

A CONCERT OF CAROLS

Originally the word 'carol' meant 'a dance or song of praise and joy' and the first carols were sung in Europe some thousands of years ago. These were pagan songs usually sung at the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year December 22 in the northern hemisphere.

The early Christians replaced the pagan solstice celebrations with Christmas and gave their people Christian songs to sing.

A Concert of Carols

Soon composers all over Europe began to write Christmas carols but they were not universally popular as they were sung in Latin. The practice declined somewhat during the Middle Ages but revived when Francis of Assisi commenced the staging of nativity plays in Italy. In these plays people sang song that told the stories featured in the plays. These new carols spread to France, Spain, Germany and other European countries. Many of the carols from this time were untrue stories loosely based on the Christmas narrative. Travelling minstrels often altered the words to suit the local areas where they performed. When Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans came to power in England the celebration of Christmas and the singing of carols in public was stopped; but the carols survived because people sang them in secret.

Since that time carols have become an integral part of Christmas celebrations.

In this annual Christmas concert Murray Conservatorium Choir will present a range of carols from different countries and Hugh Fullarton's arrangement of perhaps the best known and loved carol 'Silent Night'. There will be other favourites that the audience will be invited to join in singing.

You are invited to join with the choir in launching the celebration of Christmas 2016.

The Murray Conservatorium Choir

With orchestral and piano accompaniment
under the direction of Hugh Fullarton

Presents

A Concert of Carols

In this annual Christmas concert, the Choir will present a range of carols from different countries; and there will be other favourites that the audience will be invited to join in singing!

Concerts:

Saturday, 3 December 2016 at 7.30 pm
St Matthew's Church, Kiewa Street, Albury

Sunday, 4 December 2016 at 2.30 pm
St John's Church, Beechworth Road, Wodonga

Ticket prices:

Adults: \$25 Concession: \$20 Under 18: Free

Available from:

Regent Cinemas, 456 Dean Street, Albury
Murray Conservatorium, cnr. Dean & Olive Streets, Albury
Genevieve Boutique, 137 High Street, Wodonga
Choir Members

Website: www.murrayconchoir.com