

Even earlier Steventon Choral Society Concerts

1999-2000

Thursday 6th July: Celebrating the 20th Century - a concert of light music and songs

St Mary's Church, East Ilsley

In this concert, we were joined by the choir from the Ilsleys Primary School who delighted the audience with songs such as Do Re Mi from The Sound of Music, Yellow Submarine and Lily The Pink. The choral society sang a shortened version of our main summer concert from the previous month. Proceeds from the concert were divided equally between St Mary's Church (fund-raising for a water supply) and the Ilsleys Primary School (money for costumes for the Christmas production). After the concert, Mr & Mrs Jeffs kindly invited everyone – performers and audience alike – into their garden for refreshments.

Thursday 8th June: Celebrating the 20th Century - a concert of light music and songs

Steventon Village Hall

This collection of popular songs from the 20th century ranged from an arrangement of an Edwardian favourite, I Do Like To Be Beside The Seaside, to a current hit – I Dreamed A Dream from Les Miserables. On the way we remembered favourites such as We'll Gather Lilacs and A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square and performed songs from shows such as Showboat, South Pacific, Oklahoma, The Sound of Music, Jesus Christ Superstar, Oliver and Chess. Hayley and Steve Thompson put on their dancing shoes to Rock Around the Clock and our Musical Director, Terry Pearce, accompanied Rebecca Russell on the guitar for the Joni Mitchell classic, Both Sides Now. A quiz of 12 tunes played by our pianist, Robert Thomas, kept the audience guessing and gave the choir a welcome break.

Saturday 11th March: Mendelssohn's Elijah

A performance in Trinity Church, Abingdon in aid of the Abingdon Youth Worker Project for the Abingdon Churches. Accompanied by guest organist, Ian Miles, the story of Elijah's challenge in the service of the Lord was retold in the well-known choruses and solos from this popular oratorio. Some of the quartets were performed by small groups of choir members.

Musical director	Terry Pearce
Organist	Ian Miles
Soprano:	Helen Pearce
Mezzo Soprano:	Rebecca Russell
Tenor:	Tony Selby
Bass:	Leslie MacLeod Miller

Sunday 19th December: Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

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

Wednesday 15th December and Thursday 16th December: Christmas Concerts 1999

Steventon Village Hall

A mixture of carols, Christmas songs and audience carols with the first concert in aid of The Children's Society.

Saturday 4th December: Christmas Concert in aid of the Huntingdon's Disease Association

Milton Church

1998-1999

Saturday 12th June: 40th Anniversary Gala Concert

Steventon Village Hall



In the first half of this special concert, the choir dressed in costume to present a concert performance of Gilbert & Sullivan's Trial By Jury. The performance featured Helen Pearce as the Plaintiff, guest soloist Malcolm Townsend as the Defendant, John Hunt as the Learned Judge, Gerry Brewer as the Counsel for the Plaintiff and Terry Pearce as the Usher. The gentlemen of the jury, bridesmaids and members of the public were played by the chorus. The performance was conducted by guest conductor, Tom Robinson - with guest accompanist, Michael Evans, at the piano.

After the interval and the cutting of the birthday cake, the choir sang a selection of songs and music requested by members from the repertoire built up over the last 40 years - some old, some new. It included part of Coleridge Taylor's Hiawatha's Wedding Feast conducted by Geoffrey Harding, the choral society's first Musical Director. This was one of the earliest pieces performed by the Society. Long-serving pianist (1960-1979), the late Trixie Lay, was remembered as her great-grandson, Robert Thomas, played a piano solo. The concert ended with a rousing rendition of The Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah.

Other events in the 1998/99 season:

2nd April	Sing-in of John Stainer's The Crucifixion	Abingdon Baptist Church
28th March	Faure's Requiem and Schubert's Mass in G	Steventon Church
20th December	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (with the church choir)	Steventon Church
16th & 17th December	Christmas Concerts	Steventon Village Hall
1st November	Songs of Praise	Abingdon Baptist Church
26th October	Songs of Praise	Steventon Church

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19th June	Summer Concert	St Mary's Church, East Ilsley
6th June	A Concert for Kath (in memory of Kath Smith)	Harwell Village Hall
4th June	Summer Concert	Steventon Village Hall
25th April	Mozart's Requiem (with the Isis Orchestra)	Trinity Church, Abingdon
17th & 18th December	Christmas Concert	Steventon Village Hall
18th October	Messiah for Hospices (a sing-in)	Steventon Church

This is the end of concert reports written for the web.

The choir has records of the music sung at its concerts going back even further.