

St John Henry Newman Church – Latchford, Tuesday December 14th

CAROL CONCERT

In Memoriam

Michael Wright

1940 – 2020

Awarded the Benemerenti Medal by Pope John Paul II

Fellow of the Guild of Musicians and Singers

Organist at Latchford for 64 years



The Lydian Singers, directed by John Naylor

Chester St Cecilia Singers, directed by Howard Kane*

Simon Russell - Organ

This concert will be live-streamed and recorded and may be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/NewmanLiveWarrington>

Carol 1 ***Sussex Carol*** arr. David Willcocks

Introduction + dedication of Memorial Plaque
Fr Peter



Carol 2 ***There is no rose*** – John Joubert

Carol 3 ***Shepherds Pipe carol*** – John Rutter

All: ***God rest ye merry***, Gentlemen

Reading ***Christmas*** – John Betjeman,
read by Grace Knowlton. (Michael's granddaughter)

Carol 4* ***Ding Dong Merrily on High*** – arr. Wood

Carol 5* ***The three Kings*** – Peter Cornelius

Carol 6* ***In Dulci Jubilo*** arr. Pearsall

Reading ***'New Heaven, New War'*** Robert Southwell SJ,
read by Hilary Skinner (Lydian Singers)

Carol 7 ***Bethlehem Down*** – Peter Warlock arr. David Hill

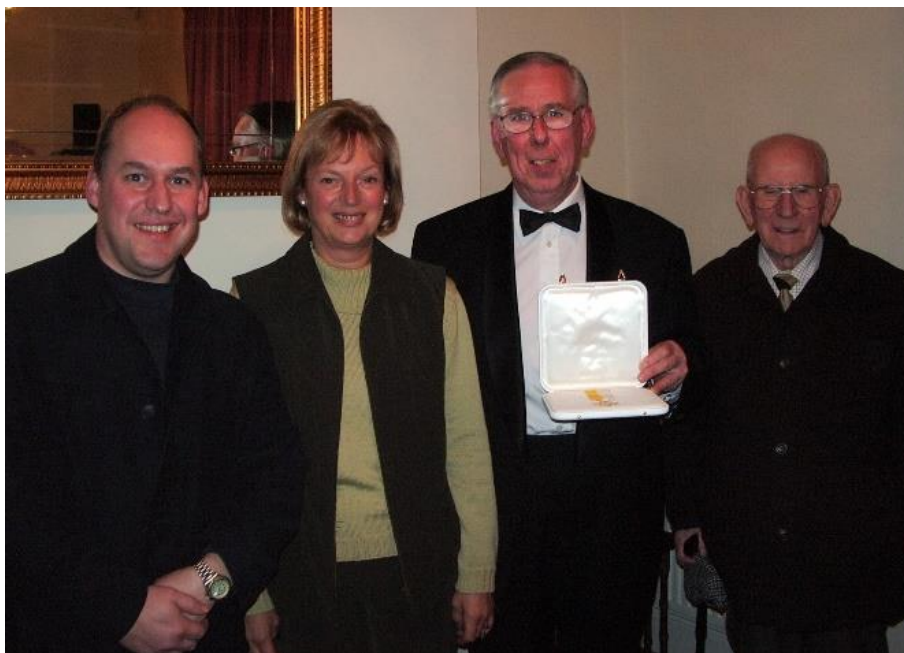
Carol 8 ***Past 3 a clock*** - Traditional

Carol 9 ***Here is the Little door*** – Herbert Howells

All: ***Good King Wenceslas***

Brief Interval during which you are asked to remain in your places

Carol 10 ***Once as I remember*** arr. Charles Wood
Carol 11 ***In the bleak mid-winter*** – Harold Darke
All: ***The First Noel***
Reading* ***'The Donkey's Tale'***, adapted from Luke 2: 1-10 by
Richard Cole, read by Mary Brierley (*St Cecilia Singers*).
Carol 12* ***Silent night*** arr. Roger Wilkes (*member of both choirs*)
Carol 13* ***Sir Christemas*** - William Mathias
Carol 14* ***Candlelight Carol*** – John Rutter
Reading ***The coming of the Magi*** – TS Eliot
read by John Griffith (*Lydian Singers.*)
Carol 15 ***A maiden most gentle*** – Andrew Carter
Carol 16 ***O magnum mysterium*** – Morten Lauridsen
Epilogue Fr Peter Montgomery
All ***Hark the herald angels sing***
Organ Voluntary - ***Toccata in G*** - Thèodore Dubois (1837-1924)



The Lydian Singers are a chamber choir of some 24 voices based in Knutsford. The choir started in 1980 as a result of an ad hoc carol concert arranged by Michael at Loreto Convent in Altrincham. He was one of the founding members of the choir; the other three are singing here tonight.

The choir sings concerts around the North West of England. They also visit UK Cathedrals to sing weekend services when the resident choir is on holiday and have now visited most of the cathedrals in England. Their most recent visit was to Tewkesbury Abbey in September 2021.

Chester St Cecilia Singers are a chamber choir of 25-30 voices based in the Cathedral city of Chester. The choir started in 1969. Their repertoire covers 500 years of sacred music and some secular and lighter pieces for their concert programmes.

They sing concerts mainly in and around Cheshire. They also visit UK Cathedrals to sing weekend services when the resident choir is on holiday. Their most recent visit was to Tewkesbury Abbey in November 2021

The two choirs have had a 'cousin' relationship for many years. They have shared singers on occasions, travelled together on overseas tours and performed joint concerts. Whilst Michael claimed that he was first and foremost a Lydian Singer, he equally valued his membership of the St Cs.

Michael sang all the Christmas music included in tonight's concert with one or other of the choirs. We are proud and glad to sing it tonight in his memory. We all miss him so much.



On behalf of Dianne and all the family our thanks go out to the many friends in both choirs, to John, Howard and Simon for enabling us to share this celebration in a manner truly fitting of Michael's life. May his memory always gift us with a smile. And may he rest in peace.

Amen