

The Rotary Club of Guildford
and the Vivace Chorus present



THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Conductor:
Jeremy Backhouse

in aid of the
MAYOR'S LOCAL
DISTRESS FUND

A photograph of three lit white candles of varying heights, set against a dark blue background with Christmas decorations including pine branches, red berries, and a silver pinecone. The candles are lit, with yellow flames. The text "Vivace Chorus" is overlaid on the middle candle.

Vivace
Chorus

Sunday
11th Dec 2016

7pm Holy Trinity Church
Guildford

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD
Councillor Gordon Jackson

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.

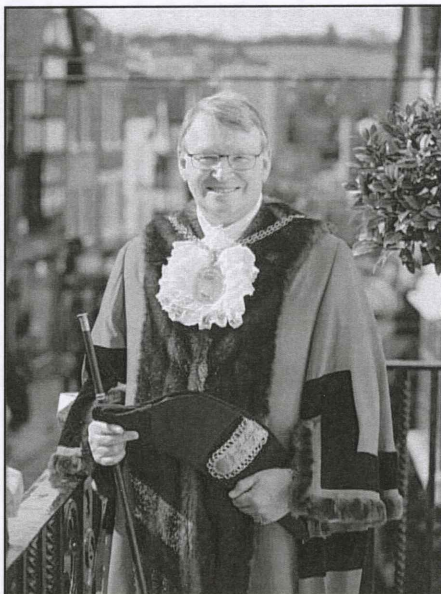
As we enjoy tonight's programme and the lead up to Christmas, we should also remember that there are many people in our local community, who will not find it easy to celebrate Christmas, due to financial and other difficult circumstances.

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

By attending tonight you are supporting one such charity, *'The Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund'*, which provides small sums of money to ease the strain of providing essential items during times of genuine financial difficulty.

I should like to 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'* and by doing so, ensuring that the Mayor's Distress Fund can continue to help many more local people.

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



Gordon Jackson

(Councillor Gordon Jackson)
(Mayor of Guildford)

TONIGHT'S CHARITY
**THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S
LOCAL DISTRESS FUND**



Established in 1971, the fund was originally known as the Mayor of Guildford's Christmas and Local Distress Fund.

It is a registered charity with a clearly-defined purpose : to provide financial assistance to the needy within Guildford Borough, particularly at Christmas time.

The fund receives requests from all areas of the community and has helped individuals and groups with a wide variety of needs.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY HELPING THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD THE BASICS.....such as.....

- Buying shoes and clothing for children from very poor families
- Washing machines, Fridges, Cookers, and Kettles for those unable to afford such necessities
- Playgroup fees for less advantaged children
- Modest holidays for families, following a trauma

Requests for assistance should come from a third party, such as a Borough Councillor, Housing Officer or an official agency, like the Citizen's Advice, Community Health or Social Services. This helps to ensure that your donations are spent wisely and that assistance is given only to deserving cases.

WITH YOUR HELP, WE REALLY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Registered Charity number : 258388

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

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAMME

Welcome by Canon Robert Cotton

Audience Carol

(arr. H.J.Gauntlett, arr.David Willcocks)

Solo

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.

Choir

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 meek, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour Holy.

All

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.

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 in that poor lowly stable
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Choir

Gaudete (arr. Bob Chilcott)
A New Year Carol (Benjamin Britten)
Rise up, shepherd, and follow (arr. John Rutter)

Audience Carol

(Este's Psalter 1592 : 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 will 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.

All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to men,
Begin and never cease.

Reading

Something beautiful and new and strange

by Kate Emerson

Read by Clive Sansom

Choir

A Spotless Rose

(Herbert Howells)

The Holly and the Ivy

(arr. H. Walford Davies)

Audience Carol

(J.F.Wade : arr. David Willcocks)

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, let us adore him...

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...

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,

Born this happy morning,

Jesu, to thee be glory given;

Word of the Father,

Now in flesh appearing:

Choir

Love came down at Christmas
O Holy Night

(Humphrey Clucas)
(Adolphe Adam arr. John E. West)

INTERVAL

Wine, Soft Drinks & Mince Pies available

Choir

Sir Christèmas
In the bleak mid-winter

(William Mathias)
(Harold Darke)

Audience Carol

(English Trad. arr. Arthur Sullivan & David Willcocks)

It came upon a midnight clear

That 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'ns all-gracious King!
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O're all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering 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:
Oh 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 give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Reading

The Big Day

by St Luke

Read by David Robson

Choir

Il est né, le divin enfant

(French Trad. arr. Bob Chilcott)

I saw three ships

(English Trad. arr. 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, comfort and joy
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, comfort and joy
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, comfort and joy
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, comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

Choir

De Virgin Mary (West Indian Spiritual arr. Vaughan Meakins)
Tomorrow shall be my dancing day (John Gardner)

**Address by the Mayor of Guildford
Councillor Gordon Jackson**

Introduced by the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford
Mr Terence Patrick

Audience Carol

(Charles Wesley : arr. Felix 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.....

