



The Rotary Club of Guildford  
and the Vivace Chorus present

Surrey Advertiser

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GUILDFORD BOROUGH

Making  
Music

# THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

in aid of the MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS DISTRESS FUND and  
the MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY at the Samson Centre

Conductor:  
Jeremy Backhouse

Vivace  
Chorus

Sunday  
13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009

7 pm Holy Trinity Church  
Guildford

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD

I am honoured to be here tonight as Mayor of Guildford and I hope you are looking forward to tonight's Concert as much as I am.

As we enjoy tonight's programme, and the lead up to Christmas, we should also remember that there are many people in our local community, who face difficult challenges on a daily basis.

We are therefore very fortunate in Guildford that there are a number of charities working hard to meet the needs of these individuals and families, who might otherwise find it hard to enjoy such special time of the year.



By attending tonight's concert, you are supporting two such charities - the Mayor's Distress Fund, which provides small sums of money to ease the strain of providing essential items during times of genuine financial difficulty; and Guildford's Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre, which is the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford's chosen charity for 2009/10.

I would like to sincerely thank all of you for attending tonight and my special thanks go to the Rotary Club of Guildford and The Vivace Chorus for once again presenting 'The Mayor of Guildford's Christmas Concert' in aid of our local charities.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

*Pauline Searle*

Councillor Pauline Searle  
Mayor of Guildford

THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
featuring THE VIVACE CHORUS  
Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse  
Organist : Graham Thorpe

This Evening's Programme

**Choir** This is the truth sent from above (arr. Vaughan Williams)

**Welcome by the Rev. Robert Cotton**

**Audience Carol** (arr. Vaughan Williams / Willcocks)

**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,  
All praises sing to God the King,  
All 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.

**Choir only** 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.

O holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend on 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 with us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

### Choir/Piano

**Angels and Shepherds** (Christopher Norton)

**Rise up, shepherds, and follow** (Spiritual, arr. John Rutter)

**Audience Carol** (Este's Psalter : arr. David Willcocks)

#### **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 a sign.

The heav'nly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
And in a manger laid.

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:  
*O Come, let us adore him....*

**Choir**

**There is a Flower** (John Rutter)

**Jingle Bells** (J. Pierpoint, arr. David Willcocks)

**INTERVAL**

Wine, Soft Drinks & Mince Pies available

**Choir**

**Wassail Choral** (William Mathias)

**Mary's Lullaby** (John Rutter)

**Audience Carol** (English Trad. arr. David Willcocks)

**God rest you merry, gentlemen**

Let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour  
Was born upon this day  
To save us all from Satan's power,  
When we were gone astray;  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our Heavenly Father,  
A Blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same;  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name.  
*O tidings of comfort and joy....*

The Shepherds at these tidings  
Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a feeding,  
In tempest, storm and wind:  
And went to Bethlehem straightway,  
This blessed babe to find  
*O tidings of comfort and joy....*

**Choir only**

But when to Bethlehem they came  
Whereat this infant lay,  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling,  
Unto the Lord did pray.  
*O tidings of comfort and joy....*

**All**

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
Each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface  
*O tidings of comfort and joy....*

**Choir**

**Christmas-tide**

(Bob Chilcott)

**Choir & Audience**

(J.H.Hopkins\_arr. David Willcocks)

**We three Kings of Orient are**

Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain  
Following yonder star.  
*O star of wonder, star of light  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light*

**Bass Solo**  
(Melchior)

Born a King on Bethlehem plain  
Gold I bring, to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign

**All**

*O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light*

**Bass Solo**  
(Caspas)

Frankincense to offer have I,  
Incense owns a deity nigh,  
Prayer and praising, all men raising  
Worship him, God most high

**All**

*O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Bass Solo**  
(Balthazar)

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

**All**

*O star of wonder, star of light  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light*

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and sacrifice,  
Heav'n sings Alleluia,  
Alleluia, the Earth replies  
*O star of wonder, star of light  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

**Reading**

**O Simplicitas**

by Madeline L' Engle : read by Jane Brooks

**Choir & Audience**

**The Twelve Days of Christmas** (English Trad. arr. John Rutter)

**Choir**

**Christmas Past**

(arr. Goff Richards)

**Address by the Mayor of Guildford ~ Councillor Pauline Searle**

Introduced by the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford

**Audience Carol**

(Charles Wesley : arr. 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 newborn 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 newborn King.*

Hail the heaven-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 newborn King*

