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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, 27th March, 2004 - 7.30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church, Biggleswade

'Crucifixion' J. Stainer

'Olivet to Calvary' J.H. Maunder

Saturday, 22nd May, 2004 - 7.30 p.m.

'Summer Concert' - Langford Village Hall

BIGGLESWADE AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY

presents a

CAROL CONCERT

on

Saturday, 20th December, 2003 at 7.30 p.m.

in

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BIGGLESWADE

with

ANNE WRIGHT Piano

FRANK PALLISTER Organ

and

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE COLLEGE CHOIR

Accompanist: Frank Pallister

Director: Yvonne Gray

Introduced and Conducted by

KAREN BROWN

Programme 50p

PROGRAMME

CHOIR 'AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD' (Messiah) G.F. Handel

ALL 'ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY' H.J. Gauntlett

Gamlingay Choir
1. Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ the little child.

Choirs
2. He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our saviour holy.

All
3. And through all his wondrous childhood he would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

4. 'For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feebleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

CHOIRS 'THE FIRST NOEL/PACHALBEL'S CANON' arr. Michael Clawson
Flutes: Helen Kimber and Emma Brown

READING 'THE INNKEEPER'S DEFENCE' from 'Faces at the Manger'
read by Jenny Broadbridge by J. Barrie Shepherd

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE COLLEGE CHOIR
'CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'
'CHRISTMAS LULLABY'

READING 'THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER' St. Luke Ch.2
read by Alice McMillan

ALL 'O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM' arr: R.V. Williams 992

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.

CHOIR 'CANDLELIGHT CAROL' Simon Mold

DUET 'A SACRIFICE SO GREAT' R.V. Parker
performed by: Leigh Smith and Karen Brown

CHOIRS 'MARY'S BOY CHILD' Jester Hairston arr: Stan Bowsher

ALL 'O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL' arr: D. Willcocks 988

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!

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

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

◇◇◇◇◇ INTERVAL ◇◇◇◇◇

CHOIR 'FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN' (Messiah) G.F. Handel

ALL 'AWAY IN A MANGER' 9.2.
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.

- Gamlingay
Choir 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.

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

PIANO DUET performed by Anne Wright and Karen Brown

GAMLINGAY VILLAGE COLLEGE CHOIR

'THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY'
'LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH'

CHOIR 'THE HEAVENLY AEROPLANE'

J. Rutter

ALL 'IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR'

Eng. Trad. Adapted A. Sullivan. 959

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heav'n's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!
4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold.
When, with the ever circling years
Comes round the age of gold;

When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

DUET

'EVENING PRAYER' (Hansel & Gretel) *E. Humperdinck*
performed by: **Hannah Carney and Karen Brown**

READING

'DEAR SANTA...' *Brian Moses*
read by **Barbara Eames**

ALL

'HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING' *9.39*
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:*

9.60 "WE WISH
YOU"

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE USE OF TAPE AND VIDEO
RECORDERS IS NOT ALLOWED
PLEASE SWITCH OFF ALL MOBILE PHONES.**

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
J. Sainsbury plc
for their donation of Mince Pies
and

the members of the **Badminton Club** for their help with interval refreshments.

Registered Charity No. 29982581

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

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).**
