



Chepstow Choral Society

Conducted by Graham Bull

Presents

A Christmas Celebration!

a selection of festive music & readings

with

Peter Cook – Organ

Richard Kubiak – Piano

Sunday, 11th December, 2016

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. This beautiful tradition is only kept alive in Chepstow by your generous support. Thank you.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome back Peter Cook, our guest organist and also to welcome Richard Kubiak, our new accompanist, playing in his first concert with us.

Our festive programme this afternoon promises to be a magical Christmas Celebration!

Our thanks, as always, go to all at St Mary's church. 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, Chair, Chepstow Choral Society.

Forthcoming concerts by Chepstow Choral Society

Saturday, April 1st, 2017, 7.30pm at St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow; **Mozart – Requiem; Haydn – Maria Theresa Mass.**

Wednesday, June 28th, 2017, 7.00pm at the Arts Hall, Chepstow School and Leisure Centre; **Music for a Summer's Evening.**

www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

Programme

Choral Greeting

Psalite Unigenite

M Praetorius

Congregational:

O Come All Ye Faithful

Reading 1

(Genesis, chapter 3)

God speaks to Adam and Eve

Choir

Adam Lay Y Bounden

B Ord

King Jesus Hath A Garden

W Llewellyn

Congregational:

The First Nowell

Reading 2

(Luke, chapter 1)

The Angel Gabriel salutes Mary

Choir

There is No Rose

J Joubert

Past Three O'Clock

C Wood

Reading 3

Edward Bolton

A Carol In The Pastures

Choir

Noel Nouvelet

I Humphris

Rejoice and Be Merry

R Wells

Congregational:

God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Reading 4

(Luke, chapter 2)

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Choir

Bethlehem Down
O Little Town of Bethlehem
A Babe is Born

P Warlock
W Davies
J Schein

Congregational:

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Reading 5

(Luke, chapter 2)

The shepherds go to the manger

Choir

Star Carol
Deck the Hall
Cowboy Carol

J Rutter
D Willcocks
M Sargeant

Congregational:

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Reading 6

Oliver Pritchett (preface by M. Duerden)

So that's all sorted now...

Choir

Tomorrow Shall be My Dancing Day
Come All You Worthy Gentlemen

J Gardner
W Llewellyn

Congregational:

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Choir

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

A Warrell

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 www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk . **No-one** is excluded on grounds of lack of previous choral experience, ability to play instruments, etc, - just come and enjoy singing!

O Come All Ye Faithful

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, let us adore him etc

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 etc

4. 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

The First Nowell

1. The First Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their
sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

3. This star drew nigh to the north west,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

4. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of
naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

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.

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.....

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

4. But when to Bethlehem they came,
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 of comfort and joy.....

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 others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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!

4. 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

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

1. While shepherds watched their flocks
by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not', said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

3. '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:

4. 'The heavenly babe you there shall
find
To human view displayed.
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands
And in a manger laid.'

5. Thus spake the Seraph; and
forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

6. 'All glory be to God on high.
And to the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to
men
Begin and never cease.'

Hark ! The Herald Angels Sing

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
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!*

3. 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!*

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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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