

John Naylor was a chorister at Durham and a scholar at Rossall School. He was a choral scholar at St John's College, Cambridge and trained with the great Dr George Guest. He subsequently became a member of the choir at the Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula, and of The Louis Halsey Singers and The Monteverdi Choir. He has sung in the cathedral choirs of Christ Church Oxford, Carlisle and Chester cathedrals.

John is Music Director of Nantwich Choral Society, The Open University Chapel Choir and the chamber choir Cantores ad Portam. He has conducted choirs in most of the cathedrals in this country and is one of the region's most experienced choral directors. He is particularly noted for his friendly encouragement of singers of all ages and all abilities.

John was awarded the BEM for Services to Music in the 2026 New Year Honours List.

Simon Russell is a former Organ Scholar of St Catherine's College Cambridge and Assistant Organist of Chester Cathedral. Simon is a freelance organist and teacher and is currently Organist at St Mary's Nantwich and is the regular accompanist for NCS.

Repertoire

The day will represent a great opportunity for singers of all abilities to make or renew their acquaintance with some of the greatest items of English church music in singing sessions which will be informative but relaxed and enjoyable for all.

We hope that singers will enjoy the opportunity to sing many much-loved choral masterpieces once again.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ACTON, CW5 8LE

St Mary's is a delightful Grade 1 listed church situated peacefully in the village of Acton. It has a fascinating history and is one of those 'must visit' parish churches.

There is an encouraging acoustic, comfortable seating with refreshment and toilet facilities.

Car parking is available around the church or in a nearby free car park.

Reviews

Participants in previous NCS Singing Days commented:

"What a wonderful opportunity to sing such lovely music in such a lovely place with such friendly people. Thank you so much".

"I wasn't sure what to expect, but there seemed to be something for all ranges of ability.

Thank you for a most enjoyable Singing Day; a beautiful repertoire, well planned, well executed and so musically satisfying."

"Everyone around me was really enjoying themselves."

"I really enjoyed the whole day: thank you!"

"Even though I'm not a very experienced singer, I felt comfortable throughout the day and I found myself singing amazing music with greater and greater confidence."

Nantwich Choral Society

SINGING DAY

Come and enjoy a day singing

English Church Music

**Music by Byrd, Gibbons, Greene,
Purcell, Stanford, Vaughan Williams,
Howells and Walton**

Saturday 3rd October 2026

10.00 – 17.00

St Mary's Church, Acton

with

John Naylor (conductor)

Simon Russell (piano and organ)

You are once again invited to join members of Nantwich Choral Society for a Choral Singing Day following our very successful and widely praised previous events.

The next date is **Saturday 3rd October 2026** and the event will be held in the lovely historic church of St Mary, Acton.

The music to be studied is:

English Church Music

from the Oxford Choral Classics publication vol 1, edited by Robert King. There is a separate list of the music from which the pieces to be studied on the day will be selected.

- ❖ Please bring your own copies if you have them, but copies will be available for hire on the day. There will be a hire charge of £2.00 for the music.
- ❖ Hot and cold drinks and snacks will be available. Please bring your own refreshments for lunchtime for which the church hall will be available. There are no cafes or pubs in the immediate locality.
- ❖ Dress: smart casual.
- ❖ Cost for the day: £18.00

For more copies, you may photocopy this form or download it from our website:

www.nantwichchoral.org.uk

Order of the day

10.00	Registration
10.30	First Singing Session
11.45	Break
12.00	Second Singing Session
13.00	Lunch
14.15	Third Singing Session
15.45	Break
16.00	Fourth Singing Session
17.00	Close

We hope singers and members of choirs will be able to join us on this exciting choral day. It will be a good opportunity for singers to “get together and sing together once again”.

To book for this event, please complete the form, indicate payment method, and send to:

Mrs Carol Seed
9 Darkie Meadow, Bunbury, Tarporley, CW6 9RB

Tel: 01829 261892
email: carol.seed3@icloud.com

Payment methods:

- Online Bank transfer to
Nantwich Choral Society
40-34-44 41424912 Ref: Singing Day
- Cash or card on the day
- By cheque made payable to Nantwich Choral Society

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS
23rd SEPTEMBER.

REGISTRATION FORM

English Church Music

Saturday 3rd October 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone: _____

e-mail: _____

CHOIR OR CHORAL SOCIETY (if any)

VOICE PART _____

I wish to book:

Singers	_____	@ £18.00	_____
Music Hire	_____	@ £2.00	_____
		Total	_____

Please indicate payment method:

bank transfer / cheque / cash or card on the day

Signed: _____

Date: _____

detach