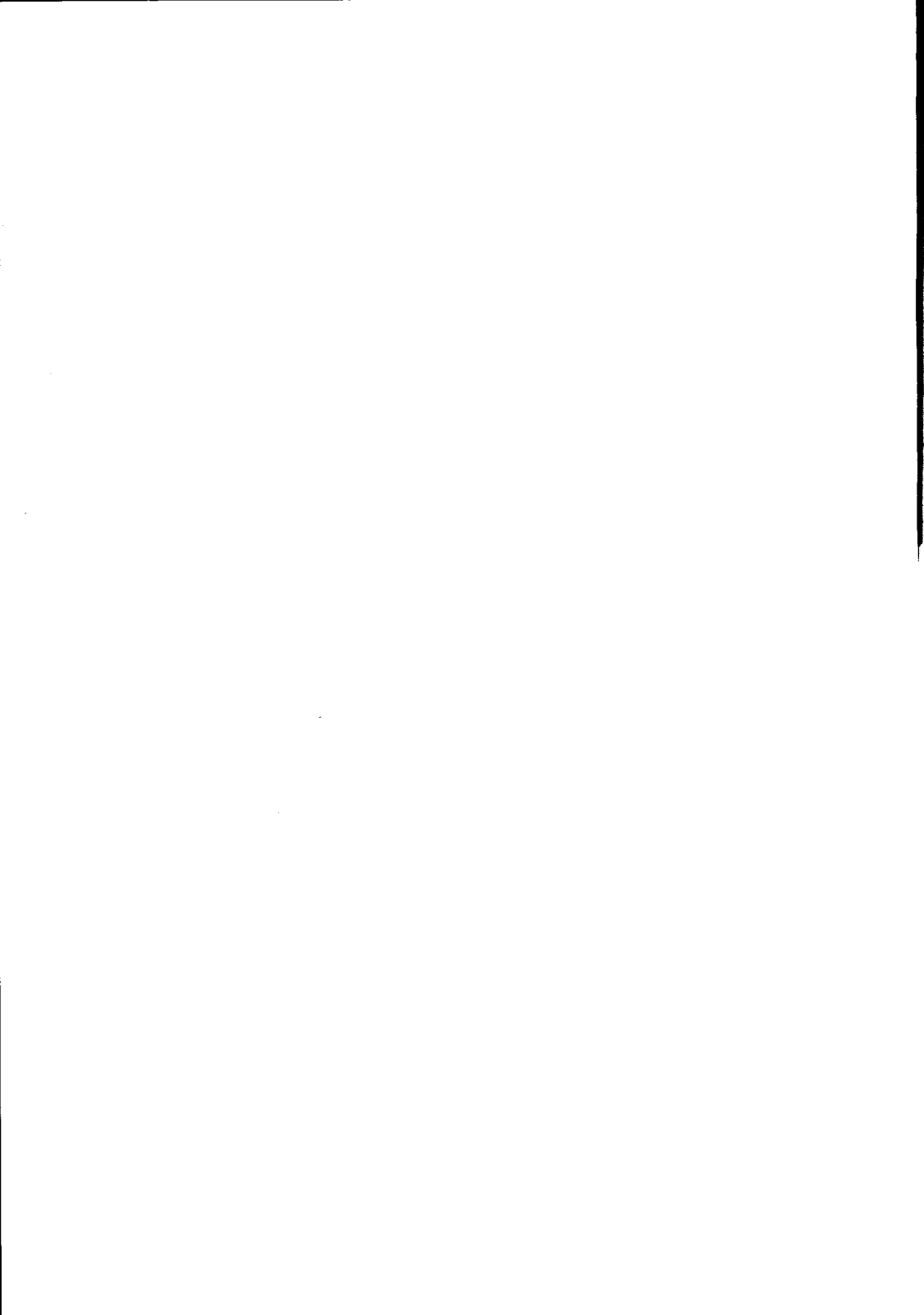




PROGRAMME





"A Christmas Celebration"

With the

Esterházy Chamber Choir

Conducted by Nicholas Houghton

and

*Stoke Brunswick School Choir**

Conducted by Sue Barber

Organist James Thomas

*Accompanist Tom Morrell**

Saturday 15th December 2001

St Bartholomews Church, Brighton

Sunday 16th December 2001

St John sub-Castro, Lewes

The words for the audience carols are to be found starting at page 8 of this programme

These concerts are supported by generous donations from~
The Foundation for Sport and The Arts
Lewes Town & District Councils

