



Wareham Choral Society Christmas Concert

Saturday 15th December 2018 7pm

Lady St Mary Church, Wareham

"Wareham's choir since 1947"

<https://www.warehamchoral.co.uk>



**Conductor
Hazel Ricketts**

**Organist
John Radford**

**Soprano
Grace Lovelass
Tenor Daniel Bell
Bass Ben Gautier
Harp Katie Salomon**



"The Christmas Story"
**Music by Schutz, together with
seasonal music and readings,
including traditional audience carols**

Please note that the words for the audience carols are on the following pages

WELCOME

- All** **God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen**
- Choir & Soloists **The Christmas Story** - *Heinrich Schutz*
- All** **Silent Night**
- Festive reading**
- Ben Gautier **Der Leiermann** - *from Winterreise by Franz Schubert*
- Choir with Grace Lovelass & Daniel Bell **In the Bleak Midwinter** - *Harold Darke*
- All** **Good King Wenceslas**

INTERVAL

- All** **O Little Town of Bethlehem**
- Grace Lovelass & Katie Salomon **Hymn to the Virgin** (Op 13, No 2) & **Jesukin** (Op 4, No 2) - *Edmund Rubbra*
- Choir with Daniel Bell **Three Kings from Persian Lands** - *Peter Cornelius (arranged Ivor Atkins)*
- Katie Salomon **Andante from Violin Sonata No 2** - *J.S.Bach (transcribed by Marcel Grandjany)*
- Daniel Bell **An Old Carol** - *Roger Quilter*
Der Engel - *Richard Wagner*
The Little Road to Bethlehem - *Michael Head*
- Choir **O Holy Night** - *Adolphe Adam (arranged John Barnard)*
- Festive reading**
- Grace Lovelass **Christmas Lullaby** - *from Jason Robert Brown's "Songs for a New World"*
- Choir with Grace Lovelass **I Wonder as I Wander** - *arranged by John Rutter*
- All** **O Come All Ye Faithful**

CLOSING WORDS

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay.
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray.
*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy, O tidings of
comfort and joy*

3. The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find.
O tidings...

5. Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All other doth deface.
O tidings...

2. From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and
joy, O tidings of comfort and joy*

4. But when they came to Bethlehem
Whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling
Unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings...

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
Round the virgin, and her child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams your holy face
With the dawn of saving grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quail at the sight.
Glory streams from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

1. All
Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the feast of Stephen,

2. Men:
"Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,

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.

3. 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.

5. 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.

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."

4. 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 footsteps, good my page,
Tread thou in them boldly,
Thou shall find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."

1. 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.

3. How silently, how silently

The wondrous gift is given.
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming

2. 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 wondering love.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem

Descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today.

But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him, still the
dear Christ enters in.

We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel.

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, (x3)
Christ the Lord.

3. 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, let us adore Him...

5. 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...

2. 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...

4. Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense,
gold and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child
Bring our hearts oblations
O come, let us adore Him...

Heinrich Schütz (1585 -1672) was a German composer and organist, and arguably the most important German composer before Johann Sebastian Bach. His best known works are in the field of sacred music, ranging from solo voice with instrumental accompaniment to a cappella choral music. ***The Christmas Story*** was probably first performed in 1660 in Dresden. It is a *Historia* - a setting of the Gospel intended to be performed during a service in place of the Gospel reading.

Hazel Ricketts studied music at the University of Surrey, and the University of Southampton, with piano as her first instrument. She has always sung in choirs since the age of 6, started accompanying them at the age of 14, and has been conducting them for nearly 20 years.

Her current work includes teaching piano and clarinet in schools in both Wiltshire and Hampshire, and she is active as a church music leader and organist in the Salisbury area playing at many different churches. She conducts Castle Singers in Winchester, and in 2018 was appointed Musical Director of Wareham Choral Society. In addition

to this she is an active member of the local RSCM committee and plays the clarinet in Salisbury Concert Band.

John Radford was born in Wakefield, where he was a chorister at the cathedral. He received a bursary to study music at Ackworth School, and then studied music at Leeds University. He has had posts as organist and teacher at Portsmouth and in Somerset. He is currently the organist for a group of village churches in East Dorset, and is the accompanist to The Broadstone Choir and The Allen Singers (Wimborne).

Harpist Katie Salomon has been performing classical crossover harp music since 2005, performing with artists including McFly, Aled Jones and Camilla Kerslake. She is based in Wiltshire and also performs in Hampshire, Dorset, London, Surrey, Devon, Somerset and further afield.

WCS is delighted that **mezzo-soprano Grace Lovelass** is singing with us again! This year Grace has sung in La Cenerentola with Red Earth Opera, in Dido & Aeneas with Broadstone Choral Society, in La Traviata, and as a milkmaid in La Bohème! Grace has also performed under the direction of Pamela Howard OBE as part of Bernstein in Chichester 2018.

Tenor Daniel Bell is a student and scholar under the Charles Brancini award in his third year at the Royal College of Music, London. Aged 21, he is currently studying BMus(Hons) in Vocal Studies – Classical Tenor. He studied singing with Andrew Foan. Daniel aspires to play principal roles in professional Opera productions as well as perform soloist roles in Oratorios and classical works.

Baritone Ben Gautier is also studying on a BMus(Hons) course at the Royal College of Music and, like Daniel, studied with Andrew Foan. He is also a member of the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus.

Wareham Choral Society has been in existence since 1947. Under our new MD Hazel Ricketts, we have every intention of building on past success!

So, why not join us?

We rehearse in the URC, Wareham, Monday evenings at 7.30pm.

We have vacancies in all parts, especially tenors!

Interested? Call 01929 552272 or 01929 459319

or visit **www.warehamchoral.co.uk** for more details!