

2 good concerts. Afternoon one had more <sup>a greater</sup> dynamic range. In the evening I came in early at the end of 12 days. Oh dear on well...

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*Cantorium*

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*Choir*

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**CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT**

Sunday 12th December 1999

St John the Baptist Church  
Cookham Dean

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## CANTORUM CHOIR'S NEXT PERFORMANCE...

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Sunday 6th February 2000

Liston Hall, Marlow



An Evening of Romantic Music  
With a Three Course Candlelit Supper



Tickets are on sale today during the Interval

Book Early to avoid disappointment  
as Seating is Limited

Ticket Price £16 (includes welcome drink)

For ticket sales after today please contact  
**Marianne Stork** on 01628 525371



## CANTORUM CHOIR

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The Cantorum Choir is one of the finest amateur choirs in the Thames Valley area, having built up its reputation through regular concerts for the past 18 years. It draws its membership from experienced musicians and numbers at least 24 singers, presenting on average four concerts a year.

Since its formation in 1981, the choir has been involved in numerous engagements further afield, including a broadcast for BBC TV, soundtrack for the *Inspector Morse* series, an appearance on BBC 2's *Out and About*, recordings for Pickwick and Silva Screen Records, and guest appearances at carol concerts at the Royal Albert Hall.

Last year the choir undertook its first overseas tour to Paris, with highly acclaimed performances at Messiaen's church La Trinité and at Meaux Cathedral.

The choir is most fortunate in having three fine conductors, in Jonathan Miall (its founder and president), Murray Hipkin, of English National Opera, and today's conductor, Sally Stafford.

### SALLY STAFFORD - *Conductor*

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Sally began her musical career by playing the oboe. She read music at Royal Holloway College, where she studied conducting as part of her degree course. She has been Head of Music at Burnham Grammar School, teacher and conductor at the Wycombe Music Centre, and County Advisory Music Teacher for Buckinghamshire, during which time she wrote "Sound Activities", a book on teaching music in primary schools. In 1989 she was appointed Director of Music at Dame Alice Owen's School, where she conducted a full symphony orchestra, a training orchestra of 130, a chamber orchestra, jazz bands and choirs. She has conducted orchestras on the South Bank and was invited to demonstrate music teaching on the platform of the Royal Festival Hall, as part of the Festival of Music for Youth.

She has taken a great interest in the training and supervision of music teachers and has lectured on the P.G.C.E., B.Ed. and M.A. courses at Middlesex University. Sally has recently devoted her time to bringing up her young family, and is now beginning to resume her professional career in conducting and in music education, through teaching and consultancy work.

## **KERI DEXTER - Organist**

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Keri Dexter read music at Clare College, Cambridge, where he was an organ scholar, and at the University of Reading; he is currently studying for a Ph.D. in musicology at Royal Holloway. Whilst at Cambridge, Keri appeared with Clare College Choir on numerous broadcasts and recordings, as both singer and organist. He also performed in major festivals in Europe and the USA. During this time, he was a pupil of David Sanger and of Stephen Farr, with whom he continues to study.

An accomplished baritone, Keri has been a member of the *Cantorum Choir* since 1995. He has also sung with the choirs of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Sheffield and Southwark Cathedrals, and St George's Chapel, Windsor.

## **GORDON COLLINS - Pianist**

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Gordon Collins started piano lessons at the age of five and later, whilst at Grammar School in Birmingham, studied the clarinet and cello. In 1952 he won first prize at the Cheltenham Open Piano Competition. From 1959 to 1984 he studied privately with Professor Patrick Cory of the Royal Academy of Music.

Gordon particularly enjoys piano accompaniment and chamber music but is also an experienced conductor, both of instrumentalists and vocalists.

## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT 1999**

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1. Frohloeket, ihr Völker auf Erden      Felix Mendelssohn  
Rejoice, people on earth and praise God!
2. The holly and the ivy      Jonathan Willcocks - words traditional
3. Reading
4. God rest you merry, gentlemen      English traditional,  
arr. David Willcocks
5. In the bleak mid-winter      Harold Darke - words by Christina Rossetti  
*Soprano solo: Emily Hove*  
*Tenor solo: Malcolm Stork*
6. A Child is born in Bethlehem      Malcolm Archer
7. The crown of roses      Peter Tchaikovsky - words by Plechtchév,  
translated by Geoffrey Dearmer
8. Reading
9. Spanish Carol A Babe is born      Traditional, arr. Andrew Carter
10. The twelve days of Christmas      English traditional, arr. John Rutter

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## SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

Words by E. Caswall

See amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn; Hail, redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies;  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn; Hail, redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Sacred infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn; Hail, redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,  
By thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble thee,  
In thy sweet humility.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn; Hail, redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.*

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## CANTORUM CHOIR

<i>Sopranos</i>	<i>Altos</i>	<i>Tenors</i>	<i>Basses</i>
Catherine Arnold	Penny Bysse	Robert Goode	John Buck
Helen Baker	Anne Glover	David Hazeldine	Keri Dexter
Bridget Bentley	Eleanor Griffiths	Richard Ratcliff	Arthur Giorgi
Cathy Branton	Mary Jefferies	Malcolm Stork	Peter Griffiths
Jill Goode	Shirley Kay		Patrick McClaughry
Emily Hove	Viv Mitchell		Andrew Stafford
Claire Laloe	Jo Rodgers		Nick Weait
Jo Parton	Richard Sedding		
Valerie Snapes	Lorna Sykes		
Marianne Stork			

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## MAILING LIST

Members of the choir's mailing list are sent, free of charge, advance details of all Cantorum Choir's concerts, together with a priority booking form. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please telephone Valerie Snapes on 01753 866479.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**Box Office Facilities** - Village Hardware, Cookham  
Cookham Dean Post Office Stores

**Rehearsal Pianist** - Gordon Collins

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Also, our thanks to the Reverend John Copping and the Church  
Wardens for the use of the church for today's concerts.

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## CANTORUM CHOIR

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Conductor - SALLY STAFFORD  
Organ - KERI DEXTER  
Piano - GORDON COLLINS

- . A babe is born William Mathias - words 15th Century
- . Tomorrow shall be my dancing  
ay English traditional,  
arr. David Willcocks  
*Soprano solo: Valerie Snapes*
- . The Oxen Ian Hillier - This setting of Thomas Hardy's  
poem was written for the Cantorum Choir
- . See amid the winter's snow John Goss, arr. David Willcocks
- Reading
- Gaudete from Piae Cantiones (1582),  
arr. Ian Hicks-Mudd
- Hymne à la Vierge Pierre Villette - poem by Roland Bouhéret
- The little road to Bethlehem Michael Head - words by Margaret Rose
- O little town of Bethlehem** English traditional, arr. R. Vaughan  
Williams and Thomas Armstrong
- . Angels' Carol John Rutter
- l. Deck the hall Welsh traditional, arr. John Rutter

\*\*\* INTERVAL \*\*\*

## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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Words by Bishop Phillips Brooks

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 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.