

Wareham Choral Society "Music for Remembrance" Sat 4th November 7pm 2023 Lady St Mary Church Wareham BH20 4ND

Patron Rt Hon David Mellor KC

Conductor Hazel Ricketts

Organist Paul Ellis



# Jenkins -The Armed Man (choral suite) Fauré - Requiem

For their financial support for this concert, thanks to: The King's Arms, Stoborough https://thekingsarms-stoborough.co.uk/



https://www.warehamchoral.uk email warehamchoral@gmail.com

#### FOREWORD by our Chairman Teresa Rekowska

On 11<sup>th</sup> November, the nation will pay its respects to the fallen as Remembrance Day is marked. The members of the armed forces who gave their lives across many conflicts through the years will be honoured, as will those who survived and others who continue to support them.

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die" – Thomas Campbell.

I am very pleased to welcome you to our beautiful and poignant tribute concert 'Music for Remembrance', performed by Wareham Choral Society, enthusiastically conducted by Hazel Ricketts and accompanied by Paul Ellis. Our thanks to David Stewart, a WCS chorister and very accomplished bass soloist.

We are very proud that Wareham Choral society has been Wareham's choir since 1947 and performing in the lovely Lady St Mary Church, in its spiritual home of Wareham. I am very passionate that we can continue to bring beautiful music to our community and hope you enjoy this emotional performance tonight.

Thank you to The King's Arms Stoborough for supporting this concert financially. If you would like to become our sponsor or make a donation, please email us warehamchoral@gmail.com. Our thanks to our Patron, Rt Hon David Mellor KC for his support.

Please note that our next concert is a Celebration of Christmas to be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in St John the Baptist Church, Bere Regis BH20 7HA. This will be a short (1-hour) family-friendly concert of Christmas music and carols for choir and audience, with FREE admission, so do please join us then!

#### Our singers tonight are:

**Sopranos:** Eve Baker, Teresa Larby, Jill Marsden, Lenka Myroniukova, Judith Price, Teresa Rekowska, Katie Ricketts.

**Altos:** Maureen Bayliss, Rachel Cude, Nancy Gibson, Margaret Harris, Yvonne Hunter, Janet Jones, Carol Madgwick, Mary Mathers.

**Tenors:** Matt Dietz, Mike Hampton, Neil Hirst, Bob Newnham, Sarah Welton, Brian Wilkins.

**Basses:** Gideon Daly, Ian Grocott, Mark Lapper, Matthew Lewis, David Kemp, David Stewart.



We have chosen to intersperse the movements of The Armed Man with some war poems. There will be a short silence for reflection before each poem. You can find the text of each poem, together with brief biographical notes about each poet, on our website <u>www.warehamchoral.uk.</u>

The words for each piece can be found on pages 6-7.

#### WELCOME

#### KARL JENKINS - THE ARMED MAN - CHORAL SUITE

Choir	Kyrie			
<b>Reading</b> read by Margaret Harris <b>Choir</b>	September 1918	Amy Lowell (1874 – 1925)		
	Sanctus			
<b>Reading</b> read by Matt Dietz	Anthem for Doomed Youth	Wilfred Owen (1893 - 1918)		
Choir	Hymn Before Action			
<b>Reading</b> read by the Mayor <b>Choir</b>	Fallen	Alice Corbin (1881 – 1949)		
	Benedictus			
<b>Reading</b> read by Katie Ricketts <b>Choir</b>	May 1915	Charlotte Mew (1869 - 1928)		
	Agnus Dei			
	INTERVAL			
FAURÉ - REQUIEM				
Choir	Introit - Kyrie			
Choir & baritone soloist Offertorium David Stewart				
Choir	Sanctus			
Soloist Hazel Ricketts	Pie Jesus			
Choir	Agnus Dei			
Choir & baritone soloist Libera Me David Stewart				
Choir	In Paradisum			
CLOSING WORDS				

#### "Music for Remembrance" Programme Notes

Our Remembrance concert features two very well known but contrasting pieces of music, the "Mass for Peace" by Karl Jenkins written in 2000, and the "Requiem" written by Gabriel Fauré.

