
**CIRENCESTER
C H O R A L
SOCIETY**

Musical Director: Carleton Etherington



Rossini

Petite Messe Solennelle

Jenny Rees

Praise the Lord

Carleton Etherington

Conductor

Hannah Grove (*soprano*)

Juliet Curnow (*contralto*)

Archie Inns (*tenor*)

Lucas Maunder (*bass*)

Charles Matthews

(*harmonium*)

Thomas Hawkes

(*piano*)

Saturday 2 May 2026, 7.30 pm
Cirencester Parish Church



The type of reed organ that today we know as the harmonium was invented in the early 19th century by the Frenchman Alexandre Debain and patented in 1842. This is a photo of the Debain harmonium, built in 1879, that we have hired for tonight's concert from The Reed Organ Workshop and Museum in Melton Mowbray. The foot pedals of the harmonium are used to pump air across metal reeds, enabling notes and chords to be sustained. Like a pipe organ, a series of stops provide for different sound qualities. Rossini used a Debain harmonium for the first performance of his Petite Messe Solennelle, so we can be sure of an authentic sound this evening!

PROGRAMME

Praise the Lord (*Psalm 148*)

Jenny Rees (b. 1968)

For mixed chorus, piano and harmonium

Petite Messe Solennelle

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

For four soloists, mixed chorus, piano and harmonium

1. Kyrie – Christe (*Soloists and chorus*)
2. Gloria – Laudamus (*Soloists and chorus*)
3. Gratias (*Terzetto for contralto, tenor and bass*)
4. Domine Deus (*Tenor solo*)
5. Qui tollis (*Duet for soprano and contralto*)
6. Quoniam (*Bass solo*)
7. Cum Sancto (*Soloists and chorus*)

INTERVAL (20 minutes)

Refreshments available in the Trinity Chapel in support of CHURN, a local charity helping to meet a variety of needs in the community. If you didn't purchase a drinks ticket on arrival, please pay at the bar.

8. Credo (*Soloists and chorus*)
9. Crucifixus (*Soprano solo*)
10. Et resurrexit (*Soloists and chorus*)
11. Preludio religioso (*'during the Offertory', Harmonium*)
12. Sanctus (*Soloists and chorus*)
13. O Salutaris (*Soprano solo*)
14. Agnus Dei (*Contralto solo and chorus*)



Rossini's summer villa in Passy, then a countryside suburb of Paris, where the Petite Messe Solennelle was first performed

THE YEAR 1863 was one of significance for many: Abraham Lincoln was paving the path to the abolition of slavery in the USA, in England the Football Association was established, and in this town singers were assembling, we believe for the very first time, under the banner of 'Cirencester Choral Society'! Meanwhile, a 71-year old retired Italian musician was having fun in Paris, composing what he called his '*péchés de vieillesse*' or 'sins of old age'!

In his younger day, **Gioachino Rossini** had been a prolific composer for the stage, first at home in Italy and then from 1824 in Paris under contract with the French government. Between his teens and his late thirties he produced no less than 39 operas, both comic and serious, the best known today being *Barber of Seville* (1816) and *William Tell* (1829). Then he stopped – wealthy, but not healthy – eventually returning to Italy in 1836, having composed only his *Stabat Mater* in the intervening years.



Two decades were to pass before Rossini returned to Paris with his musical mojo rejuvenated – not this

time for stage works but for musical soirées, or 'salons', for the great and good of Paris. At these, he would entertain the leading musicians, artists and writers of the day in his fashionable winter and summer residences in the French capital.

The atmosphere of the salon was earlier captured by the painter Danhauser in his work *Franz Liszt fantasizing at the piano* (1840). In it, he imagines such a gathering including Alexandre Dumas, Victor Hugo (or possibly Berlioz), Georges Sand, Paganini and Rossini, beside Liszt at the piano beneath a white bust of Beethoven!