*School Choir and Tom Morrell ~ Lewes concert only

St Bartholomews Church, Brighton

PROGRAMME~

J.S.Bach: *In dulci jubilo*

John Tavener: *God is with us*

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *Hark! The herald angels sing* [words at end]

Victoria: *O magnum mysterium*

Joubert: *There is no rose*

Warlock: *Bethlehem Down* (solo: Helen Styles)

ORGAN SOLO~ Heiller: *Variations on Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland*

Poulenc: *Christmas motets~*

I O magnum mysterium

II Quem vidistis pastores dicite

III Videntes stellam

IV Hodie Christus natus est

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *God rest you merry, gentlemen* [words at end]

Interval

John Gardner: *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day*

Judith Bingham: *The Clouded Heaven*

ORGAN SOLO~ Edmundson: *Toccata on Vom Himmel hoch*

Andrew Gant: *Still, still, still*

arr Hill: *Away in a manger*

Leighton: *Lully, thou little tiny child* (solo: Sarah Bridgland)

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *Ding dong, merrily on high* [words at end]

Britten: *A hymn to the virgin*

arr. Jackson: *Noël nouvelet* (solo Fran du Corbier)

Cornelius: *The Three Kings* (solo: John Hayllar)

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *O come all ye faithful* [words at end]

St. John sub~Castro, Lewes

PROGRAMME~

J.S.Bach: *In dulci jubilo*
 John Tavener: *God is with us*

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *Hark! The herald angels sing* [words at end]

Joubert: *There is no rose*
 Warlock: *Bethlehem Down* (solo: Helen Styles)
 Poulenc: *Christmas motets~*
 II *Quem vidistis pastores dicite*
 IV *Hodie Christus natus est*

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *God rest you merry, gentlemen* [words at end]

STOKE BRUNSWICK SCHOOL CHOIR~

Britten: *Hodie Christus natus est*
 Balulalow
 This Little Babe
 J Schultz: *O Come Little Children*
 Grüber: *Stille Nacht*
 Cornelius: *The Three Kings* (arr. R Corp) (solo: Ben Styles)
 Lloyd Weber: *Pie Jesu*
 H Blake: *Walking in the Air*
 Leroy Anderson: *Sleigh Ride*

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *Ding dong, merrily on high* [words at end]

John Gardner: *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day*
 arr. Willcocks: *Sussex Carol*

ORGAN SOLO~ Edmundson: *Toccata on Vom Himmel hoch*

Andrew Gant: *Still, still, still*
 arr. Hill: *Away in a manger*
 Britten: *A Hymn to the Virgin*

AUDIENCE CAROL~ *O come all ye faithful* [words at end]

Nicholas Houghton

Conductor

Nicholas began his musical life as a chorister and later bass choral clerk at Coventry Cathedral. He went on to study the organ with Lady Susi Jeans and Nicolas Kynaston while reading music at Bristol and Cambridge Universities.

A versatile musician, Nicholas is well known in the South East as a choir trainer, conductor, organist and accompanist. He is Music Director of the Downland Chorale. In 1993, he established his own period instrumental and vocal ensemble The Houghton Consort. In January 2001 he became Director of Music at Hurstpierpoint College. As an organist he performs regularly in London and the South of England.

The Esterházy Chamber Choir

The Lewes-based Esterházy Chamber Choir was founded in 1993 and comprises some thirty experienced singers. The name Esterházy was chosen because of its strong musical associations: Count Esterházy was Haydn's patron and most of the composer's works were first performed at the Esterháza palace in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Under the experienced direction of Nicholas Houghton the choir aims to perform at a professional standard whilst remaining firmly rooted in the fine English tradition of amateur music making. Performances with period instruments have become a feature of their concerts.

The choir is a warm and friendly group which welcomes approaches for audition from experienced musicians who have similar aspirations. The choir is somewhat unusual in that it often performs in 'quartets' rather than the traditional blocks of singers in voice parts. As a charity it also aims to make music more accessible to the young by offering free admission to accompanied children under 16 at concerts which the choir itself promotes: in particular, its annual Christmas Concert.

An extensive repertoire spans five centuries of sacred and secular music by composers such as Tallis, Purcell, Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Howells, Britten, Tavener and Michael Rose. As well as being noted for its *a cappella* work, the choir has performed with the London Mozart Players, London Philharmonic Brass, the Irish Chamber Orchestra, London City Brass and Kent Sinfonia.

