



Tyndale Choral Society

Conductor: Ian Harrold

Reg. Charity No. 284840

A Tribute to Gloucester Cathedral

7.30pm Saturday 1st July 2006
Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin
Wotton-under-Edge.

www.tyndale-choral-society.org

Christopher Boodle was born in Gloucester in 1952 and received his musical education at New College, Oxford, and the Royal College of Music in London. During his student years he gained the A.R.C.M. and F.R.C.O. diplomas, in addition to receiving first prize in the Incorporated Association of Organists Competition in 1974. For six years he lived in Belfast, Northern Ireland, combining the post of Assistant Cathedral Organist with teaching and conducting a choral society. In 1983 he moved back to England and now lives in Gloucester.

Christopher's main activities now consist of solo organ-playing and composing. With regard to the former, performing venues have included festivals at Ross-on-Wye, Guiting Power, and The Three Choirs Festival; engagements abroad have included the Uster Festival in Switzerland, and a Recital Tour of the USA. Compositions include four symphonies, much organ music, a Passiontide Oratorio, a dramatic Cantata "Death of a Martyr" (commissioned and premièred by the Society) and a "Mass for the End of Time", plus many chamber and church works. Christopher Boodle is now an Associate member of the Performing Rights Society, and Chairman of the Stroud Festival.

Members of the Choir

Sopranos

Fiona Chandler
 Mavis Church
 Jenni Culverwell
 Glenis Ewer
 Anne Glanville
 Marjorie Harrison
 Diana Hobbs
 Lynette Magnone
 Doreen Manning
 Marion Miller
 Kathryn Palmer
 Angela Pendlebury
 Anne Shipton
 Valerie Skinner
 Judith Taylor
 Joyce Theaker
 Lesley Townsend
 Sandra Tucker
 Ros Wakefield
 Elaine White
 Vanessa Weaver
 Elizabeth Young

Altos

Catherine Bennett
 Jill Brown
 Jenny Coles
 Sheilagh Fitzarthur
 Betty Hebditch
 Jacquelin Hill
 Estelle James
 Sally Lamerton
 Lorna Lane
 Caroline Marshall
 Frances Neale
 Anne Nuttall
 Julia O'Connor Beach
 Lisa Randell
 Kate Reeves
 Helen Roberts
 Wendy Richardson
 Miriam Salman
 Wendy Thomas
 Eve Tudgay
 Sue Walshaw
 Lesley Wrانkmore

Tenors

Jean Dabinett
 John Ewer
 Peter Harney
 Audrey Sewell
 Andrew Young

Basses

Brian Bolsher
 Mike Chambers
 John Hicks
 Brian Kitching
 Derek Manning
 Brian Neale
 John Palmer
 Dick Skinner
 Geoff Whiley

Tyndale Choral Society

Conductor Ian Harrold

Organist Christopher Boodle

Programme

A. Herbert Brewer (1865 - 1928)
Magnificat in D
O love most wonderful (Emmaus)

Organ solo
Mozart Overture: The Marriage of Figaro
(arr. Christopher Boodle)

Herbert Sumsion (1899 - 1995)
They that go down to the sea in ships
By the waters of Babylon (*Bass solo: Geoff Whiley*)
Fear not O land

Interval

John Sanders (1933 - 2003)
My beloved spake
Mandatum novum

Organ solo
Christopher Boodle: Scherzo

David Briggs (b. 1962)
Jubilate Deo

Ian Ball (b. 1967)
Nunc Dimittis (The Gloucester Service)

Rehearsal Accompanist ~ James Corbett

Programme Notes by Ian Harrold

Gloucester Cathedral has a distinguished history of Organists through the centuries. Many were noteworthy composers as well. Some of these, like Samuel Sebastian Wesley, are remembered for examples of the greatest church music ever written, others for little more than the odd psalm chant (Charles Harford Lloyd), some for external connections like John Stafford Smith whose son, a chorister at the cathedral, went on to write 'Anacreon in Heaven' which became the tune for 'The star-spangled banner'.

The twentieth century proved a fertile period for Gloucester's organist-composers, and they are all represented in this concert: Herbert Brewer, Herbert Sumsion, John Sanders and David Briggs. It is a remarkable testament that just four Organists should span the entire century. As the century turned to the twenty-first, Ian Ball was for a short while Acting Director of Music and we are delighted to include one of his pieces. Of course, there are others with close links to the cathedral, who had fine careers as composers: Herbert Howells and Ivor Gurney, and we should not forget the melodic inspiration of Ivor Novello.

Alfred Herbert Brewer was Organist from 1896 until his death. He became a friend of Elgar, and was influenced by him in later works; both the examples here show that. Both were written for performance at the Three Choirs Festival. The *Magnificat in D* is from the setting Brewer made in 1927 for the Hereford Festival, and it proved to be one of his last works. The 'biblical scene' *Emmaus* was written for the Gloucester Festival of 1901, and the chorus and chorale 'O Love most wonderful' is one of the highlights; here it is preceded by the tenor arioso 'Abide with us', sung in this adaptation by our sopranos.

