

Patrons are the lifeblood of the arts. And our patrons are vital to us in providing the financial support we need for the repertoire we aspire to perform and to help us raise funds for the many charities we support.

Waverley Singers' concerts do not simply require enormous input by the choir, and by our conductor Richard Pearce, but we also need to cover the costs of engaging top-quality musicians to perform with us, hiring music and paying for the venues in which we perform.



These expenses are large and ever-increasing, and each member of the choir pays a substantial annual subscription to help defray them, but we cannot cover all our expenses without help from our supporters. Our principal financial underpinning comes from our loyal audiences who attend our concerts, buy programmes and even advertise in them. We are still, however, only occasionally able to undertake the magnificent grand works that everyone loves to come to hear. Such works can only be performed if we have a large base of patrons who generously donate each year.

And what are the benefits of being a patron? First, advance notice of concerts and priority booking forms which enable you to reserve seats for up to four people in the position of your choice. Second, if you donate more than £49 we are able, under current tax legislation, to give you vouchers which may be redeemed for tickets to most of our concerts.

You may also like to know that we help other charities through money raised at our concerts. Last year we helped to raise over £2,700 for the Frimley Park Hospital Charity Breast Care Appeal, NSPCC, Hedgehogs and the Guildford Cathedral Appeal.



We are now embarking on our 2015/2016 season performing among other works J.S. Bach's *St. John Passion* and, later in the year Bach's *Lobet den Herrn* and Vivaldi's *Gloria* (see the dates opposite our Acknowledgements inside)

We will be raising funds for: The Anna Chaplain Charity; WaterAid; Motor Neurone Disease Assoc., South West Surrey Branch; Naomi House Hospice

Will you support us, and help us to achieve our ambitions, by becoming a patron?

Please contact The Patrons' Secretary

Mrs Anne Mason, 29 Goodwood Close,
Alton, GU34 2TX. Tel: 01420 89328

Waverley  Singers

Christmas Concert

*with Christmas readings
and carols for the audience*

Britten Ceremony of Carols

Ledger On Christmas Night

Darke In the Bleak Midwinter

Poston Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

John Gardner A Gallery Carol

& The Holly and the Ivy

Saturday 12 December 2015 7.30 pm

St Andrew's Church, Farnham GU9 7PR

Suzy Willison-Kawalec (*Harp*) • Philip Scriven (*Organ*)

Conductor Richard Pearce

PROGRAMME

Carol On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol) arr. Philip Ledger

Audience Carol O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Carol In the Bleak Midwinter Harold Darke

Reading by Dennis Flower of Charles Dickens' *Scrooge's Redemption*

Audience Carol The First Nowell

Ceremony of Carols Benjamin Britten

Procession – Wolcum Yole! – There is no Rose – That yongë child –

Balulalow – As dew in Aprille – This little Babe – Interlude –

In freezing winter night – Spring Carol – Deo Gracias – Recession

Audience Carol Good King Wenceslas

INTERVAL

Carol A Gallery Carol (from Four Carols) John Gardner

Carol The Holly and the Ivy (*with audience participation*) John Gardner

Reading by Philippa Penfold of Joyce Grenfell's *The Nativity Play*

Carol Hodie Christus Natus Est Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Carol Jesus Christ the Apple Tree Elizabeth Poston

Audience Carol As with Gladness Men of Old

Organ solo Vom Himmel hoch Garth Edmundson

Reading by Joan Warren of Clive Sansom's *The Innkeeper's Wife*

Audience Carol Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

FARNHAM ANTIQUE CARPETS

We wish the Waverley Singers all the very best for their upcoming concerts.



Visit our website to view an extensive range of antique & contemporary carpets & rugs. Alternatively visit our barn showroom located in The Old Parsonage in Crondall - Open Monday to Saturday 9.30 to 5.30pm.

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On Christmas Night

(Sussex Carol) arranged by Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

The words of this carol date back the 17th century or earlier. Vaughan Williams wrote down both the words and the tune which he heard sung near Horsham in Sussex, and published the carol in 1919. Philip Ledger, a classical musician and academic, was Director of Music at King's College Cambridge from 1974 to 1982.



