

❧ Nantwich Choral Society ❧

NANTWICH CHORAL SOCIETY evolved from a WEA evening class in 1972 under the leadership of its first conductor, Michael Bax. It has grown into a Society with over 90 singing members drawn from a wide geographical area. NCS has gained an enviable reputation for its high standard of performance. Particularly popular are the Society's annual performances of MESSIAH and CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE

❧ The Conductor ❧

STEPHEN BUCKMAN has been the conductor of Nantwich Choral Society since 1983. Stephen is a professional conductor who studied organ, composition, singing and conducting in London and Paris.

Stephen Buckman began his performing career as an organist and harpsichordist, but soon found that he was particularly interested in working with singers and choirs. Whilst this specific enthusiasm has dominated his career Stephen has also worked as a Musical Director and Voice Coach in the professional theatre in London's West End and in America.

Stephen Buckman is no stranger to travelling. He has conducted choirs and orchestras throughout the British Isles, as well as in France and Germany. Although primarily based in London he continues to drive 400 miles each week to conduct Nantwich Choral Society.

❧ Nantwich Parish Church ❧

The Society's chosen venue, the Parish Church of St Mary at Nantwich, is often described as 'the Cathedral of South Cheshire'.

A fourteenth century gem, it was considered by Sir John Betjeman to be architecturally one of the most satisfying mediaeval town churches in the country.

The vast nave, originally designed for public performance, must have witnessed many musical offerings in its six hundred year history. Like so many buildings of its time the acoustics are superb. It is for this reason that members of the Choir, as well as the professional musicians they engage to work with them, consider it a privilege to perform at St Mary's.

Nantwich Choral Society is supported by:

The Federation of Music Societies

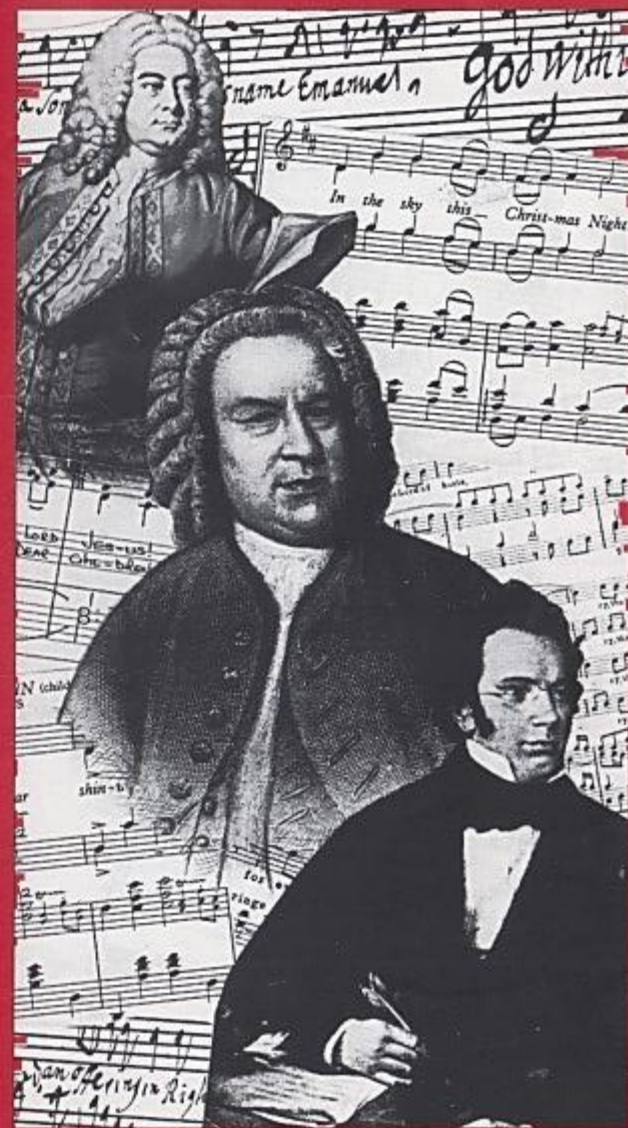
Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council

Nantwich Town Council

The Harding Trust

Nantwich Choral Society

1996/1997 Programme



■ Nantwich Choral Society ■

NANTWICH CHORAL SOCIETY attracts ever-growing audiences to its concerts. NCS performs a wide range of choral works, including rarely performed masterpieces and world premieres of contemporary composers.

