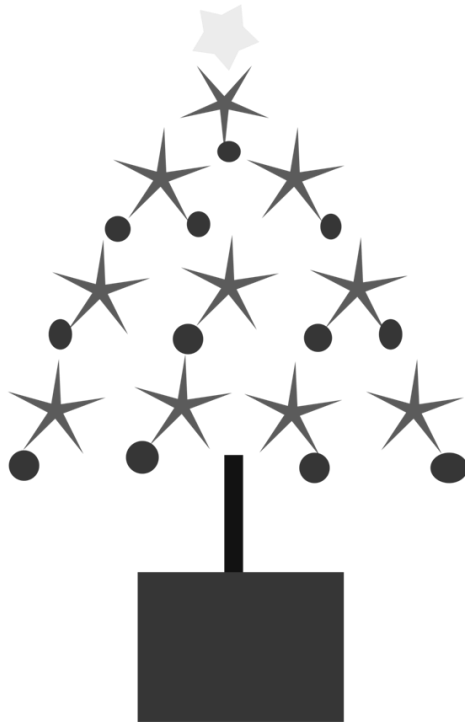




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Conductor Michael Cayton

Christmas Cheer!



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Welcome from the Chair

A very warm welcome to you all. We hope you enjoy our Christmas concert. Our programme includes some of the best known, most popular carols of the Festive Season. We invite you to sing some of them with us, so together let's raise the roof of the Memorial Hall.

You will also be treated to a reading of **Christmas Tale** by Jacqueline Ramm and have the opportunity to hear The Chiltern Singers, a smaller group of Chiltern Choir members, who are becoming very popular at local events. They have sung at festivals, lunchtime and evening concerts, weddings and funerals and are only too delighted to accept invitations to sing on such occasions. They can be contacted via our website.

Recently the Chiltern Choir made its first professional recording. Over the weekend of 19th and 20th November, we recorded Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. It will be available shortly in a range of formats, including CD which we plan to have on sale at our future concerts.

Our next concert, *Vivaldi by Candlelight*, will be on Saturday 25th March in Amersham Free Church. In preparation, we have an open workshop at St Paul's, Chipperfield, on Saturday 25th February. This is an ideal opportunity to get to know us as a choir, and our tenors and basses would be particularly pleased if male voices joined their sections. Details of how to book are on our website.

Do join us for refreshments after the concert and on behalf of the whole Choir, I wish you all a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Fiona Lean
Chair Chiltern Choir
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Programme

1 Choir and Audience – **Once in Royal David's City**

words C. F. Alexander; melody H. J. Gauntlett

V. 3-5 harmonised by A. H. Mann; v6 arranged by David Willcocks

1. Solo
2. Choir only (arranged by Michael Cayton)

3. And through all his wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.



4. For he is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.



5. 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.



6. 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.

2 Choir – **Ding Dong Merrily on High**

*words G. R. Woodward; music 16th century French melody,
harmonised by Charles Wood*

3 Choir – **Sans Day Carol**

Cornish traditional carol arranged by John Rutter

4 The Chiltern Singers – **Still, Still, Still**

*words Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman; Austrian carol
arranged by Norman Luboff*

5 Choir and Audience – **O Come, All ye Faithful**

words and melody by J. F. Wade, arranged by David Willcocks

1. O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the Kind 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 or God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come...



3. Lo! star-led chieftains,
Magi, Christ adoring,
Offer him incense, gold and myrrh;
We to the Christ Child
Bring our heart's oblations:
O come...

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

6 Choir – **Lully, lulla (Coventry Carol)**

*words and melody from the 'Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors
(15th Century), arranged by Martin Shaw.*

7 Reading – **Christmas Tale**

by Jacqueline Ramm

8 Choir – **In the Bleak Mid-winter**

words Christina Rossetti; music Harold Darke

9 Choir and Audience – **Good King Wenceslas**

*words J. M. Neale; melody from 'Piae Cantiones' (1582),
arranged by David Willcocks*

1. (All)
Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about,
Deep and crisp and even:
Brightly shone the moon that night,
Though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight,
Gathering winter fuel.



