**JOE REEVES** first moved to Leeds from London in 2012 to study BA Music at the University of Leeds. He completed a Choral Conducting Scholarship at Leeds Cathedral and worked as a freelance community musician for five years. His work included a music and dance project working with people living with dementia, running community shows as musical director as well as a variety of other music and theatre focused youth groups. He became conductor for The Wendel Singers in 2018 after the retirement of Joe Roberts. Over the past three years, Joe has volunteered at Leeds North and West Food bank and began working in mental health. Now, he is a social prescriber, supporting and connecting people with services that can help them make positive changes in their lives.

**PETER REASBECK** studied piano with Elsie Werren in Doncaster and music at Doncaster Grammar School, before reading classics at Durham and theology at Cambridge. As a Methodist minister for over 40 years, he continued to develop his musical abilities and has specialised in accompaniment for lieder and in playing the organ for church services. In retirement he is active as an accompanist for vocal & instrumental soloists and choirs. He has many interests including gardening, bee-keeping and Leeds Rhinos.

**YUKA OEDA,** who comes from Hiroshima, Japan, is a lecturer in Japanese at the University of Leeds. After spending a couple of years in Leeds she decided to bring with her the flute which she used to play as a high school student, that was sitting back at home in Japan, and she started taking flute lessons. She has recently achieved a Distinction in the ATCL Performance Diploma and enjoys playing with the Christopher Irvin Orchestra and various ensembles in Leeds.

Harmony & Humour
—an autumn programme of entertainment by

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**The Wendel Singers**

*Conductor:* Joe Reeves

*Piano:* Peter Reasbeck

*Flute:* Yuka Oeda

at **St Mary’s Church Whitkirk** **Community Centre**
**at 2.30pm on Saturday 28th October 2023**

Programme

**Part 1**

***Let there be music*** Gordon Young

***Something told the wild geese*** P. Back, arr. B.D. Hawer

**Interlude:** *Pauline Duncan Austin*

***Diary of a Church Mouse***, by John Betjemann

***Little David, Play on Yo’ Harp***

 Afro-American spiritual arr. Malcolm Sargent

***The Lily of the Valley***

 Afro-American spiritual arr. Wendell Whalum

**Flute & Piano Duet: Two movements from *Suite for Flute***

 ***and Piano*** by Benjamin Godard (1889)

***Look at the World*** John Rutter

***Glorious is Thy Name*** From the *Twelfth Mass*,

 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**Interlude:** *Stan Pearson* ***You Are Old, Father William*** by

 Lewis Carroll

***The Heavens are Telling*** Chorus from *The Creation*,

 Josef Haydn

**INTERVAL**

**Part 2**

***Let the Earth Resound*** Sally K. Albrecht

***The Music of the Night*** Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber,

 Lyrics by Charles Hart, arr. Ed Lojeski

***Last of the Summer Wine*** Ronnie Hazlehurst

 arr Mike Sammes, John Summerwill & Joe Reeves

**Flute & Piano Duet:**
 ***Annie's Song***   John Denver. arr James Galway
 ***Top of the World***    John Bettis/Richard Carpenter

***The Water of Tyne*** North-country folk tune arr. W.G. Whittaker

***Homeward Bound*** Marta Keen, arr. Jay Althouse

**Interlude:** *John Summerwill* ***Just For A Laugh***

***A London Medley*** George & Ira Gershwin, Manning Sherwin,
 Eric Maschwitz, Irving Berlin, arr. A. Kyle

**THE WENDEL SINGERS**

The Wendel Singers is a mixed choir of forty voices. We sing a great variety of four-part choral music, mainly short pieces, ranging from renaissance to contemporary, both religious and secular, just for the sheer pleasure of being together making music, performing occasional concerts anywhere in the Leeds area.

The choir originated as the Barwick-in-Elmet Townswomen’s Guild Choir. After 1974 it became the Elmete Singers, still a women’s choir, which competed in the Pontefract Music Festival as well as performing concerts. In 1980 it became The Wendel Singers, taking its name from Wendel Hill, the site in Barwick of an iron age hill fort and later a Norman castle. After the pandemic our rehearsals moved for more space to Lidgett Park Methodist Church, where the choir now meets on Wednesdays from 7.45 to 9.15pm.

Over the years it has had a number of conductors, including Adam Tomlinson (now at Radio York), Forbes Doig, David Fligg and Glenys Heywood. Around 2006 its number had dwindled to single figures, but it gained a new lease of life when Joe Roberts took over as conductor and brought in new members, building our strength to more than 30 singers. After his retirement, his successor, Joe Reeves, has led us to a performance that gained a merit in the Rothwell Music Festivals in 2019 and 2023, and a commendation and First Prize in the 2022 festival.