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*Southend Bach Choir is very grateful to the Patrons  
for their continued encouragement and support*

**For details of the Patron Scheme  
phone Sue Burford on 01621 829551**

## OUR NEXT CONCERT

Saturday 23rd April 2016 at 7.30pm

**'Shakespearean Celebration'**

St Augustine's Church, Thorpe Bay

## WHY NOT JOIN US?

Southend Bach Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings  
from 7.30 to 9.30 pm at Blenheim Primary School, Leigh-on-Sea.  
Whether you are an experienced singer or a musical beginner  
you will be

## VERY WELCOME

For further information please contact:  
Ian Alston (Chair) on 01702 589209  
or visit our website:

[www.southendbachchoir.org.uk](http://www.southendbachchoir.org.uk)



Southend Bach Choir  
Registered Charity No. 274370

## Southend Bach Choir

Presents

# Messiah

with the

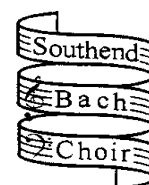
## Essex Concert Orchestra

Saturday 5th December 2015

7:00 pm

Westcliff High School for Boys

Westcliff on Sea



Programme



SUPPORTING &  
CHAMPIONING  
VOLUNTARY MUSIC

# The Southend Bach Choir

Musical Director - Colin Edwards

Southend Bach Choir began life in 1943 as an evening class of the Municipal College in Southend under the direction of its founder Dr Harold May, FRCO. Known as the Municipal College Choir it gave its first performance in December 1943 in a programme that consisted of selections from Handel's Messiah. As the Municipal College Choral Society the choir became well known, singing major works in Southend and further afield. In 1968 the choir became the Southend Bach Choir, and in 1993, under the direction of Gerald Bates, celebrated its Golden Jubilee with a memorable performance of Bach's Mass in B Minor. In 2001 the Choir welcomed its present Musical Director Colin Edwards, as he returned to his home town after many years in the North West. The choir performs a number of concerts each year in many venues in and around Essex, including a popular Christmas concert. Recent concerts have included The Concert for Remembrance – The Armed Man; Crucifixion; Rejoice - English Choral Music by Rutter, Britten, Vaughan Williams & Tippett; Made in Britain – music by John Rutter, Bob Chilcott, Andrew Lloyd Webber and the Beatles; Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle; An Evening of Gilbert & Sullivan; Mozart's Trinitatis Mass; Haydn's Creation Mass. The choir values its work in the community and regularly takes its music to sheltered housing and homes within the Southend area and also supports local charities. This year the choir are very pleased and proud to be taking part in the BBC Essex Radio Carol Concert.

We are pleased to welcome the Essex Concert Orchestra and the following soloists to our concert this evening.

**Alison Langer (*Soprano*)** is currently singing with Glyndebourne, working on their Tour productions after singing in this year's festival. Alison graduated from the GSMD opera course this year, under the tutelage of David Pollard. Alison made her professional debut as Lisette in La Rondine Puccini last summer with Dublin Company Opera in the Open. Roles include Erodiade San Giovanni Battista Stradella (Guildhall), Ida/Rosalinde (cover), Die Fledermaus Strauss (Clonter Opera). In Opera scenes, Juliette Gounod, Lucia Donizetti, Fiordiligi Mozart, Female Chorus Britten. In Opera performance, Countess The Cunning Peasant Dvorak (Guildhall), Norina I pazzi per Progetto Donizetti (Guildhall). Alison will be performing a solo recital at St Martin in the Fields on Tuesday 8th December as well as performing in Don Pasquale - Donizetti and Saul - Handel with Glyndebourne Touring Opera.