Outstanding among the choir's concerts have been what was described as 'The definitive *Messiah*: an electric performance' with the London Mozart Players in Brighton; a performance of Haydn's *Creation* during the Brighton Festival; Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* with Osian Ellis; and two gala performances of Handel's *Messiah* at Glyndebourne which together raised over £80,000 for charity. Last season the choir performed Mozart's *Requiem* and *Vespers* in Lewes, raising over £500 for the Mayor's Flood Appeal, and Handel's *Four Coronation Anthems* in March, Purcell's *Dido & Aeneas* with Emma Kirkby in the Lewes Festival, and a choral concert entitled *Venetian Connections* in the Brighton Festival. The first concert of this season was Bach's B minor Mass with period instruments sung to a packed house at St George's Kemp Town. Future plans include concerts in the Brighton and Lewes Festivals and a tour to Blois and Tours in France in June 2002.

The choir gratefully acknowledges the support of Lewes District Council, which gave generous help for the concert in Lewes.

For further information about the choir (including latest details of future concerts), please visit our website at:

www.esterhazy.org.uk

The Choir

Sopranos

Sue Barber
 Maria Birch
 Jinny Briant
 Sarah Bridgland
 Becky Clifford
 Fran du Corbier
 Dilys Goggins
 Helen Styles

Altos

Claire Carberry
 Meryll Goodwin
 Sarah Jarvis
 Denise Jones
 Robin Page
 Joyce Phillips
 Karen Zeff

Tenors

Robert Carpenter
 Jason Field
 David Gillham

Basses

John Astbury
 Peter Claridge
 Brian Derbyshire
 Chris Dixon
 Derek Froud
 David Goodwin
 John Hayllar
 Matthew Spencer
 Ben Styles

Rehearsal Pianist: **Sarah Jarvis**

Stoke Brunswick School Choir

The Choir comprises some thirty-five children aged 8~13 years. Under the direction of Sue Barber the choir has received international acclaim and is recognised as one of the leading children's choirs in the United Kingdom.

The choir has travelled extensively and participated in Festivals in Hungary and Greece as well as the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen. Having been Sainsbury Choir of the Year semi-finalists five times in recent years the choir has been in demand for performances at major venues in London and the Home Counties. Britten has a special place in the choir's repertoire: they have performed *Owen Wingrave* with Glyndebourne Opera, *St Nicholas* with the Esterházy Chamber Choir and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* under Sir Colin Davis.

James Thomas

Organist

James Thomas has held several teaching positions as well as prestigious organist posts, including Oundle School (as Director of Chapel Music), Shrewsbury Abbey and St. Mary's Bourne Street. He studied the Organ with David Sanger and Margaret Phillips and in 1992 James was a semi finalist in the Paisley International Organ competition. His MA research and performance was concerned with the little known romantics August Ritter and Johann Töpfer.

In September 2000 James moved to Mayfield to become Director of St. Leonard's-Mayfield School, and has recently been appointed conductor of the Sussex Philharmonic, The Hastings Chamber Choir as well as Organist/ Director of Music at Christchurch St. Leonard's on Sea.

From 1994 to 1998 James was Director of Music at Kingston Grammar School. From 1998 till 2000 James was Director of Music at Christ college Brecon, Conductor of the Dyfed Choir and the Powys Youth Orchestra, he has been Director the Ravenscroft Singers since 1994. He maintains a busy schedule of recitals and accompaniment he also continues to develop a career as a conductor. He is also assistant course director of the Oundle International Festival and Summer School for Young Organists.

The Friends of Esterházy

We would like to pay especial thanks to the members of our Friends' Association who have given generous financial support. Promoting and producing concerts, with or without orchestras, is very expensive and the choir would not be able to continue without this additional help.

BENEFACTORS

Mr Stuart Ffoulkes
Mr & Mrs H. Foord
Mr. Derek Froud
Dr Joan Hester

PATRONS

Mrs. C.R.K. Baden-Powell	Mrs Pauline Johnstone
Ms Mary E. Budleigh	Mr. David Millington
Mr. Mark Evans	Dr. M.A. Norman
Mr. C.B. d'A. Fearn	Dr. Derrick J. Platt OBE
Mr. & Mrs. P. Gillham	Prof. Adrian Wood
The White Star Inn, Lewes	
Creedgrove Ltd.	

