

Billericay Choral Society

presents:

Music For A Summer's Evening



Tuesday, 12th July, 2022

Programme

Conductor: Ed Sutton

Accompanist: Tom Rodgers

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<i>Country Gardens</i>	Sharpe / Rowley arranged H. Geehl
<i>As Torrents In Summer</i>	Elgar / Longfellow
<i>The Long Day Closes</i>	Chorley / Sullivan
<i>With Cat-Like Tread</i> (from "The Pirates Of Penzance")	Gilbert / Sullivan
<i>List And Learn</i> (from "The Gondoliers")	Gilbert / Sullivan
<i>For The Merriest Fellows Are We</i> (from "The Gondoliers")	Gilbert / Sullivan
<i>Dance A Cachucha, Fandango, Bolero</i> (from "The Gondoliers")	Gilbert / Sullivan
<i>The Gift To Be Simple</i>	Trad. arr. Chilcott
<i>You Are The New Day</i>	David arr. Knight adapted Narverud
<i>Can't Buy Me Love</i>	Lennon / McCartney arr. Abbs
<i>The Silver Swan</i>	Gibbons
<i>Drop, Drop, Slow Tears</i>	Fletcher / Gibbons
<i>Amazing Grace</i>	Trad. arr. Sutton
<i>In Our Service</i>	Thomas Hewitt Jones
<i>Jerusalem</i>	Blake / Parry
<i>Goodnight Sweetheart</i>	Carter / Hudson arr. Shaw

Welcome!

Welcome to our summer concert! Tonight we're performing a variety of pieces from the chamber choir repertoire. Some will be familiar favourites and some will be new to you, including the RSCM's commission for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We're delighted to welcome our new director, Ed, to his first Billericay Choral Society concert.

Musical Director: Ed Sutton

Ed Sutton first worked with choirs as Diocesan Organ Scholar in Norwich. He was simultaneously major music scholar at the King's School, Ely. He read music at the University of Edinburgh, and continued his studies at the University of Exeter, where he was Ouseley Senior Organ Scholar, researching the choral music of Giovanni Paolo Cima. Since then Ed has held various organist and choir director positions.

Ed left the music world many years ago and took a better paid career in financial services. He currently works in underwriting and product development in the city and lives in Chelmsford with his miniature schnauzer. He enjoys quizzes and gin, often in combination.

Accompanist: Tom Rodgers

Tom Rodgers is a professional conductor, accompanist, tutor and composer/arranger; he has been working with the Billericay Choral Society since January 2022 and is very pleased to be in this important supporting role within the choir. As well as accompanying the BCS, Tom also plays for the Ingatstone Choral Society and directs the Hornchurch "Can't" Sing Choir, the United Singers and The New Essex Choir. He is the organist for All Saint's Parish in Cranham and MD for Lennox Productions, a theatre company that fundraises for the Lennox Childrens' Cancer Fund. He runs a successful tuition business in the Billericay, Brentwood and Basildon area.

Our Thanks:

.... go to the Billericay Methodist Church for allowing us to rehearse and perform here; to our two professionals who guide us so well and make our rehearsals enjoyable; to Keith Miller (Marks Miller & Co. Solicitors) for the printing of the programme, to Rodgers Music for the design of the concert posters and programme; finally, thanks to you for coming along to hear us perform today.

Billericay Choral Society

... has been singing in Billericay for many years and currently has around 40 singers rehearsing and performing with us. With our new leadership team, we are very much looking forward to some exciting musical plans over the next couple of years. Now would be a great time to come and join us - no need to read music, no auditions: just come along and sing!

Contact Lorraine Douglas (01277 633131) or visit our website/Facebook page to get in touch. **www.billericaychoral.co.uk**

Please join in with us singing "Jerusalem":

*And did those feet in ancient time walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God on England's pleasant pastures seen?
And did the Countenance Divine shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here among these dark Satanic mills?
Bring me my bow of burning gold: Bring me my arrows of desire:
Bring me my spear: O clouds unfold! Bring me my chariot of fire.
I will not cease from mental fight, nor shall my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land.*

"In Our Service" is an anthem composed by Thomas Hewitt Jones, commissioned by the RSCM especially for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The text includes extracts from the Queen's own speeches across the years and set to music. Here are the lyrics:

No gilded throne nor gleaming crown of sapphire can sure outshine an earthly vow:
To serve, to live with dignity, with humble stewardship and sacrifice, a pledge of unity,
An act of love.

Though earthly rulers' roles are often fleeting, truth comes to those who nobly dare
To live a life of constancy; to love thy neighbour and thy family, a living ministry:
An act of love.

So, every day, we strive to do what's right; not choosing spite nor breeding hate.
A life of faith and honesty. As courage is the key to progress, we'll surely journey on,
Sustained by love.

The truth is: Grief is the price we pay for love and, surely, love will life sustain
With endless grace of heart and mind, to ascend with ever greater purpose
Through all the darkest times, to show us holy life throughout the years of life:
A vow of love.