

John Naylor

John Naylor, conductor, singer and organist combines extensive performance experience in world-class choirs with a lifelong passionate interest in choral music and its performance.

His original training was as a choral scholar at St John's College, Cambridge under the great Dr George Guest after keyboard studies with Conrad Eden at Durham Cathedral where he was a chorister, a music scholarship at Rossall School and singing studies with Wilfrid Brown and Lyndon van der Pump from The Royal College of Music.

He subsequently became a professional member of the Chapel Royal Choir at H.M. Tower of London and appeared with John Eliot Gardiner, Louis Halsey, Neville Mariner and Richard Hickox, appearing at The Proms, The South Bank, The Aldeburgh Festival and in numerous recordings. He has sung in the cathedral choirs of Christ Church Oxford, Carlisle and Chester.

John has been Director of The Lydian Singers (one of the North West's leading chamber choirs) since 1980, and is also Musical Director of the celebrated Newport & District Male Voice Choir. He was appointed Musical Director of Nantwich Choral Society in September 2005.

Reviews

After this April's NCS and Lydian Singers' performance of Bach's St John Passion in Chester cathedral the critic Bill Glover wrote:

"This performance began well and simply got better and better as the music unfolded. The spacious tempi chosen by Naylor allowed Bach's score to live and breathe so that the meaning of both music and words could be clearly put across."

"... The evening as a whole belonged to John Naylor for directing a performance of what by any test is a choral masterpiece with such integrity, commitment and musicality."

Participants in the January 2006 Singing Day wrote:

"Thank you for a most enjoyable Singing Day; a beautiful repertoire, well planned, well executed and so musically satisfying."

"Everyone around me was really enjoying themselves."

"The Verdi & Stravinsky challenged my sight reading skills, but I wasn't the only one and it was great fun. Everyone I spoke to was very pleased with the way the day went. Congrats are in order and well deserved."

"I really enjoyed the whole day: thank you!"

Repertoire

Bach's **B minor Mass**, Haydn's **Harmoniemesse**, Mozart's **Requiem**, Monteverdi's **Vespers** and Mendelssohn's **Elijah**. All in one day?

Well, not quite! But here's a chance to sing some of the greatest choruses from some of the greatest choral works ever written in a Singing Day which promises to be hugely enjoyable and satisfying.

Specific movements to be studied include the Kyrie from Bach's B minor Mass with its wonderful extended fugue, the thrilling 'Lauda Jerusalem' from Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610, the jubilant 'Dona nobis pacem' from Haydn's Harmoniemesse and the intense **Lacrimosa** and **Hostias** from Mozart's Requiem which both demand controlled and intense exploration of the dynamic range. The day will begin with 'He watching over Israel' from Mendelssohn's Elijah.

We will sing at least one other great chorus from this excellent publication: you'll be asked to vote for which one you'd most like to sing.

This promises to be another day which will delight and enthuse all singers of choral music – an opportunity to sing wonderful music in friendly company with an inspiring choral conductor.

Do come and join us!

The Methodist Chapel

Located in Hospital Street in the centre of Nantwich this splendid building is lovingly cared for by the present congregation.

The original wooden panel pews, a sumptuous gallery, an original Binns organ and a warm acoustic all combine to make this a very special venue for our Singing Day. Harvest Festival decorations will add a special seasonal background.

Car parks are nearby, refreshments will be available and within a moment one can step into the historic and lovely town centre of Nantwich.

Nantwich Choral Society

SINGING DAY

Come and Sing

"Great Choruses from Great Oratorios"

Saturday 30th September
2006

Nantwich Methodist Church

Directed by
John Naylor

with

Andrew Mildinhall
Organ and Piano

You are again invited to join members of Nantwich Choral Society for a Choral Singing Day following our very successful and widely praised previous events.

The next date is: **Saturday 30th September**, and the event will be held again in the lovely historic Methodist Chapel in Hospital Street, Nantwich

The music to be studied is:

"Great Choruses from Great Oratorios"

from the Novello publication edited by Brian Kay.

The day will be directed by **John Naylor**.

- ☐ Please bring your own copies if you have them, but copies will be available when you arrive. There will be a hire charge of £2.50 for the music - please pay this on the day.
- ☐ Either bring your own packed lunch, or visit one of the excellent local hosteleries in the town.
- ☐ Tea / coffee facilities will be available
- ☐ Dress: smart casual
- ☐ Cost for the day: singers - £12
- ☐ Ticket for observers, choral directors and conductors and other non-singers: £2

ORDER OF THE DAY

- 10.00 Registration and Coffee
- 10.30 First Singing Session
- 11.45 Break
- 12.0 Second Singing Session
- 1.0 Lunch
- 2.15 Third Singing Session
- 3.45 Break
- 4.00 Fourth Singing Session
- 5.30 Finish

We hope singers and members of choirs will be able to join us on this exciting choral day. It will be a good opportunity for singers to "get together and sing together".

Please complete the form, enclosing an s.a.e. and cheque, and send to:

Rachel Pentecost
Secretary, Nantwich Choral Society,
Porters Hill Farmhouse, Wrenbury,
Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 8HG

(For more copies, the form may be photocopied)

Visit our website:
www.nantwichchoral.org.uk

REGISTRATION FORM

"Great Choruses from Great Oratorios"

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____

e-mail: _____

CHOIR OR CHORAL SOCIETY (if any)

SECTION _____
(e.g. Sop1, alto1, etc.)

Do you require music? YES ____ NO ____
(hire charge payable on the day £2.50)

I wish to book _____ place(s) at £12

I wish to book ____ non-singer's ticket(s) at £2

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to 'Nantwich Choral Society'.

Signed: _____