

**St John
Ambulance**



Carols and Readings

Wellington College Chapel
Saturday 10th December 2022



Presented by
The Royal County of Berkshire
Priory Group

St John Ambulance Carols and Readings 2022

Congregational carol: THE FIRST NOWELL

The first nowell the angels did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

They lookèd up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the north-west:
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought.

Nowell, nowell - born is the King of Israel.

Welcome: **Graham Barker, DL**
Deputy Chairman, Royal County of Berkshire St John Priory Group

Tamesis: Ding Dong Merrily on High (arr. Charles Wood)

Congregational carol: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight

O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King
And Peace to men on earth
For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming
But in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in

Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

Reading: "A Blessing of Angels" by John O'Donohue
Alka Kharbanda, High Sheriff of the Royal County of Berkshire

Tamesis: Three Kings from Persian Lands Afar (Cornelius)

Congregational carol: WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

While shepherds watched their flocks by night
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around

"Fear not", said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind"

"To you, in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign"

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands
And in a manger laid"

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song

"All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease"

Reading: Folk Scene by the Ukrainian Poet, Ivan Malkovych
Sarah Greene

Tamesis: I saw Three Ships (arr. John Rutter)

Solo: "Mid-winter" by Bob Chilcott
Soprano: Julie Kench

Tamesis: Silent Night (arr. Malcolm Sargent)

Reading from St John's Gospel
James Puxley
Lord Lieutenant of the Royal County of Berkshire
President of the Royal County of Berkshire St John Priory
Group

Tamesis: A child is born in Bethlehem (Malcolm Archer)

Closing address & invitation to a Christmas drink & mince pies:
Clive Lawson Smith Chairman, Royal County of Berkshire St
John Priory Group

Congregational carol: 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

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

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 - Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest

O come, let us adore Him - Christ the Lord!

Organ voluntary: Pæan on Divinum Mysterium by John Cook

**St John
Ambulance**



Thank you for joining us this evening in the Chapel of Wellington College.

St John Ambulance is the nation's leading first aid charity. Every year, over 400,000 people learn how to save a life through our training programmes, including hundreds of thousands of young people. St John Ambulance is entirely funded through voluntary donations. Every contribution you make is vital and greatly appreciated.

We are most grateful to Wellington College for allowing us to hold our Carols and Readings in this glorious setting. Our thanks to Andrea Kelly and the events team.

We are delighted that the excellent Berkshire chamber choir, Tamesis, is singing for us this evening. We are especially grateful to our readers this evening: Lord Lieutenant, James Puxley, High Sheriff, Alka Kharbanda and to Sarah Greene, television personality.

Please join us afterwards for a glass of wine and a mince pie.

TAMESIS CHAMBER CHOIR

Louise Rapple Moore founded the Tamesis Chamber Choir in Reading in 2003. The choir consists of around 25 singers and they are known as “one of Berkshire’s best ensembles”. Their repertoire ranges from classic sacred music to popular modern pieces of today. For their forthcoming appearances please access their website, www.tamesischamberchoir.co.uk or find them on Facebook or Twitter. The organist tonight is the very talented **John Cobb**.