**Bethan Langford (*Mezzo Soprano*)** studies on the Opera Course at the Guildhall School, where she has been awarded the Susan Longfield prize and Paul Hamburger lieder prize. She is a Samling Artist, a Les Azuriales Young Artist, and as the winner of the Concordia Founders' Prize gave her debut Wigmore Hall recital earlier this year. Recent and future performances include Proserpina (cover) Orfeo (Royal Opera at the Roundhouse), Noble Orphan Der Rosenkavalier (Glyndebourne Festival Opera and BBC Proms), Prince Orlofsky Die Fledermaus (Clonter Opera), Duruflé Requiem

*The Southend Bach Choir would like to thank the following retail outlets for their support in advertising our concert tonight:*

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# THE ESSEX CONCERT ORCHESTRA

**Director:** Malcolm Hiscock    **Leader this evening:** Lorraine Kelly

Information: 01268 743069 / 01702 207912 / 07958 193390

Email: [boxoffice@essexconcertorchestra.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@essexconcertorchestra.org.uk)

Web: [www.essexconcertorchestra.org.uk](http://www.essexconcertorchestra.org.uk)

The Essex Concert Orchestra is a not-for-profit organisation whose objective is to bring varied orchestral music to a wider audience in an endearing and informative manner, whilst providing talented individuals with the opportunity to study and perform repertoire outside the confines of professional musicianship. It is also seen as a high calibre semi-professional orchestral body, which is available for hire or commissioning at relatively low cost by charities, trusts or other musical organisations. The Orchestra's total membership includes some eighty top musicians from the Essex area. These individuals include professional performers, students at prominent London and Essex music colleges, and music teachers. The Orchestra is a member of the Southend-on-Sea Arts Council and acknowledges the support given by Making Music (formerly known as The National Federation of Music Societies).

**Violins:** Lorraine Kelly (Leader)

Thomas Andreas  
Jane Beaumont  
Beverley Cooper  
Jeri Dinan  
Helen Gould  
Stan Hewitt  
Caron Hiscock  
Anuj Patel  
Caitlin Smith  
Karen Surridge  
David Young

**Violas:** John Culley  
Elaine Harden  
Gil Payne  
Michael Pearson

**Cellos:** David Bradshaw  
Jane Dench

**Basses:** Roy Dowling  
Ewan Boissinot

**Oboes:** Alison Brown  
Sam Willsmore

**Bassoon:** Lucy White

**Trumpets:** Jordan Carpenter  
Robert Getting

**Timpani:** Malcolm Hiscock

with Cambridge Philharmonic and the closing concert of the Oxford Lieder Festival (broadcast on BBC Radio 3). Bethan is currently preparing for a contemporary opera performance at the Royal Opera House and for the role of Lucretia in Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia* in Spring 2016 for Guildhall Opera. Bethan's studies are supported by an EMI Music Sound Foundation bursary, a Tutton Award from Help Musicians UK and the Worshipful Company of Skinners. She is looking forward to making her European solo debut at Gaudi's House in Barcelona in April 2016.

**Nick Allen (*Tenor*)** graduated from the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in 2011. Last summer he played the roles of Frederic in *The Pirates of Penzance* and Nanki-Poo in *The Mikado* in the inaugural UK tour of the Official Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Company. Other roles include 'Tobias' in Jonathan Dove's opera, *Tobias and the Angel*, and 'Defendant' in G&S' *Trial by Jury*. He understudied the role of 'Damon' in *Acis and Galatea* under the late Sir Charles Mackerras at the Jubilee Hall in Aldeburgh. His wide oratorio experience includes tenor solos in Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Coronation Mass*, Haydn's *Creation* and *Nelson Mass*, Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*, Michael Haydn's *Missa pro Defunctis*, Ramirez's *Navidad Nuestra* and the *Evangelist* in Bach's *St. John Passion*. In 2013 Nick performed Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings* as part of the centenary celebrations. Nick attended the seven-week summer opera course held in Banff, Canada, where he made his operatic debut as Peter Quint in the Benjamin Britten opera *The Turn of the Screw* as part of the annual Banff Summer Arts Festival. Nick has collaborated as a soloist with numerous contemporary composers and performed their new works at venues including the Wigmore Hall and St. John's, Smith Square. In 2011 and 2012 at the Barbican Pit Theatre he played the role of English composer Herbert Howells in *A Soldier and a Maker* - a play written and directed by Iain Burnside based on the life and music of Ivor Gurney. Nick was also part of the radio version of the play for BBC Radio 3.

