

Festive Family Concert



Saturday 10 December 2022

St Mary's Church, Banbury

Programme Free



Concert Dates for Your Diary

Banbury Symphony Orchestra

Spring Concert

Saturday 25th March 2023

Norwegian Rhapsody No 1 – Halvorsen

A Hero's Song – Dvořák

Gaelic Symphony – Amy Beach

7.30 pm – Deddington Church

Banbury Symphony Orchestra

Chamber Concert

Sunday 14th May 2022

Italian Girl in Algiers – Rossini

Triple Concerto – Beethoven

Symphony No.4 'Italian' - Mendelssohn

4.00 pm - Deddington Church

Tickets from

www.banburysymphony.com

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Banbury

We are delighted to welcome you once again to our Christmas Concert in the lovely setting of St Mary's church.

This time of year gives us all the opportunity to experience the Christmas spirit, and to reflect on what this means for each of us. We have a newly-composed piece exploring exactly this topic, with a setting of words from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, where Dickens shows us the transformation of Scrooge from a bitter and cynical miser to a man with hope again by the spirits of Christmas – past, present and future.

There seem to be many challenges facing us all at the moment, but for this afternoon at least I hope that you will be able to leave all of your cares at the door and enjoy the musical experience of Christmas that we have for you.

Merry Christmas and a happy (and warm) New Year!

Dave Settle

Chair, Banbury Symphony Orchestra



Programme

Carols marked * are for audience participation; please sing along!

A Christmas Festival Overture

Skater's Waltz – Waldteufel

Around the World at Christmas Time

Breath of Life

Composed: Anna Kuzina-Rozhdestvenska

Sinfonietta – 'A Christmas Carol'

Composed: Lawrence Killian

Narrated: Jonathan Rowe

Interval

(Refreshments available)

Christmas at the Movies

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!

Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer*

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

The First Nowell*

Sleigh Ride

Hark! The Herald-Angels Sing*

Merry Christmas Everybody

Breath of Life

Anna Kuzina-Rozhdestvenska

Ukraine composer. She was born in Simferopol in 1984, the eldest of the five children. In 1998, she graduated with honours from a music school in Piano and entered the theoretical department of the Tchaikovsky Simferopol Music College, which she graduated externally with honours in 2002. Studying composition with outstanding Ukrainian composer, Hero of Ukrainian Yevhen Stankovych at the National Music Academy, she gained a masters degree in 2006, graduating from an assistantships-internship and postgraduate course in 2010. Since 2011 Anna has been a member of the National Union of Composers of Ukraine.

The creative heritage of the author is represented by works of various genres and forms – from small chamber-instrumental and chamber-vocal compositions to large-scale opuses.

Orchestral works by Anna Kuzina-Rozhdestvenska are as follows: "Slavic Overture" for brass band (2005), Concerto for piano and orchestra (2006), "Symphony of Forebodings" or Symphony-Concerto for viola and orchestra (in three editions), miniature "Breath of Life" (2015) in editions for chamber and symphony orchestras (2022), which premiered on October 2 and performed by Didcot Concert



Orchestra under the direction of Geoff Bushell; the oratorio "In Memoria" for bass, mixed choir and symphony orchestra based on the text of Psalm No. 87 (a large vocal and instrumental opus, created in 2015).

One of the iconic and most dramatic compositions created in July 2022, commissioned by the famous London Apollo5 vocal ensemble, was the work "AGNUS DEI" for Five voices and Tubular Bells (on a liturgical text), dedicated to the memory of the countless victims of the war in Ukraine. The premiere of this composition was presented at the Ukrainian Cultural Week-2022 in Oxford, on September 30 at Christ Church Cathedral.

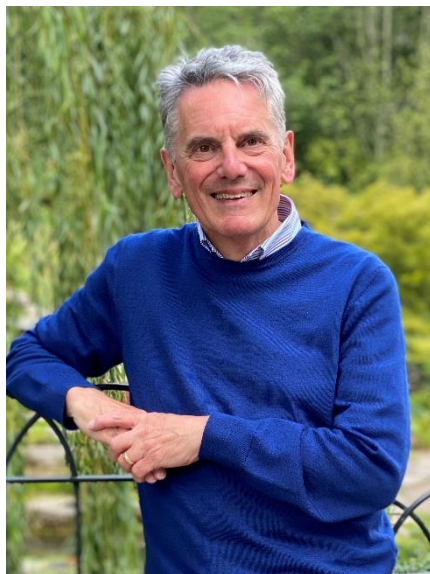
Sinfonietta

'A Christmas Carol'

