

Charnwood Voices' SPRING CONCERT

English Pastoral Music, from
the Middle Ages to the
Twentieth Century

Saturday 24th March

St John the Baptist,
Hugglescote

Tickets: £10 (to include a glass of wine or
soft drink in the interval). Under 16s free.
From choir members, by e-mail or on the door
tickets@charnwoodvoices.org.uk



*We hope to see
you there!*

Interested in Joining us?

We rehearse on Wednesday
evenings in Belton and are always
happy to hear from potential
members. If you are interested in
joining us and wish to find out more
about our auditioning procedure,
please contact our chairman at
chairman@charnwoodvoices.org.uk

To book us for an event or concert:

Contact us on 07950 715189 or
secretary@charnwoodvoices.org.uk;
links can be found on our website.

Why not join our e-mail list?
Ask a choir member tonight.
Find out more and keep up to
date on our website



www.charnwoodvoices.org.uk



Following Yonder Star

A Voyage through Christmas

Conducted by Nicholas Scott-Burt
Featuring Harry Scott-Burt - *cello*



Charnwood
VOICES

Saturday 16th December 2017
Belton Parish Church



"Christmas - the great leveller of all musical style!"

So said the late great jazz raconteur Django Bellini in his autobiography "Hitting the Right Notes with the Wrong Spoons" - but he was absolutely right: for where else will popular American songs of the 40s and 50s sit comfortably with traditional carols and excerpts from Messiah or the Christmas Oratorio (or in our case the Vivaldi Magnificat) but in a Christmas concert?

Charnwood Voices' concert tonight is built on carols old and new, some well-known, others unfamiliar, or perhaps familiar words and tunes in unfamiliar settings. In each half of the concert we present to you a longer, more substantial piece, which is framed by the other carols.

Vivaldi wrote his Magnificat around 1718 (the exact date is not known) when he was the violin teacher at the Academia de la Pieta in Venice, a school for orphaned girls. The piece was probably written for the school and likely performed at St Mark's. The text of the Magnificat is taken from the book of Luke, and one of the most fascinating of Biblical texts. Described as "The Song of Mary" which she sang on learning that she would give birth to the Saviour. At first it is full of excitement, then self doubt, and consternation, and fear, before returning to a more triumphant mood, as she remembers the promises of God to Abraham. We are left wondering if this song was improvised, or composed, if perhaps she could accompany herself on the lyre, or whether it was simply a spontaneous outburst of song. And who wrote it down so that the gospel writer could

CHARNWOOD VOICES, is an auditioned choir of some forty five voices based in Charnwood, Leicestershire. Founded in 1977 as Shepshed Singers, the choir has gained a well-deserved reputation for performing neglected and unfamiliar music as well as better known and popular pieces, both sacred and secular. Most of our work is a capella although we do also perform larger works with an orchestra. Every two years we go on tour, either to continental Europe or in Britain. We had a successful tour to Tuscany at Easter this year performing in The Duomo in Florence and in Lucca Cathedral. As a choir we have competed in music festivals and, in addition to our own concerts, we are available for weddings, Christmas functions, and social or fund-raising events.

Nicholas Scott-Burt has conducted the choir since September 2015.



TONIGHT'S SINGERS:

Soprano: Jeni Beasley, Sue Champneys, Janet Clitheroe, Ann Dale, Margaret Dartnall, Hazel Fitzgibbon, Sharon Gamble, Patti Garlick, Tricia Littlewood, Anne Morris, Gail Pitman-Gibson, Iris Sayer, Liz Twitchell, Janet Wilkinson, Vanessa Wright.

Alto: Glynis Booth, Chris Branford, Helen Brown, Wendy Burns, Jean Hayes, Joanna Milner, Lis Muller, Jan Nisbet, Julie O'Dowd, Heather Rees, Rosamund Thorpe, Christina Walter.

Tenor: Mike Bailey, Megan Dimitrov, David Booth, Peter Finch, Bill Hing, Steve Pallett, Malcolm Steward, Graham Thorpe.

Bass: Colin Butler, Noel Colley, John Owen, Wyn Parry, Alan Speight, Gerard Stevens.



***We thank you for coming
and wish you all a very
Happy Christmas!***



**MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Nicholas Scott-Burt**



Dr Nicholas Scott-Burt enjoys a busy and varied freelance career as a composer, conductor, organist and pianist. He has been Music Director of Charnwood Voices since 2015, and also conducts Daventry Choral Society. He is organist at Bablake School, Coventry, where he teaches piano (classical and jazz), organ and composition as well as at Uppingham School and the Robert Smyth Academy in Market Harborough; he is a classical and jazz examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, and has contributed widely as a composer and arranger to recent ABRSM piano publications.

