

The Rotary Club of Guildford  
and the Vivace Chorus present



# THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Conductor: Jeremy Backhouse

in aid of the  
Mayor's Local Distress Fund  
and Guildford Young  
Carers charity

Three lit candles of varying heights are the central focus, surrounded by festive Christmas decorations including pine branches, red berries, and a silver pinecone. The background is a soft blue gradient.

Vivace  
Chorus

Sunday  
16th Dec 2018

7pm  
Holy Trinity Church  
Guildford

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD Councillor Mike Parsons



I am honoured and delighted to be joining you tonight for this very special concert and I am sure you are looking forward to it as much as I am.

As we settle back to enjoy tonight's concert and our thoughts inevitably turn to Christmas, we should also remember that for many people Christmas is a very challenging time of year.

By attending tonight's concert, you are helping the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund, which provides small sums of money to help residents of Guildford who are struggling to make ends meet and at this time of year the demand is even greater, so thank you all for being here!

I would like to pay tribute to the Vivace Chorus for presenting this fabulous programme and of course, The Rotary Club of Guildford. This annual concert would simply not be possible without the continued support of both groups and on behalf of my charitable causes; I sincerely thank you.

As you leave tonight, there will be a collection for the newly formed Guildford Young Carers Fund. I have formed the fund to support the huge number of young carers that we have in Guildford. Young people who find their normal young lives being replaced by caring for a relative within the family unit. The effect on these children is huge. Some fail to realise their academic potential, and they often suffer mental health issues, bullying and social media abuse.

I am working hard to build up the Guildford Young Carers Fund so that long after my Mayoral year the fund will support costs linked to their educational and respite needs and provide them with opportunities to meet other young carers, so please give what you can.

It only remains for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful New Year!

*Mike Parsons*

TONIGHT'S CHARITY  
**THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S  
LOCAL DISTRESS FUND**



Established in 1971, the fund was originally known as the Mayor of Guildford's Christmas and Local Distress Fund.

It is a registered charity with a clearly-defined purpose : to provide financial assistance to the needy within Guildford Borough, particularly at Christmas time.

The fund receives requests from all areas of the community and has helped individuals and groups with a wide variety of needs.

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY HELPING THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD THE BASICS.....such as.....**

- Buying shoes and clothing for children from very poor families
- Washing machines, Fridges, Cookers, and Kettles for those unable to afford such necessities
- Playgroup fees for less advantaged children
- Modest holidays for families, following a trauma

Requests for assistance should come from a third party, such as a Borough Councillor, Housing Officer or an official agency, like the Citizen's Advice, Community Health or Social Services. This helps to ensure that your donations are spent wisely and that assistance is given only to deserving cases.

**WITH YOUR HELP, WE REALLY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Registered Charity number : 258388

THE MAYOR OF GUILDFORD'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
featuring THE VIVACE CHORUS  
Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse  
Organist : William Nicholson

THIS EVENING'S PROGRAMME

**Audience Carol**

(arr. H.J.Gauntlett, arr.David Willcocks)

**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 meek, 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.

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.

## Choir

**Up! good Christian folk, and listen**

(*Piae Cantiones*, arr. GR Woodward))

**I wonder as I wander** (Appalachian, arr. John Rutter)

**A maiden most gentle** (French trad. arr. :Andrew Carter)

## Audience Carol

(English Trad. arr. Vaughan Williams/Willcocks)

### **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.

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 wondering love.

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.

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.

