



DIAMOND  
JUBILEE

1886

1946

SOUTH WEST LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY

*President :*  
MRS. R. MAKOWER.

*Vice-Presidents :*  
Madame Adami, Austin Nolan, Esq.  
G. A. Cayless, Esq., E. Stanley Roper, Esq.  
C.V.O., Mus.Bac., M.A., etc.

*Honorary Members :*

Richard Adams, Esq., M.P.	G. Freeman, Esq.	Mrs. Frank Odell.
Rev. A. Body.	W. H. Goy, Esq.	W. G. Pethybridge, Esq.
V. E. Catchpole, Esq.	Alderman Mrs. E. Goodrich, L.C.C.	L. Seymour, Esq.
Mrs. C. A. Cayless.	P. Gorvett, Esq.	Mrs. K. Shepherd.
A. Chitty, Esq.	Miss I. H. Hunt.	G. R. Twisleton, Esq.
F. G. Clark, Esq.	G. T. Jarvis, Esq.	J. E. Wood, Esq.

*Conductor :* FRANK ODELL, Esq.

*Accompanist :* Mrs. Catherine Bond.

*Organist :* Harold Peacock, Esq.

<i>Secretary :</i>	<i>Treasurer :</i>	<i>Choir Secretary :</i>
Mrs. G. B. Hill, 55, Hendham Road, S.W.17. Balham 4440.	Mrs. K. Wood, 39, Burleigh Road, Sutton. Fairlands 7119.	R. W. Castle, Esq. 14, Brookview Road, S.W.16. Streatham 1319.

*Social Secretary :*  
Miss E. Nichols.

*Ticket Steward :*  
Miss E. Long.

*Music Steward :*  
Miss M. Norris.

*Publicity Steward :*  
Mrs. D. M. Bruce.

IN 1886, Mr. Arthur Bond, who had been living in Wandsworth for twenty years, and who was the Conductor of the South London Prize Choir, with its headquarters at Walworth, deplored the fact that in the Wandsworth Borough there existed no Choral Society.

He arranged, with the assistance of a Mr. John Byatt, to bring his choir to give a Concert at Stormont Road Hall on the 20th September, 1886. This event stimulated interest in Choral Singing and it was decided to form a choir in the district and to call it the South West Choral Society, with Mr. Bond as its first Conductor and Mr. Byatt as its first secretary.

At the end of the first season the choir numbered 36. The second season saw the membership rise to 50, and also the resignation of Mr. Byatt, to be succeeded by Mr. A. H. Tay. The Choir grew in strength, for in 1890, 100 members enrolled, and in 1902 the South West had a membership of 200. From its birth until 1907 all the rehearsals had been held at Stormont Hall, but in this year arrangements were made for the Choir to rehearse at the Battersea Town Hall; this association lasted until just before the outbreak of the last war.

A small bill in my possession announcing the programme for the 1909-1910 season has a fine portrait of Mr. Bond, resplendent in high silk hat and adorned in a frock coat; and gives the subscriptions for the season as being 3/- for Ladies and 4/- for Gentlemen. To-day they are, to say the least, a little higher.

The story of the "ups and downs" of the choir make most interesting reading, but it is sufficient to say that when Mr. Bond retired from the Conductorship in 1911, after 25 years' service, the Society was firmly established in every way.

His successor, Mr. Arthur Saunders, maintained the high standard of the choir and more ambitious works were now performed. It is a pity that fuller details of the choir's work during his conductorship are not available. I have been unable to find any records anywhere. It is known that Verdi's Requiem was performed and that the choir won First Prize at the London Musical Festival upon two occasions.

In 1926, Mr. Saunders was succeeded by Frank Odell, under whose baton the Choir performed such works as Bach's "Mass in B Minor," "St. Matthew Passion," Brahms' "Requiem," and Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius," etc., etc. Another feature has been the engagement of first-class Orchestras to accompany the Choir, such as the London Symphony, the London Philharmonic and the National Symphony. A Capella concert also became a great feature of the Society's work.

Extensive participation in competitive singing at Musical Festivals resulted in the Choir gaining twenty-five First Prizes and twelve Seconds. This magnificent record was rewarded in 1931, when the South West was chosen to represent English Choral singing at the Anglo-American Music Education Conference held at Lausanne, Switzerland, and again in 1933 by a visit to Belgium to give concerts in connection with the English Music Festival. I should mention also a visit to Belgium in 1913, when the Choir sang at the Ghent Exhibition.

Much of the success that a Society such as ours gains is due to the untiring energy of the Secretary, and no history, however brief, would be complete without at least mentioning the names of those who have filled this office. The first two, already named, were followed by Messrs. Gathercole, Trim, Harding, Dorey, Morris, Martin, Sanders and then, the greatest of all, Mr. Leonard Calcott. He served the society for twenty-five years (1906-1931). A perfect Secretary, a true gentleman, he endeared himself to all those who came into contact with him. He was followed by Messrs. Ernest Williams, Tom Downing, and Arthur Jefferies, and during the early years of the war by Mr. Odell; and then Mrs. G. B. Hill was appointed to the post she still holds.

