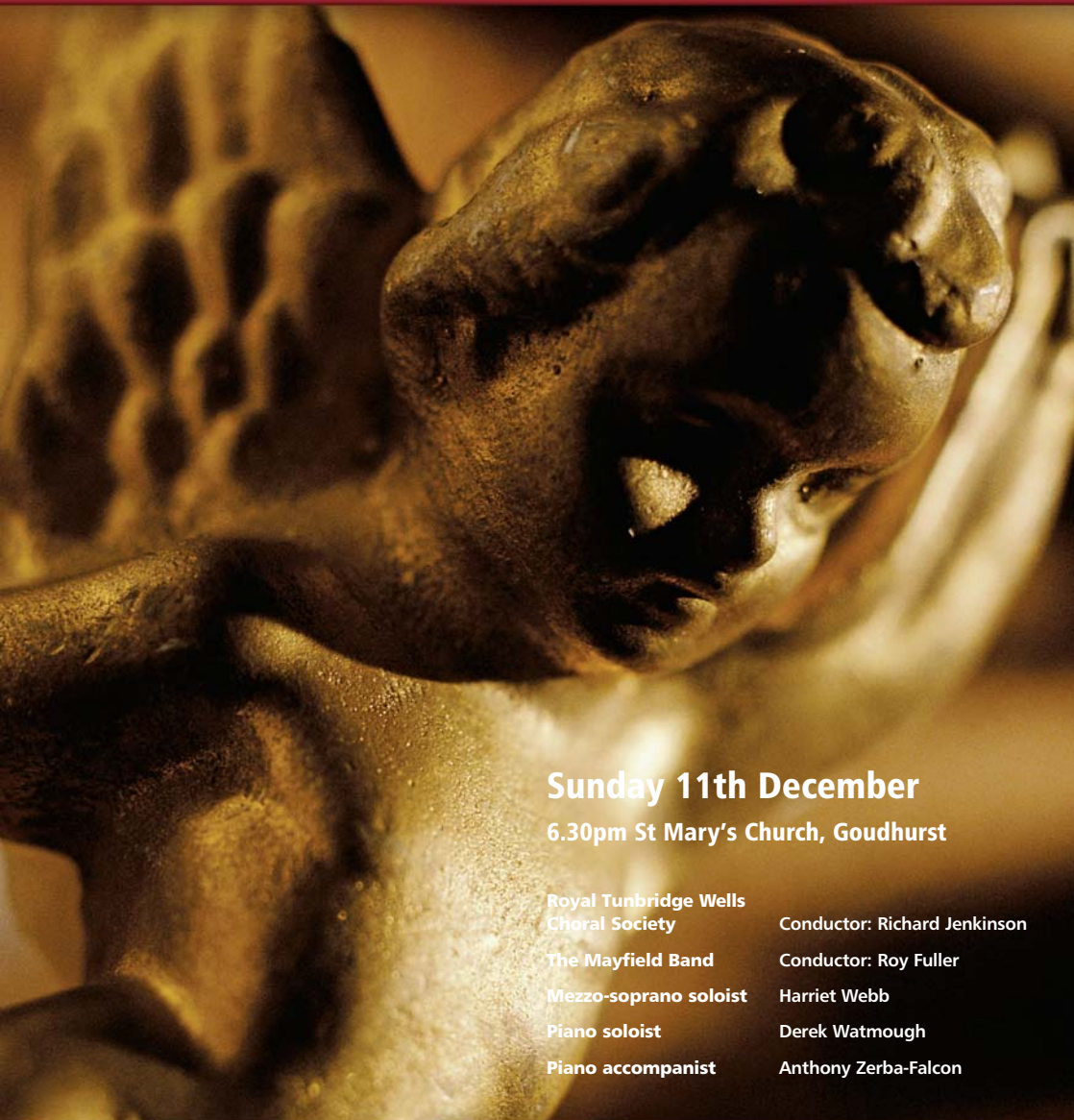


ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Christmas concert 2005



Sunday 11th December

6.30pm St Mary's Church, Goudhurst

**Royal Tunbridge Wells
Choral Society**

Conductor: Richard Jenkinson

The Mayfield Band

Conductor: Roy Fuller

Mezzo-soprano soloist

Harriet Webb

Piano soloist

Derek Watmough

Piano accompanist

Anthony Zerba-Falcon

**ROYAL
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
CHORAL
SOCIETY**

**Admission by programme:
adults £7, children £3.50**

President

Roy Douglas

Vice President

Derek Watmough MBE

Musical Director and Conductor

Richard Jenkinson

Accompanist

Anthony Zerpa-Falcon

Honorary Life Members

Len Lee

Joyce Stredder

Patrons

Mrs A Bell
Miss B Benson
Mrs E Carr
Mr R R Douglas
Miss D Goodwin
Mrs A Hodges
Mr G Huntrods

Mrs H MacNab
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Lt Col B and Mrs E Phillips
Mrs W Roszak
Mr I Short
Mrs J Stredder
Ms L Stroud

Mrs B Tattersall
Mr R F Thatcher
Mr D Watmough
Mr M Webb
Mr & Mrs G T Weller
Mr W N Yates

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society gratefully acknowledges receipt of a bequest from Mr Michael Webb, made by his late wife Elizabeth.

