

Composer's finest work to be honoured

THE first large-scale piece of work by one of Britain's best-known composers will be performed in the Tyne Valley.

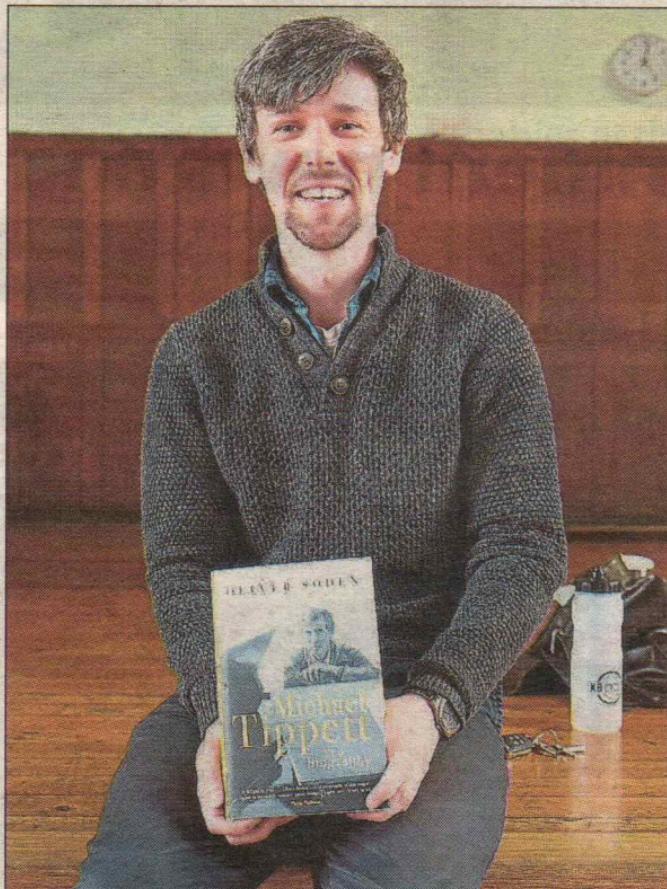
Michael Tippett composed *A Child of our Time* between 1939 and 1941, which was inspired by the atrocities of the Kristallnacht during the Second World War.

Hexham Orpheus Choir and Orchestra will perform the work, as well as the Verdi overture, *The Force of Destiny*, at Hexham Abbey on Saturday from 7.30pm.

Directed by Mark Edwards, the concert will feature world-renowned operatic bass Graeme Danby, originally from Consett.

He will be joined with solo performances by soprano Rachel Dyson, tenor Austin Gunn and alto Valerie Reed.

The event is timely as *Michael Tippett: The Biography* was recently released by Oliver Soden and was named Radio 4's Book of the Week.



Hexham Orpheus Choir director Mark Edwards with a copy of Michael Tippett's book. Photo: NICK LORD