2. (Men)
'Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?



(continued)

(Women and children)
'Sire, he lives a good league hence,
Underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence,
By Saint Agnes' fountain.'



3. (Men)
'Bring me flesh, and bring me wine,
Bring me pinelogs hither:
Thou and I will see him dine,
When we bear them thither.'
(All)
Page and monarch, forth they went,
Forth they went together:
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.



4. (Women and children)
'Sire, the night is darker now,
And the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart, I know not how;
I can go no longer.'
(Men)
'Mark my footsteps, good my page;
Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly.'



5. (All)
In his master's steps he trod,
Where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod
Which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure,
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor,
Shall yourselves find blessing.





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10 The Chiltern Singers – **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Traditional carol, arranged by Grayston Ives

11 Choir – **Deck the Hall**

Traditional Welsh carol, arranged by David Willcocks

12 Choir and extras – **Jingle Bells**

words and melody by J. Pierpont, arranged by David Willcocks

13 Choir – **Nativity Carol**

words and music by John Rutter

14 Choir and audience – **Hark! the Herald-angels Sing**

*words Charles Wesley; music F. Mendelssohn,
v. 3 arranged by David Willcocks*

1. 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 new-born King.*
2. 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 th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.



*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*



3. 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 new-born King.*



**Please join us after the concert
for mulled wine (or soft drink) and mince pies**



A small group of Chiltern Choir members – The Chiltern Singers – is now available to sing at functions: weddings, parties, funerals etc.

Proceeds to choir funds.

Contact John Haslam by email (preferred): chilternsingers@chilternchoir.org.uk
or by telephone: 01494 724125 to discuss your requirements

Performing today:

Michael Cayton, Conductor

After training at Kneller Hall, Michael served with the Grenadier Guards as a trumpeter before studying piano at the Royal College of Music, where he gained his BMus, ARCM and won the Hilda Anderson Deane prize for conducting and improvisation. While completing postgraduate répétiteur studies he was appointed the first Organ Scholar at the Royal Hospital in Chelsea. Since his debut as an organist at the Royal Festival Hall in 1988, Michael has been in demand as a recitalist and accompanist and has appeared all over the country and in Europe, with notable London appearances at St Martin-in-the-Fields and Westminster Abbey.



Since 2003 he has simultaneously held the posts of Director of Music at St John's Wood Church, organist at Belsize Square Synagogue and conductor of the Chiltern Choir. He has worked with many leading choruses including Vasari Singers and Goldsmiths Choral Union. In 2014 he was invited to be guest conductor for Watford Philharmonic Society's performance of Britten's War Requiem and has now taken up the appointment as the society's Principal Conductor.

Michael has given many radio broadcasts for the BBC; he was the organist for a live broadcast from St Martin in the Fields following the death of Nelson Mandela. He has also appeared on BBC's Songs of Praise. His church music is published by Redemptorist Publications, the responsorial psalms now a staple of parish churches up and down the country. With broad musical tastes, a hunger to learn new styles and a particular talent for improvisation, he may often be found performing jazz, German cabaret and Judeo-Spanish Ladino music as well as fusion and funk.

Anna Le Hair,

Accompanist

Anna Le Hair started playing the piano as soon as she could reach the keys. She gained an honours degree in music at Edinburgh University where she studied piano with Colin Kingsley, and harmony with Kenneth Leighton. Her postgraduate studies were at the Royal College of Music, London, where her professors included Peter Element and Hubert Dawkes. Since then, Anna has enjoyed a busy and varied career as a performer and piano teacher.



