  

**Chepstow Choral Society**

*Conducted by Graham Bull*

presents

***A Christmas Celebration!***

* *a selection of festive music & readings*

with

**The Dell Primary School Singing Group**

*Conducted by Hannah Adams & Lizzie Peckham*

and

**Organ – Peter Cook**

**Piano – Marjorie Duerden**

Sunday, 14th December, 2014

St Mary’s Priory Church, Chepstow, 3.00pm

CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd – Music Centre Wales  and Making Music – The National Federation of Music Societies

Registered charity no. 1127098

 **Welcome to our Christmas Celebration!**

On behalf of Chepstow Choral Society may I warmly welcome you to our Christmas concert of festive music and readings. Thank you for supporting CCS in keeping this beautiful tradition alive in Chepstow.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome back The Dell School Singing Group conducted by Hannah Adams and Lizzie Peckham. Thank you for joining us in our festive celebrations.

Our thanks, as always, go to all at St Mary’s. Their support and assistance is greatly appreciated. I also wish to thank our front of house team who work tirelessly to ensure a smooth performance.

May I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sue Carter

Chairman, Chepstow Choral Society

**Forthcoming concerts by Chepstow Choral Society**

Saturday, March 21st, 2015, 7.30pm at St Mary’s Priory Church, Chepstow; ***Vivaldi – Gloria; Schubert – Mass in G;******Haydn – Nelson Mass*** *with Chepstow Choral Society Orchestra, leader Paula Kempton, Charlotte Arthur (soprano), Sian Menna (mezzo-soprano), Ben Smith (tenor) and Edward Price (bass).*

Saturday, June 27th, 2014, 7.30pm at St Mary’s Priory Church, Chepstow; ***Choral Classics for Summer.***

***Care for Casualties***

The 1st Rifles, Beachley, thank the patrons and friends of Chepstow Choral Society for their very generous donations to the retiring collection for The Rifles Charity at the Remembrance Concert which raised £950.

[www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk)

**Programme**

**Choral Greeting**  W Walton*What Cheer*

**Congregational: O Come All Ye Faithful**

**Reading 1** *God speaks to Adam and Eve* (Genesis, chapter 3)

**Choir** *Adam Lay y Bounden* B Ord*This Is The Truth* R Vaughan Williams

**Reading 2** *The Angel Gabriel salutes Mary* (Luke, chapter 1)

**Choir**  *I sing of a Maiden* P Hadley *Ave Maria*  A Bruckner

**Congregational: Unto Us is Born a Son**

**Reading 3**  *Christmas Presents* anon.

**Dell Primary School Singing Group**

**Reading 4** *St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus* (Luke, chapter 2)

**Choir** *Ding Dong Ding*  arr GR Woodward *Sussex Carol*  arr. D Willcocks *O Little One Sweet* JS Bach

**Congregational: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear***

**Reading 5** *The shepherds go to the manger* (Luke, chapter 2)

**Choir** *A Child is Born in Bethlehem*SScheidt *Shepherd’s Pipe Carol*  J Rutter

**Congregational: *See, Amid the Winter’s Snow***

**Reading 6** *A Child’s Christmas in Wales* Dylan Thomas

**Choir**  *Resonumus Laudibus* arr. D Willcocks *Sir Christemas* W Mathias

**Congregational: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*** *(vv 1–3)*

**Choir** *We wish you a Merry Christmas* arr. A Warrell

**Organ**  *Toccata (from Suite Gothique)*Boëllmann

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**Congregational Carols**

**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 etc*

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 etc*

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 etc*

**Unto Us is Born a Son**

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 Domono,

benedicamus domino.

**It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

It came upon the midnight clear,

That glorious song of old,

From Angels bending near the earth,

To touch their harps of gold;

‘Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,

From heav’ns all-gracious King!’

The world in solemn stillness lay

To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,

With peaceful wings unfurled;

And still their heav’nly music floats

O’er all the weary world;

Above its sad and lowly plains

They bend on hov’ring wing;

And ever o’er its Babel sounds

The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife

The world has suffered long:

Beneath the angel-strain have rolled

Two thousand years of wrong:

And man, at war with man, hears not

The love-song which they bring

O hush the noise, ye men of strife

And hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hastening on,

By prophet-bards foretold,

When, with the ever-circling years,

Comes round the age of gold:

When peace shall over all the earth

Its ancient splendours fling,

And the whole world send back the song

Which now the angels sing.

**See, Amid the Winter’s Snow**

See amid the winter’s snow,

Born for us on earth below;

See the tender Lamb appears,

Promis’d from eternal years:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

*Hail redemptions happy dawn;*

*Sing through all Jerusalem,*

*Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies

He who built the starry skies;

He who, throned in height sublime,

Sits amid the cherubim:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

Say, ye holy shepherds, say

What your joyful news today;

Wherefore have ye left your sheep

On the lonely mountain steep?

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

‘As we watch’d at dead of night,

Lo, we saw a wondrous light;

Angels singing “Peace on earth”

Told us of the Saviour’s birth:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

Sacred infant, all divine,

What a tender love was thine,

Thus to come from highest bliss

Down to such a world as this:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

Teach, o teach us, Holy Child,

By thy face so meek and mild,

Teach us to resemble Thee,

In Thy sweet humility:

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;*

**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

Offspring of a virgin’s womb;

Veiled in flesh the Godhead 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 Son 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!*

**Dell Primary School Singing Club**

The Dell Primary School Singing Club is for children in years 4 and 5 who just love to sing! By the end of the last school year, there were a record number of children - almost 60 - showing just how much music is thriving at the school! As well as performing in their own school concerts, they regularly perform at many local events throughout the year, which have included the Chepstow town light switch on, the Mayor's Inaugural Concert, and Monmouthshire Music for Youth Festival. They have twice travelled to London to sing in the prestigious "Young Voices" at the O2 arena, which was an amazing experience for these 8 -10 year olds. In November 2012, they were selected to perform as part of the "1000 Voice Choir" in aid of Children in Need, in the Motorpoint Arena, Cardiff, where their regular conductor, Hannah Adams, was replaced for a while by none other than Pudsey Bear!.

In 2012, they joined Chepstow Choral Society for the first time at the Christmas concert, and we are delighted to welcome them back again for their third year.

**CCS welcomes new members!**

Choral singing lifts the spirits and gives a sense of collective pleasure, and everyone in CCS is a member because they love singing – and we welcome new singers in all voice sections.

We do not have a formal audition policy and prospective members should contact Marjorie Duerden (tel. 01291 623310 or through the website link). ***No-one*** is excluded on grounds of lack of previous choral experience, ability to play instruments, etc.

***Patrons, Supporters and Friends***

CCS promotes and encourages music within the community through its concerts. We particularly foster and support young and aspiring musicians but our ticket sales rarely cover our costs of our concerts. Patrons (minimum subscription £30) receive a complimentary ticket for each concert, an invitation to our Patrons’ evenings and their names are printed in each concert programme. This patronage helps us to arrange concerts confident that we can cover at least some of our costs.

If you would like to join us please contact ***Jean Parkes, Patrons and Membership Secretary, 13 Orchard Avenue, Chepstow NP16 5RD*** or contact on 01291 620414.

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**Patrons of Chepstow Choral Society**

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*CCS apologises to Patrons whose names were inadvertently missed from the Remembrance Concert programme*

[www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk)