

R.E.H. Norris

The Grange Choral Society gratefully acknowledges support for this concert from the Southern Arts Association as well as from the Arts Council of Great Britain, through the National Federation of Music Societies.



Rehearsals of the Grange Choral Society will be resumed on Wednesday, 15th November at 7.30 in the Canteen at S.R.D.E. Somerford, and weekly thereafter, when Handel's Messiah and Bach's B Minor Mass will be studied. New members will be welcome in all voice parts; all enquiries to the Membership Secretary, Mrs. B. D. Stark.

GRANGE CHORAL SOCIETY
CHRISTCHURCH

WAVERLEY SINGERS
FARNHAM

R.A.E. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



4th November, 1972



PROGRAMME . . .

10 p

**A VAUGHAN WILLIAMS CENTENARY
CELEBRATION**

SANDRA WILKES, Soprano
ROBERT BATEMAN, Baritone

THE WAVERLEY SINGERS, FARNHAM
Conductor: John Cotterill

THE GRANGE CHORAL SOCIETY, CHRISTCHURCH
Conductor: Geoffrey Stark

THE R.A.E. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, FARNBOROUGH
Leader: Arthur Alsey

Presented by the Grange Choral Society

at

The Summerbee Senior School, Bournemouth

on

Saturday 4th November 1972

at 7.30 p.m.

Conductor: Geoffrey Stark

Presented by The Farnborough Music Society

at

The Salesian College Hall, Farnborough

on

Saturday 11th November 1972

at 7.30 p.m.

Conductor: John Cotterill

Programme 10p

PROGRAMME

Ralph Vaughan Williams was born at Down Ampney, Gloucestershire on the 12th October 1872. He died in 1958. In this programme, 100 years after his birth, we offer a tribute to his great work both as a composer and as a dedicated British musician.

BENEDICITE — for Soprano, Chorus and Orchestra — Vaughan Williams

Vaughan Williams wrote this setting of the Benedicite for the jubilee in 1930 of the Leith Hill Musical Festival at Dorking with which he had such a close connection. He himself conducted the first performance. The words are taken from the well-known Cantic and into it is interpolated John Austin's "Song of the Three Holy Children"

VARIATIONS ON A THEME BY HAYDN, OP.56A — for Orchestra — Brahms

Brahms came across this now famous theme in the second movement of one of Haydn's Divertimenti for wind band. The tune is a pilgrim's song called "St. Anthony Chorale" and Brahms saw its great potential as material for a set of variations. After a full statement of the theme in more or less original guise, there are eight Variations plus a Finale. Written in 1873 (a year after Vaughan Williams' birth), the work contains every conceivable device of variation and has grown to be one of the best loved works in the orchestral repertoire. Even Brahms' great symphonic skill is on hand here, and it is possible to discover a symphonic plan to the work; the fairly quick and energetic style of the first three variations could be the "first movement", the change to the minor key and a slower tempo provide the "second movement", while variations 5 to 8 have definite "scherzo" aspects and the Finale stands in its own right with the theme played over a ground bass and a splendid climax.

THE FARNBOROUGH MUSIC SOCIETY

ENGLISH FOLK SONGS SUITE —

for Orchestra — Vaughan Williams
(arr. Gordon Jacob)

1. **March: "Seventeen come Sunday"**
2. **Intermezzo: "My Bonny Boy"**
3. **March: "Folk Songs from Somerset"**

Vaughan Williams' fascination for English folk songs is well known. This Suite, arranged for orchestra by Gordon Jacob, is included in this programme as a tribute to his close association with this one of our native traditions which he loved so dearly.

INTERVAL 20 MINUTES.

Will patrons kindly resume their seats after the bell.

DONA NOBIS PACEM — for Soprano, Baritone, Chorus and Orchestra — Vaughan Williams

Coming, as this concert does, so near to Remembrance Day, the theme of this Cantata is highly appropriate. It is a compilation of pieces written at two different periods but strung together on the thread provided by the title — "Grant us Thy peace". Its main ideas are war, reconciliation, mourning and the conquest of fear, pinpointing the futility and harshness of war. The work is in five sections:-

1. **"Dona nobis pacem"**. A prayer calling for help against the fear of war.
2. **"Beat! beat! drums!"** A setting of Walt Whitman's poem depicting the sweep of war on a city.
3. **"Reconciliation"** A short poem again by Whitman in which a soldier and his dead enemy are reconciled in spirit and ending with another prayer for peace.