As a composer he has written over 100 works for a broad variety of media, from 'pop songs' to symphonic scores – most recently completing a number of piano works and a *Trio en Chocolat* composed for his violinist wife Cathy and cellist son Harry, who (with him as pianist) perform frequently as the Scott-Burt Piano Trio.



**CELLIST:
Harry Scott-Burt**

Harry is in year 8 at Bablake School in Coventry. His first cello teacher was Peter Wilson; following a high Distinction at Grade 8 when he was only

just 11, Harry studied for two terms with Elaine Ackers, before moving to the primary, and then the junior department, of the Royal Academy of Music in London. He studies the cello with Bozidar Vukotic, founder of the Tippett Quartet, and the piano with the concert pianist Eva Doroszkowska. Harry has been a member of the National Children's Orchestra for four years, during which he has performed in venues including Symphony Hall, Birmingham Town Hall, Leeds Town Hall, and the Royal Festival Hall in London.

quote it in its entirety?! Many composers have set the text, both in the traditional Latin which used to form part of the Vespers service, and in English translations as part of the evensong service in English cathedrals.

Christmas Night in Blue, (by complete contrast!) is a piece I wrote in 2011 for the University of Northampton Choir. It takes its idea from the way jazz musicians improvise upon well-known tunes (jazz standards) gradually embellishing and developing to a point where, on the surface at least, the music may seem to have little to do with the original, and yet is still somehow immediately recognisable. Christmas Night in Blue sets five traditional carols (God Rest you Merry, Past Three O'Clock, We Three Kings, O Little Town of Bethlehem and Ding Dong Merrily) which often appear to have different tunes from the ones we know, but are never very far away from feeling familiar. At least, that is the intention!

Of the other carols sung this evening, Bach's setting of O Little One Sweet (originally O Jesulein Süß) is the oldest, although the original tune of In Dulci Jubilo (sung tonight in the 19th century arrangement by Robert Lucas de Pearsall) predates it by several centuries. Will Todd (My Lord Has Come) is the latest and youngest of our composers this evening, alive and well, and still writing beautiful music at the grand old age of 47! But carols are timeless - and they often defy their countries of origin as much as they defy their place in the timeline. They are part of our heritage, and the heritage of our friends in other countries - and at this time of year, perhaps a tradition which gently and in the background of our busy lives, binds us all together.

Nicholas Scott-Burt



TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

Up good Christen Folk arr Woodward

O little one sweet arr Bach

In Dulci Jubilo* arr Pearsall

* Trio: Patti Garlick, Julie O'Dowd, Peter Finch

Quartet: Patti Garlick, Hazel Fitzgibbon, Julie O'Dowd, Helen Brown, Peter Finch, Malcolm Steward, John Owen, Colin Butler

AUDIENCE:

O come all ye faithful

CELLO SOLO:

Gavotte David Popper

The Little Road to Bethlehem Head

AUDIENCE:

It came upon the midnight clear

Magnificat

Vivaldi

1. *Magnificat anima mea*

2. *Et exultavit**

3. *Et misericordia*

4. *Fecit potentiam*

5. *Deposuit potentes*

6. *Esurientes***

7. *Suscepit Israel*

8. *Sicut locutus est*

9. *Gloria patri*

* Soloists: Jeni Beasley, Lis Muller, Alan Speight

** Duet: Jeni Beasley, Tricia Littlewood



INTERVAL

Wine and other refreshments will be served

All this time Walton

I saw a maiden arr Pettman

Sussex Carol arr Chilcott

CELLO SOLO:

"Julie-O" Mark Summer

Christmas Night in Blue

Nicholas Scott-Burt

1. *God rest*

2. *Past three o'clock*

3. *We three kings*

4. *O little town**

5. *Ding Dong Merrily*

*Soloist: Joanna Milner

AUDIENCE:

Frosty the Red-nosed Snowman

There is no rose - Joubert

My Lord is come - Todd

AUDIENCE:

Hark the Herald



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The Charnwood Orchestra

Music Director:
Nic Fallowfield

January 13th 7pm

Humphrey Perkins Community Centre Barrow upon Soar LE12 8JU

Vienna & Beyond

www.charnwoodorchestra.org.uk