

TERRY PAYNE

Terry Payne started his musical career at the age of eight with piano lessons. When he was nine, and while he was a pupil at Kings Cathedral School Terry became a chorister at Gloucester Cathedral under Dr. Herbert Sumsion. He remained a chorister at the Cathedral until 1949, and during this time he sang in the Three Choirs Festivals at Gloucester, Worcester and Hereford.

A short spell in the RAF interrupted his musical career but when his National Service was complete he entered teacher training college at Winchester specialising in music, and singing in his spare time in Winchester Cathedral. After he left college he took up a post at a Gloucester Primary School and at the same time became a Lay Clerk (Bass Singer). In 1958 he returned to Winchester as a bass in Winchester Cathedral. He held a teaching post in a Hampshire school and did quite a lot of solo singing in the Cathedral and around Hampshire. This included singing in the Southern Cathedrals festivals. During this time he also studied at the Trinity College of Music and founded a choral society.

He came to Yate in 1965 to become deputy head of the Ridge School and founded Yate Choral Society which is actually the fourth choral group Terry has started; the other three include a ladies choir and a highly specialised group, the Non Nobis Singers at Winchester.

He left Yate to become head of a school in Bicester and travelled 140 miles every Tuesday for nine months to carry on his work with the Society until 1968.