

TLC presents
THE
LLEWELLYN
CHOIR

Christmas Gifts

At the National Library
2.30 pm Saturday 14 December 2013

Our program of Christmas Gifts this afternoon will include

Carols from *Bethlehem* (Rutland Boughton)

Alleluia!

In the Ending of the Year

O Come All Ye Faithful

The Holly and the Ivy

The First Nowell

Rutland Boughton (1878-1960) was an English composer who became well known in the early 20th century as a composer of opera and choral music.

Bethlehem was first performed at the Glastonbury Festival of 1915. Eleven years later, in 1926, a highly politicised production of *Bethlehem* caused the collapse of the Glastonbury Festivals. Sympathising with the general strike of 1926 and the miners lockout, Boughton presented *Bethlehem* as a socialist-versus-capitalist morality play, set in a mining community, with Jesus born in a miners cottage and Herod as a top-hatted capitalist flanked by soldiers and police. This scandalous concept shocked the people of Glastonbury, funding and support were withdrawn immediately, and the festivals wound up in July 1927.

***Magnificat* (Gerald Finzi)**

Gerald Finzi (1901-1956) epitomised much that was characteristic of English Music. He was part of that generation of composers who came to maturity in the middle of the 20th century. He was friends with Ralph Vaughan Williams, Edmund Rubbra, Howard Ferguson, Arthur Bliss and Robin Milford.

Finzi's grand setting of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song of praise, was written in 1952 as a result of a commission from the Choirs of Smith and Amherst Colleges in Massachusetts for Christmas that year. It was not intended as a liturgical setting.

Conducted by
Rowan Harvey-Martin

Accompanied by
Anthony Smith

About the Llewellyn Choir

The Llewellyn Choir is one of Canberra's leading community choirs. Founded in 1980 as the School of Music Community Choir, today the choir is an 80-strong group under the gifted musical directorship of Rowan Harvey-Martin, with répétiteur Anthony Smith.

Last year the choir gave critically acclaimed performances of Bach's *St Matthew Passion* and Monteverdi's *Vespers*, and presented Choral Gold with Canberra Youth Music, and this year gave a fine performance of the little-known *Requiem in C minor* by Luigi Cherubini and *Four Sacred pieces* by Verdi.

In October the choir travelled to Noumea to perform the Cherubini *Requiem* with Noumean chorale Les Alizes, and joined with the Canberra Choral Society and the Canberra Symphony Orchestra to present *Carmina Burana* in October.

THE
LLEWELLYN
CHOIR

NEEDS
YOU

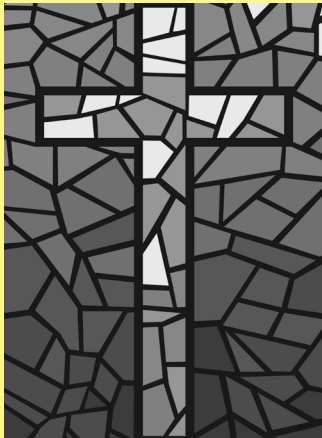
The Llewellyn Choir is recruiting!

We are always looking for new choristers in all vocal parts. If you would like to join us please contact us through our website. You can also check out the choir's history, performance repertoire, rehearsal arrangements and activities, including what's coming up.

Find us at www.llewellynchoir.org.au

Or email us at enquiries@llewellynchoir.org.au

Coming up in 2014



St Matthew Passion

By Johannes Sebastian Bach

Saturday 5 April

7.30 pm

Llewellyn Hall, ANU School of Music

Would you like to sing St Matthew Passion with us?

We are inviting interested singers to join us as guest members of The Llewellyn Choir to present this magnificent work.

If you are already in an auditioned choir you will be automatically in. If you are not in an auditioned choir, you will be given a brief (but painless!) audition to check singing and sight-reading ability.

If you are interested, send us an email for more information: enquiries@llewellynchoir.org.au.

Or check out our website: www.llewellynchoir.org.au .