Rossini's *péchés de vieillesse* comprised a collection of 150 vocal, chamber and piano pieces, written between 1857 and his death in 1868, intended especially for the drawing room of his summer villa in Passy. Alongside these intimate works, the *Petite Messe Solennelle* was composed in 1863 and first performed at Passy the following year. Dedicated to Louise Pillet-Will, it was possibly commissioned for his wife by Count Alexis Pillet-Will. The work is a setting of the Roman Solemn Mass and, as such, is quite a substantial work. Rossini's 'Petite'

description is thus enigmatic, but a clue may be found in his own description of the intended resources:

*"Petite Messe Solennelle in four parts with accompaniment of two pianos and harmonium, composed during my country vacation at Passy. Twelve singers of three sexes – men, women and castrati – will be enough for its performance: that is eight for the chorus, four for the solos, a total of 12 cherubim." **

He is also known to have described the work as '*the last of my péchés de vieillesse*'. Although not devoid of serious elements, the variety of styles and moods certainly reflect more the spirit of a composer of light opera than the sacred nature of the liturgy.

** Tonight's performance will involve many more singers, but of fewer sexes and arguably of less angelic countenance!*

JENNY REES was accompanist of Cirencester Choral Society from 2005 to 2024. When the Society chose to perform *Petite Messe Solennelle* in 2006 we were delighted to accept her offer to write for us a complementary anthem, there being few, if any, suitable works set for piano - harmonium accompaniment. We welcome her back this evening to our second performance of this choral setting of Psalm 148, ***Praise the Lord***, a work she dedicated to her father for his years of encouragement and support.

Jenny studied clarinet at the Welsh College of Music and Drama (WCMD), graduating in 1989. She is a Licentiate of both the WCMD and the

Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and also holds degrees from the Open University and Oxford Brookes. She has pursued her career as a musician through teaching, accompanying, performing and composing.



Jenny's interest in composing has been a theme throughout her musical career. Whilst a first-year student, she composed a Sinfonietta for Wind Band which was performed at St David's Hall and the Colston Hall by the WCMD wind band. Her music is published by Queens Temple Publications and Creighton's Collection, and her "Oon Tunes" for Bassoon was part of the ABRSM exam syllabus.

Since moving on from Cirencester, Jenny now plays bass clarinet (and trombone!) in a number of instrumental groups in Bristol. She occasionally plays organ in her local church and has been accompanying Nailsea Choral Society. This is in addition to teaching piano, clarinet and saxophone.

Recently, Jenny has focused on compositions for wind ensembles, arranged on request to suit combinations of instruments in bands across the country, thereby enabling wider performance of her work.

JENNY REES: PRAISE THE LORD

(Psalm 148)

Praise the Lord from the heavens, Praise him in the heights above.

Praise him all his angels, Praise him all his heavenly hosts.

Praise him sun and moon, Praise him all you shining stars.

Praise him you highest heavens, and you waters above the skies.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

He set them in place for ever and ever, He gave a decree that will never pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth you great sea creatures and all ocean depths.

Lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,

You mountains and all hills, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations,

You princes and all rulers on earth, young men and maidens, old men and children,

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted, his splendour is above the earth and the heav'ns.

He has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart. Praise the Lord.

PETITE MESSE SOLENNELLE

(text and translation)

KYRIE - CHRISTE

Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy.*

GLORIA - LAUDAMUS

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax
Homnibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.

*Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace
to all those of good will.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
We worship thee, we glorify thee.*

GRATIAS

Gratias agimus tibi
Propter magnam gloriam tuam.

*We give thanks to thee
for thy great glory.*

DOMINE DEUS

Domine Deus, Rex cœlestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris.

*Lord God, Heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father.*

QUI TOLLIS

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
Miserere nobis.

*Thou who takes away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.
Thou who takes away the sins of the world,
Receive our prayer.
Thou who sits at the right hand of the Father,
Have mercy upon us.*

QUONIAM

Quoniam tu solus sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,

*For Thou only art holy.
Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ,*

CUM SANCTO SPIRITU

Cum Sancto Spiritu,
In gloria Dei Patris. Amen

*With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen*

CREDO

Credo in unum Deum,
Patrem omnipotentem,
Factorem coeli et terrae,
Visibilium omnium, et invisibilium.
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,
Filium Dei unigenitum.
Et ex Patre natum ante omnia sæcula.
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
Deum verum de Deo vero.
Genitum, non factum,
Consubstantiali Patri:
Per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines,
Et propter nostram salutem
Descendit de cœlis.
Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
Ex Maria Virgine.
Et homo factus est.

