

## 1979

The Society hosted a 'Sing It Yourself Messiah' on 13<sup>th</sup> January at the Centenary Methodist Church, Crawcrook conducted by Derrick Parkyn Marshall. Soloists were: Gillian Brunton (soprano), Kathleen Todd (alto), Colin Smith (tenor), Howard Taylor (bass).

### **12<sup>th</sup> May – Vivaldi's 'Gloria', Schubert's 'Mass in G' and Fauré's 'Requiem'**

Conductor – D. Parkyn Marshall

Soloists – (*Gloria*) Margaret Jones (soprano), Muriel Churcher (alto)

(*Mass*) Mary Sproxtton (soprano), Graham Morris (tenor), Richard Hayton (bass)

(*Requiem*) Carolyn Nesham (soprano), Richard Hayton (bass)

Frank Bollen writes that the 'Sing It Yourself Messiah' was a great success that it was hoped to repeat because 'the proceeds will help to offset the financial loss which is the inevitable result of engaging an orchestra, as in tonight's performance'. Things don't change then!!

### **6<sup>th</sup> December (St. Nicholas's Day) – Britten's 'Saint Nicholas' (in The Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas, Newcastle-upon-Tyne)**

Conductor – D. Parkyn Marshall

Soloist – Godfrey Hutchinson (tenor)

(Nicholas – as a boy: Carolyn Nesham; 3 Pickled Boys: Michael Fairless, Ian Rollinson, Michael Spearman)

Current member (and stalwart raffle organiser!) Jean Williams is listed in the programme for the first time.

**8<sup>th</sup> December - A Concert of Christmas Music** at Robert Young Memorial Church

**22<sup>nd</sup> December - Carol Concert** with Newcastle upon Tyne Youth Band at Brancepeth Castle