The first half of the concert consists of the "Choral Suite" version of Karl Jenkin's work. This is a more compact version consisting of the most well known choral movements. These are also the sections taken directly from the words used for a church Mass, along with the very moving "Hymn before Action" which sets words of a much longer poem by Rudyard Kipling. The full work was written to commemorate the transition of one century to the next and was commissioned by the Royal Armouries. It is dedicated to the victims of the Kosova conflict which was unfolding at the time of composition.

Although composed to give a reflection of "the most war-torn and destructive century in human history", its message of peace is sadly needed now as much as ever. We have chosen to perform this work in a slightly unusual manner tonight, with some silences and a poem between each movement to allow us all to reflect on both the horrors of war, and the message of peace of this work. Please respect the silence and use this time for your own thoughts.

The actual music within "The Armed Man" is, unsurprisingly, at times quite 'military' in style with a percussive accompaniment reminiscent of drums and military bands. Equally at times the music is calm and ethereal with beautiful melodies passed between the different voices. Perhaps the most notable feature of this is the way that the music can quickly change from the peaceful melodies to the loud rhythmic driving sections, and back again.

The Requiem by Fauré is an almost complete contrast to this piece. Fauré, as an organist, was very familiar with music for funeral services including, of course, the Requiem Mass. There has been much conjecture about whether the composition of this piece was associated with the death of first his father and then his mother, but this appears to have been denied by Fauré himself. What is definite is that it went through many different revisions of both movements set and particularly forces used for accompaniment between its first composition in 1887 and its publication around 1900.

In its sequence of movements the Requiem departs significantly from the standard liturgical text. Fauré included two new sections, the lyrical Pie Jesu and the transcendent In Paradisum, with its soaring vocal line and murmuring harp accompaniment. He also omitted the Dies Irae and Tuba Mirum - for most composers an opportunity to exploit to the full the dramatic possibilities of all the available choral and orchestral forces. Consequently the prevailing mood is one of peacefulness and serenity, and the work has often been described, quite justly, as a Requiem without the Last Judgement.

Of the many settings of the Requiem, this is arguably the most widely loved. In comparison with the large-scale masterpieces of Verdi, Brahms and Berlioz, Faure's setting seems gentle and unassuming, yet it is this very quality of understatement which contributes so eloquently to the work's universal appeal. Whether the Requiem

is performed in one of its orchestral versions or simply with organ accompaniment, it is impossible not to be moved by the ethereal beauty of this humble masterpiece.

Programme notes by Hazel Ricketts, with some material, with permission, from John Bawden.

**Hazel Ricketts** studied music at the University of Surrey, with piano as her first instrument, and gained her MA in Musicology from the University of Southampton. She has sung in choirs since the age of 6, started accompanying them and leading occasional rehearsals at the age of 14.

During her MA she was appointed Director of Music at Holy Trinity Church in Fareham, and has been regularly conducting choirs ever since.



She also plays the clarinet, and in recent years has rediscovered the organ – now studying with John Challenger (Salisbury Cathedral) and achieved her CRCO diploma in the midst of Covid lockdowns! Since moving to Salisbury she has led several singing groups including Castle Singers in Winchester, and smaller church groups, as well as being the Musical Director of Wareham Choral Society since 2018. She has recently been appointed co-Director of Music at St Mary's Church Fordingbridge where she has the chance to both play and conduct the choir as well as making musical links beyond the church.

Hazel is a well-established piano and clarinet teacher working mainly in schools, previously through Hampshire Music Service, and now as a Teaching Member of Salisbury Area Music Co-operative, as well as teaching piano at Burgate School in Fordingbridge. In addition to her regular commitments at St Mary's, Fordingbridge, she is also in much demand to play at services at many local churches and knows her way to many beautiful villages through this! Hazel enjoys supporting church music making at all levels from parish, to singing in Salisbury Cathedral Chamber Choir.

In her 'spare' time Hazel enjoys walking, arguing with her children about music practice schedules and others devouring her home baking!

Paul Ellis studied at Manchester University and the Royal Northern College of Music,



where his tutors included Gillian Weir (organ) and Robert Elliott (harpsichord). He is an experienced organ recitalist, giving performances across the UK and in the USA and in Paris, along with regular recitals in Sherborne Abbey.

