



# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

WITH THE SALVATION ARMY



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Wednesday 7 December 2022



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# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

## WITH THE SALVATION ARMY

### Credits

Artistic Director: Graham Hubbard  
Assistant to the Artistic Director: Saffi Needham

### Readers

Tilly Vosburgh  
Jenna Russell  
Sheila Hancock

### Performers

International Staff Band: Bandmaster Dr Stephen Cobb  
International Staff Songsters: Leader Dorothy Nancekievill  
Cormac Thompson  
Anna Sharman  
Erin Moir  
Naar M'fundisi-Holloway  
Broxbourne Bell Ringers  
Artists in Exile  
Harpist: Alison Blackhall  
Organist: Ghislaine Reece-Trapp

Executive Producer: Lieut-Colonel Dean Pallant  
Event Manager: Lisa Little  
Territorial Events Unit: Matthew Simmons, Bianca Pierre

Lighting and Technical Design: Richard G. Jones  
Live Visuals: SFL  
Backstage Catering: ISS Facilities Management  
Graphic Design: Mel Gillman, Let's Imagine  
Casting Director: Saffi Needham  
Box Office: Royal Albert Hall  
Event Manager for the Royal Albert Hall: Kenisha Fuller

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ARE  
MADE OF





December 2022

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Royal Albert Hall and Christmas with The Salvation Army.

Thank you so much for coming and supporting this wonderful event, created so that we can celebrate together the gift of Jesus Christ to the world.

It is our hope that you will be encouraged, inspired and blessed as we hear again the story of Christmas, as we sing the familiar carols and as we hear world-class musicians sharing their gifts and talents with us.

It is also our hope that a great measure of the peace and reconciliation that accompanied the coming of Christ to the world would again be experienced by us all. I certainly hope that as individuals tonight we would all know a deep sense of peace and wellbeing before we return to our own communities. Also, of course, we think of the world at large, which it seems more than ever is in need of peace and reconciliation.

I know that we are in for a wonderful evening and so would like to express some words of gratitude to all our special guests and musicians, as well as to the technical staff and various teams who have been carefully planning this event over the past few months. Our Artistic Director, Graham Hubbard, is once again worthy of immense praise and thanks. Special and sincere gratitude is deeply expressed to our sponsors, whose generous spirits make this event possible.

Thank you again for celebrating with us. Enjoy and be blessed this evening and may you and yours have a very happy and peaceful Christmas!

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Cotterill  
Commissioner  
Territorial Commander  
Leader of The Salvation Army  
in the UK and Ireland

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# CHRISTMAS





# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

## WITH THE SALVATION ARMY

International Staff Songsters

Alleluia!

International Staff Band

Celebrate The Season

Welcome

Lieut-Colonel Dean Pallant

Carol

Joy To The World

*(Words will appear on the screen and are also available in the middle of your concert programme)*

Reading

Luke 1: 26–38

International Staff Band

Gabriel's Message

Carol

O Come All Ye Faithful

Reading

Matthew 1: 18–25

International Staff Songsters

Lully, Lulla, Lullay

Carol

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Broxbourne Handbell Ringers

On A Still And Silent Night

Carol

O Little Town Of Bethlehem

Reading

Matthew 2: 1–16

Carol

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

Testimony

Refugee Story

Artists In Exile

A Carol For A New Year

Cormac Thompson

A Gaelic Blessing/Let There Be Peace On Earth

Message

Commissioner Anthony Cotterill

Dr Naar M'fundisi-Holloway

Blessed Assurance

International Staff Songsters

A Boy Was Born

Carol – featuring International Staff Songsters

Wonderful Counsellor

International Staff Band

Swinging To Christmas

International Staff Songsters

O Come And Join The Dance

Anna Sharman, Cormac Thompson and  
Erin Moir with International Staff Band  
and International Staff Songsters

When You Believe

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





Tilly Vosburgh

**Tilly trained at the Anna Scher Theatre. She has recently been seen in Steven Moffat's *Inside Man* (BBC/Netflix) and in *The Pact*, (BBC).**

Other TV includes *Dalgliesh*, *The Chelsea Detective*, *Maigret*, *Damned*, *Vera*, *Call The Midwife*, *Tommy – Just Like That*, *The Infinite World of HG Wells*, *Eastenders*, *Teenage Health Freak*, *Poirot*, *Inspector Morse*, *Waking The Dead*, *New Tricks*, *Holding On*, *Will You Love Me Tomorrow*, *Tipping The Velvet*, *Blackhearts in Battersea* and *Hold The Back Page*.

