



**BIGGLESWADE AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY**

presents a

# **CAROL CONCERT**

on

**Saturday, 21st December, 2002 at 7.30 p.m.**

in

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

with

**KAREN BROWN** Oboe

**ANNE WRIGHT** Piano

**GAMLINGAY VILLAGE CHOIR**

Director: Yvonne Gray

**CHRIS HILLS** Organist

Introduced and Conducted by

**HOWARD PARKHOUSE**

*Programme 50p*

# PROGRAMME

CHOIR 'ADVENT MESSAGE'

*M. How*

ALL 88 '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*



GAMLINGAY VILLAGE CHOIR

**'HOW SWEET THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS'** G. Grier  
**'SILENT NIGHT'** arr. Foote

OBOE SOLO

ALL 2 **'AWAY IN A MANGER'**

*Tune W.J.Kirkpatrick Arr: Willcocks*

All 1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Children 2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

All 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

CHOIR **'CHRISTMAS LULLABY'** J. Rutter

READING Excerpt from **'CIDER WITH ROSIE'** Laurie Lee  
read by Rosamund Drakes

ALL 29 **'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.*

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE CHOIR

**'TROIKA'**

J. Sieber

**'CHRISTMAS FARE'**

PIANO

ALL 92 **'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.

Choir 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 'JESUS CHILD' *J. Rutter*

ALL 'WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS'  
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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.'
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.'

*Choir*

READING 'CHRISTMAS THANK YOUS' *Mick Gowar*  
 read by ~~Kathie Morley~~ *CLAIRE NEVILLE*

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE CHOIR  
 'WHAT CAN I GIVE TO THE KING?' *H. Burgmayne*  
 'THE SNOW' *E. Elgar*

OBOE 'JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING' *J.S. Bach*

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

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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*



CHOIR 142 'THE SHEPHERDS FAREWELL' H. Berlioz  
94 'O MEN FROM THE FIELDS' A. Cooke

READING 'A TIME FOR CHILDREN' William Blake  
read by Denis Désert

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE CHOIR  
'ANGEL VOICES' J. Rutter  
'FROM A DISTANCE' J. Gold

CHOIR 'JESUS IS THE KING' B. Bygraves

ALL 39 '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 sec,  
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. Karen Brown  
our Deputy Conductor,  
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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The Biggleswade and District Choral Society is a member of the  
National Federation of Music Societies.

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*Friends of the Choral Society*

Mrs. V. Brown	Mr. & Mrs. G.H.B. Horner
Miss C. Brunt	Mrs. M. Humphris
Mrs. M. Colbert	Mr. & Mrs. K. Marsom
Miss C. Dilley	Mr. & Mrs. A. Russell
Mr. I. Drakes	Mr. A. Russell Snr.
Eileen & Ian Gosling	Mrs. S.I. Smith
Steve & Judy Haylock	Mrs. M. Stimson
Mrs. M. Hardy & Mr. J. Lee	Mrs. J. Thompson
Mr. J. Heaps	Mr. Martin J. 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, 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2003 - 7.30 p.m.

Sandy Baptist Church

'*Messiah*' - Handel

(with orchestra)

Joint Concert with

St. Mary's Singers, Potton

Saturday, 17th May, 2003 - 7.30 p.m.

'*Summer Concert*' - Langford Village Hall