

# Summer Concert can take the heat

By JOHN SMITH

**THE ANNUAL Haddo Choral Society summer concert took place in the chapel at Haddo House and featured Puccini's Messa di Gloria by the senior choir as well as a strong supporting programme by soloists and the junior choir.**

Under the enthusiastic guidance of musical director Alice Dennis, a section of the junior choir opened the concert with superb renditions of a serenade by Bizet and Marjorie Helyer's A Wish.

Long time supporters of the society, tenor Neil Mackie and soprano Kathleen Livingstone firstly sang solo items and then

teamed up to present Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck and Rutter's hymn The Lord Bless Thee.

Individually, they gave totally different versions of the 23rd psalm with Neil powerfully demonstrating Peter Maxwell-Davies' interpretation in an unaccompanied moment.

The main item in the concert, Puccini's Mass, was conducted by the society's new chorus master Tim Tricker.

The piece was the composer's graduation submission and though it may not have had the polish of his later operatic and

professional works, it offered a great insight into his potential.

Under Tim's lightly worked baton and accompanied by organist Tom Johnston, (a talented doctor studying at Aberdeen University), the choir did full justice to the mass.

The soloists in the work were Oliver White (tenor) and Jerry Dennis (bass).

Evidence of the continuing maturity of Jerry Dennis's singing was clear and many in the audience were rightly complimentary of his performance. There were two performances of the concert.