We are very grateful to our Patrons for their valuable support. We no longer have help to pay our production costs from the Arts Council or the Local Authority. If you would like to become a Patron and support the Society in this way please contact The Treasurer: Roy Dunstall on 01580 211814. For £40 per annum you will receive a seat of your choice for our Autumn, Christmas and Spring concerts each season. If you have a favourite seat, this will be reserved for you.

Choir and audience

Hark! the herald angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born 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.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

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.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King.

Choir

In dulci jubilo (Old German melody set by R L Pearsall and arranged for four voices
by W J Westbrook)

Ding dong! merrily on high (French 16th century tune arranged by William
Llewellyn)

Mezzo-soprano

Balulalow (Herbert Howells)

The Christ Child (Peter Cornelius)

Choir and audience

Good King Wenceslas

All Good King Wenceslas look'd out
On the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about,
Deep, and crisp, and even:
Brightly shone the moon that night,
Though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight,
Gath'ring winter fuel.

Men 'Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?'

Ladies 'Sire, he lives a good league hence,
Underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence,
By Saint Agnes' fountain.'

Men 'Bring me flesh, and bring me wine,
Bring me pine-logs hither:
Thou and I will see him dine,
When we bear them thither.'

All Page and monarch, forth they went,
Forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

Ladies 'Sire, the night is darker now,
And the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how;
I can go no longer.'

Men 'Mark my foot-steps, good my page;
Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly.'

All In his master's steps he trod,
Where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod
Which the Saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure,
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor,
Shall yourselves find blessing.

Piano solo: Derek Watmough

Country Gardens

(English Morris dance tune arranged by Percy Grainger)

The Mayfield Band

Medley

Cornet solo: Julie Scrace

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.

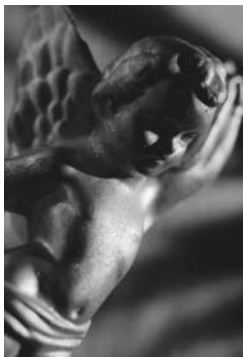
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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.

Mezzo-soprano: Harriet Webb

The First Mercy (Peter Warlock)

To the Queen of Heaven (Thomas Dunhill)



Choir

The Shepherds' Farewell (Hector Berlioz)

Piano duet: Richard Jenkinson and Derek Watmough

Waltzes from *Der Rosenkavalier* (Richard Strauss)

Choir and Mezzo-soprano

A Sequence of Carols (Philip Hattey)

Choir and audience

Unto us is born a Son

- All** Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal, of lords the Lord eternal.
- Ladies** Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in the manger, becradled in the manger.
- Men** This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer, and slew the little childer.
- Ladies** Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle Child
Might lead us up to glory, might lead us up to glory!
- All** O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino, benedicamus Domino.

Choir and Mezzo-soprano: Harriet Webb

Christmas is Coming: A Festive Cantata (Elie Siegmeister and Rufus Wheeler)

Choir and audience

O come, all ye faithful

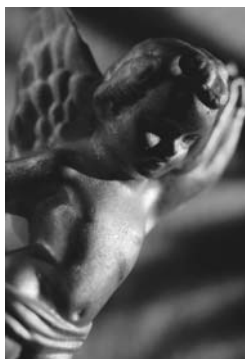
O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

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 on Christmas morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, etc.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year



Harriet Webb – Mezzo-soprano

Harriet read music at Manchester University where she studied violin with Ronald Birks of the Lindsay Quartet and singing with Diane Matthews at the Royal Northern College of Music. She currently studies with Sarah Dunstan. She has sung and made numerous recordings with several of the top London chamber choirs and groups such as the BBC Singers, Polyphony and the King's Consort and her own five-voice group Amici.

Solo work has included performances of Bach *St Matthew Passion*, *St John Passion* and *Magnificat*, Vivaldi *Gloria*, Handel *Messiah*, *Israel in Egypt* and *Dixit Dominus*, Pergolesi *Stabat Mater*, Brahms *Alto Rhapsody*, Elgar *The Music Makers*, Mendelssohn *Elijah*, Mozart *Requiem*, Duruflé *Requiem*, Bruckner *Requiem*, Liszt *Via Crucis*, Charpentier *Messe de Minuit*, and Britten *Rejoice in the Lamb* and *Christ's Nativity*. Harriet has also participated in a masterclass on English song with Ian Partridge.

Harriet is Director of Music at Newstead Wood School for Girls in Orpington.

If you enjoy singing...

... why not come and join us for our next concert. Rehearsals are held on Mondays at 7.30pm, normally at St John's Church, Tunbridge Wells.

Contact Celia Sumner on 01892 534814 or Helen McNab on 01892 526434.

Forthcoming concerts to be given by the choir

Sunday 26th March 2006 3.00pm

The Magic of Mozart! As most music-lovers will already know 2006 is the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. The choir will be performing his *Ave Verum Corpus*, *Solemn Vespers and Coronation Mass*. There will also be solo performances of *Exultate Jubilate* and *Piano Concerto No. 21 in C "Elvira Madigan"* to complete a truly memorable event at the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

To be confirmed:

Saturday 24th June 2006

Vivaldi *Gloria* and Rutter *The Sprig of Thyme*.

Civic Concert – Tunbridge Wells' 400th anniversary

Sunday 12th November 2006

Bach *Magnificat* and Handel *Coronation Anthems*, performed at the Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

These dates are a long way off, but it might be an idea to put them in your diary!