On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin he set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

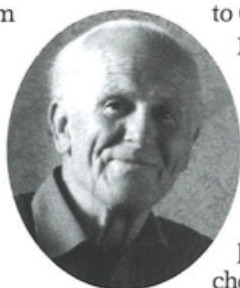
When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
'Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore. Amen.'

AUDIENCE CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The words of this carol derive from the Church's medieval antiphons for the season of Advent, all beginning with 'O', and the tune with its foundation in plainchant aptly reflects its origins. It was arranged by Sir David Willcocks who died earlier this year. He was an organist and probably the most influential choirmaster of his generation. He was a boy chorister at Westminster Abbey, and later went up to



King's College Cambridge as organist. He was appointed organist of Salisbury and then Worcester cathedrals before returning to Cambridge as Director of Music at King's in 1957 for 17 years. His last post was Director of the Royal College of Music. He was director of the Bach Choir for 38 years. He was particularly noted for the precision and clarity of the performances he drew from his choirs. He was responsible for editing the universally esteemed volumes of Carols for Choirs, and is famous for the many descants he composed.

In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Harold Darke was an English composer and organist who spent most of his life working in London, particularly as organist at St Michael's Cornhill. The words were written by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) in response to a request for a Christmas poem.



In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter
Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,
Nor earth sustain.
Heaven and earth shall flee away,
When He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter,
A stable place sufficed,
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim
Worship night and day.
A breast full of milk,
And a manger full of hay.
Enough for Him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel,
Which adore.

What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part.
Yet what I can, I give Him,
Give my heart.

AUDIENCE CAROL The First Nowell arranged by David Willcocks

A Ceremony of Carols
Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

After three years in America, Britten and his partner Peter Pears decided to return to England in 1942, crossing the Atlantic despite the danger from enemy U-boats. En route, they stopped at Halifax in Nova Scotia, where Britten came across a recently published anthology, *The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems*, edited by Gerald Bullett. This provided him with a series of medieval and Tudor poems to form the text for *A Ceremony of Carols*. It celebrates the Christmas story and Britten spent



much of his dangerous voyage setting the poems to music for treble voices over a harp accompaniment. Conditions on board were cramped and unnerving, yet he was able to create a work of great freshness, with the movements varying between serenity and feverish excitement. It displays Britten's mastery of choral writing and has also become part of the standard repertoire for the harp. *A Ceremony of Carols* quickly won great popularity, and at its publisher's suggestion the composer Julius Harrison arranged the whole work for 4-part mixed choir; this is the version we hear this evening.

Procession

Hodie Christus natus est:
Hodie Salvator apparuit:
Hodie in terra canunt angeli:
Laetantur archangeli:
Hodie exsultant iusti dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!

*Today Christ is born:
Today the saviour has appeared:
Today on earth the angels sing:
the archangels rejoice:
today the righteous exult saying:
Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!*

AUDIENCE CAROL

Good King Wenceslas arranged by Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

INTERVAL

A Gallery Carol

John Gardner (1917-2011)

John Gardner was a prolific composer and music teacher, working at the Royal Academy of Music for 30 years, and also at St Paul's Girls' School from 1962 to 1975. He died in Liss.

The words of this carol were found in the early 20th century in the west gallery of a Dorset church where traditionally the choir and the band of musicians would gather to perform for services.



Rejoice and be merry in songs and in mirth!
O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth!
For this is the birthday of Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

A heavenly vision appeared in the sky,
Vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
Proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

Likewise a bright star in the sky did appear
Which led the wise men from the East to draw near.

They found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

And when they were come, they their treasures
unfold,
And unto him offered myrrh, incense and gold.
So blessed for ever be Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing!

The Holly and the Ivy John Gardner

The words of The Holly and the Ivy can be traced back to the early eighteenth century, and some have thought they may even link back to ancient Druid practices. Holly and ivy have long been used for Christmas domestic decoration, and the carol uses their characteristics to teach the Christian faith. John Gardner composed this version of the carol for St Paul's Girls' School.

