KEMS Choir
KEMS Orchestra

Conductors:
Ian Chesworth &
Anthony Houghton

Saturday, 13th December 2014 at 7.30 pm
St Michael’s Church, Macclesfield

CHRISTMAS with KEMS
A Christmastide entertainment
for all the family

KEMS King Edward Musical Society
of Macclesfield
Saturday 13th December 2014 at 7.30 pm
St Michael and All Angels’ Church, Macclesfield
PROGRAMME NOTES

From the orchestra

PETER AND THE WOLF
A Musical Tale for Children Op 67

Serge Prokofiev (1891-1953)

SERGE PROKOFIEV invented his story Peter and the Wolf, both music and words, in 1936 for the Children’s Theatre in Moscow and the work has delighted children and adults around the world ever since.

Each character in the story has its own distinct theme played by different of the instruments in the orchestra and our narrator Scott Thomson will introduce them and the personalities they represent: Peter by the strings, his Grandfather by the bassoon, the wolf by the horns, the bird by the flute, the duck by the oboe, the cat by the clarinet in the low register playing staccato, and the shots of the hunters by the timpani and bass drum.

OVERTURE: HÄNSEL UND GRETEL  Engelbert Humperdinck (1854–1921)

BASED on the familiar Brothers Grimm fairy tale, Engelbert Humperdinck’s delightful children’s opera, first performed in Weimar in 1893, has become a perennial favourite and the composer’s one claim to fame and lasting recognition.

Humperdinck, a professed Wagner disciple, makes much use of thematic motives that are closely associated with the characters, actions and moods in the opera – the music truly tells the story. The opera’s beautiful and deliciously scored overture starts serenely and calmly as Hänsel and Gretel slowly awake but the music soon begins to dart about excitedly as in a child’s dream or play. We hear the music of the Dew Fairy, the

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JEUX D’ENFANTS Op 22

GEORGES BIZET (183–1875)

I. Marche (Trompette et Tambour)  II. Berceuse (La Poupée)
III. Impromptu (La Toupie)  IV. Duo (Petit Mari, Petite Femme)  V. Galop (Le Bal)

JEUX D’ENFANTS, or Children’s Games, is a jubilant collection of musical minatures that bring us the joy and innocence of uninhibited childhood play.

Alternating fast and slow movements, first we have the Trumpet and Drum March, then the gently rocking and melodious Doll’s Lullaby.

In the central piece, La Toupie, we hear the whirling spinning-top along with excited chatter and laughter, and then the strings enchant us with the beautifully tuneful Little Father, Little Mother duet. The first violins and cellos play the wife and the husband and the delicate accompaniment that provides a lilting momentum is played by the second violins, violas and double basses.

The final Galop, seemingly a fast and furious ball game of throw and chase brings the suite to a giggling and breathless close. Tea’s ready, children…!

© Anthony Houghton 2014

From the choir

CAROL OF THE BELLS’ which opens the first choir set was written by Mykola Leontovych in 1904 and in the original language has nothing to do with Christmas! The now popular words were added some time later and the piece has been featured in films (Home Alone) and also covered by a number of artists from Richard Carpenter to Destiny’s Child. Lauridsen’s mystical setting of the ancient text ‘O magnum mysterium’ (‘O Divine Mystery’) features long lyrical lines and also showcases the lowest of our voice parts as the basses are required to sing a low ‘D’.

The remainder of our programme includes words that will be familiar set to new tunes such as the wonderful arrangement of ‘O little town of Bethlehem’ by Bob Chilcott and also familiar tunes with a twist such as the Sussex Carol.

We hope you enjoy all of the music and that you also won’t be able to resist tapping your feet for the final piece, ‘Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer’ arranged by Paul Ayers.

© Ian Chesworth 2014
IAN CHESWORTH now has the pleasure of working regularly with six choirs in the north-west area. His work-based choirs sing a range of styles but mostly modern pop, and Ian loves encouraging people who have never sung before to stand up and perform in venues such as the RNCM, Manchester and Cadogan Hall, London. His other choirs are musically diverse giving Ian opportunities to conduct big choral works with orchestra as well as a-cappella chamber choir music. Ian is also delighted to have been appointed Musical Director of the Cheshire Youth Choir and looks forward to working with them from January 2015.’

