



Wareham Choral Society

"A Celebration of Christmas"

Sat 9th December 2023 6pm

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH,
BERE REGIS BH20 7HA**



Patron Rt Hon David Mellor KC
Conductor Hazel Ricketts Organist Paul Ellis

**For their financial support for our concerts, thanks to:
The King's Arms, Stoborough
<https://thekingsarms-stoborough.co.uk/>**



Retiring collection (profits to the church)
<https://www.warehamchoral.uk>

Introduction

Wareham Choral Society are delighted to be here in Bere Regis Church today for our "Celebration of Christmas". We are looking forward very much to singing some Christmas music, and hope that you will join in heartily with the carols for all to sing.

Christmas is always a great time for music making and sharing the joy of music with others, but remember - your local choirs are for life, not just for Christmas!

We're only down the road in Wareham and would love you to join us if you enjoy tonight - either as audience for a concert, or as a singing member of the choir!

Wishing you all a peaceful Advent, and joy at Christmas.

Hazel Ricketts has been conductor of Wareham Choral Society since 2018. She is Co- director of music at St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge and much in demand as a freelance organist and teacher in Salisbury area where she is based.

Paul Ellis has been our accompanist since 2019. He is an experienced organ recitalist, giving performances across the UK and in the USA and in Paris, along with regular recitals in Sherborne Abbey.

Our singers tonight are:

Sopranos: Eve Baker, Rachel Cude, Teresa Larby, Jill Marsden, Judith Price, Teresa Rekowska.

Altos: Maureen Bayliss, Nancy Gibson, Margaret Harris, Yvonne Hunter, Janet Jones, Carol Madgwick, Mary Mathers.

Tenors: Matt Dietz, Mike Hampton, Neil Hirst, Bob Newnham, Sarah Welton, Brian Wilkins.

Basses: Gideon Daly, Ian Grocott, Mark Lapper, Matthew Lewis.



The words for each carol can be found on pages 4-10.

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| Rev Sandra Williams | Welcome |
| | The Lord's Prayer |
| All | Carol - O Come all ye Faithful |
| Choir | Colours of Christmas John Rutter |
| Hazel Ricketts | Introduction |
| All | Carol - O Little Town of Bethlehem |
| Sarah Welton | Reading – The Birth of Christ |
| Choir | Nativity Carol John Rutter |
| All | Carol - In the Bleak Mid-winter |
| Gideon Daly & Matt Dietz | Reading - The Light Godfrey Rust of the World |
| Choir | Jingle Bells |
| All | Carol - Joy to the World |
| Carol Madgwick | Reading - Shepherds |
| Choir | Sans Day Carol John Rutter |
| All | While Shepherds Watched |
| Rev Sandra Williams | Reading – John 1 |
| Choir | O Holy Night |
| All | Carol - We Three Kings |
| Rev Sandra Williams | Closing Words |
| All | Carol - Hark the Herald Angels Sing |

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, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

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,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

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,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord.

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 wondering love.

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;
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.

In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter, 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 midwinter 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 midwinter 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.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the air;
But only his Mother in her maiden bliss
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

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.



Joy To The World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King,
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns.
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

There will be a retiring collection, all profits from which will go to
St John the Baptist Church, Bere Regis.

Our next concert is on Saturday March 23rd 2024, at Lady St
Mary Church, Wareham at 7pm, when we shall be performing
Stainer's Crucifixion. Make a note in your diary!

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 heav'nly 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;
Goodwill henceforth
From heav'n to men
Begin and never cease!"

We Three Kings

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!
Heav'n sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replies:
O star of wonder, etc

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 the 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,
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the godhead see,
Hail the Incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.

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".



XMAS MENU
NOW
AVAILABLE



17TH CENTURY THATCHED COUNTRY PUB

Set over the causeway from Wareham in the picturesque village of Stoborough, this thatched 17th-Century pub stands at the gateway to the Isle of Purbeck. An inn has stood on this site for over 400 years. With regularly changing specials, and a fresh new winter menu, there is always something for everyone - this pub is certainly a destination for food lovers. The Kings Arms is a dog-friendly family inn that has established itself as the hub of the local community, supporting many local organisations, sports teams and local young farmers. Enjoy a glass of wine or one of our award-winning ales in front of our warming log fire in the winter!

Check out our website for menus and events

Follow us on facebook



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www.thekingsarms-stoborough.co.uk

Wareham Choral Society



"Wareham's choir since 1947"



Come and sing with us!

*New members are very welcome in our
Wareham community choral society*



There are no auditions, but the ability to follow a musical score, or choir experience, are useful.

We sing well known favourites, as well as new compositions, and have lots of fun!

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings, 7.30 – 9.30pm, in term times.

Stay in tune with Wareham Choral Society:

Website: www.warehamchoral.uk

Email: warehamchoral@gmail.com



@warehamchoral