

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

CHRISTMAS CONCERT



at

St Mary's Church, Goudhurst

Sunday 16th December 2001 at 6.30 pm

Admission by Programme

Adults £5

Students and Children £2.50

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.

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.

CHOIR CAROLS:

Infant Holy

The Crown of Roses

There is no Rose

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Polish arr David Willcocks

Tchaikovsky

Benjamin Britten

French arr Charles Wood

ORGAN SOLO: Wilmarc Ellman

Nun Danket

Franz Liszt

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.

SOPRANO SOLO: Alexandra Leigh

Angels Choir	John Rutter
The First Mercy	Peter Warlock
O Holy Night	Adolphe Adam

THE MAYFIELD BAND: A Christmas Miscellany

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: While Shepherds Watched

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

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

‘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:

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

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

'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 CAROLS:

Noel Nouvelet
Sans Day Carol
Christmas Lullaby
Torches

French arr John Rutter
English arr John Rutter
John Rutter
John Joubert

HARP SOLO: Anna Wynne

El Picaflor
Interlude (Ceremony of Carols)

John Marson
Benjamin Britten

CHOIR AND AUDIENCE: We Three Kings of Orient Are

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.*

Born 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,
Heaven sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replied:
O, star of wonder, etc.

CHOIR AND **Cantata 'Navidad Nuestra' Ramirez**
SOPRANO SOLO:

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
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.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
O come, etc.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee
Born that happy morning
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, etc.

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society
3 pm at the Assembly Hall

Sunday 14th April 2002

OPERA GALA

Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra
3 pm at the Assembly Hall

Sunday 3rd February 2002	Soloist: Alina Ibragimova (violin)
Sunday 3rd March 2002	Soloist: Lucy Parham (piano) Robert Hardcastle (narrator)
Sunday 7th April 2002	Soloist: Natalie Clein ('cello)

Green Room Music Club
3pm at Trinity Arts Centre

Sunday 20th January 2002	The Fibonacci Sequence
Sunday 17th February 2002	Paul Lewis (piano)
Sunday 17th March 2002	The Chagall Trio

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

<i>President</i>	Roy Douglas
<i>Vice President</i>	Geoff Stredder
<i>Musical Director and Conductor</i>	Derek Watmough
<i>Accompanist</i>	Wilmarc Ellman
<i>Honorary Life Members</i>	Joyce Stredder, Len Lee and Mary Standen

Patrons

Miss B Benson	Mr I Short
Mr R R Douglas	Mr & Mrs G D Stredder
Miss D Goodwin	Mr T Walter
Mr R Page	Mr M Webb
	Mr W N Yates

**If you would like to become a Patron and support the Society,
please contact the Treasurer, Roy Dunstall - 01580 211814
or the General Secretary, Olivia Seaman - 01892 863760**

***If you enjoy singing - why not come and join us?
Rehearsals are held on Mondays at 7.30pm
in St John's Church Hall, Tunbridge Wells
Contact: Celia Sumner 01892 534814***