

## Steventon Choral Society Concerts in 2001-2002

### Thursday 4th July: Golden Jubilee Concert 1952 – 2002

With the choir of The Ilsleys Primary School  
St Mary's Church, East Ilsley, Berkshire

This concert in aid of St Mary's Church Restoration Fund and The Ilsleys Primary School Fund was a shortened version of the Golden Jubilee Concert given in June in Steventon Village Hall.

### Saturday 15th June: Golden Jubilee Concert 1952 – 2002

Steventon Village Hall  
Musical director: Terry Pearce  
Pianist: Debbie Jordan

This concert of music from the 50 years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II began with an arrangement of The National Anthem written by Sir David Willcocks in 1981 followed by an arrangement of The Golden Coach by our Musical Director, Terry Pearce. We then moved to the 1960s with Breezy Bach – a song made famous by the Swingle Singers. Love Changes Everything, Don't Cry For Me Argentina (solo by Rebecca Joice) and Any Dream Will Do gave a flavour of Andrew Lloyd Webber – one of the most famous composers of the last 50 years. Helen Pearce then sang What's The Use Of Wond'rin from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel, before joining her husband, Terry, in the duet If I Loved You from the same musical. The first half of the concert ended with two songs from the 1960s, Moon River by Henry Mancini and selections from Oliver by Lionel Bart.

The second half opened with a collection of hits from the 1950s arranged by Tim Sandford – including Unchained Melody, a chart topper in 1955, 1965, 1990 and 2002. The choir then sang Parry's anthem, I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me, which was sung at the Coronation in 1953 and the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in 2002. Then it was back to Andrew Lloyd Webber for I Don't Know How to Love Him from Jesus Christ Superstar – a solo by Wendy Moore. In contrast, A Hymn for the Golden Jubilee – composed especially for the Jubilee with words by the Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion, and music by Andrew Gant – was a modern piece no-one in the audience had heard before.



*Patriotic songs from the choir*

No concert of music from 1952–2002 would be complete without the electric guitar – Steve Thompson and Terry Pearce gave us a glimpse of the rock'n' roll years, with Tom Hartley joining them for Buddy Holly's famous song, Heartbeat. Then it was the turn of the audience to join in and sing songs such as Living Doll, Yellow Submarine and the Lambeth Walk. The concert ended on a patriotic note with I Vow To Thee My Country, Jerusalem, Rule Britannia (soloist Helen Pearce) and Land of Hope and Glory.



*Helen leads everyone in Rule Britannia*



*Wendy sings Andrew Lloyd Webber*



*Steve and Terry play rock and roll*



*Let's all have a singsong*



*The audience joins in!*



*Doing the Lambeth Walk*



*Thank you from the chairman*

Soloists: Tom Hartley, Rebecca Joice, Wendy Moore, Helen Pearce, Terry Pearce and Steven Thompson

**Saturday 20th April: Spring Concert**

St Mary's Church, Streatley

This concert raised £360 for the church organ fund.

Musical director: Terry Pearce

Organist/pianist: Debbie Jordan

The first half of the concert began with The National Anthem in memory of the Queen Mother and then featured Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise with soloists Helen Pearce (soprano), Rebecca Joice (mezzo-soprano) and Allan Rostron (tenor).

The second half had a royal flavour, beginning with Mozart's Laudate Dominum with soloist Rebecca Joice followed by Brahms' How Lovely Are They Dwellings, which had been sung at the Queen Mother's funeral on April 12th. Joanna Huddleston then played the Prelude and Romance from Five Bagatelles for clarinet and piano by Gerald Finzi and the choir returned for Parry's rousing anthem I Was Glad When

They Said Unto Me, which was sung at Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation. Our guest tenor soloist, Allan Rostron, sang Comfort Ye and Every Valley from Handel's Messiah and the concert ended with music from Handel's Samson performed at the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1981 – Helen Pearce sang Let The Bright Seraphim and the choir joined in for the chorus Let Their Celestial Concerts All Unite.

### **Sunday 23rd March: Spring Concert**

St Michael & All Angels, Steventon

This concert raised some £160 for the Damascus Team Youth Worker project.

The first half of the concert featured Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise with soloists Helen Pearce (soprano), Rebecca Joice (mezzo-soprano) and Allan Rostron (tenor).

