

**The Sitwell Singers** were formed in 1966 by a group of friends who gathered to sing on Sunday evenings in each other's homes. One of these was Stainsby Hall, then a poultry farm (!) which had previously belonged to the Sitwell family - hence the name.

Since then the choir has gone from strength to strength. There have been seven resident, and some guest, conductors. The choir has worshipped and performed in Cathedrals, Churches, Stately Homes and Village Halls. A few of the original members are still with us.

The repertoire is wide ranging from the Renaissance to the present day and is performed with orchestra, organ or *a cappella*. Recent performances have included Copland's *In the Beginning*, Palestrina's *Missa Papae Marcelli*, Britten's *St. Nicolas*, the Duruflé *Requiem* as well as a large number of smaller pieces.

Future special events will include a performance of Bach's *St. John Passion* in 2003.

**Peter Williams** has been the conductor of The Sitwell Singers since July 1996. Originally from Norfolk, he studied organ and piano at the Royal College of Music and was subsequently Senior Organ Scholar at St. George's Chapel, Windsor and Sub-Organist at York Minster before entering the field of education.

He combined his first teaching appointment at a Manchester comprehensive school with the post of Organ Tutor at Chetham's Hospital School. There followed a twenty-year spell as head of Music at the Crossley and Porter and Crossley Heath Schools in Halifax where he was responsible for a wide range of choral and orchestral concerts and also formed the Taverner Choir of Halifax.

Since 1991 he has been in charge of the Academic Music at Repton School and Chapel Organist whilst continuing to play and conduct in this country and abroad.

His wife, Margaret, sings with the choir and conducts and accompanies the group.



# *The Sitwell Singers*

**2001 to 2002**



# The Sitwell Singers

Conductor: Peter Williams

Season 2001 - 2002

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Saturday 29 September 2.00pm

Repton School

## Come and Sing Mozart's Requiem

in the splendid surroundings of the Beldam Hall in the Music School, Tanner's Lane off the Burton Road. This event has been much enjoyed in the past and will include a Buffet Supper followed by the performance at around 7pm. Concert tickets will be available at the door.

Full details from 01332 662519.

Tickets: £9 with food; £5 without. Concert only: £2.50

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Saturday 15 December 7.30pm

Repton Parish Church

Monday 17 December 7.30pm

St.John's, Bridge St. Derby

## Music for the Christmas Season

including some old favourites and some new. These are much appreciated, traditional events with an ever increasing audience who enjoy singing with us for some of the items.

*Come and join us!*

Full details from 01283 559284.

Tickets: £5 Children: £2.50

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Saturday 23 March 7.30pm

St. Andrew with St.Osmund

London Rd. Derby

## Towards the Resurrection

A Sequence of Music and Readings from Lent to Easter. Some of the most beautiful and moving music has been composed for the events leading up to Easter and we are looking forward to performing it in St. Osmund's warm acoustic and in so doing, making a much needed contribution to the roof fund.

(Details from the Vicarage: 01332 571329)

Tickets: £5 Concessions: £4.00

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Monday 8 July 9.15pm

Derby Cathedral

## Vespers by Candlelight

with

**Andrew Kennedy (Tenor)**

and

**Tom Williams (Alto)**

A late night performance, in Russian, of **Rachmaninov's All-Night Vigil, Op.37**, as part of the Derby Jubilee Festival of 2002. Although popularly known as the 'Vespers', Rachmaninov's setting is of fifteen canticles from the monastic offices of the Russian Orthodox Church which last through the night to the First Hour. This concert performance, however, will last just over an hour! It promises to be a memorable occasion.

Details from: <http://www.derbyjubilee2002.org/>

Tickets: £7.50 Concessions: £6.00

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Tickets for all Sitwell Singers' events are on sale in advance at Foulds, Irongate, Derby (Tel: 01332 344842), available on the night, or can be obtained from choir members.

Tickets for the Christmas Concert in Repton are also available from the Post Office and the Bursary in Repton.

Ticket information for all concerts is available from 01332 662519 or from the numbers listed under each event.

The choir rehearses in St. John's Church, Bridge St. Derby on Monday nights from 8pm until 9.30pm.

The conductor is always keen to hear from potential new members, and is particularly interested in encouraging young singers. If you are interested in performing stimulating repertoire with a friendly bunch of people please telephone him on 01283 559284.

Small groups are often available to perform at weddings or similar occasions if requested with sufficient advance notice. If you would like choral accompaniment for such an event, please contact the Secretary, Mrs. Jenny Jagers Tel. 01332 341340.