

**Brisbane Concert Choir**

**with the Sinfonia of St Andrew's  
present**



**Brisbane  
Concert  
Choir**  
*at St Andrew's*  
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**Sunday, 6 December 2009**

St Andrew's Uniting Church, Brisbane



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## A word from our Chairman

Welcome to this our eleventh and final concert for 2009. I think that we can confidently state that this has been our busiest year on record, due to a combination of our regular concert schedule, invitations from other Brisbane choirs to share concerts, and providing performance opportunities for touring groups from overseas. We are looking forward to a more relaxed schedule for 2010, although we do have plans to record a Christmas CD next year, as well as staging a Come and Sing Workshop event featuring Carl Orff's amazing work *Carmina Burana* with full orchestra.

Tonight we are delighted to be performing Handel's *Laudate pueri Dominum*. I have been keen to perform this work since hearing it on CD about five years ago. It is a challenging but exciting piece of music, written by Handel when he was a relatively young man. We are very fortunate to have Melinda van der Meulen to perform it with us. It is not specifically Christmas music, but as it is such a lively and entertaining piece, we thought it qualified for inclusion as a Christmas cracker! We hope that you also enjoy the other featured work, Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, which retells the Christmas story in his own unique style. And, of course, there will be the usual carols, some with audience participation, so please join in when Debra turns around and invites you to sing.

To keep up with all of our news, please complete the form in your programme if you are not already on our list or if your details have changed. And if you still haven't had enough, we will be carolling at Toowong and Brookside shopping centres for the two weeks leading up to Christmas.



**Ian Maurer**

**Chairman - Brisbane Concert Choir**

## A word from St Andrew's Church

Today is the second Sunday in Advent, a season filled with anticipation and hope as we wait for the birth of Christ. Another theme of the advent season is preparation, and one of the great traditions of the Church and the society in general, is that we have used music and song as part of preparing ourselves to greet the infant Christ. While it is always enjoyable to listen to and/or sing 'the old favorites', it is also refreshing to have presented to us some of the lesser known Advent and Christmas music.

Tonight, thanks to the Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's and the Sinfonia of St Andrew's, we will have that experience and enjoy a gentle and holy journey to Christmas Day.

**The Rev'd Ray Herrmann**

**Minister - St Andrew's Uniting Church**

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# Musical Director

*Dr Debra Shearer-Dirié*



Dr. Debra Shearer-Dirié, originally from Perth, Western Australia, is currently established in Brisbane. With a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Western Australia, Dr Shearer-Dirié began her teaching career in the public and private elementary and high schools of WA. Here she taught both instrumental and choral music. After an exciting encounter with the teachers from the Kodály Intezét in Kecskemét, Hungary, she was accepted into the diploma program and spent the academic year of 1990-91 studying in Hungary. The high standard of music education that she observed there made her eager to return to her own country to develop a similar system. She was invited to give several in-service sessions for the music educators in WA and was a clinician for the Australian Kodály Society to assist in spreading the word of Kodály and improving the standard of music education in Australia.

Dr Shearer-Dirié holds a Master of Music Education and Doctorate of Music degrees from Indiana University in the United States.. After the completion of a Master of Music Education she turned her sights to choral conducting in pursuit of a Doctoral Degree (with minors in Music Education, Ethnomusicology, and Music History). While studying conducting with Mr Robert Porco, Dr Thomas Dunn and Dr Jan Harrington, Dr Shearer-Dirié became experienced in a broad selection of music. With such a profound composition department at Indiana University, Dr Shearer-Dirié also premiered several contemporary works such as: Jason Haney's *An Die Musik*, Gerardo Dirié's *All is Water* and *Tonos de Archangel*.

During her time at Indiana University she was director of the Indiana University Children's and Youth Choir; assistant director to Paul Hillier with the Pro Arte Singers; and director of the International Vocal Ensemble at Indiana University for two consecutive years. From 2000-2001 she was selected as Artistic Director of the Northwest Girlchoir in Seattle Symphony Orchestra, directed by Gerard Schwarz.

