



HORSFORTH CHORAL SOCIETY



And

Headingley Voices Community Choir

Concert Programme

**Saturday 29th June 2024 at 7:30pm
St Chad's Church, Headingley**

www.headingleyvoices.com

 [Horsforth Choral Society](#)

www.horsforthchoralsociety.org



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This Evening's Musicians

Matthew Lazenby (Conductor) has been Musical Director of HCS since 2016, prior to which he accompanied the choir. He is Director of Music at St Hilda's and St Saviour's Churches in Leeds, and Musical Director of The Pusey Consort, a Leeds liturgical chamber choir. In addition, he is an organist, accompanist and teacher of piano and singing.

Matthew Collins (Accompanist) has been the Accompanist for Horsforth Choral Society since January 2022. He is a graduate of the University of York and an Associate of the Royal College of Organists. He is Director of Music at Howden Minster; co-owner of York Singing Academy; a regular recitalist; and a freelance accompanist for choirs, singers and instrumentalists.

Tricia Kyte has led Headingley Voices since 2009. This is their third performance of a larger-scale work. Tricia runs smaller singing groups and is a member of a ceilidh band, playing accordion and calling. She enjoys a wide range of music, especially folk. Since retiring from teaching, she enjoys walking, dancing, reading and grandchildren.

Diane Carlisle (Percussionist) plays with a number of ensembles including: YEP Brass, The Band of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, Yorkshire Volunteers Band and Corps of Drums and Harrogate Symphony Orchestra. She works as an accountant and lives in Kippax with her husband David (a bass trombonist) and border collie Sidney.

Jo Yates (Trumpet) has played Piano, Trumpet and Violin, since childhood, and moved to Leeds in 1992 to follow a postgraduate course. She has always been keen to play different styles of music and teaches Trumpet, Violin and Piano. Jo led Leeds Symphony Orchestra from 2019 until July 2023.

Soloists:

Clare Abbott HCS (Soprano)

Morag McGough HCS (Soprano)

Anne Cherry HCS (Alto)

Matthew Stockwell HCS (Tenor)

Andrew Partington HCS (Bass)

Chorus:

Approximately 80+ members of Headingley Voices and
Horsforth Choral Society

Programme

Headingley Voices will sing:

Locus Iste (Anton Bruckner 1869) is a passionate motet based on the text used for the dedication of a church building: *Locus iste a Deo factus est* – this place was made by God.

Peace a meditation from The Taizé ecumenical monastic community based in Burgundy.

Song Of Peace: Finlandia Lloyd Stone's poem *Song Of Peace* reached widespread fame when it was released as a single in 1995 by Peter, Paul and Mary, set to the theme from Sibelius' tone poem *Finlandia* (1899).

Testimony (Ali Burns) . The inspiration for the lyrics is Rev Francois Murenzi's poem: Children of Rwanda and Psalm 102 'Quia defecerunt sicut fumus dies tui' – *For your days have vanished like smoke.*

Organ Solo (Matthew Collins) In Paradisum (Ghislaine Reece-Trapp 1992-)

This piece was commissioned by Anna Lapwood for her collection *Gregoriana* - a collection of twelve pieces by contemporary women composers based on Gregorian chant. *In Paradisum* (May the angels lead you into paradise) comes from the end of the Requiem Mass. The melody is played on the pedals, but unusually is in a high register, creating a light and ethereal effect.

Horsforth Choral Society will sing:

And Sure Stars Shining (Z Randall Stroepe 2018) This is a setting of a poem by Sara Teasdale *There will Be Rest*, written a short while before her suicide in 1933. It speaks of rest, serenity, 'crystal peace' and stars.

Sure On This Shining Night (Z Randall Stroepe 1996) Stroepe is one of four notable American composers including Barber, to set these few lines from James Agee's poem *Description Of Elysium*. (published 1934).

Choose Something Like a Star from *Frostiana* (Randall Thompson 1959) The final song in Thompson's 7-song suite setting poems by Robert Frost. The piece was commissioned for the bicentennial celebrations of Amherst, Massachusetts where Frost had been living.

[INTERVAL: 20 MINUTES]

Mass For Peace: The Armed Man by Karl Jenkins (1999)

Notes adapted from those written by Guy Wilson, Master Of The Royal Armouries at the time of its move from London to Leeds. He was instrumental in commissioning the work; selecting the texts and writing the words for movement 11 – ‘Now the Guns Have Stopped’.

The Mass begins with a marching army. Intensity builds to the choir's entrance, singing the theme from the 15th century Burgundian folksong *L'Homme Armé*. After the scene is set the style & pace change towards the reflective Muslim *Call to Prayer*, then the *Kyrie*, quoting Palestrina's setting of *L'Homme Armé*. Next a plainsong setting with words from the Psalms asking for God's help against our enemies. The *Sanctus* is full of menace with a primeval, tribal character.

Still menacing is the next movement, Kipling's *Hymn Before Action* building to its devastating line "Lord grant us strength to die." War now seems inevitable. *Charge* celebrates martial glory and the destruction of war! Then the eerie silence of the battlefield after battle & finally the burial of the dead. At the very centre of the work is *Angry Flames*, an excerpt from a poem about the atom bomb attack on Hiroshima written by a poet present at the time. Now an eerily similar passage from the ancient Indian epic *The Mahabharata*.

After the horror of war, we are now reminded that each human life is sacred & unique. First the *Agnus Dei* with its chorale theme reminds us of Christ's sacrifice. This is followed by a setting of some lines I wrote for the museum on feelings of loss & guilt felt by many of the survivors of World War One, *Now the Guns Have Stopped*.

Wounds begin to heal in *The Benedictus* as its stately affirmation of faith leads to the positive climax of the work. This begins back where we started in the 15th century with Lancelot and Guinevere's declaration, from experience: *Peace is Better than War*. The *Armed Man* theme returns vying with Mallory's desire for peace. Now we

come to a moment of commitment: do we want the new millennium to be like the last or do we join with Tennyson telling us to *Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace?* An impossible dream? No - the Mass ends with the affirmation from The Book Of Revelation - that change is possible, that sorrow, pain and death can be overcome. '**Dona nobis pacem**'.

Refreshments and the Raffle

Refreshments will be available during the interval. Wine £2.50, non-alcoholic drinks and biscuits – pay as you feel.

Our raffle prize tonight is a voucher to the value of £75 for **Salvo's Italian restaurant in Headingley**. This has been very kindly donated by members of Headingley Voices.

Raffle tickets will still be available during the interval and the draw will take place before the start of the second half of tonight's programme. *Go on – treat yourself to another ticket!*

Thank you for joining us this evening. We hope you have enjoyed the performances.

Details of how to join or support the choirs, and future performances can be found on their websites, or speak to any of the singers for more information – we'd love to have you on board!

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