### Encore

**A Merry Little Christmas!** (Carol Medley : arr. Goff Richards)

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Rotary Club of Guildford would like to thank the following people and organisations for their help in staging this year's Mayor of Guildford's Christmas Concert:-

The Members of the Vivace Chorus  
Jeremy Backhouse ~ Graham Thorpe  
Rev. Robert Cotton ~ The Surrey Advertiser  
The Parish of Holy Trinity and St. Marys, Guildford  
The Inner Wheel Club of Guildford  
BBC Radio Surrey ~ County Sound Radio ~ Eagle 96.4

# THE SINGERS OF THE VIVACE CHORUS

## **FIRST SOPRANOS:-**

Joanna Andrews, Helen Beevers, Mary Broughton, Elaine Chapman, Mo Kfour, Rachel Edmonson, Maggie Martelli, Susan Norton, Robin Onslow, Margaret Parry, Margaret Perkins, Alex Simpson, Rosemary Spalding, Carol Terry, Nikki Vale

## **SECOND SOPRANOS:-**

Jacqueline Alderton, Anne Arthur, Barbara Barklem, Judith Chester, Kate Peters, Anna Durning, Mandy Freeman, Judith Lewy, Krystyna Marsden, Judy Smith, Enid Millinger, Debbie Morton, Alison Newbery, Rosalind Plowright, Isobel Rooth, Ann Shepherd, Kathy Stickland, Paula Sutton, Christine Wilks, Frances Worpe

## **FIRST ALTOS:-**

Penny Baxter, Monika Boothby, Jane Brooks, Liz Durning, Margaret Dentskevich, Sue Fletcher, Jane Hedgecock, Sheila Hodson, Pamela Leggatt, Margaret Mann, Lois McCabe, Clare McKinlay, Kay McManus, Christine Medlow, Rosalind Milton, Mary Moon, Penny Muray, Gill Perkins, Karen Prodger, Marjory Rollo, Hilary Trigg, Lesley Scordellis, Maggie Woolcock

## **SECOND ALTOS:-**

Valerie Adam, Hannah Andrews, Marion Arbuckle, Jo Glover, Evelyn Beastall, Sylvia Chantler, Christine Curtis, Andrea Dombrowe, Carolyn Edis, Claire Hann, Celia Embleton, Elizabeth Evans, Barbara Hilder, Susan Hinton, Carol Hobbs, Yvonne Hungerford, Brenda Moore, Prue Smith, Jacqueline Norman, Jo Stokes, Beryl Northam, Rosey Storey, June Windle

## **FIRST TENORS:-**

Bob Cowell, Tim Hardymont, Martin Price, Chris Robertson, John Trigg

## **SECOND TENORS:-**

John Bawden, Bob Bromham, Tony Chantler, Fergus Hamilton, Geoff Johns, Jon Scott

## **FIRST BASSES**

John Britten, Michael Golden, Brian John, Jeremy Johnson, Eric Kennedy, Chris Newbery, Chris Peters, Robin Privett, David Ross, Philip Stanford

## **SECOND BASSES:-**

Peter Andrews, Roger Barrett, Alan Batterbury, Norman Carpenter, Dave Cox, Geoffrey Forster, James Garrow, Stuart Gooch, Michael Jeffery, Jonathan Long, Maxwell New, Mike Osborn, John Parry, Roger Penny, Chris Short, Michael Taylor

## ABOUT THE VIVACE CHORUS

The Choir was founded back in 1947 as the Guildford Philharmonic Choir but in May 2005, it was 'rebranded' as the Vivace Chorus, to reflect its new independent status from the Borough of Guildford. The Choir enjoy a challenging and varied repertoire from the 16<sup>th</sup>.Century onwards, featuring some pieces that are well-known, while others are rarities, which deserve to be heard by a wider audience.

The 2007/8 season tested both our tuning and our nerves, with a programme of music by French composers. Sung only with organ or unaccompanied, this followed our *Viennese Masters* concert, which included more a *cappella* singing, featuring three Bruckner motets and a 16-part arrangement of Mahler's *Ich bin der Welt abhanden gekommen*. Our contemporary concert featured Karl Jenkin's *Requiem*, with other works by Britten, Elgar, Barber and Mahler.

