

# Taplow Youth Choir

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Tour of Prague and  
South Bohemia

6th to 13th April 2015





# Foreword

It is with great excitement that Taplow Youth Choir embarks on its latest foreign Tour. These biennial trips provide singers with the opportunity to make wonderful music in stunning locations, whilst enjoying a week of social activities.

This is not my first visit to the Czech Republic. In 1997, I brought the Berkshire Youth Choir here on a similar music tour. Now, I am delighted to be returning to this wonderful country with a whole new generation of choristers.

We look forward to sharing our wide and varied repertoire with you over our week touring Prague and South Bohemia.

**Gillian Dibden**  
Director, Taplow Youth Choir  
April 2015



# Taplow Youth Choir

Taplow Youth Choir was formed in the autumn of 2006 and now has 75 members, aged 15 to 19. They rehearse and perform to a very high standard, with a challenging repertoire spanning several centuries. They were awarded the title of BBC Radio 3 'Youth Choir of the Year' in 2008 and won the 'Outstanding' award at Music for Youth in the same year.

In April 2009, during a tour of Tallinn, Estonia, Taplow Youth Choir competed in the International Choral Competition and won second prize in the Youth category. Tours have also included Amsterdam, Catalonia, and Venice, where the choir very much enjoyed the opportunity to give concerts in some of the finest churches.

Regular performers at the Windsor Festival, the choir also enjoys singing Choral Evensong annually at St George's

Chapel, Windsor. The choir is delighted to be a part of the Young Singers Scheme with the Gabrieli Consort, and performed Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Gabrieli Consort and players in the 2011 Proms season at the Royal Albert Hall.

In July 2012, Taplow Youth Choir took part in *The Tree of Light* (by Orlando Gough), performed at Stonor Park, Henley as part of the Cultural Olympiad. In a busy Christmas season, the choir performed at the annual concert for Child Bereavement UK in Holy Trinity, Brompton and have been invited back this year. They were also selected as one of the UK's six selected choirs in the EBU competition *Let The Peoples Sing*. In March this year they performed in St Alban's Abbey, sharing a concert with three other Youth choirs, where a specially commissioned work by Ben Parry received its world premiere.

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Members of the choir are drawn from a number of schools across Berkshire and the South East, including:

- The Abbey School, Reading
- Altwood Church of England School
- Beaconsfield High School
- Burnham Grammar School
- Charters School
- Furze Platt Senior School
- Henley College
- Herschel Grammar School
- The Holt School
- John Hampden Grammar School
- Kendrick School
- The Lady Eleanor Holles School
- Newland Girls' School
- The Piggot School
- Ranelagh School
- Reading Bluecoat School
- Reading School
- Sir William Borlase's Grammar School
- St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School
- St George's School, Weybridge
- Upton Court Grammar School
- Windsor Boys' School

### **Soprano**

Sarah Bowler, Charlotte Broadbent, Meghan Curran, Emily Devine, Erin Eaves, Sophie Foote, Stephanie Foster, Molly Goetzee, Georgia Harris, Luisa Kent, Isabella Merritt, Chloe Poulter, Sophie Rahemanji, Katrina Thwaites, Wizzie Yeats

### **Alto**

Yasmin Al-Ghabra, Alexandra Baldwin, Eleanor Duncombe, Amelia Dunsdon, Abigail Evans, Chelsea McCulloch, Kristen Paskins, Katharina Schack, Elinor Sebire, Beth Sercombe

### **Tenor**

James Breedon, Jay Brickell, Bruce Campbell-Hood, Michele Canali, George Emmins, Ross Kelly, Rob Kerr, Joseph Loftus-Smith, Jehan Lucan-Wilson, Max O'Brien, Christopher Short, Rory Walder

### **Bass**

Idris Al-Ghabra, Ben Bui, Andrew Burdett, Glenn De Sousa, Ben de Souza, Callum Killick, Alexander McKendrick, Benjamin Perkins, Matthew Price, Tom Pritchard, James Sellers, Tom Underwood, Edward Walters, Michael Workman

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# Gillian Dibden



Conductor Gillian Dibden has enjoyed a long career in music, particularly working with young people. Successes include the International Choral competition *Let the Peoples Sing*, hosted jointly by the BBC and the European Broadcasting Union, where her St Bernard's Girls' Choir won the international competition for Children's Choirs in 1974, and the UK final in 1978.

Her Berkshire Choirs were regular winners in the Sainsbury's *Choir of the Year* competition, and the Taplow Youth Choir won the Youth category title in the BBC competition of the same name in 2008. Also in 2008, Taplow Youth Choir won the 'Outstanding' award for choirs at Music for Youth. In 2009, the choir took part in the International Choral competition in Tallinn, Estonia, and were runners up in the Youth Category.

She was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for choral music in 2002, enabling her to visit Finland and South Africa to study choral traditions in those countries. In the same year she was named as Choir Director of the Year in the Sainsbury's *Choir of the Year* competition. She has

more recently been invited to adjudicate for the BBC Radio 3 Choir of the Year Competition as well as for the *School Choir of the Year* competition run by BBC Television's *Songs of Praise*.

