

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
14th Dec 2014

7pm Holy Trinity Church
Guildford



GUILDFORD
BOROUGH

Surrey Advertiser

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD

Councillor David Elms



I am delighted and 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.

Christmas is a magical time for many families, but as we sit back and enjoy tonight's fabulous programme and the busy 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 and personal difficulty; so I would like to thank you all for coming.

My very 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 am also extremely grateful that they have offered to hold a retiring collection for my other chosen charity, ABF The Soldiers Charity – Surrey. This wonderful charity, formed 70 years ago, provides vital support for the Army family. It recognises that our soldiers have been there for us and it is our responsibility to be there for them now and in the future.

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

Councillor David Elms
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 Reverend Jonathan Hedgecock

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 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

Away in a manger (W.J.Kirkpatrick, arr.David Willcocks)

Quem pastores laudavere (14th. century German, arr. John Rutter)

Sussex Carol (English trad. arr David Willcocks)

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.

Reading

**Capt R.J. Armes of 1st North Staffs Regiment
in a letter to his wife, Christmas Eve 1914**
read by James Garrow

Choir

I saw a maiden (Old Basque, arr. Edgar Pettman)

O magnum mysterium (Morten Lauridsen)

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

Quelle est cette odeur agreable? (French trad. arr. David Willcocks)

Wassail Carol

(William Mathias)

INTERVAL

Wine, Soft Drinks & Mince Pies available

Choir

Jesus child

(John Rutter)

Still, still, still

(German carol, arr. Philip Ledger)

Audience Carol

(Piae Cantiones, arr. David Willcocks)

Unto us is born a Son,
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal,
Of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger:
Ox and ass their owner know,
Be-cradled in the manger
Be-cradled in the manger.

This did Herod sore af-fray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay
And slew the little childer,
And slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory,
Might lead us up to glory!

O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino,
Benedicamus Domino.

Choir

Christmas - tide

(Bob Chilcott)

Birthday carol

(David Willcocks)

Reading

'Something beautiful, new and strange'

by Clive Sansom

read by Emily Nash

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 bless-ed 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
Rejoic-ed 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

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day (English trad. arr. David Willcocks)

Christmas Past

(Goff Richards)

**Address by the Mayor of Guildford
Councillor David Elms**

Introduced by the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford
Mr. Mike Ellis

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
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

We wish you a Merry Christmas !

THE VIVACE CHORUS

FIRST SOPRANOS :

Mary Broughton, Rachel Edmondson, Susan Norton, Gillian Rix, Alex Nash, Emily Nash, Carol Terry, Pam Alexander, Rebecca Kirby, Robin Onslow, Angeline Romano, Joan Thomas, Hilary Vaill

SECOND SOPRANOS :

Krystyna Marsden, Kate Peters, Isobel Rooth, Christine Wilks, Frances Worpe, Jacqueline Alderton, Bernadine Blease, Ginny Heffernan, Averell Kingston, Isabel Mealor, Barbara Tansey, Alison Newberry

FIRST ALTOS :

Margaret Dentskevich, Liz Durning, Kate Emmerson, Lois McCabe, Christine Medlow, Rosalind Milton, Catherine Shacklady, Maggie Woolcock, Penny Baxter, Valentina Faedi, Clare McKinlay, Gill Perkins, Linda Ross, Charlotte Perkins, Carol Sheppard, Marjory Stewart, Nicola Telcik

SECOND ALTOS :

Valerie Adam, Sylvia Chantler, Prue Smith, Rosey Storey, Beth Jones, Sheena Ewen, Margaret Grisewood, Pauline Higgins, Pamela Murrell, Anne Whitley, June Windle

FIRST TENORS :

Bob Bromham, Tim Hardyment, John Trigg, Mike Bishop, Martin Price

SECOND TENORS :

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

FIRST BASSES :

Phil Beastall, Jeremy Johnson, Chris Newbery, Chris Peters, Robin Privett, David Ross, Philip Stanford, Kieron Walsh, Richard Broughton, Brian John, Michael Golden, Malcolm Munt

SECOND BASSES :

Norman Carpenter, Geoffrey Forster, James Garrow, Stuart Gooch, Michael Taylor, Eric Kennedy, Adrian Oxborrow, Clive Perry, Richard Wood

ABOUT THE VIVACE CHORUS

Vivace Chorus is a flourishing and adventurous choir based here in Guildford. We have 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 was founded some 67 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, Vivace has thrived under the exceptional leadership of tonight's conductor, Jeremy Backhouse. Jeremy's passion for choral works and his sheer enthusiasm for music-making are very 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.

Our repertoire spans more unusual works such as Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* as well as the great choral masterpieces of Bach, Brahms, Handel, Haydn, Mozart and Verdi, and the more intimate works of Fauré, Tavener, Allegri and Lauridsen. We also actively promote the classics of the future with our 'Contemporary Choral Classics' series, commissioning new works when funds allow.