The second half had a royal flavour, beginning with Parry's rousing anthem sung at Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me. This was followed by Mozart's Laudate Dominum with soloist Rebecca Joice. Joanna Huddleston then played the Prelude and Romance from Five Bagatelles for clarinet and piano by Gerald Finzi and our guest tenor soloist, Allan Rostron, sang Comfort Ye and Every Valley from Handel's Messiah. The concert ended with music from Handel's Samson performed at the wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales in 1981 – Helen Pearce sang Let The Bright Seraphim and the choir ended the evening with Let Their Celestial Concerts All Unite.

### **Friday 21st March: Sing-in of Stainer's Crucifixion with St Mary's Church Choir**

St Mary's Church, Chieveley, near Newbury in West Berkshire

Musical director: Terry Pearce

Organist: Michael Evans

Tenor: Tony Selby

Bass: Leslie MacLeod Miller

A scratch choir of some 50 singers produced a memorable performance of Stainer's great work. A retiring collection was taken in aid of church funds.

### **Sunday 30th December: Songs of Praise**

St Michael & All Angels, Steventon

Pianist/organist: Debbie Jordan

The choir performed the concert version of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat by Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice and joined members of the church choir to sing carols requested by the congregation.

### **Sunday 23rd December: Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

St Michael & All Angels, Steventon (with the church choir)

Organist: Robert Thomas

### **Saturday 15th December and Thursday 20th December: A Flight to Lapland**

Christmas music with audience carols for everyone to join in

Steventon Village Hall

Musical director: Terry Pearce

Pianist: Michael Evans

The first concert raised over £300 for Ward 7C at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

The choir sang carols from around the world as its plane flew from England to



Lapland.

Following an introduction from the senior flight attendant, the choir wished everyone a Merry Christmas in song before embarking on A Sequence of Carols and a Scottish arrangement of Away In A Manger. O Holy Night was the contribution from France. In Flight entertainment in the first half included See Amid The Winter Snow, Candlelight Carol by the ladies and a solo by Rebecca Joice, Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day. After flying over Germany to the strains of O Christmas Tree, the plane landed to refuel and refreshments were served by the cabin crew.

Following their wine and mince pies, the audience was in good cheer to join in The Twelve Days of Christmas before settling down to hear two Austrian items – Still, Still, Still and the Nun's Chorus from Strauss's Casanova by soprano soloist, Helen Pearce.

The plane then left Europe and flew to the West Indies for De Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy and Mary's Boy Child, a bass solo from Terry Pearce with guitar accompaniment. the choir then sang three Christmas songs from the USA – Can't Believe Its Christmas, Little Drummer Boy and Mary Had A Baby.

In Flight entertainment for this half of the journey included comic tales from Jack Jarvis, several audience carols and a sing-along led by Wendy Moore of children's songs such as Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. After the USA, it was back across the Atlantic to Russia for the Workers Carol and, following a message from the Captain, finally to Lapland where Father Christmas was on hand to greet everyone – assisted, with kind permission of [Swindon Football Club](#) by Rocking Robin. While Rocking Robin bounded around the hall drumming up support with his antics, the choir sang Jingle Bells and White Christmas to send the audience home ready for Christmas.



### **Saturday 20th October: Autumn Concert**

[St Mary's and St Nicholas' Parish Church](#), Compton, Berkshire

Guest soloist: Maureen Lloyd

Musical director: Terry Pearce

Pianist: Michael Evans

The concert began with three songs about love from different eras – Love Changes Everything, We'll Gather Lilacs and Unchained Melody. Guest soloist, Maureen Lloyd then delighted the audience with a medley of popular songs before the choir sang the spiritual, Michael Row the Boat Ashore. A monologue by John Hunt and Vilia and Love Unspoken from soprano Helen Pearce continued the love theme. The first half ended with three sacred pieces from the choir - How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings from Brahms Requiem, Crimond's setting of the 23rd Psalm and The Heavens Are Telling from Haydn's Creation.

The second half featured the main item on the programme - a performance of the concert version of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat by Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice. It also included four popular Rodgers and Hammerstein songs, folk songs from soprano Rebecca Joice, another medley from guest soloist, Maureen Lloyd and a duet, Bless This House, from Helen and Terry Pearce. The concert ended with the choir singing the traditional Irish song, Irish Blessing.