We started the 2008/9 season with a spectacular performance of Verdi's *Requiem*, in collaboration with our twin choir The Freiburger Bachchor and the Romsey Choral Society. Then, as a complete contrast, our Venetian Baroque concert included some of the earliest music that we have ever sung, featuring the works of Gabrieli, Schutz and Monteverdi, with Vivaldi's uplifting *Gloria* to finish the evening. Finally, and following on from the success of our first-ever jazz concert in May 2007, the season finished with Will Todd's *Te Deum* – a World Premiere and the first specially commissioned work to be sung by the Choir.

Apart from singing at the Mayor of Guildford's Christmas concert, we also regularly perform at a 'Last Night of the Proms' charity concert in Croydon's Fairfield's Hall, and with our good friends the Brandenburg Sinfonia, we sing at least once a year in the superb venue of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, performing such works as Mozart's *Requiem*.

During last summer, half the Choir and Jeremy embarked on what quickly became known as our *Tour de France*. We gave concerts in the cathedrals of Paris (Notre Dame), Rouen and Beauvais, which proved to be both inspiring and emotionally moving. Eagerly anticipated future events include a commercial recording of Will Todd's *Te Deum* and a performance of Mahler's 8<sup>th</sup> Symphony, planned for May 2011 in the Royal Albert Hall.

If you are interested in singing with us, please contact Jane Brooks on 01483 – 539088 or see our website [www.vivacechorus.org](http://www.vivacechorus.org)

## JEREMY BACKHOUSE



Jeremy Backhouse began his musical career in Canterbury Cathedral, where he was Head Chorister, and later studied music at Liverpool University. He spent 5 years as a Music Editor at the Royal National Institute for the Blind, where he was responsible for the transcription of print music into Braille. In 1986, he joined EMI Records as a Literary Editor and from April 1990, he started to

combine his work as a Consultant Editor for EMI Classics with his work as a freelance conductor. In November 2004, Jeremy joined Boosey & Hawkes Music publishers and now works for them in a freelance capacity.

In January 1995, Jeremy was appointed Chorus Master and Music Director of the Vivace Chorus, known then as the Guildford Philharmonic Choir. Major works performed with them in Guildford Cathedral have included Mahler's *Symphony No.2* and *Symphony No.8*, Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man*, Mendelssohn's *Symphony No.2 (Lobgesang)* and Verdi's *Requiem*.

Since 1980, Jeremy has also been the conductor of the Vasari Singers, acknowledged as one of the finest chamber choirs in the country, performing music from the times of Renaissance to today's contemporary commissions.

Jeremy has also worked with a number of the country's leading choirs, including the Philharmonia Chorus, the London Choral Society and the Brighton Festival Chorus. For 6 years until the end of 2004, Jeremy was the Music Director of the Wooburn Singers, following in the footsteps of Sir Richard Hickox, who founded the choir in 1967. In January 2009, Jeremy was appointed Music Director of the Salisbury Community Choir and conducted his first concert with them in May this year.



# GUILDFORD SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

**Patron : The Mayor of Guildford : Councillor Pauline Searle**

The Fourth biennial **Guildford Spring Music Festival** will take place from Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> to Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2010, with 14 events ranging from Rock Choir presentations to Jazz, Chamber Music, Choral and Orchestral performances throughout the whole week of the Festival.

The **GSMF** celebrates the work of musicians from the Guildford and West Surrey area and all events must include at least one musician with a significant connection with the area through birth, education, work or residence. There are many famous names that fall into this category and several of them will be appearing on the **GSMF 2010** Festival.

The Festival's President is the distinguished tenor Philip Langridge CBE, who lives locally and he will be singing on Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> with the prize-winning Heath Quartet, led by West Surrey violinist Oliver Heath.

Also appearing will be harpsichordist Penelope Cave and baritone Jonathan Veira, who will be using the 'An Audience with.....' format to recount his career as an international opera singer.

Other performers will include the GSA Singers, Surrey Brass and young musicians from Guildford's County School. The newly formed Surrey Cantata will present a programme of English choral music from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries and the Surrey Mozart Players will be giving the final Gala Concert on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Altogether, the Festival's 14 events represent a selection of music from international stars, professional players, student and amateur musicians, who live in the area and are pleased to perform for local audiences.

Tickets will be available from January 4<sup>th</sup> from the Box Office at the Electric Theatre (01483 – 444789) and the Guildford Tourist Information Centre (01483 – 444334) and on the Festival Website. Full information about each concert can be found on [www.gsmf.org.uk](http://www.gsmf.org.uk)

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUILDFORD



The Rotary Club of Guildford was formed in 1921, when only six such Clubs existed in Great Britain at that time. Today, there are 1,840 Rotary Clubs in the UK, with over 55,000 members and 1.2 million members in 33,000 Clubs worldwide. Besides the 1921 Guildford Club, there are two other Rotary Clubs in the town – the Guildford District Club, which was founded in 1975 and the Guildford Chantries Club, founded in 1991.

