

## Christmas wishes to our audience

Heartfelt thanks to you for coming along and supporting Hastings Choristers tonight. We have been very fortunate to enjoy the wonderful accompaniment of Genevieve Lang, adding an ethereal tone to all these beautiful Christmas works. Special thanks also to the talented young vocalist Francesca Plentinger, flute player Natasha French and our accompanist tonight, Lydia Wills. But it is you, our enthusiastic audience members, who make it all worthwhile!

We will be back in 2018, and if you'd like to have a turn of being up on stage, why not come along to our first rehearsal on Monday 5 February - details below.

A very safe and happy Christmas to you and all your families. May you enjoy more beautiful music and share peaceful times with those you love.

*With very best wishes, Robyn Ryan and Hastings Choristers*

## Hastings Choristers

### CANTORUS

#### Sopranos

Shirley Aitchison  
Renee Hamers  
Helen Hingston  
Carol Irving  
Fae Lister  
Adele Miles  
Janine Noy  
Kirsti Purss  
Susan Sawle  
Jenni Searson  
Colleen Smee  
Henny van Woudenberg

#### Altos

Gail Barber  
Linda Burn  
Evelyn Chee  
Amanda Cooney  
Lorraine Garland  
Libby Hopley  
Katherine Peck  
Jenny Reeve  
Linda Robertson  
Jo-Anne Stavely  
Clare Walker

#### Tenors

Gillian Bennett  
Paul Groeneveld  
Hilja Siren  
John Thompson  
  
**Basses**  
John Burman  
Christopher Clark  
Hedley Harwood  
Brian Jones  
Michael Matthews  
Glenn Moore

### CANTABILE

Gillian Bennett  
Evelyn Chee  
Fleur Eichler  
Renee Hamers  
Helen Hingston  
Carol Irving  
Kerryn Lawrence  
Adele Miles  
Kirsti Purss  
Lulu Sicard  
Carol Sorensen  
Sally Ward

pma  
communications  
group

FortyWinks

## CONTACT US!

Website: [www.midcoast.com.au/~choristers](http://www.midcoast.com.au/~choristers) Email: [hastingschoristers@gmail.com](mailto:hastingschoristers@gmail.com)

REHEARSALS: Mondays 6.30-8.30 pm, MacKillop Senior College, Lochinvar Place, PM

**\*\*\*First rehearsal 2018 is on Monday 5 February - come along and try it!\*\*\***

Hastings Choristers is most grateful for the generous support of its Patrons, Paul and Mary McCarthy. We would also like to thank Lyndon Bartholomew and PMA Communications Group for the printing of our flyers and programs and the ongoing support of Jerome at Forty Winks. Many thanks to the parishioners of Port Macquarie Uniting Church for being so accommodating.

## Hastings Choristers

# Heavenly Voices



Musical Director - *Robyn Ryan OAM*

Harpist - *Genevieve Lang*

ANGA  
AUSTRALIAN  
NATIONAL  
CHORAL  
ASSOCIATION

Thursday 21 December 2017  
Uniting Church, Port Macquarie

HASTINGS  
CHORISTERS  
*'sharing the joy of song'*

# Heavenly Voices

## CANTORUS

<b>O Come All Ye Faithful</b>	arr. David Willcocks
<b>Once in Royal David's City</b>	Alexander, Gauntlett, Mann
<b>Ding Dong! Merrily on High</b>	16th C. French tune, Woodward & Wood
<b>Infant Holy</b>	Polish carol, arr. Willcocks
<b>God Rest You Merry Gentlemen</b>	English trad. carol, arr. Willcocks
<b>Good King Wenceslas</b>	arr. Reginald Jacques
<b>Ave Maria</b>	Giulio Caccini. <b>Flute: Natasha French</b>
<b>How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place</b>	Johannes Brahms, arr. R.C. Van Howten
<b>Christmas Oratorio excerpts</b>	Johannes Sebastian Bach
<i>Wie soll ich dich empfangen (How shall I fitly meet thee)</i>	
<i>Jesu, meine Freude (Jesus, priceless treasure)</i>	
<i>Ich steh an deiner Krippen hier (Beside thy cradle here I stand)</i>	
<i>Brich an, o schönes Morgenlicht (Break forth o beauteous, Heavenly light)</i>	

**Tenor: John Thompson**

<b>Away in a Manger</b>	W. Kirkpatrick, arr. Ben Robinson
<b>O Come Emmanuel</b>	Ralph Morton
<b>Glory to God</b>	G.F. Handel <b>Soprano: Francesca Plentinger</b>

## JOHN THOMPSON & CHRISTOPHER CLARK

<b>Ave Verum</b>	Karl Jenkins
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## CANTORUS

<b>Angel's Carol</b>	John Rutter
<b>Cantique de Jean Racine</b>	Gabriel Fauré, arr. Curtis Hanson
<b>I am the Gentle Light</b>	Paul Mealor

## CANTABILE

### A Ceremony of Carols

## Harp - Genevieve Lang

Benjamin Britten

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Procession                             | 6. This little Babe         |
| 2. Wolcum Yole!                           | 7. Interlude                |
| 3. There is no Rose                       | 8. In Freezing Winter Night |
| 4a. That yongë child - <b>Evelyn Chee</b> | 9. Spring Carol             |
| 4b. Balulalow                             | 10. Deo Gracias             |
| 5. As dew in Aprille                      | 11. Recession               |

## Genevieve Lang

Genevieve Lang performs regularly as Guest Principal and section harpist with the Sydney Symphony and Australian Opera & Ballet Orchestra. She has also enjoyed a long association with the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra as Guest Principal Harp.

Genevieve is a founding member of SHE (Seven Harp Ensemble). Under the direction of harpist Alice Giles, SHE has commissioned numerous works by Australian composers including Schultz, Sitsky and Edwards, and has toured to America, China, and locally around NSW and Victoria.

Genevieve has appeared as soloist with the Tasmanian, West Australian and New Zealand symphony orchestras. She has also toured internationally with the Tasmanian and Sydney Symphony orchestras to the United States, Japan and Europe.

Genevieve is dedicated to sharing her passion for classical music with audiences, and now presents on ABC Classic FM, Australia's classical music station.



## Francesca Plentinger

Francesca has just completed Year 9 at MacKillop College, and is working towards AMEB Grade 5 Voice, studying with Robyn Ryan. She enjoys her musical studies and this year was awarded a \$700 Smile scholarship from the Taree Eisteddfod. She has successfully auditioned for Gondwana National Choral School, where she will spend two weeks in January working with the composer Paul Jarman.



## A Ceremony of Carols - Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Benjamin Britten's popular Ceremony of Carols for treble voices and harp, was inspired by his discovery of *The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems*, which contains five of the poems in the piece. The "carols" were written by 15th and 16th century writers, and Britten has retained their use of old English language.

The Ceremony of Carols was composed in part while Britten was returning by ship to Britain from the United States, "... to alleviate the boredom!" The work opens and ends with the choir processing to plainsong, and the sections in-between deal with the traditional stories surrounding the birth of Christ, each movement in contrast with the next.

The version you will hear tonight was first performed at the Wigmore Hall in London in December 1943 by the Morrision Boys' Choir, with Maria Korchinska as harpist, and Benjamin Britten himself conducting.