

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

Vivace
Chorus

Sunday
15th Dec 2013

7pm Holy Trinity Church
Guildford

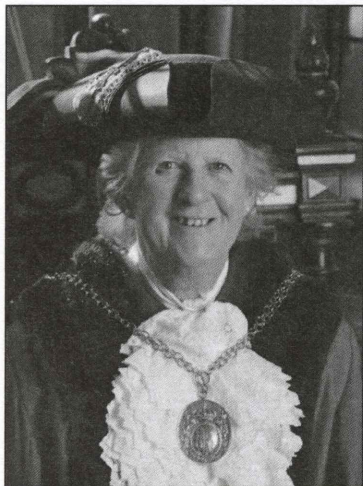


GUILDFORD
BOROUGH

Surrey Advertiser

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD

Councillor Diana Lockyer-Nibbs



As First Citizen of our beautiful and historic borough, I am honoured to be welcoming you here this evening. I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am.

I am sure tonight's Concert will be a welcome break for those of us who are busy preparing for sharing Christmas with our families, but as we enjoy tonight's performance, I would ask you all to remember that for many people in our local community Christmas can be a difficult time, due to financial and other circumstances.

Guildford has a number of charities, who work hard all year round to ensure that the less fortunate among us receive vital support when it is needed, but the demand is even greater at this time of year. By attending tonight's Concert you will be helping one such charity, the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund, which provides small sums of money to local residents who are struggling to make ends meet. Your generosity will help ensure that these Guildford people will always have somewhere to turn in times of need. It only remains for me to thank you all for attending tonight.

My special thanks go to the The Vivace Chorus for presenting this fabulous Concert, and of course the Rotary Club of Guildford without whom The Mayor of Guildford's Christmas Concert would not happen.

I would also like to thank them for holding a retiring collection for my other chosen charity, SAVI (Surrey Association for Visual Impairment). I have personal experience of visual impairment and SAVI has given me years of invaluable support, the work they do gives people the courage to face new challenges. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'D. L. Nibbs'.

Councillor Diana Lockyer-Nibbs
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 Bureau, 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 the Rev. Jonathan Hedgecock

Choir

This is the Truth

(Bob Chilcott)

Audience Carol

(English Trad. 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,
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.

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 to 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 to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Choir

Wexford Carol (arr. John Rutter)
The Shepherds' Farewell (Hector Berlioz)
Shepherd's Pipe Carol (John Rutter)

Reading

Christmas is for Love (Anon)
read by Jackie Alderton

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 the 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 a never cease.

Choir

Christmas Night (Arbeau 1588 :arr John Rutter)
Good King Wenceslas (arr.David Willcocks)

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:
O Come, let us adore him.....

Choir

Sweet was the song (from 'On Christmas Night : Chilcott)

Rejoice and be merry (from 'On Christmas Night : Chilcott)

INTERVAL

Wine, Soft Drinks & Mince Pies available

Choir

Alleluya, a new work is come to hand (Peter Wishart)

A maiden most gentle (French trad. arr : Andrew Carter)

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 hearts 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 lonely 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 gives back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Choir

**The Christ-child
The holly and the ivy**

(Will Todd)
(John Gardiner)

Reading

Advent 1955
read by Mike Bishop

(John Betjamen)

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

Here we come a-wassailing
A merry little Christmas

(arr. John Rutter)
(Goff Richards)

Address by the Mayor of Guildford Councillor Diana Lockyer-Nibbs Introduced by the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford Mr. Grant Connell
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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 :

Pam Alexander, Helen Beevers, Joanna Bolam, Polly Andrews, ,
Rachel Edmondson, Mo Kfour, Susan Norton, Gillian Rix,
Carol Terry, Rosemary Spalding

SECOND SOPRANOS :

Jacqueline Alderton, Anna Arthur, Isabel Mealor,
Krystyna Marsden, Debbie Morton, Alison Newberry,
Kate Peters, Valerie Thompson, Isobel Rooth, Paula Sutton,
Christine Wilks, Frances Worpe, Marianne Lillsley

FIRST ALTOS :

Barbara Barklem, Monika Boothby, Sheila Hodson, Liz Durning,
Gill Perkins, Lois McCabe, Rosalind Milton, Judith Lewy, Lesley Scordellis,
Catherine Shacklady, Carol Sheppard, Hilary Trigg, Maggie Woolcock

SECOND ALTOS :

Valerie Adam, Evelyn Beastall, Sylvia Chantler, Andrea Dombrowe,
Margaret Grisewood, Barbara Hilder, Carol Hobbs, Beth Jones,
Jacqueline Norman, Prue Smith, Jo Stokes, Rosey Storey,
Anne Whitley, June Windle

FIRST TENORS :

Mike Bishop, Bob Bromham, Owen Gibbons, Martin Price, John Trigg

SECOND TENORS :

