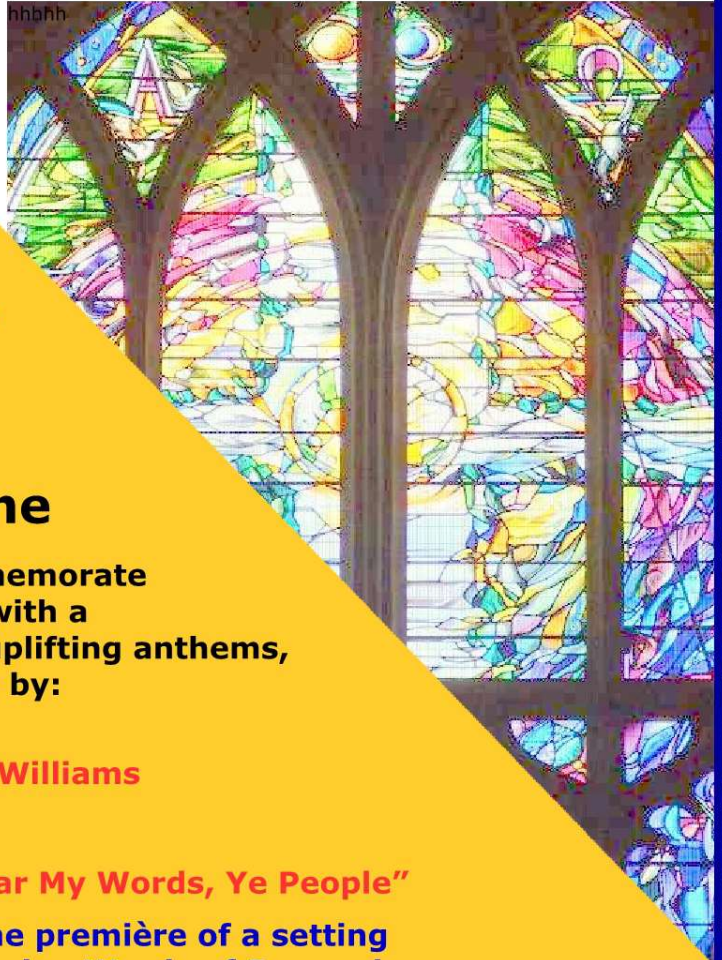




Wareham Choral Society Autumn Concert

Saturday 4th November 7pm 2017
Lady St Mary Church, Wareham



Conductor
Nigel Groome
Organist
John Radford

Programme

Join us to commemorate
Remembrance with a
programme of uplifting anthems,
including works by:

Purcell
Ralph Vaughan Williams
Peter Aston
John Joubert
and Parry - "Hear My Words, Ye People"

and featuring the première of a setting
of the British Legion Words of Remembrance
"For the Fallen" by young composer
Nils Greenhow, specially commissioned by WCS

"Wareham's choir since 1947"
www.freewebs.com/warehamcs

Programme

Choir **Selection from Five Mystical Songs** **R Vaughan Williams**
Words by George Herbert

*Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing: My God and King.
The heavens are not too high, His praise may thither flie;
The earth is not too low, His praises there may grow.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing: My God and King.
The Church with psalms must shout, No doore can keep them out;
But above all, the heart Must bear the longest part.*

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath:
Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life, as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a
feast: Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his
guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move:
Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joyes in love.*

*Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise without delayes,
Who takes thee by the hand, that thou likewise with him may'st rise;
That, as his death calcined thee to dust, His life may make thee gold,
and much more, just.*

*Awake, my lute, and struggle for thy part with all thy art.
The crosse taught all wood to resound his name, who bore the same.
His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key Is the best to
celebrate this most high day.*

*Consort both heart and lute, and twist a song pleasant and long;
Or since all musick is but three parts vied and multiplied.
O let thy blessed Spirit bear a part, And make up our defects with his
sweet art.*

Quartet **Ave Verum**

William Byrd

*Ave verum corpus, natum
de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.*

*O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie,
O Iesu, fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen.*

*(Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a foretaste [of the
Heavenly banquet]
in the trial of death!
O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen)*

Quartet Sing We Merrily

Adrian Batten

Sing we merrily unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob.

Take the song, bring hither the tablet: the merry harp with the lute.

Blow up the trumpet in the new moon: e'en in the time appointed.

And upon our solemn feast day. For this was made a statute for Israel: and a law of the God of Jacob.

Choir Thou knowest, Lord, the Secrets of our Hearts Henry Purcell

*Words from the Book of Common Prayer,
1662*

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee. Amen.

