

Staveley Choral Society Christmas Concert
Monday December 14th 2015 at 7.30 pm
Staveley Village Hall
'The Shepherds Come to Town'

Choir **Heavenly Sound** A Cornish carol
'Hark, hark, what sounds salute our ears?'

Choir **Ding Dong Ding!**
'Up! Good Christen folk – and listen! ...'

Welcome!

We invite you to join with us, Staveley Choral Society with guest instrumentalists and 'The Shepherd and Sheep Singers' from Staveley Primary School, in this winter night's tale.

We sing together: ***It came upon a midnight clear***

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blesséd angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Staveley Primary School A roving reporter drops in on the shepherds as they tend their flocks up on the fells: what do they talk about in the long cold nights? Let's see!

And then, suddenly!

Choir **While Shepherds Watched** -

.....here come the angels!

.....and thus beginneth the journey.

Choir **Mennyból az Angyal** Hungarian Carol

[Translation:]

[The angel came down from heaven to you, shepherds:

Hurry to Bethlehem! - and behold

the Son of God, born in a manger

to be your saviour: t'is true!

Beside him his sweet mother, Mary:

Surrounded by cattle, asleep in a manger, the holy son.

You also may go with greetings, now! at once!

Bring to him the beautiful gift of your hearts!]

Reading **Christmas** by George Herbert

'...the shepherds sing, and shall I silent be?'

The Onesies **Over the Fellside and through the Woods...**

They're off!

and The Shepherds and Sheep **Jingle Bells**

....jingling all the way!

Choir **Past Three O'clock**

It's a cold, frosty morning; the shepherds have arrived in town, hungry, footsore and weary, and the town watchmen cry the hour.

Reading **On Pilgrimage** by Czeslaw Milosz translated from Polish:

Remembrance, contemplation.

Choir **In Dulci Jubilo**

The journey is nearly over: deep desire to be there.

INTERVAL We invite you to enjoy a warming festive drink and mince pie brought to you from the 'Staveley Wassailers' 'bar'! The winning numbers for the raffle will be announced and prizes brought to you....Good luck!

but hark! and 'ey up! - someone's telling a tale!

Reading **Andrew, the Sheep Expert** by Gervase Phinn

It's a normal night at the pub – but is it?!

Choir **Wassail Song**

The shepherds arrive at the inn as wassailers converge there from all over the town, joining the regulars at the bar:

'Tell us what you're celebrating?' -

'We're wetting the new baby's head – born in the stable round the back...'

Staveley Primary ***Joy to the World!***

..... the shepherds' response to the wassailers' news.
They gather around the manger.

Choir ***Hush, my Babe, lie still and slumber.***

Reading ***The Summer Day*** by Mary Oliver

Questions - for a baby, for us all.

All are welcome at the stable.

We sing together: ***Czech Rocking Carol***

Little Jesus, sweetly sleep, do not stir;
We will lend a coat of fur.
We will rock you, rock you, rock you,
We will rock you, rock you, rock you.
See the fur to keep you warm,
Snugly 'round your tiny form.

Mary's little baby, sleep, sweetly sleep,
Sleep in comfort, slumber deep.
We will rock you, rock you, rock you,
We will rock you, rock you, rock you.
We will serve you all we can,
Darling, darling little man.

Choir ***The Sussex Carol***

... 'on Christmas night all Christians Sing...

And we all respond to the above by singing together:

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!

See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God
in the highest;
O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*Journey well and safely: Merry Christmas, one and all!
See you next year!*

With thanks to:

The Shepherd and Sheep Singers of Staveley Primary School

Aiden Batty, Alfie Boardman, Iona Buxton, Byron Connell, Olivia Dixon, Noah Elleray, Isobel Harrison, Lottie Kenyon, Hannah-May Harrison, Grace Logan-Stephens, Bethan Morgan, Iestyn Morgan, Michalina Motyka, Jed Pickering, Seth Pickering, Jennie Strickland, Oliver Wilkinson. Also Mrs Brown, Miss Strange, Henry and Gill Buxton and all who helped in any way.

Alison Jarvis, who played Clarinet and Saxophone

Flo Jones for Percussion

Tony Blaney for Lighting and Sound

For **Ticket Sales:** Staveley Pharmacy
Huttons Chocolate Shop, Bowness
Thomson Hayton Winkley, Windermere

Staveley Choral Society

Soprano: Patricia Barnicott, Liz Blaney, Jayne Davies, Tina Douglas, Ruby Embling, Zoë Gibson, Barbara Mitchell, Margaret Mitchinson, Elaine Middleton, Katherine Morris, Jenny O'Donovan, Maureen Runswick, Laura Skinns, Jean Slack, Marie Slater, Connie Taylor, Sally Toms, Rebecca Waine, Georgina Walker, Viv West, Patricia White, Christine Whittaker, Elaine Wilkinson

Alto: Jean Acker, Amanda Astle, Liz Bingham, Beryl Blasdale, Barbara Colley, Phyl Dixon, Margaret Farhall, Annie Park, Christine Parker, Liz Shapland, Vickie Thompson.

Tenor: Ben Goodman, Sue Owen, John Parker, David Telford-Reed, Philip Watson.

Bass: Mark Crompton, Dick Forsyth, Duncan Hamer, John Hiley, Andrew Jarvis, Bernard Rushton, Neil Scott, Paul Slater, Charles White, Brian Whittaker

The Onesies: Ann-Marie Slater, Rebecca Waine, Tina Douglas, Patricia White, Patricia Barnicott

Readers: Dick Forsyth, Barbara Colley, Brian Whittaker, Amanda Astle

Accompanist: David Battersby

If you would like to sing with Staveley Choral Society, we would be delighted to welcome you: we rehearse on Monday evenings 19.15 – 20.45 resuming on January 11th in Staveley Village Institute. You can contact SCS Musical Director, Wendy Randall, on 821524 - or just rock up on the night!

SCS concert dates for your 2016 diary:

A Spring Sing – **Birds, Buds, Bees and Battles** – Saturday March 12th
Summer Prom – **Olympian and Sporting Summer Songs** – Saturday May 21st
Christmas Concert - '**Winter in the Garden**' – Monday December 12th