

Nantwich Choral Society
Trip to Macon October 20-23rd 1989

Nantwich Chronicle 1/11/89

Choral link

A Cheshire choir has flown to France -to strengthen links with its town's twin..

Fifty eight members of Nantwich Choral Society staged a gala performance in the church of St Pierre, Macon.

They sang Handel's Coronation Anthems and the Magnificat by Pergolesi.

Other highlights of their visit included a civic reception at Macon Town Hall and an official banquet given in their honour by the town's twinning committee.

The weekend was rounded off with a trip to the famous Beaune wine cellars.

Choir official Wallace Kays, who organised the trip, said the Macon choir is planning a return visit to Nantwich next year.

1^{er} JUMELAGE CHORAL
entre CREWE-NANTWICH
et CHORALES "A CŒUR JOIE MACON"

CONCERT

Samedi 21 Octobre 1989

ÉGLISE SAINT-PIERRE - MACON

CHŒURS

direction Stephen BUCKMAN
(Händel - Pergolese)

TROMPETTE et ORGUE

CONCERT / ORGANISATION :
COMITÉ DE JUMELAGE - "A CŒUR JOIE MACON"

ENTRÉE LIBRE

20 h 30

• IMPRIMERIE CHARRONNIÈRE DRELL - MACON

Songsters visit to Macon 'magnifique'

MAY I thank all who assisted the Nantwich Choral Society in its visit to Macon last week-end.

The purpose of the trip was the first Choral Jumelage ('Twinning') between the Nantwich Choir and the Chorales A Coeur Joire Macon.

The highlight was the Gala Concert held in the massive medieval Englise Saint-Pierre, where the choir's full sound was heard at its best in the wonderful, but challenging, acoustics of the vast cathedral-like church.

The effect of the grand organ and the accompanying trum-

pet at the opposite end of the choir, added to the majesty of the Handel Four Coronation Anthems.

Who, of the Nantwich Choral, will ever forget the look of surprise and exhilaration on the faces of the audience as the visitors 'hit' the opening chords of 'Zadok the Priest'? Magnifique!

But the week-end was more than a musical feast. It initiated a fellowship which is surely at the heart of all twinning.

The choir members were lavishly entertained in the homes of the Macon choristers.

From the warm welcome given by the

Mayor and local officials in the Macon Town Hall on the Saturday morning until the emotional farewells on Monday, it was obvious that visitors and local folk alike had no intention of waiting until 1992 to take down any barriers with Europe!

Nantwich Musical Director, Stephen Buckman, and the members of the choir have every right to feel that it was a job well-done. The area can be justly proud of them!

CECIL BATEMAN,
Public Relations
Secretary,
Nantwich Choral
Society,
51 Delamere Road,
Nantwich.



This photograph of the choir in concert at Macon was taken by Jean-Claude Ducray, father of Virginie Ducray who came from Macon to do work experience on the Guardian this summer. He is one of the correspondents on the local daily paper.

Feast of music and friendship

From Mr Cecil Bateman, Public Relations Secretary, Nantwich Choral Society: MAY I, through the medium of your paper, thank all who assisted the Nantwich Choral Society in its visit to Macon.

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The highlight was the Gala Concert held in the massive medieval Englise Saint-Pierre, where the choir's full sound was heard at its best in the wonderful, but challenging, acoustics of the vast cathedral-like church. The effect of the grand organ and the accompanying trumpet, at the opposite end to the choir, added to the majesty of the Handel Four Coronation Anthems. Who, of Nantwich Choral, will ever forget the look of surprise and ex-

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The choir members were lavishly entertained in the homes of the Macon choristers. Locally-arranged visits to several Romanesque churches and vineyards in the Macon and Cluny regions, and to the world-famous International Ecumenical Youth Centre at Taizé all contributed to the initiation of friendships which will be long-maintained.

On the return trip to Paris Airport, a lunch stop at Beaune gave the opportunity to visit the world-renowned Hotel Dieu Hospital.

From the warm welcome

given by the mayor and local officials in the Macon Town Hall on the Saturday morning until the emotional farewells on Monday, it was obvious that visitors and local folk alike had no intention of waiting until 1992 to take down any barriers with Europe!

I am sure that your readers will want to join with us in anticipating the return visit of the Macon choirs to us, in November 1990.

May I thank you all once again for assistance and encouragement in this and all of our ventures. All the planning and preparation will, I am sure, bring rich rewards in so many ways.

Nantwich Musical Director, Stephen Buckman, and the members of the choir have every right to feel that it was a job well done. The area can be justly proud of them!