In 2009, Gillian received an MBE (Member of the British Empire), an honour bestowed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for her work with youth and children's choirs.

Gillian works as a vocal consultant for Slough Music Service where she conducts the Primary Schools Festival, Singing Workshops, and the Slough Schools Carol Service in Eton College Chapel. She enjoys her work with Taplow Choirs enormously and feels proud and privileged to work with such talented and committed young people. She is also the Academic Executive for the Montgomery Holloway Music Trust, where she directs the annual Jazz Summer School for young musicians.

In 2014, the Association of British Choral Directors named Gillian as the first recipient of a new award for Choral Leadership.

# Tour Staff



## Jenny Hopper

Jenny is a very popular and experienced tour staff member, whose daughters are former Taplow Youth Choir members. We are extremely pleased that, as in 2013, she joins us as our accompanist.



## Richard Maillardet

Richard has accompanied Taplow Youth Choir to Amsterdam in 2007, Tallinn in 2009, Catalonia in 2011, and Venice in 2013. He is delighted to be a staff member again for this tour.



## James Wilder

James, a former Taplow Youth Choir member himself, is Master-in-Charge of Singing & Choral Music at Licensed Victuallers School, Ascot, where he is also a Residential Boarding Tutor.



## Marian MacKay

Marian is a parent of two founder members of Taplow Choirs and continues to share her inspiration and expertise with concert dress. She is thrilled to be a staff member on this trip.



## Simon Lock

Simon is a music education consultant, who latterly directed the music services in Slough and Buckinghamshire. He continues to work in national education advisory roles, and is proud to support this tour.







# Tuesday 7th April 2015, 18.30

## Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Veselí

### Full Choir

Jubilate Deo

Giovanni Gabrieli

Ubi caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Beati quorum via

Charles Villiers Stanford

I waited for the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

Sopranos: Stephanie Foster, Sophie Foote

### Upper Voices

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter

Good news!

Traditional spiritual, arr Ken Burton

### Male Voices

God's choir

Ray Overholt

### Vocal Solos

Weep you no more, sad fountains

John Dowland

Michael Workman – Bass

How beautiful are the feet (from *The Messiah*)

GF Handel

Molly Goetzee – Soprano

Du bist die Ruh

Franz Schubert

Luisa Kent – Soprano

### Vocal Ensembles

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake

Christopher Tye

If ye love me

Thomas Tallis

### Full Choir

Ave verum corpus

Camille Saint-Saens

Song for Athene

John Tavener

A Hymn to the Mother of God

John Tavener

Magnificat (from the *Evening Canticles in B minor*)

T Tertius Noble

### Vocal Solos

But thou didst not leave his soul in hell (from *The Messiah*)

GF Handel

Rory Walder – Tenor

Quia respexit (from *The Magnificat*)

JS Bach

Stephanie Foster – Soprano

### Full Choir

I'm gonna sing 'til the Spirit moves in my heart

Moses Hogan

Nunc Dimittis (from the *Evening Canticles in B minor*)

T Tertius Noble

The quiet heart

June Collin



# Wednesday 8th April 2015, 19.30

## Municipal Theatre, Masarykovo namesti, Trebon

### Full Choir

Ave verum corpus

*Camille Saint-Saens*

Ubi caritas

*Ola Gjeilo*

Song for Athene

*John Tavener*

### Upper Voices

The rose

*Amanda McBroom, arr Gwyn Arch*

Good news!

*Traditional spiritual, arr Ken Burton*

### Vocal Solos

Alma del core

*Antonio Caldara*

Edward Walters – Baritone

Music for a while

*Henry Purcell*

Luisa Kent – Soprano

Hark! the echoing air

*Henry Purcell*

Stephanie Foster – Soprano

### Full Choir

Who shall win my lady fair?

*RL de Pearsall*

The road home

*Stephen Paulus*

Shenandoah

*arr James Erb*

### Male Voices

All you were and all you are

*Alan Simmons*

That lovely weekend

*Moira and Ted Heath*

### Vocal Ensembles

Comfort O Lord, the soul of thy servant

*William Crotch*

Weep O mine eyes

*John Bennett*

This sweet and merry month

*William Byrd*

### Vocal Solos and Duets

I would that my love

*Felix Mendelssohn*

Meghan Curran – Soprano

Kristen Paskins – Mezzo soprano

O mistress mine

*Roger Quilter*

Rory Walder – Tenor

Largo al factotum

*Gioacchino Rossini*

Michael Workman – Bass

### Full Choir

My Lagan love

*Traditional Irish, arr John Powell*

With a lily in your hand

*Eric Whitacre*

Ride the chariot

*Traditional spiritual, arr WH Smith*



# Friday 10th April 2015, 19.30

## St Wenceslaus Church, Mnísek pod Brdy

### Full Choir

Jubilate Deo

Ubi caritas

Beati quorum via

I waited for the Lord

Sopranos: Stephanie Foster, Sophie Foote

Giovanni Gabrieli

Ola Gjeilo

Charles Villiers Stanford

Felix Mendelssohn

### Upper Voices

Candlelight Carol

Good news!

