

HALSTEAD CHORAL

formerly known as Halstead & District Choral Society
Registered Charity No: 1072277

Treasurer: David S Ainge,
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REPORT TO THE 2020 HALSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL TOWN MEETING

On Tuesday August 13th 2019 I was delighted to receive a Halstead Town Council cheque for £250.00 to support Halstead Choral's work amongst the schools in Halstead.

Over previous years we had begun to invite children and young adults from St Andrew's Junior School and Ramsey Academy, along with Infantasias (a private children's music group), to join us for our Christmas Concert. Their participation was the provision of stand-alone musical items within a composite Concert. All very nice, but we wanted to develop the Concert as a truly combined effort.

So, our plans for the 2019 Christmas Concert developed. Having secured the services of James Davey as our choir's Musical Director, we were delighted to hear from him that he'd like to engage with the schools. Opportunities for our cooperation led to joint rehearsals in school time involving Halstead Choral members, James Davey and the choirs at St Andrew's School and Ramsey Academy - and, eventually, a very well supported Christmas Concert in St Andrew's Church, Halstead.

Infantasia provided an ensemble of string instruments playing Christmas carols.

Ramsey Academy provided singers and a programme of Christmas songs; together with a band, including guitars, drums, saxophone and clarinets.

St Andrew's Junior School provided a choir to sing Christmas carols.

Everyone joined in with Halstead Choral in singing rousing Christmas songs.

The members of Halstead Choral were delighted to share in a really wonderful evening. Through it we were able to support the music teachers in the schools, introduce the children and young adults to choral music, and to give the supporting parents an evening's entertainment.

We could not have achieved all this without the support of Halstead Town Council. For this we thank you very much.

David S Ainge
27th April 2020