you to Ros Jones for organising the meal and making all the desserts - they were scrumptious!

All in all a wonderful way to finish our choir year.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 15th Dec 2018, 3.00 pm
Christmas Concert
with Park Junior School Choir
URC, High Street, Wellingborough
Tickets £5 (Friends £4, students and accompanied children free)

Monday 7th Jan 2019, 7.00 pm
AGM
followed by rehearsal
Park Junior School

Saturday 19th Jan 2019 (tbc)
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
Come and Sing event
Park Junior School

Saturday 18th May 2019, 7.30 pm
Rutter's Magnificat
and Vivaldi's Gloria
with Michelle Todd (soprano)
and the Orpheus Players
St Barnabas Church
College Street, Wellingborough

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND MINCE PIES

After last year's successful Christmas Concert with Park Junior School Choir, we are delighted that the children will be joining us again this year.



We shall be singing a mixture of Hollywood Christmas songs from the 1940s and '50s and traditional carols, some on our own and some with the children, who will also be singing solo items.

There will also be plenty of opportunities for the audience to join in. Please don't forget to bring along some mince pies or sausage rolls for after the concert.



AN INTERVIEW WITH - LESLEY HARTNELL, ALTO



Lesley Hartnell has been a member of the Orpheus Choir for about 17 years and was our Public Relations Officer from 2010-2012. Like soprano Rebecca Buck, she is the second generation of her family to sing with the Orpheus.

Where were you born and brought up?

I was born in Nailsea, near Bristol but we moved to Northamptonshire when I was two. Initially we lived with my Dad's Mum and Dad in Little Harrowden. Then we moved to Wellingborough when Dad got a job at Chapmans.

Where did you go to school?

I went to Croyland Infants and Junior Schools and then to Wellingborough Girls' High School, which became Wrenn School when I was in the third year (year 9 nowadays).

What did you do when you left school?

After A levels I started teacher training at Nene College but switched to a degree course and left with a BSc in Combined Studies, majoring in Maths, in 1983.

And after college?

I got married! I met Richard whilst at college. Our relationship blossomed at the pool table in the Students' Union!

Can you tell us something about your subsequent career?

After college my career was full-time motherhood. I started helping at my children's school, Redwell and then became a teaching assistant there in 2000. I have been there ever since. I love watching how the children change and develop over the years they are at the school and helping them to

understand something they have been struggling with in a lesson.

Did you belong to a choir when you were young?

Yes. I was always in the choir at school and I was in the choir at the United Reformed Church in Wellingborough.

When and how did you come to join the Orpheus?

My Mum (Gwyneth Trenwith) joined the choir soon after we moved to Wellingborough. I can remember coming to the Christmas concerts when I was a child. I loved them - especially the Cowboy Carol! My Dad, Eddie, joined some years later. After I got married and had children I decided it would be good to be in a choir again, so I came along with Mum and Dad. I joined in the last year that Alan Chesters was in charge.

Do you have any special memories of your time with the choir?

Performing Verdi's Requiem at the Castle Theatre in 2006, particularly the 'Dies Irae', which is one of my favourite pieces of music.

Can you tell us a little about your family?

My husband, Richard is self-employed. He does property maintenance and has done work for various choir members from time to time! Our daughter, Emma, lives in Plymouth with her husband Tim and 19-month-old Joshua so we are enjoying the delights of being grandparents. Our son, Iain, has just finished his PhD in neuroscience and has moved to Southampton to start a new job researching into Alzheimer's Disease.

What are your hobbies/interests outside the choir?

I am a keen gardener and also enjoy doing conservation work at Glamis Wood and Meadow in Wellingborough with other volunteers. Fairly recently I have taken up watercolour painting and am enjoying the challenge of trying to create something that actually looks as I intend it to!

Music Quiz

With our performance of *The Armed Man* coming up on this historic Remembrance Day here's a quiz with a theme of 'Peace'.

1. Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem* was commissioned for the consecration of the new Coventry Cathedral in 1962. In addition to the traditional Latin texts Britten used the poems of which First World War poet?
2. Which 1965 song composed by Pete Seeger and recorded by the Byrds ends with the line: "A time for peace, I swear it's not too late"?
3. Since *The Armed Man*, Karl Jenkins has composed another choral work on the theme of peace featuring the words of Gandhi, Martin Luther King, the Dalai Lama and Nelson Mandela among others. What is it called?
4. Who wrote the lines: "How many times must the cannon balls fly / Before they're forever banned" in 1963?
5. "Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace", set to music by John Rutter among others is also known by another name. What is it?
6. Who urged us to "Give Peace a Chance" in 1969?
7. Which of the planets was the 'Bringer of Peace' in Gustav Holst's suite *The Planets*?
8. Which American singer told us "Peace will come" in 1972?
9. Whose *Pastoral Symphony* composed in 1922 was inspired by his time with the Royal Army Medical Corps in France during the First World War?
10. Who was Buffy Sainte-Marie singing about in her 1964 protest song that included the line: "He's fighting for Democracy and fighting for the Reds / He says it's for the peace of all."?

