

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS

Karl Jenkins

# THE PEACEMAKERS

Programme

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 3:00pm

The Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

*Royal Tunbridge Wells*

**CHORAL  
SOCIETY**

[WWW.RTWCS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.RTWCS.ORG.UK)

RTWCS is a Registered Charity, number 273310

£2

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is a vibrant community of people from all walks of life. It is an amateur, mixed voice choir spanning a wide age group, with members drawn from the Kent and East Sussex area in and around Tunbridge Wells. Professional Director Robyn Sevastos, and expert accompanist Craig Hudson, teach, guide and inspire us in a wide range of choral music.

The Choral Society stages four concerts a year – at the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells with professional soloists and orchestra, and other venues.

We are always happy to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the Choir. Come to a rehearsal, every Monday in term time, at St John's Church Hall, Amherst Road, Tunbridge Wells, from 7.30pm. For more details of events and how to join, visit our website: [www.rtwcs.org.uk](http://www.rtwcs.org.uk).

### SUPPORTING ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY

If you would like to support arts in the community, and RTWCS in particular, you can become a Patron to help the Choir maintain its high standard of performance with professional soloists and orchestra. For more information, contact Elena, [patrons\\_secretary@rtwcs.org.uk](mailto:patrons_secretary@rtwcs.org.uk).

Many thanks to our current patrons and friends:

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*Royal Tunbridge Wells*  
**CHORAL  
SOCIETY**

Charity N°: 273310

# Karl Jenkins: THE PEACEMAKERS

**Aram Khachaturian:** Sabre Dance from *Gayaneh* (arr. David Coronel)

**Erik Satie:** Gymnopedie No. 1 (arr. David Coronel)

**Leigh Howard Stevens:** Rhythmic Caprice (Soloist - Gosia Kepa, Marimba)

**Malcom Arnold:** Concert Piece for Percussion & Piano

## Part 1

*Blessed are the peacemakers*

*Fanfare*

*Peace, peace!*

*I offer you peace*

*Inner peace*

*Healing Light: A Celtic prayer*

*Meditation: Peace is...*

*Evening Prayer*

*Solitude*

## INTERVAL

## Part 2

*Fiat pax in virtute tua*

*He had a dream*

*The Dove*

*The Peace Prayer of St Francis of Assisi*

*One Song*

*Let there be justice for all*

*Dona nobis pacem*

*Anthem: Peace, triumphant peace*

**Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society & Orchestra**

**Conductor:** Robyn Sevastos

**Orchestra leader:** Andrew Laing

**Soloists:** Louisa Alice-Rose & Olivia Greenwell

**Speaker:** Karen Mackintosh

## ABOUT SIR KARL JENKINS (b. 1944)

*“The music of Karl Jenkins is a gift to humanity.”*

– Terry Waite CBE

*“Karl Jenkins is a rarity among contemporary composers, balancing popularity with innovation” – The Independent*



Raised in Penclawdd, on the Gower Peninsula, Sir Karl Jenkins was educated at Gowerton Grammar School. He later read music at Cardiff University (B.Mus) and The Royal Academy of Music, London (LRAM), before starting his career as a jazz and jazz-rock musician.

Jenkins is best known for his 'cross-genre' phenomenon *Adiemus* and *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*, which were fundamental to his future style which continued with works such as *Requiem*, *Stabat Mater*, *Gloria*, *Te Deum*, *Miserere* and *The Peacemakers*. These works encapsulated his ideas on peace, multiculturalism and the use of indigenous or ethnic text and instrumentation, alongside sacred Latin and western orchestra.

A decorated musician, Jenkins has 17 'gold and platinum' discs and has been in the UK Classical charts for 18 years. He has been invited to compose music for His Majesty King Charles III and the London Symphony Orchestra and has also received an OBE (2005), CBE (2010), two BAFTA Cymru awards, and a knighthood in The Late Queen's 2015 Birthday Honours List, to name a few.

Married to composer/educationalist Carol Barratt, Jenkins has a film and media composer son, whose wife Rosie plays oboe in the London Symphony Orchestra.