John Rutter

Traditional spiritual, arr Ken Burton

### Male Voices

God's choir

Ray Overholt

### Vocal Solos

Weep you no more, sad fountains

Michael Workman – Bass

John Dowland

How beautiful are the feet (from *The Messiah*)

Molly Goetzee – Soprano

GF Handel

Du bist die Ruh

Luisa Kent – Soprano

Franz Schubert

### Vocal Ensembles

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake

If ye love me

Christopher Tye

Thomas Tallis

### Full Choir

Ave verum corpus

Song for Athene

A Hymn to the Mother of God

Magnificat (from the *Evening Canticles in B minor*)

Camille Saint-Saens

John Tavener

John Tavener

T Tertius Noble

### Vocal Solos

But thou didst not leave his soul in hell (from *The Messiah*)

Rory Walder – Tenor

GF Handel

Quia respexit (from *The Magnificat*)

Stephanie Foster – Soprano

JS Bach

### Full Choir

I'm gonna sing 'til the Spirit moves in my heart

Nunc Dimittis (from the *Evening Canticles in B minor*)

The quiet heart

Moses Hogan

T Tertius Noble

June Collin





# Saturday 11th April 2015, 15.00

## Mill Colonnade, Karlovy Vary

### Full Choir

Who shall win my lady fair?

Shenandoah

The road home

*RL de Pearsall*

*arr James Erb*

*Stephen Paulus*

### Vocal Ensembles

Say love, if ever thou didst find

Fair Phyllis I saw

Quick! We have but a second

*John Dowland*

*John Farmer*

*Charles Villiers Stanford*

### Full Choir

My lagan love

Beati quorum via

*Traditional Irish, arr John Powell*

*Charles Villiers Stanford*

### Male Voices

That lovely weekend

*Moira and Ted Heath*

### Full Choir

Ubi caritas

Ride the chariot

*Ola Gjeilo*

*Traditional spiritual, arr WH Smith*

# Sunday 12th April 2015, 18.00

## Korunni Chapel, Prague

### Full Choir

Jubilate Deo  
Ave verum corpus  
I waited for the Lord

Sopranos: Stephanie Foster, Sophie Foote

Giovanni Gabrieli  
Camille Saint-Saens  
Felix Mendelssohn

### Vocal Ensembles

This sweet and merry month  
Fair Phyllis I saw  
Comfort O Lord, the soul of thy servant

William Byrd  
John Farmer  
William Crotch

### Upper Voices

The rose  
Good news!

Amanda McBroom arr Gwyn Arch  
Traditional spiritual, arr Ken Burton

### Full Choir

My Lagan love  
The road home  
With a lily in your hand

Traditional Irish, arr John Powell  
Stephen Paulus  
Eric Whitacre

### Vocal Solos and Duets

Alma del core  
Edward Walters – Baritone

Antonio Caldara

Feldeinsamkeit  
Molly Goetzee – Soprano

Johannes Brahms

I would that my love  
Meghan Curran – Soprano  
Kristen Paskins – Mezzo soprano

Felix Mendelssohn

Largo al factotum  
Michael Workman – Bass

Gioacchino Rossini

### Vocal Ensembles

Weep O mine eyes  
Say love, if ever thou didst find  
Quick! We have but a second

John Bennett  
John Dowland  
Charles Villiers Stanford

### Male Voices

All you were and all you are

Alan Simmons

### Full Choir

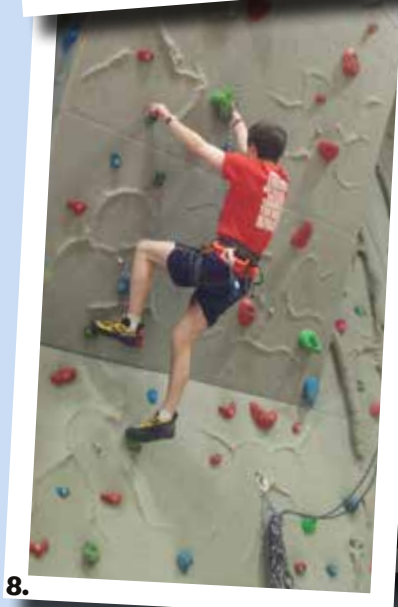
Song for Athene  
I'm gonna sing 'til the Spirit moves in my heart  
The quiet heart

John Tavener  
Moses Hogan  
June Collin



# Life Outside Taplow

Taplow Youth Choir members enjoy very busy lives outside of their fortnightly rehearsals, as shown by these pictures.



1. Ben de Souza worked with an accordion manufacturer in Italy last summer.
2. The Woodley Festival Mary O'Leary Trophy with winners Meghan Curran (2013) and Stephanie Foster (2015).
3. Kristen Paskins and Sophie Foote in *Kiss Me Kate*.
4. Andrew Burdett received his DoFE Gold Award at St James's Palace in November.
5. Bruce Campbell-Hood is passionate about flying.
6. Tom Underwood in *Snow White*.
7. Ben Perkins playing for Ascot United.
8. Matt Price climbing at school.
9. Molly Goetzee in *Oh! What a Lovely War*.



**[taplowchoirs.org.uk](http://taplowchoirs.org.uk)**

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