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

We wish you a Merry Christmas !
(English trad. arr. Arthur Warrell)

THE VIVACE CHORUS

FIRST SOPRANOS :

Selam Adamu, Pam Alexander, Amelia Atkinson, Helen Beevers, Joanna Bolam, Mary Broughton, Suzanne Cahalane, Rebecca Kerby, Alex Nash, Emily Nash, Susan Norton, Robin Onslow, Gillian Rix

SECOND SOPRANOS :

Jacqueline Alderton, Anna Arthur, Ginny Heffernan, Isobel Humphries, Krystyna Marsden, Annika Mathews, Isabel Mealar, Michelle Mumford, Alison Newbery, Kate Peters, Katrina Strathearn, Barbara Tansey, Valerie Thompson, Christine Wilks

FIRST ALTOS :

Barbara Barklem, Monika Boothby, Jane Brooks, Kate Emerson, Valentina Faedi, Sheila Hodson, Kay McManus, Christine Medlow, Rosalind Milton, Lilly Nicholson, Gill Perkins, Linda Ross, Lesley Scordellis, Carol Sheppard, Marjory Stewart, Hilary Trigg

SECOND ALTOS :

Evelyn Beastall, Mary Clayton, Andrea Dombrowe, Sheena Ewen, Margaret Grisewood, Barbara Hilder, Beth Jones, Christine Lavender, Roz Marshall, Catherine Middleton, Val Morcom, Pamela Murrell, Prue Smith, Rosey Storey, Anne Whitley, June Windle

FIRST TENORS :

Bob Bromham, Owen Gibbons, Rosie Jeffery, John Trigg

SECOND TENORS :

Peter Butterworth, Tony Chandler, Simon Dillon, Peter Norman, Jon Scott

FIRST BASSES :

John Bawden, Richard Broughton, Jeremy Johnson, Chris Newbery, Peter Pearce, Chris Peters, Robin Privett, Allan Rose, David Ross, Philip Stanford

SECOND BASSES :

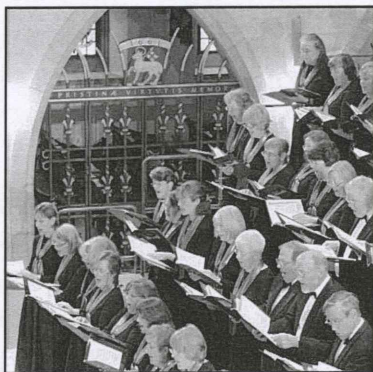
Peter Andrews, Geoffery Forster, James Garrow, Eric Kennedy, Roger Penny, David Robson, Richard Wood

ABOUT THE VIVACE CHORUS



Vivace Chorus is a flourishing and adventurous choir based in Guildford, Surrey. Our aim is to have fun, making and sharing great choral music. The choir has come a long way since it began in 1946 as the Guildford Philharmonic Choir and now has an enviable reputation for performing first-class concerts across a wide range of musical repertoire.

Particular successes include a sell-out performance in May 2011 of Mahler's *Symphony No. 8* (the 'Symphony of a Thousand') at the Royal Albert Hall, a highly acclaimed performance in November 2012 of *Britten's War Requiem* and another Royal Albert Hall success in May 2014 when we performed Verdi's *Requiem*.



Since 1995, Vivace has thrived under the exceptional leadership of this evening's conductor, Jeremy Backhouse. Jeremy's passion for choral works and his sheer enthusiasm for music-making are evident at every rehearsal and every performance. He is supported by Francis Pott, who is not just a very fine rehearsal accompanist, but is also a composer of international repute and an accomplished concert pianist.



Vivace Chorus performing at the Mayor's Concert 2015

In addition to our own concerts in Guildford and London, we also sing in various charity concerts and, with our regular orchestra, the Brandenburg Sinfonia, take part in the Brandenburg Choral Festival each year in St Martin-in-the-Fields. We also like to take our music-making overseas and have toured in France, Germany and Italy, and, most recently, in Austria, where we performed in Salzburg and Vienna.

We're a friendly and sociable choir that enjoys singing traditional choral classics alongside the challenge of contemporary and newly-commissioned music. If that whets your appetite, do come and join us! We rehearse on Monday evenings in the Millmead Centre, Guildford. Contact our membership secretary at **membership@vivacechorus.org** and for more information, visit our website, **vivacechorus.org**, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter - **[@VivaceChorus](https://www.facebook.com/VivaceChorus)**.

