Carols by Candlelight

MUSIC AND STORYTELLING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

WITH

SURREY BRASS,

THE VAUGHAN WILLIAMS SINGERS,

NARRATOR GILES ABBOTT

ST GEORGE'S JUNIOR SCHOOL CHOIR (14TH ONLY)

7.30PM 14TH DECEMBER

4PM 15TH DECEMBER

Landmark Arts Centre

Tonight's Performers

Surrey BRASS

GilesAbbott

Traditional Storyteller

VWS Vaughan Williams Singers

St George's WEYBRIDGE

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Music and storytelling for the whole family

Welcome and, on behalf of tonight's performers, thank you for coming! We hope you enjoy the concert, the 23rd in our annual series which we started in 2001.

We would like to thank the staff and volunteers of the Landmark Arts centre here in Teddington for their wonderful venue and their dedicated support of this event.

Surrey Brass

Surrey Brass, the innovative and entertaining brass ensemble was founded in August 2001 by John Goodwin and aspires to follow the fine tradition of ensemble brass performance originated in the UK by the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble.

Surrey Brass aims to widen the audience for brass ensemble music, and provide enjoyment for everyone.

Surrey Brass plays a wide repertoire to a high standard, incorporating fresh influences from diverse musical sources including Classical, Jazz, Film, and World Music.

Our talented musicians are some of the best players in the county of Surrey. We are particularly keen on encouraging young brass players, and every year aim to perform at least one charity concert.

Scan to raise Funds for Surrey Brass when you shop online. It costs you nothing!

Trumpet
Michael Chapple, Steve Dawes, Huw Evans, John Goodwin, Matthew Hart Dyke

French Horn
Tim Costen

Tenor Trombone / Euphonium
Michael Straker, Alec Mills, Robin Upcott

Bass Trombone
Hywel Walters

Tuba
Adrian Warren

Percussion
Neil Marshall, George Jones, Filippo Ferruggiara

Keyboard
Ian Assersohn

Jonathan Spencer

Surrey Brass' Musical Director, Jonathan Spencer, is a graduate of the Royal Welsh College of Music and a post-graduate of the Royal College of Music, London.

As well as undertaking an active freelance career, as a trumpet player and conductor, he has a number of professional associations with ensembles from orchestra to big band. Warrant Officer Class One Jonathan Spencer is also currently serving as the Corps Bandmaster (Senior Bandmaster, Army) in the Royal Corps of Army Music.

Ian Assersohn

Ian Assersohn is a composer, choral director and workshop leader. He has been musical director of Vaughan Williams Singers since he founded it in 2018, and has led Leatherhead Choral Society since 2001 and Epsom Male Voice Choir since 2014.

As a composer Ian's works are published by Oxford University Press, Novello, Hal Leonard and his own imprint Apple Tree Music. His works have appeared in a number of anthologies including Carols For Choirs, The Novello Book of British Folksongs and The Oxford Book of Flexible Choral Songs.



The Vaughan Williams Singers

Vaughan Williams Singers is a mixed-voice chamber choir of 27 singers and was founded by their conductor Ian Assersohn in January 2018.

The choir sings a wide range of music to a high standard, with a particular leaning towards the music of our own time. Based in Great Bookham, Surrey, and named after the area's most illustrious musical figure, Ralph Vaughan Williams, the choir has performed in a number of venues closely associated with the composer such as All Saints Church in Down Ampney, Leith Hill Place in Dorking, Charterhouse School, and others.

In 2022 a tour to Gloucestershire saw it performing in St Mary de Crypt, Gloucester, as well as paying a return visit to All Saints. In 2019 and 2022 it combined forces with Martineau Brass for concerts in St. Pauls, Dorking.

The choir has a busy events schedule. Its afternoon tea concerts have quickly established themselves as an annual event (the next one is on March 2nd 2025), and it enjoys regular tours and workshops.

There are a number of recordings and videos of the choir in action on its website, www.vwsingers.org, which also contains information about the choir and its upcoming events.



Giles Abbott

Giles Abbott started storytelling in 1999 as a result of losing much of his “useful eyesight” in 1998. Now registered blind, as he puts it; “Through loss of something I took for granted I have found something I didn’t know I’d lost—the joy of story!”

Giles performs regularly at festivals such as Wilderness, Festival at the Edge, Beyond the Border, A Sting In The Tale, Westcountry Storytelling Festival, and Whitby International Folk Week.

