

## **Cello Concert at All Saints Church**

This is a belated report of the fantastic concert “Timeless Classics for Cello and Strings” which was held in All Saints Church, East Garston during the afternoon of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

The church was delighted to provide a venue for Philip Daish-Handy and his accompanist Martin Penrose together with the West Berkshire Strings under the baton of Patricia Glover. Philip is an international cellist who regularly performs as a soloist on the Queen Mary 2, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth for the Cunard Line and is currently solo-cellist of the Questa Musica Orchestra which is based in Bournemouth. He has also released several CDs, including an encores CD with Martin Penrose, and recorded the Elgar Cello Concerto with Questa Musica.

It goes without saying that the audience of approximately 100 were thoroughly enchanted by the playing of Philip and Martin. Their programme included versions of the Ave Maria by Schubert and Gounod, The Swan by Saint-Saëns, Melody in F by Rubinstein and several lively pieces by David Popper.

A number of solo cello items were excellently performed by Evie Billyeald, Hannah Glover and Ben Marshall, who are pupils of Philip and also members of the West Berkshire Strings. David Glover, lead violinist of the Strings, joined Philip and Martin to play Czardas by Monti. The Strings also showed their talent in both halves of the programme playing Minuet from Anna Magdalena’s Notebook, Photograph by Ed Sheeran, Finale from the Water Music by Handel and Somewhere only we know by Keane. Philip praised them and Pat Glover for their amazing performance particularly since they had only practiced together for an hour before the concert.

We were also lucky with the weather and were able to enjoy some refreshments in the churchyard during the interval.

We are looking forward to having the Strings with us for our Harvest Festival service at midday on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Philip has also offered to give another concert in the church in 2017.