

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

A Christmas Medley of Folk Poetry and Words from England and Ireland

for the Henbury Singers

Oliver Barton 1997

The musical score is arranged for Recorder (Rec.), Clarinet in B-flat 1 (Cl B \flat 1), Clarinet in B-flat 2 (Cl B \flat 2), Piano (Pno), and Clarinet in C 1 (Cl.1). The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 6/8. The score is divided into three systems. The first system includes the Recorder, Clarinets, and Piano parts. The second system includes the vocal line and Piano accompaniment. The third system includes the Clarinet in C 1 part and Piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *chunkily*. Performance instructions include 'Heartily' and 'ALL'.

Rec.

Cl B \flat 1

Cl B \flat 2

Heartily

ALL

f All hail to the days That

Pno

f *mf*

me - rit more praise Than all the rest of the year! And wel - come the nights That

Cl.1

mf

dou - ble de-lights As well for the poor as the peer! Good for - tune at - tend Each

chunkily

This can be performed with piano alone. And choir, of course, o pedant. If you're using instruments, some of the piano doubling could be omitted.

In the voice parts, there a number of extra syllables in the words, rather in the Ye Olde Tea Shoppe vein. Unlike common practice, these should be neutral sounds (sort of "uh", so that it's roughly "Ye Olduh Tea Shoppuh" instead of "Ye Oldee Tea Shoppee" as many would have it). In the text, these are indicated by "è", though I may have missed a few.

All hayle to the dayes

'A pleasant Country new Ditty: Merrily shewing how To drive the cold Winter away' from a broadside in the Pepysian collection, early 17th century, to the tune of "When Phoebus did rest," first published in The Dancing Master, 1650.

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If you perform it, please let me know!

oliver.barton@talktalk.net

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

Cl.1

mer - ry man's friend That doth but the best that he may, For - get - ting old wrongs With

Rec

Cl.1

Treble

Sop

Alt

ALL

ca - rols and songs To drive the cold win - ter a - way. As blithe, as

ca - rols and songs To drive the cold win - ter a - way. Now Sis - ley and Nan - ny, More

p *legato*

p *legato*

mf

Rec

blithe, as blithe as the month of June, Like birds, like

jo - cund than an - y, As blithe as the month of June, Do ca - roland sing, Like

mf

p

26

Rec

Cl.1

mf

mf *mp*

birds. La la la la la la. con-tent

birds of the spring (No night - ingale swee - ter in tune) To bring in con-tent, When

mp *mf*

tr. *tr.* *tr.* *tr.*

less sweet than a nightingale

30

Rec

Cl.1

is spent in plea - sant play, Good cheer,

sum - mer is spent, In plea - sant de-light and play, With mirth and good cheer, To

mf

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

42

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

mer - ry as the bucks in pale. Ah,

mer - ry as the bucks in pale. Ah,

8 mer - ry as bucks in the pale. Ah,

mer - ry as bucks in the pale; Where cakes, bread and cheese Is brought foyour fees To

p

p

p

p

mf

p

42

46

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

Ah

To drive a -

Ah To drive the cold win - ter a -

8 As the fire, Ah, To drive a -

make you the lon - ger stay, As — the fire — to warm Will do you no harm To drive the cold win - ter a -

p

46

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

51 *cresc.*

Cl.1 *mf* *cresc.*

Cl.2 *mf* *cresc.*

mf *cresc.*

way. When Christ - è - mas - tide Comes in like a bride, With hol - ly and i - vy

mf *cresc.*

way. When Crist - è - mas - tide Comes *cresc.* in like a bride, With hol - ly and i - vy

mf *cresc.*

way. *mf* When Crist - è - mas - tide Comes in like a bride, With hol - ly and

mf *cresc.*

way. *mf* When Christ - è - mas - tide Comes in like a bride, With hol - ly and

mp *loco*

55 *f*

Cl.1 *f*

Cl.2 *f*

f

clad, Twelve days in the year Much mirth and good cheer In ev - e - ry house - hold is

f

clad, Twelve days in the year Much mirth and good cheer In ev - e - ry house - hold is

f

i - vy clad, Twelve days in the year Much mirth and good cheer In ev' - ry

f

i - vy clad, Twelve days in the year Much mirth and good cheer In ev' - ry

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

Cl.1

Rec

Rec

100

Slow Waltz *King Herod & the Cock*
(*The Star of County Down*)

p like the cry of a bird

There was a star in Da - vid's land, So bright it did ap - pear In -

There was a star in Da - vid's land, So bright it did ap - pear In -

Oo Oo Oo

p *loco*

King Herod and the Cock

The words were collected by Cecil Sharp from Mrs. Plumb of Armscote, Worcestershire. The melody is "The Star of County Down." The story can be traced back to 1200.