**Reading**

**'The Barn' by Elizabeth Coastsworth  
read by Valerie Adams**

**Choir**

**Shepherd's Pipe Carol** (arr. John Rutter)

**Myn lyking** (R R Terry)

**Ding Dong! merrily on high** (arr. David Willcocks)

**Audience Carol**

(J.F.Wade arr. David Willcocks)

**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 heaven 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*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing;  
*O Come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*Christ the Lord.*

**Choir**

**Kings of Orient** (J.H. Hopkins, arr. David Willcocks)

**Infant holy, infant lowly** (Polish, arr. David Willcocks)

**I saw three ships** (English Trad. arr. John Rutter)

**INTERVAL**

Wine, Soft Drinks & Mince Pies available

**Choir**

**Personent hodie** (German, arr. Gustav Holst)

**Still, still, still** (German trad. arr. Bob Chilcott)

**Christmas Lullaby** (John Rutter)

**Audience Carol**

(*Piae Cantiones*, arr. David Willcocks)

**Unto us is born a Son,**  
King of quires supernal:  
See on earth his life begun,  
Of lords the Lord eternal,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low,  
Comes on earth a stranger:  
Ox and ass their owner know,  
Be-cradled in a manger  
Be-cradled in a manger.

This did Herod sore af-fray,  
And grievously bewilder,  
So he gave the word to slay  
And slew the little childer,  
And slew the little childer.

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!

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

### Reading

**'Fear Not' from St Luke's Gospel**  
read by Robin Privett

### Choir

**The Christ-child** (Will Todd)

**The Holy and the Ivy** (John Gardiner)

### Audience Carol

(English Trad. arr. David Willcocks)

#### **God rest you merry, gentlemen**

Let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour  
Was born upon this 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*

From God our Heavenly Father,  
A blessed 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, comfort and joy*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

The Shepherds at these tidings  
Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a feeding,  
In tempest, storm and wind:  
And went to Bethlehem straightway,  
This blessed babe to find  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

**Choir only**

But when to Bethlehem they came  
Whereat this infant lay,  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling,  
Unto the Lord did pray.  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

**All**

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 others doth deface  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy*  
*O tidings of comfort and joy*

**Choir**

**Silent Night** (F. Gruber, arr. W. Swingle)

**A merry little Christmas** (Goff Richards)

**Address by the Mayor of Guildford  
Councillor Mike Parsons**

Introduced by the President of the Rotary Club of Guildford  
**Mr. Oliver McGeachy**

**Audience Carol**

(Charles Wesley : arr. Felix Mendelssohn)

**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 newborn King.*

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 the incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing.....*

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 newborn King.*

**Encore**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas** (arr. Bob Chilcott)

# THE VIVACE CHORUS

## **FIRST SOPRANOS :**

Sel Adamu, Jane Barnes, Helen Beevers, Mary Broughton, Rebecca Kirby, Fran MacKay, Susan Norton, Robin Onslow, Gillian Rix, Sarah Smithies, Joan Thomas, Hilary Vaill

## **SECOND SOPRANOS :**

Jacqueline Alderton, Isobel Humphries, Harriet Lavis, Krystyna Marsden, Isobel Mealar, Michelle Mumford, Alex Nash, Alison Newbery, Alison Palmer, Gill Perkins, Kate Peters, Valerie Thompson, Hilary Trigg, Christine Wilks, Fiona Wimblett, Frances Worpe

## **FIRST ALTOS :**

Barbara Barklem, Jackie Bearman, Jane Brooks, Elaine Harris, Jean Leston, Christine Medlow, Rosalind Milton, Liz Martin, Carol Sheppard, Marjory Stewart, Julia Stubbs, Sue Thomas, Maggie Woolcock

## **SECOND ALTOS :**

Evelyn Beastall, Sylvia Chantler, Sheena Ewen, Jo Glover, Pauline Higgins, Beth Jones, Kay McManus, Catherine Middleton, Sonia Nagle, Prue Smith, Rosey Storey, Anne Whitley, June Windle

## **FIRST TENORS :**

Bob Bromham, Owen Gibbons, Rosie Jeffery, Chris Robinson, John Trigg

## **SECOND TENORS :**

Tony Chantler, Simon Dillon, Stephen Linton, Peter Norman, Jon Scott

## **FIRST BASSES :**

Paul Barnes, Richard Broughton, Michael Dudley, Jon Long, Chris Newbery, Peter Pearce, Chris Peters, Robin Privett, David Ross, Philip Stanford, Kieron Walsh

## **SECOND BASSES :**

Geoffrey Forster, James Garrow, Stuart Gooch, Richard Wood

## ABOUT THE VIVACE CHORUS



The Vivace Chorus is a flourishing, ambitious and adventurous choir based in Guildford, Surrey, which aims to have fun making and sharing great choral music.