NANTWICH CHORAL SOCIETY employs professional soloists and orchestras exclusively. Orchestral musicians are drawn from major orchestras and singers from the world of opera and oratorio.

■ Programme of Events ■

M. HAYDN - MISSA SANCTI HIERONYMI
F. SCHUBERT - DEUTSCHE MESSE
A. BRUCKNER - MASS NO. 2 IN E MINOR
 Saturday, 16th November 1996 at 7.30pm
 Nantwich Parish Church

Michael Haydn's **MISSA SANCTI HIERONYMI** is one of the most neglected choral treasures of the Classical period. It is as light and fresh as any of his brother's choral works, but with a much more interesting orchestration. Schubert's **DEUTSCHE MESSE** and Bruckner's famous **MASS IN E MINOR** complete a programme designed to be as musically interesting as it is entertaining.

G.F. HANDEL - MESSIAH
 Saturday, 7th December 1996 at 7.00pm
 Nantwich Parish Church

Fiona Vaughan, soprano
Marjorie Seddon, contralto
Paul Phoenix, tenor
David Campbell, bass

Handel's **MESSIAH** is the most famous oratorio in the repertoire, and the most popular. Nantwich Choral Society's annual performance captures the Baroque splendour of Handel's genius in the perfect setting of the mediaeval glory of Nantwich Parish Church. Always presented in its entirety, the Society's sparkling performances attract audiences from far and wide.

■ Programme of Events ■

continued

CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND AUDIENCE
 Saturday, 21st December 1996 at 7.30pm
 Nantwich Parish Church

Carols old and new for all the family to enjoy. This musical 'Christmas Party' is a firm favourite in the South Cheshire musical calendar. Join Nantwich Choral Society in celebrating the glories of Christmas in the marvellous music of the season.

J.S. BACH - MASS IN B MINOR
 Saturday, 10th May 1997 at 7.30pm
 Nantwich Parish Church

Fiona Motherway, soprano
Marjorie Seddon, contralto
Paul Phoenix, tenor
Andrew Tinkler, bass

The majestic spirituality of Bach's incomparable **MASS IN B MINOR** defies accurate description. If you know this work you will not want to miss this concert, if you don't you should not miss the chance to experience what is probably the greatest choral work of them all.

BOX OFFICE

Telephone: 01270 625641

*Tickets are also available from St. Mary's Church Shop,
 Society Members and of course, at the door.
 Standard concessions apply.*

Registered by the Charity Commission - Register No. 516572

Member of the National Federation of Music Societies

■ Booking Information ■

Season Ticket Offer
SAVE £8 ON THE SEASON
(£6 on concessions)

UNTIL 9TH NOVEMBER YOU CAN OBTAIN A SEASON TICKET FOR THE ENTIRE SERIES OF CONCERTS IN OUR 1996/1997 SEASON AT THE SPECIALLY DISCOUNTED RATE.

BOOKING FORM

Please send me the following tickets:

- ... Season Ticket for all 4 concerts (full rate) @ **£20**
- ... Concessions @ **£12**
- ... Tickets for Haydn's *Missa Sancti Hieronymi*
 on 16.11.96 @ **£8**
- ... Concessions @ **£5**
- ... Tickets for *Messiah* on 7.12.96 @ **£8**
- ... Concessions @ **£5**
- ... Tickets for *Carols* on 21.12.96 @ **£4**
- ... Concessions @ **£3**
- ... Children under 10 years old @ **£1**
- ... Tickets for *Bach's B Minor Mass* on 10.5.97 @ **£8**
- ... Concessions @ **£5**

TOTAL _____

Send your cheque payable to **Nantwich Choral Society**, and post with the completed application form to the address below. You will receive your tickets by return:

NANTWICH CHORAL SOCIETY,
69, Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 5EW

Name

Address

If you would like to be entered on the NCS mailing list please tick ☐ and return to the above address.