Peter Butterworth, Tony Chantler, Stephen Linton, Peter Norman, Jon Scott

FIRST BASSES :

Phil Beastall, John Britten, Michael Golden, Brian John, Jeremy Johnson,
Eric Kennedy, Malcolm Munt, Chris Newbery, Adrian Oxborrow,
Peter Pearce, Chris Peters, Robin Privett, David Ross,
Philip Stanford, Kieron Walsh

SECOND BASSES :

Peter Andrews, Roger Barrett, Alan Batterbury, Norman Carpenter,
Dave Cox, Geoffrey Forster, James Garrow, Stuart Gooch,
Michael Jeffery, Michael Taylor

ABOUT THE VIVACE CHORUS



The Vivace Chorus has two aims: to make music of the highest standard and to have fun while doing so. The choir has come a long way since it began over 60 years ago as the Guildford Philharmonic Choir, gaining over time an enviable reputation for

performing first-class concerts across a wide range of musical repertoire.

Since 1995, the choir has thrived under the exceptional leadership of our Music Director, Jeremy Backhouse, ably supported by pianist Francis Pott. Jeremy's passion for choral works and his sheer enthusiasm for music-making are evident at every rehearsal and every performance, and Francis is not just a very fine rehearsal accompanist but is also a composer of international reputation and a concert pianist in his own right. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have musicians of this calibre at the helm.

We relish the opportunity to perform more unusual works such as Mahler's *Symphony No.8* or Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* as much as the great choral masterpieces of Verdi, Bach, Brahms, Handel or Haydn.

At a more intimate level, we are at home with the works of Fauré, Tavener, Allegri or Lauridsen. Contemporary music is an important feature of the repertoire and our 'Contemporary Choral Classics' series, which has featured works such as Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*, is designed both to challenge the choir and to promote the classics of the future.

Recent successes have included a sell-out performance of Mahler's *Symphony No. 8*, 'the 'Symphony of a Thousand'', at the Royal Albert Hall in May 2011 and a highly acclaimed performance last November of Britten's *War Requiem*. Following our full house debut at 'G-Live' in March 2012 with *A Night at the Opera*, this new first-rate concert hall was packed again for our Elgar concert earlier this year.

We rounded off the season with a wonderful weekend of music making in Charterhouse School chapel, recording a selection of choral favourites, old and new, for a CD entitled *Viva Vivace*, which can be purchased this evening at the ticket desk.

We look forward to presenting another varied programme this season, concluding with another grand scale production in the Royal Albert Hall, this time of the ever-popular Verdi's *Requiem*.

In addition to our own concerts, we also be singing in various charity concerts, including with our stalwart supporters, the Brandenburg Sinfonia, with whom we sing every year in one of London's most popular concert venues St Martin-in-the-Fields and of course tonight's Christmas concert to raise funds for the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund.

We also, on occasion, venture further afield. We have visited Germany many times over the years to sing with the Freiburg Bachchor. Other trips abroad have included a tour, in June 2009, of north-west France when we sang in the cathedrals of Paris (Notre-Dame), Rouen and Beauvais, while in June 2012 we headed across France to Strasbourg, giving concerts also in Germany, in Heidelberg and Freiburg. We are already planning a tour next year to Verona, when we will give three concerts, in Verona, Bardolino (Lake Garda) and Venice.

If that whets your appetite, do come and join us! New members are always welcome. For more information, do visit our website, **vivacechorus.org** where you can also sign up to receive information about our concerts, email us on **info@vivacechorus.org** or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

JEREMY BACKHOUSE

JEREMY BACKHOUSE 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 Royal National Institute of Blind People, 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 combined his work as a Consultant Editor for EMI Classics and later Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers, with his career as a freelance conductor.

Jeremy has been the sole conductor of the Vasari Singers since its inception in 1980. Since winning the prestigious Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition in 1988, the Vasari Singers have performed regularly on the South Bank and at St John's, Smith Square in London, as well as in the cathedrals of Canterbury, Chichester, Winchester, Hereford, Peterborough Ely, and Westminster Abbey. Jeremy and the Vasari Singers have broadcast frequently on BBC Radios 3 and 4, and have a discography of nineteen CDs on the EMI Eminence, Guild and Signum labels.

In January 1995, he was appointed Chorus Master of the Guildford Philharmonic Choir, working closely with conductors such as David Willcocks, Jonathan Willcocks, Vernon Handley and Edward Gardner. When the choir went independent and became the Vivace Chorus, Jeremy became its Conductor and Music Director. In May 2003 he conducted a thrilling performance of Mahler's *"Symphony of a Thousand"* (No.8), which work he inspirationally repeated in front of a capacity audience in the Royal Albert Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in May 2011.

