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FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

THE WAVERLEY SINGERS
Conductor - Malcolm Hicks

ALDER VALLEY BRASS
Conductor - Michael Pegram

Organ - Paul Griffiths

SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER 1999 at 7.30pm
at St Andrew's Garrison Church of Scotland,
Queen's Avenue, Aldershot

Programme £8 (Children £5)



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Paul Griffiths began playing the organ at the age of ten and won first prize in the London Musical Competition Festival at the age of 13. Whilst studying with Malcolm Hicks, he gained the ARCO, ARCM and LRAM within a six-month period and the FRCO two years later. In 1981, he was placed second in the Trianon Organ Competition.

Having been Organist and Choirmaster at St. Mary's, Welwyn, from 1980, he moved to Hong Kong in 1986, where he became Assistant Organist at St. John's Cathedral and Head of Organ at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He also featured in broadcasts with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and has given recitals in several countries, including the English Cathedrals of Ely, Peterborough, St. Paul's and most recently at Westminster Abbey.

Michael Pegram started playing with local bands at the age of 15, and joined the Welsh Guards Band as a trombonist in 1971. He remained with the Guards until 1977, touring extensively. In September 1977 he went to the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, and spent three years there before qualifying as an army bandmaster. He emerged with top honours, including the coveted Worshipful Company of Musicians' medal for the best student. At this time he also gained the ARCM diploma for bandmastership, and FVCM for composition. During his army career he always conducted brass bands whenever possible, and this included his first championship band, Rogerstone from South Wales with whom he fulfilled contest, concert and broadcasting dates.

Since leaving the army in 1989 he has become more involved with brass bands, and is currently Musical Director of Alder Valley Brass. At the present time Michael is Musical Director of the RAF Halton Area Band, a position he has held since 1990. He has many arrangements to his credit, as well as several light compositions. Michael is married and lives in Oxfordshire.

Malcolm Hicks graduated in Music at the University of Birmingham where he was also Assistant Master at the Cathedral, and organist and Assistant Conductor with major choirs and orchestras. After further studies in piano, cello, singing and conducting at the Guildhall School of Music, he has since pursued a full-time career as a keyboard player and conductor. He plays with all the major London orchestras in South Bank concerts, Proms, many broadcasts for radio and TV, films, recordings and on tour abroad, many times in Europe, and as far afield as Japan, Korea and Mexico. He was Associate Conductor of the London Philharmonic Choir for 13 years and now works as chorus master with the Royal Choral Society and BBC choirs. He has worked on the staff of the European Community Youth Orchestra and has taught, lectured and examined extensively. He was appointed Musical Director of the Waverley Singers in May 1982.

ALDER VALLEY BRASS

Soprano Cornet

Paul Bilkey

B♭ Cornets

David Beck
Neil Coventry
Rachael Hughes
Ed Bentall
David Ruel
Michael Ball
Brian Light
Sally Edney
Peter Edney

Flugel Horn

Adrian Abbott

Tenor Horns

Brian Ball
Sara Franklin
Denise Hunt

Baritones

Philip German
Roger Ball (Deputy Conductor)

Conductor: Michael Pegram

Euphoniums

Andrew Fenton
Roy Hancock

Trombones

Chris Newton
Chris Greene
Elizabeth Pegram
Philip Colley

Tubas

Linda Beck
John Gillespie
Michael Bolton
Steve Cuffing

Percussion

Haley Hunt
Tom Vincent

Alder Valley Brass Band

The band, originally called the Aldershot Brass Ensemble, was founded in 1961 by George Prior, a fine musician and trombonist from the Rhondda Valley, with, as first members, his own sons and daughters. Eighteen months later the band had grown to some 22 musicians and that year they were awarded their first First Prize at an ensemble contest in the Southern Counties Championships.

The band's entry into National Championship contests was marked by frequent appearances in the prize lists. In March of 1978, the band qualified for the finals at the Royal Albert Hall and again in 1991. The untimely passing of George Prior came as a bitter blow to the band and the band movement.

Alder Valley gives many fine concerts and is regularly in demand. Television appearances have been a feature of the band's activities and it has performed on *The Two Ronnies Show* and an entire series with Harry Worth, *O Happy Band*. A single was released from the series and composer Ronald Binge recorded an album of his own music with the band. In 1985 a visit by the Wernau Band from Germany proved a great success and began a series of exchanges between Aldershot and Wernau to the immense enjoyment of all.

The band has performed at Westminster Abbey, the Hampton Court International Music Festival and of course, the typically "English" settings of the Thames, and in parks, much loved by both players and audiences. The band recently gave a performance of a special arrangement of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* in association with the West Sussex Philharmonic Choir directed by Robin Page of the Royal Academy of Music. Alder Valley Brass has played concerts in Belgium, Holland and in Germany where there is a long established tradition of visits to music festivals. In June 1998 the band played at the British Embassy in Brussels in the "Showcase Britain" Festival.

This summer Alder Valley Brass was engaged to perform in *Brassed Off*, a professional stage production. The band performed for a week at Woking Ambassadors Theatre and a week at Richmond Theatre where members had to act as well as play. Everyone enjoyed the experience although eight performances a week and a day job proved pretty tiring.

Further plans include the Area Finals at Stevenage in March, from which the top two bands go forward to the National Championship at the Albert Hall, and a tour to Norway in June 2000.

