

making music **WrittleSingers**

Registered charity no: 1056334

Musical Director: **Christine Gwynn**

Soprano

Rebecca Gell, Jane Hammond, Rebecca Haynes, Rachel Hepburn, Michèle Marshall, Sarah Moore, Catherine Reeve, Charlotte Robson, Laura Robertson, Ruth Travers

Alto

Julia Cooper, Sue Hirst, Julia Marsh, Emma Norton, Ellie Oldershaw, Sophie Richards, Jen Rutter

Tenor

Martin Burchett, Andrew Cripps, Martin Mason, David Miles

Bass

Peter Brisley, Steven Clews, Simon McKinnon, Andrew Taylor, Graham Woodham

Writtle Singers is a friendly, mixed-voice chamber choir. We aim to perform an exciting variety of music to the highest standard and provide enjoyment for both singers and audience. Based in the village of Writtle, where we rehearse on Monday evenings in the historic church of All Saints, our members come from all over Essex and beyond.

Our repertoire is varied: recent concerts have featured *Laudes Organi* by Kodaly, Haydn's *Te Deum* and Gabriel Jackson's *Missa Sanctae Margaretae*, along with works by composers from Tallis and Byrd through to contemporaries such as Kerensa Briggs, Roxanna Panufnik, Janet Wheeler and Ola Gjeilo.

Enquiries from suitably experienced singers are always welcome. For more information, email info@writtlesingers.org or ring 07921 146089.



Find **WrittleSingers** on-line:



visit our website www.writtlesingers.org

like **Writtle Singers Chamber Choir** on Facebook



follow @WrittleSingers on X (Twitter)

follow [writtle.singers](https://www.instagram.com/writtle.singers) on Instagram



join our mailing list - email info@writtlesingers.org

Forthcoming events from **WrittleSingers**

Open Rehearsal

Monday 13 January 2025 7:30pm

Quiz Evening in the Christian Centre

Saturday 1 February 2025 7pm

phone 07752 724256 for more details and to book your table of 8!

Come and Sing Evensong

Sunday 9 March 2025

3pm rehearsal 6pm service

Spring Concert

Saturday 29 March 2025 5pm

A musical celebration of the natural world

Summer Concert

Saturday 12 July 2025

Look at our website for more details
writtlesingers.org.uk
where concert tickets can also be purchased

WrittleSingers

with the Writtle Junior School Choir

Christine Gwynn *conductor*

Julie Cookson *conductor*

Simon Harvey *organ*



Saturday 14 December 2024 5pm
All Saints Church, Writtle



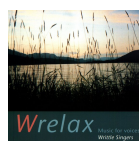
Wrejoice!

our Christmas CD

An ideal stocking filler or Secret Santa gift!

Buy tonight for £7

includes *Adam lay ybounden* ~ *Masters in this hall* ~
There is no rose ~ *Sans Day Carol* ~ *Away in a manger* ~
The Infant King ~ *Zither Carol* ~ *O little one sweet* ~
Ding Dong! Merrily on high ~ *Sussex Carol*



Also available ~

Wrelax and *Wroving*

Buy 2 or more CDs
for £5 each

Welcome to *WrittleSingers'*

Candlelit Christmas Concert

We are delighted to welcome you to All Saints for our Candlelit Christmas Concert and to be joined by the children of the Writtle Junior School Choir, their teacher and conductor Julie Cookson, and organist Simon Harvey.

During the concert there will be carols for everyone to join in; the words for these will be on the screen at the front. If you would prefer to use a large print version of the words, there are a few available at the door - please just ask.

Seasonal refreshments will be served after the concert and you are warmly invited to partake and enjoy the atmosphere a little longer before setting off into the night. If you'd like to take the Writtle sound home with you (or share it with others!), look out for our CDs that are on sale.

Warmest wishes for a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year!