Recent films include *Matterhorn* (released next year,) *The Awakening*, Thomas Vinterburg's *Far From The Madding Crowd*, Jake Mann's *Karen*, and Mike Leigh's *Peterloo*, *Vera Drake* and *Meantime*.

She has just finished filming a new children's film in Ireland to be released next year.

On stage she was in the original productions of *The Pitchfork Disney* by Philip Ridley and *Raspberry* by Tony Marchant. Other theatre credits include *Drag On at the Royal Court*, *My Sister In This House* at Hampstead, *Banged Up* at the Young Vic and *The Threepenny Opera* at the Bloomsbury Theatre.

On radio she played Ronnie Corbett's daughter in four series of *When The Dog Dies*.

Tilly is also a director and a writer. She directed *A Better Woman* by Simon Mendes de Costa at the Marlowe, and *A Greater Game* at Southwark Playhouse. She adapted Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend* for the stage, and her short film *Domestic Flight* played in festivals across the globe. She was also one of the writers for *Late* on Radio 4, and is currently adapting a children's book for the screen.







Jenna Russell

**Jenna is an award winning actress with an extensive range of television and theatre credits to her name.**

Her accolades include an Olivier Award for Best Actress in a Musical for her performance as Dot/Marie in *Sunday In The Park With George* at the Wyndhams Theatre in London's West End.

She reprised her role on Broadway at Studio 54, where she won 2008 Theatre World Award for Broadway Debut Performance. She also received a 2008 Tony Award Nomination and 2008 Drama Desk Nomination for the same role and an Olivier Award Nomination for her performance as Mary Flynn in *Merrily We Roll Along* at The Menier Chocolate Factory and The Pinter Theatre. She was also nominated for an Olivier for her performance as Sarah Brown in *Guys And Dolls* at the Piccadilly Theatre starring opposite Ewan McGregor as Sky.

Other recent Theatre credits include: Susan in *Woman In Mind*

at Chichester Festival Theatre, Carrie in *Steve* at the Seven Dials Playhouse, and Jenna Russell live at Cadogan Hall. Jenna has played leading roles at The National Theatre, Royal Court, RSC and Almeida Theatre as well as many other West End credits including leading roles in *Songs For A New World* (St James Theatre), *Viv and Rose* (Vaudeville Theatre), *Hello Again* (Bridewell Theatre) and *Les Miserables* (Palace Theatre)

Jenna's TV credits include the leading role of Michelle Fowler in *EastEnders*, *Gentlemen Jack*, *Midsomer Murders*, *Call the Midwife*, *The Paradise*, *Holby City* and *Doctor Who*.

Films include *The Death and Life of John F Donovan* with Natalie Portman and Kit Harington and *Mortdecai* with Ewan McGregor. Jenna also sings the theme tune for BBC cult TV series *Red Dwarf*.





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**Dame Sheila Hancock**

**Sheila's extensive career has ranged from the original West End casts of *Sweeney Todd*, *Annie* and *Sister Act* to being the first Woman Artistic Director of the RSC's tour; from playing Ranyevskaya in *The Cherry Orchard* at the Royal National Theatre to *Celebrity Gogglebox*; and from Senna Pod in *Carry on Cleo* to winning an Olivier Award for her performance as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret*.**

On screen Sheila has just completed shooting on the BBC drama, *The Sixth Commandment* and other recent work includes the title role in the feature film *Edie*, ITV's latest series of *Unforgotten*, as well as co-presenting Ch4's *Great Canal Journeys* with Gyles Brandreth. For Sky she played Goody Alsop in *A Discovery of Witches*; Mimi Vincent in three series of *Delicious*; and Gala Dali in *The Dali and the Cooper* (Urban Myths series).