Giles was resident storyteller at the Kensington & Chelsea Hospital Schools for six years and has told in primary and secondary schools all round England and abroad.

Giles qualified as a Voice Teacher and teaches drama students at IDSA, MetFilm as well as adult learners at CityLit. He runs presentation training courses for business people. His poetry has been published in “Dream Catcher” and “The Spectator”.

St. George’s Junior School Chamber Choir



St George’s Junior School has a very busy Music department which includes four choirs amongst the many ensembles the department offers the children. The school Chamber Choir is responsible for leading the singing in the school masses as well as performing at a number of events both in school and out in the wider community.

The children have enjoyed preparing a variety of repertoire this term for their Carol Service and Carols by Candlelight with Surrey Brass and are delighted to be able to share their enjoyment of singing with everyone tonight.

(Saturday only)

The Programme - Saturday

O Come All Ye Faithful | AUDIENCE CAROL
The Nightmare Before Christmas (Danny Elfman) | Surrey Brass
In Harmony (Emily Barden) | St George's Chamber Choir
Magnificat (A.L. Hodgson) | St George's Chamber Choir
Ding Dong Merrily on High (arr P. Hunt) | St George's Chamber Choir
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear | AUDIENCE CAROL
The Snowman (Howard Blake) | Surrey Brass
O Lux Beata Trinitas (Andrej Makor) | Vaughan Williams Singers
Ndikhokhele Bawo (Michael Barrett) | Vaughan Williams Singers
The First Nowell | AUDIENCE CAROL

• Interval •

Once in Royal David's City | AUDIENCE CAROL
A Christmas Carol (Alan Silvestri) | St George's Chamber Choir, Vaughan Williams Singers, Surrey Brass
Noel des Enfants du Monde (Jean Naty-Boyer, arr A.L. Hodgson) | St George's Chamber Choir
In the Bleak Midwinter (Howard Darke) | St George's Chamber Choir
A Christmas Blessing (Lloyd Larson) | St George's Chamber Choir
The Guiding Star(Ricardo Molla) | Surrey Brass
My Lord Has Come (Will Todd) | Vaughan Williams Singers
On the Feast of Stephen (Ian Assersohn) | Vaughan Williams Singers
Festive Cheer(arr. Roger Harvey) | Surrey Brass
Hark the Herald Angels Sing | AUDIENCE CAROL

The Programme - Sunday

O Come All Ye Faithful | AUDIENCE CAROL
The Nightmare Before Christmas (Danny Elfman) | Surrey Brass
The Snowman (Howard Blake) | Surrey Brass
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear | AUDIENCE CAROL
O Lux Beata Trinitas (Andrej Makor) | Vaughan Williams Singers
Sleep Softly Now (Ian Assersohn) | Vaughan Williams Singers
Ndikhokhele Bawo (Michael Barrett) | Vaughan Williams Singers
The Guiding Star(Ricardo Molla) | Surrey Brass
The First Nowell | AUDIENCE CAROL

• Interval •

Once in Royal David's City | AUDIENCE CAROL
A Christmas Carol (Alan Silvestri) | Vaughan Williams Singers, Surrey Brass
Ding Dong Merrily on High (arr Roger Harvey) | Surrey Brass
Three Kings Swing (William Hines) | Surrey Brass
My Lord Has Come (Will Todd) | Vaughan Williams Singers
On the Feast of Stephen (Ian Assersohn) | Vaughan Williams Singers
Festive Cheer(arr. Roger Harvey) | Surrey Brass
Hark the Herald Angels Sing | AUDIENCE CAROL

O Come All Ye Faithful

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...

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
O come...

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

It came upon the 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'n's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the 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:
O 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 send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell...

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell...

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell...

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Nowell...

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.
Nowell...

Once In Royal David's City

[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 mean, 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.

[ALL]
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;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King.

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark!...

Hail! the heav'n-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!..

Thanks to The Landmark Arts Centre for hosting tonight's concert
at their wonderful venue



The Landmark Arts Centre offers a vibrant year-round programme of concerts and other live events, exhibitions, fairs and arts classes, with our historic building providing a unique setting.

We look forward to seeing you again soon!

As an independent charity we rely on the support of people like you.
So if you are interested in becoming a Member, Volunteer or would like to join our mailing list, just ask at Reception where you can also pick up a copy of our January - February programme.