

A Christmas Season of Carols at St. Martin's Church Liskeard



Despite the constraints of the 19th century seating and 9th century heating St. Martin's has been treated to two wonderful concerts by local music makers. First up, on December 10th, were the highly experienced and accomplished choral group Canoryon Lowen, under Director Nick Hart, and accompanist Janet Wright. Their programme of songs and readings, much from secular sources, brought out the darker, earthier, side of the original Christmas to complement the joy and festivity we can now enjoy looking back on its spiritual significance. We are most grateful to Liskeard Concert Series for arranging this truly inspiring event.

Treading hard on the heels of Canoryon Lowen came the East Cornwall Youth String Orchestra. Talent met enthusiasm, producing a real Christmas buzz, under Director Tim Bolton, for only their second public appearance. Their programme too was a mixture of traditional carols and more unfamiliar arrangements and Christmas songs. These were drawn from all ages and countries, this side of the Tamar and far beyond. The young musicians, aged between 11 and 18, are from east Cornwall and west Devon. They rehearse together an afternoon a month, as much for a social gathering as a shared love of music. They will be joining similar orchestras from Penzance and Truro, in March, for the Music For Youth Regional Festival.

We hope these groups will become a regular part of the life of St. Martin's, and Liskeard, in addition to our traditional Christmas Services programme. We plan to provide all such visitors with heating and seating that will give sight to match their sound, in comfort. They will always receive, at least, a very warm welcome.

The photo shows the East Cornwall Youth String Orchestra, playing at St Martin's Church Liskeard on 17th December 2016.