She was awarded Author of the Year for her autobiography *The Two of Us* which she followed with *Just Me*; and then, aged 81, with her

debut novel *Miss Carter's War*. Sheila's latest book *Old Rage* was published by Bloomsbury in June 2022.

She is an active Patron of the Digismart Charity; Trustee of the John Thaw Foundation, and Vice President of St Christopher's Hospice. She was also Chancellor of the University of Portsmouth University 2008-2012 and was awarded a DBE for services to Drama and Charity in 2021.







# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

WITH THE SALVATION ARMY



## Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King,  
Let every heart prepare him room  
And Heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love.



## While shepherds watched their flocks by night

All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

Fear not! said he; for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.

To you, in David's town, this day  
Is born, of David's line,  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

The heavenly babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
And in a manger laid.

Thus spake the seraph and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, and thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

All glory be to God on high  
And to the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from Heaven to men  
Begin and never cease!



## O come, all ye faithful,

Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him Born the King of angels:

*O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:



## CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Simply hover your phone  
over the QR code and give  
your support to someone this  
Christmas, thank you!



### O little town of Bethlehem

How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God, the King,  
And peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his Heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel.

### A CAROL FOR A NEW YEAR

Artists in Exile – please join in chorus:

*Shchedryk, shchedryk,  
a shchedrivka,  
A little swallow flew.  
Shchedryk, shchedryk,  
a shchedrivka,  
A little swallow flew.*



### It came upon the midnight clear,

That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold;

Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,  
From Heaven's all gracious king!  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

But with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong.

And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love song which they bring;  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever circling years  
Comes round the age of gold,

When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.



### 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 the angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

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

Christ, by highest Heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen 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.



**Anna is 14 years old and attends Regent Hall Salvation Army, where she is a member of the children's choir and junior band and also sings with the worship group.**

Anna attends The Academy performing arts school in Watford, where she enjoys singing lessons with her teacher Betty Jones, as well as dancing and acting classes.

Anna recently performed the lead role of Elle Woods in The Academy's production of *Legally Blonde*. She also sang in a youth gala show at the Shaftesbury Theatre in the West End, performed at the Bushey Festival and sang a solo at the switching on of the Christmas lights in Watford.

Anna also loves sports and enjoys playing netball, football and athletics for her school. She is delighted to be performing in tonight's concert.



**Anna Sharman | Erin Moir**



**16 year old Erin discovered her love of musical theatre at her local stage school and since then she has trained at Mountview and as an associate at Urdang.**

She has had the honour of performing at the West End's Adelphi and Shaftesbury theatres and most recently as guest soloist at the Barbican.

Following her recent GCSE's Erin has been studying Musical Theatre at the prestigious Brit School and is represented by the Narrow Road company. Erin sings with the worship group at the Regent Hall corps and for the last two years was the UK representative on the International social justice girls group which reports to the UN and raises awareness on key issues such as gender based violence and girls education.

She is thrilled to be part of tonight's performance.







**Naar was born and raised in Lusaka, Zambia. She is a third generation Salvationist who has lived on three continents – Africa, North America and Europe.**

She is a wife and mother of two young children and lives in Milton Keynes with her family.

She currently works as an Action Researcher in the Research and Development Department at the Territorial Headquarters of The Salvation Army in London. Naar is an author and has a PhD in Theology from the University of Birmingham. Her research interests include African Christianity, Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity and civic engagement, intercultural missions and women in ministry.

Naar has a great passion for music and singing.

## Naar M'fundisi-Holloway | Cormac Thompson

**Thirteen year old Cormac is the youngest singer ever to be signed to global label, Decca Records.**

His debut album *Hear My Voice* charted at #11 (UK Classical Chart) and #3 (Australia's Classical Crossover chart). He was also awarded the coveted Classic FM *Album of the Week*.

