

Saturday 17 May 2014, 7.30pm

St Alfege Church, Greenwich Church Street

A CELEBRATION OF ENGLISH CHORAL MUSIC

A Concert in Aid of Age UK Bromley & Greenwich

LONDON CONCERT CHOIR

Mark Forkgen **conductor**

James Longford **organist**

Programme £2

Printing sponsored by

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Age UK Bromley & Greenwich is the leading voluntary sector provider of services for older people, working across both boroughs with a reputation for quality and innovation. Its mission is to promote the wellbeing of all older people living in the London Borough of Bromley and the Royal Borough of Greenwich, ensuring that later life is an enjoyable and fulfilling experience.

Last year, Age UK Bromley & Greenwich assisted 27,309 older people, supporting their independence and improving their wellbeing and quality of life. The length and frequency of the service they received varied according to need and the type of service. For example the 'home from hospital' service provided safe discharge for 576 people and up to six weeks' practical and emotional support; 22,009 people received independent, quality information and advice on a range of topics; 1,450 had regular footcare appointments; 60 people living with dementia received weekly support and care; 75 men participated weekly in the award-winning Men in Sheds project and older people were assisted through the welfare benefits service to increase their income, £853,123 through benefit entitlements.

As the UK's population rapidly ages, the issue of acute loneliness and social isolation is one of the biggest challenges facing our society and Age UK Bromley & Greenwich's work in the community.

Anyone at any age can be lonely but older people are particularly vulnerable to social isolation and loneliness owing to experiencing the loss of friends and family, reduced mobility or limited income.

Social isolation and loneliness have a detrimental effect on health and wellbeing. Studies show that being lonely or isolated can impact on blood pressure and other health problems, and is closely linked to depression.

Nationally, it is estimated that among those aged over 65, between 5 and 16 per cent report loneliness and 12 per cent feel isolated. Nationally, the number of people aged more than 80 is expected to treble in the next 20 years, while those aged over 90 will double. Locally, across the two boroughs there are 85,050 people who are aged over 65, of which 13,750 are aged over 85, with this figure set to increase in line with the national figures.

Age UK Bromley & Greenwich's Befriending and Support service offers lonely and isolated older people vital companionship and emotional support. Through their Community Volunteers Time Bank, time bank volunteers provide people with companionship, emotional, practical and social support.

"Really, I was lonely but you don't say so, not even to yourself, let alone anyone else."

The proceeds of this concert will go towards Age UK Bromley & Greenwich's Befriending and Support Service.

For further information contact:

Age UK Bromley & Greenwich, Community House, South Street,
Bromley BR1 1RH T: 020 8315 1850

Email: info@ageukbandg.org.uk

or visit www.agebromleyandgreenwich.org.uk.

Age UK Bromley & Greenwich is the trading name for Age Concern Bromley,
Registered Charity No.1060861.

Please note:

- The consumption of food is not permitted in the church.
- Please ensure that all mobile phones, pagers, and alarms on digital watches are switched off.
- Flash photography and audio or video recording are not permitted.
- There will be a 40-minute Interval, during which drinks will be served.



SUPPORTING &
CHAMPIONING
VOLUNTARY MUSIC

Age UK Bromley & Greenwich are grateful to
Wilkins Kennedy, Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers
for sponsoring the printing of this programme.

Programme designed by Stephen Rickett and edited by Eleanor Cowie

London Concert Choir

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Registered Office

7 Ildersly Grove, Dulwich, London SE21 8EU

A CELEBRATION OF ENGLISH CHORAL MUSIC

The items will be introduced by the choir's Music Director, Mark Forkgen.

Ascendit Deus

Peter Philips (1560-1628)

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione
et Dominus in voce tubae,
alleluia.
Dominus in caelo paravit sedem suam,
alleluia.

God has gone up with a merry noise
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet,
alleluia.
The Lord has prepared his seat in heaven.
Alleluia.

If ye love me

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may bide with you forever, e'en the spirit of truth.

John 14: 15-17

Thomas Tallis was Master of the King's Music at Greenwich Palace, and often played the organ in the previous St Alfege Church on this site. He was buried under the Chancel.

