

Choir's Vienna date

A WEALTH of music is planned for Nantwich Choral Society's new season. The choir will be particularly busy this autumn with four concerts in the north-west region — plus a singing trip to Vienna.

St. Mary's church, Alsager, is the setting for the first concert, a performance of the Fauré Requiem and the Cantata 106 (J. S. Bach) this Saturday (7.30 pm).

At the organ will be 19-year-old William Munks, of Nantwich, who recently gained his LRAM and ARCO awards. In this year's ARCO examinations he came first in the whole country for organ playing and first for the complete exam.

Until recently he was organist and choirmaster at St. Andrew's Church, Crewe. Next month he goes to Jesus College, Cambridge, to study mathematics.

Soloists will be Sarah Wright (soprano), Benjamin Odom (baritone)

and Joy Roberts (piano-forte).

Coming events by the choral society are: November 21, Alexander's Feast (Handel), Nantwich Parish Church; December 5, Messiah, Nantwich Parish Church (proceeds for cancer research); December 19, Carols for choir and audience (afternoon and evening performances).

Meanwhile, about 50 choir members are preparing for an exciting trip — taking Nantwich's music-making to the city of music — Vienna. They will fly out at the end of November to give several performances as a choir and in concert with others for the Advent services. The visit has been arranged by the conductor Mr. Stephen Buckman.

Tickets for this weekend's concert are available from Nantwich Information Centre, the parish office of St. Mary's, Alsager, at the door or on phone 625752.

Publicity officer Mrs. Shirley Burton said: "We welcome enthusiastic singers who enjoy the challenge of performing a wide repertoire

of choral music."

The Society rehearses at Malbank School, Welsh Row, Nantwich, on Wednesday evenings.

CHOIR SINGS IN CITY OF MUSIC



Choir's Vienna role

A South Cheshire choir proved to be a big hit with audiences in Vienna, the city of music.

More than 40 members of Nantwich Choral Society have just returned from a busy three-day visit to the Austrian capital.

They were the first British choir to sing at the magnificent Town Hall. Their performance of carols by English composers was relayed to crowds outside.

The choir also sang during an Advent service at a Protestant church in Vienna.

THE music of Nantwich was heard in the city of music — Vienna — when 40 members of Nantwich Choral Society visited the Australian capital for a busy weekend.

The local choir, with their conductor Stephen Buckman, were invited with others from all over Europe to take part in an international celebration of Advent.

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And they had the honour of being the first British choir to sing in the magnificent Town Hall to a packed audience. The choir's performance of Advent carols by English composers was relayed to crowds outside.

The choir also sang for an Advent service at a modern Protestant church in Vienna.

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The choir managed to pack into a crowded weekend visits to some of the splendours of the city including the famous Schonbrunn Palace of the Hapsburgs and were entertained to lunch by the Austrian government.

"It was a splendid visit which gave great pleasure on both sides," said choir spokesman Mrs. Shirley Burton.

● Picture: The choir on the steps of another Hapsburg palace, Upper Belvedere.