Alder Valley Brass is based at Badshot Lea near Farnham and welcome new players. The Band Manager is Philip German Tel 01252 725683.

PROGRAMME

O come, all ye faithful 18th c. anon. arr. Willcocks

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day English trad.
arr. Willcocks

The Shepherds' Cradle Song Leuner arr. Macpherson

A Christmass Triptych Eric Hughes

I. Wolcum Yole

II. Chanticleere

III. Somerset Wassail

While shepherds watched their flocks English trad.

Organ Solo

Coventry Carol English trad.

Alder Valley Brass :

Theme from *The Snowman* Blake arr. Sparke

Pastime with good company Henry VIII arr. Roberts

Gaudete 14th c. anon. arr. Roberts

The Sans Day Carol English trad. arr. Rutter

Deck the hall Welsh trad. arr. Willcocks

The first Nowell English trad. arr. Willcocks

INTERVAL

Once in royal David's city arr. Willcocks

Quem Pastores Jennette Wickes
Personent hodie

Alder Valley Brass :

James Bond Collection arr. Richards

Christmas song Tormé & Wells arr. Sparke

Shepherds' Pipe Carol Rutter arr. Graham

Piano duet :

Slavonic Dance in A♭ Major Antonin Dvorak

Le Jardin de Dolly Gabriel Fauré

Alyson Paterson and Jennette Wickes

In the bleak midwinter Harold Darke

Silent night English trad.

Puer nobis nascitur Alyson Paterson

Finale Leroy Anderson

Hark! the herald angels sing Mendelssohn arr. Willcocks

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Waverley Singers would like to thank their advertisers and patrons for their continuing support.

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Anyone interested in becoming a Patron of the choir is invited to contact Mrs. Catherine Fearon, Binsted Place, Binsted, Alton, GU34 4PQ (Tel:01420 23146). Patrons receive advance notice of concerts and priority booking forms, and are entitled to reserved seats in the position of their choice. Their names are listed in concert programmes and gentlemen are entitled to wear the very attractive Waverley Singers' tie. They are also invited to the choir's social events. Present contributions from Patrons range from £25 to £100, and because of the tax benefits the choir particularly appreciates contributions by Deed of Covenant.

If you would like to join the choir as a singing member would you please contact the Secretary, Miss Judith Miller, 7 Frensham Avenue, Fleet. (Tel 01252 613765).

The Waverley Singers would like to thank the Reverend E C Nicholson CF and the Kirk Session for making them so welcome in their lovely church.

The Waverley Singers are affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies.

THE WAVERLEY SINGERS

Sopranos

Sue Adcock
Janet Carne
Elaine Cook
Beth Davenport
Susan Denton
Jane Eckles
Jennie English
Alison Griffiths
Alison Harding
Linda Harris
Rosemary Heasman
Carolyn Heathcote
Christine Hewson
Jennifer Holmes-Smith
Margaret Houston
Linda Hutton
Jane Kenney
Beverley Mellstrom
Judith Miller
Angela Morecroft
Ann Pardoe
Alyson Paterson
Carolyn Patey
Janet Paul
Gillian Pickering
Sarah Shepherd
Christine Siddall
Janis Smy
Joan Warren
Kate Wickenden
Chris Wilson
Liz Witham

Altos

Rosemary Andrew
Alison Bosence

Angela Carmichael
Ruth Cooper
Pamela Darker
Sheila Edwards
Merril Evans
Avery Fathers
Catherine Fearon
Ann Garnett
Didi Hall
Anneliese Handley
Eunice Hopkins
Cherry Howard
Margaret MacKenzie
Anne Mason
Marian Morgan
Miranda Ommanney
Mary Parker
Jo Reader
Anne Rendell
Tegwen Robb
Susannah Russell
Jenny Thompson
Ann Tice
Claire Tomlins
Susan Vega
Jennette Wickes
Christine Wilmshurst
Lindy Wiltshire
Pamela Woodroffe

Tenors

Tony Amery
Catherine Butler-Ricketts
Michael Clark
Philip Critchley
Harry Cuckson
David Danson

Robert Gussman
Peter Haines
Jo Huddleston
John Jackson
Simon Paterson
Sam Williamson

Basses

David Austin
Geoffrey Barwick
Mike Cabot
Nick Carter
Malcolm Cooper
Sam Coulter
Jim Duncan
Rod Eckles
Damien English
Iain Gammell
Max Hadfield
Graham Hey
Patrick Higgins
John Hubbard
Alec Leggatt
Norman Lingard
David Morrison
Tony Parker
Peter Phillips
Trefor Roberts
Simon Rycroft
Peter Slimming
John Smyth
Neil Thompson
Andrew Thomson
David Wilson

Deputy Chorus Master: Margaret Houston
Accompanist : Richard Pearce

FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Saturday 1st April 2000

at St. Andrew's Garrison Church of Scotland, Aldershot

J.S. BACH - MASS IN B MINOR

with Tilford Bach Orchestra

Diana Vivian - Soprano

Lynette Alcantara - Mezzo Soprano

Neil MacKenzie - Tenor

Stephen Charlesworth - Bass

Sunday 11th June 2000

at St. Lawrence's Church, Alton

A varied programme of music for choir and organ
with Paul Griffiths (organ)

Sunday 1st October 2000

at the Royal Albert Hall

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS -

Toward the Unknown Region

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as part of the New Century Chorus

Conductor - John Cotterill

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