Particular successes have included 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 this year, when we performed the Verdi *Requiem*.



Rehearsing in the Royal Albert Hall

Photography : Ash Mills

In addition to our own concerts, 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, on occasion, venture further afield and 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. In June 2012, we headed across France to Strasbourg, giving concerts there and in Heidelberg and Freiburg. This summer, we spent a wonderful few days in Italy, where we gave three concerts, in Verona, Mantua and Venice.

If that whets your appetite, do come and join us! We rehearse in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford High Street, on Monday evenings. Just turn up (before 7.15), or contact our membership secretary Jane Brooks at membership@vivacechorus.org.

For further information, visit our website, vivacechorus.org, where you can also sign up to receive information about our concerts, email us at info@vivacechorus.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

JEREMY BACKHOUSE



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

In January 1995, Jeremy was appointed Music Director of the Vivace Chorus and has conducted their performances of some ambitious programmes, including Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi* and Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevesky* and *Ian the Terrible*, Mahler's *Symphony of a Thousand* (No.8) and Verdi's *Requiem* at the Royal Albert Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

He is totally committed to contemporary music and the commissioning of new works. His enthusiasm spread to the Vivace Chorus who, in May 2009, commissioned and performed the premiere of Will Todd's *Te Deum* and have recently commissioned a 20 minute work from Francis Pott, the choir's accompanist.

Jeremy has also worked with a number of the country's leading choirs, including the BBC Singers, the Philharmonia Chorus, the London Choral Society and the Brighton Festival Chorus. He has also been the sole conductor of the internationally-renowned chamber choir the Vasari Singers, who regularly perform at major concert venues in London and broadcast frequently on BBC Radios 3 and 4.

In January 2009, Jeremy took up the post of Musical Director of the Salisbury Community Choir and his first major engagement with them was the opening concert of that year's Salisbury International Arts Festival, when a vast new work by Bob Chilcott entitled *Salisbury Vespers* was premiered in Salisbury Cathedral. In 2013, Salisbury Community Choir celebrated their 21st Anniversary with a world premiere performance of a specially-commissioned work by Will Todd entitled *The Garden City*. Further performances of this work will be taking place in Guildford in 2015 and Exeter in 2016.

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 Chanceries 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.



In the 1960s, the Rotary Club of Guildford played a significant role in establishing the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in 1965 and the University of Surrey in 1966.

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.

The Club continues to run heats for local Guildford schools in the annual Rotary Youth Speaks competition, which is part of a national contest designed to foster pupils vital public speaking skills and, earlier this year, the regional finals were staged at the University of Surrey.

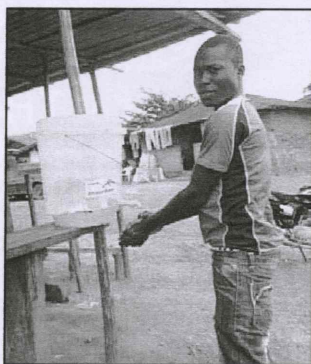
Another worthy cause that receives support is Guildford's Samson Centre, where Rotary has raised money to purchase specialised equipment for the treatment of Multiple Sclerosis. This year, through Rotary contacts, a further £2000 has been raised for the centre.

Last October, the Club held its annual Bridge Day and raised £1500 for the Guildford based charity 'Talk', which helps stroke victims suffering from communication problems. This charity will also benefit from the Club's Christmas High Street collection next week on December 20th.

In September, thousands of people in West Africa died after contracting the Ebola virus and members from all three Guildford Rotary Clubs were out in Guildford High Street collecting money for our Ebola appeal. This deadly disease is spread all too easily through daily human contact and so far our Rotary Clubs have collected over £6,500 for the purchase of water buckets, enabling people to wash their hands in clean water and thereby reduce the spread of infection.



The Mayor helps with the Ebola Fundraising



Simple hygiene saves lives

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

FORTHCOMING CONCERTS BY THE VIVACE CHORUS

MENDELSSOHN

Violin Concerto : Tasmin Little

Hear my Prayer : Fingal's Cave

STANFORD : Songs of the Fleet

DELIUS : Sea Drift

The Vivace Chorus : The Brandenburg Sinfonia

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

Saturday, March 7th 2015 : G - LIVE : 7.30pm

A CONCERT FOR ROWAN

WILL TODD : The City Garden CHILCOTT : Salisbury Vespers

The Vivace Chorus : The Vasari Singers

Salisbury Community Choir

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

Guildford Cathedral

Saturday, May 23rd 2015 : 7.30pm

In Aid of THE RAINBOW TRUST

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 : Eagle Radio 96.4

The Parish of Holy Trinity and St Marys, Guildford

The Inner Wheel Club of Guildford



Wishing you a

**Merry
Christmas**

vivacechorus.org / www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1026337