Ave verum corpus

William Byrd (1540-1623)

Ave verum corpus
natum de Maria Virgine.
Vere passum immolatum
in cruce pro homine,
cuius latus perforatum
unda fluxit sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.
O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu fili Mariae;
miserere mei. Amen.

Hail, true Body,
born of the Virgin Mary,
who truly suffered and was sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
whose pierced side
flowed with blood:
Be for us a foretaste
in the trial of death.
O sweet, pious Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.

Nolo mortem peccatoris

Thomas Morley (ca 1557-1602)

*Nolo mortem peccatoris;
Haec sunt verba Salvatoris.*

"I desire not the death of a sinner";
These are the words of the Saviour.

Father I am thine only Son, sent down from heav'n mankind to save.
Father, all things fulfilled and done according to thy will, I have.
Father, my will now all is this: *Nolo mortem peccatoris.*
Father, behold my painful smart, taken for man on ev'ry side;
Ev'n from my birth to death most tart, no kind of pain I have denied,
but suffered all, and all for this: *Nolo mortem peccatoris.*

Lord, let me know mine end

Maurice Greene (1696-1755)

Lord, let me know mine end and the number of my days,
That I may be certified how long I have to live.
Behold, Thou hast made my days as it were a span long;
And mine age is as nothing in respect of Thee,
And verily, ev'ry man living is altogether vanity.
For man walketh in a vain shadow
And disquieteth himself in vain;
He heapeth up riches and cannot tell who shall gather them.
And now, Lord, what is my hope?
Truly my hope is ev'n in Thee.
Hear my prayer, O Lord
And with Thine ears consider my calling,
Hold not Thy peace at my tears.
O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength
Before I go hence and be no more seen.

Thou knowest Lord

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts.
Shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayers;
But spare us, Lord most holy.
O God most mighty
O holy and most merciful Father
Thou most worthy Judge eternal
Suffer us not at our last hour
For any pains of death to fall from Thee. Amen.

Hear my prayer

Henry Purcell

Hear my prayer, Lord, and let my crying come unto Thee.

O clap your hands

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

O clap your hands together, all ye people,
O sing unto God with the voice of melody,
For the Lord is high and to be feared.
He is the great King upon all the earth, of all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us,
even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise
and the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
O sing praises unto our God,
O sing praises unto the Lord our King.

For God is the King of all the earth,
sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen,
God sitteth upon his holy seat.
For God which is highly exalted, doth defend the earth as it were with a shield.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

INTERVAL – 40 Minutes

Blessed be the God and Father Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again
unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, that fadeth not away,
reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God
through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.
Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.
See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.
Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God.
For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass.
The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away.
But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. Amen

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee.
The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day.
The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike.
God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.
O let my soul live, and it shall praise Thee,
For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for evermore.

Beati quorum via Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Beati quorum via integra est,
Qui ambulant in lege Domini.

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.

O Thou, the central orb

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

O thou the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the most high, eternal light
Of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.
Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine;
Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.
Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
Our nature all shall feel eternal day,
In fellowship with thee, transforming clay
To souls erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

God so loved the world

John Stainer (1840-1901)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
but that the world through him might be saved.

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks

 Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me, "Where is now thy God?"

Song for Athene

John Tavener (1944-2013)

Alleluia. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.
Alleluia. Remember me, O Lord, when you come into your kingdom.
Alleluia. Give rest, O Lord, to your handmaid, who has fallen asleep.
Alleluia. The Choir of Saints have found the well-spring of life and door of Paradise.
Alleluia. Life: a shadow and a dream.
Alleluia. Weeping at the grave creates the song: Alleluia.
Come, enjoy rewards and crowns I have prepared for you. Alleluia.

[Composed in 1993 in memory of a young woman, Athene Hariades, who had died in a cycling accident; it was performed at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales]

Mark Forkgen *Conductor*

Mark Forkgen has been Music Director of London Concert Choir since 1996. He is also Music Director of Canticum chamber choir, Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor of Kokoro (the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's New Music Group) and Director of Music at Tonbridge School. He has conducted major UK orchestras, including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, English Chamber Orchestra, English Northern Philharmonia and Manchester Camerata, appearing at major venues, including the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican and the Royal Albert Hall.



