



Wareham Choral Society Christmas Concert

**Saturday 9th December 2017 7pm
Lady St Mary Church, Wareham**



**Conductor
Nigel Groome
Organist
John Radford**

**With soprano
Grace Lovelass**

**Join us to celebrate Christmas
with a programme of
seasonal music and readings,
including traditional audience carols**

**"Wareham's choir since 1947"
www.freewebs.com/warehamcs**

PROGRAMME

Audience

1 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.

3 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.

5 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.

Choir

Choir

Solo

Trumpet Solo

Choir

Festive Reading

Choir

Solo

Choir

Audience

1 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.

Once in Royal David's City

2 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.

4 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.

6 Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heav'n,
Set at God's right hand on high
When, like stars, His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

People, Look East

A Stable Lamp is Lighted

The Little Drummer Boy

played by Reuben Bennett

Joy to the World

Away in a Manger

Twelfth Night

As Up the Wood I Took My Way

O Little Town of Bethlehem

2 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.

3 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

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

INTERVAL

Choir

Sans Day Carol

Choir

Nativity Carol

Festive Reading

Audience

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

1 While shepherds watched their
flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
An 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 spoke 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;
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to
men
Begin and never cease".

Solo

O Holy Night

Choir

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Solo

sung by Arthur Brooke

Choir

Dormi Jesu

Solo

Santa Baby

Audience

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, (3x)
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, (3x)
Christ the Lord.

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.

Choir

The Twelve Days after Christmas

CLOSING REMARKS

Music Director Nigel Groome trained at the London College of Music, and carried out postgraduate study at the Royal College of Music.

From 1980 to 2016 he was Organist and Director of Music of Beckenham Parish Church. Last year Nigel took up a new post at St. Matthew's, Westminster, and as a result has decided to relinquish his duties with WCS. So this is his last concert!

Organist John Radford was born in Wakefield, where he was a chorister at the cathedral. He received a bursary to study music at Ackworth School, and then studied music at Leeds University.

He is currently the organist for a group of village churches in East Dorset, and is the accompanist for The Broadstone Choir and The Allen Singers.

Originally from Bedfordshire, **Grace Lovelass (mezzo soprano)** attended the Crescent Academy for Performing Arts and went on to read Classics at King's College London, taking lead roles in the annual King's College Greek Play performed in ancient Greek. She made her classical/operatic debut at the Bournemouth Music Competitions Festival in 2015, and in 2016 she won first place in five classes.

Alongside a busy schedule of concert performances, she appeared with the Dorset Opera chorus in both the 2016 and 2017 seasons, covering the role of Siébel in Gounod's Faust this summer. She recently completed a diploma in opera at the Associated Studios in London.

Reuben Bennett (trumpet) is 14 and goes to Poole Grammar School. He is a member of the school's Big Band and Concert Band and recently enjoyed playing the trumpet in the school's production of the musical 'Our House'. Reuben is a member of Swanage Town Band and sings in St Mary's Swanage Church Choir. He is working towards grade 8 on the trumpet and piano.

Arthur Brooke (treble) is 12 and is also at Poole Grammar. He now sings with Poole Grammar School Voices. He plays the piano and the bass guitar but rarely does as much practice as his mother would like!

Wareham Choral Society has been in existence since 1947. We end this significant anniversary year with every intention of building on past success!

So, why not join us?

We rehearse in the United Reformed Church in Wareham on Monday evenings at 7.15pm. We have vacancies in all parts, especially tenors!

Find out more by calling 01929 552272 or 01929 459319 or visit our website.