

News release – 14th January 2008

A TOE-TAPPING END TO JANUARY

City of Bristol Choir is staging a rather unusual event at the end of January - a come and sing workshop featuring the unique collection of jazz pieces for choir and band, Duke Ellington's Sacred Concert.



© Mark Simmons Photography

David Ogden, conductor of City of Bristol Choir, is leading the day. He has conducted the piece several times, in live broadcasts on BBC Radios 3 and 4, at the Edinburgh Festival and in concert. David said, "We're looking forward to a fantastic day's singing and giving more people the opportunity get to know this unique collection of songs - they really are exhilarating to sing. And there's nothing quite like

singing with a live jazz band accompanying you!"

Singers are invited to come along and join in on Saturday 26th January 2008, beginning at 10.30am (registration begins at 9.45am) at St Matthew's Church, Clare Road, Kingsdown, Bristol BS6 5TB.

Tickets are £15 (£5 for under 18s) and the ticket price includes a hot lunch. A performance of the piece will take place at the end of the day at 3.15pm, when the singers will be joined by the London-based five-piece jazz band, Big Buzzard the Organ Grinders. Friends and family are warmly invited to come and hear this performance, free of charge. Singers' tickets for the workshop day are available from the ticket line on 07726 762070 - more details and an online ticket request are at the choir's website www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk.

Following the workshop day, Big Buzzard the Organ Grinders are staging an evening gig, also at St Matthew's Church, beginning at 8pm. The concert will feature songs from their recent CD 'Live life then give life', recorded in aid of a young charity of the same name, following the extraordinary story of the donation made by Hammond organist Maff Potts when saxophonist Andy Williamson needed a new kidney. Their story has been featured on BBC Radio 4 and in the national press - read about it on the band's website www.haveoneofmine.com. Tickets for this gig are £10 (£6 concessions) and are available from the ticket secretary on 07726 726070 or via the website www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk.

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

- CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR is a well-established adult choir of around 80 singers who perform a varied repertoire at venues around the South West. It was founded in 1991 and David Ogden was appointed Music Director in 2000. They perform regularly in concerts and have appeared on BBC1 television's *Songs of Praise*. Plans for 2008 include a concert of music by John Rutter in March, a performance of Handel's *Israel in Egypt* in May at St George's, Bristol, and a concert tour of Italy in October. www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk

- DAVID OGDEN is a Bristol-based professional conductor and composer. He is much in demand as a conductor and director of choral and church music workshops, courses and festivals in the UK and abroad. As well as City of Bristol Choir, he conducts the accomplished Bristol-based chamber choir Exultate Singers, the RSCM Millennium Youth Choir, Midlands and South West Cathedral Singers, and the youth choir, Bristol Voices. He is Director of Music at Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church, Bristol and makes frequent appearances on BBC radio and television. www.davidogden.co.uk

For further information or to arrange photography or an interview with David Ogden, please contact Judith Ogden, Publicity Manager, on 01275 373981 or 07753 742553 or email publicity@cityofbristolchoir.com.

HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES

Available to download by clicking on the thumbnails below, or by visiting www.cityofbristolchoir.org.uk/media



City of Bristol Choir

Image **must** be credited

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David Ogden

Conductor of
City of Bristol Choir

Images can also be emailed to you: please call Judith Ogden on 01275 373981 or 07753 742553.