**Piran Legg (*Baritone*)** was born in Kent and graduated as a baritone from the Guildhall Opera School in the summer of 2014. Since then he has begun his studies on the Artist's Diploma with Kate Paterson. He made his operatic debut at the Wexford Festival singing chorus and small roles and has previously performed in 2012 at Garsington, as cover Alcandro in Vivaldi's *L'Olimpiade* and *The Guide, Boy on boat and Polish Father* in Britten's *Death in Venice* in the summer of 2015. In addition to this Piran, whilst working as a Garsington Young Artist, understudied the role of the Notary in Strauss's comic romance, *Intermezzo*. Recent highlights include a debut at the Cadogan Hall singing Schaunard in *La Boheme*, assuming the title mantle of a crusty old codger with a prosthetic nose in *The Cooper* by Thomas Arne at the Guildhall School, as well as taking a young artist position at Iford in Monteverdi's *The Return of Ulysses* with Christian Curnyn. In October Piran made a return to Cadogan Hall singing the role of Danieli in Wagner's *Das Liebesverbot* with Chelsea Opera Group. A busy concert schedule is planned over the coming months, with performances of Handel's *Messiah* around the U.K. and a performance of the Bach Christmas Oratorio on the 23rd of December. Piran was an International Opera Awards bursary winner 2014 – 2015 and is grateful for the financial support of The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers and Serena Fenwick.

# THE SOUTHEND BACH CHOIR

## Messiah – Handel

### Overture

Comfort ye my people	Recitative	Tenor	All they that see him, laugh him to scorn	Recitative	Tenor
Ev'ry valley shall be exalted	Aria	Tenor	He trusted in God	Chorus	
And the glory of the Lord	Chorus		Thy rebuke hath broken his heart	Recitative	
Thus saith the Lord	Recitative	Bass	Behold, and see if there be any sorrow	Aria	Tenor
But who may abide the day of his coming?	Aria	Bass	He was cut off out of the land of the living	Recitative	Tenor
And he shall purify	Chorus		But thou didst not leave his soul in hell	Aria	Tenor
Behold, a virgin shall conceive	Recitative	Alto	Lift up your heads, O ye gates	Chorus	
O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion	Aria and Chorus	Alto	How beautiful are the feet	Duet and Chorus	Soprano & Alto
For unto us a child is born	Chorus		Why do the nations so furiously rage together	Aria	Bass
Pastoral Symphony			He that dwelleth in heaven	Recitative	Tenor
a) There were shepherds abiding in the field	Recitative	Soprano	Thou shalt break them	Aria	Tenor
b) And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them	Recitative	Soprano	Hallelujah	Chorus	
And the angel said unto them	Recitative	Soprano	I know that my redeemer liveth	Aria	Soprano
And suddenly there was with the angel	Recitative	Soprano	Since by man came death	Chorus	
Glory to God	Chorus		Behold, I tell you a mystery	Recitative	Bass
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion	Aria	Soprano	The trumpet shall sound	Aria	Bass
Then shall the eyes of the blind	Recitative	Alto	Then shall be brought to pass	Recitative	Alto
He shall feed his flock	Aria	Alto & Soprano	O death, where is thy sting?	Duet	Alto & Tenor

### *INTERVAL (20 mins)*

Behold the Lamb of God	Chorus		Amen	Chorus	
He was despised	Aria	Alto			
Surely he has borne our griefs	Chorus				
All we like sheep have gone astray	Chorus				

*The New Novello Choral Edition (Shaw)*

**Harpsichord: Roger Humphrey**

The Choir are grateful for the support of the Southend-on-Sea Arts Council in staging this concert.