

Arthur Warne

Arthur Warne was born in Erith, Kent on 31st January 1928 although he lived his early life in nearby Barnehurst. He was a pupil at Dartford Grammar School before entering the Royal Navy for his National Service after which he studied languages at Magdalen College, Oxford. Then followed teacher training where his career first took him to Surrey then back to Kent before moving to Stevenage with his wife Elizabeth as the new head of Chells Secondary School. Following the closure of Chells Arthur moved to the Priory in Hitchin in a more administrative role and thence to St. Audrey's in Hatfield, before he retired after 40 years in education.

Joining Hitchin Thespians in 1969 Arthur quickly established himself as one of the Society's leading members playing major roles in many of its stage productions as well as solo roles in a great number of choral concerts. Possessing a fine bass voice Arthur was much in demand and sang solos with other choirs such as the Locrian Chamber Choir, St Mary's Singers of Potton and the Stevenage St Nicholas Church all of whom are represented in this evening's concert.

Arthur was a loyal and dedicated Thespian and apart from being much in demand as a performer he served on the committee for many years before becoming Chairman in 1980, a position which he served with distinction for ten years until he became President in 1990 where he remained until his death on 16th November 2005.

As a teacher, Arthur loved his chosen profession and it was no doubt because of his excellent rapport with young people that he used to good effect in encouraging and helping the younger members of Hitchin Thespians. But Arthur meant so much to us all; he took part in every aspect of the Society's life during his 36 years of membership whether on stage or off. He contributed so much and will be remembered for the work he did in fostering the link with our friends in the Bingen-Bingerbrück Choir in Germany and he was instrumental in organising our many exchange visits to the town of Bingen. His love of history also enabled him to research and write two informative books detailing the history of Hitchin Thespians in celebrating the 75th Anniversary and then the Centenary of the Society.

Arthur was highly respected and admired by all who knew him. He was a man of great courage, as his determination to fight his illness proved, but also a man of much compassion who felt strongly for the welfare of others.

This memorial concert tonight is not only an event to celebrate the life of Arthur Warne and all that he meant to us, but is a tribute to a very fine man who we shall always remember with great affection

Derek Jenkins

Chairman, Hitchin Thespians

Hitchin Thespians and Friends

Present

Messiah

By G. F. Handel

A Concert in memory of
Arthur Warne
President - Hitchin Thespians



Conductor - Justin Thomas

Organ - Audrey Jenkins

Piano - John Edwards

St Mary's Church, Hitchin

Saturday 20th May 2006



PROGRAMME

Overture

Comfort ye My people	Jack Cornwell
Every valley shall be exalted	Jack Cornwell
And the glory of the Lord	Chorus
And He shall purify	Chorus
Behold, a virgin shall conceive	Lilian Dixon
O Thou that tellest good tidings	Lilian Dixon and Chorus
For behold darkness shall cover the earth ..	Michael Niles
The people that walked in darkness	Michael Niles
Rejoice greatly	Sandra Page
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened ..	Kate Roberts
He shall feed His flock	Kate Roberts and Lucy Miller-White
Behold the Lamb of God	Chorus
He was despised	Kate Roberts
Surely He hath borne our griefs	Chorus

And with His stripes we are healed

Chorus

All we like sheep have gone astray

Chorus

---- *Twenty minute interval* ----

All they that see Him

Jack Cornwell

He trusted in God

Chorus

He was cut off out of the land of the living

John Barron

But thou did'st not leave His soul in hell

John Barron

Lift up your heads

Chorus

How beautiful are the feet

Peggy Handscombe

Hallelujah !

Chorus

I know that my Redeemer liveth

Alison Eames

Behold, I tell you a mystery

Michael Niles

The trumpet shall sound

Michael Niles

Worthy is the Lamb

Chorus

CHORUS

SOPRANOS

Jean Austin, Sarah Bailes, Gillian Bailey, Wendy Beavan, Gwenda Beech, Janet Bennett, Margaret Brendish, Maureen Briddon, Dorothy Brooks, Karen Brown, Anna Carter, Margaret Coxall, Sarah Critten, Ann Crook, Sheila Davies, Alison Day, Alison Eames, Denise Gentle, Anna Hallett, Peggy Handscombe, Geraldine Hiorns, Judi Hobbs, Sue Howcroft, Pamela Hunter, Katy King, Ann Mansfield, Helen Mansfield, Michelle Marple, Lucy Miller-White, Monica Moore, Susan Osbourn, Sandra Page, Ann Peacock, Melanie Plowman, Kate Roberts, Sheila Soothill, Jane Tunesi, Lindsey Waghorn, Rosamunde Ward, Jenny Wilson, Esther Woods, Maureen Wright

CONTRALTOS

Val Barron, Caroline Bonja, Gill Cheaney, Lilian Dixon, Ethel Edwards, Alex Evans, Monique Galloway, Kathleen Gillan, Pauline Gimson, Alicia Hammond, Caroline Hirst, Helen Hodge, Antonia Homer, Marian Kemball-Cook, Dorothy Marsh, Nerys Martin, Janet McGeown, Christine Miskelly, Sheila Mole, Gina Moles, Keryle Rutherford, Rose Saunders, Elizabeth Snowwell, Vivienne Tadman, Barbara Thomas, Elizabeth Warne, Annette Woodbridge

TENORS

John Barron, Andrew Carmichael, Peter Cook, Jack Cornwell, Alan Dickinson, Graham Garley, Anthony Gordon, Peter Gordon, Andy Johnson, David Moore, Dominic O'Flynn, Jenny Ream, Howard Roberts, Iain Rutherford, Neil Rutherford, Mark Savage, Peter Wall

BASSES

Paul Adams, John Barrall, John Beal, Gilbert Cobb, Eddie Cullum, Malcolm Galloway, Ray Gorbing, Peter Hickman, Trevor Hiorns, Derek Jenkins, John Keogh, Jack Lardent, Dave Lester, Nick Morgan, Keith Mortland, Terry Moxham, Michael Niles, Mike O'Leary, Ken Oliver, Dave Ross, Mike Steele, Bryan Summers, Derek Verney, Peter Woods, Andy Wyllie

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairman - Derek Jenkins, Musical Director - Justin Thomas, Choral Manager - Susan Osbourn, Concert Manager - Andy Johnson, Family Advisor - Katy King,
Box Office - Nick and Nicky Morgan, Front of House Manager - Janise Frith, Lighting - Alan Bailes, Richard Cobb and Mike Roberts