Having worked with Gareth Malone on both series of the BBC series Sing While you Work Ian still enjoys conducting the Manchester Airport Choir (Sing While You Work Series 1), despite the absence of the television cameras. Gareth Malone recently asked Ian and the Manchester Airport Choir to perform at the Bridgewater Hall as part of his Voices tour; commenting on how improved the choir is under Ian’s directorship.

Last November, Ian enjoyed the privilege of conducting the northern première of Jonathan Dove’s There was a Child with KEMS choir and orchestra. This was the first amateur performance of this moving piece and everyone involved was proud to perform it in the presence of the composer.

Singing in KEMS Choir or playing in KEMS Orchestra

We are always glad to hear from potential singers and players who would like to join KEMS. Membership is FREE for under 26’s. If you would like to know more about any vacancies please contact our Chairman Scott Thomson on 01625 503921. (email scottqpq@hotmail.com)
Singers from all over Europe attend Ian’s intensive choral workshops in Dunster, Somerset which are now so popular that he has to run three each year. Each weekend has a different focus and style meaning many singers have become regular attenders; the mix of cream teas and singing proves an unusual but popular combination!

Ian is resident MD and singing coach at the Capitol Theatre, working with students on the nationally renowned acting course at Manchester Metropolitan University and performing work such as Amadeus and Sweeney Todd. He has been a judge of the Amateur Choral Competition since its inception; choirs travel the length and breadth of the country to take part and Ian will act as a judge for further national competitions next month.

In demand as a teacher, Ian has expanded his Cheshire private practice to Liverpool where he works with advanced students on a range of repertoire. Always keen to be at the cutting edge, Ian has completed the Advanced Singing and the Actor teaching course with the internationally respected vocal coach Gillyanne Kayes.

Having trained as a singer to postgraduate level at the RNCM, Ian’s operatic roles have included Edrisi and Chorus (King Roger), Spoletta (Tosca), Silvio (Pagliacci) and Monostatos (The Magic Flute). In concert, he has sung numerous roles, including Elijah as well as having had the honour of singing the tenor role of Howard Blake’s The Bear with the Northern Sinfonia in the composer’s presence.

Anthony Houghton (conductor)

ANTHONY HOUGHTON conducts KEMS Orchestra and is founder and conductor of KEMS Concert Band. He was born in Warrington but brought up in the Lincolnshire countryside near Grimsby, where he attended the Choir School and played Clarinet with the Youth Orchestra.

After study at the Royal Manchester College of Music (now the RNCM) he settled in Manchester working as a freelance Clarinet and Saxophone recitalist, orchestral and session player. He was Principal Clarinet of the Northern Ballet and Manchester Camerata Orchestras for many years and played regularly with the Hallé, BBC, Opera North and other UK orchestras.

Anthony is Instrumental Tutor, Chamber Music Organizer and Ensemble Director at the Music Department of Sheffield University; Clarinet and Saxophone Teacher at Manchester Grammar School and acts as Adjudicator at music festivals and competitions.

He is on the executive of the national symphonic band organisation (BASBWE) and, in addition to directing the KEMS Orchestra, is conductor of the Sheffield University Wind Orchestra with which he has directed performances in the UK and Europe.

A lifetime enthusiasm for the intimacy of chamber music and a continuing professional activity in this field has fed Anthony’s long time passion for enabling chamber music and ensemble participation in others at many levels.
Jac McKeigue (leader)

Jac McKeigue has recently completed a PhD in Composition with George Nicholson at the University of Sheffield. In addition to commissions from the University Symphony Orchestra and Elgar String Orchestra, her PhD portfolio also contains a violin concerto and a string octet. She gave the first performances of these herself as soloist and leader respectively.

Soon after enrolling at the University of Sheffield Jac was fortunate enough to be accepted as a pupil of the highly-renowned and inspirational teacher, Nina Martin. She also had the great pleasure of having Nina’s husband Peter Cropper as a colleague and thoroughly enjoyed being coached and directed by him in the Elgar String Orchestra.

In addition to performing professionally with a great variety of chamber groups, Jac is also the leader of Sale Chamber Orchestra and has co-led Amaretti String Orchestra and Athenean Ensemble.

Alongside her performance activities, Jac has a private teaching practice at her home in Cheadle, Cheshire and also offers a range of workshops to schools.