Choir So They Gave Their Bodies to the commonwealth Peter Aston

*Words from Pericles Funeral Oration
(Athens 431BC)*

So they gave their bodies to the commonwealth, and received praise that will never die, and a home in the minds of men. Their story lives on, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men's lives.

Choir For the Fallen Nils Greenhow

Words by Laurence Binyon

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.

Interval (refreshments will be served)

Choir O Lorde, the maker of al thing John Joubert

Words by King Henry VIII

O Lorde, the maker of al thing, we pray thee nowe in this evening, us to defende, through thy mercy, from al deceite of our en'my.

Let neither us deluded be, Good Lorde, with dreame or phantasy, our hearte wakyng in Thee thou kepe, that we in sinne fal not on slepe.

O Faher, throughe Thy blessed Sonne, grant us this oure peticion, to whom with the Holy Ghost alwaies, in heav'n and yearth be laude and praise.

Choir View Me, Lord
Words by Thomas Campion

Richard Lloyd

View me, Lord, a work of thine. Shall I then lie drown'd in night? Might thy grace in me but shine, I should seem made all of light. Cleanse me, Lord, that I may kneel At thine altar, pure and white. They that once thy mercies feel gaze no more on earth's delight. Worldly joys, like shadows, fade When the heavenly light appears. But the covenants thou hast made, endless, know not days or years. In thy word, Lord is my trust, to thy mercies fast I fly. Though I am but clay and dust, yet thy grace can lift me high.

Quartet Jesus, Grant Me this, I Pray

Percy Whitlock

*1 Jesu, grant me this, I pray,
ever in thy heart to stay;
let me evermore abide
hidden in thy wounded side.*

*2 If the world or Satan lay
tempting snares about my way,
I am safe when I abide
in thy heart and wounded side.*

*3 If the flesh, more dangerous still,
tempt my soul to deeds of ill,
naught I fear when I abide
in thy heart and wounded side.*

*4 Death will come one day to me;
Jesu, cast me not from thee:
dying let me still abide
in thy heart and wounded side.*

Choir and Quartet Hear My Words Ye People
Words from the liturgy & H W Baker

C.H.H. Parry

Hear my words, ye people, give ear unto me all ye that have knowledge.

Let us choose to us judgement, let us know amongst ourselves what is good.

Behold, God is mighty, and despiseth not any, He is mighty in strength and wisdom. Behold, He is great and we know him not, and neither can the number of his years be searched out.

The Lord's seat is in heaven. Clouds and darkness are round about Him, righteousness and judgement are the habitation of His seat. He decketh Himself with light as with a garment, and spreadeth out the heavens like a curtain. He layeth the beams of His chambers in the waters, and maketh the clouds His chariots, and walketh upon the wings of the wind. He bowed the heavens, and came down, and it was dark, dark under his feet. He rode on the Cherubim, and did fly, and came flying upon the wings of the wind. The lord's seat is in heaven, His kingdom ruleth overall.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is on them that fear Him, and upon them that put their trust in his mercy. To deliver their soul from death, and to feed them in the time of dearth, our soul hath patiently tarried for

the Lord, for He is our help and our shield.

He delivered the poor in his affliction, the fatherless and him that had none to help him. He shall bind up the broken-hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captives, and comfort to those that mourn.

He shall give them beauty for ashes; the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth things that are sown to spring forth before all nations.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, He hath not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness, for look how high the heaven is in comparison with the earth, so great is his mercy towards them that fear Him: look how wide also the east is from the west, so far hath He set our sins from us.

O praise ye the Lord, praise Him upon earth

In tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth

Praise Him who has brought you His grace from above

Praise Him who has taught you to sing of His love

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song

To Him be outpoured all ages along.

For love in creation, For heaven restored

For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord. Amen

Closing Remarks

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958) composer whose works include operas, ballets, chamber music, secular and religious vocal pieces and orchestral compositions, including nine symphonies, written over nearly fifty years. His output was strongly influenced by Tudor music and English folk-song, and marked a decisive break in British music from its German-dominated style of the 19th century. He wrote many works for amateur and student performance. His vocal works include hymns, folk-song arrangements and large-scale choral pieces.

The mystical songs set some poems by **George Herbert**, (1593 – 1633), a Welsh-born poet, orator and Anglican priest. who is recognised as one of the foremost British devotional lyricists. In his mid-thirties he gave up his secular ambitions and took holy orders, spending the rest of his life as the rector of the little parish of St Andrews Church, Lower Bemerton, Salisbury. Never a healthy man, he died of consumption at the age of 39.