After completing her dissertation, Dr Shearer-Dirié was invited to present at the National Conference of the American Choral Director's Association in New York 2003, and at the Australian National Choral Association (ANCA) National conferences in 2004 and 2006. She was appointed Musical Director of Brisbane Concert Choir, and in 2006 founded the Vox Pacifica Chamber Choir, a 16 voice auditioned youth chamber choir. In 2009 she founded Fusion, an adult a capella ensemble. She teaches at the Undergraduate and Graduate levels at the University of Queensland as well as mentoring young conductors in the Queensland region. She is in demand as an adjudicator, clinician, educator and conductor. In 2007 and 2008, Dr Shearer-Dirié served as guest editor for the ANCA National Journal and currently serves on the Queensland State ANCA committee. Her work in 2008 took her to Perth, Copenhagen, New Zealand, Canberra and Europe.

# Brisbane Concert Choir

The Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's is an auditioned adult mixed voice choir. Formed in 1996 by Dr Guy Jansen, the choir has established an excellent reputation for its performances of diverse repertoire ranging from a cappella pieces to full symphonic works. Performances have included appearances with The Queensland Orchestra, Queensland Pops Orchestra and in prestigious festivals such as Brisbane Cathedrals Week and the 4MBS Festival of Classics. The Choir toured the North Island of New Zealand in 1999 and in June 2002, following the release of its first CD, *Journey*, the choir embarked on a very successful tour to north Queensland. The choir has recorded performances for broadcast on ABC-TV and 4MBS Classic-FM. 2008 saw the release of a new CD, *Radiance*, and a first European tour to Prague, Salzburg and Vienna. Plans are currently afoot for the next tour in 2011.

## *Sopranos*

Lindsay Blacow  
Sarah Clemence  
Bronwyn Cox  
Liz Denning  
Jackie Fell  
Mary Gough  
Andrea Hall Brown  
Jan Hungerford  
Stella Jenks  
Amelia Jewell  
Marja Knuuttila  
Janet McKeon  
Caitlin McMorro  
Suzana Milosevic  
Judy Neal  
Stephanie Rodgers  
Lucinda Thomson

## *Altos*

Milly Blakeley  
Christine Campbell  
Asabi Goodman  
Sue Gray  
Melissa Hutchinson  
Nicolie Jenkins  
Barbara Lamb  
Cynthia Lie  
Lynne Maurer  
Joan Mooney  
Tricia Pezet  
Ceri Takken  
Heather Wearne

## *Tenors*

Ian Clarkson  
Lourens Feuth  
John Holmes  
Allen Kloeden  
Jack Parakh-Morgan  
Michael Scott

## *Basses*

Malcolm Alexander  
Robert Bray  
Bruce Campbell  
Michael Dalley  
Geoff Hines  
Ian Maurer  
Robin Maurer  
Tom McIntosh  
Mark McKeon  
James McNicol  
Timothy Reeves  
Ross Salomon

# Choir Management

## *Chairman*

Ian Maurer

## *Secretary*

Stella Jenks

## *Treasurer*

Lourens Feuth

## *Committee*

Liz Denning  
Mark McKeon  
Sue Gray  
Caitlin McMorro  
Jim McNicol

## *Musical Director*

Debra Shearer-Dirié

## *Accompanist*

John Woods

## *Librarian*

Mary Gough

## *Membership*

Christine Campbell

## *Uniforms*

Barb Lamb

## *St Andrew's*

### *Liaison*

Steven Nisbet

## *Patron*

Guy Jansen

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# Sinfonia of St Andrew's

The Sinfonia of St Andrew's was formed in 1995 for a performance of Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise conducted by Mansel Jones. Since then it has promoted its own orchestral concerts as well as appearing regularly with the Brisbane Concert Choir. The orchestra is an interesting mix of professional players, who perform regularly for the Queensland Orchestra and Queensland Pops Orchestra alongside students from the Conservatorium, University of Queensland and Queensland Youth Orchestra.

## *1st Violins:*

Chen Yang (Leader)

Elisha Harrison

Marie Spiller

Maree Williamson

## *2nd Violins:*

Joan Lazaroff

Sherryn Toomey

Emma Dron

Jeanine Oostenbroek

## *Violas:*

Eddie Whiting

Leone MacNaught

## *Cellos:*

Ngaio Toombes

Suzie Taylor

## *Double Bass:*

Lorna Sherwin

## *Flute:*

Frances Farmer

## *Flute & Piccolo:*

Lee Norell

## *Oboe:*

Bernard Girard

## *Oboe & Cor anglais:*

Robin Powell

## *Bassoons:*

Trevor Williamson

Karen Hicks

## Soloists

### *Soprano — Melinda van der Meulen*

Soprano Melinda van der Meulen graduated with a Masters degree from the Queensland Conservatorium in 2005 after also studying at the University of Southern Queensland, the Australian National Academy of Music, Melbourne, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London and the OPERAPLUS Summer School in Belgium.