With the support of his family and his singing teacher, Daphne Sumbler, Cormac continues recording. Some of his biggest hits to date, have been as an independent artist, racking up a total of over 2 million views on his YouTube channel. Cormac's unique way of taking well-known songs and re-imagining them to more current events, clearly demonstrates just what can be achieved with a little bit of thought and determination.

A finalist in the BBC's *Young Chorister of The Year* competition (2021), he almost made it to the semi-final of *Britain's Got Talent* too. In 2022, Cormac was awarded a scholarship to a song writing camp in America. He returned to the recording studio with pianist and producer Dominic Ferris and producer Jon Cohen, whose collective belief in him has made all of this possible. A passionate advocate for young boy singers, Cormac hopes that what he has been able to achieve will inspire others.





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Twenty four hours a day, every day of the year. The Salvation Army provide care and support to people in need. In fact it's what we've done for over 150 years. It is what we continue to do today and it's what we will go on doing whenever and wherever there is injustice and pain in the world.

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★ **We help** people affected by disasters or financial troubles

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★ **We help** anyone feeling hopeless



Christmas  
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wonderful Christmas  
and a Happy New Year



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# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

WITH THE SALVATION ARMY



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## Zahrava is 7 Ukrainian women and girls, aged between 7 and 19, all recently arrived in the UK.

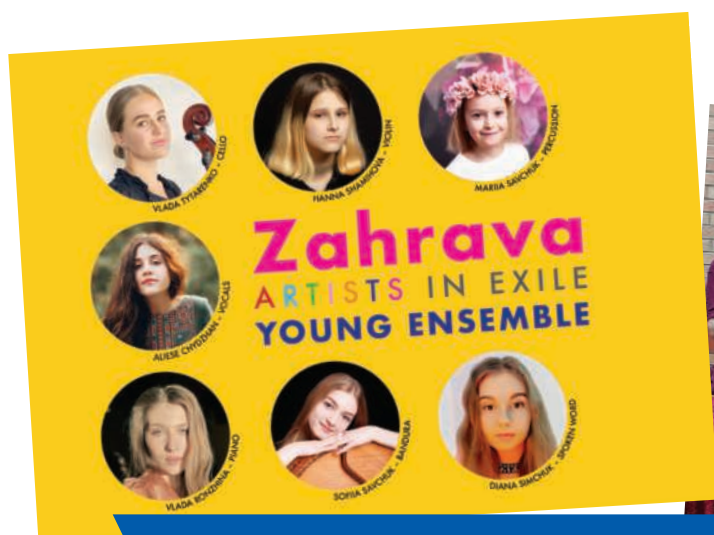
They will premiere a new arrangement of Shchedryk by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovich, co-created with composer Will Todd and librettist Sarah Woods. Originally written in 1916, this nationally famous song is about a swallow who flies to a farmstead to tell the family that the new year will bring better things.

Artists In Exile is a small not-for-profit organisation offering help and support to artists who have to leave their countries.

'As a group of artists ourselves, we aim to help people find creative communities and opportunities'.

Find out more, join us and support at: [www.artistsinexile.co.uk](http://www.artistsinexile.co.uk)

*With thanks to; Jim Clark, Martin Kiszco, Sarah and David Burns, Emma Wilkinson, Paul James, Cambridgeshire Music and Saffron Centre for Young Musicians.*



## Zahrava | Broxbourne Handbell Ringers

### Handbells have been rung in the Parish of Broxbourne since the 1850s. From the early 1960s bells were often rung at Christmas by a few ringers, but it wasn't until 1975 that Broxbourne Handbell Ringers formed a permanent team.

There are currently 18 members, ringing 5 octaves of Whitechapel handbells and several octaves of hand chimes. Our team is part of the East Anglia Region of Handbell Ringers of Great Britain (HRGB).