A specialist in the field of choral and contemporary music, Mark has given the first performances of more than 100 works. He has also conducted stage works with the Trestle Theatre Company and Britten Sinfonia, and contemporary opera with the Unicorn Theatre Company and an ensemble from the Philharmonia, at the Linbury Studio, Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

Mark's wide range of conducting also includes performances with Deep Purple for the Henley Festival and recreating Pink Floyd's *Atom Heart Mother* in the Chelsea Festival. He has been Conductor and Artistic Advisor for highly acclaimed festivals including: Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' 70th Birthday; Stravinsky, 'A Festival of Britten', 'Music of the Americas', 'Britain since Britten' and 'East meets West'. In Europe he has conducted in Denmark (performances of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*), Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Eire, the Czech Republic and Italy (including Handel's *Messiah* in Sienna and *Israel in Egypt* at the Viterbo Early Music Festival).

Last season's highlights included a production of Weill's *Threepenny Opera*, a concert at the Royal Albert Hall involving 1500 performers and performances in Hong Kong and Bulgaria. This season's have included Jonathan Lloyd's score to Hitchcock's *Blackmail*, performed with the film, concerts celebrating Britten's centenary, a highly acclaimed Shakespeare project and performances of Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* as a pianist.

James Longford *Organ*

James has an extremely varied career as a pianist, organist and chamber musician. He studied at the Royal College of Music with Nicholas Danby, Margaret Philips and John Blakely, winning the Tagore Gold Medal and all the accompaniment prizes; he also studied with Paul Stubbings at St Martin-in-the-Fields, where he held organ and choral scholarships. James was selected as a Steinway Artist earlier this year.



In 2001 he established the **longfordbrown piano duo** with Lindy Tennent-Brown. Laureates of several international competitions and placed in the top nine piano duos in the world at the 2008 Dranoff Two Piano Competition in Miami, they hold an enviable reputation for innovative programming and thrilling performances. James' other ensemble, The Galos Piano Trio, founded in 2012, are rapidly emerging as evangelists of neglected works both by English and women composers; they were delighted to perform at the St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Music Festival in March.

As well as concertising and coaching singers, James works with the Royal Opera House and Ballet, English National Opera, Gabrieli Consort and Players, Ensemble NAYA, Bregenzer Festspiele and Schauspiel Köln, and has appeared at the Avignon, Chichester, Aix-en-Provence, Aldeburgh, Latitude, Deal, Sounds New, Anghiari, London Schubert, and Israel festivals. He has a long-lasting relationship with the pioneering orchestra Southbank Sinfonia, being their principal pianist since their inception in 2002. This summer he will assist Maestro Christopher Franklin in Ópera des Bellas Artes' production of Britten's *Billy Budd*, in Mexico City.

www.jameslongford.com

London Concert Choir

London Concert Choir, founded in 1960, now has around 150 members of a wide range of ages and is notable for its unusually broad musical repertoire. With Music Director Mark Forkgen the choir regularly appears at all the major London concert venues and in cathedrals and churches in and around the capital, as well as touring to European destinations. In 2011 a performance of Verdi's *Requiem* with the Augsburg Basilica Choir in the Royal Festival Hall was followed by a joint concert at the Augsburg Peace Festival. The choir will tour to Italy in July, to perform *The Seasons* in Assisi, and to sing in Gubbio and Orvieto.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2010 the choir sang Britten's *War Requiem* at the Barbican with Southbank Sinfonia and in Salisbury Cathedral with Dorset Youth Orchestra. Since then Southbank Sinfonia have joined with LCC in Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* at the Royal Festival Hall, and for a concert of French music at the Barbican. Major works in earlier seasons include Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* with the English Chamber Orchestra and Vaughan Williams' *Sea Symphony* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

