



**BIGGLESWADE AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY**

presents a

# **CAROL CONCERT**

on

**Saturday, 22nd December, 2001 at 7.30 p.m.**

in

**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BIGGLESWADE**

(by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev'd. Canon R.F. Sibson)

with

<b>KAREN BROWN</b>	<b>Soprano and Oboe</b>
<b>CERI &amp; JENNIFER GALLIVAN</b>	<b>Trumpets</b>
<b>ANNE WRIGHT</b>	<b>Piano</b>

**FRANK PALLISTER Organ**

Introduced and Conducted by

## **HOWARD PARKHOUSE**

*Programme 50p*

## PROGRAMME

ALL 'O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL' *Arr:D.Willcocks*

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
Come and behold him born the King of Angels:  
*Refrain: O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Choir 2. God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created:  
*Refrain:*

Audience 3. See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:  
*Refrain:*

Choir 4. Lo! star-led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh:  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our hearts oblations:  
*Refrain: (All)*

All 5. Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest:  
*Refrain:*

READING 'CHRISTMAS' read by Enid Désert *John Betjeman*

CHOIR 'ADAM LAY YBOUNDEN' *Boris Ord*

OBOE SOLOS 'GABRIEL'S OBOE' *Theme from The Mission*  
'SNOWMAN SUITE' *H. Blake*

ALL 'AWAY IN A MANGER'  
*Tune W.J.Kirkpatrick Arr: Willcocks*

READING 'CHRISTMAS EVE' read by Claire Neville *Deliah Smith*

CHOIR 'A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER'  
*Old German Tune Harm: Praetorius*

ALL 'GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN' *Arr: Willcocks*

All 1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day.  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:  
*Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy, . . .*

Choir 2. From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name:  
*Refrain.*

All 3. The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway this blessed babe to find:  
*Refrain.*

Choir 4. But when to Bethlehem they came, whereat this infant lay,  
They found him in a manger, where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling, unto the Lord did pray:  
*Refrain:*

All 5. Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

PIANO DUET 'HANDS ACROSS THE C's' *A. Wright*



CHOIR 'I SAW A MAIDEN' *Old Basque Noel Refrain E. Pettman*

READING 'CHRISTMAS EVE' read by Barry Thompson *Joyce Grenfell*  
'IN RETROSPECT' *Joyce Grenfell*

ALL 'O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM' *Arr: R.V. Williams*

1. O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring  
love.
3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters  
in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray.  
Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell,  
O come to us, abide with us our Lord Emmanuel.

◇◇◇◇◇ INTERVAL ◇◇◇◇◇

CHOIR 'ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY'  
*Old French Tune Arr: R. Jacques*

ALL 'WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS'  
*Este's Psalter 1592*

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind);  
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.

3. To you in David's town this day  
Is born of David's line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

4. The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
And in a manger laid.'

Choir

5. Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

6. 'All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.'

READING 'CHRISTMAS THANK YOUS' read by Rosamund Drakes  
*Mick Gowar*

CHOIR 'MASTERS IN THIS HALL' *French Trad. Arr: Willcocks*

ALL 'THE FIRST NOWELL' *English Trad. Arr: Willcocks*

1. The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:  
*Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,*  
*Born is the King of Israel!*

Men

2. They looked up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night: *Refrain:*

*Ladies* 3. And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went: *Refrain:*

4. This star drew night to the north-west;  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right over the place where Jesus lay: *Refrain:*

*Men* 5. Then enter'd then those wise men three,  
Full rev'rently upon their knee,  
And offer'd there in his presence  
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense: *Refrain:*

6. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought: *Refrain*

SOLOS 'THE HOLY BOY' *J. Ireland*  
'O HOLY NIGHT' *A. Adam*

READING 'CHRISTMAS IN THE SUN' read by **Barbara Eames**  
*Joan Mellings*

CHOIR 'THE HEAVENLY AEROPLANE' *J. Rutter*

READING 'BLAME THE VICAR' read by **Denis Désert** *John Betjeman*

ALL 'HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING'  
*Mendelssohn Arr: Willocks*

1. Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Off-spring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,  
Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Refrain:*

3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
*Refrain:*

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**PLEASE NOTE** THAT THE USE OF TAPE AND VIDEO  
RECORDERS IS *NOT ALLOWED*

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We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all

***A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR***

We would also like to thank **Mrs. Anne Wright**,  
who has accompanied the rehearsals  
and  
the ladies from the **Badminton Club** for their help with interval refreshments.

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Registered Charity No. 29982581

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*Friends of the Choral Society*

Mrs. V. Brown	Mrs. M. Humphris
Mrs. M. Colbert	Mr. J.K. Lee
Miss K. Dilley	Mrs. M. Lipscombe
Mrs. O.M. Drake	Mr. & Mrs. K. Marsom
Mr. I.S. Drakes	Mr. A. Russell
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Mrs. M.R. Hardy	Mrs. S.I. Smith
Stephen & Judy Haylock	Molly Stimson
Mr. J. Heaps	Mrs. J.M. Thompson
Mr. & Mrs. G.H.B. Horner	Mr. M. Turner

*If you would like information about becoming a 'Friend'  
please contact: Mrs. M. Fitch (Tel: 01767 - 315318)*

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The Choral Society always welcomes new members.  
It rehearses on Tuesday evenings at St. Andrew's Church,  
Biggleswade at 8.00 p.m.  
*If you would like to join us, please come along to a rehearsal  
or contact: Mrs. M.V. Heaps (Tel: 01462 - 700462).*

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*DATES FOR YOUR DIARY*

Saturday, - 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2002 - 7.30 p.m.  
Choral Concert at St. Andrew's Church, Bedford  
Works by: Dvořák, Mendelssohn, Pergolesi and Rutter

Saturday, 18th May, 2002 - 7.30 p.m.  
'A Night at the Musicals' - Langford Village Hall

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The Biggleswade and District Choral Society is a member of the  
National Federation of Music Societies.

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