All our members have rung at Regional events, and Broxbourne ringers make up almost a third of the East Anglia Regional Handbell Team of 37 ringers, who give several concerts in the region every year in May and June.

Many of our team have performed at National Rallies and have participated in the International Handbell Symposium which takes place every other year in countries such as Australia, USA, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, Canada and the UK.

We take bookings to perform for women's groups, the local USA, church groups, care homes and weddings. We have even rung on a float as part of the Lord Mayor's show.

We are continually developing our repertoire to provide a varied selection of classical pieces and hymn tunes, popular tunes, Christmas pieces and works composed specifically for handbells.





**International Staff Songsters | International Staff Band**

**The International Staff Songsters is at the forefront of Salvation Army vocal music making in the UK and around the world.**

From a cathedral to a community hall, a TV studio to a prison chapel, the Songsters reach thousands of people with the good news of God's love and the joy, peace and hope found in knowing Jesus.

Since their founding in 1980, the Songsters have been blessed to sing with my many celebrity performers, including Kerry Ellis, Aled Jones, Lee Mead and Russell Watson.

Each member of the group loves to express their Christian faith through singing and is committed to their local Salvation Army corps. Once a month the group visit a Salvation Army centre to present a festival and worship services.

They are also blessed to take part in many national and international Salvation Army events as well as TV and radio broadcasts.

For more information please visit:  
[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/iss](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/iss)

**The International Staff Band is pleased to support the carol concert here at the famous Royal Albert Hall, a venue where the band has made many performances over many years.**

The band, conducted by Dr Stephen Cobb, continues to maintain its place at the forefront of Salvation Army music-making.

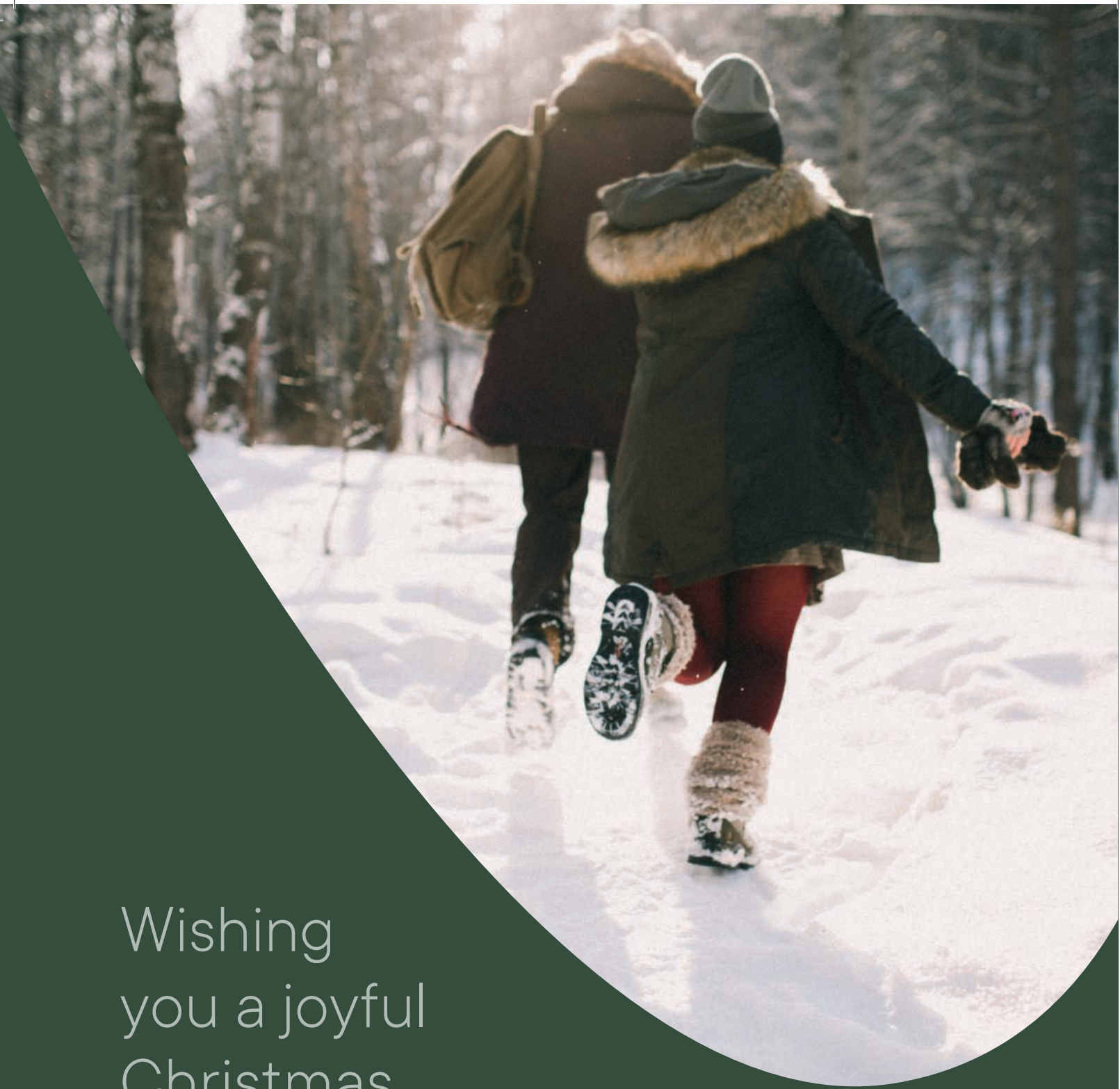
Officially formed in 1891, the ISB still aims to achieve the very highest standards in communicating the Christian message through its music. The band rehearses each week at our Territorial Headquarters in London, and members of the band travel from around the UK to be part of it. The band travels extensively in the UK presenting concerts and leading worship at many of our Salvation Army centres.