The Society has also been fortunate in its accompanists. Reginald Redman, now West Regional Musical Director, was one, Eric Saunders, Colin Mann, Madame Adami, and now Mrs. Catherine Bond. Mention should also be made here of the splendid co-operation of Mr. Harold Peacock, the Central Hall Organist.

The Society is grateful to all these loyal servants who have made the present day music making possible. Let us, who remain, see that we leave no stone unturned and no effort too great to carry the Choir to still greater achievements in its performances and its history.

SOUTH WEST LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY

DIAMOND JUBILEE  
CONCERT

CENTRAL HALL, TOOTING,

*Saturday . November 30th . 1946*

MARY HAMLIN

GLADYS HILL

JOHN TURNER

FRANK ODELL

ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR . . . FRANK ODELL

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# PROGRAMME

GOD SAVE THE KING ... .. *Arr. Costa*

HYMN OF PRAISE (Lobgesang) ... MENDELSSOHN

## A SYMPHONIA CANTATA

This work was first performed on 25th June, 1840, at the historic Church of St. Thomas, Leipzig, with Mendelssohn as the Conductor. (This famous church was the same one in which J. S. Bach had for so many years been responsible for the music making.) On this occasion the choir and Orchestra numbered 500, and the performance was described by Schumann as "very brilliant."

The first performance in England took place in the Birmingham Town Hall on 23rd September, 1840, again under the Composer's direction. A third performance took place in October at Leipzig, after which Mendelssohn revised the work and added the "Watchman" scene. The work was now published and in its new form had its first performance on 3rd December, 1840, again at Leipzig; and Gloucester had the honour in 1841 at the Musical Festival.

The plan of the Hymn of Praise was doubtless suggested to Mendelssohn's mind by that of Beethoven's Choral Symphony. The Symphony has three movements, followed by twelve Choral and Solo numbers. The text is from the Psalms and is founded on the words "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord."

1. Symphony.

Maestoso Con Moto—Allegro.

Allegretto Agitato.

Adagio Religioso.

2. Chorus ... .. "All men, all things"

3. Solo and Chorus ... .. "Praise thou the Lord"

MARY HAMLIN

4. Recitative ... .. "Sing ye Praise"

JOHN TURNER

5. Air ... .. "He Counteth All Your Sorrows"

JOHN TURNER

6. Chorus ... .. "All Ye That Cried Unto The Lord"

7. Duet and Chorus ... .. "I waited for The Lord"

MARY HAMLIN & GLADYS HILL

8. Solo ... .. "The Sorrows of Death"

JOHN TURNER

9. Chorus ... .. "The Night is Departing"

10. Chorale ... .. "Let All Men Praise The Lord"

11. Duet ... .. "My Song Shall Be Alway Thy Mercy"

MARY HAMLIN & JOHN TURNER

12. Chorus ... .. "Ye Nations Offer To The Lord"

SOUTH WEST LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY

FRANK ODELL ORCHESTRA

INTERVAL

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Motet for Double Chorus (8 part) (Unaccompanied)

SOUTH WEST LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY

Surge Illuminare

LATIN  
Surge illuminare, Hierusalem,  
Quia venit lumen tuum,  
Et Gloria Domini super te orta est.  
Quia Ecce tenebrae operient terram,  
Et caligo populos; Super te autem  
Orietur Dominus,  
Et Gloria eius in te videbitur  
Et ambulabunt Gentes in lumine tuo,  
Et Reges in splendore ortus tui,  
Leva in circuitu oculos tuos, et vide:  
Omnes isti congregati sunt, venerunt tibi:  
Filii tui de longe venient  
Et filiae tuae de lateribus surgent.  
Tunc videbis et affues, et mirabitur  
Et dilatabitur cor tuum  
Quando conversa fuerit ad te multitudo  
maris,  
Fortitudo gentium venerit tibi  
Inundatio camelorum operiet te,  
Dromedarii Madian et Ephraim  
Omnes de Saba venient  
Aurum et thus deferentes,  
Et Laudem Domino annuntiantes.

Palestrina

ENGLISH TRANSLATION  
Isaiah 60, Verses 1-6.

Arise, shine; for thy Light is come, and the glory  
of the Lord is risen upon thee.

For behold the darkness shall cover the Earth,  
and gross darkness the people: But the Lord shall  
arise upon thee, and His Glory shall be seen upon  
thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy Light,  
and Kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they  
gather themselves together, they come to thee:  
thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters  
shall be nursed at thy side.

Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine  
heart shall fear and be enlarged; because the  
abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee,  
the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the  
dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from  
Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and  
incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of  
the Lord.