She has been a finalist and won prizes in some of Australia's most prestigious singing competitions including the Australian Singing Competition's Mathy Awards, the Dame Joan Sutherland Scholarship, the Sydney Cultural Council's Opera Arts and Support Group Vocal Scholarship and the Elwyn Barber Scholarship. While studying she was also awarded the Sir Mostyn Hanger Scholarship, the Sir William Horace Keats Prize, the Margaret Howat Green Prize and the Elizabeth Muir Scholarship.

Her operatic roles include Queen of the Night and First Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*) for English Touring Opera, Valencienne (*Die lustige Witwe*) and Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*) for London's premier touring company Pavilion Opera, Semele (*Semele*) and Jasmine (Australian premiere) (*Going into Shadows*) for the Queensland Conservatorium and Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*), Dido (*Dido and Aeneas*) and Phyllis (*Iolanthe*) for the USQ Opera Studio.

Melinda has performed in concert with the Australian Opera and Ballet Orchestra at the Sydney Opera House, the Queensland Orchestra with the Queensland Choir (*Carmina Burana*), the Brisbane Concert Choir and St Andrew's Sinfonia (Bach's *Magnificent* and

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*Christmas Concert*), the Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra and the Queensland University Musical Society (*Dona Nobis Pacem*) and the Camerata of St John's in the Australian premiere of Olivero's *Achot Ketana*. She has also appeared in concert with the acclaimed ensemble, the *Southern Cross Soloists* and been a featured artist at a tsunami fundraising concert at Australia House, London.

Oratorio performances include Haydn's *Seven Last Words from the Cross*, Handel's *Messiah* and *Samson* and Bach's *St Matthew Passion* (Bach Society of Queensland), Beethoven's *Mass in C* (Brisbane Chorale), Fauré *Requiem* and Vivaldi *Gloria* (Sunshine Coast Choral Society), Mozart *Requiem* (Noosa Chorale) and Mozart *Mass in C* (Queensland Conservatorium).

*Soprano — Jacqueline Fell*

Jacqueline Fell graduated from the Biola Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles, California. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music with a voice emphasis. She has toured around the world with Biola Chorale in 2007 and 2008. Jackie has been a part of the casts of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*: 2008, *Carmen*: 2007, *The Magic Flute*: 2006, and *Les Miserables*: 2005. Jackie also toured Europe with the Continental Singers in 2003. She has a love and appreciation for music and enjoys singing whenever given the chance. Jackie and her husband are in Brisbane while he studies to receive his masters at the University of Queensland.

*Tenor — Jack Parakh-Morgan*

Jack manages to combine solo work around South-east Queensland with Opera Queensland Chorus duties and Brisbane Concert Choir performances. After almost a lifetime of experience and enjoyment in music, he still takes immense pleasure in being part of this celebration.

*Piano — John Woods*

John was born in Stirling, Scotland and studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Glasgow, and the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. Prior to joining the staff of the Queensland Conservatorium he worked for the RNCM, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and Granada Television. He has accompanied singers and instrumentalists throughout the UK, Europe and Australia, on the concert platform and in radio and television broadcasts, and has also accompanied the master classes of several distinguished musicians including Dame Joan Sutherland, Dame Janet Baker and Dame Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.

*Piano — Kylie Los*

*Organ — Steven Nisbet*

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## Programme Notes

At approximately this same time last year some of the singers of the Brisbane Concert Choir were at the end of their fabulous tour through Prague, Salzburg and Vienna. The image on our flyers shares with you some of the wonderful sights of our tour. It was wonderful singing in those beautiful acoustics of Europe and being rugged up in coats, scarves and gloves singing Christmas Carols. But I have to say that it gives me great pleasure to present this evening's programme here in St Andrew's Uniting Church in Brisbane, and perform two of the most beautiful works associated with the Christmas Season – Handel's *Laudate pueri Dominum* and Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*. And I am even more excited to present to you three beautiful soloists in Melinda van der Meulen, Jackie Fell, and Jack Parakh-Morgan.

