



Christmas Rose

## ***Nine Lessons and Carols: Dancing Day***

**Sunday 10 December 2023 3.00 pm St Oswald's Church**

**Free with donations shared between the Church and the Choir**

A service led by Revd Nancy Goodrich, with familiar Christmas hymns and traditional Bible readings. This year, all the carols sung by the Choir put ancient melodies and / or words in new settings, including Dancing Day and When Christ was Born by John Gardner and There is no Rose by John Joubert.

## ***JOIN US TO SING Messiah for All***

**Tuesday 12 December 2023 7.30 pm  
Bollington Arts Centre**

**Tickets £10: 01625 511881  
Booking essential!**



With local soloists and orchestra led by Nicola Bright, proceeds will be donated to **The High Peak Foodbank** in memory of **Judith Smith**, loyal Choir member and talented bassoonist who often played in this annual event.

## ***JOIN US TO SING The English Abroad***

**Saturday 9 March 2024 10.00-4.00  
Bollington Arts Centre**

**£15 includes music loan, rehearsal tracks and tea / coffee and biscuits**

The annual Singing Day features music by English composers depicting foreign climes including Elgar in the Bavarian Highlands and Bob Chilcott and Alan Simmons in the Americas. We welcome singers of all abilities to enjoy exploring varied and attractive music in a convivial, supportive atmosphere.

Full details and a booking form will be available in December 2023.

## ***JOIN US TO SING in all our concerts!***

Tuesday evening rehearsals at our home **Bollington Arts Centre** resume on 12 September 2023, 7.45-9.30 pm. Like all amateur choirs, we welcome new singers. Unlike many choirs, we have no auditions. You're assured of a warm welcome! Ring 01625 511881 or visit [www.bollfestchoir.org.uk](http://www.bollfestchoir.org.uk) for details.



# **Bollington Festival Choir**

## **2023-2024**

**"...happy, confident singers,  
alert to the music..."**



## ***Programme of Concerts and Events***

**[www.bollfestchoir.org.uk](http://www.bollfestchoir.org.uk)  
Registered Charity no: 513224**

## ***Winter Wonders***

**Sunday 26 November 2023**  
**7.30 pm**

**Bollington Arts Centre**  
Wellington Road SK10 5JR



*St Martin dividing his cloak,*  
attributed to Jan Boeckhorst

From St Martin bringing warmth to a beggar, to the Angels visiting the Shepherds, a celebration of Winter across Europe, sacred and secular.

### **Soloists from the Choir** **Rosalind Hall piano**

On the first Sunday in Advent, a selection of seasonal music includes David Monks' tribute to St Martin (Nov 11), wintry scenes from Purcell's Fairy Queen and King Arthur, Donald Judge's new Missa Brevis: Carols, Canons and Chorales, Isabella Leonarda's Gloria in Excelsis Deo, and a selection of sacred and secular songs reflecting on the delights or dangers of Winter.

## ***BFC Golden Jubilee***

**Sunday 25 February 2024**  
**7.30 pm**

**Bollington Arts Centre**  
Wellington Road SK10 5JR



*The Choir at St Oswald's Church, March 2023. Photo by Roger Graham.*

### **Bollington Festival Choir** turns 60 this year! With guest **Wind Quintet**

Some highlights of concerts since the Choir's 50th Anniversary will be reprised, along with new repertoire and solos from talented members, with our accompanist Rosalind Hall.

The Choir loves singing Baroque music and several gems are included. Other choral numbers reflect conductor, composer and arranger Donald Judge's fascination with Czech music and culture, and the wind quintet's guest spots will include his Rain on the Vltava, a tone poem based on Czech melodies.

To end the concert all the performers join in the entertaining **The Bolly Flyer**, a work by Berlioz celebrating a new railway, with new words by David Ward for the 2019 Festival.

## ***Dido and Aeneas***

**Sunday 19 May 2024**  
**7.30 pm**

**St Oswald's Church**  
Bollington Road SK10 5EG



*Rutilio Manetti*

A classical tragedy telling of the love of the doomed Carthaginian Queen for a Trojan war hero. Passion, witchcraft, betrayal and death told in glorious music from the 17th century.

### **Hrafnhildur Björnsdóttir soprano** **Orchestra led by Nicola Bright**

Postponed from April 2020, a complete concert performance of the first true opera in English, with Choir members and friends in the solo roles. A dancer will heighten the emotional impact of the instrumental numbers. Before the Interval, more beautiful Baroque music by Monteverdi including the joyful Beatus Vir, and Carissimi's vision of Jonah inside the Whale and the redemption of the people of Nineveh.

**Tickets: November / February £10    May £15    (£5 for 18s and under) 01625 575554**

Founded by Dr John Coope MBE in 1964, and conducted since 2002 by Donald Judge, Bollington Festival Choir is a friendly Choir that retains its village roots while attracting members from a wide area. The Choir has always performed some unusual repertoire which is seldom tackled by other choirs: this year, we hope you'll enjoy three varied concerts featuring music sacred, secular and theatrical, plus *Messiah for All* and a Christmas Carol Service at St Oswald's Church.