Songs ... (a) "She Wandered Down the Mountain Side" F. Clay  
(b) Vesper Hymn ... .. arr. Colin Ross  
MARY HAMLIN

Songs ... (a) "Eriskay Love-lilt" ... .. arr. Kennedy Fraser  
(b) "Sigh No More Ladies" ... .. Aitken  
JOHN TURNER

Ode for Double Chorus and Orchestra:

"Blest Pair of Sirens" ... .. Parry  
(Words by John Milton)

SOUTH WEST LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY

FRANK ODELL ORCHESTRA

Accompanist:

CATHERINE BOND

Organist:

HAROLD PEACOCK

Conductor: FRANK ODELL

# MEMBERS OF THE CHOIR.

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## 1ST SOPRANI

Mrs. Barber	Miss Hales	Miss Radford
Miss Berning	Miss Hammond	Miss Riches
Miss Bott	Miss Harvey	Miss Sprigg
Mrs. Bright	Mrs. Hill	Mrs. Taylor
Miss Brookes	Miss Hunt	Mrs. Till
Mrs. Bruce	Miss Knowles	Miss Till
Miss Davis	Mrs. Maguire	Miss Vincent
Mrs. Dixon	Miss Martin	Miss Webb
Mrs. Dutch	Miss Osborne	Mrs. Williams
Miss Essex	Mrs. Picknell	Mrs. Wood
Mrs. Gilbrook	Mrs. Pratt	Miss Young

## 2ND SOPRANI

Miss Bailey	Miss Linford	Miss Stephenson
Miss Brooker	Miss Long	Miss Stone
Mrs. Fagan	Miss McCabe	Mrs. Tasker
Miss Gale	Miss Neville	Mrs. Webster
Mrs. Humphries	Miss Odell	Mrs. Whitaker
Mrs. Hyde	Miss Phillips	Mrs. Whitehorn
Miss Jarvis	Miss Platt	Mrs. Willoughby
Miss Leach	Mrs. Ridler	Miss Wilson
	Miss Starkey	

## CONTRALTI

Miss Chennell	Mrs. C. H. Harper	Mrs. Pitman
Mrs. Davis	Mrs. L. M. Harper	Miss Rider
Mrs. Dyer	Mrs. Henry	Miss Robinson
Miss Dyer	Mrs. Hoare	Miss Roeber
Mrs. Ellis	Miss King	Miss Salter
Mrs. Fooks	Mrs. Marshall	Miss Shimmell
Miss Francis	Miss Morris	Miss Solomon
Miss Geard	Miss Nichols	Miss M. E. Wright
Miss Goddard	Miss Norris	Miss M. L. Wright
	Miss Oxer	

## TENORI

Mr. Beech	Mr. Godwin	Mr. Spark
Mr. Corrick	Mr. Heming	Mr. Stone
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Hinton	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Freeman	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Vipond
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Skelton	Mr. Way

## BASSI

Rev. A. Body	Mr. Gough	Mr. Lenn
Mr. Bright	Mr. Grey	Mr. Pitman
Mr. Burbidge	Mr. Harper	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Castle	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Thomas
Mr. Clark	Mr. Ingram	Mr. Webster
Mr. Ellerby	Mr. Lawford	Mr. Wilkie
Mr. Gamgee		Mr. Wilson

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## Greetings . . .

**TO OUR AUDIENCE.** Upon this auspicious occasion we thank you for your support, for without your aid our music making would be of no avail. If we could persuade you to become an Honorary Member, you would help the Society immensely.

**TO OUR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS.** The Society is very appreciative of your kindness and active support. We are fortunate in the fact that you are interested co-operators and not just figureheads.

**TO OUR HONORARY MEMBERS.** We welcome our Honorary Members and thank you for your loyalty and support. This Society depends upon the assistance of you good people, for without your help we could not contemplate performing these concerts with the aid of a first-class Orchestra. During the war-years we were assisted by the Carnegie Trust, but now we have to stand upon our own feet; to ensure a satisfactory financial result we need one hundred Honorary Members. Subscribers of any amount are welcomed. For 10/- per year a reserved seat is assured for each concert. In this way you will be helping to stimulate local interest in Choral Singing and keeping alive a Society that has justified its existence.

**TO OUR MEMBERS.** A very big thank you for your wholehearted interest and co-operation. You, by your enthusiasm and loyalty make your Conductor's work a joy and pleasure.

**TO NEW MEMBERS.** No matter how big the Society seems, or how long its list of successes, there is still room for you. A welcome is assured and we guarantee your satisfaction at being one of us.

**TO THE OFFICERS.** Our grateful thanks for your untiring efforts on behalf of the Society. Nearly all your work is done behind the scenes and often seems to go unobserved, but all our thanks go to you for a splendid job of work well done.

**TO THE STEWARDS AND PROGRAMME SELLERS.** You are so essential to the smooth running of a Concert that you are indispensable, and so to you all—**THANKS.**

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FUTURE CONCERTS.

CENTRAL HALL TOOTING

*Saturday, 22nd February, 1947 . . . 7 p.m.*

DREAM OF GERONTIUS

(ELGAR)

MARY JARRED HEDDLE NASH DALE SMITH

*Good Friday, 4th April, 1947 . . . 7 p.m.*

M E S S I A H

(HANDEL)

MAY BARTLETT ANTOINETTE M. CRAIG  
TOM PURVIS SAMUEL WORTHINGTON

*Saturday, 24th May, 1947 . . . 7 p.m.*

C R E A T I O N

(HAYDN)

MARGARET REES ROLAND WEDDELL  
ALEXANDER HENDERSON

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