The choir has come a long way since it began in 1946 as the Guildford Philharmonic Choir, and now has an enviable reputation for performing first-class concerts across a wide range of musical repertoire. Particular successes include a sell-out performance in May 2011 of **Mahler's Symphony No. 8**, the 'Symphony of a Thousand', at the Royal Albert Hall, a highly acclaimed performance in November 2012 of **Britten's War Requiem** and another Royal Albert Hall success in May 2014 when we performed the **Verdi Requiem**. In 2017 we celebrated our 70th birthday with the Philharmonia Orchestra in the Royal Festival Hall.

Since 1995, the Vivace Chorus has thrived under the exceptional leadership of this evening's conductor, Jeremy Backhouse. Jeremy's passion for choral works and his sheer enthusiasm for music-making are evident at every rehearsal and performance. He is supported by Francis Pott, who is not just a very fine rehearsal accompanist, but is also an academic and composer of international repute and an accomplished concert pianist.

In addition to our own concerts in Guildford and London, we also sing in various charity concerts and, with our regular orchestra, the Brandenburg Sinfonia, take part in the Brandenburg Choral Festival each year in St Martin-in-the-Fields.

This year, to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, Vivace staged its 'Concert for Peace' in aid of the Royal British Legion at G-Live during the Armistice weekend. And for the past 14 years, the Choir have also taken part in the Mayor of Guildford's Christmas Concert at Holy Trinity Church raising much needed money for the Mayor's Local Distress Fund.



We also like to take our music-making overseas and have toured France, Italy, Germany, Austria and this year, Estonia and Latvia.

We're a friendly and sociable choir that enjoys singing traditional choral classics alongside the challenge of contemporary and newly-commissioned music. We are always happy to welcome new members, so if you would like to try us out, do come along to any of our regular rehearsals on Monday evenings at 7.15 in the Millmead Centre, Millmead, Guildford. Just contact our membership secretary Jane Brooks at [membership@vivacechorus.org](mailto:membership@vivacechorus.org) and for more information, visit our website, [vivacechorus.org](http://vivacechorus.org), and follow us on Facebook and Twitter - [@VivaceChorus](https://www.facebook.com/VivaceChorus).

## JEREMY BACKHOUSE

Jeremy is one of Britain's leading choral conductors. He began his musical career in Canterbury Cathedral where he was Senior Chorister. In 1980 he was appointed Music Editor at the RNIB, where he was responsible for the transcription of print music into Braille. He has worked for both EMI Classics and later Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers as a Literary Editor, but now pursues his career as a freelance conductor.



Jeremy has been the sole conductor of the internationally-renowned chamber choir Vasari Singers since its inception in 1980. Since winning the prestigious Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition in 1988, the Vasari Singers has performed regularly at concert venues and cathedrals throughout the UK and abroad. Jeremy and Vasari have broadcast frequently on BBC Radio and Classic FM, and have a discography of over 25 CDs on the EMI, Guild, Signum and Naxos labels; they have recently launched their own Vasari Media label with a recording of Jonathan Rathbone's *Under the shadow of His wing*, which they premiered in 2014. A recent recording of Rachmaninov's *'All-Night Vigil'* was released in October 2017.

In January 1995, Jeremy was appointed Music Director of the Vivace Chorus. Alongside the standard classical works, Jeremy has conducted the Vivace Chorus in some ambitious programmes, including Howells' *Hymnus Paradisi* and Szymanowski's *Stabat Mater*, Mahler's *'Resurrection' Symphony (No. 2)*, Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* and *Ivan the Terrible*, Mahler's *'Symphony of a Thousand' (No. 8)* and Verdi's *Requiem* in the Royal Albert Hall with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

In January 2009, Jeremy took up the post of Music Director of the Salisbury Community Choir. In 2013 the choir celebrated its 21st Anniversary with a major concert in Salisbury Cathedral in October, featuring the world premiere of a specially-commissioned community work by Will Todd *'The City Garden'*, which they subsequently performed in Lincoln in 2014 and in Guildford in 2015. A commission for a major new work from Alexander L'Estrange is planned for November 2018.

