

The **Promenade Girls' Choir** is drawn from experienced singers who are invited to join workshops and prepare a concert. The first such workshop was at Christmas seven years ago, and each year since the choir has prepared a programme to sing to the patients of the Princess Alice Hospice.

The members of tonight's choir are:

Carys Bainbridge	Amber Broekhuizen
Abigail Clarke	Emma Clarke
Fleur Eldridge	Natalie Edwards
Anna Fitzgerald	Beth Goldsack
Rebecca Goodchild	Felicity Green
Summer Greenaway	Melissa Livermore
Rebecca Madden	Olivia Mitchell
Daisy Sheppard	Rebecca Sullivan
Naomi Vidis-Humphries	

The success of the Girls' Choir encouraged Christopher to set up another choir which rehearses weekly. In June 2008 he set up the **Promenade Junior Choir** to provide a high quality singing opportunity for children aged 8 - 12, and in January 2009 he set up the **Promenade Youth Choir** for older singers. He is grateful for the support of the R.C.Sherriff Trust and the Charity of Robert Phillips.

Anybody interested in joining the **Promenade Junior Choir** or the newly formed **Promenade Youth Choir** can visit the **Promenade** website www.promenade.org.uk or call Christopher on 01932 242805.

Dates for the diary:

The next concert by the Promenade Choirs is at 7pm on Sunday 21st March at St Peter's Church in Hersham. The Junior Choir will be performing the Creation Jazz by Gwyn Arch and the Youth Choir will be performing Vivaldi's Gloria.



Promenade *Girls' Choir*

Concert of Christmas and seasonal music

**Riverhouse Barn Arts Centre,
Walton-on-Thames,
5pm Sunday January 3rd 2010**

A Ceremony of Carols - Britten and other seasonal music

**Directed by Christopher Goldsack
with Benjamin Costello - piano
and Mary Reid - Harp**

Programme

A Ceremony of Carols – Benjamin Britten

1) Hodie

Procession - Alleluia, Christ is born today.

2) Wolkum yole

*Welcome all, be ye heavenly king or humble person, and make good cheer.
May the New Year bring you many blessings.*

3) There is no Rose

*In the womb of Mary the fantastic truth of heaven and earth united is
made manifest.*

4a) That yonge Child

*The nightingale's song is hoarse next to Mary's lullaby. Whoever follows the
nightingale does wrong.*

4b) Balulalow

A tender lullaby for the infant Jesus.

5) As dew in Aprille

*I sing of a pure maiden who searched for her son, King of all Kings. He left
her as quietly as the dew in April.*

6) This little Babe

*With only the innocent weapons of Truth, the Holy Child takes on all the
forces of hell.*

7) Interlude (Harp)

8) In freezing winter night

*See the lowly babe in a manger lies. This stable is his court. Approach and
pay homage to your King.*

9) Spring Carol

*The earth was created for man to enjoy. All nature praises God, and we do
likewise.*

10) Deo Gracias

*Thanks be to God, for had Adam not taken the apple then our Lady would
never have bourn Jesus for our salvation. Therefore we sing.*

11) Hodie

Recession - Alleluia, Christ is born today.

In March 1942 Benjamin Britten was returning to England following three years in the United States. During the voyage the ship berthed at Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he came across a book of poems in Middle English and some of these he set during the voyage as the 'Ceremony of Carols'. Now hugely popular, it is an unusual setting for high voices and harp. Britten was planning to write a harp concerto and so had been studying the instrument, and had with him a manual on writing for the instrument.

The work opens and closes with the choir processing to plainsong (though today we do not process), and the other songs deal in a varied way with the traditional stories surrounding the birth of Christ.

Interval

Once in Royal David's city
In the bleak midwinter
Away in a Manger
O come, all ye faithful
The Sussex carol
The Three Kings
The Sans Day Carol
Silent Night
The Coventry Carol
The Time of Snow
A merry Christmas
O holy night!
The Virgin's Slumber Song
It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas
White Christmas
Snow
Walking in the air
Winter Wonderland
African Gloria
Have yourself a merry little Christmas