

The Warrington Male Voice Choir



We are delighted to welcome the Warrington Male Voice Choir to Haydock once again - this time for an evening of music on a Christmas theme.

Terry Waite CBE, Patron of the Warrington Male Voice Choir, says; "The Choir has a long and distinguished history. Its roots are deep within the Christian tradition. It was nourished within a small industrial town in the North of England. Across the generations, men from every walk of life have blended their voices together to make music. There have been times in the history of Warrington when life has seemed dark indeed. Times when unemployment with all its attendant evils has stalked the town. In good times, as in bad, the Choir has continued in the belief that music has the capacity to raise our spirits to a higher plane and to breathe harmony into troubled souls."

We are grateful to the members of this prestigious choir for giving their time and talents to help this church in its bid to give a warm welcome to all who come in through its doors. Also we wish to express our gratitude to the businesses which have so generously sponsored this concert:



www.carlease.uk.com



www.barrowandcook.co.uk



neilmiddlehurstfunerals.co.uk

Not least, our thanks to you for supporting this concert - we'd like to welcome you back at any of our church services or events.

Programme

A Choral Christmas



with the internationally famous

Warrington Male Voice Choir



Friday

5th December

At the parish church of
St James the Great, Haydock

www.stjamesthegreat.org.uk

A Choral Christmas

Fanfare *Martin Shaw*

Sanctus *J Richards - Arr Arthur Bellis*

Here We Come A-Wassailing *Arr Channing Lesfevre*

The Star Carol *Gareth Glyn*

Audience Carol - Onez in Royal David's City

In Dulce Jubilo *arr Archibald Davison*

Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening *Randall Thompson*

Born Tonight *Russell Paterson*

Interval of 20 minutes

Queen Pastors *arr Alan Simmons*

A Child Is born In Bethlehem *arr Emrys Williams*

Silent Night, Holy Night *arr Goff Richards*

Hodie *John Leavitt*

Audience Carol - Hark the Herald Angels Sing

When a child is Born *Zacar arr Alan Simmons*

Winter Wonderland *Felixstowe Bernard arr George Trinkhaus*

White Christmas *Irving Berlin arr Milton James*

Schneewalzer *arr Goff Richards*



Terry Waitz CBE is the Choir's Patron. Born in Styal in Cheshire, Terry Waitz was educated at Stockton Heath County Secondary school, so he has strong local connections with Warrington. However, he is most famous for his role in Lebanon in the 1980s. He was the Assistant for Anglican Communion Affairs for the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, and went as an envoy for the Church of England to Lebanon to try to secure the release of four hostages, including the journalist John McCarthy. He was himself kidnapped and held captive from 1987 to 1991. He became Patron of the Choir in 1996 in tribute to the Choir's humanitarian role, and now frequently supports the choir's performances in British and Irish prisons, assisting rehabilitation programmes.

Russell Patterson is the Choir's Musical Director.

After graduating in music from Manchester University, Russell became Assistant Musical Director of the renowned Manchester Choral before accepting the challenge of his present position. He has been Musical Director of the Warrington Male Voice Choir for the past fifteen years, and has led this outstanding choir to festival honours including, most recently, National Champions of Great Britain, several times prize winners at the Bangor International Cysteddfod, and premier male choir at both the Sligo and Bangor International Choral Festivals. He is noted for his own personal brand of wit, and it has become a tradition that his longest and most rambling joke is a feature of the Christmas programme!



Dr Anthony Whittaker is Assistant Musical Director.

Anthony Whittaker is an examiner for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. In context of that responsibility he has toured Australia, Hong Kong, Scandinavia, Spain, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Australia and New Zealand. He began working with the Warrington Male Voice Choir in 1997, as Principal Accompanist and Deputy Conductor. He is a pianist, organist, composer and singer, and is a lecturer and examiner in various colleges and universities in England and abroad. Anthony is married to Stephanie and has two daughters, Charlotte and Amelia.

Helen Everett is the Choir's Principal Accompanist.

Educated at Goolge Grammar School, Helen graduated with BA Hons in Humanities with Music and is well on the way to securing a Masters degree in Education. Helen lives in Winsford with her husband Mike and their daughter Chloe, and is employed as Pastoral Manager at a local secondary school. She has a particular interest in working with secondary school children who are disaffected by the education system and in danger of being excluded. For nine years she has been principal accompanist to the City of Chester Male Voice Choir, and in 2011 took up the challenge of working with the Warrington Male Voice Choir as accompanist. If that were not demanding enough, Helen is also accompanist to the Rivendell Singers.