In January 2009 Jeremy took up the post of Music Director of the Salisbury Community Choir, a 180-strong non-auditioned choir. In May this year, the Choir were heavily involved in the dramatically memorable world premiere of *'Where Two Worlds Touch'*, another work composed especially for the Festival, by Howard Moody and Helen Chadwick, based on the words and influence of the 13th-century mystic Rumi.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUILDFORD



The Rotary Club of Guildford formed in 1922, when only six such clubs existed in 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.

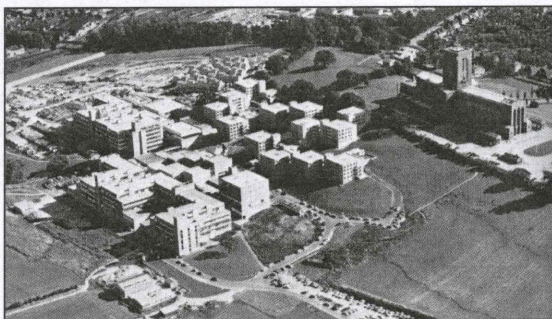
Besides the '1922' Guildford Club, there are two other Rotary Clubs in the town - the Guildford District Club, which was founded in 1975 and the Guildford

Chantries 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, some of whom 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.

With the help of the Rotary Club of Guildford, a committee was formed under the chairmanship of the Mayor, to explore the possibilities of a University being established in the town. The Battersea College of Technology had outgrown its London site and it was decided to move the college to Guildford and change it into a University. In a later address, the new University's first Vice-Chancellor Dr. D.M. Leggett said "But for the action of the Rotary Club of Guildford, the new University of Surrey would not have materialised.



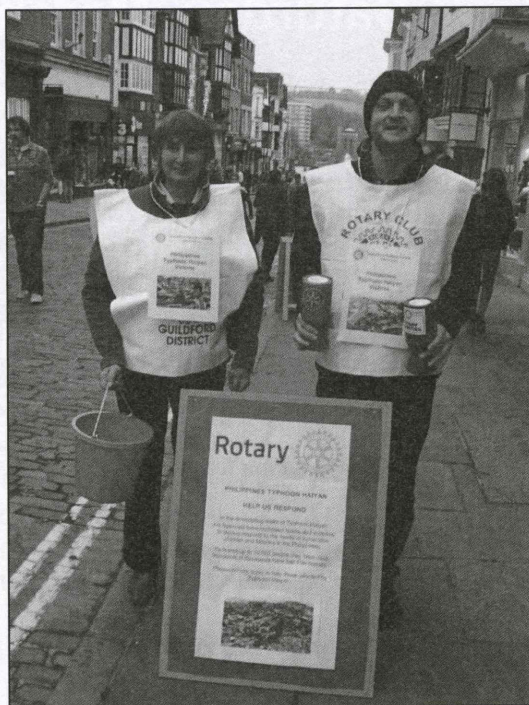
The Club also played a major fund raising role to establish the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, which eventually opened in June 1965.

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

Other projects initiated by the Rotary Club of Guildford in recent years include the setting up of the **Guildford Eye Project**, for the treatment of cataracts and other eye diseases in Calcutta; the opening of a similar eye hospital in Mukono, Uganda in 2005; continuing financial support for Rotary International's worldwide **Polio Plus** campaign and the **Jaipur Limb Project** in India.

Guildford Rotary also supports the local **Samson Centre**, where the Club has raised money to buy specialised equipment for the treatment of Multiple Sclerosis and **'Homestart'**, the UK family support charity. Funds were also raised for the local branch of the **YMCA** with a successful Abseil event last May and there is always our annual **Christmas Concert** featuring the Vivace Chorus in aid of the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund. This year's chosen charity is **Headway Surrey**, which supports people affected by the physical and emotional problems caused by brain injury.

Only a month ago, members from all three Guildford Rotary Clubs were out in the High Street collecting for the **Philippines Disaster Appeal** to help the hundreds of thousands of victims affected by Typhoon Haiyan, when it struck the country on November 8th - one of the most intense storms ever to make landfall anywhere in the World.



Our Club always welcomes new members and we can be contacted through our website at www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS BY THE VIVACE CHORUS

FASCINATING RHYTHM

The Vivace Chorus

The Brandenburg Sinfonia

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

**A jazzy cocktail of music by Gershwin,
Bernstein, Walton and others**

Saturday, March 8th 2014

G - LIVE : 7.30pm

VERDI's REQUIEM

**The Vivace Chorus, London Philharmonic Choir,
Wimbledon & Twickenham Choral Societies,**

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

Saturday, May 18th 2014

The Royal Albert Hall, London : 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
BBC Radio Surrey : Eagle Radio 96.4
The Inner Wheel Club of Guildford



Wishing you a

**Merry
Christmas**

vivacechorus.org / www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1026337

882994

882994 Holy Trinity Church

GU1 3RR

Mayor's Christmas Concert 2013

10.00

Date 15 / 12 / 13

Time 19 : 00

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VAT No: 212530417

Adult