Friends of *WrittleSingers*

We are most grateful for the continuing support of our Friends:

Pamela Butt, Keith Byatt, Audrey Cassidy,
Martin Clarke, Alistair Fiddes, Heather Gwynn,
Jenny Haxell & Paul Tarrant, Brian Marsh,
Peter & Frances Quintrell, Graham Reeve,
Gerry & Alma Scott, Liz Tiplin, Hilary Walden

Why not become a Friend of WrittleSingers?

Benefits of our Friends scheme include:

- >>> a free ticket to each of our concerts
- >>> a 10% discount on further tickets
- >>> a free soft drink or glass of wine at any concert where we have a bar
- >>> free attendance at any of our Come & Sing events
- >>> invitations to social events
- >>> optional acknowledgement in our programmes

For more details of our Friends scheme,
contact us via email: info@writtlesingers.org

~ PROGRAMME ~

Here we come a-wassailing trad. English

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN
trad. English carol arr. David Willcocks

CHRISTMAS IS COMING trad. round

Nova! Nova! 15C (Hunterian Museum MS)

There is no rose John Joubert

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS
Este's Psalter 1592

Rise up shepherd trad. American

It was on a starry night Joy Webb

Calypso Carol Michael Perry

Hodie Christus natus est Jan Pieterzoon Sweelinck

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
trad. English arr. Vaughan Williams descant Thomas Armstrong

The blessed Son of God Ralph Vaughan Williams

O little one sweet Old German tune, harm. J S Bach

SILENT NIGHT Franz Xaver Gruber

Zither Carol Czech tune, arr. Malcolm Sargent

'TIS CHRISTMAS TIME trad. round

GOOD KING WENCESLAS
Piae Cantiones arr. Reginald Jaques

For unto us a child is born George Frideric Handel

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL
composer unknown arr. David Willcocks

We wish you a merry Christmas
trad. West Country arr. Arthur Warrell

Writtle Junior School Choir

Julie Cookson *conductor*

Rachel B, Nayla-Rae Bradford, Isabelle Bremeyer,
Casey Chan, Nathan Chan, Myla Cuomo,
Ruby Dolan, Hope Elliott, Eden-Rose Feaviour,
Kimberley Fitzgibbons, Amy Gottesmann,
Lily Holcombe, Cody Jordan,
Vihás Mallika Arachchilage, Samuel Morris,
Olivia Mullin, Adonise Rowe, Scarlett Samarina,
Abigail Thurtle, Frankie Treadway

Writtle Singers would like to thank the staff of Writtle Junior School, especially Julie Cookson and headteacher Nick Taylor, for making this joint venture possible. Warm thanks are due, also, to all the children in the choir for their hard work and to their families for all their support and encouragement.

Hodie Christus natus est - translation

Hodie Christus natus est:	<i>Today Christ is born:</i>
Hodie Salvator apparuit:	<i>Today the Saviour appears:</i>
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli	<i>Today on Earth the angels sing, Archangels rejoice:</i>
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia.	<i>Today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.</i>

Did you know...?

It was on a starry night was written and originally performed by Joy Webb and her Salvation Army pop group Joy Strings. They had some chart success - *A Starry Night* reached no. 34 in the charts in 1964. Another Christmas recording of theirs was *O little town of Bethlehem* - to the tune of *The House of the Rising Sun*...

Handel famously wrote *Messiah* in 21 days, but this was not unique in his output. Like many composers, he was able to work at speed partly by recycling some of his previous compositions. The music of *For unto us a child is born* is taken from an earlier Italian duet *Nò, di voi non vo' fidarmi*.

In the 1700s, the Anglican church considered most Christmas carols to be too secular for use in church. *While shepherds watched their flocks by night* was the only Christmas hymn approved for singing in worship, and as a result it was sung to many different tunes across the country. One such is *Cranbrook*, a Kentish tune better-known today as the music for the Yorkshire anthem *On Ilkley Moor baht 'at*.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful once again to the Rev'd Tony Cant and the churchwardens of All Saints, Writtle for allowing us to rehearse and perform in this lovely church.