

Christmas Past

Nostalgic Christmas Favourites & Carols

A heady mix of Christmas favourites, from traditional carols to Victorian songs, performed by famous crooners of the past and by the soaring voices of college choirs. The 'Hallelujah' chorus rubs shoulders with 'White Christmas', while music boxes mingle with children's voices and fine Christmas organ music.

- 1 O come, all ye faithful
Deanna Durbin
- 2 The happiest time of the year
The South Oxfordshire Young Singers
- 3 What child is this? The Cherwell Singers
- 4 Skaters waltz Regina disc player
- 5 Silent night, holy night
Ian Giles
- 6 Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Judy Garland
- 7 Sheep may safely graze Martin Souter
- 8 This must be Christmas day
The South Oxfordshire Young Singers
- 9 Christmas song Nat King Cole
- 10 The silver sleigh ride
The South Oxfordshire Young Singers
- 11 Shepherds' farewell
The Choir of Worcester College, Oxford
- 12 Hallelujah chorus The Harlow Chorus
- 13 Away in a manger Anne Shelton
- 14 While shepherds watched
Ian Giles, Boden & Spiers
- 15 Dance tune from 'Hansel & Gretel'
Regina disc player
- 16 White Christmas Bing Crosby
- 17 Jingle bell rock
The South Oxfordshire Young Singers
- 18 March of the toys Geraldo
- 19 O little town of Bethlehem
Boden & Spiers
- 20 The holly and the ivy
The Cherwell Singers
- 21 The twelve days of Christmas
Ian Giles
- 22 Auld lang syne The Harlow Chorus

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The *Gift*
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Christmas Past
Nostalgic Christmas
Favourites & Carols

Nothing conjures up that unique Christmas spirit – the joy, the happy memories, the treasured dreams – like music. Traditional carols like ‘O Come, All Ye Faithful’, all-time favourites like ‘White Christmas’, lilting melodies like ‘Skaters Waltz’, and such rousing songs as ‘The Twelve Days Of Christmas’.

As the fire crackles, the tree glitters, the children wait with bated breath for Santa, and the snow whispers outside, gather the family together to listen to ‘Christmas Past’. This joyous presentation promises you more than an hour of seasonal joy, merriment and memories. A young and wistful Judy Garland with ‘Have yourself a merry little Christmas’ (a never-to-be-forgotten moment in the 1940s musical ‘Meet Me In St. Louis’), the velvet voice of Nat King Cole with ‘Christmas Song’ (Chestnuts roasting on an open fire), written by Mel Tormé, and with a voice that enchanted millions of us in the 1930s and 40s, Deanna Durbin singing ‘O come, all ye faithful’ – Christmas cheer sparkles in this heart-warming collection.

Here are the songs you’ve known for years – The Cherwell Singers asking ‘What Child Is This?’ . . . the pure voices of Worcester College Choir singing the poignant ‘Shepherds’ Farewell’, from Berlioz’s masterpiece ‘The Childhood of Christ’ . . . Anne

Shelton, who brought such warmth to her many recordings, giving her unique touch to ‘Away in a manger’ . . . The Harlow Chorus rejoicing in that great Christmas anthem, ‘Hallelujah’ from Handel’s ‘Messiah’ . . . Geraldo and his orchestra reviving that golden favourite, ‘The march of the toys’, from Victor Herbert’s operetta ‘Babes In Toyland’ . . . the happy, sunny voices of The South Oxfordshire Young Singers revel in two musical crackers – ‘Silver Sleigh Ride’ and, recalling the 1960s, ‘Jingle Bell Rock’. And there are charming performances of such seasonal delights as ‘The Holly and The Ivy’, ‘O Little Town of Bethlehem’, the dance tune from ‘Hansel and Gretel’. Finally, to remind us that the New Year is just a few days way, The Harlow Chorus invite us all to link arms for ‘Auld Lang Syne’.

‘Christmas Past’ highlights joyful, happy music to make your Christmas bright, old-time songs and sacred carols to make it special, with favourite singers and uplifting choirs. It will revive a host of cherished memories from Christmases past. You will treasure it always, as a feast of time-honoured favourites to bring you joy, love and happiness year after year.