Paul developed a love of choral music whilst at university and has conducted choirs ever since. He has worked with many choirs in the South West and earned a reputation for high standards of performance and innovative programming. Choirs with which Paul has worked over the years include the Grange Choral Society, Taunton Camerata, Sherborne School Music Society and East Cornwall Bach Choir.

Paul has been actively involved in leading music in

Sherborne for many years, in particular as Musical Director of Sherborne Chamber Choir, with whom he has given numerous highly acclaimed performances. He was formerly Director of Music of Sherborne Abbey, where for 13 years he was responsible for building a thriving choir of adults and boys. He is also Musical Director of Sherborne Festival Chorus, a community-based choir of around 140 singers, giving annual performances with them in Sherborne Abbey Festival.

THE ARMED MAN		
<b>Kyrie</b> eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.	
<b>Sanctus</b> , Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis.	Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosannah in the highest.	
<b>Benedictus</b> qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis.	Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosannah in the highest.	
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.	

FAURÉ REQUIEM		
Introit - Kyrie		
Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine et lux perpetua luceat eis	Grant them eternal rest, o Lord, and may perpertual light shine upon them	
Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem	Thou, o God, art praised in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.	
Exaudi orationem meam ad te omnis caro veniet	Hear my prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.	
Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.	
Offertorium		
O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae libera animas defunctorum de ore leonisne absorbeat eus Tartarus ne cadant in obscurum.	Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hell and from the bottomless pit. Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver them from the lion's mouth, nor let them fall into darkness, neither let the black abyss swallow them up.	

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Hostias et preces tibi Domine, laudis offerimus tu suscipe pro animabus illis quarum hodie memoriam facimus. Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini eus.	We offer unto Thee this sacrifice of prayer and praise. Receive it for those souls whom today we commemorate. Allow them, o Lord, to cross from death into the life which once Thou didst promise to Abraham and his seed.
<b>Sanctus</b> , Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis.	Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosannah in the highest.
<b>Benedictus</b> qui venit in nomine Domini. Osanna in excelsis.	Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosannah in the highest.
<b>Pie Jesu</b> , Domine, dona eis requiem dona eis requiem sempiternam requiem	Merciful Jesus, Lord, grant them rest grant them rest, eternal rest.
<b>Agnus Dei</b> qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.	Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.
Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda quando coeli movendi sunt et terra dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.	Deliver me, o Lord, from everlasting death on that dreadful day when the heavens and the earth shall be moved when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.
Tremens factus sum ego et timeo dum discussio venerit atque ventura ira. Dies illa dies irae calamitatis et	I quake with fear and I tremble awaiting the day of account and the wrath to come, that day, the day of anger, of calamity, of misery, that day, the great day, and most bitter.
miseriae dies illa, dies magna et amara valde.	Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.
Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine et lux perpetua luceat eis	
<b>In Paradisum</b> deducant Angeli in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.	May the angels receive them in Paradise, at they coming may the martyrs receive thee and bring thee into the holy city Jerusalem.
Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.	There may the chorus of angels receive them, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, may they have eternal rest.
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The King's Arms in Stoborough is a historic family-run inn which attracts locals and visitors from near and far, drawn to its wide selection of real ales, ciders and fine wines, and its menu of contemporary and time-honoured classic dishes.

WCS is grateful for their financial support for this concert.



# Nov 4 Remembrance Concert – readings between movements of The Armed Man

### Kyrie – Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy

Amy Lawrence Lowell was an American poet of the imagist school, which promoted a return to classical values. She posthumously won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1926. Lowell was an early adherent to the "free verse" method of poetry and one of the major champions of this method.

# September 1918 by Amy Lowell (1874 – 1925)

This afternoon was the colour of water falling through sunlight; The trees glittered with the tumbling of leaves; The sidewalks shone like alleys of dropped maple leaves, And the houses ran along them laughing out of square, open windows. Under a tree in the park. Two little boys, lying flat on their faces, Were carefully gathering red berries To put in a pasteboard box. Some day there will be no war. Then I shall take out this afternoon And turn it in my fingers, And remark the sweet taste of it upon my palate, And note the crisp variety of its flights of leaves. To-day I can only gather it And put it into my lunch-box. For I have time for nothing But the endeavour to balance myself Upon a broken world.