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.*

The holly bears a blossom, as white as
the lily flower;

And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to be
our sweet Saviour:

*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 berry, as red as any
blood;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do
poor sinners good:
*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 prickly, as sharp as any
thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on
Christmas Day in the morn:
*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 bark, as bitter as any
gall;
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to
redeem us all:
*The rising of the sun, and the running of
the deer,*
*The playing of the merry organ, sweet
singing in the choir.*

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.*

Hodie Christus Natus Est

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c.1525-1594)

Born in the town near Rome that gave him his name, Palestrina was the leading composer of sacred music of his time. He worked mostly at various churches, in Rome, composing 105 masses, over 300 motets and also many madrigals. In this Christmas motet, the text is interspersed with calls of the Christmas greeting "Noe(l)".



Hodie Christus natus est;
Noe, noe!
Hodie Salvator apparuit;
Noe, noe!
Hodie in terra canunt angeli,
Laetantur archangeli;
Noe, noe!
Hodie exultant justi dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Noe, noe!

*Today Christ is born
Noel, noel!
Today the Saviour has appeared;
Noel, noel!
Today on earth the angels sing,
the archangels rejoice;
Noel, noel!
Today the righteous exult saying:
Glory to God in the highest.
Noel, noel!*

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

The words of this English carol with its appealing homely associations date back to the 18th century, and soon became particularly popular in America. Elizabeth Poston was a composer and writer who did much to collect, arrange and edit folk songs and hymns. She was President of the Society of Women Musicians (1955-1961) and a leading light in the foundation of the BBC Radio Third Programme.



The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:

I missed of all; but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

AUDIENCE CAROL

As with Gladness Men of Old
arranged David Willcocks

ORGAN SOLO Vom Himmel hoch

Garth Edmundson (1892-1971)

Garth Edmundson was an American organist and composer. His sparkling Toccata-Prelude is based on the 16th Century Christmas Chorale (the German text means From heaven above to earth I come, to bear good news to every home) probably written by Martin Luther, and the melody is first clearly heard played on the pedals.



AUDIENCE CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Suzy Willison-Kawalec – Harp

Suzy was born in 1976 and has been enjoying a varied and exciting career since graduating from the RAM in 1999 with first class honours. She has since been made an Associate of the RAM. In April 2005 Suzy was appointed principal harpist with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. As guest principal harpist she plays with the Philharmonia, London Philharmonic, BBC Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Northern Sinfonia and London Chamber Orchestras. With the RPO and these ensembles she has performed in all of the major concert halls around the world.



Suzy's recording of Alwyn's Harp Concerto, *Lyra Angelica* for Naxos prompted rave reviews, Gramophone describes the performance as 'immaculate'. She has also recorded with Nigel Kennedy on his most recent album. Concerto appearances, solo and chamber music recitals have taken her to France, Germany, Italy and the Middle East. Recent solo performances include the Mozart *Flute and Harp Concerto* and Debussy *Dances* at St John's Smith Square with RPO and LCO.

From 1997 to 2000 she was principal harpist with the European Union Youth Orchestra and was a finalist in The Royal Over-Seas League Music Competition, winning the Outstanding Chamber Music Harpist Award.

Philip Scriven – Organ

Philip Scriven is widely regarded as one of the finest organists of his generation, and is highly respected as a choral, orchestral and operatic conductor. He is currently Organist-in-Residence at Cranleigh School, co-founder and Principal Conductor of the Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra, and Assistant Conductor and Accompanist of the world-renowned Bach Choir, combining these posts with a freelance recital career which takes him all over the world. Born in Somerset in 1970, Philip received his early musical training as a chorister – along with Richard Pearce – at Westminster Abbey, and went on as a Music Scholar to Charterhouse. He then studied at the Royal Academy of Music, Cambridge University, the Vienna Musikhochschule and the Juilliard School in New York. His teachers have included



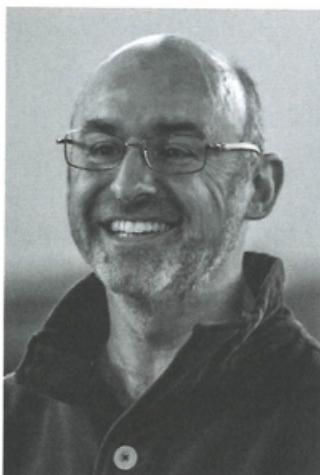
Dame Gillian Weir, Peter Hurford, Nicholas Kynaston and Michael Radulescu.