*I believe in one God,
The Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only begotten Son of God,
Born of the Father before all worlds.
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God.
Begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father
By whom all things were made.
Who for us men
And for our salvation
Came down from heaven.
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
Of the Virgin Mary.
And was made man.*

CRUCIFIXUS

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis
Sub Pontio Pilato:
Passus, et sepultus est.

*Crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate:
He suffered, and was buried.*

ET RESURREXIT

Et resurrexit tertia die,
Secundum Scripturas.
Et ascendit in cœlum:
Sedet ad dexteram Patris.
Et iterum venturus est cum gloria,
Judicare vivos et mortuos:
Cujus regni non erit finis.
Et in Spiritum Sanctum
Dominum, et vivificantem:
Qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.
Qui cum Patre, et Filio
Simul adoratur et conglorificatur:
Qui locutus est per Prophetas.
Et unam, sanctam, catholicam
Et apostolicam Ecclesiam.
Confiteor unum baptisma
In remissionem peccatorum.
Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum.
Et vitam venturi sæculi. Amen.

*And on the third day he rose again,
According to the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
He shall come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead;
and of his kingdom there will be no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and Giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who together with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
Who spoke to us through the Prophets.
And I believe in one, holy, catholic
and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism
for the remission of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead, and
the life of the world to come. Amen.*

SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt cœli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

O SALUTARIS

O Salutaris hostia,
Quae cœli pandis ostium:
Bella premunt hostilia
Da robur fer auxilium.

*O saving victim
Who opens the gate of heaven:
Hostile armies press,
Give us strength, bring us aid.*

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, grant us peace.*

Tonight's Soloists

Hannah Grove (*soprano*) started singing professionally whilst studying for her Physics degree at Oxford and since has performed regularly across the UK and abroad, both as a consort singer and now principally as a soloist in both chamber and oratorio settings.



Known for the clear quality and agile nature of her voice, she has a particular affinity for Renaissance and Baroque repertoire, and has worked with period instrumentalists such as the Academy of Ancient Music, Ars Eloquentiae, the Corelli Orchestra and the Musical and Amicable Society.

In addition to her frequent performances of early and classical repertoire, she is in demand for her interpretation of many 20th century and contemporary works, with engagements including Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* with the City of Birmingham Choir and Rutter's *Psalmfest* in Worcester Cathedral in the presence of the composer. She has given the world premiere of several new compositions, including Ian King's *Worcestershire Song Cycle* and David Lawrence's *Ballad of a Lost House*.

In 2017 Hannah joined with experienced lutenist Elizabeth Pallett to form Amarylli, a duo celebrating the artistic skills and heritage of the composers and poets of the 16th and 17th centuries through intimate live performances, video projects and musically illustrated lectures, embracing diverse musical styles and historical instruments in their programmes. Their first CD, *An Amarylli Christmas*, was released in late 2021.

Away from the concert platform she is kept busy with her flourishing gardening business, as well as working as an organist across Worcestershire, and studying the gothic harp, botany and baroque dance.

Juliet Curnow (*mezzo-soprano*)

On graduating from the Opera Course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Juliet joined English Touring Opera for whom she sang Rosina (*Barber of Seville*), Cenerentola and Maddalena (*Rigoletto*). Other roles included Rosina, Nicklaus/Muse (*Tales of Hoffmann*), Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*) and Orlofsky (*Die Fledermaus*). She was also a member of the chorus at Garsington, Glyndebourne and the Royal Opera.



Whilst no longer pursuing a solo operatic career, Juliet still regularly performs in oratorios and recitals. She particularly enjoys singing Bach and performs his major works regularly.

Recent engagements have included Vivaldi's *Gloria* in Tewkesbury Abbey, Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music* in Cheltenham, Durufle's *Requiem* with Ross on Wye Choral Society, J Haydn's *Nelson Mass* and M Haydn's *Requiem* in Cirencester with Stroud Choral Society, Handel's *Birthday Ode for Queen Anne* in Axminster, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* with Tyndale Choral Society, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* with Wycliffe Choral Society, Handel's *Messiah* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in Ross-on-Wye and the *Oratorio de Noel* by Saint-Saens with Hanley Voices.