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109

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

pp

pp

to King Her - i - od's cham - è - ber And bright - è - ly it shined there. *mf* The

to King Her - i - od's cham - è - ber And bright - è - ly it shined there.

8

oo

Ah

oo

109

117

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

p

liquid

p

pp

pp

Wise Men soon - è es - pi - ed it, And told to the king - è on high, That a

Oo

Ah

Oo

etc.

Oo

oo

oo

oo

oo

Oo

oo

Ah

117

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Rec

125

prince - ly ba - by was born that night No king could e'er des - troy.

prince - ly ba - by born that night No king could e'er des - troy.

ah oo oo oo oo Ah

ah ah ah mf *ff*

125

133

pp Ah *mp* King Her - i - od said, *pp* Ah *p* Ah

pp Ah *mp* King Her - i - od said, *pp* Ah *p* Ah

pp Ah *mp* King Her - i - od said, *pp* Ah *p* Ah

this be true," King Her - i - od said, "As thou hast told to me, This

133

141

Ah Ah *mp* Shall crow - è full fen - ces three, one,

Ah Oo *mp* Shall crow - è full fen - ces three, one,

Ah Oo *mp* Shall crow full fen - ces three, one,

roas - ted cock that lies in the dish shall crow - è full fen - ces three.

Cl.1

Cl.2

p

mf two, three, The cock soon thrust-ened and fea - thered well By the work of God's own

two, three, *p* La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la,

two, three, *p* La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la,

p La, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la,

148

Cl.1
Cl.2

155

Rec
Cl.1
Cl.2

163

hand. *pp* in the

la, *p* And he did crow full fen - ces three In the dish - è where he,

la, *pp* oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo,

la, *pp* oo, oo, oo, oo, oo, oo,

dish - è where he did stand. Ah,

mp Da da da da da da da da da da

oo, oo, oo. Ah,

oo, oo, oo. *mp* Da da da da da da da da da da

163 *8va* *loco* *mp*

187

Rec

pp

Ah ah And he did crow-è full fen - ces three In the

work of God's good hand. And he did crow full fen - ces,

ah Oo

Ah Oo oo

187 *pp* *8va*

195

Rec

Cl.1

pp *f*

dish - è where he, Ah, In the dish - è where he did stand.

Ah, Oo, Ah.

oo oo oo oo

195 *loco* *f*

203

Cl.1

chunkily

chunkily

The Old Gray Cat

The Old Gray Cat

A good old English reel. If you're using instruments, the piano could indulge in some more full-bloodied ompahing.

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

210

Rec

Cl.1

f

216

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

f

222

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

gallumphingly

229

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

gradually more legato and quieter

Rec

243 *with a heavyish swing*

f

This bit doesn't exist in the original tune, but something is necessary to accommodate the secular words. To balance things up, it's also used in with the sacred text later.

T

For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

Bring us in good ale, — good — ale, and bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

243 *Nowell, nowell (c.1460)*

Bring us in good ale/The Salutation Carol
 Copied down in the commonplace book of William Hill (grocer and Mayor of London) in 1504. "Bring us in good ale" is a boozy parody of the Salutation (or Annunciation) carol. Such parodies were common; church and tavern often shared tunes. Hill's book is an amazing collection of items, from 'a good medycyne for a cutt,' which begins 'Take a pynte of good ale,' to notes on the breaking in of

249

Bring — us in good ale. *mf* Bring us in no brown — bread For that is made of bran, — Nor

Bring — us in good ale. *mf* Bring us in no brown — bread For that is made of bran, — Nor

249 *mf* etc.

