

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: May 2008



WESSEX MALE CHOIR SET TO SHINE AT ITS 7th INTERNATIONAL CONCERT

- **Belgian youth choir 'Lirica' to perform alongside Wessex Male Choir**
- **8 July 2008, 7.30pm, Holy Rood Church Groundwell Road Swindon**
- **'Shades of Wessex' CD goes on sale**

Swindon-based Wessex Male Choir is hosting its seventh International Concert on 8th July and will be joined this year by the spectacular female choir 'Lirica' from Belgium.

The concert takes place at Holy Rood Church, Groundwell Road, Swindon and starts at 7.30pm (doors open at 6.50pm).

Wessex Male Choir will be performing in five different languages during the evening with debut recitals of new songs including a Russian Orthodox called 'Salvation Is Created', 'Hava Nagila' (which means be happy) a powerful foot-tapping Yiddish Folk song, and the 'The Gendarmes', a humorous duet-style piece. It will also give superb renditions of favourite pieces including 'Deus Salutis' and 'I Dreamed A Dream' from the musical Les Miserables.

Rob Elliott, musical director says, "This is the biggest concert of the year for us and we are honoured to be joined by 'Lirica' and its conductor, Jos Venken as this talented youth choir makes its way to perform at the International Eisteddfod. Our International Concert is always a very enjoyable event for us to host and the choir has been rehearsing a number of new and challenging pieces which we hope the audience will enjoy listening to as much as we enjoy performing them!"

Tickets are available from the Tourist Information Centre, Swindon, Tel 01793 530328 or by calling Alan Chippendale on 01793 812636. Tickets cost £9.50 for adults and £9 for concessions.

'Shades of Wessex', the choir's second CD, also goes on sale at the International concert. The CD includes recordings of 17 of the choir's pieces including Do You Hear the People Sing (from Les Miserables), Little Innocent Lamb, the popular All About You by Mc Fly and two songs made famous by Frank Sinatra, Me and my Shadow and You make Me feel so Young.

Priced at £9 the CD is the perfect way to recapture the sound of Wessex Male Choir again and again!

Previous Wessex male Choir International Concerts have seen the likes of the University of Maryland Chamber Choir from the USA and 'Lihkören', Linköping University Male Choir from Sweden.

Are you interested in joining Wessex Male Choir?

All you need is a passion for singing! The choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings in Swindon and interested singers of all ages will receive a warm welcome. For more information contact Rob Elliott on 07710 197789 or email musical.director@wessexmalechoir.co.uk

Wessex Male Choir

Wessex Male Choir was founded by musical director Robert Elliott in September 2001, and has over 50 members. The choir has a reputation for its professionalism, entertaining and varied repertoire, and charity support.

Lirica

The youth choir Lirica from Belgium was founded in 1972. Under the direction of its present conductor, Jos Venken, the choir has won prizes such as the first prize summa cum laude in The European Music Festival for Young people in Neerpelt. The choir has performed twice in the Royal Palace in Brussels and in 2007 won a first prize in the International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna.

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Notes to editors

For further information, please contact: Claire Smith
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Or visit the choir's website: www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk

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