Lawrence Killian

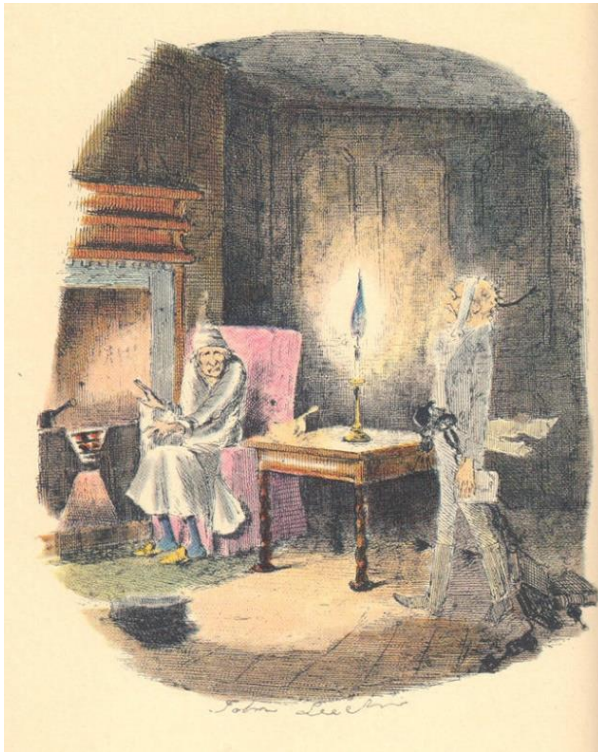
Suffolk-based musician Lawrence Killian draws on his extensive experience as an orchestral conductor and brass player to compose music that is immediately accessible to both audience and players alike. Hailing from Haworth in West Yorkshire, it was composer Arthur Butterworth who introduced him to composing and orchestral brass playing. Lawrence has enjoyed conducting many orchestras and groups over the years. Having moved to Suffolk in 2021, Lawrence has already become well-known as an active musician and has continued to focus on composing and conducting. He was delighted when asked to be guest conductor of the Suffolk Sinfonia in their current season.

Sinfonietta, "A Christmas Carol" for Narrator and Orchestra composed in 2021, Lawrence's latest composition for orchestra is based on the story of Scrooge and Tiny Tim from the Charles Dickens novel *A Christmas Carol*. The music, together with the narration, conjures up images of a busy scene in Victorian London. The structure of the piece follows the descriptive headlines from the 1868 edition of the Dickens work. The narration, adapted from the original by Margaret Killian, is blended into an orchestral soundscape that takes



us on Mr Scrooge's journey of enlightenment and transformation.

We are delighted that tonight's performance is the 'World Premier' of Sinfonietta. Further performances by other orchestras are set for tomorrow in Huddersfield, and next week in Aberdeen.



...now behold a room dark and bare:

...He sees the ghost of Marley suddenly appear.

Christmas past...

...Scenes of boyhood youth's first love are memories bittersweet.

...dances a merry jig with friends, Dick Wilkins and Mr. Fezziwig.





There, dressed in green, with holly crown, stands spirit number two, "Lead where you will", the miser said, "For I must follow you."

The plight of a frail, crippled boy (Tiny Tim), touches and saddens him.

"Come, my time is short!" the Christmas Ghost exclaimed;

Then brought two forms from out his cloak, both were abject and maimed: "This boy is ignorance, this girl is want, of both you must beware."





...a phantom with draped hooded head. Spectral finger pointing it stood silent and tall; "Spirit of the future, I fear you most of all."

"Will the shadows alter if there's a change in me?"

Tears of joy run down his face, he laughs out with glee:

"I will keep within my heart the spirit of Christmas, you wait and see!"

Drawings by John Leech.



Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Johnny Marks

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
Had a very shiny nose
And if you ever saw it
You would even say it glows.

All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names
They never let poor Rudolph
Join in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa came to say:
"Rudolph with your nose so bright,
Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then how the reindeer loved him
As they shouted out with glee:
"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,
You'll go down in history!"

