

DAVID BATTERSBY

David studied at the London College of Music and the Royal College of Music with John Barstow, winning numerous competitions, awards and bursaries. He went on to study with Martino Tirimo at Morley College and has played in many masterclasses.

David has given concerts throughout the country both as soloist and accompanist in a variety of settings including St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Morley College, Spitalfields Festival, Stoneyhurst College and Wilton's Music Hall. He also has been Musical Director for several musicals and theatre productions including 'Oh, What a Lovely War!' at the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal. He is also in demand as a teacher and has taught at Dulwich College and Trinity School and currently teaches at Casterton and Windermere Preparatory School.

David first accompanied Staveley Choral Society in 2004 but this was interrupted by treatment for acute myeloid leukaemia and a bone marrow transplant. Now, after a sabbatical of over 4 years from playing the piano, he is beginning to slowly rebuild his playing and teaching commitments.

PHILIP BURTON

Philip studied music at Liverpool University and piano with Derek Wyndham at The Royal Northern College of Music. He pursued his professional piano studies in London for a year or two but soon realised that he would become the equivalent of a Conference League football if he continued so he got a job as a porter in the NHS. He left the NHS 5 years ago, having worked in senior executive positions in the NHS. Now he lives in Windermere running a bed and breakfast

His interest in choirs started when he was asked to be the music director for St Marys Church Wendover. When he moved to the colony of Yorkshire he became Director of Music for Huddersfield Parish Church and was appointed conductor for Staveley 2 years ago. He has a reluctant interest in playing the organ, partly because he feels the piano is superior instrument, but he does play every month at St Martins, Bowness



2011
ORANGE HILL

Staveley

Choral

Society



Conductor
Accompanist

Philip Burton
David Battersby



PROGRAMME NOTES

Staveley Choral Society

Blackbird

Written by Paul McCartney, the words were a reaction to racial tensions escalating in the United States in the spring of 1968 hence the phrase "you were only waiting for this moment to arise" and the black peoples struggle in the southern states of America. The version sung this evening is arranged for The Kings Singers

A medley of folk music from the British Isles

Firstly to England and **Bobby Shaftoe**. The Shaftoes were a well know family in the North of England and the song is the tale of love of a lady for one of the Shaftoe family. He went to sea to avoid her attentions!

Then to Scotland and **The Sky Boat song** recalling the escape of Bonnie Prince Charlie from the Isle of Skye after his defeat at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Charles escaped in a small boat with the aid of Flora McDonald disguised as a serving maid. The song is a traditional expression of 'Jacobitism'.

Ar Hyd y Nos is a traditional Welsh song that has been translated into many languages including English and, for example, Breton (we're not singing it in Breton but we are singing it in Welsh! The melody, which you will recognise has appeared in many versions including an English evening hymn and the Beggars Opera!

Finally over to Ireland and the popular **Cockles and Mussels** that tells the fictional story of a beautiful fishmonger who plied her trade on the streets of Dublin, but who died young, of a fever. In Dublin there is a statue of Molly Malone and even a Molly Malone Day on the 13th June as that is the day Molly is thought to have died in 1699.

In The Mood

In The Mood was arranged by the band leader Joe Garland based on a pre-existing melody by Glen Miller between 1937-1939 opening with the now famous arpeggios played by the saxophones. It did not top the charts until 1940. The arrangement for choir sung this evening is by Peter Gritton. The duet is sung by Barbara Mitchell and Kath Morris

Piano Solo

David Battersby

Nocturne for the left hand Op.9 No.2 – Scriabin

Alexander Nikolayevich Scriabin (1872 - 1915) was a Russian composer and pianist who initially was greatly inspired by the music and forms of Chopin but went on to develop a unique musical and tonal language. The two Op.9 pieces for the left hand were written in 1894 as a response to an injury Scriabin sustained from over-practicing - a lesson to us all!! There is a surprising amount of one-handed piano music, the first being composed by Charles Alkan, with notable examples by Ravel, Prokofiev and Godowsky's transcriptions of some of Chopin's Etudes!

Londonderry Air – Traditional/Hough

This now famous Irish air was first recorded by George Petrie in his 1855 collection 'The Ancient Music of Ireland' and listed as anonymous. The British pianist-composer, Stephen Hough (born 1961), has written numerous piano transcriptions, however this one was originally composed for James Galway and Robert White and combines some idiosyncratic cross-rhythms and contrapuntal textures.

Why not join Staveley Choir for their Christmas Concert?

*Staveley Choral is a mixed choir of 50 members. We rehearse in Staveley Institute on Monday evenings from 7.15 - 9.00,
We focus on enjoying making good music whilst having fun.
Our conductor, Philip Burton, is encouraging and supportive, ensuring that everyone is welcome whatever their ability. You don't have to be able to read music to join.*

*Members and audiences are drawn from a wide geographical area including Windermere, Bowness, Burneside and Kendal as well as Staveley.
We perform a variety of musical styles from traditional to jazz, African, popular and folk.*

As well as concerts in Staveley Institute, the choir has performed in Cartmel Priory and Windermere and takes an active part in the Mary Wakefield Westmorland Music Festival

The Christmas Concert will be on Monday 12th December in Staveley Village Hall