# KENTISH OPERA

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S

## The Yeomen Of The Guard

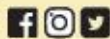
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STAG  
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## *In Memoriam*

### **Michèle Roszak**

At rehearsal three weeks ago, the choir were saddened to hear of the passing of Michèle Roszak. A very well-known figure in Tunbridge Wells music circles through her teaching of singing at the Girls Grammar and Bennett Memorial schools, her family's association with the choir began in the 1960's through her mother, Winnie, who was a member with us for over twenty years.

A gifted singer, Michèle sang with the choir as a teenager before starting her training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She made her formal London debut in Bach's B minor Mass at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in 1983 and performed as a soloist in our 1986 production of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's oratorio, *Hiawatha*.

In recent years we benefited from her gracious reviews of our concerts. Ever fair and appreciative of the intricacies from a singer's perspective, she always found the right phrase to encourage our development as singers, even on the (rare) occasions where our performance was under par!

A genuinely nice person, Michèle will be sorely missed by her family, friends and students. In echo of this afternoon's work, we wish you Peace, Shalom, Shanti, Salam.

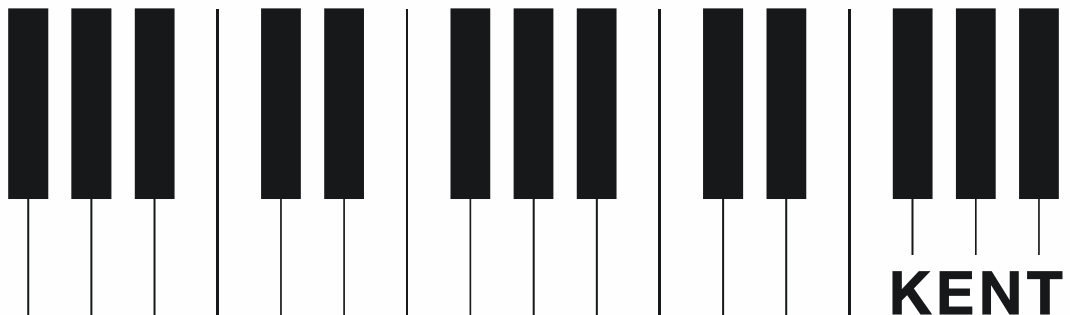
## ABOUT THE PEACEMAKERS

*"Music has the capacity to breathe harmony into the soul. The Peacemakers breathes the harmony of peace" – Terry Waite CBE*

*The Peacemakers* is a work extolling peace. Messages from iconic figures that have shaped history, and other lesser known contributors, have been brought together to create a musical environment to sum up the ethos of the piece: "All religions, all singing one song: Peace be with you".

Figures used to deliver the message of peace include Gandhi, Mandela and Martin Luther King, as well as Mother Teresa and Anne Frank. Jenkins felt there was a need for Abrahamic religions, and so words from Christ, the Qur'an, Judaism and St Seraphim of Sarov (Russian Orthodox) and St Francis of Assisi appear. His wife, Carole Barratt, also contributed, as well as Terry Waite CBE, who wrote words especially for *The Peacemakers*.

# THE PIANO SHOP



**Nevill Estate Yard, Eridge, Tunbridge Wells, TN3 9JR**

**01892 543233**

**[www.thepianoshopkent.co.uk](http://www.thepianoshopkent.co.uk)**

## PART ONE

### Blessed are the Peacemakers

*"Blessed are the Peacemakers for they will be called the children of God."* - Jesus Christ, Matthew 5:9

*Shalom. Shanti. Salam* – 'Peace' in Hebrew, Hindi and Arabic

### Fanfara

*Frieden* – German

*Heiwa* – Japanese

*Selam* – Ethiopian

*Mir* – Russian

*Shanti* – Hindi

*Rauha* – Finnish

*Peace* – English

*Paz* – Spanish

*Irini* – Greek

*Pace* – Italian

*Paix* – French

*Vrede* – Dutch

*Pax* – Latin

*Shalom* – Hebrew

*Béke* – Hungarian

*He ping* – Mandarin

*Salam* – Arabic

*Fred* – Swedish

*Heddwch* – Welsh

*Shlamah* – Aramaic

*Pokój* – Polish

### Peace, peace!

*"Peace, peace! He is not dead, he doth not sleep – he hath awakened from the dream of life – 'Tis we, who lost in stormy visions, keep With phantoms an unprofitable strife."* - Percy Shelley (1792-1822)

