



LAST CONCERT

Saturday 23 September 2023, 7:00pm
St John's Church, Markyate

Our Fair Ladies

Paeon - Peter Hurford

Wicked Lady - Richard Sisson

Sing joyfully - William Byrd

O nata Lux - Thomas Tallis

Three Songs (premiere) - Sasha Johnson Manning

Festal Te Deum - Elizabeth Poston

Spring will come again - Joanna Forbes L'Estrange &
Alexander L'Estrange

My Fair Lady Medley - Frederick Loewe, arr. Carl Strommen

Matthew Woodward - piano

Tom Winpenny - organ

Gillian Hicks - Trumpet

Markyate Village School Choir

Conducted by **Rufus Frowde**



Our Fair Ladies

Explore with us Hertfordshire's rich musical and literary heritage:

Tudor Anthems - Byrd & Tallis

The Wicked Lady - Sisson

Three Songs (premiere) -
Johnson-Manning

Spring will come again -
Forbes & L'Estrange

My Fair Lady Medley - Loewe

Matthew Woodward - piano

Jazz Trio

Markyate Village School Choir

Rufus Frowde - Conductor



St John's Church, Church End, Markyate
Saturday, 23 September 2023, 7:00pm



Tickets: Unreserved £15; Students £8; Under 16 free
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Hardynge Choir was very pleased to have a good audience at the **Our Fair Ladies** concert in St John's Church, Markyate.

The concert opened with Peter Hurford's **Paeon**, a joyful piece evocative of a fanfare, played by Tom Winpenny, Organ. This was followed by **Wicked Lady**, written and narrated by Richard Sisson. The children in Markyate Village School Choir took a major part in this work, and clearly enjoyed taking part, their singing was very spirited. The choir then sang two more reflective Tudor works, **Sing joyfully** by William Byrd and **O nata Lux** by Thomas Tallis.



For the choir, a highlight of the evening was singing **Three Songs** by Sasha Johnson Manning, our Honorary President, written specially for us, based on three poems chosen by choir. This was the first performance, and we were delighted that Sasha had driven down from Manchester to hear it. She clearly enjoyed the evening and wrote, "We thoroughly enjoyed the concert! It was a very happy evening and I even met up with an old BBC Singer friend, Martin Hindmarsh (Tenor) whom I hadn't seen for 30 years! A wonderful night! Rufus is a truly inspiring conductor isn't he?!"

That was followed by the choir singing **Festal Te Deum** by Elizabeth Poston, which had been lost for 59 years. There has only been one other performance since its rediscovery in 2018. Then Rufus and Matthew played the piano duet, **Christina** by Rufus Frowde, a short reflective work which took its inspiration from the life of Christina of Markyate.

The choir then sang **Spring Will Come Again** by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange & Alexander L'Estrange, an original song in folk style about the seasons reflecting the circle of life. The choir was then joined by the children's choir to sing **Adam and his helpmate**, an arrangement by Rufus Frowde of a simple Provençal Noël : this was sung in the round. The concert ended on a high with a spirited performance of **My Fair Lady Medley** by Frederick Loewe, arranged by Carl Strommen: the choir was again joined by the Markyate Village School Choir in some of the numbers.

The concert was greatly enjoyed by the audience. We received the following appreciative comment, "A most enjoyable concert with a real variety of music, and lovely to see collaboration between choir and local school children."

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