

The Abbeydale Singers

Since it began in 1986 as a small 8 voice ensemble the choir, under the musical leadership of Kevin Haighton, has gradually expanded to its present total of 35 singers. We have a wide ranging repertoire and a reputation for outstanding singing and enthusiastic engagement with our audiences. Tonight, in line with our philosophy to provide performance opportunities to young instrumentalists, we are delighted to welcome the Sheffield Music Academy String Quartet as our guest soloists.

We are also thrilled to be accompanied on both piano and organ by the very talented Peter Heginbotham, without whom many of the pieces in tonight's programme would not be possible.

Peter Heginbotham was a music scholar at Solihull School following which, he was appointed to the Organ Scholarship of Truro Cathedral. He then moved north to become the Sir Henry Coward Organ Scholar at Sheffield Cathedral and University. His three years were extremely busy, including an appearance at the Edinburgh Festival, conducting the Student Orchestra, playing for the Cathedral choirs on tour in the UK and Germany, plus gaining his degree.

Following a year at Chester Cathedral, in 1999 he moved back to Sheffield as Assistant Master of the Music at Sheffield Cathedral. During this time the choir made visits to Paris, Washington DC and the east coast of the USA, Germany and within the UK. He also made 7 CD recordings and has appeared on every national BBC Radio station apart from Radio 1. He is a regular visitor to Notre Dame de Paris with various choirs and has played there for the National Commemoration Service for the Liberation of Paris.

As a recitalist he has played in most cathedrals in the UK, including St Pauls and Westminster Abbey. He works regularly as an accompanist with Sheffield Oratorio Chorus, Sheffield University Chamber Choir and Albion. Nowadays his proper job is as a police officer with South Yorkshire Police where, as well as upholding the Queen's Peace, he has directed the Police Band at Doncaster Races and until recently ran the SYP Male Voice Choir. He is currently one of the assisting organists at St Matthew's Carver Street, Sheffield.

Tonight's Programme

When Jesus Christ was four years old	<i>Geoffrey Bush</i>
O magnum mysterium	<i>Tomás Luis de Victoria</i>
What sweeter music	<i>John Rutter</i>
The Christ-child	<i>Gabriel Jackson</i>
Nowell sing we	<i>Gabriel Jackson</i>

Sheffield Music Academy String Quartet

Allegro con spirito string quartet	<i>Joseph Haydn</i>
Op.76 No.1 in G major	

Softly	<i>Will Todd</i>
Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child	<i>Kenneth Leighton</i>
Hymne à la vierge	<i>Pierre Villette</i>
Resonemus laudibus	<i>Trad arr. David Willcocks</i>

Interval

Quem pastores laudavere	<i>Trad arr. John Rutter</i>
O men from the fields	<i>Arnold Cooke arr. Kevin Houghton</i>
Christmas Day -1666	<i>Bob Chilcott</i>
A Christmas carol	<i>Trad arr. Zoltan Kodaly</i>
See amid the winter's snow	<i>John Goss arr. David Willcocks</i>

Sheffield Music Academy String Quartet

Molto allegro vivace – 1 st movement	<i>Felix Mendelssohn</i>
Quartet in D major Op. 44 No.1	

Cowboy carol	<i>Cecil Broadhurst arr. Malcolm Sargent</i>
Hawaiian lullaby	<i>Trad arr. Malcolm Sargent</i>
The twelve days of Christmas	<i>Trad arr. John Rutter</i>

During the interval the choir will serve you with
complimentary refreshments

The choir's CD, "*Christmas at Chatsworth, with the Festive Sounds of the Abbeydale Singers*" is available for purchase tonight for £8.00

**We hope you enjoy tonight's concert and would like to wish you
a very Happy Christmas**

Sheffield Music Academy String Quartet

The musicians:

Sarah Razlin
Alessandro Pacik

Melissa Doody
Rhianna Burnage

The Abbeydale Singers

Musical Director: Kevin Houghton

Sopranos: Esther Ankcorn, Naomi Baynes, Sarah Brown,
Ann Charlett-Day, Michelle Hayward, Mary Lowe,
Emily Pieters, Kirsty Prince, Hilary Pye, Sarah Rooper,
Anna Ryder, Stephanie Spencer, Julia Stockton, Pat Turner

Contraltos: Helen Beach, Rachel Cockroft, Helen Cowen,
Sue Houghton, Pamela Mathieson, Alice Newitt,
Rachael Nyarko, Rachel Scholey, Linda Wareham

Tenors: Stuart Evans, Peter King, Chris Nicholson,
Peter Thompson, Chris Varnom

Basses: Nick Baynes, Nigel Boucher, Michael Hannon,
Steve Holden, Matthew Lovell, Robert Wareham

Secretary: Hilary Pye Tel: 0114 2685493
Email: enquiries@abbeydalesingers.org.uk
Website: www.abbeydalesingers.org.uk

Dates for the diary:

Saturday 9 July 2015
30th Anniversary Concert, St John's Church, Ranmoor,

Programme designed and compiled by Hilary Pye
Cover art by Stephanie Spencer

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