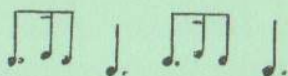


KINGSTON CHORAL SOCIETY

CONDUCTOR: ROBIN PAGE

A Victorian Celebration for Christmas

Saturday 11th December 1999 at 7.30pm



with Carols for Choir and audience



All Saints Parish Church
Kingston upon Thames



Programme £1.00



Kingston Choral Society

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Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

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KCHS FICE

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Kingston Choral Society gratefully acknowledges the
continuing financial assistance of
The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

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261522

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CAROL FOR ALL

Once in Royal David's City *H J Gauntlett*

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 through all his wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

CAROL FOR ALL

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

CHOIR

Ding Dong Ding *arr G R Woodward*

The Shepherds' Farewell *H Berlioz*

The Shepherds' Cradle Song
Karl Leuner arr C Macpherson

ORGAN SOLO

Rhapsodie Sûr Noël *Gigout*

CAROL FOR ALL

Away in a Manger *WJ Kirkpatrick*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

CHOIR

Blessed be that Maid Mary

Traditional arr D Willcocks

Hail! Blessed Virgin Mary

Italian carol arr Charles Wood

CAROL FOR ALL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Traditional arr R Vaughan Williams

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 giv'n!
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.

Cont.....

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.

CHOIR

Silent Night Franz Gruber arr D Willcocks

See Amid the Winter's Snow

John Goss arr D Willcocks

In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke

CAROL FOR ALL

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Thomas Clark

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 heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in 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 on the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease.'

INTERVAL

CHOIR

Ring Out Wild Bells *Percy Fletcher*

CAROL FOR ALL

The Holly and the Ivy *Traditional arr R Jacques*

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

CHORUS

The rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom,
As white as the lily flower;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our sweet Saviour.

CHORUS

The holly bears a berry,
As red as any blood:
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
For to do us sinners good.

CHORUS

The holly bears a prickly,
As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
On Christmas day in the morn.

CHORUS

The holly bears a bark,
As bitter as any gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
For to redeem us all.

CHORUS

The holly and the ivy,
When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood,
The holly bears the crown.

The rising of the sun,
And the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
Sweet singing in the choir

CHOIR

What Shall We Sing at Christmas?

R Graham Harvey

Song of Robin Redbreast *Maria Bowcott*

Now I've Got No Daddy *T W Connor*

CAROL FOR ALL

Good King Wenceslas

Traditional arr Jacques

Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the Feast of Stephen,
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.

Low voices

'Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?'

High voices:

'Sire, he lives a good league hence,
Underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence,
By Saint Agnes' fountain.'

Low voices

'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.

High voices

'Sire, the night is darker now,
And the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how;
I can go no longer.'

Low voices

'Mark my footsteps, good my page;
Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly.'

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.

ORGAN SOLO

Under the Christmas Mistletoe *Richard Leibert*

CHOIR

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Traditional arr J Rutter

The Twelve Days of Christmas

F Silver arr R Page

Christmas is Coming

Rodney Bashford

CAROL FOR ALL

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn

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 heaven 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.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

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*

CHOIR

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Traditional arr Warrell

Robin Page - Conductor

Robin is based in London where he is the Principal Conductor and Musical Director of Thames Sinfonia, the Purcell Orchestra and Kingston Choral Society. He has also worked with the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus and has made many appearances at the Royal Academy of Music, London, as a conductor and lecturer specialising in the contemporary repertoire and Scandinavian music.

Robin specialises in the Nordic repertoire, giving acclaimed performances of Sibelius and Nielsen symphonies, and conducting the inaugural concert of the UK Sibelius Society in London. He has also given first UK performances of many Swedish works, including such composers as Stenhammar, Rosenberg, Lidholm and Bortz. Recently, Robin travelled to Sweden as guest conductor with the Sundsvalls Kammarorkester.

Robin has strong links with the Baltic States. As guest conductor of the Estonian State Symphony Orchestra he gave the first Estonian performance and broadcast of Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. He has also performed and broadcast in Poland and Hungary. For many years Robin was principal conductor of the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra, and he has also conducted the Halle Choir, Guildford Philharmonic Orchestra and the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir, where he is musical director.

Robin has given broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and with the BBC Ulster Orchestra, and has also appeared on BBC Television. Last summer, Robin made a recording with the Budapest Symphony Orchestra.

Robin studied at Magdalen College School, Oxford, Cambridge University and the Royal Academy of Music, London. He is a visiting lecturer at Kingston University.

Mark Uglow - Organist and Pianist

Mark was born in London. He was a chorister at Westminster Abbey and subsequently organ scholar at both Cranleigh School and Exeter College, Oxford. At the latter he was a pupil of the late Nicholas Danby and James Dalton.

He has been assistant organist at some of London's most notable churches, St Clement Danes', Hampstead Parish Church and Marylebone Parish Church and spent a period as one of the assistants at St Paul's Cathedral.

Since 1986, he has been Director of Music at the Parish Church of Kensington, St Mary Abbots' and, since 1994, the Professor of Harmony and Composition at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall.

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Kingston Choral Society

Since its formation in 1948, Kingston Choral Society has earned a reputation for concerts of a high standard and for performing a wide range of music. Under the guidance of Robin Page, Kingston Choral Society is not afraid of taking on ambitious projects and, for example, in 1997 performed Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky in Russian. Interspersed with these less well known works, the choir enjoys singing the more familiar favourites of the choral repertoire as demonstrated by the programme for the current season.

The Society has about one hundred members drawn from a wide area of South West London and North Surrey. New members are always welcome. The choir performs four concerts each year, usually in Kingston Parish Church. Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings at Hollyfield School, Surbiton (term time only). In addition, the Society holds regular social and fund raising events and occasional workshops. If you are interested in joining, we look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to talk to members of the choir in the interval or at the end of the concert. Alternatively, contact the Membership Secretary on 020 8 398 3545 for further information.

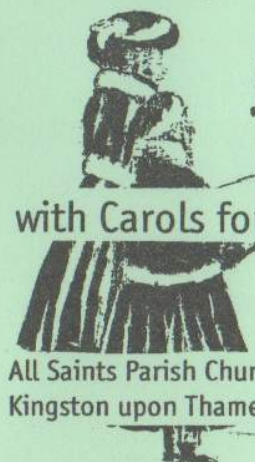
This season sees an exciting and varied programme of music. The Society has already performed Mozart (Requiem) and Handel (Coronation Anthems). To mark the 250th anniversary of Bach's death the next concert, on 8 April, is a performance of his St John Passion. However, the climax of the season will be the concert on 17 June 2000 in the Fairfield Hall, Croydon, with a performance of Verdi's rousing and passionate Requiem. The Society will be joined by the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir with whom we have enjoyed occasional joint performances in the past. Further details about all these



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