



Registered Charity No 276649

**Conductor: Carleton Etherington**

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# Christmas Concert

**Cirencester Choral Society**

**Major Pipework (*recorder consort*)**

**Judith Paris (*narrator*)**

**David Whitehead (*organ*)**

**and Audience (*carols*)**

*in support of*

*Cirencester Housing for Young People*



CHARITY No. 299821

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**22nd December 2015**

**Cirencester Parish Church**

**7.30 pm**

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# PROGRAMME

*(The words of the audience items are printed later in this programme)*

CHOIR	<i>On this day Earth shall ring</i>	<i>Haldane C Stewart</i>
ALL	<b>O come all ye faithful</b>	<i>arr David Willcocks</i>
CHOIR	<i>A babe is born I wvs</i>	<i>F. Bainton</i>
	<i>Infant holy, infant lowly</i>	<i>Polish, arr David Willcocks</i>
RECORDER CONSORT	<i>Je Suis L'Archange de Dieu</i>	<i>arr T Bayley and</i>
	<i>J Merryweather, from the York Waits Early Music Miscellany</i>	
	<i>The Shepherds' Farewell</i>	<i>Hector Berlioz</i>
		<i>from L'enfance du Christ</i>
	<i>O Magnum Mysterium</i>	<i>Tomás Luis de Victoria</i>
CHOIR	<i>Zion hears the watchmen's voices</i>	<i>J S Bach</i>
		<i>from Cantata 140, arr John Rutter</i>
ALL	<b>It came upon the midnight clear</b>	<i>English trad,</i>
		<i>arr Arthur Sullivan</i>
NARRATOR	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	<i>Charles Dickens</i>
CHOIR	<i>Magnificat in D</i>	<i>Johann Pachelbel</i>

## INTERVAL (20 mins)

*(Refreshments sold in aid of CHYP available in the Trinity Chapel)*

A representative of CHYP will speak briefly about the charity's work to help young homeless people in Cirencester

ALL	<b>My guardian angel</b>	<i>Judith Weir</i>
ALL	<b>Good King Wenceslas</b>	<i>arr Reginald Jacques</i>
NARRATOR	<i>The twelve days of Christmas</i>	<i>John Julius Norwich</i>
RECORDER CONSORT	<i>Huron Carol</i>	<i>Canadian, Jean de Brébeuf</i>
	<i>Wassail Song</i>	<i>arr Ralph Vaughan Williams</i>
	<i>Winter Wonderland</i>	<i>Felix Barnard, arr. Philip Evry</i>
CHOIR	<i>Myn liking</i>	<i>R R Terry</i>
ALL	<b>In the bleak midwinter</b>	<i>Gustav Holst</i>
CHOIR	<i>Coventry carol</i>	<i>arr Martin Shaw</i>
	<i>Sans day carol</i>	<i>Cornish trad, arr John Rutter</i>
ALL	<b>Hark! The herald angels sing</b>	<i>Felix Mendelssohn</i>
		<i>descant David Willcocks</i>

## Cirencester Choral Society's Fundraising

In addition to the annual programme of two main concerts per year in early May and late November/early December, Cirencester Choral Society has in recent years put on several Christmas concerts to raise funds for other charities – Save the Children, the Acorns Children's Hospice, the Campaign for Cirencester Parish Church to restore the south porch and, in our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year in 2013, the Churn Project. All profits from tonight's concert will be go to Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP). Our annual carol singing for charity at Cirencester's Waitrose store last Saturday was also in support of CHYP.

### Notes on tonight's concert programme

We are delighted to welcome the recorder consort *Major Pipework* to perform with us tonight and to welcome back Judith Paris who entertained us with her readings in 2013. We are very grateful to them for generously giving their time to support CHYP and we thank all our audience for attending tonight and supporting this deserving local charity.

In addition to well-known carol favourites, we will be asking you to play your part in singing *My Guardian Angel* by Judith Weir, who succeeded Sir Peter Maxwell Davies as Master of the Queens Music last year. The carol was first performed at the Spitalfields Festival in 1997 and written especially for audience participation. Carleton will teach you your part, but if you have a moment and want to steel a march on your neighbour, have a look at the music reproduced in this programme!

This year saw the death, at 95, of Sir David Willcocks and the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of John Rutter. These two giants of choral composition have shaped the Christmas musical landscape of the past 50–60 years through their arrangements of traditional carols and the writing of new ones. The programme tonight includes several of their arrangements, as no doubt will carol services and concerts across the nation in recognition their huge contribution.

Two works new to our seasonal repertoire include our opening carol by a less well-known British choral composer of the previous generation. Haldane Stewart was organist and choirmaster at Magdalen College Oxford throughout the interwar years. *On this day* is the best known of his modest output, exhibiting his liking for fluctuating time signatures to suit the rhythm and metre of the text. In contrast, the name of Johann Pachelbel is very familiar today, but unfortunately only through the popularity of his *Canon in D*. In his day – the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century – his extensive musical output was widely admired, particularly his organ and choral works. The *Magnificat* (the Virgin Mary's song of praise to God) that we sing tonight is one of no less than 13 settings of this canticle that Pachelbel composed.

The seasonal items chosen by *Major Pipework* span the centuries and the continents and bring a truly international flavour to our music making.