Alongside her classical singing, Juliet also performs regularly with a five piece folk rock band covering songs by Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Madison Cunningham, Wilco and Steely Dan, among others.

Archie Inns (*tenor*) maintains a varied performing career across opera, oratorio, song, and consort work, appearing regularly across the UK and internationally, with leading ensembles and at major festivals.

Archie began his vocal studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's Junior Department and as a chorister at Durham Cathedral. He gained a degree in Philosophy and Theology from Christ Church, Oxford, where he was a Choral Scholar, and spent a gap year singing at St John's College, Cambridge under Andrew Nethsingha. He is now in his

first year of a Master's in Vocal Performance at the Royal College of Music, where he is supported in full by the Drapers' de Turckheim Scholarship and several Awards and Trusts. He is taught by Miranda Wright and Nicky Spence.

As a Josephine Baker Trust Artist, Archie regularly appears as an oratorio soloist with groups such as the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Arcangelo, the Gabrieli Consort, and Polyphony, and he is also a Fellow with The English Concert.

His recent repertoire includes the Evangelist in Bach's *St John Passion*, the tenor arias in *St Matthew Passion*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle*, and he was the Evangelist and tenor soloist in Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* in a BBC Radio 3 broadcast with Polyphony and The Britten Sinfonia.



In 2026, Archie made his London Handel Festival debut with Arcangelo in Handel's *Saul*, and with the Gabrieli Consort singing Coridon in *Acis and Galatea*.

On the opera stage, Archie was an Emerging Artist with Westminster Opera Company, held the James Bowman Young Artistship at Vache Baroque, and is currently an Associate Artist with Oxford Opera. In November 2025, he sang in the semi-chorus for the UK Premiere of Laura Karpman's *BALLS* at the Royal Festival Hall, conducted by Marin Alsop.

In the sphere of song, Archie made his debut at the Oxford International Song Festival in 2024 alongside James Gilchrist and is a 2026 Young Artist with collaborator, Alfred Fardell. He is the recipient of the Luxon Amit Folkestone-on-Song Bursary Award and Song Prize, the Mendl-Schrama Prize, the Oxford and Cambridge Club Music Prize, and the Dorothy Richardson English Song Prize.

As a consort singer, Archie works regularly with leading ensembles including the BBC Singers, Polyphony, and The Sixteen. He has sung in major liturgical services at Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, and St Paul's Cathedral, and recent projects with the BBC Singers have included Poulenc's *Figure Humaine* and appearances at the Aldeburgh Festival and the BBC Proms.

Lucas Maunder (*bass*) is a Cardiff-based baritone from Winchester, currently studying for a Masters in Music at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

While at RWCMD, Lucas has had the great privilege to take part in a variety of projects, including opera choruses in *Die Fledermaus* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*

and gala concerts with the David Seligmann Opera School and WNO Orchestra.

Lucas also maintains a busy schedule as a concert soloist around South Wales and the South West. Recent highlights as a soloist include Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs* (Gloucester Cathedral Choir), Schubert's *Mass in A flat Major* (Crickhowell Choral Society) and Vaughan Williams' *Five Mystical Songs* and Cecilia McDowall's *Stabat Mater* (Weston Choral Society).



Alongside his work as a soloist Lucas is a keen choral singer, singing with the Gloucester Cathedral Choir and as a Choral Scholar at St Martins in Roath in Cardiff.

Outside of liturgical choral music, Lucas also performs with the Hampshire-based choir *Esprimo*, most recently performing for a side-by-side concert with students from Lord Wandsworth College.

In May, Lucas will be singing the titular role in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with Weston Choral Society.

Tonight's Accompanists

Charles Matthews (*harmonium*) studied at the Royal College of Music and was an organ scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge. He has won numerous awards, including first and second prizes in international organ and piano and organ competitions in the U.K., Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain. He has performed with the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet and has recorded music used in various theatres in Spain. His published compositions include a collection for flute and piano by Schott Music.



Charles is Organist of St Catharine's Church, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, and also performs as a member of the Spire organ and electronics project. He works extensively with young people, acts as piano accompanist and organ tutor at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and regularly works on music courses in the U.K. and internationally. He is the Musical Director of the Chipping Campden Festival Chorus and Patron of Shipston Music Society.