*Shalom. Shanti. Shlama. Salam* – 'Peace' in Hebrew, Hindi, Aramaic and Arabic

### I offer you peace

*"I offer you peace. I offer you love. I offer you friendship. I see your beauty. I hear your need. I feel your feelings. My wisdom flows from the Highest Source. I salute that Source in you. Let us work together for unity and love ... an eye for an eye leaves the whole world blind."* – Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

### Inner Peace

*"We can never have peace in the world if we neglect the inner world and don't make peace with ourselves. World peace must develop out of inner peace. Peace starts within each one of us. When we have inner peace we can be at peace with those around us"* – the Dalai Lama (b. 1935)



### Healing Light: A Celtic Prayer

*"Deep peace of the running wave to  
you,*

*Deep peace of the flowing air to you,*

*Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,*

*Deep peace of the shining stars to  
you,*

*Deep peace of the gentle night to you,*

*Moon and stars pour their healing light  
on you,*

*Deep peace of Christ, the light of the  
world, to you,*

*Deep peace of Christ to you.*

*Amen" – Anon.*

### Meditation: Peace is...

*"Peace is the fragile meeting of two souls in harmony.*

*Peace is an embrace that protects and heals.*

*Peace is a reconciling of opposites.*

*Peace is rooted in love, it lies in the heart waiting to be nourished, blossom and  
flourish until it embraces the world.*

*May we know the harmony of peace.*

*May we sing the harmony of peace*

*Until in the last of days we rest in peace." – Terry Waite CBE (b.1939)*

### Evening Prayer

*"Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,*

*Bless this bed that I lie on.*

*Before I lay me down to sleep,*

*I pray the Lord my soul to keep.*

*Four corners to my bed,*

*Four angels there are spread;*

*Two at the foot, two at the head:*

*Four to carry me when I'm dead.*

*I go by sea, I go by land:*

*The Lord made me with his right  
hand*

*Should any danger come to me,*

*Sweet Jesus Christ deliver me.*

*He's my branch and I'm the flower,*

*Pray God send me a happy hour;*

*And should I die before I wake,*

*I pray the Lord my soul to take."*

*– Anon*

## INTERVAL

## PART TWO

### Fiat pax in virtute tua

*"Fiat pax in virtute tua, abundantia in turribus tuis. Propter fratres meos et proximos meos loquebar pacem de te."* - Psalm 122 : 7-8

*"Peace begins with a smile. If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other"* – Mother Teresa (1910-1997)

*"Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes I will now say, Peace be within thee."* – Psalm 122: 7-8

*"The important thing in life is the traces of love that we leave behind when we have to leave unasked and say farewell."* - Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965)

*"And the true servants of the All-Merciful walk the earth with humility, and when the ignorant address them they say, 'Peace'"* – The Qur'an 25:63

### He had a dream

*"He had a dream that all mankind could live together in peace and harmony. He had a dream that people of different colours and creeds could live together. He had a dream that..."*

*"...every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together"*

*"That was his dream. He had a dream"* – Elegy for Martin Luther King Jr, Karl Jenkins/Isaiah 40: 4-5

### The Dove

*"Dove of peace fly here to find us,  
Feathers softly stroking the earth.  
Dove of peace so soft, so silent,  
Please protect each innocent birth.  
Dove of peace we reach to touch  
you,  
Pure and white, please comfort our  
fears.*

*Spread contentment gently near us,  
Spread your wings and dry all our  
tears.  
Dove of peace fly here to find us,  
Feathers caught in circles of light.  
Dove of peace so soft, so silent,  
Turn each day to sweet sleep each  
night."* – Carol Barratt (b. 1945)

## The Peace Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

*"O Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is discord, harmony;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
Where there is sorrow, joy;  
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console ;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal  
life."* – St Francis of Assisi (1181-1226)

