

The Choir's next major public performance will be our
SPRING CONCERT
which will be held in
Tillicoultry Parish Church
17 Dollar Road, Tillicoultry
on Saturday, 22nd April, 2023 (TBC).
We hope to see you there.

Clackmannanshire Choral Society
rehearses on Monday evenings at 7 p.m.
in Tillicoultry Church Hall, 17 Dollar Road, Tillicoultry.
New members are welcome to join us.
Just come along to a rehearsal.
<http://clackschoral.webs.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ClacksChoral/>

Sopranos

Joyce Bell
Jean Carberry
Elizabeth Philliben
Moiria Sutherland
Isabel Watt
Cath Chadwick
Pamela Thomson
Kate Paterson
Marie Pascale Bray
Elaine Scott
Kathryn Downer
Marlene Powrie
Isabelle Reekie

The Choristers

Altos

Sue Egerton
Elsie Pollock-Smith
Kay Conn
Ritsuko Inoue
Lindsay Lovell
Carol Lawson
Sylvia Gorski
Carole Thomson

Tenors

Joy Hendry
Brian Howie
Patrick Cairns
Ken Thomson

Basses

Ian McLachlan
Henry Edwards
David Dobbie
Ewart McAuslane

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Christmas Concert



PROGRAMME



*Programme
by donation*

Saturday, 10th December 2022
*Tillicoultry Parish Church,
17 Dollar Road, Tillicoultry.
7:30 p.m.*

Welcome

On behalf of Clacks Choral, I have the greatest pleasure in welcoming you to our Christmas Concert 2022, our first public performance since our Christmas Concert 2019. In early March 2020, anticipating the onset of the pandemic, we abandoned rehearsals for our Spring 2020 concert and have remained in recess until September this year, when at long last we were able to reconvene.

Meg Carroll makes her debut appearance as our new accompanist tonight. Without her skill, patience and generous assistance throughout our rehearsal schedule, this evening's programme could never have been brought to performance. Our search for a long-term incumbent as Music Director continues – in the meantime I am acting in the role.

Thinking of joining us? We welcome new members and there is no scary audition! We recommence rehearsing for our Spring Concert in Tillicoultry Church Hall at 7pm on Monday January 9th, 2023. We would be delighted to see you!

We hope you enjoy your evening with us and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Donal Hurley
Acting President

Our Acting Conductor

Donal T Hurley M.Sc. was born in Waterford in 1960, but lived in Dublin from the age of 8 until, at the age of 23, he abandoned work on a Ph.D. in theoretical physics at University College Dublin for a career in teaching. After over 4 years teaching at Ashwicke Hall in Wiltshire, a Lebanese-owned international boarding school, he transferred to the same company's Abu Dhabi school in 1988, leading their international Physics department until 1997, whereupon a 2-year stint lecturing at UAE University in the oasis city of Al Ain allowed a career highlight to coincide with the life highlight of the births of his two daughters.

Returning to the UK in 1999, a year teaching Maths and Physics at Glenalmond College in rural Perthshire allowed him to complete GTCS registration in those two subjects and join the Scottish state sector, where he continued to teach until retirement in 2020. Though retired, he is still active on supply at Alva Academy.

A scientist by training and inclination, Donal's lifelong passions are nonetheless languages and music. He plays violin and cello and, until assuming the roles of Acting President and Acting Music Director, sang in our basses and served as Publicity Officer, an office he still retains. He is also a reviewer contributing to the Edinburgh Music Review online, as well as an activist in the EIS trade union and various other roles in pursuit of social justice.

13. ALL:

W. J. Kirkpatrick

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

14. CHOIR, A CAPPELLA & ACCOMPANIED

(a) **Past Three O' Clock**

Trad. arr. C. Wood

(b) **Down, Down the Chimney**

I. Rothenberg

(c) **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas**

Martin / Blane

15. ALL

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. (Chorus)

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God In the Highest. (Chorus)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born that happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n:
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. (Chorus)

**THE CHOIR WISHES YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS,
A HAPPY NEW YEAR and a safe journey home.**

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and Life to all he brings, Ris'n 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.

(a) **Sing Alleluia!** J. Althouse
(b) ***Non Nobis, Domine*** R. Quilter
(c) ***Calon Lân (Pure Heart)*** (Sung in English) arr. M. Hughes

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down And glory shone around.

Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song:

(a) **Fairy on the Christmas Tree** **H. Parr-Davies**
Joyce Bell, *Soprano*

(b) Cradle Song (*Wiegenlied*) F. Schubert
Isabel Watt, *Soprano*

(c) **The Journey of the Magi** *poem* **T. S. Eliot**
read by **Donal Hurley**

The Society is thrilled to introduce our new accompanist, **Meg Carroll** ALCM. Meg was born in Dumbarton and raised in Helensburgh. She started piano lessons at the age of 5, progressing to playing harmonium for Sunday School and piano for Brownies, Guides and Ballet Classes by the age of 12. Leaving school after O-levels, Meg enrolled in a secretarial college in Glasgow, which led to a career in administration, including at Alva Academy, Stirling University, NCH and Grounds for Learning. She continued to study music privately and joined Girlguiding in Alva and the Scottish Singing Circle. Thus she had the opportunity to try the *clarsach* and was hooked. She joined Edinburgh -based *Na Clarsairean* and has since played in many venues, including Holyrood Palace, the Scottish Parliament, Scone Palace and Iona Abbey. Performing with a friend in the National Mod, they won the adult duet competition two years in a row. She learned violin at school and unearthed the instrument after many years neglect and now plays with Stirling Strathspey and Reel Society. Flute playing also took her fancy and she often plays with friends in small groups. She is in demand as a church organist and is an active member of Stirling and District Society of Organists. She has recently taken up post as Organist at Menstrie Parish Church. Formerly and occasionally our relief accompanist, we are delighted to welcome Meg as our accompanist and guide to our music-making into the future.

1. ALL (CHOIR and AUDIENCE) **H. J. Gauntlett**

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.

2. CHOIR, A CAPPELLA & ACCOMPANIED
(a) **Ding Dong Merrily on High** 16th Century French
arr. C. Wood
(b) **Unto Us Is Born a Son** 16^h Century
arr. D. Willcocks
3. SOLOIST **Kate Paterson, Soprano**
White Christmas (*from Holiday Inn*) **I. Berlin**
4. ALL: **English trad. arr. D. Willcocks**
The First Nowell the Angel did say
Was to certain poor Shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Chorus: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell.
Born is the King of Israel.
- They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued, both day and night. **Chorus**
- And by the light of that same Star
Three Wise Men came from country far,
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wherever it went. **Chorus**
- Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought. **Chorus**
5. CHOIR, A CAPPELLA & ACCOMPANIED
(a) **O Radiant Dawn** **J. MacMillan**
(b) **Sweet Dreams** **D. Jepson**
(c) **Nativity Carol** **J. Rutter**

6. SOLOIST **Ewart McAuslane, Bass**
The Christmas Song **R. Wells / M. Tormé**
7. CHOIR, A CAPPELLA & ACCOMPANIED
(a) **O Men From The Fields** **P. Colum / A. Cooke**
(b) **Coventry Carol** **Trad. 16^h Century English**
(c) **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**
Trad. English, arr. A. Sullivan
8. ALL: **Trad. English arr. R. Vaughan Williams**
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 praise 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 wond'ring love.
- How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.
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.
- INTERVAL**
9. ALL: **F. Mendelssohn**
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.