JEREMY BACKHOUSE

Jeremy is one of Britain's leading conductors of amateur choirs. He began his musical career in Canterbury Cathedral where he was Senior Chorister. In 1980 he was appointed Music Editor at the RNIB, where he was responsible for the transcription of print music into Braille. He has worked for both EMI Classics and later Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers as a Literary Editor, but now pursues his career as a freelance conductor.



Jeremy has been the sole conductor of the internationally-renowned chamber choir Vasari Singers since its inception in 1980. Since winning the prestigious Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition in 1988, the Vasari Singers has performed regularly at concert venues and cathedrals throughout the UK and abroad. Jeremy and Vasari have broadcast frequently on BBC Radio and Classic FM, and have a discography of over 25 CDs on the EMI, Guild, Signum and Naxos labels; they have recently launched their own VasariMedia label with a recording of Jonathan Rathbone's *Under the Shadow of His Wing*, which they premiered in 2014.

In January 1995, Jeremy was appointed Music Director of the Vivace Chorus. Alongside the standard classical works, Jeremy has conducted the Vivace Chorus in some ambitious programmes, including Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi* and Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, Mahler's 'Resurrection' Symphony (No. 2), Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky and Ivan the Terrible, Mahler's 'Symphony of a Thousand' (No. 8) and Verdi's *Requiem* in the Royal Albert Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

In January 2009, Jeremy took up the post of Music Director of the Salisbury Community Choir. In 2013 the choir celebrated its 21st Anniversary with a major concert in Salisbury Cathedral in October, featuring the world premiere of a specially-commissioned community work by Will Todd, *The City Garden*, which they subsequently toured to Lincoln (2014) and Guildford (2015).

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUILDFORD



The Rotary Club of Guildford was formed in 1922, when only six such clubs existed in the whole of Great Britain. 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 '1922' Guildford Club, there are two other Rotary Clubs in the town - the Guildford District Club, founded in 1975 and the Guildford Chancies Club, founded in 1991.

One of the Club's earliest fundraising projects in the 1920s was its 'Big Brother' scheme, which was launched to help the town's youngsters, who had lost their fathers during the First World War. In 1927, the Club embarked on a project 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 reception of the survivors from the beaches of Dunkirk, when the special troop trains arrived back at Guildford Station in June 1940.

In the 1960s, the Rotary Club of Guildford played a significant fundraising role to establish the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre. In 1965 the Club successfully lobbied government departments to establish the University of Surrey in Guildford in 1966. Formerly the Battersea College of Technology, the University celebrated its 50th Anniversary in October this year.

To mark the centenary of the Rotary movement in 2005, Guildford's three Rotary Clubs established their 'Guildford Historic Trail' and presented it to the Borough of Guildford. The trail takes visitors on a circular tour around the town centre and its famous landmarks.

Last month, the Club held its annual Bridge Day and raised over £2000 for this year's chosen charity *Cherry Trees*, a respite home from home in East Clandon, that provides short breaks for children and young people with learning, physical and sensory disabilities, giving their families a much-needed break.



The Club continues to run heats for local Guildford schools in their annual Rotary Youth Speaks competition, which is part of a national contest designed to foster pupil's vital public speaking skills. Other continuing projects include its Global Sight Solutions Eye Project, which has established specialist eye surgery hospitals in India and Africa to cure blindness in the developing world; the Jaipur Limb Project and Rotary International's 'End Polio Now!' campaign.

And tonight, the Mayor's Christmas Concert, organised by Guildford Rotary, is still raising funds for the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund - a registered charity that gives small grants of money to Guildford people in genuine need. Despite being in one of the most affluent parts of Surrey, Guildford still has, nonetheless, pockets of deprivation, where people struggle to make ends meet on a daily basis, needing the most basic items, that most of the rest of us just take for granted.

The Rotary Club of Guildford has now been established for 95 Years and always welcomes new members. We can be contacted through our website - www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS BY
THE VIVACE CHORUS**

MOZART Mass in C Minor

Barber : Adagio for Strings HOWELL : Requiem

The Vivace Chorus

The Brandenburg Sinfonia

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

Saturday, March 4th 2017

Guildford Cathedral : 7.30pm

BRAHMS Requiem

The Vivace Chorus

The Philharmonia Orchestra

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

Monday, May 1st 2017

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL : 7.30pm

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

William Nicholson : Canon Robert Cotton

The Parish of Holy Trinity and St Marys, Guildford

The Guildford Dragon : The Surrey Advertiser

The Inner Wheel Club of Guildford



Wishing you a

Merry Christmas

vivacechorus.org / www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1026337