## One Song

*"No more war..."* – Karl Jenkins  
*"...better is peace than always war, better is peace than ever more war"* – Sir  
Thomas Malory (1405-1471)  
*"All religions. All this singing. One song. Peace be with you"* – Rumi (1207-1273)  
*"Blessed peace, blessed peace, take away torment and be at peace. Please make  
our future a world without war. Give us a future that we can call our own. Grant us  
a life where love and peace surround us. Bended knees, folded hands, listen to  
prayers from many lands. Crying for mercy and pleading for peace. Shalom. Sing  
one song, sing peace be with you. Give us a future free from dark despair.  
Pilgrims who take the light of the world to share. No more war, no more war."* –  
Carol Barratt/Karl Jenkins

## **Let there be justice for all**

*"After climbing a great hill one finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can rest only for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not yet ended. Let there be justice for all. Let there be peace for all. Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all. Let each know that for each the body, the mind and the soul have been freed to fulfil themselves." – Nelson Mandela (b.1918)*

## **Dona nobis pacem**

*"Lord give us peace. Dona nobis pacem" – Ordinary of the Mass*  
*"The world is but one country, and mankind its citizens. We are all fruits of one tree and leaves of one branch" – Baha'u'llah (1817-1892)*

## **Anthem: Peace, triumphant peace**

*"Peace, triumphant peace shall reign on Earth some day. Pray for peace and make your words echo round the world for peace one day, on Earth one day, that wondrous day when the world has peace, glorious peace, such peace. When will such lasting peace arrive on that wondrous day on this our Earth? May all our paths meet up and lead to one holy place where peace shall reign in our hearts, one wondrous day when the world has peace, glorious peace, such peace." – Carol Barratt*

*"How wonderful it is that no-one need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world" – Anne Frank (1929-1945)*

*"Embrace the spirit of peace and thousands of souls around you will be saved" – St Seraphim of Sarov (1759-1833)*



ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# 2023-24 SEASON

2023

01 October

05 November

26 November

2024

04 February

03 March

07 April

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*With programmes including much-loved symphonies  
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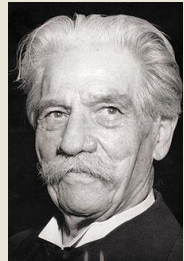
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## The Authors



**Anne Frank (1929-1945):** A German-born Jewish girl who is a celebrated diarist following her documented life in hiding from Nazis. She is one of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust, gaining fame posthumously from the 1947 publication of *The Diary of a Young Girl*. Frank and her family were trapped in a hidden room in Amsterdam during the German occupation in World War II, before being arrested in August 1944 and taken to concentration camps. Anne Frank and her sister died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, around March 1945.

**Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965):** A renowned German Theologian, philosopher and humanitarian, Schweitzer was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952. As an organist and musicologist, he is noted for his research into the life of J S Bach.



**Baha'u'llah (1817-1892):** Born Husayn-'Ali in Persia, Baha'u'llah was the founder of the Baha'i Faith. After being exiled due to his faith, in 1863, in Iraq, he announced his claim to a revelation from God and spent the rest of his life in imprisonment in the Ottoman Empire. His teachings revolved around the principles of unity and religious renewal, from moral and spiritual progress to world governance.

**Carol Barratt (b. 1945):** Barratt was born in the Midlands and trained at the Royal College of Music, London, quickly establishing herself as a composer and pianist, whilst also studying the violin. She was the first woman and first composer to be awarded the Martin Musical Scholarship by the Philharmonia, and written a children's book and has written several texts for works by her husband, Sir Karl Jenkins.



**Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948):** Mohandas Gandhi was an Indian lawyer, anti-colonial nationalist and political ethicist, made famous for his nonviolent resistance. He led the successful campaign for India's independence from British rule, and later inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world. He was honoured as *Mahatma* meaning "great-souled" and "venerable" in 1914 in South Africa. He was assassinated by Nathuram Godse, a Hindu nationalist from Western India, who fired three bullets into his chest during an interfaith prayer meeting in Delhi in January 1948. His birthday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, is a National holiday in India, and known worldwide as International Day of Nonviolence.



**Martin Luther King Jr (1929-1968):** An American Baptist minister and activist, King was one of the most prominent leaders in the civil rights movement of 1955. Martin Luther King advanced civil rights for people of colour in the United States through nonviolence and civil disobedience. Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, he led resistance against Jim Crow laws and other forms of discrimination in the US. In 1963, he was a leader of the March on Washington, where he delivered his famous *I have a dream* speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. He went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize, before his assassination in Memphis in 1968. He was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977, and Martin Luther King Jr Day is now an established holiday across the US.

