

DUNBAR CHORAL PRESENTS

Loel Loel!

Carols and readings for Christmas

Wednesday 9th December 2015

Belhaven Church Dunbar

7.30pm

Conductor Vaughan Townhill

Accompanist

David Townhill

Reader Gordon Roberts

Programme

Vox clara ecce intonat

Hymn at lauds during Advent (6th century) Gabriel Jackson Alto Solo — Katrine Townhill Clarinet — Vaughan Townhill

From the Feast of St Friend. — Arnold Bennet

AUDIENCE CAROL Once in Royal David's City

My Night With Santa — Bob Lazzar-Atwood Pictures of Christmas. — Gervase Phinn

Nowell, nowell!

Trad. English adapted from the Cornish Songbook. Jonathan Willcocks **What sweeter music.**

Words by Robert Herrick (1591-1674). John Rutter

A Christmas Carol. — G K Chesterton The Gypsy — Edward Thomas

Joseph dearest, Joseph mine. Trad. German, arr Imogen Holst The Wellspring. Words: Kevin Crossley-Holland. Bob Chilcott

AUDIENCE CAROL Unto us is born a Son

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (the Huron Carol)
— Jean de Brebeuf trans Jesse Edgar Middleton
Canadian Christmas Song. — Eric Bogle and John Munro

Christmas is coming.

Trad. English Carol additional lyrics David Warner. Mack Wilberg Second Pianist - Marian Thomson

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day, Trad. English. John Gardner

from Favourite Carols "In The Bleak Midwinter — Aled Jones

AUDIENCE CAROL In the bleak midwinter

The Wicked Fairy At The Manger. — U A Fanthorpe Goodwill to Men- Give Us Your Money — Pam Ayres Bianca's Baby — Gervase Phinn

Myn Lyking Words: 15th century R.R. Terry (1865-1938)

Bethlehem Down Words: Bruce Blunt. Peter Warlock

Luke, Chapter 2, v 1-20

The Christ-child Words: G.K. Chesterton. David Johnson.

Alto Solo - Katrine Townhill

Stille Nacht Josef Mohr, Franz Gruber arr. David Willcocks

AUDIENCE CAROL

O come, all ye faithful

Once in royal David's city

H.J.Gauntlett harmonized by A.H.Mann, descant David Willcocks

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 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;
When like stars his children
crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Unto us is born a Son

Piae Contiones, arr. David Willcocks

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.

Christ, from heav'n descending low

Comes on earth a stranger; Ox and ass their owner know, Be cradled in the manger, Be cradled in the manger.

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.

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!

O and A, and A and O, Cum cantibus in choro, Let our merry organ go, Benedicamus Domino. Benedicamus Domino.

In the bleak mid-winter

words by Christina Rossetti.(1830-1894) Gustav Holst

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him Nor earth sustain; Heav'n and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful of milk And a mangerful of hay; Enough for him, whom angels Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel Which adore.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give him,
Give my heart.

O come, all ye faithful

words & melody: J.F.Wade (c.1711-1786) arr. David Willcocks

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, let us adore Him...

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

Notes on the Carols

Some of our carols are well known, some less so. Here are some notes to help you enjoy the evening.

Vox clara ecce intonat

This is a modern setting by Gabriel Jackson of a very old advent hymn and was given its first performance two years ago in St John's College, Cambridge.

"Setting the original Latin text of the hymn better known as 'Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding', Jackson creates an Advent piece of beautiful stillness. The largely homophonic choral parts, with a soloist supplying a gentle contrapuntal line, are contrasted with light and graceful interjections from the woodwind solo. The result is a quietly moving piece ideally suited for a reflective moment during an Advent service."

.

There are various translations of the Latin we are singing. This version "Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding" is by Edward Caswall fron 1849.

Vox clara ecce intonat, obscura quaeque increpat: procul fugentur somnia; ab aethere Christus promicat.

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say, "Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day."

Mens iam resurgat torpida quae sorde exstat saucia; sidus refulget iam novum, ut tollat omne noxium. Wakened by the solemn warning Let the earthbound soul arise; Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.

E sursum Agnus mittitur laxare gratis debitum; omnes pro indulgentia vocem demus cum lacrimis,

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from
Heav'n;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven.

Secundo ut cum fulserit mundumque horror cinxerit, non pro reatu puniat, sed nos pius tunc protegat.

That when next He comes in glory, And the world is wrapped in fear, With His mercy He may shield us, And with words of love draw near

Summo Parenti gloria Natoque sit victoria, et Flamini laus debita per saeculorum saecula. Amen. Honor, glory, might, and blessing Be to God: the Father, Son And the everlasting Spirit, While eternal ages run. Amen.

Katrine Townhill has sung with us at several of our Spring concerts and is joining with us tonight to sing a solo part in this piece in which Vaughan hands over the conductor's baton to David so that he can play clarinet

Nowell, nowell

This is another new carol, published in 2014. Sir David Willcocks' name has appeared as the composer and arranger of many of the carols we have sung. With John Rutter he edited 100 Carols for Choirs, known affectionately to many singers as 'the white book' and is used by many choirs at this time of year..

