

The first Nowell

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:
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:
Nowell.....

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:
Nowell.....

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 man-kind hath bought:
Nowell.....

Link

At the end of the concert, by way of a retiring collection, we will be asking you to support a local charitable organisation. Link, as its name suggests provides collective direction and co-ordination for a large number of individual charities that provide help, guidance and practical support to the homeless people of Reading.

At this time of fellowship and charity we hope you will be generous towards these people much less fortunate than ourselves.

Christmas pot pourri



~~~~ PROGRAMME ~~~~

First Half

Second Half

|                |                                                           |                                            |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| All            | Once in royal David's city<br>verses 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5      | Gauntlett                                  |
| Choir          | Away in a manger<br>In the bleak mid-winter               | Kirkpatrick arr. Willcocks<br>Gustav Holst |
| Reading        | Christmas<br><i>Reader - John Cathrow</i>                 | John Betjeman                              |
| Choir          | Nativity carol<br>Ding dong! merrily on high              | Rutter<br>arr. Wood                        |
| All            | The first Nowell                                          | Willcocks                                  |
| Yuletide Brass | Wallace & Gromitt<br>Rudolph                              | Bert Osborn<br>Bert Osborn                 |
| Chamber Choir  | Verbum Caro Factum Est                                    | Hans Leo Hassler                           |
| Reading        | King John's Christmas<br><i>Reader - Annie Parkinson</i>  | A. A. Milne                                |
| Choir          | Winter Wonderland                                         | Felix Bernard                              |
| Solo           | Walking in the Air<br><i>Guest Soloist - Hannah Davis</i> | Howard Blake                               |
| All            | Hark! the herald-angels sing                              | Mendelssohn                                |

|                |                                                                                         |                                  |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| All            | O little town of Bethlehem                                                              | Vaughan Williams                 |
| Choir          | I saw a maiden                                                                          | Old Basque Noel                  |
| Piano Duets    | A Winter Ride<br>O come all ye swinging faithful<br><i>Jane Andrews and Alex Taylor</i> | Theo Bonheur<br>Patela Wedgewood |
| Reading        | A Trip to the Theatre<br><i>Reader - Sheila Mason</i>                                   | Nigel Smith                      |
| Choir          | Sussex carol<br>Silent night                                                            | arr. Willcocks<br>arr. Woodgate  |
| Yuletide Brass | In Dulci Jubilo<br>Mary's boy child                                                     | arr. Boyle<br>arr. Bagshaw       |
| Solo           | The dormouse's carol<br><i>Guest Soloist - Hannah Davis</i>                             | Elizabeth Poston                 |
| Reading        | 'Twas the Night Before Solstice<br><i>Reader - Maureen Watkins</i>                      | James Finn Garner                |
| Quartet        | I sing of a maiden<br><i>Jane Andrews, Sheila Mason, Anne Orton &amp; Karen Patten</i>  | Patrick Hadley                   |
| Choir          | White Christmas                                                                         | Irving Berlin                    |
| All            | O come, all ye faithful<br>verses 1, 2, 3, & 6                                          | Willcocks                        |

INTERVAL    *Refreshments and Raffle*

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Thames Vale Singers wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Musical Director - **Alex Taylor**
Pianist - **Peter Bernard**

Yuletide Brass - *Jennifer Bagshaw, Norman Bagshaw, Martin Cordy,
Don Dobby & Elaine Hedger*