

THE ASSEMBLY HALL

**ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS
CHORAL SOCIETY**

Chorus Master: **DEREK WATMOUGH**

CAROLS

for

CHOIR & AUDIENCE

Sunday, 15th December, 1968

at 3 p.m.

The National Federation of Music Societies, to which this Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of these concerts with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain. Support is also given by the Corporation of Royal Tunbridge Wells

PROGRAMME & WORDS 6d.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, 16th MARCH, 1969 at 3 p.m.

MUSIC MAKERS

(Elgar)

RIO GRANDE

(Lambert)

JEAN ALLISTER (Mezzo-Soprano)

Arias by Bizet and Verdi

Overture—Oberon (Weber)

FULL ORCHESTRA

(Leader: PETER MOUNTAIN)

Conductor: TREVOR HARVEY

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra

Sunday, 2nd February, 1969, 3 p.m.

Suite No. 3 in D

Bach

Arias by Purcell, Handel and Rossini

Symphony No. 34 in C

Mozart

Suite, Love the Magician

Falla

MONICA SINCLAIR

Conductor: JOHN LANCHBERY

Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells presents:-

Sunday, 15th June, 1969 at 8 p.m.

BEETHOVEN'S CHORAL SYMPHONY

Blest Pair of Sirens (Parry) Men of Kent (Duckworth)

**ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Choral Society and Symphony Orchestra**

Conducted by TREVOR HARVEY

Further details in due course

MARJORIE VINALL and DEREK WATMOUGH

Two Pianos

GODFREY KNELLER

Brass Instruments of the Orchestra

Introduced and Conducted by

TREVOR HARVEY

PROGRAMME

1. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "Once in Royal David's City"

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 her little child.

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.

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.

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 feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

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.

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.

2. CHOIR:

And There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field

J. S. Bach (from Christmas Oratorio)

(SOLOISTS: Stella Ellis and David Thomas)

3. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

WHILE shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The Angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view display'd,
All meanly wrapp'd in swathing bands
And in a manger laid."

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

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
Appear'd a shining throng
Of Angels praising God, who thus
Address'd their joyful song:

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:

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

4. CHOIR:

O Come all ye Faithful
The Holly and the Ivy }

Arranged by Rutland Boughton

5. MARJORIE VINALL AND DAVID WATMOUGH — Two Pianos

- (a) Ballet from *Petite Suite* *Debussy (arr. Busser)*
- (b) *Jamaican Rumba* *Arthur Benjamin*
- (c) *Sheep May Safely Graze* *Bach (arr. Howe)*
- (d) *Rondo from Sonata in Eb* *John Field (arr. Martin Penny)*

6. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Arranged by R. Vaughan Williams

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 to-night.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

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 wondering love.

Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas Angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

7. CHOIR:

The Three Kings

Peter Cornelius (arr. Ivor Atkins)

(SOLOIST: David Thomas)

8. CHOIR

The Cherry-Tree Carol

Trad: (arr. Malcolm Sargent)

9. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

AS with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright.
So most gracious God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with hold joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

As with joyful steps they sped,
To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him who heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek they mercy seat.

Holy Jesu, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

INTERVAL

10. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

ANGELS from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations;
Ye have seen his natal star;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er the flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

11. Godfrey Kneller and His Orchestra!

12. CHOIR:

Zither Carol *Czech Folk Tune (arr. Malcolm Sargent)*

I saw Three Ships *English Traditional (arr. David Willcocks)*

13. CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: "Away in a Manger"

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.

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.

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 WITH AUDIENCE JOINING IN THE CHORUS:

"See Amid the Winter's Snow"

HAIL, thou ever blessed morn:
Hail, redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem."

14. CHOIR:

In the Bleak Mid Winter *Arranged by Harold Darke*

A Merry Christmas *Trad: West Country (arr. Arthur Warrell)*

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