**Mother Teresa (1910-1997):** An Albanian-Catholic nun who founded the Missionaries of Charity. After the founding of her religious congregation, over 4,500 nuns across 133 countries manage homes for people dying of HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis. Mother Teresa received the Nobel Peace Prize but asked that the prize money of \$192,000 be given to the poor in India. She died on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 1997, following a period of ill-health, before being canonised as Saint Teresa of Calcutta and making the anniversary of her death her feast day.





**Nelson Mandela (1918-2013):** Mandela was a South African anti-apartheid activist and politician who served as the first president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999, with his government focused on dismantling apartheid by fostering racial reconciliation. Before this, he was imprisoned for a life sentence for conspiring to overthrow the state following the Rivonia Trial. He was released after 27 years amid growing domestic and international pressure

and fears of a racial civil war, in 1990. A controversial figure throughout his life, he gained international acclaim for his activism, received the Nobel Peace Prize and is often referred to as the "Father of the Nation". Suffering from a prolonged respiratory infection, Mandela died aged 95 in his home town surrounded by family.

**Percy Shelley (1792-1822):** A major English Romantic poet, Shelley was born in Warnham, West Sussex. He was the heir to rich estates, but as a rebellious youth, was expelled from Oxford in 1811. He eloped with Harriet Westbrook, the daughter of a tavern owner, and began channelling his passion for love and social justice into poetry. He was married again, after Harriet drowned herself, to Mary Shelley (nee Wollstonecraft Godwin) and moved to Italy. Shelley drowned at age 29 sailing in a storm off the Italian coast, leaving his final, and greatest, poem *The Triumph of Life*, unfinished.



**Rumi (1207-1273):** Jalal al-Din Muhammad Rumi was a 13<sup>th</sup> century Persian poet, Hanafi faqih, Islamic scholar, Maturidi theologian and Sufi mystic, from Greater Iran. Rumi's influence transcends national borders and ethnic divisions, with his poems being widely translated into many of the world's languages and transposed into various formats. His words, Karl Jenkins states, sum up the ethos of *The Peacemakers*.

*"All religions, all singing one song: Peace be with you".*



**Sir Thomas Malory (1400-1470):** An English writer, Malory wrote the classic English-language chronicle of the Arthurian legend *Le Morte d'Arthur*, published most popularly by the famed London printer William Caxton in 1485. Much of his life is obscure, but he identified himself as a 'knight prisoner', reflecting that he was either a criminal or prisoner-of-war. His identity has, however, never been confirmed, but since modern scholars began researching, the most widely accepted identity is that of Sir Thomas Malory of Newbold Revel (Warwickshire), who was imprisoned at various times for criminal and political reasons during the Wars of the Roses.

**St Seraphim of Sarov (c.1754-1833):** He is one of the most renowned Russian saints and is venerated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Anglican Communion. Seraphim extended the monastic teachings of contemplation, theoria and self-denial to the lay-person. He taught the purpose of Christian life; to receive the Holy Spirit, and perhaps his most popular quote amongst his devotees is "*acquire a peaceful spirit, and thousands around you will be saved*".



**St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226):** Francesco d'Assisi was an Italian mystic and Catholic friar who founded the Franciscans. Inspired to lead a life of poverty as an itinerant preacher, he is one of the most venerated figures in Christianity, and was canonised by Pope Gregory IX in 1228. St Francis is associated with patronage of animals and the environment, and it is customary for churches to hold ceremonies blessing animals on his feast day, 4<sup>th</sup> October, and he is known for his devotion to the Eucharist. Along with Catherine of Siena, he was designated patron saint of Italy.

**Terry Waite CBE (b. 1939):** Terry Waite is an English humanitarian and author. He was the Assistant for Anglican Communion Affairs in the 1980s and as an envoy of the Church of England, travelled to Lebanon to secure the release of four hostages, including the journalist John McCarthy.



He was himself kidnapped and held hostage from 1987 to 1991. Following his release, he wrote his first book *Taken on Trust* and became involved in humanitarian and charitable causes. He was awarded an MBE in 1982 and the CBE in 1992 as well as honorary doctorates from the Universities of City of London, Kent, Liverpool, Durham, Sussex and Yale.