Engagements have included recitals, both solo and as chamber musician and accompanist, in many venues in London, including the Queen Elizabeth Hall, and around Britain and abroad, including recitals in New Zealand with the violinist Arwen Newband in 2014. Within the last few years she has given performances of five piano concertos and many chamber works of the 19th and 20th centuries. Anna has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and at festivals in Porec (Croatia) and Buxton, where she was nominated for the title of 'Performer of the Fringe', as well as the Costa Barcelona music festival and the Music in the Mountains festival in Andalucia.

Anna is a Senior House Pianist at AIMS International Summer School in Eastbourne, where she has repetitured many opera scenes, and also works with choirs and opera groups including Polymnia and City Chamber Choir, as well as Aeolian Singers in Hemel Hempstead, where she is assistant conductor, and Chiltern Choir in Chorleywood. She is also a regular accompanist at Jackdaws Educational Trust in Somerset, where she has worked with the tenor Ian Partridge and the mezzo Sarah Walker. In addition, Anna has done such diverse things as playing background music in London hotels and restaurants and touring the UK and Channel Islands with the Lewis London Ballet. Anna has a thriving piano teaching practice in Tring and also teaches piano and accompanies at St Albans School. She is much in demand as an accompanist for singers and instrumentalists, and is an examiner for ABRSM. Details of future concerts can be found on her website, www.annalehair.co.uk.

Chiltern Choir members singing today

Soprano

Caroline Bartlett, Hilary Broadbent*, Marion Bryan, Mary Bungard, Lu Chadder, Susan Denbow, Anni Facer, Gabrielle Fisher, Jenny Gorsuch, Beverley Grayley, Christine Guy, Jill Haslam*, Rachel Hatfield, Diane Hunt, Barbara Johnson, Sue Kesteven, Sarah Moreton, Gillian Proctor, Merriss Ratliff*, Hilary Walmsley, Lyndsay Ward and Anne Wilson.

Alto

Cathy Amos, Ana De'Ath*, Liz Dobson, Cathrien Dyas, Jan Ellis, Rita Fryer, Philippa Goss, Helen Heenan*, Anne Keyworth*, Charlotte Kohnhorst, Fiona Lean, Miriam Morgan, Liz Pendered, Gillian Pugh, Maggie Shrive, Jill Swainson, Brenda Tomsett, Susan Treanor, Jenny West and Beryl Whittaker.

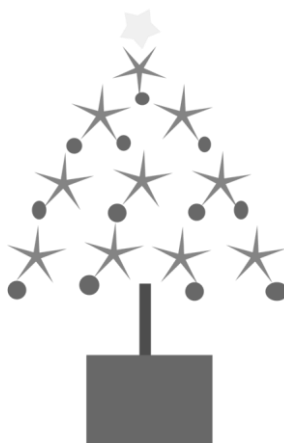
Tenor

Gijs Crone, Mike Currey* and Colin Parkes.

Bass

Henry Bell*, Paul Davies*, Steven Frank, John Haslam*, John King, Stuart Marshall and Martin Robinson.

* Members of The Chiltern Singers



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If you have enjoyed this evening's concert and would like to have a closer involvement with the Chiltern Choir, then you might like to consider becoming a Patron. For a modest annual fee, we offer you:

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Mr A. Osborne	Mrs F. Sanderson	Mr A. G. Sharp
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The following people have been made honorary members in recognition of their extended service to the choir:

Mrs K. Darby	Mr J. Facer	Mr M. Gaudie
Mr D. Lloyd	Dame G. Pugh	Mrs A. Sedgwick
Mr D. Treanor	Mr N. Wax	



Forthcoming concerts

2017

Saturday 25 February 2017

St Paul's Church, Chipperfield

Open Workshop Day

Vivaldi *Gloria & Magnificat*

Saturday 25 March 2017

Amersham Free Church

Spring Concert

Vivaldi by Candlelight

Saturday 1 July 2017

Christ Church, Chorleywood

Summer Concert

Sonnets and Spirituals

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