

# Victorian atmosphere captured in concert

MUCH of the atmosphere of an old-style Victorian musical evening was captured for a large audience at Nantwich Parish Church at a concert presented by Nantwich and District Choral Society, conducted by Edward Hewison.

The concert was linked with the successful Victoriana exhibition staged at the church by

Nantwich Historical Society.

Mr. Herbert Rowsell, the Society Chairman, who invited the choir to sing, described the programme as a "veritable microcosm of Victorian music."

The programme included extracts from "Maritana" and "Martha," popular operas of the time and two songs in close harmony, "Sweet Genevieve" and "Sweet and Low."

Contrasting with the purely vocal items were several piano pieces, two solos, Mendelssohn's "Spring Song," and "The Robin's Return," and two pieces for six hands at one piano.

Vocal solos and duets included many old favourites such as "Come into the garden Maud," "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," "Watchman, what of the night" and "Father's a drunkard."

## Arrangement

Ketelby's "Sanctuary of the heart" was performed in an arrangement for piano, violin, cello and alto soloist.

Other items by the choir were "Passing by," "Softly Fall the Shades of Evening," and "Love's old sweet song," and the concert ended with a selection of music by Sullivan.

Members of the choir who performed vocal or instrumental solo parts were Jean Atkin, Michael Bax, Heather Bridger, Michael Bridger, Andrew Broadbent, Michael Broadbent, Christine Hewison, Isobel Hope, Chris Jones, Tudor Jones, Barbara Kettleborough, Pam Kirkland, Ruth Miller, Sue Munks, Geoff Queen, Jane Rowsell, Jean Samuel and Barbara Waters.

The accompanist for the evening was Joy Roberts.

C.H.