

Shepway Singers

Sop's: Jenny Bayford, Becky Berridge, Hilarie Hill, Anne Johnson, Belinda Lewis, Isolde Swinfin

Mezzos: Ruth Golding, Elizabeth Hopkin, Janet Hughes*, Margaret Ritchie, Jane Spencer, Bridget Wight

Tenors: Robert Aylward-Lopez*, Patrick Bayford, Peter Bettley, Timothy Hill, Brin Hughes, Harry Strachan

Basses: Robert Dennis, Duncan Lord, Roger Parker, Tim Parsons, Kenneth Tee, John Wright, Simon Wright

Conductor Berkeley Hill

* Not singing today.

The Shepway Singers, based in Hythe, is a choral group formed (under another name) in the mid-1970s to perform choral music requiring about twenty singers. Some five concerts are given each year, usually in response to invitations from various parts of Kent. The Singers' range of pieces extends from 15th Century church music to the contemporary and includes both sacred and secular, obscure and familiar. Though specialising in *a cappella* pieces, the repertory includes works written for organ or piano accompaniment. In 2010 three performances of the *St Mark Passion* by Charles Wood were given in the weeks before Easter, and a concert performed in November containing music by composers with names beginning with B (Britten, Bach, Bruckner etc.). In April 2011 the Shepway Singers sang an Evensong in Canterbury Cathedral.

The Shepway Singers have also performed with professional orchestras where the composers had this size of choir in mind. J S Bach's *Mass in B minor*, Handel's *Messiah* and choral works by Scarlatti and Pergolesi have been presented in recent years.

**St Nicholas Church
Newington**

Singing, Merriment and Good Company

Shepway Singers

**7.30 Saturday 17 November
2012**

Madrigals – fun after food and drink from the times of Good Queen Bess

- Now is the Month of Maying – Thomas Morley (1595)
- The silver swan – Orlando Gibbons (1612)
- All creatures now are merry minded - John Benet (1601)

Songs for Children (?)

- Old MacDonald' farm – American trad. (E 113)
- Teddy bears' picnic – music J Bratton (1907); words, Je Kennedy (1932)(arr. Carter) (E p142)
- The Goslings – Sir Frederick Bridge (1844-1924)(E 37)

Edwardian Choral pieces

- Music when sweet voices die – Charles Wood (1908)
- The Blue Bird – Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1910)
- My love dwelt in a northern land – Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Folksongs – ageless tunes for all occasions

- Lark in the clear air – trad.English – arr. T Johnson (1963)
- I love my love (Cornish) – arr Gustav Holst (1917)

George (1898-1937) and Ira Gershwin – US romantics

- Nice work if you can get it (G 48)
- Let's call the whole thing off (G 32)

INTERVAL

Men only – songs for American glee (drinking) clubs

- Drink to me only with thine eyes – arr Bartholomew
- We're gathering up the roses - Bostwick

Music by Alessandro Scarlatti (1660-1725), Italian composer based mainly in Rome and Naples, of operas, chamber cantatas, instrumental pieces, and for the church.

➤ **Exultate Deo**

Sing joyfully unto God our strength; Praise the God of Jacob. Allelujah.

➤ **Ad te Domine levavi animam meam**

Psalm 25, vv 1-3 To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in you; Let me not be ashamed; Let not my enemies triumph over me. Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed

Slightly naughty-cal ditties?

- I do like to be beside the seaside – John Glover-Kind (arr. Andrew Carter) (Ep48)
- The Mermaid – English trad. (arr. J Whitworth)(E 90)

A beautiful but sad song for a lost love

Lay a garland – Robert Pearsall (1795-1856)

Lay a garland on her hearse of dismal yew. Maidens, willow branches wear. Say she died true. Her love was false but she was firm. Upon her buried body lie lightly, thou gentle earth

Songs from the 20s and 30s

- Let's do it – Cole Porter (1920) (P 83)
- Somewhere over the rainbow – Harold Arlen (1938) (P 96)