



Saturday 12 December 7pm

Carols and Christmas Cheer!

East Grinstead Choral Society

with Christopher Harris - organ

Directed by Richard Jenkinson



www.egcs.co.uk

Registered charity number 801961



Programme

- **Once in royal David's city** – *for choir and audience*

- Messiah (*highlights*) – *Handel:*

- Sinfonia
- And the glory
- And he shall purify
- O thou that tellest
- For unto us
- Pifa
- Four recitatives
- Glory to God
- Let all the angels
- Hallelujah



- **Unto us is born a son** – *for choir and audience*

- Reading 1 -- "A Visit from St. Nicholas" – *Clement Clarke Moore*
(*read by Alanya Holder*)

- Infant Holy
- Rocking Carol
- Sussex Carol

- Reading 2 - "Christmas" – *John Betjeman*
(*read by Jane Clifford*)

- **Hark! the herald angels sing** – *for choir and audience*

I N T E R V A L (15 minutes)

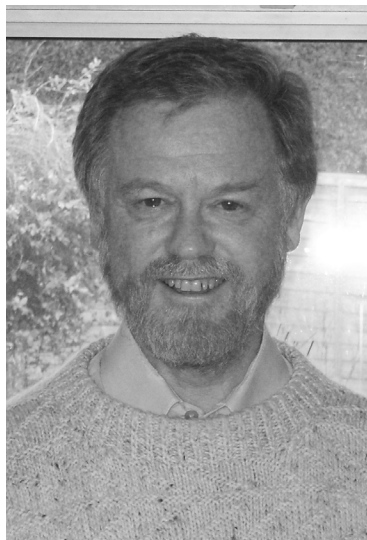
- **While shepherds watched** – *for choir and audience*

- Reading 3 - from "A Christmas Carol" – *Charles Dickens*
(*read by Kim Barnett*)

No unauthorised photography, video or sound recording is permitted during the performance. We thank you for your co-operation.

- The Lord at first did Adam make – *arrd. Willcocks*
- Gabriel's Message – *arrd. Willcocks*
- Reading 4 - "The Foolish Fir Tree" – *Henry Van Dyke*
(*read by Mary Osborn*)
- **It came upon the midnight clear** – *for choir and audience*
- Reading 5 - "A Politically Correct Christmas" -- *anon.*
(*read by Richard Young*)
- Ding! Dong! Merrily on high – *arrd. Willcocks*
- The Infant King – *arrd. Willcocks*
- Resonemus laudibus – *arrd. Willcocks*
- **O come, all ye faithful** – *for choir and audience*

This evening's concert is dedicated to the memory of Chris Reeve, who died on November 19th. Chris was a great lover of choral music and enjoyed singing in many choirs, including Croydon Parish Church, The Lynwood Singers, London Orpheus Choir and St. Giles in the Fields, Bloomsbury. He was a loyal member of East Grinstead Choral Society for many years, including ten years as Chairman, and continued as a regular supporter even when he couldn't actually sing with the choir. We mourn his untimely death, but share so many happy memories and a great debt of gratitude.



Chris Reeve 1954 - 2015

Once in royal David's city

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.



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.

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.

Unto us is born a son

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.

Ladies and children:

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:

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 and children:

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.



All:

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

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

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

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!"



While shepherds watched

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 heavenly babe you there shall 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.'

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.



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.

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.

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.

See how the shepherds
Summoned to his cradle
Leaving their flocks draw nigh with lowly
fear;
We too will thither bend our joyful foot-
steps:

O come, etc.

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

O come, etc.

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.



East Grinstead Choral Society – Join us!

East Grinstead Choral Society is one of the friendliest and most welcoming groups around. 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.

EGCS in 2016:

Saturday 16 January 2016 10am-3pm – Sackville School, East Grinstead
Singing day and workshop – Mozart's Great Mass in C minor

Saturday 12 March 2016 7pm – St Mary's Church, East Grinstead
Mozart's Great Mass in C minor

Saturday 25 June 2016 7pm – Imberhorne Lower School, East Grinstead
Summer supper concert

Other choirs' forthcoming events:

Saturday 5 March 2016 7pm – St James's, Piccadilly
Bach – St John Passion
London Orpheus Choir, with Meridian Voices and Orchestra
www.londonorpheuschoir.co.uk

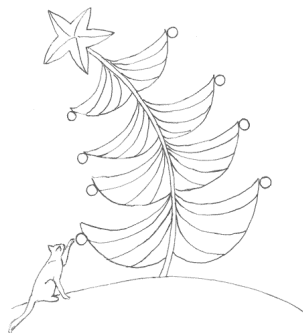
Sunday 17 April 2016 4pm – Pamoja Hall, Sevenoaks
Carl Orff – Carmina Burana
Kent Chorus, with the Percussion Ensemble of London
www.kentchorus.co.uk

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"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.





Mozart's Great Mass in C minor

Saturday 16 January 2016 10am - 3pm

Sackville School, East Grinstead

Workshop – open to all!

Come and join us next term as we begin to explore the Great Mass in C minor by Mozart. We'll have expert tuition from friend of the choir and international vocal coach, Penny Jenkins, as well as from our own Richard Jenkinson. It'll give those who don't know the work a taste of what's to come, and for those already familiar with it, the opportunity to delve deeper into this unsurpassed masterpiece!

Members £15 – Visitors £20

(includes score hire and hot and cold drinks during the day)

Please book via our website, or with the booking form available from our front of house team this evening.

 **www.egcs.co.uk**