



Faringdon Singers, pictured outside the Roman Catholic church of the Blessed Hugh before their 100th concert last month

Singers score a concert century

Faringdon Singers celebrated their 100th concert last month with an impressive programme of three works — Vivaldi's *Gloria*, J.S. Bach's *O praise the Lord* and Haydn's *Te Deum*.

The Bach piece in particular was a challenge over which, said conductor Terence Carter, he and the choir had sweat blood and tears — but it came together beautifully on the night.

Between the choral items, the well-known organist John Oxlade played Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in C major* and *Four pieces for musical clocks* by Haydn.

A retiring collection raised £162, to be divided between the Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Hugh, which regularly hosts the choir's concerts, and Faringdon United Church, where the weekly rehearsals are held.

Just a year ago, a question mark lay over the future of the choir when its founder conductor Michael Perkins died suddenly in hospital, but Mr Carter, who has accompanied the choir on the organ for the vast majority of the concerts in its 19-year history, stepped into the breach.

Despite already being committed to the Wantage Choral Society as conductor, Mr Carter, who lives in Cumnor, has undertaken to see Faringdon Singers through until 1996.