

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

Christmas concert 2007



Sunday 16th December

**Royal Tunbridge Wells
Choral Society**

Conductor: Richard Jenkinson

The Mayfield Band

Conductor: Roy Fuller

Organist

Christopher Harris

ROYAL
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
CHORAL
SOCIETY

6.30pm St Mary's Church

Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1AN

**A concert of Christmas choral &
instrumental music with audience carols**

**Admission by programme:
adults £8, children £4**

RTWCS is a Registered Charity No: 273310

www.rtwcs.org.uk

Choir

The holly and the ivy (Gardner)

Choir and audience

Once in royal David's city
(Arr. Sir David Willcocks)

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 her little child.
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.
3. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.
4. 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;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Reading – Sally Martin

From *Cider with Rosie* by Laurie Lee

Choir and audience

Unto us is born a Son
(Arr. Sir David Willcocks)

1. *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.
2. *All*
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.
3. *Men*
This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave his word to slay,
And slew the little childer, and slew the
little childer.
4. *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!
5. *All*
O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino, benedicamus
Domino.

Choir

Joy to the world

(Attributed Handel; arr. William Llewellyn)

Rocking carol

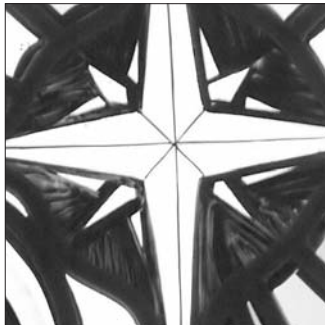
(Czech carol melody; arr. William Llewellyn)

Choir and audience

Hark! the herald angels sing

(Mendelssohn; arr. Sir David Willcocks)

1. 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.
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.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.
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.
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.



Mayfield Band

Conductor: Roy Fuller

A March Medley: The Spirit of Christmas (Kenneth Cook)

Mary's Boy Child – cornet solo: Julie Scrace

It's Gonna be a Cold, Cold Christmas (Arr Frank Bernaerts)

Choir and audience

Away in a manger (Arr. Reginald Jacques)

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.
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.
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.

Choir

There is no rose (John Joubert)

Reading – Sally Martin

Christmas: John Betjeman

Christmas Carol: G K Chesterton



Choir and audience

We three kings (Traditional)

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in a stone-cold tomb.
O, star of wonder, etc.
5. Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice,
Heaven sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replies:
O, star of wonder, etc.

Choir and organ (Christopher Harris)

Christmas music from *The Messiah* (F. Handel):

Pastoral Symphony

And the glory of the Lord

O that that tellest good tidings to Zion

For unto us a child is born



Choir and audience

O come, all ye faithful
(Arr. Sir David Willcocks)

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:
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:
O come, etc.
3. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
O come, etc.
4. 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.

Finale: choir

Do you hear what I hear? (Regney and Shane, Arr. Simone)

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



If you enjoy singing...

... why not come and join us for our next concerts. Rehearsals are held on Mondays at 7.30pm, normally at St John's Church, Tunbridge Wells. We start 2008 on January 14th.

To find out more contact Celia Sumner on 01892 534814 or Helen MacNab on 01892 526434; or visit our website at www.rtwcs.org.uk.

We welcome singers of all levels of experience. Prospective members are not required to audition and can come to several rehearsals before committing to joining.



Forthcoming concerts to be given by the choir

Spring Concert 2008

Sunday 27th April 2008, 3.00pm
The Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells

Mozart *Requiem*
Puccini *Messa di Gloria*



Summer Sing 2008

Saturday 28th June 2008, 7.30pm
Vale Royal Church, Tunbridge Wells

Rutter *Feel The Spirit*
Schubert *Mass in G*

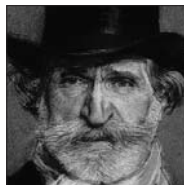
The Summer Sing is the culmination of a series of informal rehearsals run in association with RTWCS.



Autumn Concert 2008

Sunday 9th November 2008, 3.00pm
The Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells

Verdi *Requiem*



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
Sir Derek & Lady Day
Mr R R Douglas
Miss D Goodwin
Mr D Haley
Mr G Huntrods CBE

Mr M Hudson
Mrs H MacNab
Mrs Pat Maxwell
Mr L Morris
Mr B A & Mrs E Phillips
Mrs W Roszak
Mr I Short

Mrs J Stredder
Miss L Stroud
Mr R F Thatcher
Mr D Watmough
Mr M Webb
Mr G T & Mrs W Weller
Mr W N Yates

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 Gerald Chew, on 01892 527958. For £45 per annum you will receive a seat of your choice for our Spring, Autumn and Christmas concerts each season. If you have a favourite seat, this will be reserved for you.



The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society is a member of NFMS ("Making Music") and is a Registered Charity No 273310.

For further information about the Society visit our website www.rtwcs.org.uk