*Laudate pueri Dominum* (O praise the Lord, ye Children) is part of a greater compiled work that some may know as Handel's Vespers or the Carmelite Vespers. This eight movements work for soprano soloists, chorus and orchestra takes the words of Psalm 112. Typical aspects of the Baroque musical style can be seen in the way Handel lays out the formal structure of each movement. The work begins with a rather civilized orchestral opening in which the soprano soloist enters with a flutter of notes, which is then echoed by the chorus. There is some very virtuosic oboe writing through this work, often presenting itself in conversations with the soprano (as in the second movement *Sit nomen Domini*) or shines above the orchestral foundation. The sun rises in the third movement with an uplifting opening with what seems like one never ending line of running notes.

This work has several uplifting texts which run one after the other. This is the case as we move into the fourth movement – *Excelsus super omnes* (High above all nations) which is set in a gigue-like style with the two oboes providing an ongoing conversation with the soprano solo. This light-hearted skip through the movement is confronted with the fifth movement and full forces demanding “*Quis? Quis sicut Dominus?*” (Who? Who is like the Lord our God?) The soprano soloists offers an answer to this in *Suscitans a terra.*” The entire work ends with an uplifting *Gloria Patri*.

*Laud to the Nativity* by Ottorino Respighi is a cantata for soprano (Angel), mezzo soprano (Mary) and tenor (Shepherd) soloists, chorus (with a large



part featuring the male section of the choir) and a small chamber ensemble consisting of woodwind instruments and piano 4-hands, which was composed in 1930. Respighi uses a text of Jacopone da Todi (c. 1236-1306), a Franciscan friar from Umbria, Italy. Respighi is known as one from the Neo-Classical school. In this work he brings together styles from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and some of the most inspiring harmonic writing of his time. He combined these elements together in such a seamless way leading the listener through the vignettes of the birth of Christ. The combination of woodwind instruments almost gives us a “pure” slate for the story to unfold, creating some wonderful timbres to highlight the text, for example, the pastoral quality of the oboe in the opening section to the brilliance of the high woodwind instruments accompanied by four hands on the piano. The final section is too breathtaking to write about and I will allow your ears to be fulfilled by this lovely tale.

To compliment these two larger works we have included some of our favourite Christmas carols and of course this evening’s concert could not be complete without your wonderful singing!

I wish you the most festive and peaceful Christmas season and look forward to seeing you all in 2010.

*Debra Shearer-Dirié*

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## E m e r g e n c y E v a c u a t i o n

In the event of fire or other emergency, walk promptly to the rear of the building and exit through the glass doors. Do not congregate in the café area, but continue walking up the footpath to ensure that the exits are not blocked.

Assemble across the road outside the Suncorp building until advised by a responsible person that it is safe to re-enter the building.

Only if access to the main glass-door exit is blocked should you attempt to leave via the door to the right of the stage. Please note that these doors open inwards.

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## PROGRAMME

**Gabriel's message**

Basque carol  
arranged by David Willcocks (*b.* 1919)

**Lullay my liking**

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

**Laudate pueri Dominum**

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

HWV 237

*English Translation*

I. LAUDATE PUERI DOMINUM

O praise the Lord, ye children,  
Praise the name of the Lord.

II. SIT NOMEN DOMINI

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from hence forth now and for ever.

III. A SOLIS ORTU

From the rising of the sun  
even unto its setting,  
the name of the Lord is praiseworthy.

IV. EXCELSUS SUPER OMEN

The Lord is high above all nations,  
His glory is above the heavens.

V. QUIS SICUT DOMINUS?

Who is like the Lord our God,  
who dwells on high,  
and yet he considers the lowly  
in heaven and on earth?

VI. SUSCITANS A TERRA

Lifting up the needy from the dust,  
and raising the poor from the dunghheap,

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so that he may place him  
with the princes of his people.

VII. QUI HABITARE  
Who makes the sterile woman  
to dwell in her house,  
the joyful mother of children.

VIII. GLORIA PATRI  
Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.

## **I saw three ships**

English traditional carol  
arranged by David Willcocks

*Audience join in on refrain:*

Choir: I saw three ships come sailing in  
**Audience Join: On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,**  
Choir: I saw three ships come sailing in  
**Audience Join: On Christmas Day in the morning.**

And so on, verses 1 through 5.

