

South West Chamber Choir

Director: Stephen Trahair

Organist: Dr Sean Sweeney

Beatus vir *Choral classics*

St Eustachius' Church, Tavistock

21 April 2012

**Concert in aid of Tavistock Memory Café -
helping those with dementia and their carers**

PROGRAMME

Beatus vir *Choral Classics*

Tavistock Church 21 April 2012

<i>Spiritus sanctus</i>	Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)
<i>I was glad</i>	C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)*
<i>Agnus Dei</i>	Samuel Barber (1910-1981)
ORGAN: <i>Imperial March</i>	Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
<i>The Beatitudes</i>	Arvo Pärt (b.1935)
<i>Which was the son of...</i>	Arvo Pärt (b.1935)
<i>Beatus vir</i>	Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)
INTERVAL	
<i>Salve Regina</i>	Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)
<i>Lobet den Herrn</i>	J S Bach (1685-1750)
<i>When I am laid in earth</i>	Henry Purcell (c.1659-1695)*
ORGAN: <i>Toccata & Fugue in D minor</i>	J S Bach (1685-1750)
<i>Thou visitest the earth</i>	Maurice Greene (c.1695-1755)*
<i>Lord, let me know mine end</i>	Maurice Greene (c.1695-1755)
<i>Evening Hymn</i>	H Balfour Gardiner (1877-1950)

*These numbers are sung in arrangements by Stephen Trahair

The **South West Chamber Choir**, a group of some 21 voices, was originally formed in 1995. It performs a wide-ranging repertoire of small-scale choral music including Elizabethan madrigals, Renaissance polyphony, Bach motets, sacred music by English and Continental composers from the 16th to the 21st century, romantic partsongs, and works by contemporary composers such as Arvo Pärt and John Tavener. Much of the repertoire is sung unaccompanied. Programmes include specially commissioned works, and the choir recently gave the first performance of sacred works written for it by Devon composers Andrew Wilson and Jason Smart, both former Musical Directors of the choir.

Website: www.swcchoir.org.uk

Contact email: enquiries@swcchoir.org.uk

Sopranos: Marion Best, Rita Bilverstone, Phillida Jermain, Alison O'Connell, Gill Smith, Jane Suckling

Contraltos: Bella Alexander, Maggie Boynton, Sharon Brown, Vivian Houghton, Jane Hamlyn, Kay Hughes, Tessa Treneary

Tenors: George Davies, John Messham, Elaine Rimron, Dennis Silverwood

Basses: Den Anderson, Jonathan Evans, John Green, John Rattenbury



Stephen Trahair, the Musical Director, has sung with the choir since 2003, and was appointed MD in 2008. Although a lawyer by profession, choral music has always been his main interest, and he has many years' experience of conducting and accompanying choirs. He has written and arranged both sacred and secular choral music, and has published albums of unaccompanied arrangements of partsongs and carols as well as two albums for organ. He has produced several editions of choral works which form much of the choir's repertoire.

Dr Sean Sweeney held his first organist's post at the age of eleven in Swansea. He graduated with an honours degree in music from the University of Wales and subsequently went on to achieve an MA from the University of Reading and a Doctorate from the University of Bath. He studied organ with Dr Michael Smith at Llandaff Cathedral and Colin Walsh at Salisbury Cathedral and piano with Martin Jones. Sean has performed in many concert venues, churches and cathedrals in this country and abroad. He has been assistant musical director of the Morriston Orpheus Male Voice Choir, Conductor of the Southsea Symphony Orchestra, Director of the South West Chamber Choir and, since 2005, Director of Music at Tavistock Parish Church. He recorded his first solo CD of organ music in 2006.

The **Tavistock Memory Café** is a Tavistock-based charity providing social contact for those living with any form of dementia or memory impairment and also their carers. The Memory Cafe meets fortnightly on Saturday afternoons at The Anchorage Centre, Chapel Street (01822 616958).

This concert is presented by kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Eustachius' Church, and in association with the
Tavistock Music & Arts Festival 2012

Future SWCC dates

Fowey Parish Church - *Summer Songs*

A secular programme of madrigals and partsongs

Saturday 9 June 2012 at 7.30 pm

Exeter Cathedral – *Cathedral services*

Saturday & Sunday 14/15 July 2012

Landrake Church - *Season Songs*

Saturday 17 November 2012 at 7.30 pm