He has twice performed the complete organ works of J.S. Bach, and transcribed works by Brahms, Warlock and Bernstein for the instrument. He has made numerous recordings including jazz-inspired music for organ, and his own transcription of Holst's *The Planets*. His CD *Piping Hot* was praised in Gramophone magazine for 'the outstanding quality of his playing ... good-humoured and sparkling ... a joy to listen to'. From 2002 to 2010 Philip was Organist and Master of the Choristers at Lichfield Cathedral and Musical Director of the Lichfield Cathedral Chorus, having held previous positions at Westminster Abbey, St. George's Chapel Windsor Castle, St. John's College Cambridge and Winchester Cathedral.

Richard Pearce (Conductor)

Richard Pearce was organ scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge, where as conductor and organist he toured and recorded extensively with the chapel choir. After graduating with first class honours in music, he studied piano accompaniment for two years at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London.

Richard is fortunate to work in a variety of musical fields, but working with chamber choirs and choruses has become a speciality. He records and broadcasts regularly with the BBC Singers on both piano and organ, and conducted them in broadcasts from the Vézelay festival in France; he enjoys the challenge of preparing an extremely wide variety of repertoire including much contemporary and new music. Richard has a long-standing association with the Royal Choral Society, and performs with them several times a year at the Royal Albert Hall in London. In addition he makes twice-yearly trips to Sweden to work with groups in the Stockholm and Malmö areas.



Richard is regular organist with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London; recent performances have included Mahler's 8th Symphony with Esa-Pekka Salonen to great acclaim in London's Royal Festival Hall. He

also performs regularly with the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Promenade concerts and recordings, including the *Last Night of the Proms* to a worldwide television audience. This summer he appeared in the Proms with both the Philharmonia and BBC Symphony Orchestras, and toured China with the Philharmonia, performing Saint-Saëns organ symphony with Vladimir

Ashkenazy. He frequently conducts and plays for services at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster and at the Houses of Parliament.

Richard is a sought-after accompanist for chamber choirs in London and elsewhere, and has recorded several CDs over the last year for Oxford University Press, championing new compositions and composers, and also released a CD for Naxos with Oxford-based choir 'Commotio'.

Richard is a vocal coach and staff accompanist at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London.

The Waverley Singers

Conductor: Richard Pearce • Accompanist: Jakob Rothoff

Sopranos

Ann Alderman
Nicola Anderegg
Claire Bacon
Jan Benson
Janet Carne
Johanna Clift
Elaine Cook
Kim Davies
Diane Drewett
Jane Eckles
Anneliese Handley
Linda Harris
Rosemary Heasman
Carolyn Heathcote
Kate Hillerby
Jane Kenney
Pat Martin
Catherine May
Alyson Paterson
Carolyn Patey
Louise Pearce
Philippa Penfold
Gillian Pickering
Margaret Reeder
Sarah Shepherd

Barbara Tansey
Hilary Vaill
Joan Warren
Joanne Watson
Maggie Weaver
Kate Wilson
Liz Witham

Altos

Rona Ayling
Juliana Baxter
Mayonne Coldicott
Sue Crosfield
Pamela Darker
Fiona Dick
Sylvia Ellison
Catherine Hadfield
Didi Hall
Eunice Hopkins
Margaret Mackenzie
Linda Mansell
Anne Mason
Marian Morgan-Cotter
Sonja Nagle
Mary Parker

Allison Price
Josephine Reader
Tegwen Robb
Mary Shepherd-Smith
Rachel Sturt
Jennette Wickes
Christine Wilmshurst
Lindy Wiltshire

Tenors

Colin Alderman
Jeff Ayling
Dennis Bignell
Tim Devis
Tim Farmer
Robert Gussman
Peter Haines
Jo Huddleston
Christopher Lawrence
David Martin
Deirdre Major
Simon Paterson
Robert Updegraff
Sam Williamson

Basses

Mike Aaronson
Geoffrey Barwick
Les Billig
John Broom
Mike Cabot
Sam Coulter
Rod Eckles
Andrew Ellison
Dennis Flower
Iain Gammell
Bill Griffin
Max Hadfield
Graham Hey
John Holden
John Hubbard
Jeremy Keep
Tony Parker
Mark Penfold
Simon Rycroft
Martin Simpson
John Smyth
Simon Stoodley
Tim Sturt
Alan Thompson

The Waverley Singers invite new singers to their Open Rehearsal – J S Bach St John Passion all welcome

Thursday, 14th January, 2016 at 7.30pm
South Farnham School, Menin Way, Farnham GU9 8DY

You will receive a warm welcome and experience an enjoyable and stimulating evening with the chance to socialise with the choir after the interval when light refreshments will be available. Copies of the music will be provided.