**The 14th Dalai Lama (b. 1935):** The Dalai Lama is a title given by the Tibetan people to the foremost spiritual leader of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism. Tenzin Gyatso, the current Dalai Lama, is a refugee living in India. He advocates the welfare of Tibetans and since the early 1970s, he has called for the Middle Way Approach to China to peacefully resolve the issues of Tibet. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and was named as a child of Gandhi and his spiritual heir to nonviolence.

# ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY SINGERS

## Sopranos

Elaine Abbs	Val Crichton	Frances Rotunno
Sue Barker	Maggie Hall	Stephanie Sander
Debbie Benson	Tricia Hardingham	Kate Sarkis
Diana Blower	Evelien Hurst-Buist	Jane Sharpe
Felicity Brown	Isobel Lowe	Penny Stephens
Adriana Capadose	Louise Packham	Catherine Whitlock
Heather Champion	Michele Palmer	Anne Willatt
Sue Cordani	Eileen Phillips	Joanne Wye
Amy Cordani		

## Altos

Pat Arnold	Alison Jenks	Ros Robertson
Judith Aveson	Sheila Jones	Kay Ruby
Margaret Butcher	Ailsa Kelleher	Jane Selley
Gillian Cameron-Cooper	Laura Marshall	Jenny Selway
Amy Cook	Ailsa McMahon	Anne Symons
Pauline Coxshall	Lea Owen	Katherine Tucker
Lucy Fincham	Catherine Palmer	Alice Velge
Joanna Finlay	Joy Pons	Jane Walters
Rosie Floyd	Florence Powell	Pam White
Judith Henderson	Catherine Rigby	Sarah White
Pat Jay		

## Tenors

David Cook	Janet Noble	Sue Taylor
Peter Elliott	Olivia Seaman	Danny Walters
Richard Hardingham	Michael Spencer	Richard Walmsley
Nick Lucas		

## Basses

Ian Aveson	Nick Franck	Bob Jay
David Barker	Gavin Grant	Stephen Pollard
Jeremie Bodin	Glen Goodall	Michael Selway
Robin Cameron-Cooper	Chris Gutteridge	Christopher Smart
Tarquin Crouch	Graham Hall	Clive Steward
Steve Davis	David Ham	Martin Williams
Mike Dowden	Anthony Hoskin	David Wright
Robert Fenn		

# THE ORCHESTRA

**1<sup>st</sup> Violins:** Andy Laing (Leader), Rachel Hess, Andrew Condon, Phil McKerracher, Monika Molnar,

**2<sup>nd</sup> Violins:** Rosie Cousins, Mark Cousins, Susan Skone James, Robert Skone James

**Viola:** Dave Griffiths, Jenny Carter, Elizabeth Rook, Vanessa Townsend

**Cello:** Helen McDonald, Helen Griffiths, Marion Hitchcock

**Double Bass:** Rob Ferguson

**Flute:** Ian McLauchlan

**Saxophone:** Richard Melkonian

**Guitar:** Dan Mackintosh

**Organ:** Craig Hudson

**Percussion:** Gosia Kepa, Mayo Yoshida & Tobias Engelbrektsson

**Timpani:** David Coronel

## Musical Director, Robyn Sevastos



Robyn graduated from Melbourne University with a BMus, and First Class Honours in Performance. She subsequently moved to England to continue her studies, obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and a Performance Diploma from the Royal College of Music. She performed extensively as a piano soloist, and accompanied and coached singers and instrumentalists in the UK and abroad. As a conductor, she has directed many choral and operatic works, often working with internationally renowned artists. In addition to Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society, she is music director of London Opera Productions, Kentish Opera, the Llantilio Crossenny Festival, Sevenoaks Philharmonic Society and Bromley Philharmonic Choir. She has conducted many major choral works, including Verdi's *Requiem* at Croydon's Fairfield concert hall, and Bach's *St Matthew Passion* at St Clement Danes church in London. She has performed at the Royal Albert Hall, the Barbican and the O2 Arena, and at Kensington Palace and Sandringham for HRH King Charles III.