THE GRANGE CHORAL SOCIETY

4. **"Dirge for Two Veterans"** A funeral march into which Whitman's words are fitted without disturbing the inevitable progress of a cortege bearing the bodies of son and father.
5. **"The Angel of Death"** A change from death to the positive ideal for peace.

The Cantata was first performed on 2nd October 1936 by the Huddersfield Choral Society on the occasion of their centenary.

Sandra Wilkes made her debut at the Royal Albert Hall in December 1968. Since then she has given many performances of Oratorio and Lieder throughout Britain, and been acclaimed by the press for her sensitive and stylish singing.

Miss Wilkes received her musical training at the Royal College of Music where she was awarded many prizes including the Agnes Nicholls Trophy — The College's highest award for singers. On leaving the College she was given a Clara Butt Award, a Vaughan Williams Trust Award and a Countess of Munster Scholarship to further her career.

She has been soprano soloist for David Willcocks, Paul Steinitz and Vernon Handley, and has appeared with numerous Musical and Choral Societies including the London Bach Society.

In 1971 she appeared in a recital at the Purcell Room under the auspices of the Kirkman Concert Society and was one of the artists chosen by the Incorporated Society of Musicians to appear in their Young Artists Recitals at the Wigmore Hall. Two further performances at the Purcell Room followed that year including a recital sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Musicians.

Miss Wilkes has appeared in Opera at the Barber Institute and at the Camden Festival and she has also sung at the Lake District Festival. In June 1971 the British Council sponsored her visit to Berlin where she gave recitals and broadcast for German radio.

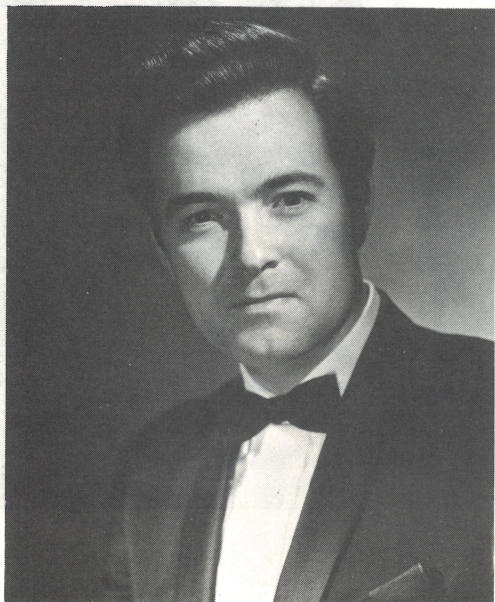


Robert Bateman was born in Surrey in 1938. He studied at the Guildhall School of Music, with John McKenna and Ellis Keeler. At the Guildhall he won, among other prizes, the School Baritone and French Chanson Awards. 1962 proved a most exciting year for him, he won the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship, and gave a successful Wigmore Hall recital the following month. He was then awarded a French cultural scholarship to study French Song, for which he has particular feeling, with Pierre Bernac in Paris. Whilst studying in Paris, he returned to England to appear at Glyndebourne where he sang in *Der Rosenkavalier* and *Macbeth*. Shortly after this he continued studies in Vienna with Joseph Witt and Dagobert Buchholz.

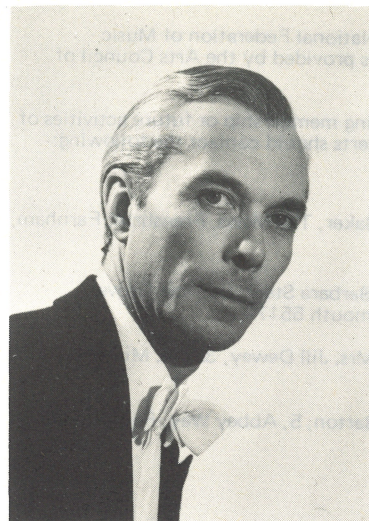
Since his return to England, Robert Bateman's operatic engagements have included performances of "The Barber of Seville" at the Cambridge Festival and "La Cenerentola" at the Hintlesham Festival, also the revival of Martin's "Una Cosa Rara". In Italy he sang the role of Adonis in John Blow's "Venus and Adonis" at the Festival of Bussana Vecchia. On the concert and oratorio platform Robert Bateman has achieved much success, notable as a fine interpreter of Bach and French song. He gave the first performance in Scotland of Britten's "Songs and Proverbs of William Blake" which received great acclaim.