William Byrd (c.1539/40 or 1543 – 1623), was an English composer of the Renaissance. He produced sacred music for use in Anglican services, although he became a Roman Catholic in later life and wrote Catholic sacred music as well.

Adrian Batten (c. 1591 – c. 1637) was an organist and Anglican church composer. He is credited with the preservation of many pieces of church

music of the time, compiled in the Batten Organbook. Unfortunately, it contains few of Batten's own works, so, although he was a prolific composer, much of his own music has been lost. Accordingly, Batten is less well known than some of his contemporaries.

Henry Purcell (1659 - 1695) is generally considered to be one of the greatest English composers; no other native-born English composer approached his fame until Edward Elgar, Ralph Vaughan Williams, William Walton and Benjamin Britten in the 20th century. Purcell is said to have been composing at nine years old, but the earliest work that can be certainly identified as his is an ode for the King's birthday, written in 1670, when he was 11.

Peter Aston (1938 – 2013) was an English composer, conductor and academic at the University of East Anglia, where he became Emeritus Professor of composition. Although best known for his liturgical choral works, his output included chamber music for voices and instruments, orchestral works and an opera for children.

His anthem *So They Gave Their Bodies to the Commonwealth* sets words by **Pericles** (c. 495 – 429 BC), who was a prominent and influential Greek statesman, orator and general of during Athens' Golden Age.

Pericles had a profound influence on Athenian society. He promoted the arts and literature also fostered Athenian democracy. He started an ambitious building programme responsible for most of the surviving structures on the Acropolis (including the Parthenon).

Nils Greenhow 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. In December 2014, his settings of *Preces & Responses* were premiered live on BBC Radio 3's Choral Evensong and he is often commissioned to compose and arrange for voices. He is currently studying at the Royal College of Music.

His setting of the famous words of Remembrance has been specially commissioned by WCS.

The words form one stanza of a poem "For the Fallen" written in 1914 by **Laurence Binyon** (1869 – 1943), an English poet, dramatist and art scholar. The *Ode of Remembrance* is recited at Remembrance Sunday services in the UK and is an integral part of Anzac Day services in Australia and New Zealand and of Remembrance Day services in Canada.

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young.
Straight of limb, true of eyes, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*

*They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.*

John Joubert (1927 -) is a British composer of South African descent, perhaps best known for his choral music, particularly the carols *Torches* and *There is No Rose of Such Virtue*, (a setting of medieval words, which we sang at our Christmas concert last December), and the anthem *O Lorde, the Maker of Al Thing*, which we sing tonight. The words of this anthem are ascribed to King Henry VIII (well, nobody was going to argue with him, were they?).

Richard Lloyd (1933 -) is a British organist and composer of more than 500 pieces. He has held positions as organist and choir master at Hereford Cathedral and at Durham Cathedral. In 1985 he became deputy headmaster at Salisbury Cathedral school. John Radford recalls him as the examiner for John's piano examination!

His anthem sets words by **Thomas Campion** (1567 – 1620), who was an English composer, poet, and physician. He wrote over a hundred lute songs, masques for dancing, and an authoritative technical treatise on music.

Percy Whitlock (1903-1946) was born in Chatham, Kent, and studied composition at the Royal College of Music with Stanford and Vaughan Williams. He later worked as an organist in Kent and in Bournemouth, and composed much of his orchestral output for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra.

His anthem sets the words of a 17th century hymn *Dignare me, O Jesu, rogo te*, translated from the Latin by **H W Baker** (1821 – 1877). Baker was an Anglican clergyman who wrote many well-known hymns and was responsible for the first edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*.

C H H Parry (1848 – 1918) is best known for the choral song *Jerusalem*, his 1902 setting for the coronation anthem *I was glad*, the choral and orchestral ode *Blest Pair of Sirens*, and the hymn tune *Repton*, which sets the words *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*. His orchestral works include five symphonies and a set of Symphonic Variations. He was born in

Bournemouth.

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.



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 for The Broadstone Choir and The Allen Singers.

Our **quartet of soloists Fiona Hunt (soprano), Lizzie Wilson (mezzo soprano), Michael Leale (tenor) and Paul Bonter (bass)** all sing at St. Matthew's, Westminster.

WCS has been in existence since 1947. We continue 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.

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, and our guest quartet. Thanks also to Lady St. Mary Church for allowing us to perform here.