For further information, please contact: secretary@waverleysingers.com

Acknowledgements

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

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Anyone who is interested in becoming a patron of the choir is invited to contact Mrs Anne Mason, 29 Goodwood Close, Alton, GU34 2TX. Tel: 01420 89328. All 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 they are also invited to the choir's social events. Donations made under Gift Aid are particularly valuable to the choir.

If you would like to join the choir as a singing member, please contact Mrs Sarah Shepherd, on 01252 715838 or email secretary@waverleysingers.com.

The Waverley Singers would like to thank the churchwardens and the PCC of St

Andrew's Farnham for making them so welcome in their lovely church.

The Waverley Singers is a registered charity no.284123, and is affiliated to the National Federation of Music Societies.

**making
music**

Please visit our website for further information at:
www.waverleysingers.com

Programmes printed by Charterlith, 30 Reading Road South, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 7QL, 01252 614406.

Programme written and edited by Robert Gussman

Designed by Robert Updegraff

Waverley Singers

Programme for 2015-2016

Saturday 19 Mar, 7.30pm
St Andrew's Garrison Church,
Aldershot

J.S. BACH
ST. JOHN
PASSION

Saturday 18 June, 7.30pm
St. Thomas on the Bourne, Farnham

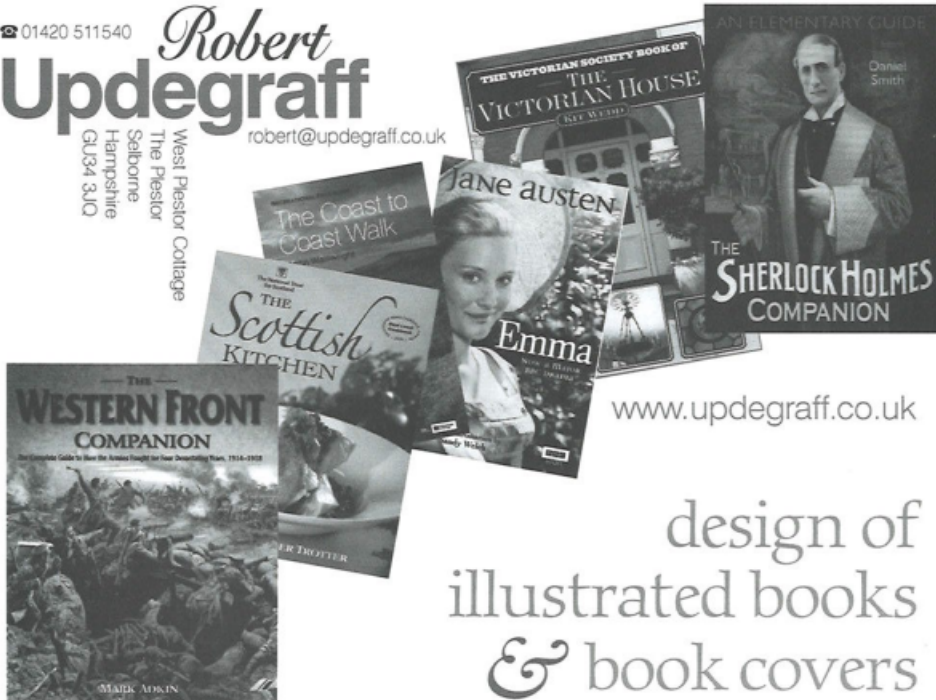
Vivaldi – Gloria
Walton – The Twelve
Bach – Lobet den Herrn
Harvey – Come Holy Ghost
Kedrov – Otche Nash

Information and tickets from:
Jo Reader 01252 792563 or www.waverleysingers.com

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