On a smaller scale, LCC has sung rarely-heard settings of the Russian Orthodox liturgy, and Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*. Performances of Baroque music include Handel's *Messiah* and Bach's *St Matthew Passion* and *Christmas Oratorio*. In July 2012 LCC gave the London premiere of Stephen McNeff's opera-oratorio *The Chalk Legend*. The choir recently performed Tippet's oratorio *A Child of Our Time* to mark the 70th anniversary of its premiere. Concert performances of operas and musicals have included Gluck's *Orfeo*, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*. LCC often gives concerts for charity and has commissioned a number of new works.



www.london-concert-choir.org.uk

Members of London Concert Choir

Soprano

Hannah Baker
Gillian Bibby
Dagmar Binsted
Mickey Bowden
Alison Carpenter
Eleanor Cowie
Rachael Crook
Sally Davis
Gillian Denham
Susan Deville
Nicola Dixon-Brown
Emma Dixon
Emily Dresner
Serena Ede
Kellie Evans
Sarah French
Lisa Gardner
Sonja Gray
Jennifer Greenway
Jennifer Hadley
Emma Heath
Ruth Hobbs
Laura Holland
Charlotte Hunt
Christine Ingram
Anna Isworth
Jane Joyce
Vickie Kelly
Anna Kosicka
Frances Lake
Tracy LeBrun
Susanna Lutman
Laura Macara
Elsa Martinez
Aurelia Mason
Jessica Metcalfe
Stephanie Moussadis
Carolyn Newman
Melissa Parkin
Margaret Perkins
Jutta Raftery

Ella Salter
Ines Schlenker
Frances Shaw
Caroline Sheppard
Sarah Taylor
Amy Thomas
Teresa Tilden
Natalie Tompkins
Emily Tuite
Francesca Walsh
Janet Wells
Julie Wilson
Fiona Wilson

Alto

Heide Baumann
Helen Beddall-Smith
Frances Cave
Lucy Charman
Carys Cooper
Deborah Curle
Georgie Day
Kathleen Dormer
Rebecca Foulkes
Georgina Furr
Claire Garbett
Anna Garnier
Mary Glanville
Muriel Hall
Penny Hatfield
Andrea Hegedus
Joan Herbert
Caroline Holloway
Chrina Jarvis
Chris Joseph
Sabine Koellmann
Joanna Kramer
Helene Labit
Lorna Lewis
Norma MacMillan
Bridget Maidment
Sophie Marris

Anna Metcalf
Sophy Miles
Judith Paterson
Rachel Pearson
Gillian Perry
Katja Pluto
Dubravka Polic
Katie Prior
Pippa Ranger
Tabitha Strydom
Kate Tranter
Rachel Vroom
Gabriel West
Barbara Whent
Jane Whittaker
Belinda Whittingham
June Williams
Nathalie Wilson

Tenor

Andrew Bolan
Christopher Boustred
David Broad
Roy Carryer
Mark Cheesman
Dave Dosoruth
James Ede
Fabyan Evans
Nicholas Hall
Sam Hansford
Richard Holmes
Carolyn Knight
Ian Leslie
Ben Martin
Stephen Rickett
Tim Steer
Barry Sterndale-
Bennett
Tim Thirlway

Bass

Colin Allies
Peter Banks
Ed Brown
Richard Burbury
Henry Cook
Bill Cook
Andrew Cullen
Albert Edwards
James Finlay
Richard Gillard
Nigel Grieve
Nigel Hartnell
Graham Hick
Richard Hughes
Ian Judson
Robert Kealey
Sam Kier
Stefan Klaazen
Simon Livesey
Angus Macdonald
Alan Machacek
Ian Mackintosh
Christopher Powell-
Smith
Simon Retallack
Morgan Roberts
Anthony Sharp
Ryszard Stepaniuk
William Tilden
Tony Trowles
Dai Whittingham
Thomas Wood



Haydn: The Seasons

London Concert Choir

Southbank Sinfonia

Conductor: Mark Forkgen

Rachel Elliott *soprano*

Nicholas Hurndall Smith *tenor*

Toby Stafford-Allen *bass*

Thursday 10 July 2014, 7.30pm

Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, SW1

Tickets £30, £25, £20, £16, £12

Booking: (020) 7730 4500, www.cadoganhall.com

and

Thursday 17 July 2014, 9pm

Basilica San Francesco, Assisi, Italy