For further information please see www.charlesmatthews.co.uk or contact charlesmatthews.updates@gmail.com.



Thomas Hawkes (*piano*) was born in Paderborn, Germany, where he had his first organ lessons with Ulrich Schneider and Andreas Konrad and his first organist role at St Christopher's Garrison Church. He then spent two years learning organ with Jonathan Lilley at Ely Cathedral before going to the University of York where he completed his Music BA and Postgraduate Diploma in 2017.

Thomas then held posts at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, King Edward's School, Witley, and St David's Cathedral (where he was the acting Assistant Director of Music). He subsequently spent a year studying Church Music at the Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg im Breisgau, where he studied organ and choral conducting. From September 2023, Thomas was Chapel Organist at Stowe School in Buckinghamshire. In July 2024 he was appointed Organist and Choir Master at Cirencester Parish Church, and since September of that year has been our Rehearsal Accompanist.

Thomas has performed on television and radio for BBC Wales and is featured on the St David's Cathedral choir 2022 Christmas CD. Thomas frequently works as a choral conductor and accompanist, and has worked with ensembles including Leeds Festival Chorus, Stowmarket Chorale and the University of York Choir. Thomas is also a regular accompanist for the Freiburger Münster choirs. Outside of music, he enjoys reading about history and watching Doctor Who.

Cirencester Choral Society

Cirencester Choral Society was founded in 1863 and continues to flourish. Although amateur singers, we strive to perform to the highest possible standards with the resources available to us. As always, our success depends on the dedication of the professionals we engage to train us:



Carleton Etherington has been our **Musical Director** since January 2005. He is Organist and Director of Music at Tewkesbury Abbey and combines that post with teaching and performing. He is also Director of the summer festival of sacred music at Tewkesbury and an Honorary Fellow of the Guild of Church Musicians.

Carleton was educated at Chetham's School of Music and the Royal Academy of Music and, before moving to Tewkesbury, held posts at St Bride's Fleet Street and Leeds Parish Church.

Carleton has performed throughout Europe, Australia and the USA and has won considerable acclaim for his CD recordings, both as soloist and accompanist. He regularly broadcasts on Radio 3's Choral Evensong.

Join Us!

Do you love singing? Did you sing at school and have always wanted to take it up again? At CCS we are always thrilled to welcome new members and pride ourselves on being a very friendly choral society. We work hard but we have fun and there is a genuine sense of mutual support among the various sections of the choir. We don't audition, but we do expect singers to be reasonably competent, and conscientious when it comes to learning the music. Here is what choir members have recently said about us:

"I joined the choir partly because I had such a quick and warm response from Tim. I was then greeted at my first rehearsal and introduced to the people I was sitting next to. This was lovely, and the people in my row were always welcoming and chatted to me before and after."

"I really enjoy the choir. It's such a thrill to sing with so many people and make such an impressive sound."

"I enjoy the rehearsals and Carleton's high standards and encouragement."

"I love singing music of consequence - important pieces that have and will last for centuries."

We rehearse on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm from September through to May. If you are interested in joining us, then please feel free to approach someone at the concert this evening or else visit our website for more information at www.cirencester-choral-soc.org.uk. The Society is a registered charity and affiliated to Making Music. (*See the back cover for details of our next concert.*)

Our Members

Soprano

Dorothy Andrews
Clare Bancroft
Jane Beckett
Diana Boulton
Pippa Burgon
Sue Burton
Susi Caesar
Liz Cook
Alison Crooks
Julia Dyer
Liz Fleming
Helen Gammage
Caroline Johnson
Valerie Joyce
Marian Lowe
Mary Ludbrook
Aideen McEvoy-Wilding
Jayne McLoughlin
Anne Mingins
Sue Nashe
Lesley Nelson
Kate Parker
Helen Peggs
Penny Phillips
Susie Rigsby
Karen Schmidt
Margaret Sharpe
Kate Shaw
Jilly South
Wiggy Talbot Rice
Esther Thackeray
Annabel Wallis
Catherine Walton
Diane Welch
Sarah Wilkinson
Jackie Wilson