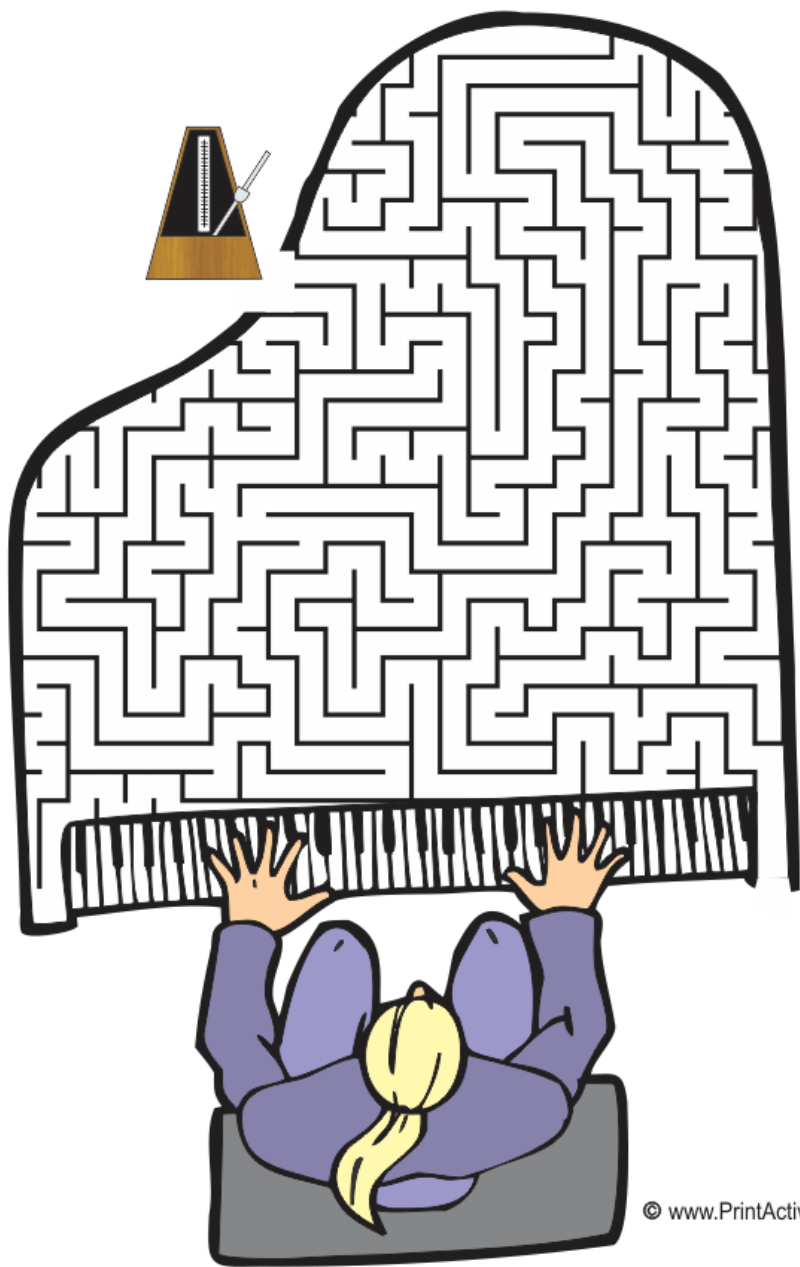
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The First Nowell

English trad. arr. Willcocks

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.

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

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 mankind hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!



Christmas
Connect-the-Dots #22



Hark! The Herald-Angels Sing

Mendelssohn arr. Willcocks

Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.*

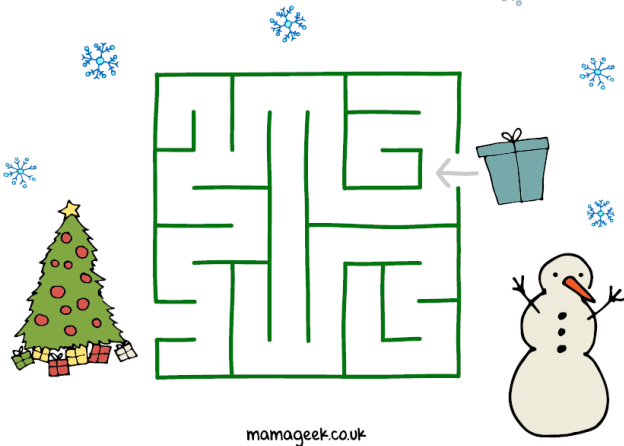
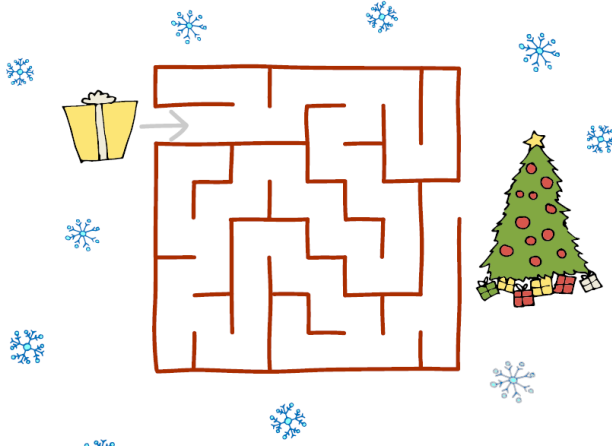




Christmas Mazes



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www.banburysymphony.com



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Banbury Symphony Orchestra



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Joining the Orchestra

If you play an instrument to a standard of Grade 7 or above and would like to play with the orchestra, find out more by contacting Anna Fleming on 01295 780017.

All rehearsals take place in Banbury in term time on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30pm.