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUILDFORD



The Rotary Club of Guildford was formed in 1922, when only six such clubs existed in Great Britain. Today, there are 1,840 Rotary Clubs with over 55,000 members in the UK, and 1.2 million members in 33,000 Clubs worldwide.

Besides the '1922' Guildford Club, there are two other Rotary Clubs in the town - the Guildford District Club, which was founded in 1975 and the Guildford Chancies Club, founded in 1991.

One of the Club's earliest fundraising projects in the 1920s was its 'Big Brother' scheme, which was launched to help the town's youngsters, some of whom had lost their fathers during the First World War. In 1927, the Club embarked on a project to raise enough money to install radio sets in the wards of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, so the patients could 'listen in'.

During the Second World War, one of the Club's most memorable humanitarian events was dealing with the reception of soldiers from the beaches of Dunkirk, when the special troop trains arrived back at Guildford Station in June 1940.



In the 1960s, The Rotary Club of Guildford played a significant part in the fund raising efforts to establish the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in 1965 and played a critical role establishing of the University of Surrey in Guildford in 1966.

This year, the Club organised the local heats of Rotary's Young Musician Competition at the Guildford Institute. Our photo shows the Rotary Club's President presenting the winners of the singing competition with their certificates.



During the past year, the Club raised over £2000 for their chosen charity *Cherry Trees* at East Clandon, which provides short breaks for children and young people with learning, physical and sensory disabilities, giving their families a much-needed break.

The Club continues to run the heats for local Guildford schools in their annual Rotary Youth Speaks competition, which is part of a national contest designed to foster pupils vital public speaking skills.

Other continuing projects include support for the Samson centre in Guildford for sufferers with Multiple Sclerosis, the Jaipur Limb Project in India, Rotary International's 'End Polo Now' campaign and the Club's own Guildford Eye Project, which has established specialist eye hospitals in India and Africa to cure blindness in the developing world.

And tonight, the Mayor's Christmas Concert, organised by Guildford Rotary Club, is still raising funds for the Mayor of Guildford's Local Distress Fund - a registered charity that gives small grants of money to Guildford people in genuine need.

Despite being in one of the most affluent parts of Surrey, Guildford still has, nonetheless, pockets of deprivation, where people struggle to make ends meet on a daily basis, needing the most basic items, that most of the rest of us just take for granted.

The Rotary Club of Guildford has now been established for nearly a century and continues to welcome new members. The Club can be contacted through its website at [www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk](http://www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk)

**FORTHCOMING CONCERTS BY  
THE VIVACE CHORUS**

**THE SEA SYMPHONY**

Vaughan Williams

**FOUR SEA INTERLUDES** from Peter Grimes

Benjamin Britten

**SIR PATRICK SPENS**

Herbert Howells

**The Vivace Chorus**

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

**Dorking Halls**

**Saturday, March 30th 2019 : 7.30pm**

**REQUIEM & CLARINET CONCERTO**

Mozart

**ADAGIETTO** from **SYMPHONY No 5**

Mahler

**The Vivace Chorus**

Conductor : Jeremy Backhouse

**Saturday, May 25th 2019 : G-Live : 7.30pm**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Rotary Club of Guildford would like to thank  
the following people and organisations  
for their help in staging this year's  
Mayor of Guildford's Christmas Concert

The Members of the Vivace Chorus  
Jeremy Backhouse : William Nicholson  
Canon Robert Cotton : Downs Solicitors LLP  
The Parish of Holy Trinity and St Marys, Guildford  
The Inner Wheel Club of Guildford



Wishing you a

**Merry  
Christmas**

X9405

[vivacechorus.org](http://vivacechorus.org) / [www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk](http://www.rotaryclubguildford.co.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1026337