Answers on page 4

KARL JENKINS

As we shall be performing Karl Jenkins' 'The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace' on Remembrance Sunday, I thought I would include a short biography, largely taken from the Classic FM website.

Karl Jenkins was born in Penclawdd, Gower, Wales in 1944 and was taught to play the piano by his father. He later studied music at Cardiff University before finishing his musical education at the Royal Academy of Music, London.

Jenkins started out as a jazz musician, initially making his mark in the "Jazz Polls" of the 1960s and 1970s when he co-founded the group Nucleus 1969. Regularly playing at the renowned Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, the group went on to record three albums and win first prize at the Montreux Jazz Festival.

However, his classical work 'Adiemus', which was commissioned in the mid 1990s for a television commercial for Delta Airlines, topped the classical charts around the globe and brought him to the world's attention.

Jenkins has won many awards in the field of advertising music with credits for Cheltenham and Gloucester (remember the young boy pearl fishing in the 1999 adverts?), Levi's, British Airways, Renault, Volvo and Pepsi to name but a few.

In 2002 HRH The Prince of Wales commissioned a double harp concerto 'Over the Stone' for the Royal



Harpist, Catrin Finch and her mother-in-law and former tutor, Elinor Bennett, accompanied by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. His concertante (a concerto involving more than one soloist) 'Quirk', for percussion, piano, flute and orchestra, commissioned by the London Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Sir Colin Davies, was premiered in February 2005, as part of its centenary season.

In March 2008, Karl Jenkins released a brilliant recording of his new 'Stabat Mater' - a 13th century Roman Catholic text which has been set to music by many composers, among them Haydn, Dvorak, Vivaldi and Verdi, and his 'Gloria' was premiered at the Royal Albert Hall in 2010.

Jenkins was awarded a CBE for services to music in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 2010.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Rita Farr has very kindly agreed to organise a Christmas raffle again this year and tickets will be on sale before and during rehearsals.

The draw will take place at the AGM on 7th January - don't forget to bring along a prize!

The raffle usually raises about £200 for choir funds, so do please support it.

DATA PROTECTION

In line with new government legislation the committee agreed a data protection policy in June. You can view this on our website. Scroll down the Home page and you will find the link on the left-hand side.

WELCOME . . .

. . . to Alison Wilson (soprano), Lindsey Walker (alto) and Andrew Pollard (tenor).

Alison joined us after attending our 'Come and Sing' in May. Andrew saw the publicity for the event and was unable to come on the day but joined us later in the term.

WITTLICH VISIT

As those who were hoping to go to Wittlich next September are already aware, we have been unable to put together a balanced choir for the visit: we have eight men and six ladies, with only two sopranos.

After discussion by the committee, Keith has gone back to the German choir suggesting that the two choirs sing together, as we used to with the French choir.

This would involve our respective

musical directors agreeing the music and more time for rehearsals before the visit. We have therefore suggested June 2020 as a possible date.

We will keep you posted.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



Photo: John Wheaver

Rehearsal in the Methodist Hall in 2011

This photo was taken during a rehearsal shortly after David Bray (on the front row in the black t-shirt) became our musical director, when we used to meet in the Methodist Hall on Great Park Street.

Front row, left to right: Roger Buckley, Barry Moulang (who is our webmaster, and with his wife Pat has just returned to us to take part in *The Armed Man*), Pat Waller, Pat Moulang, Elinor Brian?, Nes Penn, Sue Williams, Jan Theedom, David Bray.

Second row: far left Brian Draper, (just visible seated is Bob Timpson), then David Cottrell, Bridget Lewis, Eileen Fox, Ursula Isaksen, Lesley Hartnell, Cath Fuller.

At the back: Jenny Sullivan, Joan Lewry and Sue Donnelly.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES RE: CAROL SINGING

We Three Kings

*We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star...*

Whilst the gift of gold is still considered acceptable - as it may be redeemed at a later date through such organisations as 'cash for gold' etc - gifts of frankincense and myrrh are not appropriate due to the potential risk of oils and fragrances causing allergic reactions.

A suggested gift alternative would be to make a donation to a worthy cause in the recipient's name or perhaps give a gift voucher.

We would not advise that the traversing kings rely on navigation by stars in order to reach their destinations and suggest the use of RAC route finder or satellite navigation, which will provide the quickest route and advice regarding fuel consumption.

Please note as per guidelines from the RSPCA, the camels carrying the three kings of Orient will require regular food and rest breaks.

Facemasks for the three kings are also advisable due to the likelihood of dust from the camels' hooves.

Don't forget, if you have any news items, articles or suggestions for the newsletter, please email them to the editor, Maureen Williams:



maureen@thejetty.eclipse.co.uk

Answers to the quiz

1. Wilfred Owen
2. Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything there is a Season)
3. The Peacemakers
4. Bob Dylan in Blowin' in the Wind
5. The Prayer of St Francis
6. John Lennon and Yoko Ono or the Plastic Ono Band
7. Venus
8. Tom Paxton
9. Ralph Vaughan Williams
10. The Universal Soldier

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