256 T & B *as though you meant it*

bring us in no white bread For there - in lies no gain, — But *f* bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good

256

Rec

263

ale; For our bles - sed La - dy's sake, Bring — us in good ale. *mf*

263

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Cl.1

270

readily cheerful

mp La la la la la la la la la la la la

(sheepishly)

mf Bring us in no mut - ton For that is pas-sing lean, — Nor bring us in no tri - pès, For they — be sel-dom

p

Cl.1

277

mf

la la la *f* Bring us in good ale, good ale, Bring us in good ale, good ale, For our

clean, — But *f* bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed

mf

Cl.1

283

La - dy's sake, Bring us in good ale, good ale, good ale. *mf* Bring us in no eggs, no eggs, For

La - dy's sake, Bring — us in good ale. *p* Bring us in no eggs For

marcato

p

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

290

Rec

S & A

T & B

there are ma - ny shells, — But bring us in good ale, good ale, And give — us no - thing else, — So

there are shells, But bring us in good ale, For our La - dy's sake,

mf

296

Rec

bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

Bring us in good ale, good ale. Bring us in good ale, good ale, For our La - dy's sake,

mp

302

Rec

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

Bring — us in good ale. *p* La la la la *still cheerful!*

Bring us in good ale, good ale, good ale. *p* And bring us in no but - ter For there - *bouncily*

mf *like a coarse-chopped Ardennes paté*

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308

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

la la la la la la la la la la la la

T

B in are ma - ny hairs, — Nor bring us in no pig - gè's flesh For that — will make us boars, — But

in are ma - ny — bring us in no pig - gè's flesh For that — will make us boars, — But

308

314

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

S & A

Bring us in good ale, good ale, Bring us in good ale, good ale, For our La - dy's sake,

T

bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

B

bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

314

320

Rec

Cl.1 *bouncily* *f*

Cl.2 *f*

Bring us in good ale, good ale, good ale, ale, good ale, Bring us in no ca-pon's flesh For

Bring us in good ale, good ale, good ale, ale, good ale, *ff* Bring us in no ca-pon's flesh For

8 Bring us in good ale. *ff* Bring us in no ca-pon's flesh For

Bring us in good ale. *ff* Bring us in no ca-pon's flesh For

320 *8va*

326

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

that is of - ten dear, — Nor bring us in no duck's flesh For they slob - ber i' the mere, — But

that is of - ten dear, — Nor bring us in no duck's flesh For they slob - ber i' the mere, — But

8 that is of - ten dear, — Nor bring us in no duck's flesh For they slob - ber i' the mere, — But

that is of - ten dear, — Nor bring us in no duck's flesh For they slob - ber i' the mere, — But

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A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

332

Rec
Cl.1
Cl.2

bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,
bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,
bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,
bring us in good ale, good ale, And bring us in good ale, For our bles - sed La - dy's sake,

332

Rec
Cl.1
Cl.2

gradually smoother, slower and softer *rit.*

gradually smoother, slower and softer *rit.*

Bring us in good ale. *rit.*

Bring us in good ale. *rit.*

Bring us in good ale. *rit.*

Bring us in good ale. *rit.*

338 *loco*

gradually smoother, slower and softer

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

Slower—very gently, with growing exultation

345

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

p

p

ALL Slower—more rocking than swinging
very gently, with growing exultation

p

No - well, no-well, no - well, no - well, No - well, no-well, no - well, This is the sa - lu -

345

p

etc.

351

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

mf

mf

mf legato

mf

mf legato

mf

A & B

ta - ti - on Of the an - gel Ga - bri - el. *mf* Ti - dings true there be come new Sent

351

mf

mf legato

357

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

mp

f

mf

mf

S & T

mp

Ah *f* A

from the Tri - ni - ty, By Ga - bri - el to Na - za - reth, Ci - ty of Ga - li - lee. *f* A

357

363

Rec *detached*

Cl.1 *f*

Cl.2 *f*

S *mf* *foreshadowing*

A *f*

T *mf* *foreshadowing*

B *f*

clean mai-den and pure vir-gin, Through her hu-mi - li - ty *mf* Born to live and
 clean mai-den and pure vir-gin, Through her hu-mi - li - ty *f* Hath con-ceiv'd the per - son
 clean mai-den and pure vir-gin, Through her hu-mi - li - ty *mf* Born to live and
 clean mai-den and pure vir-gin, Through her hu-mi - li - ty *f* Hath con-ceiv'd the per - son

363

369

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

f *sway* *mp*

mp

mp

mp

mf

for us die. *mp* No - well, no - well! No - well, no - well!
 Se-cond in de - i - ty. *mp* No - well, no - well! No - well, no - well!
 for us die. *mp* No - well, no - well! No - well, no - well!
 Se-cond in de - i - ty. *mf* No - well, no-well, no - well, no - well! No - well, no-well, no - well!

369

f *p*

The foreshadowing in the Soprano and Tenor lines is a fragment of the Dies irae plainsong, I'm sure I don't need to point out.

