

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY  
CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

ST JOHN'S CHURCH  
TUNBRIDGE WELLS

SUNDAY 11th DECEMBER 1994  
at 3.00 PM

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CONDUCTOR - DEREK WATMOUGH MBE

ORGANIST - WILMARC ELLMAN

THE MAYFIELD BAND  
CONDUCTED BY ROY FULLER

The Society is a Registered Charity

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY  
91st SEASON

PRESIDENT	ROY DOUGLAS
HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT	JOHN H JOHNSON
CHAIRMAN	HELEN MACNAB
MUSICAL DIRECTOR and PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR	DEREK WATMOUGH MBE

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Miss D Goodwin	Mrs G Stewart
Mr J Johnson	Mr and Mrs G Stredder
Lloyds Bank plc	Mr M Webb
MCL Group Ltd	Mr W Yates

We are most grateful for the support of our Patrons and new ones are always welcome. Please ring the General Secretary, TW 521937.

The Choir rehearses on Monday evenings from September to April. New members are always welcome. There is a simple and private audition. Please contact the Membership Secretary on TW 822048.

## The Mayfield Band

Choir and Audience : It came upon the midnight clear

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.

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.

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!

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.

Choir : Rejoice and be Merry  
Traditional English Carol arranged by Reginald  
Jacques

- Reading -

Choir and Audience : O little town of  
Bethlehem

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.

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.

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.

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.

Organ Solo by Wilmarc Ellman

Choir : Adam lay ybounded  
Music by Boris Ord, Words anon.15th century

Choir : Shepherds Pipe Carol  
Words and Music by John Rutter

Choir and Audience : Sussex Carol

On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
To hear the news the angels bring,  
On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
To hear the news the angels bring-  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
Then why should men on earth be so sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin he set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace,  
Then life and health comes in its place;  
When sin departs before his grace,  
Then life and health comes in its place;  
Angels and men with joy may sing,  
All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night;  
All out of darkness we have light,  
Which made the angels sing this night;  
Glory to God and peace to men,  
Now and for evermore. Amen.

- Reading -

Choir and Audience : Hark the Herald Angels

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

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head seed,  
Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

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.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

There will now be a short interval

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The Mayfield Band

Choir and Audience : Silent Night

Silent Night, holy night,  
All is dark, save the light  
Shining where the mother mild  
Watches over the holy child.  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds first saw the sight,  
Heard the angel-song alleluia  
Loud proclaiming near and far;  
Christ our Saviour is here,  
Christ our Saviour is here.

Silent night, holy night,  
God's own son, oh how bright  
Shines the love in thy holy face,  
Shines the love of redemption and grace,  
Christ th'incarnate God,  
Christ th'incarnate God.

Choir : Of the Father's Heart Begotten  
Music arranged by David Willcocks

Choir : I sing of a Maiden  
Words traditional, music by Patrick Hadley

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.

- Reading -



Choir : Come, Rock the Cradle for Him  
Words by G R Woodward, Music from Psalteriolum  
Harmonicum, 1642

Choir : Star Carol  
Words and Music by John Rutter

Choir and Audience : Kings of Orient

We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star;  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Both a king on Bethlehem plain,  
Gold I bring, to crown him again  
King for ever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign;  
*O Star of wonder, etc.*

Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worship him, God most high;  
*O Star of wonder, etc.*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb;  
*O Star of wonder, etc.*

Glorious now, behold him arise,  
King, and God, and sacrifice!  
Heav'n sings alleluya,  
Alleluya the earth replies;  
*O Star of wonder, etc.*

- Reading -

Organ Solo by Wilmarc Ellman

Choir and Audience : O come all ye faithful

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,  
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore  
him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb,  
Very God, Begotten not created,  
*O come, etc.*

See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks draw nigh with lowly  
fear,  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps,  
*O come, etc.*

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above,  
Glory to God, in the Highest,  
*O come let us adore him, O come let us adore  
him, O come let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

## FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

1995

Jan 15	Green Room Music	Trinity Theatre and Arts Club 3.00 PM
Feb 5	Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra	Assembly Hall 3.00 PM
Feb 19	Green Room Music	Trinity Theatre and Arts Club 3.00 PM
Mar 5	Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestrs	Assembly Hall 3.00 PM
Mar 19	Green Room Music	Trinity Theatre and Arts Club 3.00 PM
Mar 26	Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society Stabat Mater - Rossini Spring Section from The Seasons - Haydn	Assembly Hall 3.00 PM

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The members of the  
Choral Society thank  
you for your support  
and wish you a very  
Happy Christmas and a  
Prosperous New Year

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The Society is affiliated to the National  
Federation of Music Societies.