## Tonight's performers

**Carleton Etherington** (*conductor*) has been the Musical Director of Cirencester Choral Society since January 2005. He is Organist and Director of Music at Tewkesbury Abbey and combines that post with teaching and performing. He also conducts Pershore Choral. Carleton was educated at Chetham's School of Music and the Royal Academy of Music. In 1992 he won first prize at the Paisley International Organ Competition and, the following year, the Royal College of Organists' "Performer of the Year" competition. He held posts at St Bride's Fleet Street and Leeds Parish Church before taking up his present appointment in 1996. Carleton has performed throughout Europe, Australia and the USA and has won considerable acclaim for his CD recordings, both as soloist and accompanist. He frequently broadcasts on Radio 3's Choral Evensong and, in 2010, conducted the live Christmas morning BBC1 TV broadcast from Tewkesbury. Carleton lives in Tewkesbury with his wife, Katie, and their two young children, Hannah and John.

### **Major Pipework** (*recorder consort*)

Major Pipework was formed in 2002. Under the musical direction of Terry Hobbs, they are all amateurs and members of the Cheltenham and Gloucester branch of the Society of Recorder Players. Playing many types of music ranging from the 15th century to the present, their performances have raised funds to help with the maintenance of several churches and National Trust properties and for various charities. They aim to bring the pleasures of the recorder to a wider audience and you can usually see and hear at least 5 different types: Descant, Treble, Tenor, Bass and Great Bass. The small Sopranino or huge Contra bass may occasionally appear. After the performance you are most welcome to come and have a closer look!

**Judith Paris** (*narrator*) Judith was born in Cirencester and was a member of Cirencester Ballet Club, winning a scholarship to the Royal Ballet School. She has been a member of the National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company and has performed many times in London's West End. She made eight films with Ken Russell, has appeared in a variety of TV productions from Lynda La Plante's *Mind Games* and *A Touch of Frost* to *Dr Who* and *The Two Ronnies*. Judith's mother was the pianist Doris Franklin, Cirencester Choral Society's accompanist for many years. In 2011 Judith performed her one woman show *Waxing Lyrical* - the story of Mme Tussaud - in Cirencester Parish Church.

**David Whitehead** (*organist*) studied at the Royal College of Music in London where he was Organ Scholar at St Paul's Cathedral, before embarking upon a teaching and performing career. Over the years he has taught in a wide variety of schools, from London across to Gloucestershire, and his conducting and performing career has encompassed involvement with many church & school choirs, chamber choirs, and choral societies, including Cirencester CS from 2001-4. Alongside his teaching he has maintained a career as an established recitalist and répétiteur and has worked as an accompanist with a range of choirs.

## **Cirencester Housing for Young People (CHYP)**

CHYP was established in 1986 to help vulnerable young homeless people, aged 16 to 25, in and around the Cirencester area. CHYP provides stable housing with support services to enable its residents to develop independent living skills and realise their full potential.

No young person is homeless without something going seriously wrong in their life at some point. Each has his or her own unique set of problems requiring individual attention. Most importantly they need somebody they can trust and rely on, often for the first time in their lives. That's where CHYP comes in.

There are increasing numbers of homeless young people, particularly in the 16-18 year age group due to the rising number of family breakdowns and those leaving care aged 16 who are unprepared for independent living. Since 1986 CHYP has helped over 500 young people and has demonstrated that intensive support at this early stage can improve the life skills and employability of these young people, preventing the slide back into homelessness and benefit dependency.

Each client has a dedicated key worker who works closely with them to identify their support needs. Staffed 24 hours a day, CHYP's house at Querns Lane provides a high level of support for seven young people. During their stay the residents will learn how to look after themselves and start preparing for life in their own home. Help is given with life skills from self care, cooking and laundry, to literacy, numeracy and budgeting. Their key worker is also there to provide crucial emotional support. As residents become more confident and their skills grow, they are moved to the "next steps" accommodation in Ashcroft Road which houses four people. Here the level of support is lower as residents are encouraged to learn to become more independent. CHYP works with them to locate appropriate further education, work experience or training placements leading to employment and eventually to independent living.

However, the help offered does not stop when a young person moves into their own home since floating support continues. Many young people who were helped in the early days of the charity still maintain contact from time to time. For many young people CHYP is the nearest thing they have to a family.

If you would like to make a donation this Christmas or find out more about CHYP please go to <http://www.chypthecharity.org.uk>

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**Cirencester Choral Society's next event:  
Sat 7 May 2016, 7.30 pm, Cirencester Parish Church**

**Chilcott** *Requiem*

**Elgar** *Te Deum & Benedictus, Ave verum corpus,*

*O Salutaris hostia*

## 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 let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest;  
*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
*O come let us adore him,*  
Christ the Lord.



SUPPORTING &  
CHAMPIONING  
VOLUNTARY MUSIC

*Cirencester Choral Society is a member of  
Making Music (formerly the National  
Federation of Music Societies)*

## It came upon a midnight clear

It came upon a midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, good-will 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 lonely 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.

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*The Society gratefully acknowledges the help of  
the Visitor Information Centre in providing box  
office facilities for this concert.*

# My Guardian Angel

## AUDIENCE PART

1 *Con moto* ♩ = 72

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu -

- ia, Al - le - lu - - - - - ia. Sing this  
five times

*In verses 2 to 4, the choir weave the following lines by William Blake around the audience part:*

The Angel that presided o'er my birth  
Said, "Little Creature, form'd of Joy and Mirth,  
Go Love without the help of anything on earth."

## Good King Wenceslas

**All** Good King Wenceslas look'd 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,  
Gath'ring winter fuel.

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

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

**Men** Bring me flesh and bring me wine,  
Bring me pine logs 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.

**Women** 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.

**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.

## **In the bleak midwinter**

In the bleak midwinter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him,  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God almighty  
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a manger full of hay:  
Enough for him, whom angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.

Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Throng'd the air;  
But his mother only  
In her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved  
With a kiss.

What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb,

If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give him -  
Give my heart.

## **Hark! the herald angels sing**

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