

## **JOIN US TO SING** **Messiah for All**

**Tuesday 17 December 2024**  
**7.30 pm**

**Bollington Arts Centre**  
Wellington Road SK10 5JR

Proceeds will be shared between the Organ Repair Fund for St Oswald's Church and the Choir, a charity providing quality choral music in Bollington. With orchestra led by Nicola Bright

**Tickets £10: 01625 511881**  
**Booking essential!**



*BFC at St Oswald's March 2023. photo by Roger Graham*

## **JOIN US TO SING in all our concerts!**

Tuesday evening rehearsals at **Bollington Arts Centre** resume on September 10th 2024, 7.45-9.30 pm. Like all amateur choirs, BFC welcomes new singers.

Unlike many choirs, we have no auditions. You're assured of a warm welcome with tea and biscuits and a chat in the break!

Ring 01625 511881 or visit [www.bollfestchoir.org.uk](http://www.bollfestchoir.org.uk) for details.

## **JOIN US TO SING** **Samuel Coleridge-Taylor** **Hiawatha's Wedding Feast**

**C H H Parry**  
**Blest Pair of Sirens**

**Saturday 8 March 2025**  
**10.00-4.00**

**Bollington Arts Centre**  
Wellington Road SK10 5JR

Singers of all ages 17+ are invited to join us for an informal and purposeful day's singing.

The two very different choral works by English composers feature in the summer concert, and participants are invited to join the Choir to sing them for a reduced subscription.

£15 includes music loan on the day, voice part sound files in advance on request, tea, coffee and biscuits. Please book from January 2025 via leaflets, website or 01625 511881.

# Bollington Festival Choir

**2024 - 2025**

*"...happy, confident singers, alert to the music..."*



*Nola McGaul*

## **Programme of Concerts and Events**

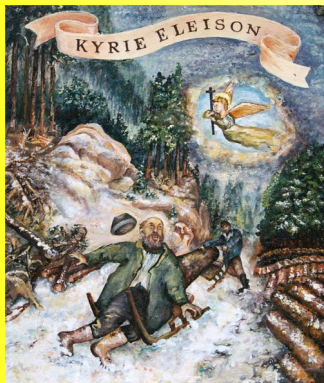
**[www.bollfestchoir.org.uk](http://www.bollfestchoir.org.uk)**

*Established over 60 years; a Resident Group at  
Bollington Arts Centre; supporting local charities  
for over 40 years with Messiah for All*



## ***Folk Song Masses***

**Sunday 1 December 2024**  
**7.30 pm**



*From a shrine in the Šumava Forest, Czechia*

Two charming Christmas Masses based on Folk Carols, one French, one Czech.

Marc-Antoine Charpentier's Messe de Minuit from 1694 sets the Latin texts to traditional folk carol melodies, while Edmund Pascha's Pastoral Mass from the 1770s inserts the Christmas Story sung in English. The concert also features a brand new work by Adrienne Spilsbury, viola player in the string orchestra led by Nicola Bright, and the original choral version of Bizet's March of the Kings that features in his *l'Arlésienne* Suite.

## ***Coronation Anthems***

**Sunday 6 April 2025**  
**7.30 pm**

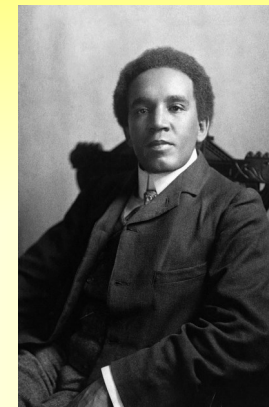


*Charles Jervas: King George II and Queen Caroline*

For the first time in the Choir's history we will perform all four of Georg Frideric Handel's magnificent anthems for the 1727 Coronation of George II, concluding with Zadok the Priest. The concert opens with the Stabat Mater by Antonio Caldara who influenced Handel's operatic style. A sombre yet beautiful work that will help create a journey from darkness to light. With orchestra including trumpets and drums, led by Nicola Bright.

## ***Englishmen Abroad***

**Sunday 8 June 2025**  
**7.30 pm**



*Samuel Coleridge-Taylor: a photo in the Library of Congress, Washington*

Despite facing racial prejudice, Coleridge-Taylor's settings of Longfellow's epic poem became hugely popular when written at the very end of the 19th century.

The concert begins with the best known, Hiawatha's Wedding Feast.

The other Englishmen abroad are Elgar with his Songs from the Bavarian Highlands and Parry, whose magnificent Blest Pair of Sirens sets John Milton's poem At a Solemn Music. The Choir is accompanied by Rosalind Hall *piano*.

*Images for Spring and Summer concerts are from Wikipedia Creative Commons. Many thanks to Nola McGaul for her painting of the Choir.*

December and April concerts are at **St Oswald's Church** Bollington Road SK10 5EG. Rehearsals, Messiah for All, the Singing Day and the June concert are at our home **Bollington Arts Centre** Wellington Road SK10 5JR. Our concerts feature interval refreshments (tea/coffee at St Oswald's with cash donations / licensed bar (card payments only) at the Arts Centre plus a high quality raffle with tickets for £1.

**Tickets are £15 (£5 for 18s and under) 01625 575554 Cards and cash accepted on the door**

Founded by Dr John Coope MBE in 1964, and conducted since 2002 by Donald Judge, Bollington Festival Choir is a friendly Choir that retains its village roots while attracting members from a wide area. The Choir performs some unusual repertoire and requests from members often feature in our programmes. **Registered Charity no: 513224**