

Saturday 10 December 7pm

Sackville School, Lewes Road, East Grinstead RH19 3TY



East Grinstead Choral Society

presents a

Christmas Soirée!

with Christopher Harris - *piano*

Directed by Richard Jenkinson

Programme



www.egcs.co.uk

Registered charity number 801961



Welcome to our Christmas Soirée; an opportunity to relax, enjoy and participate in some wonderful seasonal music – we hope that you'll have a great evening with us!

Part One

Christmas carols and music, including carols for all; please do join in!

Refreshments (licensed bar available)

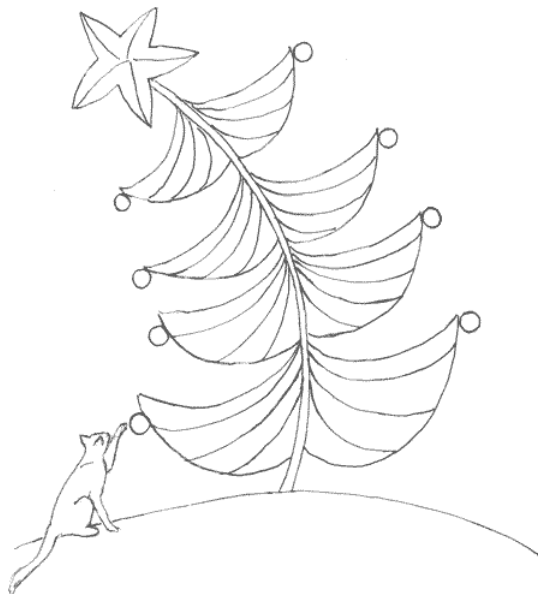
Part Two

Christmas carols and music, including carols for all; please do join in!

Refreshments (licensed bar available)

Part Three

Christmas carols and music, including carols for all; please do join in!



Once in royal David's city

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.



It came upon the midnight clear

1. 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.



2. Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

3. 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.

4. 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.

Away in a manger

1. Away in a Manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The Stars in the bright sky looked down
where he lay.
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes.
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me. Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.



The first Nowell

1. 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!*

2. They look-ed 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, nowell . . .



3. 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 where-ever it went;
Nowell, nowell . . .

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

5. 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, nowell . . .

6. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.
Nowell, nowell . . .

Hark! the herald-angels sing

1. 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 newborn King!"*

2. 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 with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.



*Hark! the herald angels
sing,
"Glory to the newborn
King!"*

3. 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! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

God rest you merry, gentlemen

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas 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.*

2. From God our heav'nly Father
A blessèd 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.

3. 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 other doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy.



See amid the winter's snow

1. See amid the winter's snow
Born for us on earth below;
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promis'd from eternal years.
*Hail, thou ever blessed morn;
Hail, redemption's happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

2. Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the Cherubim;
Hail, thou ever...

Ladies & children:

3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
What your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?
Hail, thou ever...



Men:

4. As we watched at dead of night,
Lo, we saw a wondrous light,
Angels singing peace on earth,
Told us of a Saviour's birth.
Hail, thou ever...

5. Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
By thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee,
In thy sweet humility.
Hail, thou ever...

Unto us is born a Son

1. Unto us is born a son
King of quires supernal:
See on earth his work
begun,
Of Lords the Lord eternal,
Of Lords the Lord eternal.



2. Christ from heav'n
descending low,
Comes on earth a
stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in a manger,
Becradled in a manger.

Men:

3. This did Herod sore affray
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer,
And slew the little childer.

Ladies & children:

4. 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.

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

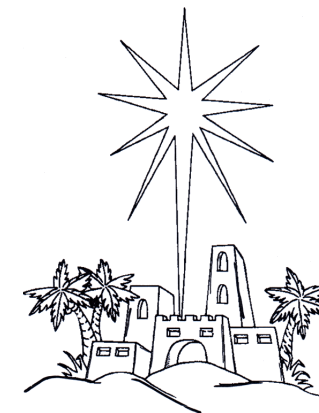
O little town of Bethlehem

1. 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.

2. 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 wond'ring love.

3. 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.

4. 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



O come, all ye faithful

1. 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.



2. God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the
Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come, etc.

3. Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of Heaven above:
'Glory to God
In the highest'
O come, etc.

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born on Christmas morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory given.
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing.
O come, etc.

Forthcoming events:

Saturday 14 January 10am – 3pm – Sackville School, East Grinstead

Workshop - open to all

Explore Bach's St. Matthew Passion with us. Details are on the website, including how to book – £20 for non-members to include score hire and tea/coffee on the day.

Saturday 1 April 2017 7pm – Jubilee Community Centre, East Grinstead

Bach – St. Matthew Passion, with internationally acclaimed tenor, **Mark Padmore**, and full baroque orchestra.

Saturday 24 June 7pm – Imberhorne Lower School, East Grinstead

Summer soirée: informal musical evening including light supper, with licensed bar available,

East Grinstead Choral Society – Join us!

Like what you've heard? Why not try it yourself? East Grinstead Choral Society is one of the friendliest and most welcoming groups around. Members come mainly from East Grinstead but also from a large surrounding area. If you'd like to join us then we'll be delighted to hear from you! Newcomers are always welcome at any of our rehearsals, which are on Thursdays from 7.30-9.45pm at The Jubilee Community Centre, East Grinstead. If you're interested then please visit our website www.egcs.org.uk for more information, or speak to any member of the choir.

Support us:

Help us raise funds for free when you shop online!

"easyfundraising" is a brilliant way to raise money for the choir. Shop online from over 2,700 retailers and they'll give a donation every time you buy something, at no extra cost.

Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/egcs to sign up.

