



Wareham Choral Society

"A Celebration of Christmas"

Sun 7th December 2025 5pm

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH,
BERE REGIS BH20 7HA

**Free
admission!**



Patron **Rt Hon David Mellor KC**
Conductor **Hazel Ricketts** Organist **Paul Ellis**

Join us for a "CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS",
a 1-hour, family-friendly concert of Christmas
music and carols for choir and audience,
in the historic church of St John the Baptist,
Bere Regis

For their support for our concerts, thanks to:
The King's Arms, Stoborough
<https://thekingsarms-stoborough.co.uk/>
Love It Local



FREE ADMISSION with retiring collection
(profits to the church)
<https://www.warehamchoral.uk>

Introduction

Wareham Choral Society are delighted to be here in Bere Regis Church today for our "Celebration of Christmas". We are looking forward very much to singing some Christmas music, and hope that you will join in heartily with the carols for all to sing.

Christmas is always a great time for music making and sharing the joy of music with others, but remember - your local choirs are for life, not just for Christmas!

We're only down the road in Wareham and would love you to join us if you enjoy tonight - either as audience for a concert, or as a singing member of the choir!

Wishing you all a peaceful Advent, and joy at Christmas.

Hazel Ricketts has been conductor of Wareham Choral Society since 2018. She is Co- director of music at St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge and much in demand as a freelance organist and teacher in the Salisbury area where she is based.

Paul Ellis has been our accompanist since 2019. He is an experienced organ recitalist, giving performances across the UK and in the USA and in Paris, along with regular recitals in Sherborne Abbey.

Our singers tonight are:

Sopranos: Sylvie Adler, Jane Bailey, Eve Baker, Nicola Brooke, Hazel Carter, Teresa Rekowska.

Altos: Maureen Bayliss, Eleanor Driscoll, Nancy Gibson, Margaret Harris, Jenny Hyde, Janet Jones, Debs Kelly, Mary Mathers, Frances Tomlinson Mynors.

Tenors: Paul Cady, Terry Hoare, Bob Newnham, Sarah Welton, Brian Wilkins.

Basses: Gideon Daly, Ian Grocott, Mark Lapper, Malcolm Selwood.

The words for each carol can be found on pages 4-10.

Rev Liselle Clarke- Welcome
Moisley

The Lord's Prayer (traditional words)

All Carol - O Come all ye Faithful

Choir A Great and Mighty Wonder

All Carol - O Little Town of Bethlehem

Sarah Welton Reading – The Birth of Christ

Choir A Maiden Most Gentle

All Carol - In the Bleak Mid-winter

Gideon Daly and Mark Lapper Reading – A Rumour of Angels

Choir Jingle Bells

All Carol - Joy to the World

Margaret Harris Reading – The Shepherds

Choir O Holy Night

All While Shepherds Watched

Rev Liselle Reading – John; 1 v1-14

Choir One Star

All Carol - We Three Kings

Teresa Rekowska Reflections at Christmas & Closing Words

All Carol - Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Please join us for seasonal refreshments after the concert!

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.

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,

leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear

We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps.

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.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

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 mangerful 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 thronged the air;
But only his Mother 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.



Joy To The World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King,
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns.
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

There will be a retiring collection, with all profits going to:

St John the Baptist Church, Bere Regis.

Our next concert is on
Saturday April 25th 2026
at Lady St Mary Church, Wareham at 7pm,
when we shall be performing **Elgar's The Music-Makers.**
Make a note in your diary!

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 heav'nly 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!"

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

(MEN ONLY)

Born a King on Bethlehem plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign:

O star of wonder etc.

(MEN ONLY)

Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a deity nigh:
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God most high:

O star of wonder etc.

(MEN ONLY)

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb:

O star of wonder etc.

Glorious now, behold Him arise,
King and God and sacrifice!
Heav'n sings alleluya,
Alleluya the earth replies:

O star of wonder, etc.

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 the 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 the 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".

**Why not treat yourself to a Christmas meal at
The King's Arms Stoborough?**

MAIN COURSES

Roasted Turkey Breast
filled with sausagemeat,
sage & onion stuffing
with a rich turkey gravy

Marinated, Chargrilled, Lamb Leg Steak
with a red wine, redcurrant & mint jus

Pan Fried Pork Tenderloin
wrapped in smoked streaky bacon,
with a grain mustard & mushroom cream sauce

Poached Cod Loin
with a lemon, prawn & parsley cream sauce

Slow Cooked Venison Bourguignon
in a red wine, button mushroom &
baby onion sauce,
topped with a stilton cheese croute

Butternut Squash & Lentil Wellington (VG)
with wild mushroom & tarragon cream sauce

All of our main courses are served
with herb & garlic roasted potatoes,
honey roasted parsnips &
a selection of seasonal vegetables

DESSERTS

Traditional Christmas Pudding
served with brandy sauce

Coffee Crème Brûlée
served with Italian caramelised biscuit

White Chocolate & Raspberry Cheesecake
with chantilly cream & raspberry compote

Belgian Chocolate & Clementine Torte (V)
with orange coulis &
vanilla ice cream

Selection of Cheese & Biscuits
with celery, chutney & grapes

Our dining area will be festively
decorated & we will be taking
Christmas Party bookings
between 1st December &
24th December

We look forward to seeing
you & will make sure your
visit to us is a special one

*Damian &
the team*



Wareham Choral Society



"Wareham's choir since 1947"



Come and sing with us!

New members are very welcome in our
Wareham community choral society



There are no auditions, but the ability to follow a musical score, or choir experience, are useful.

We sing well known favourites, as well as new compositions, and have lots of fun!

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings, 7:15 - 9:15pm
in term times.

Stay in tune with Wareham Choral Society:

Website: www.warehamchoral.uk

Email: warehamchoral@gmail.com



@warehamchoral