## Orchestra Leader, Andrew Laing

Andrew (Andy) Laing was born in Aberdeen. He started learning the violin when he was five years old and at sixteen was appointed leader of the National String Orchestra of Scotland. He studied at Royal Academy of Music, winning several awards and scholarships. While still a student he was appointed leader of the Morley College Symphony Orchestra, also regularly led the Ealing Symphony Orchestra, the Hatfield Philharmonic and the Forest Philharmonic. At the RAM Andy formed and led the Locrian String Quartet. The Quartet won many awards, was broadcast on BBC radio and TV and gave numerous first performances of works by contemporary composers. Subsequently he became sub-leader of the BBC Radio Orchestra, then Leader of the London City Ballet Orchestra. Andrew is currently leader of both the Bromley and Maidstone Symphony Orchestras.



## Organ, Craig Hudson

Craig Hudson grew up in Poole, Dorset, learning piano and trumpet from the age of eight. He won scholarships to Clayesmore Preparatory and Senior Schools, where he learned to play the organ, and went on to read maths and music at St John's College, Cambridge. From 2005 to 2012, Craig worked at All Souls Church, Langham Place, combining his Christian faith with his love for music and working with young people. Highlights included conducting the All Souls Orchestra and Choir, playing in Prom Praise concerts throughout the UK. Since 2012 Craig has been Music Director at St John's Church, Tunbridge Wells, which he combines with teaching and performing. He enjoys working in many different musical styles, from choral music to jazz. He has directed the nine-voice ladies choir 'Mums n'Roses' since 2013, and has accompanied RTWCS since January 2017.



## Soloist, Louisa Alice-Rose

Louisa Alice-Rose has been performing on the professional stage since her West End debut at aged 8 in *Les Miserables* at The Palace Theatre. Career highlights include a nomination for a Classic BRIT Award in 2018, representing England at the Llangollen Eisteddfod Pendine International Voice of the Future (2019), solo recitals at Hampton Court Palace and Windsor Castle and reaching the top of the iTunes Classical Charts (2020/21). Recent operatic roles include: Phyllis (Iolanthe) for *White Knight*, Yum Yum (*The Mikado*) for Opera South East, Constance (*The Sorcerer*), Kate (*The Pirates of Penzance*) and Leila (Iolanthe) for *Grim's Dyke Opera*, Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*) and Berta (*The Barber Of Seville*) with Surrey Opera, Sara (*Tobias and the Angel*), Emma Jones (*Street Scene*) RNCM. Upcoming roles include Phoebe (*The Yeomen of the Guard*) for Kentish Opera, Fanny Dashwood (*Sense and Sensibility*) for Surrey Opera and Pitti-Sing (*The Mikado*) for *White Knight*.

## Soloist, Olivia Greenwell

Olivia Greenwell is 23 years old and comes from South West London. Throughout her teens Olivia studied singing with Jill Washington at James Allen's Girls' School. She sang in a number of choirs, madrigal groups and had opportunities for solo performance. On leaving school, Olivia obtained a Physics degree from the University of Manchester and studied for her Singing Diploma under Sally Johnson. She is currently training with Jane Highfield and has participated in a number of operatic productions and concerts. Recent performances include Soprano soloist in Vivaldi's *Gloria*; chorus in *Eugene Onegin* with Guildford Opera and in *Albert Herring* and *Nabucco* with St Paul's Opera. Olivia is soon to play the role of Kate in Kentish Opera's production of *The Yeoman of the Guard* and hopes to progress to postgraduate study at a conservatoire.





# SAVE THE DATE!

## An Evening with Gilbert & Sullivan

Saturday 24th June, 7:30pm  
Holmewood House School,  
Langton Green



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### OTHER CONCERTS

#### ST GEORGE'S DAY CONCERT

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2023**

7pm, St Peter & St Paul Parish Church, Tonbridge

*In aid of Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells Dementia Communities, featuring  
Tunbridge Wells Orpheus Male Voice Choir, Tonbridge Community  
Singers and soloist Rebecca Hooper*

#### FAURÉ AND DURUFLÉ REQUIEMS

**SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

3pm, The Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells

*Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society, conducted by Robyn Sevastos*

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