Alto

Frances Angus
Meg Blumsom
Cathy Booth
Katy Bowers-Broadbent
Mary Clayton
Kathy Cooper
Liz Dubber
Brenda Ferns
Linda Goodhew
Sarah Green
Nici Grinham
Clare Hannah
Jan Hardy
Julia Hasler
Lindsey Jones
Beryl King
Sonia La Fontaine
Joan Leyfield
Jennifer May
Alison Maydom
Liz McGlynn
Julia Nolan
Alison Norris
Lorna Page
Di Polastro
Ann Pole
Sarah Powell
Ginny Ravenscroft
Jane Read
Mary Simpson
Shân Smythe
Chris Sutton
Melanie Towle
Ghislaine Venn
Rebecca Worboys

Tenor

Rob Allcock
Bill Bowers-Broadbent
Andy Crane
John Deacon
Sue Gilks
Vic Gilks
Ros Ivison
Barbara Jones
Therese Munro-Warwick
John Pinnington
Jason Roberts
Richard Stark
Pamela Varey

Bass

Julian Ainsworth
William Brereton
Patrick Coleman
Ray Cook
Jeremy Field
Nick Gammage
Rupert Hanbury
Richard Kinder
Peter McLoughlin
Robert Merrill
Nigel Mott
Monty Nelson
Tim Page
John Read
Roy Richardson
David South



TANNERS SOLICITORS LLP

City expertise in the heart of the Cotswolds



Residential
Property



Wills, Trusts
& Probate



Dispute
Resolution



Company
Commercial



Family
Law



Commercial
Property



Agricultural
Law



Employment
Law

Founded in 1986, Tanners is based in Cirencester, the capital of the Cotswolds. Offering practical and proactive legal advice with a personal touch, we help to ensure you can achieve your goals smoothly and on schedule.

Our team consists of friendly legal experts who have worked all over the UK and internationally, and our exceptional experience and strong links with the local community make us the ideal choice when you need advice you can rely on.

www.tanners.co.uk

CIRENCESTER OFFICE
Lancaster House, Thomas Street,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2AX
T: 01285 659061
E: law@tanners.co.uk

CHELTENHAM OFFICE
115 Promenade
Cheltenham GL50 1NW
T: 01242 303769
E: law@tanners.co.uk

LONDON OFFICE
262a Chelsea Chambers, Fulham
Road, Chelsea, London SW10 9EL
T: 0203 096 6436
E: law@tanners.co.uk

Cirencester Choral Society gratefully acknowledges Tanners' financial contribution to the staging of this concert

Cirencester Choral Society's next concert

Sat 5 Dec 2026

Cirencester Parish Church

**Marc-Antoine Charpentier -
*Messe de Minuit pour Noël***

&

**Joseph Haydn-
*Missa Sancti Nicolai***

**Carleton Etherington
(conductor)**

Professional soloists

*Tickets available online in the autumn
and from local outlets in late October.*

The singing and playing of traditional carols, or noels, had long been hugely popular in France, both in church services and on the streets, but in the 1690s **Charpentier** broke new ground in using no less than eleven noels as the basis for a setting of the mass. The joyful, dance-like rhythms have made this a popular and engaging work for the Advent and Christmas season.

In similar joyful vein, **Haydn's** St Nicolas mass (1772) is a relatively early choral work by the composer, more on the scale of a *missa brevis* than that of the six great masses of his later years. It was likely written to celebrate the feast of St Nicolas (6th December), the name day of his employer, Prince Nicolaus Esterhazy, so very appropriate for our concert date!

Cirencester Choral Society gratefully acknowledges:

- Tanners Solicitors, LLP - *for supporting concert expenses;*
- Cirencester Parish Church - *for facilitating the use of this venue;*
- Our Town Council - *for providing box office facilities;*
- The Reed Organ Workshop and Museum – *for the hire of the harmonium*
- Performing Arts Library, Wiltshire – *for the hire of vocal scores;*
- Our Front-of-House Volunteers - *for welcoming you . . .*
- Our loyal audience - *on whose support we depend for a successful future.*

The Society is a Registered Charity and is affiliated to Making Music, the National Federation of Music Societies. Learn more at www.cirencester-choral-soc.org.uk



Registered Charity
No 276649

