

David Cooke BA (hons), BMus (hons), ALCM

David studied music at Liverpool and Oxford Universities. As an instrumentalist, he studied the trombone, piano and harpsichord. He has also performed widely as a player of several early wind instruments.

As well as the Damon Singers, David is presently also Musical Director of the Wycombe Philharmonic Choir & Orchestra, the Chiltern Hundreds Bach Choir and the Chorleywood Chamber Orchestra.

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THE DAMON SINGERS

Soprano: Rachel Meldrum, Helen Baker, Ann Crisp, Penny Fray, Helen Cooke, Marianne Michael, Barbara McGillivray

Alto: Louise Pearce, Marion Koebner, Madeleine Symes, Malavika Legge, Madeleine Greenhalgh, Anne MacDowell

Tenor: Simon Beattie, Chris Turner

Baritone: Martin Cunningham, Sebastian Gibbs, John Reuter

Bass: Patrick Lunt, Patrick Martin

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Our Summer Pudding Concert has evolved over the years (we can't believe that next year the Damon Singers will be 60 years old!).

We think that if you are kind enough to come and listen to us, the least we can do is give you something in return, in this case your "just desserts"...

After the music is over, please come and join us in the large room adjoining the church, for a selection of puddings, tarts, confections, pies and the like - most of which have been carefully crafted by our members.

Regular attenders will know that most of our concerts raise funds for a specific charity. Tonight is a little different: the proceeds will enable us to buy new music, in order to expand our repertoire, and contribute to the costs of engaging professional musicians to accompany us from time to time.

Dates for your diary

16 th July	Summer Concert	St. Faith's Church, Newton Longville
11 th December	Christmas concert	White Hill Centre, Chesham

Have you got what it takes?

The Damon Singers are always on the lookout for new recruits... Not that we plan to grow much larger than we currently are, but from time to time members move away from the area, or their circumstances change...

If you would like to talk to us, and join us for an evening, please contact the Secretary, Patrick Lunt.

Phone: 01494 712583
Mobile: 07768 566588
email: patrick@patricklunt.com



The Damon Singers
"Much ado about animals"

Pudding Concert



Saturday 9th July at 7:30pm
United Reformed Church,
(the Broadway, Chesham)

Programme

Canzona: Heth sold ein Meisken

A fanfare-like, early 16th Century drinking song in a setting ascribed to the celebrated Netherlandish composer Josquin des Prez.

Faithful Johnny

Scottish Traditional arr. John Byrt

John Byrt is a composer, mainly known for his choral music. But his folk song arrangements are also sung all over the world. This one tells how a loved one will return - but not until the autumn gales or winter snows set in.

Scarborough Fair

Trad. arr. David Cooke

Accompanist: Patrick Martin

This song relates the tale of a young woman who instructs her former love to perform a series of seemingly impossible tasks, such as making a shirt without a seam and then washing it in a dry well, adding that if he completes these tasks she will once again be his true love.

Ca the yowes

*Trad.
arr. R. Vaughan Williams
(1872 – 1958)*

Tenor solo: Simon Beattie

This traditional setting of words by Robbie Burns was arranged by Vaughan Williams in 1922 for tenor solo and chorus. A shepherd pledges

his love by the banks of Burns's beloved Clouden. In standard English the refrain would be "Drive the ewes to the knolls, Drive them where the heather grows, Drive them where the streamlet runs, My lovely dear". Definitely much better in Scots!

Yarmouth Fair

Norfolk folk tune

arr. Peter Warlock, adapted C. Armstrong Gibbs, Words by Hal Collins
Peter Warlock was the pseudonym adopted by the British composer Philip Arnold Heseltine (1894–1930). He wrote over a hundred songs, a number of choral works and a small number of instrumental pieces. Cecil Armstrong Gibbs (10 August 1889 – 12 May 1960) was a prolific and versatile English composer, best known for his output of songs.

Reading: Patrick Lunt

Farewell to Stromness

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies (1934-2016)
Piano solo: David Cooke

Lullabye for Lucy

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies (1934-2016)
One of the foremost composers of our time, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies made a significant contribution to musical history through his wide-

ranging and prolific output. He lived much of his life in the Orkney Islands, where he wrote most of his music. Over five decades, he wrote across a broad range of styles, yet his music always communicates directly and powerfully. He died in March this year.

Reading: **The Hare and the Tortoise**
Malavika Legge

The Derby Ram

John Wall Callcott (1766–1821)

The Derby Ram is a traditional English folk song that tells the story of a ram of gargantuan proportions, and the difficulties involved in butchering, tanning, and otherwise processing its carcass. This arrangement is by John Callcott, whose 250th anniversary is being celebrated this year. He was a founder member of the "Glee Club" in London in 1787.

De Animals a-comin

*Traditional Spiritual
arr. Bartholomew (1885–1978)*

The animals board Noah's Ark in their idiosyncratic fashion. Marshall Bartholomew was a long-time director of the Yale Glee Club (1921–53), and set this spiritual's "tune and text as sung by Maginel Wright Barney, July 8, 1933."

Epitaph on a Dormouse

Benjamin Cooke (1734 – 1793)

Benjamin Cooke was the organist at Westminster Abbey for over thirty years, as well as being the organist at

the church of St Martin in the Fields. He wrote many "glees", as well as composing a variety of church music and organ music.

The Owl and the Pussycat Edward Lear (1812 - 1888) arr. John Rutter

This joyous, dance-like setting of Edward Lear's famous nonsense poem 'The Owl and the Pussy-cat' is taken from Rutter's Five Childhood Lyrics, a collection of unaccompanied pieces inspired by rhymes and verses for children.

Reading: Ann Crisp

Blue Moon

Rogers/Hart, arr David Blackwell
A classic song, written in 1934 when Richard Rodgers was still working with the lyricist Lorenz Hart.

The Continental

Con Conrad, Herb Magidson
The song was introduced by Ginger Rogers in the 1934 film, The Gay Divorcee. It was the first song to win the Academy Award for Best Original Song. In 1952 Harry James released a recording of it with Rosemary Clooney on vocals. A cover version by Maureen McGovern reached number 16 in the UK Singles Chart in 1976.

Programme notes:

*Simon Beattie, David Cooke,
Martin Cunningham, Patrick Lunt*