*Audience sing all of verse 6:*

**All sing:** Then let us all rejoice amain!  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,  
Then let us all rejoice amain  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

## **The Christmas carol**

Charles Ives (1874-1954)

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**Joy to the world!**

Lowell Mason (1792-1872)  
arranged by John Rutter

*(Audience joins choir)*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the World! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## INTERVAL

**Laud to the Nativity**

Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)  
English text by Harold Heiberg

THE ANGEL TO THE SHEPHERDS (SOLO)

Fear not, ye shepherds abiding here on the hillsides of Judea's regions,  
Lo, I bring you a tidings: Joy to mankind, chanted by angel legions.  
Born in the city of David to a virgin is the Saviour,  
the Anointed, Christ Jesus,

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whom God appointed to come from Heaven that ye might be saved.

ANGELS (CHORUS)

And this Child, pure and holy, sent by the Lord against evil to battle,  
Lies in a stable lowly within a manger, among the sheep and the cattle.  
To shield Him from the breezes, Mary in bands of linen has gently bound Him;  
His blanket, the hay around Him.  
Thus art Thou come down to earth, blessed Jesus.

THE ANGEL (SOLO)

Fear not, ye shepherds abiding here on the hillsides of Judea's regions,  
Lo, I bring you a tidings: Joy to mankind, sung by the angel host.

ANGELS (CHORUS)

And this Child, pure, fair, and holy, sent by the Father,  
Lies in a stable within a manger, lowly.

THE SHEPHERD (SOLO)

O Lord, Thou hast descended to earth from Heaven, angels sang in chorus.  
Thou must be sore offended to lie thus in a stable rude before us.  
Poor is the preparation which we have made to welcome Thine incarnation.

THE SHEPHERDS AT THE MANGER (CHORUS)

Ah, how rude is the stable where fast asleep the infant Lord we discover!  
His Mother was not able to find a bed, nor a blanket Him to cover.  
Here Joseph also lies asleeping, too old and weary for to aid the Mother. Thus  
she alone is keeping watch o'er the Babe, fairer than any other.

THE SHEPHERD (SOLO)

O Lord, Thou hast descended to earth from Heaven, angels sang in chorus.  
Thou must be sore offended to lie thus in a stable rude here before us.

MARY (SOLO)

My Child, sweet be thy slumber.  
Though Thou must lie poor here in a manger, bright angels without number  
hover around Thee, guarding Thee from danger.  
My Son, with what affection I gaze upon Thee!  
Filled with awe on Thy birth I ponder!  
Beholding Thy perfection, I am removed far from poverty and sadness.  
My heart is filled with gladness, for joy far greater than my joy maternal comes  
from Thee, Child of wonder!

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SHEPHERDS & ANGELS (CHORUS)

O Fountain of joy eternal, lying upon the hay here we behold Thee.

MARY (SOLO)

How blest am I who bore Thee!

Alas, how poor the arms which now enfold Thee!

SHEPHERDS (CHORUS)

Take our cloaks for the Baby if they do not offend thee,

O blessed Mary, that sheltered thus He may be.

MARY (SOLO)

As Lord we worship and adore Thee,

Thou art descended from on high to save us.

Though poorly we now receive Him,

Though naked He lies in the hay it will not grieve Him,

If we only will believe on Him,

This heavenly Infant whom the Father gave us.

SHEPHERDS (CHORUS)

Our flocks unguarded stand, we cannot tarry.

Now no longer care we for the cold: we have beheld Him, the Infant Jesus!

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS (CHORUS)

Praise to Thee, honour, unto Thee be glory,

Father in heaven, God Almighty.

SHEPHERDS (CHORUS)

O Saviour, of God begotten and born of a virgin in humiliation,

Give light to every nation, that by Man Thy birth may never be forgotten.

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS (CHORUS)

Contented would we hasten back to our hillsides and our flocks,  
could we but touch Him; yet we dare not ask this favour.

Unclean shepherds, we are fearful that we might smutch Him.

Contented would we hasten back to our hills and flocks,  
could we but touch Him.

MARY (SOLO)

That ye may go rejoicing, men of the fields, draw nearer and kneel before Him,  
touch Him and adore Him.

Thus blest by Him, go forth, your praises voicing.

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ANGELS (CHORUS)

Glory; praise and honour and glory to Thee.

SHEPHERDS & ANGELS (CHORUS)

Glory unto Thee, O Father on high, Thou God almighty.

