

Reviews: Nantwich Choral Society

A STROKE of inspiration led Nantwich Choral Society to perform Arvo Part's Te Deum and Durufle's Requiem on the same programme at St Mary's Church on Saturday night.

Both are devotional works but the contrast between them is vivid and, surprisingly, the Te Deum was the more moving of the two.

The organ accompaniment was a vital factor in the success of the piece and Andrew Mildinhall's playing framed the voices with remarkable precision.

The Nantwich Choristers were augmented by Chudleigh's Companie, a chamber ensemble formed by Larley.

From the chant of the Eastern Orthodox Churches it was back to more familiar ground – Gregorian Plainchant – in the Durufle Requiem.

This lovely music was marred by occasional over-enthusiasm among the choir, though soprano soloist Tina Boycott sang sweetly in the Pie Jesu. Again, Andrew Mildinhall was a fine organist.

Eric Snape