Frequent overseas visits have been undertaken by the band. In addition, the band makes regular recordings spreading its music around the world.

A significant number of the band's players are employed by The Salvation Army, others working in a wide range of professions. All members however, are also active members of their local Salvation Army, many holding leadership positions. The band's purpose is the same as all Salvation Army groups – to bring honour and glory to God.







# Wishing you a joyful Christmas

We're proud to have helped The Salvation Army connect with their supporters for over 20 years, helping them bring more hope and joy to people in need at Christmas.

[signal.co.uk](https://signal.co.uk)

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Graham Hubbard

**Graham is an Olivier Award nominated theatre adaptor/director (2022).**

**He trained at LAMDA (Evelyn Laye Award) and was an actor for fourteen years working extensively in regional/West End theatre, television and film with directors such as Kenneth Branagh, Matthew Warchus, Gregory Doran, John Caird and John Doyle. He then moved into directing and writing.**

In the West End Graham was associate director on *Sweeney Todd* (New Ambassadors also at the Eugene O'Neil on Broadway), *Mack and Mabel* (Criterion), *The Sound of Music* (Palladium), *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert* (Palace).

Graham's productions range from Shakespeare, through Coward and Brecht to musical theatre. As artistic director for New Rep Theatre, he was nominated for the Peter Brook Award (2012) for his actor/musician production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. He supports and develops new writing and was nominated for Best Director (Broadway World 2013) for his work on the world premiere of *The Spring Tide*. Graham regularly directs at many of the top drama schools in the UK (CSSD, Arts Ed, LIPA, BSA, LSMT, Guildford Conservatoire.)

For over a decade Graham has enjoyed being artistic director for the Salvation Army's annual charity carol concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

His stage adaptation of Julia Donaldson's children's book *What The Ladybird Heard*, which he also directed, has had two successful West End seasons (Palace and Lyric theatres) and several international tours.

He has written book/lyrics for a new musical adaptation of *The Colonel's Lady* (based on a short story by Somerset Maugham) and has adapted the South African novel, *Buckingham Palace, District Six* for the stage.



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