ASSOCIATES

Mr. David Botibol	Mrs. J.R. Gumpert
Mr. Alexander Bruce	Mr Nick Hollington
Karen & John Coley	Ms Deborah M. Peat
Mr Hedley Cornwell	Rev. D.W.A. Stride
Mrs Maggie Freeman	Mr. R.L. Vigars

The Esterházy Chamber Choir

Friends Association

The Esterházy Chamber Choir has an active and supportive network of "Friends" who give generous financial support and receive the following benefits:

Associate (annual amount: anything from £5 upwards)

Associate Friends will receive advance details of all ECC concerts, priority booking (made through the ECC Friends Co-ordinator) and an acknowledgement in every concert programme booklet.

Patron (annual amount: from £25 upwards)

In addition to the above benefits, Patrons receive invitations to occasional concert receptions and are entitled to a reduction of 20% when purchasing two or more tickets through the ECC Friends Co-ordinator.

Benefactor (payment of £250+ made through *Gift Aid*)

Benefactors enjoy all the benefits of Patrons and Associate Friends, for life!

For further information, or to join the Friends, please write to the Friends

Co-ordinator at the following address:

Esterházy Chamber Choir
Freeport SEA 2702
Brighton BN1 5ZZ

The choir is managed by David Goodwin at the following address:

1 Dorset Road
Lewes
BN7 1TH
01273 471089 (phone/fax)
e-mail: chateaugoodwin@netscapeonline.co.uk
or via our website: www.esterhazy.org.uk

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*Words for Audience Carols*

***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 th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Refrain~*

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 God-head see,  
 Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
 Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
 Jesus, our Emmanuel. [*Refrain*]

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. [*Refrain*]

***GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN***

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
 Let nothing you dismay,  
 For Jesus Christ our Saviour  
 Was born upon this day,  
 To save us all from Satan's power  
 When we were gone astray:  
*Refrain*~ O tidings of comfort and joy...

From God our heav'nly Father  
 A blessed angel came,  
 And unto certain shepherds  
 Brought tidings of the same,  
 How that in Bethlehem was born  
 The Son of God by name: [*Refrain*]

The shepherds at those tidings  
 Rejoicèd much in mind,  
 And left their flocks a-feeding,  
 In tempest, storm and wind,  
 And went to Bethlehem straightway  
 This blessèd babe to find: [*Refrain*]

But when to Bethlehem they came,  
 Whereat this infant lay,  
 They found him in a manger,  
 Where Oxen feed on hay;  
 His mother Mary kneeling,  
 Unto the Lord did pray: *[Refrain]*

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
 All you within this place,  
 And with true love and brotherhood  
 Each other now embrace;  
 This holy tide of Christmas  
 All others doth deface: *[Refrain]*

***DING DONG! MERRILY ON HIGH***

Ding dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing:  
 Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing.  
*Refrain*~ Glo---ria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be  
 swungen,  
 And io, io, io, by priest and people sungen.

*Refrain*

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers:  
 May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.  
*Refrain*

***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  
*Refrain*~ 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:

*Refrain*

See how the shepherds,  
 Summoned to his cradle,  
 Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
 We too will thither  
 Bend our joyful footsteps:

*Refrain*

Lo! Star-led chieftains,  
 Magi, Christ adoring,  
 Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
 We to the Christ Child  
 Bring our hearts' oblations:

*Refrain*

Child for us sinners  
 Poor and in a manger,  
 Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
 Who would not love thee,  
 Loving us so dearly?

*Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
 Sing, in exultation,  
 Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
 Glory in the highest:

*Refrain*

Ye, Lord, we greet thee,  
 Born that happy morning,  
 Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
 Word of the Father,  
 Now in flesh appearing:

*Refrain*

*Our 2002 Season*

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March~ 7.30pm**

St Michaels Church Lewes

'Reflections on The Passion'

Works by Copland, Finzi etc.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April~ 7.30pm (to be confirmed)**

St John sub~Castro, Lewes

Bach B minor Mass

Period Instruments

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May~ 7.30pm**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton

Rossini Petite messe solennelle

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June~ 7.30pm**

Ringmer Parish Church

'Music for a Summer's Evening'

Madrigals and part-songs

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November~ 7.30pm**

Lewes Town Hall

Haydn and Britten Concert

St Cecilia's Day music

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December~ 7.30pm**

St Bartholomews Church, Brighton

'Christmas Celebration'

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December~ 3.30pm**

St John sub~Castro, Lewes

'Family Christmas Concert'





Supported by  
The Foundation for Sport and the Arts