In 1971 Robert Bateman gave several concerts with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the London Symphony Orchestra at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon and the Royal Festival Hall. He has also recorded with the London Philharmonic. He took part in the first performance in England of Petro Petridis' Baroque Oratorio "St. Paul", in the Royal Festival Hall. Recent operatic engagements have included the role of Sid in Britten's "Albert Herring" for Phoenix Opera at many of the major summer festivals, Gerda and Fennimore by Delius at last year's Camden Festival. Performances with Malcolm Williamson of his opera, "The Growing Castle" both here and in Sweden. Also last year's Belfast Opera Festival, and guest performances in Germany.

Robert Bateman will be taking part in the opening concert of this year's Cheltenham Festival with Malcolm Williamson in his new work written for the occasion.



THE FARNBOROUGH MUSIC SOCIETY



John Cotterill was born in Welwyn Garden City in 1935 but has lived in Farnham since he was eight years of age. He has taken a keen interest in music all his life and founded the Waverley Singers in Farnham in 1955. He was appointed Conductor of the Royal Aircraft Establishment (R.A.E.) Symphony Orchestra in 1965.



Geoffrey Stark was born in Manchester in 1920, was educated at William Hulme Grammar School and St. Catharine's College, Cambridge.

During his 20 years at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, he played viola in the R.A.E. orchestra and acted as Secretary for some years. He was a member of the Farnham and Bourne Choral Society and in 1959 became their conductor.

In 1961 he moved to Christchurch and made his home in Bournemouth.

He is the Founder-Conductor of the Grange Choral Society, Chairman of the Bournemouth Municipal Choir, and serves on the committees of the Bournemouth Chamber Music Society and the Dorset Bach Cantata Club.

THE GRANGE CHORAL SOCIETY

The Grange Choral Society is affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies who support their concerts with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

Anyone requiring further information concerning membership or future activities of any of the Societies connected with these concerts should contact the following:-

Waverley Singers, Farnham — Miss Josephine Baker, The Mews, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey. Tel. Frensham 2563.

Grange Choral Society, Bournemouth — Mrs. Barbara Stark, 94, The Grove, Moordown, Bournemouth, Hants. Tel. Bournemouth 55179.

R.A.E. Symphony Orchestra, Farnborough — Mrs. Jill Dewey, 32, St. Michael's Road, Farnborough, Hants. Tel. Farnborough 43260.

Farnborough Music Society — Mrs. Elizabeth Barton, 5, Abbey Way, Farnborough, Hants. Tel. Farnborough 41473.

THE R.A.E. SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Violins

Arthur Alsey (Principal)
Stella Bardsley
Neil Henderson
Donald Mills
Gerald Moss
Robert Perry
Edna Redmill
John Thomas

Peter White
John Beckett
Alan Brecken
Helma Evans
Ronald Hazell
Graham Hunt
John McCormick
Leonard Pilbeam
Michael Sidford
Gordon Steward

Violas

Brenda Collins
Evelyn Case
Robert Forrester
Charles Furnivall
Heather Garner
Mary Sidford
Frank Tulett
Peter Twinn
James Wort

'Cello's

Clifford Garner
Alice Jessett
Barbara Loynes
Lewis Nicholson
Liesbeth Preece
Rosamond Twinn
Jean Wallis

Double Basses

Frank Thomsett
Charles Cudmore
Kate Hanks
Mark Ladd
Edward O'Sullivan

Piccola

Julian Bradshaw

Flutes

Julian Bradshaw
Laurie Sparke
Lynne Collins

Oboes

Michael Gardener
Charlotte Dunham
Susan Cox

Clarinets

Alan Dewey
Llewelyn Niblett

Bassoons

Mary Houseman
Nicholas Bradshaw

Horns

Edward Roberts
Basil Ray
Ian Brydon
John Dodd
Jean Pattern

Trumpets

Anthony Close
Crispian Steele-Perkins
Warren Hughes

Trombones

Douglas Wheeler
Gordon Cutler
Roger Longcroft

Tuba

Tom Williams

Timpani

Norman Patrick

Percussion

Christopher King
Leslie Laurence
Susan Laurence
Nigel Shipway

Piano

Margery Wakefield