

Magnificat



St Matthew's Church*, Hayfield
Sunday 10 December 2017
doors open 7.00pm

Advance tickets† £10
from choir members or
Hayfield Pharmacy

director **Simon Mercer**
organ **Roger Briscoe**
soprano **Ceferina Penny**
alto **Maria Serracino-Inglott**
tenor **Glyn Webster**
bass **Henry Reavey**
+ orchestral ensemble

J S Bach Magnificat in D
Morten Lauridsen O Magnum Mysterium
Chris Williams In the Bleak Midwinter
Herbert Howells Here Is the Little Door

+ traditional Christmas carols

* by kind permission of the vicar

† restricted-view tickets £8 on the door (free to under-16s); for full ticketing details, see www.hayfieldsingers.org.uk/tickets

On Sunday 10th December, the Hayfield Singers will perform their first concert under new Musical Director Simon Mercer in the usual venue of St Matthew's Church, Hayfield, starting at 7.30pm.

The main item on the programme is J S Bach's *Magnificat* in D, one of the great composer's most popular vocal works. It is scored for a five-part chorus with two soprano lines, plus soloists and a Baroque orchestra including trumpets and timpani. The words of the Magnificat canticle, also known as the Song of Mary, come from the Gospel of St Luke and are spoken by Mary during the Visitation with her cousin Elizabeth.

Continuing with the theme, Morten Lauridsen's *O Magnum Mysterium* sets the words of Elizabeth during the Visitation as recounted by Luke, as well as referencing the animals around the manger in Bethlehem. It is written for eight parts and sung unaccompanied. This exquisite and ethereal work, premiered in 1994, has become very popular with choirs worldwide, but this is the first time the Hayfield Singers have sung it.

Also on the programme and recalling the Nativity are Herbert Howells' *Here is the Little Door*, and a new version of the popular carol *In the Bleak Midwinter*, composed by Chris Williams and performed in memory of the late Dr Andrew Fisher, a local GP and enthusiastic and much-missed member of our tenor section.

You will also be able to stretch your own vocal cords with traditional congregational carols and another piece by Chris Williams that involves audience participation.

Tickets are available in advance from choir members or from Hayfield Pharmacy at £10 for a seat with an unrestricted view. Restricted-view tickets at £8, plus any unsold £10 tickets, will be available from 7pm on the night.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be a joyous evening of local music-making as we kick off the Christmas season at St Matthew's.



www.hayfieldsingers.org.uk