One of the Club's earliest fund-raising projects in the 1920s was its 'Big Brother' scheme, which was launched to help the town's youngsters, some of whom had lost their fathers during the First World War. In 1927, the Club embarked on another scheme to raise enough money to install radio sets in the wards of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, so the patients could 'listen in'.

During the Second World War, one of the Club's most memorable humanitarian events was dealing with the survivors from the beaches of Dunkirk, when the special troop trains carrying survivors arrived back at Guildford Station in June 1940.

In the mid 1960s, significant contributions were made by the Rotary Club of Guildford to prepare the way for the building and opening of the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre and the establishment of the University of Surrey on Stag Hill.

The Rotary Club of Guildford continues to raise money to support Calcutta's Eye Hospitals through the Club's Calcutta Eye project. There are now 25 hospitals in operation in Calcutta alone and these eye clinics help to restore the sight of 30,000 people per year. The Club also continues to sponsor its Jaipur Limb project, which was established in 1975. Since then, over 960,000 patients have been given new artificial limbs free of charge at the project's 14 limb centres in Jaipur, New Delhi and Bangalore.

Last year, the Rotary Club's fundraising efforts supported the local children's hospice CHASE and raised £10,000 through a number of events that included Wine Tastings, a Bridge Day, our annual collection in Guildford High Street and a Charity Film Night. This well-known Guildford charity provides help and support for families with sick children, who are not expected to reach their 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Our

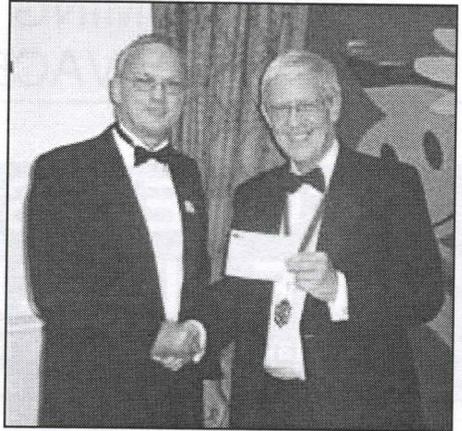


photo shows the £10,000 cheque being presented to David King, CHASE's Chief Executive officer by our outgoing Rotary President Neil Ritchie.

To aid the enormous efforts being made by Rotary Clubs worldwide to eradicate Polio by 2013, Bill Gates challenged Rotarians to match his \$100 million donation made in 2008 and to date, \$73 million has already been raised well ahead of schedule. Encouraged by this, the Bill Gates Foundation has promised a further \$250 million, if Rotarians can raise a further \$100 million by 2012.

As our photo shows, Bill Gates has been at the forefront of this campaign, visiting India, Pakistan and Nigeria, where the risk of polio is greatest. At the launch of the campaign, Bill Gates said



*“Rotarians, government leaders and Health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to the eradication of this disease and reaching every child in these affected countries with the polio vaccine is crucially important, so that no child will ever be paralysed again by this devastating disease”.*

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS BY  
THE VIVACE CHORUS**

**COME & SING WITH  
THE VIVACE CHORUS**

**Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 : Normandy Village Hall  
10am to 4.30pm plus refreshments**

Join us and our musical director Jeremy Backhouse to sing David Fanshawe's **AFRICAN SANCTUS**.

**PUCCINI & VERDI**

**Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 : Guildford Cathedral : 7.30pm  
The Vivace Chorus and the Brandenburg Sinfonia  
Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse**

**Andrew Dickinson (Tenor)  
Frederick Long (Bass)**

Puccini : Preludio Sinfonico

Verdi : Four Sacred Songs

Puccini : Crisantemi (Chrysanthemums)

Puccini : Messa Di Gloria (1880)

Tickets : £22, £16, £11, (Under 18, Students £5)

Available by calling 07958 – 519741

or Guildford Tourist Information Centre on 01483 – 444334

For further information, please visit our website at  
[www.vivacechorus.org](http://www.vivacechorus.org)



We wish you a

**Merry  
Christmas**

[www.VivaceChorus.org](http://www.VivaceChorus.org)

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