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

375 Descant

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

p *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, *f*

This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, *f*

8 This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, *f*

This is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, This is the sa lu - ta - ti - on, *f*

375 *p* *mf*

380

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

f *mp* *f* *f* *mp* *f* *f*

this is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, Of the an - gel Ga - bri -

this is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, Of the an - gel Ga - bri -

8 this is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, Of the an - gel Ga - bri -

this is the sa - lu - ta - ti - on, Of the an - gel Ga - bri -

380 *ff* *loco*

A Wassail to Keep Out the Cold

384 *molto molto rit.*

Rec. *ff* *molto molto rit.* Comfortably

Cl.1 *ff* *molto molto rit.* *f* *The First Nowell*

Cl.2 *ff* *molto molto rit.* *f* *The First Nowell*

el. *ff* *molto molto rit.* *f* The first no -

ff *molto molto rit.* *f* The first no -

ff *molto molto rit.* *f* Let the people join in...

ff *molto molto rit.* *f* The first no -

el. *ff* *molto molto rit.* *f* The first no -

384 *molto molto rit.* Comfortably

f *The First Nowell*

388

Cl.1

Cl.2

ALL

well the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In -

388

395

Cl.1

Cl.2

fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep On a cold win - ter's night that was so

395

402

Cl.1

Cl.2

REFRAIN

deep. No - well! — no - well! no - well! no - well! Born is the King — of Is - ra -

410

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

el! They — look'd in the sky — and — saw a bright — star Shin-ing there in the
This — star — drew — nigh — ov - er to the north - west: Till at last o - ver

They look'd in the sky — and — saw a bright — star Shin-ing there in the
This star drew — nigh — ov - er to the north - west: Till at last o - ver

8 They — look'd in the sky — and — saw a bright — star Shin-ing there in the
This — star drew — nigh — ov - er to the north - west: Till at last o - ver

410 They look'd in the sky — and — saw a bright — star Shin-ing there in the
This star drew — nigh — ov - er to the north - west: Till at last o - ver

The first nowell (for the audience to join in!)

Tune and words from William Sandys' West Country collection "Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern," 1833. Harmonization of verses 2 and 3 is by Sir John Stainer (1871). I hope Sir John doesn't mind. I thought that since most people who sing parts are used to his arrangement, those in the audience would feel at home.

417

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

8

east— be - yond them so far; And to the earth it gave great light, And
Beth - le - hem town it took rest; And there it did both stop and stay, Right—

east— be - yond them so far; And to the earth it gave great light, And
Beth - le - hem town it took rest; And there it did both stop and stay, Right—

east— be - yond them so far; And to the earth it gave great light, And
Beth - le - hem town it took rest; And there it did both stop and stay, Right—

east— be - yond them so far; And to the earth it gave great light, And
Beth - le - hem town it took rest; And there it did both stop and stay, Right

417

424

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

8

so it con - tin - ued both day — and night. No - well! no - well! no - well! no -
o - ver the place — where Je - sus lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay.

so it con - tin - ued both day — and night. No - well! no - well! no - well! no -
o - ver the place — where Je - sus lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay.

so it con - tin - ued both day — and night. No - well! no - well! no - well! no -
o - ver the place — where Je - sus lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay.

so it con - tin - ued both day — and night. No - well! no - well! no - well! no -
o - ver the place — where Je - sus lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay. lay.

424

REFRAIN

REFRAIN

431

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

ff like ringing bells etc.

ff like ringing bells etc.

ff like ringing bells etc.

ff

well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Then let us all with one ac -

well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Then let us all with one ac -

well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Then let us all with one ac -

well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Then let us all with one ac -

431

440

Rec

Cl.1

Cl.2

cord, Sing prais-es high our heav-v'nly Lord! Heav'n and earth,

cord, Sing prai-ses high our hea - v'nly Lord! Heav'n and earth,

cord, Sing prai-ses high our hea - v'nly Lord! Heav'n and earth,

cord Sing - prai-ses on high to our heav-en - ly Lord That - heav'n - and - earth did -

440

447

Rec
Cl.1
Cl.2

make of nought, Through his blood, man-kind bought. No-well, no-

make of nought, Through his blood, man-kind bought. No-well, no-

make of nought, Through his blood, man-kind brought. No-well, no-

make of nought, And through his own blood man-kind hath bought. No - well! no -

454

Rec
Cl.1
Cl.2

well! no-well, no well! no-well, no well! no-well, — Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

well! no-well, no well! no-well, no well! no-well, — Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

well! no-well, no well! no-well, no well! no-well, — Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

well! no - well! no - well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

rit.