

## **'CONCORDIA' – A CONCERT OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH MUSIC**

A concert of English and French music was held at St. Winfrid's Church, Totton recently featuring Marchwood Orchestra under the baton of Simon Wilkins and the St. Nicholas singers directed by Helen Woodgates. A full house was treated to music by both English and French composers.

The programme got off to a lively start with the orchestra's own Tony Kitcherside's composition of well-known sea shanties entitled 'Lymington Quay' followed by Debussy's 'Ballet from Petit Suite' thus providing a delicate contrast to the rumbustious opening.

A further musical contrast was achieved with the orchestra's rendition of the Second and Fourth Movements of Berlioz's 'Symphony Fantastique, the dream-like texture of 'Un Bal' proving very different to the sombre 'March to the Scaffold'.

The first half concluded with the choir joining the orchestra to provide a both moving and dramatic popular medley of Schonberg's 'Les Misérables'.

The St. Nicholas Singers opened the second half of the concert with some lovely songs by Lloyd Webber ('Love Changes Everything'), John Rutter ('Look to the Day' and 'Amazing Grace') and Hubert Parry's beautiful hymn, 'Dear Lord and Father'. The smooth and exact harmonies made for most pleasurable listening.

The orchestra joined the choir to produce a stirring finale comprising Parry's 'Jerusalem', Thomas Arne's 'Rule Britannia' and Elgar's 'Pomp and Circumstance No.2' assisted by full audience participation!

Details of future concerts can be found under *Forthcoming Concerts* on this website.