Brewer's successor was **Herbert Whitton Sumsion**. He had to pick up the reins rather quickly after Brewer's sudden death, but quickly made his mark in the 1928 Gloucester Festival, receiving fulsome praise from no less than Elgar himself. He remained Organist until 1965, when he retired to devote himself to teaching and composing. His style reflects the trends of the time, particularly the English pastoral, but there is always a personal feel to his music. *They that go down to the sea in ships* is arguably his most famous anthem; deservedly so, as its understated word painting fits so well. *By the waters of Babylon* is a serious affair with atypically

dissonant passages for double choir followed by remarkable chromatic changes at ‘in a strange land’; strange land indeed! Somewhat more sturdy is his *Fear not O land*, whose opening fanfare and march theme pervades most of the piece, contrasted briefly with a gentler treatment of ‘the floors shall be full of wheat’.

John Derek Sanders was known to many of Tyndale Choral Society’s members and friends as the previous President of the Society. John was Director of Music at Gloucester from 1967 to 1994, during which time he oversaw a controversial rebuild to the cathedral’s great organ, and was, like his predecessors, a dynamic force in the city’s musical life in general. Perhaps best known for his setting of *The Reproaches* for Good Friday, he made many contributions to the music of the cathedral he loved. He said that his setting of *My beloved spake* owed much to his teacher Patrick Hadley’s setting of the same words, and there are occasional likenesses, but the music is quite clearly his own. *Mandatum Novum* was written for the visit of the Queen on Maundy Thursday 2003 for the annual Royal Maundy service. The anthem starts with a brief hint of Parry’s *I was glad* and includes the plainsong ‘Ubi caritas’.

Mandatum Novum

[The words are taken from the 1st and 8th Antiphons for the Washing of the Feet at Solemn Evening Mass on Maundy Thursday.]

Mandatum novum do vobis: ut diligatis invicem, sicut dilexi vos, dicit Dominus.

A new commandment I give unto you: that you love one another, as I have loved you, saith the Lord.

Beati immaculati in via: qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where charity and love are, there is God. The love of Christ has gathered us together.

Let us rejoice in him and be glad. Let us fear and love the living God. And let us love one another with a sincere heart.

David Briggs took over from Dr. Sanders in 1994, and proceeded to make Gloucester one of the centres for organ playing in the country. The real driving force in his work is his phenomenal improvisational skill, and many of us have been privileged to hear this talent. These skills show in his compositions, and the *Jubilate Deo*, written in 1998 for the Twin Rivers Choral Society, Pennsylvania, USA, has many improvisatory ideas, which come together in a very satisfactory way. David moved on in 2001, partly for medical reasons, partly to further an international recital career, which he continues very successfully. As part of the hand over process, **Ian Ball** was Acting Director of Music and it is great pleasure that we present the *Nunc Dimittis* from his Gloucester Service.

Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)

Jubilate Deo omnis terra: servite Domino in laetitia, introite in conspectu ejus in exultatione.

Scitote quoniam Dominus ipse est Deus: ipse fecit nos et non ipse nos; populus ejus et oves pascuae ejus.

Introite portas ejus in confessione, atria ejus in hymnis: confitemini illi, laudate nomen ejus.

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

Quoniam suavis est Dominus, in aeternum misericordia ejus: et usque in generationem et generationem veritas ejus.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto: sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula seculorum. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Tyndale Choral Society Website

www.tyndale-choral-society.org

Our website is a mine of information about the Society, its calendar, history, newsletters, programmes, etc. Most exciting is the 'TCS Shop' (find it in the fundraising section).

If you access Musicroom or Amazon via our website shopping page, we will receive a small commission on any purchase you make - AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU - thus helping us in our work, bringing quality performances to our community. Making a contribution has never been so easy or painless!

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Sing Brahms Requiem

Choral Workshop (1-5pm) and Evening Performance at 7.30pm, Saturday 30th September, 2006 at St James the Great, Dursley. Conductor Ian Harrold
Come and join us either to sing or for the performance. Singers £10, audience entry free. Contact the Secretary, Julia O'Connor-Beach for more details.

Tyndale Choral Society

Founder --- Mrs M Neale
President --- James Bowman CBE



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The Society is most grateful to its Friends for their generous support and continuing interest. If you too would like to become a Friend, please give your name and address to the Friends Secretary, Francis Neale, or any member of the Society.



The Society is indebted to Cam Parish Council
and ST Microelectronics, Bristol for their support.

Concert Programme for 2006

Winter Concert

Saturday 11th November
Dursley Parish Church

Requiem by W A Mozart
and
For the Fallen
from 'The Spirit of England'
by Sir Edward Elgar

with

Jane Sherriff ~ soprano Debra Blake ~ alto
Lewis Brown ~ tenor Brian Pursey ~ bass

and

Tyndale Sinfonia
Conducted by Ian Harrold



Rehearsals for this programme begin on Monday 3rd July 2006 at 7.30pm in Dursley Methodist Church. New members in all parts will be most welcome. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Secretary:

Julia O'Connor-Beach Telephone: 01454-260877
Or by email at secretary@tyndale-choral-society.org