Glory, praises, honour to Thee, Father on high.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among all men of goodwill!

To save the world from evil Thou cam'st in pity,

For it was not Thy duty, O Child of heavenly beauty.

Laud we Thy Name, extol Thee, Lord of all majesty, Father everlasting.

ANGEL (SOLO)

Glory be unto God in heaven.

SHEPHERDS & ANGELS (CHORUS)

Peace on Earth, good will toward all men of good will.

MARY (SOLO)

Upon me God bestowed His favour,

And I shall cease to laud and praise Him never.

I bore to men a Saviour who shall be king of earth and heav'n forever.

I bow in humble devotion

Oe'r the Child who has come to save us from error.

No rose was ever fairer, His beauty fills my soul with pure emotion.

My thoughts I cannot capture.

My spirit lifts in rapture; it soars ever higher!

ANGEL (SOLO)

For born is the promised Messiah!

SHEPHERDS & ANGELS (CHORUS)

Amen.

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After the Concert

Please Join Us for Supper  
in the Hall below the Church

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## Jingle Bells

J. Pierpont (1822-1893)  
arranged by David Willcocks

*(Audience joins choir)*

**Ladies:** Dashing thro' the snow  
In a one-horse open sleigh,  
O'er the fields we go,  
Laughing all the way;  
Bells on Bobtail ring,  
Making spirits bright;  
What fun it is to ride, and sing  
A sleighing song tonight. Hey!

**All:** *Refrain:*  
Jingle, bells, jingle, bells, jingle all the way;  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!  
Jingle, bells, jingle, bells, jingle all the way;  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!

**Men:** Now the ground is white;  
Go it while you're young,  
Take the girls tonight,  
And sing this sleighing song.  
Just get a bob-tailed bay,  
Two forty for his speed;  
Then hitch him to an open sleigh  
And crack! you'll take the lead.

**All:** *Refrain*

**All:** Repeat verse 1

**All:** *Refrain*



## The first Nowell

English traditional carol  
arranged by David Willcocks

*(Audience joins choir)*

The first Nowell the angel 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:

***Refrain:***

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked 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:

*Refrain*

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:

*Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with his blood man-kind hath bought:

*Refrain*

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**Hymn to the Virgin**

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

**A Musicological Journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas**

Craig Courtney

## Special Thanks

To all of those who have helped us to make this concert run smoothly, a big thank you for your support and assistance. We couldn't do it without you and truly appreciate your help.



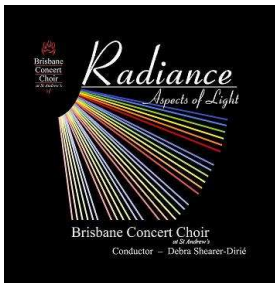
## A Special Touch

Brisbane Concert Choir performs regularly for weddings at the heritage-listed St Andrew's Uniting Church, as well as many other venues around Brisbane. With a large selection of wedding music available we can suggest repertoire which will blend perfectly with your wedding plans. To find out more call 3369 4866, email [chairman@brisbaneconcertchoir.com](mailto:chairman@brisbaneconcertchoir.com) or check out our website at [www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com](http://www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com)



## Like to sing in our choir?

The Brisbane Concert Choir at St Andrew's welcomes new members. For further information about our audition process, please contact Ian Maurer on 3369 4866 or email [chairman@brisbaneconcertchoir.com](mailto:chairman@brisbaneconcertchoir.com).



## Radiance CD available now

Brisbane Concert Choir's newest CD will please a wide audience with choral music both serious and humorous, old and newly composed from around the world. Available on line at [www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com](http://www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com)



## **2010 Concert Season Preview**

### **A n z a c   D a y   C o n c e r t**

A superb collection of music, united by the letters of those  
who fought and those who remained behind.

Sunday, 25 April, 2010

### **' F r o m   S c r a t c h '**

Carl Orff

*Carmina Burana*

Saturday, 17 July, 2010

### **S p r i n g   a   c a p e l l a   C o n c e r t**

Date to be advised

### **C h r i s t m a s   C o n c e r t**

Sunday, 5 December, 2010

Phone 3369 4866 for further details or to be placed on our mailing list.

[www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com.au](http://www.brisbaneconcertchoir.com.au)

**Brisbane Concert Choir**  
*at St Andrew's*

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