

Welcome to tonight's concert. The Singers have really enjoyed putting this concert together as it has taken many of them down memory lane to enjoy and share past exploits with those of us who are newer members. We hope you will sit back and enjoy the combination of old and new pieces in tonight's performance.

Thank you to all those individuals who have helped make this concert happen and the support from Sudbury Gasworks.

A big thank you goes to our accompanist, Rhoda and also to all the singers for their hard work and commitment.

Marchington Singers:

Sylvia Averill, Thelma Brassington, Will Carroll, Andrew Dickinson, Chris Eales, Ray Elliott, Caroline Ellis, Jenny Evans, Kate Geofferson, Sue Grimley, Joyce Halcrows, Maggie Hatchard, Shirley Horton, John Lander, Claire Marjoram, Fiona Neads, Lani Neads, Caroline Owen, Claire Roberts, Geoff Smith, Dave Thomas, Rachel Vickers, Gill Williamson, Paul Wrathman

Accompanist: Rhoda Castle

Conductor: Stephanie Goodwin

Our next concert: Saturday, 14th December, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church in Uttoxeter

We hope you can join us again for a festive celebration.

www.facebook.com/themarchingtonsingers or <http://marchingtonsingers.org>



Singing Along 40 Years On!

The Gasworks, Sudbury

Saturday, 11th May 2024

7.30pm

*Our 40th anniversary
celebration concert*

Registered charity number: 1166792

Memories of Marchington Singers from Joyce

Although not founder members of Marchington Singers, Sandy & I have been singing with the choir for over 35 years, and remember three conductors, Norman Barlow, John Whiteman and Wendy Scott, before Stephanie.

We have given many concerts, at least two a year, and sung at various weddings locally, as well as at other events, such as the competitions we took part in at Derby Cathedral, and at Burton Town Hall, where we managed not to disgrace ourselves.

The choir organised visits too, to Stirling, Stanhope (co Durham), and further afield, to Ypres and the battle fields, to Germany, where we had a timed slot to sing in Cologne Cathedral, Portugal, and Majorca. We sang in airport lounges, marquees and even bus shelters.

On one memorable occasion we entertained a visiting choir ourselves, through a contact of friends of Wendy & Tim. We hosted a choir from Russia and gave a joint concert with them in St Mary's Church Uttoxeter. Before we started, the warm-up routine of the Russian visitors was awe inspiring, and rendered us speechless, but we recovered, and the concert went well. That was a great weekend.

Some of our members have attended workshops, and we organized one some years ago in Marchington village hall, when Laura Mvula and her then husband put us , and other visiting choir members, through our paces.

Laura is not the only professional singer to have joined us for an event. During her time at the Royal Academy of Music, Lucy Crowe, whose mother was a member of Marchington Singers, came to sing with us at a concert we gave in Uttoxeter Town Hall, bringing with her a friend, Katherine Jenkins.



Set up by villagers, we still meet in the village hall most weeks for 2 hours of singing, challenge, fun, and friendship.

We are a mixed voice choir from Marchington and beyond. Some



of us read music and some of us don't but love to sing; we have audio tracks that can be accessed by everyone to learn the music between rehearsals.

We are looking for more singers - why not come and see what singing with us is like? No experience of singing in a choir is necessary.

Our weekly rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7.30 - 9.30pm in Marchington Village Hall, ST14 8LF. Find out more about us on

our website: <http://marchingtonsingers.org> email:

themarchingtonsingers@gmail.com

We start work on our Christmas concert repertoire on 11th September.

THE SINGERS OF MARCHINGTON: by Wendy Scott

(Otherwise known as 'The Marchington Singers')

Soprano, bass - and all between - make up a lively choir,
The tenors and the altos to great results aspire.
Rehearsals are a brilliant way to clear the foggy brain -
Some members come from far and near in heatwave, snow and rain!

There's something here for everyone (some like the warm-ups best)
And watching the conductor will put your mind at rest.
We've lost a few to pastures new; to some abodes remote.
Our number now is fewer - but we still can hit the note;

Some came and left without a word - they didn't stay for long.
A few singers have said goodbye, to join the heavenly throng.
We're very sad to lose them; they really were good mates;
Perhaps they're singing 'Kwmbayah' beyond the pearly gates.

We'd love for you to join us and be a singing member -
It's a really varied repertoire, from spring to late December.
Or join the FOMS and help us at events and concerts too
So there's a good alternative - it's really up to you!

Memories of Marchington Singers from Gill

I have always loved singing. In 1984 when the possibility of a local singing group emerged, I seized the chance and join in and here I still am!

There are so many highlights: success in local music festivals in the early years; singing with Lucy Crowe and Katherine Jenkins; workshops including one with Laura Mbula; tours to Germany, Scotland, Portugal and Belgium (where we sang at the Menin Gate). Who could ever forget those experiences?

So many concerts! I think there can only be a few local churches and venues that we have not visited at some point. Some venues were wonderful to sing in and some less so; some warm and welcoming; some with draughts straight from the North Pole. Weddings, funerals, birthday celebrations – We have done them all!

Some went to plan, and some did not. I recall the wedding where a double-decker bus was bringing all the guests to the ceremony, but it could not get into the village because of a low bridge. As it rerouted, we sang our introductory songs quite a few times!

So much to look back on with enjoyment. A big "Thank you" to the group who thought they could sing a few simple songs to entertain in 1984 and to all who have worked so hard to take the Marchington Singers to their fortieth birthday.

Programme Order

- My Grandfather's Clock - Trad.
- My Heart Will Go On -
- Poem: Wendy Scott
- Moon River -
- California Dreaming -
- Medley from Les Miserables -
- A Memory
- Solfege Symphony -
- Bridge over Troubled Waters -
- Africa -
- Kumbayah -
- Adiemus -
- A Memory written by Ian Jones
- Fields of Gold -
- The Best of Bond medley -
- You Can't Take that away from me -
- Poem: Wendy Scott
- Anthem from Chess
- Let the River Run -

Thank you for coming. We hope you enjoy tonight's
performance.

INTERVAL

Refreshments are available at the bar