

St. Agatha's

*Centenary
Celebrations*



*Kingston Choral Society
Concert*

2nd July 1994 at 8pm

at

St. Agatha's Catholic Church



Kingston Choral Society

President W James Daly, KCHS, FICE

Vice-President R Tracey JP MP

Chairman Roderic Fearson

Kingston Choral Society began life in 1948 as The Surbiton Oratorio Society - an organisation formed as a result of a successful recital of Handel's Messiah which the Mayor organised using forces from local church choirs. The group has therefore been active for more than forty-five years and changed its name to 'Kingston Choral Society' in 1985 to reflect more accurately the choir's association with the Royal Borough and the Parish Church where most concerts now take place.

The Society organises a minimum of four concerts a year, performing music dating from the seventeenth century to the present day as recent concerts have clearly demonstrated: last year's performance of Janacek's Glagolitic Mass in the Kingston Festival was enthusiastically received and a more recent concert featured music for the Easter Season by Schutz, Bach, Poulenc and Messiaen. The next concert will be 'Messiah from Scratch' in Kingston Parish Church on 22nd October. The future programme includes Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Walton's Belshazzar's Feast.

Kingston Choral Society also makes appearances with West Sussex Philharmonic Choir, the most recent being a performance of Beethoven's "Missa Solemnis" in Guildford Cathedral in June. Such joint concerts are becoming a regular feature as they give both choirs the opportunity to perform larger scale works than might otherwise be the case. The Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames is linked with Delft in Holland and the Society has formed a close association with 'Cantarella', the Delft equivalent. The next exchange visit to Delft, which will include a joint concert, is planned for 1995. There are also plans in hand for joint concerts with Swiss choirs in Zurich and Balse. The Society's membership is drawn from a wide area of South-West London and North Surrey and new members are always welcome. For further information, please contact the Membership Secretary, Valerie Moeri on 081-643-3595.

KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY ST. AGATHA'S CENTENTEAR Y CELEBRATIONS

..... PROGRAMME

"Zadok the Priest" by Handel.

"Ave Verum" by Mozart.

"O sacrum convivium" by Messaien.

Organ Solo.

"The Heavens are Telling", from "The Creation" by Haydn.

"If ye love me" by Thomas Tallis.

Organ Solo.

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring", by Johann Sebastian Bach.

"I was glad" by Parry.

..... INTERVAL

Excerpts from "Messiah" by Handel:

"And the Glory of the Lord"

"For unto us a Child is born"

Pastoral Symphony (*Instrumental*)

"Behold the Lamb of God"

"He trusted in God"

"Hallelujah Chorus"

"Since by man came death"

"Worthy is the Lamb/Amen"

Organist: **Richard Pilliner**

Conductor: **Robin Page**

About our Conductor

Robin Page

Robin Page is a conductor working in London where he is the Musical Director of the Purcell Orchestra, Thames Symphony Orchestra, Thames Sinfonia and Kingston Choral Society.



He has also conducted at the Royal Academy of Music, London, and has worked with the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus. He travels all over Great Britain, regularly to the Midlands as Musical Director of the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, the Birmingham Conservatoire, the Halle Choir and the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir.

Recent recordings include BBC Radio 3 Broadcasts with the Ulster Orchestra. These featured Scandinavian Music, a particular interest which takes him frequently to Sweden. He has given the British Premiere performances and recordings of many Scandinavian works including composers such as Kraus, Stenhammer, Lidholm and Bortz. In April this year Robin conducted the inaugural concert of the United Kingdom Sibelius Society at St. John's Smith Square.

Abroad he has appeared on Hungarian Television with the Budapest State Opera Orchestra and soloists and with the Hungarian Radio and TV Orchestra. He

has recently returned from a highly successful visit to Estonia where he conducted the first concert performance and recording there of Elgar's Enigma Variations with the Estonian State Symphony Orchestra.

Robin was born in Ipswich and was educated at Magdalen College School, Oxford and Cambridge University. He then studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London and continued there as a Professor until 1990.

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