This carol is written by his son, Jonathan, also a conductor and composer. The dedication says "To David, with love and admiration." and it appears in a collection of carols published to celebrate Sir David's 95th Birthday.

The Wellspring

This gentle piece was written by Bob Chilcott, another of Britain's foremost modern choral composers. A few years ago we enjoyed performing his "Little Jazz Mass" and this brand new carol is a setting of a poem by Kevin Crossley-Holland which has also become one of our favourites.

Infant of the bubbling spring.

Well in my heart.

Child of the sighing marsh

Breathe in my head.

Son of the keen light

Quicken my eyes.

Rebel of the restless creeks

Tumble in my ears.

Disciple of the rising tide

Dance in my heart.

Teacher of the gruff salt wind

Educate my tongue.

Infant of the bubbling spring.

Well in my heart.

Christmas is coming

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat" is a well-known carol, but we are singing a new arrangement by the American Mack Wilberg, which was first performed in 2013 by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra. We don't have room for a 50 piece orchestra but we do need four hands on the piano so Marian will be joining David.

The younger members of the audience may not be familiar with some of the words.

A ha'penny or half penny was not quite the smallest value coin in Britain before decimalisation in 1971 (there was also a coin worth half as much) but it took four hundred and eighty of them to make a pound.

Half a crown was a lot more money and for most ordinary people would have been a significant donation. Only the richest would have been able to give a guinea (£1.05)

"If you haven't got a ha'penny then God bless you!"

The Christ-child

This piece will be new to us all. A duet for alto voice and clarinet by Edinburgh composer David Johnson gives us another opportunity to hear Katrine and Vaughan perform together.

If you have been to all our recent concerts with Vaughan in charge you will have heard all the other carols we are singing tonight, but we make no apology for that.

We enjoy singing them and we know that you will enjoy hearing them and also joining in.

RS

Dunbar Choral

Musical Director - Vaughan Townhill

Members of the Choral

Sopranos

Audrey Affleck
Rosemary Bain
Vicki Brown
Jo Campbell
Liz Cairns
Maggie Dougal
Beth Elliott
Marion Goodfellow
Joan Halpin
Anne Jackson
Diane Kerr
Joyce Patrick
Nesta Sparksman
Rachel Traynor

Basses

Malcolm Baker
Brian Dale
Grahame Jackson
Douglas Kerr
Neil McNaught
Ogilvie Pretsell
Hugh Pumphrey
Robin Strain
Simon Williams

Altos

Sally Cleaver
Shay Cleaver-Bundy
Margaret Croft
Beryl Goodall
Pauline Haig
Vanessa Hawthorn
Jackie Knox
Valerie McAdam
Alison McCreadie
Mary Macfarlane
Lorna McLeod
Ute Penny
Judy Pilley
Lucy Pumphrey

Tenors

Derek Brown Ian Ferguson George Turnbull Louise Hardy Lucy Spratt Moyra Wright

Rehearsal accompanists

David Townhill Marian Thomson

Dunbar Choral

If you enjoyed singing along with our carols tonight and perhaps have been inspired by Gareth Malone why not come along to one of our rehearsals and give singing in a choir a try. We have no auditions and anyone who can sing in tune is welcome. Our repertoire ranges from choral classics to Broadway favourites, jazz and operetta. We meet at 7.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the music department of Belhaven Hill School.

We would love to see you there any Tuesday from 12th January 2016 onwards when we will be practising Bach's St John Passion for our Spring concert.

To find out more about joining us, or just to make contact before you come along, please phone our secretary

Joyce Patrick on 01368 863070 or

email joyce.patrick@tiscali.co.uk



If you have enjoyed our concert please like us on Facebook or tweet using the tag @dunbarchoral

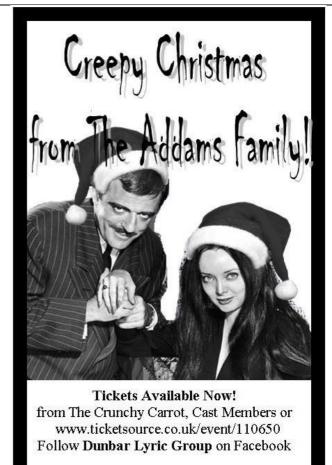


More information about the Society and about future concerts can be found on our website www.dunbarchoral.org.uk

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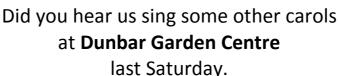
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Carol Singing



We will also be singing with the residents at **Lammermuir House** next Tuesday.









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Dunbar Choral

Our Next Concert

Saturday 14th May 2016 Dunbar Parish Church at 7:30pm

St John Passion – J S Bach

Tickets (£10 and £2) will be available in advance from choir members, online at www.dunbarchoral.org.uk or at the door.