


SATURDAY 9th MAY
Holy Trinity Church
Cookham **8pm**



Horowitz CAPTAIN NOAH
Brahms LIBESLIEDER WALTZES
and other pieces

Concert on behalf of the  **Lifeboat**
Institution

The Cantorum Choir

The Choir is now six years old, and has expanded from its original twelve voices to its current size to perform a wider and more elaborate repertory. Recent successes have included an appearance in the 'Inspector Morse' television series and a recording for 'At Home on Sunday' with Wendy Craig. The Choir also participated in a recording of Christmas carols with Westminster Cathedral Choir.

Concert performances have included a carol concert at the Royal Albert Hall and services at Guildford Cathedral and St George's Chapel. Locally, the Choir has enjoyed considerable concert success, and have exciting plans for their 1987/88 concerts. The Cantorum Choir is sponsored by Pike, Smith and Kemp.

Jonathan Miall

Jonathan Miall was born and educated in Maidenhead where he has a long history of involvement in local music-making. Starting as a choirboy, Jonathan progressed to musical director for several productions by the Grimm Players. This and considerable musical experience gained at university led him to found the Cantorum Choir in 1981. Since then, he has directed all their numerous appearances. The diversity of the Choir's repertory is ample evidence of his versatility as a conductor. Besides this, Jonathan is an accomplished pianist and singer, and has made several local appearances as a baritone soloist.

Cookham and District RNLI

The local branch of the RNLI is one of many throughout the country. It was formed 12 years ago, to co-ordinate fund-raising for lifeboats. The branch last year collected £6,000, and has several plans for further fund-raising this year. If you would like to know more about the Cookham and District RNLI, please contact Mrs B Pitcher or Mrs B Briggs.

Forthcoming Events

September 1987: The Thames Valley Hospice Service in Windsor Parish Church.

November 14th: Concert in St Edmund Campion Church.

Programme to include Haydn's 'Paukenmesse' and Mozart Piano Concerto

Soloist: Jean Bryant

December 13th: Christmas Carol Concert
St John The Baptist Church,
Cookham Dean.

CANTORUM CHOIR AND THE RNLI WOULD LIKE TO
THANK THE VICAR OF THIS CHURCH,
THE REV. PETER HALE, FOR BEING SO HELPFUL
IN ALLOWING THIS CONCERT TO BE PERFORMED HERE.

The Cantorum Choir

Conductor: Jonathan Miall

1 Johannes Brahms: Liebeslieder Waltzes Op 65

Soprano: Helen Baker
Contralto: Mary Jefferies
Tenor: Malcolm Stork
Bass: David Food

Piano Duet: Jean Bryant
Tim Morgan

2 Edward Elgar: As Torrents in Summer
The Shower

3 Fredrick Delius: To be sung of a Summer Night
on the Water

4 Percy Grainger: Brigg Fair
Tenor: Richard Ratcliff

Londonderry Air

INTERVAL

1 C V Stanford:

Diaphenia
The Swallow
The Blue Bird

Soprano: Helen Baker

2 R Vaughan-Williams: Three Shakespeare Songs:

Full Fathom Five
The Cloud-Capp'd Towers
Over Hill, Over Dale

3 Joseph Horowitz: Captain Noah and his
Floating Zoo

Narrator: David Food
Noah: Nigel Stork
Lord: Arthur Giorgi

CANTORUM CHOIR IS SPONSORED BY

PIKE, SMITH AND KEMP, ESTATE AGENTS,

MAIDENHEAD AND TWYFORD

Programme note:

The second set of Liebeslieder Waltzes were composed in 1877 to complement the first set, written three years earlier. Their popularity owes much to the careful and varied scoring; the combination of four voices and piano duet, whilst suited to the Victorian parlour, is not out of place in a concert hall. Although the 15 waltzes are miniature forms, Brahms achieves a considerable dramatic scope and lyricism ensuring their enduring popularity.

Elgar's two part-songs As Torrents in Summer and The Shower share a common theme. Both are about water, and in both, the composer sees a deeper meaning in his surroundings. The heartfelt pieces betray Elgar's love of nature and religious devotion. Delius, sometimes called 'the English impressionist', shows a different treatment of water in his To be sung... on the water. Without words, he evokes the atmosphere of a summer evening in sound, with a soaring melody and rich harmony.

Percy Grainger was Australian by birth, but discovered a passion for English folk music. Many of his orchestral works take their themes from this traditional heritage. He also arranged the melodies for choral performance. The first half of the programme is concluded with two of his most beautiful settings of familiar melodies Brigg Fair and the Londonderry Air.

C V Stanford (1852-1924) is probably best known for his church compositions and the significant role he played in the re-vitalisation of the English choral tradition. These three pieces are comparable in length and scoring to Elgar's unaccompanied part-songs, but are more optimistic in mood, and are characterised by delightful melodic writing and simple charm.

Ralph Vaughan-Williams also played an important part in consolidating and encouraging choral music in England. The Three Shakespeare Songs were composed in 1951 as test-pieces for the British Federation of Music Festivals. Each piece tests a different aspect of choral technique, as well as demanding sensitive interpretation. The texts are all selected from passages about the supernatural, chosen from The Tempest and A Midsummer Night's Dream. The compositions capture the magical atmosphere of the poetry, with astonishingly original choral textures.

The final piece is a re-telling of the story of the first lifeboat. Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo is described as a 'Cantata in the popular idiom' and, with music by Joseph Horowitz and lyrics by Michael Flanders, is rapidly becoming a classic, needing no further introduction.