Play in KEMS Concert Band

KEMS Concert Band welcomes enquiries from wind players of Grade 5 standard or higher, particularly brass and lower winds

Membership is FREE for under 26’s.
If you would like to know more about any vacancies please contact Richard Moss by email at richard.moss@kems.org.uk or call 01477 533764

The Concert Band entertains shoppers at Handforth Dean
KEMS Orchestra

### 1st Violins
- Jac McKeigue (Leader)
- Bill Hancock
- Wanda Johnson
- Becky Mills
- Sarah Milward
- Charles Rogers
- Robert Shaw
- Helen Smith
- Kay Thomas

### 2nd Violins
- Julia Cazalet
- David Budgett
- Roger Dowling
- Jean Fullwood
- Marion Grant
- Hilary Kershaw
- Catherine Wells

### Violas
- Ruth Kendon
- Rachael Chiverton
- Melanie Fett
- Anna Hazel
- Jenny Morriss
- Ron Thorn
- Jane Turner

### Cellos
- Sylvia Goodborn
- Katy Bradley
- John Chapman
- Gerald Coope
- Ruth Hughes
- Suzi Lewis*

### Double Bass
- Peter Struggles*

### Flutes
- Tim Ward
- Ann Newton

### Piccolo
- Kerry Murphy

### Oboes
- Jackie Grinham
- Margaret Wilson

### Clarinets
- Katie Lomas
- Sue Hudson

### Bassoons
- Jo Allinson
- Suzanne Blair

### Horns
- Bill Ramage
- Tim Kendal
- Pam Wellings
- Bob Crawshaw

### Trumpets
- Paul Dawes
- Andy Hope

### Trombones
- Rodney Orme
- Julie Homer
- Richard Moss

### Timpani
- Warren Temple*

### Percussion
- Pam Craig
- Katharine Brown*

*Guest players

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KEMS Choir

### Sopranos
- Fiona Ablett
- Cherry Bradley
- Sue Brown
- Judith Burrows
- Annette Butler
- Sarah Chesworth
- Sue Coffey
- Asiah Cullen
- Lesley Hanson
- Pam Hargreaves
- Kathleen Insley
- Christine Johnston
- Jenny Kendal
- Nick Knight
- Elisabeth Leech
- Anne Macdonald
- Katherine Marlow
- Rosalyn Mccormick
- Sue Morley
- Catherine Morris

### Altos
- Heather Armes
- Kath Birtwistle
- Sally-Ann Bradley
- Rita Dawson
- Maggie Earl
- Vivien Gisby
- Sue Honeywell
- Maria Hyde
- Sarah Jacot
- Linda Johnston
- Joan Latham

### Tenors
- Keith Armes
- John Durnall
- Tim Gravett
- Geoffrey Holden
- Jim Kendon
- Doug Macdonald

### Basses
- Will Ablett
- Alec Ashcroft
- John Campbell-Kelly
- Richard Cochrane
- John Fryer
- Peter Hargreaves
- Derek Kite
- Steve Kleiser
- Paul Reynolds
- Crawford Scholes
- David Smith
- Paul Spedding
- Scott Thomson
- Bohdan Waszkowycz

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- Kathleen Insley
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- Jenny Kendal
- Nick Knight
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- Anne Macdonald
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*Guest players
KING EDWARD MUSICAL SOCIETY (KEMS) of Macclesfield was founded in September 1957. The aim of KEMS throughout its life has been to encourage singers and instrumentalists who want to rehearse and take part in performances. This philosophy has created a friendly society that is open to all musicians (no auditions) who enjoy making music within a large ensemble.

Prospective members are very welcome to attend rehearsals to see if the KEMS spirit is right for them. If you would like to know more about KEMS please visit our website at www.kems.org.uk or talk to our Chairman Scott Thomson on 01625 503921.

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KEMS Orchestra

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SCHUMANN Konzertstück for four horns
BRAHMS Symphony No 4

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KEMS Concert Band
CAROLS IN THE STABLEYARD at Tatton Park

Christmas continues with KEMS...

Saturday, 20th December 2014 at 7.30 pm
KEMS Concert Band
CONCERT at United Reformed Church, Macclesfield

unless otherwise stated, concerts are at St Michael’s Church, Macclesfield
all tickets may be purchased online. full details: www.kems.org.uk

MUSIC TUITION

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<tr>
<th>CLARINET</th>
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and the atmosphere?
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