

About the War Memorial Organ

The organ was gifted to the school in 1923 by the Old Southendians in memory of staff and ex-pupils lost in the Great War. Installed in the Victoria Circus building, it was transferred to the Prittlewell Chase site in 1938 but blown to pieces two years later by a World War Two bomb, having to wait until 1953 before restoration by its builders, Hill Norman & Beard.



Following a fantastic and generous response to the £50K appeal to fund the professional rebuilding of the instrument in 2017/18, the organ was expanded, with new string sounds on the Swell, robust bass tones on the Pedal with both a Trombone and Acoustic Bass added, and extra versatility with a Geigen Principal and Piccolo on the Swell.

This year, the school, Old Southendian Association and Old Southendian Organ Society join together to celebrate 100 years of the organ.

About the Old Southendian Organ Society

The Old Southendian Organ Society (OSOS) was set up in 2014 to protect and enhance the future of the school's War Memorial Organ. We aim to support the organ pupils at the school by further enhancing the opportunities available to them through the friendly community of past organists of the school. Recent activities have included a number of concerts (showcasing the talents of student, staff, and past members of the school community), a workshop with the school's Organ Club and Roger Sayer in February, and free admission to this year's series of concerts celebrating the organ's centenary.

Find out more about how you can support the Society, and see videos from our exciting programme of events and more info at www.osos.org.uk

Our grateful thanks to the Society's Major Donors and Patrons

Graham Campbell	John Norris
David Chandler	The Old Southendian Arts Club
John Dixon	Robin Poole
Eastwood United Reform Church	Richard Thompson
David Horton	Gerald Usher
Graham McKean	<i>plus 2 anonymous donors</i>
Peter Nathanielsz	

The Society also acknowledges major donations offered *in memoriam*:
Reginald Foxwell (1903 – 1957) Brian Wiggins (1943 – 2016)

CHRISTMAS
with
cantare

Saturday 2nd December 2023
3:00pm

Musical Director Elizabeth Dunlop
Accompanist Andrew Palmer

100
years of the
War Memorial Organ
at Southend High School for Boys

1923 – 2023

A registered charity in England and Wales
(Registered charity number 1173343)

The Old Southendian
Organ Society (OSOS)

Programme

Hodie	Benjamin Britten
This Endris Night	Sarah Quartel
Tomorrow Shall be My Dancing Day	Trad. arr. Malcolm Pearce
The Angel Did Fly	Bob Chilcott
Solos: Yvonne Vickers, Marilyn Fowles, Sam Gourley	

CAROL O Little Town of Bethlehem

Fanfare on “The Boar's Head Carol”	John S. Dixon
Organ: Joe Zammit	
Snowflakes	Montague Phillips
The Snow Begins to Fall	Andy Beck
The Snow	Edward Elgar
Violin: Beverley Carter Cello: Sandra Nagle	

CAROL In the Bleak Midwinter

Interval (20 minutes)

Please join us in the Pavilion and Dining Hall for complimentary refreshments.

Tundra	Ola Gjeilo
Solo: Zoe Evans	
Blow Blow Thou Winter Wind	Sarah Quartel
White Christmas	Irving Berlin
Toccata	Gaston Bélier
Organ: Brian Fletcher	
Carol of the Bells	Trad. Ukraine arr. Karl J. Nygard
Sing we Now of Christmas	Trad. French arr. Cristi Cary Miller

CAROL Ding Dong, Merrily on High

My Lord Has Come	Will Todd
Silent Night! O Holy Night!	Franz Gruber / Adolphe Adam
Flute: Helen Greensill	

CAROL Away in a Manger

Angels' Carol	John Rutter
Candlelight Carol	John Rutter

CAROL Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Thank you to you all for coming this afternoon, and special thanks to Cantare, Elizabeth Dunlop, Andrew Palmer, our numerous soloists, and our organists for their wonderful seasonal music today. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas! Our grateful thanks also to the premises team, the school and many others behind the scenes for their hard work to make this afternoon possible.

About Cantare High-quality, passionate, committed and fun!

These were the principles that fuelled Cantare when it was formed in 2010 by Rachel Worth, and since then the choir has become one of the most prominent choirs for women in the Southend area under the direction of both Rachel and then Liz Elliott. The choir was delighted to welcome their new musical director, Elizabeth Dunlop, last year who has enlivened Cantare's members with her expertise and enthusiasm.



Cantare performs in a variety of venues from churches to bandstands and has taken part in local and national competitions. Highlights from these include winning first prize at both Chelmsford and Southend Music Festivals many times, most recently in 2022 where they swept the board. The choir has also won individual category awards, the Freda Parry Presentation bowl, the Musical Council Shield and the H.W.L. Hobbs Challenge Shield several times. Additionally, at the 2015 Festival, the choir was awarded the Claire Singers Award for “the most moving choral performance”.

On a national level, Cantare was named “Choir of the Day” at the regional round of the National Choir of the Year Competition 2012, having delighted judges with a programme that ranged from Hungarian folk music to 1920's swing.

Cantare rehearses Wednesday evenings during school term time at Southend High School for Boys from 7:30pm. If you are interested in joining our friendly, dedicated choir, please speak to one of our members, or contact us via: www.cantare.org.uk