*Sanctus* – Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and Earth are full of Thy Glory, Hosanna in the highest, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Glory to Thee O Lord in the Highest.

**Wilfred Owen** was an English poet and soldier. He was one of the leading poets of the First World War. His war poetry on the horrors of trenches and gas warfare was much influenced by his mentor Siegfried Sassoon and stood in contrast to the public perception of war at the time and to the confidently patriotic verse written by earlier war poets such as Rupert Brooke. Among his best-known works – most of which were published posthumously – are *Dulce et Decorum est, Insensibility, Anthem for Doomed Youth, Futility, Spring Offensive* and *Strange Meeting.* 

Owen was killed in action on 4 November 1918, a week before the end of the war, at the age of 25.

#### Anthem for Doomed Youth by Wilfred Owen (1893 – 1918)

What passing-bells for these who die as cattle? Only the monstrous anger of the guns. Only the stuttering rifles' rapid rattle Can patter out their hasty orisons. No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells; Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,— The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells; And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

What candles may be held to speed them all? Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes Shall shine the holy glimmers of goodbyes. The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall; Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds, And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.

**Rudyard Kipling** was an English novelist, short-story writer, poet, and journalist. He was born in British India, which inspired much of his work.

Kipling's works of fiction include the *Jungle Books, Kim*, the *Just So Stories* and many short stories, including *The Man Who Would Be King*. His poems include *Mandalay, Gunga Din, The Gods of the Copybook Headings, The White Man's Burden* and *If*.

He is seen as an innovator in the art of the short story and his children's books are classics.

# Hymn Before Action – Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)

The earth is full of anger, The seas are dark with wrath, The Nations in their harness Go up against our path: Ere yet we loose the legions --Ere yet we draw the blade, Jehovah of the Thunders, Lord God of Battles, aid!

High lust and froward bearing, Proud heart, rebellious brow --Deaf ear and soul uncaring, We seek Thy mercy now! The sinner that forswore Thee, The fool that passed Thee by, Our times are known before Thee --Lord, grant us strength to die!

**Alice Corbin** was an American poet, author and poetry editor. She left Chicago for Santa Fe, New Mexico in 1916 and became devoted to the people and cultures of New Mexico and the Southwestern United States. She was also a supporter of Native American civil rights and arts and helped found what is now called the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, and became its curator.

# Fallen by Alice Corbin (1881 – 1949)

He was wounded and he fell in the midst of hoarse shouting. The tide passed, and the waves came and whispered about his ankles. Far off he heard a cock crow - children laughing, Rising at dawn to greet the storm of petals Shaken from apple-boughs; he heard them cry, And turned again to find the breast of her, And sank confusèd with a little sigh... Thereafter water running, and a voice That seemed to stir and flutter through the trenches And set dead lips to talking... Wreckage was mingled with the storm of petals... He felt her near him, and the weight dropped off --Suddenly...

Benedictus - Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**Charlotte Mew** was an English poet whose work spans the eras of Victorian poetry and Modernism. Mew gained the patronage of several literary figures, notably Thomas Hardy, who called her the best woman poet of her day, and Virginia Woolf, who said she was "very good and interesting and quite unlike anyone else".

Despite the critical success of her work, Mew did not earn enough money to support herself as well as her mother and sister. After the death of her sister from cancer in 1927, she descended into a deep depression and was admitted to a nursing home where she committed suicide by drinking disinfectant.

# May 1915 by Charlotte Mew (1869 – 1928)

Let us remember Spring will come again To the scorched, blackened woods, where the wounded trees Wait with their old wise patience for the heavenly rain, Sure of the sky: sure of the sea to send its healing breeze, Sure of the sun, and even as to these Surely the Spring, when God shall please, Will come again like a divine surprise To those who sit today with their great Dead, hands in their hands Eyes in their eyes At one with Love, at one with Grief: blind to the scattered things And changing skies.

**Agnus Dei** – Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, who taketh away the sins of the world, grant us peace.