

Wheatley Choral Society

Anni Nakamura, Julia Stutfield, Megan Hooper,
Trudie Ball, Rosemary Endsor, Jean Glenny, Terry Hood, Gill Gray, Ellie
Jestico, Melinda Kenneway, Susan Lee, Maureen O'Connor, Sylvia
Martineau, Celia Pagel, Alison Rudgewick-Brown, Frances Simpson, Alice
Stainer, Barbara Walton, Stephen Allen, Tony Barry, David Brown, John
Buckley, Hugh Kitchin, Matthew Maier, Roy Platon, Richard Towers, Bob
Webster, Mark Williams, Daniel Paul, Simon Birkett, Graeme Bentley,
Gordi Francis, Greg Hooper.

Publicity and Programme

Melinda Kenneway and TBI Wheatley, Matthew Maier and Brocklehurst
Architects, W.Wycombe, David Brown

Library

Sue Lee Matthew Maier

Leonie Cormack-Cook

Richard Weston

Ivan Best

Anni Nakamura, Julia Stutfield, Megan Hooper

Graeme Bentley

Andrew Patterson

Laura Covill

Ruth Butt

Richard Moller

Soprano

Bass

Trumpet

Sopranos

Tenor

Organ

Harp

Flute

Conductor

Wheatley Choral Society

OSO Percussion Ensemble - Christopher Fletcher, Roger Griffin

The concert tonight celebrates the 60 years of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's reign.

The 1953 Coronation featured a feast of British music by most major composers with the notable exception of Britten. Music in great state occasions has become a principal method of celebration and elevation with the first acclamations of Monarchy even written into a section of 'I Was Glad' by Parry, ('Vivat'). Many of tonight's anthems' words, (I Vow To Thee), reflect Her Majesty's dedication to public service as a sacred duty and her calm faith (Thou Wilt Keep Him In Perfect Peace' and 'Rejoice').

Handel is of course considered an honorary English composer, Zadok the Priest being an important anthem on previous occasions. There was no choral music by Purcell but this made way for modern composers like Walton. There were a number of special commissions such as 'O Taste and See' by Vaughan Williams.

Andrew Carter's 1992 'Musick's Jubilee', with words from 'Musick's Empire' by metaphysical poet Andrew Marvell, describes music as an elemental force of Nature tamed to eventually become a kingdom then an Empire 'of the ear' which then praises man or heaven. Music then mirrors the ascent of a nation. Some believe the 'gentler Conqueror' to be Oliver Cromwell.