



2000

Conductor
ROBIN PAGE

**YEARS
OF
CAROLS**

including
traditional carols
for choir and
audience

Organist
Mark Uglow

Saturday 16th December

**7.30
pm**

St Andrews Church
Maple Road Surbiton

Kingston Choral Society

PATRON: The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal
Borough of Kingston upon Thames

PRESIDENT: Honorary Alderman W James Daly
KCHS FICE

**MUSICAL
DIRECTOR** Robin Page MA(Hons) Cantab LRAM

**REHEARSAL
PIANIST:** Mark Uglow MA Oxon FRCO

CHAIR: Wendy Faulkner

CHOIR SECRETARY: Tricia Nicholls

HONORARY MEMBERS: Mrs A Johnson
Miss O Lofts

PROGRAMME EDITOR: Alun Jones

ADVERTISING: Richard Clift

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

Kingston Choral Society is a registered Charity no: 261522

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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 has, for example, performed Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky in Russian. However, the choir also 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 8398 3545 for further information.

This season sees an exciting and varied programme of music. This year the Society has performed Verdi's Requiem jointly with the West Sussex Philharmonic Society at the Fairfield Hall, Croydon, Brahms' Requiem and the Hymnus Amoris by Carl Nielsen.

Details of our future concerts are available from the box office on 020 8977-8665. If you become a Friend of Kingston Choral Society we will send you advance notification of all our concerts.

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 also 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 won prizes for gaining the top aggregate marks for his year at the examinations for both Associateship and Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists.

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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Carols in their widest sense may be defined as 'religious seasonal songs, of joyful character, in the vernacular and sung by the common people'. Associated with carols are dancing (early carols were danced as well as sung), open air (as many are sung in the open), Christmas (since carols for that season have, of all carols, survived best), simplicity (for true carols are always simple in thought and expression) and finally age (for the best carols have served many generations). All Christian nations have carols, both Western and Eastern, some clearly of pagan origin (like Christmas holly and candles and cake) which were taken over and adapted in the early days of Christianity.

Today we focus on the narrower definition of carols being 'Christmas music having the qualities of simplicity of thought and diction, of sincerity and of rhythmic brightness'. On the brink of this third millennium it is clearly an appropriate time to gather and celebrate Christmas with a selection of carols from the last 2000 years, many very well known and others perhaps not quite so familiar.

The oldest printed Christmas carols are those in the collection Wynkyn de Worde (Caxton's apprentice and successor) published in 1521. One of these, The Boar's Head Carol, forms part of our concert today and is still sung as the traditional dish is carried in on Christmas Day at Queen's College, Oxford. This is but one aristocratic member of a large group of carols that are associated with good cheer as an element in Christmas joy.

We hope you will enjoy our offerings and will join with us in the well known traditional carols.

Programmne

The audience is invited to join with us in singing carols number 1, 8, 13, 14, 17 and 22.

- 1 **Once in Royal David's City** *Traditional carol. Words by G R Woodward. Harmonized by Charles Wood.*
(Choir and Congregation)

Once in Royal David's City
Stood a lonely 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 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 on 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.

- 3 **Cherry Tree Carol**
- 4 **Divinium Patris**
- 5 **Personent Hodie**
- 6 **There is no Rose Anon** (c1420) and edited by
John Stevens
- 7 **Resonamus Laudibus** 14th C carol arranged by
David Wilcox
- 8 **The Holly and the Ivy** English traditional carol
arranged by Reginald Jacques.

The congregation to join in the chorus:

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

- 9 **Matin Responsory** Adapted from a Magnificat
by Palestrina (1525-94)
- 10 **Coventry Carol** to the original tune of 1591
- 11 **Lute-Book Lullaby** by W Ballet (17th C)
arranged by Geoffrey Shaw
- 12 **The Boar's Head Carol** English traditional
carol. A setting by Elizabeth Poston
commissioned by the City of Bath Choir.
- 13 **O Little Town of Bethlehem** Traditional
English tune arranged by R Vaughan Williams
(Choir and Congregation)

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 wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

Interval

14

It came upon the midnight clear Traditional
English tune adapted by Arthur Sullivan.

It came upon the midnight clear,
The 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'n's all gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
 With peace-ful 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 sen back the song
 Which now the angels sing.

15 **Zion hears the Watchmen's Voices** by J S Bach
 (from *Cantata 140*) edited by John Rutter.

16 **The Shepherd's Farewell** from 'L'enfance du
 Christ' Opus 25 by Hector Berlioz (1803-69)

17 **Hark the Herald Angels Sing** By Mendelssohn
 (1809-1847) adapted by W H Cummings.
Choir and Congregation.

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 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 th'incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as man with man to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald etc.....

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Son of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 Ris'n withhealing in his wings;
 Mild he lays his glory by,
 Born that man no more maydie,
 Born to raise the son of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald etc.....

18 **The Blessed Son of God** Traditional English
 tune arranged by David Willcocks. Words by G
 R Woodward.

19 **A New Year Carol** by Benjamin Britten (1913-
 76) Words anon.

20 **Torches** by John Joubert (1927-). Translated
 from the Galician by J B Trend.

21 **What Cheer** by William Walton (1902-83).
 Words from Richard Hill's *Commonplace Book*
 (16thC)

O Come all ye Faithful *Unknown 18th C*
composer arranged by David Willcocks.
Choir and congregation

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 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 etc.

Lo! Star led chieftains,
 Magi, Christ adoring,
 Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
 We to the Christ child
 Bring our hearts' oblations:
O come etc.

Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
 Glory to God
 In the highest: *O come etc.*

A Merry Christmas *A traditional West country*
carol arranged by Arthur Warrell

We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas
and please have a safe journey home



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